

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS

MONTH OF AUGUST-2018

LIST OF IMPORTANT DAYS

- August 1-7** - World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) (Theme - "Breastfeeding: Foundation Of Life")
- August 6** - 73rd anniversary of Hiroshima atomic bombing
- August 7** - 4th National Handloom Day
- August 8** - International Cat Day
- August 9** - International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
(Theme - "Indigenous peoples' migration and movement")
- August 9** - Kranti Diwas (Quit India Day)
- August 10** - World Bio-fuel Day
- August 12** - International Youth Day. (Theme - "Safe Spaces for Youth")
- August 12** - World Elephant Day
- August 13** - International Lefthanders Day
- August 14** - Independence Day of Pakistan
- August 15** - 72nd Independence Day of India
- August 17** - Independence Day of Indonesia
- August 17** - Independence Day of Gabon (Gabonese Republic)
- August 19** - World Humanitarian Day. (Theme - "Not A Target")
- August 19** - World Photography Day
- August 20** - World Mosquito Day
- August 20** - National Sadbhavana Day
- August 21** - World Senior Citizen Day
- August 29** - National Sports Day

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

- In its 3rd bi-monthly monetary policy review, the monetary policy committee of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) hiked Repo rate by 25 bps for the second time in a row to 6.5%.
 - **Repo Rate:** 6.50%
 - **Reverse Repo Rate:** 6.25%
 - **MSF (Marginal Standing Facility):** 6.75%
 - **Bank Rate:** 6.75%
 - **CRR:** 4%
 - **SLR:** 19.5%
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) barred Fino Payments Bank from adding new customers since the end of May.
 - An RBI audit revealed that some Fino Payments Bank accounts had deposits in excess of the stipulated amount of ₹1 lakh.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reportedly asked Paytm Payments Bank to stop adding new customers on its platform with immediate effect following an audit.
 - The RBI observed that Paytm should have a better mechanism to store customers' data.

- It also asked Paytm to have a separate office for its Payments Bank, different from Paytm's parent company One97 Communications' office.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that the volume of **Transactions through Mobile Banking** crossed the **300 million** mark for the first time.
 - Transactions went up by around 14% to **306.42 million** in June from 267.78 million in the previous month.
 - The value of transactions increased to **Rs.1.9 trillion** in June, an 11% rise from the previous month.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has cancelled licenses of **368 Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)** in the six months ended June, more than double the number of such cancellations in the whole of 2017, for failing to meet regulatory norms.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**'s board has approved the transfer of a surplus amount of **Rs.50,000 crore** to the government for the year ended June 30, 2018.
 - The RBI had transferred a surplus of **Rs.30,659 crore** to the government for the fiscal ended June 2017, which was less than half of what it paid in the previous year (**Rs.65,896 crore**).
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has rejected **Kotak Mahindra Bank**'s plan to dilute promoter **Uday Kotak**'s shareholding by allotting preferential shares.
- According to **National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development's (NABARD) All India Rural Financial Inclusion Survey 2016-17, Agriculture** (farming) generates only **23%** of rural income i.e. not even quarter of rural household incomes in India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) expects the country's **economic growth rate** to grow at **7.4 per cent** in the current financial year.
 - The RBI also stated that its monetary policy will continue to be guided by the objective of achieving medium-term target for retail inflation of 4%.

OTHER BANKS

- After testing the entire system, the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** gave approval to the **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)**.
- India's largest lender by market capitalization, **HDFC Bank**, has launched its share sale to rise up to **Rs.15,500 crore**.
 - The bank, also listed in **New York**, is raising funds to strengthen its capital base and expand lending capacity.
- Kolkata-based **Bandhan Bank** became India's **7th** most valued listed lender, surpassing **Yes Bank**.
 - **HDFC Bank Ltd** remained India's **most valuable bank** followed by **State Bank of India (SBI)** and **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd**.
- The Union Cabinet gave its approval to the government's decision to reduce its stake in **IDBI Bank** below 50%, with **Life Insurance Corporation** raising stake in the bank to **51%**.
- **21 public sector banks (PSBs)** and **3 Private Sector Banks** collected **Rs.5,000 crore** from depositors in the financial year 2017-18 as **penalties** for not maintaining required **minimum balance** in accounts.
 - With **Rs.2,433 crore** in penalties, **State Bank of India (SBI)** emerged as the highest collector among Public Sector Banks, almost half of the total collection.
 - **HDFC Bank** was the highest collector among private banks with **Rs.590 crore**.
- **Indian banks** reported a **total loss** of about **Rs.70,000 crore** due to **frauds** during the last three fiscals.
 - The impact in 2017-18 at **Rs.36,694 crore** was more than twice seen in the previous two years, each.

- India's 3rd largest private-sector bank, **Axis Bank** became 1st bank in the country to introduce **Iris Scan Authentication** feature for **Aadhaar-based transactions** through its **micro ATM tablets**.
- **Andhra Bank** raises **MCLR (Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate)** by **0.15%** for various tenors.
 - This is the second time that Andhra Bank has raised the MCLR. Earlier in June it has raised its MCLR by 0.05 % to up to **8.55 percent** for various tenors.
- **Aadhaar**-issuing body **UIDAI (Unique Identity Authority of India)** has announced phased roll-out of face recognition for carrying out Aadhaar authentication from September 15, 2018 as additional security layer.
- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ujjivan Financial Services Ltd, has launched **overdraft (OD) facility** for **micro and small enterprise (MSE)** customers across its branches nationally.
 - The OD facility is offered to all MSEs with a turnover of **Rs 50 lakh** or more, at a competitive rate of interest.
- **Axis Securities** has become the first subsidiary of a bank to launch **trading** in commodity derivatives with the **Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX)**.
- According to Department of Financial Services report, **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** has been rated it as number **one** state-owned bank in terms of **digital transactions**.

INSURANCE

- Insurance regulator **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI)** notified insurance companies asking them to cover medical treatment for **mental illnesses** on the same basis as it is available for treatment of physical illnesses.
 - This order comes three months after the **Mental Healthcare Act, 2017** came into force on May 29.

SUPREME COURT

- The **Supreme Court** gets **3 serving women judges** for the first time.
 - The three judges are: **Indira Banerjee, R Banumathi, Indu Malhotra**.
- The Supreme Court approved the **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)**'s draft constitution, discarding the '**one state, one vote**' policy recommended by the **Lodha Panel**.
 - The court has given full membership status to Mumbai, Saurashtra and Vidarbha associations, among others.
- The Supreme Court accepted a proposal seeking to issue **hologram-based colored stickers** for vehicles in **Delhi** based on the **fuel** used.
 - **While petrol and CNG vehicles** will need to have a **blue sticker**.
 - **Diesel vehicles** must carry an **orange sticker**.
- The Supreme Court ruled that the **None of The Above (NOTA)** option cannot be made available in **Rajya Sabha elections**.
 - A three – judge bench of CJI **Misra** and justices **A Khanwilkar** and **D Y Chandrachud** observed that the NOTA option is applicable only for direct elections.

HIGH COURTS AND SESSIONS COURTS

- The **Bombay High Court** ruled that **Children born out of a second marriage don't have any rights** on the family's joint-property.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

- The government clarified that **WhatsApp** can't launch its payments services '**WhatsApp Pay**' in **India** without an **office and a team** in the country.

- The government is going to invite fresh bids for **100% stake sale** in helicopter service provider **Pawan Hans** as **ONGC** has also approved the sale of its entire stake in the company.
- The Centre announced that **Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)** cannot file **RTI (Right to Information)** pleas and seek information on governance from central government departments.
 - The Minister of State for Personnel **Jitendra Singh** clarified that **only Indian citizens** can seek information under RTI.
- The Cabinet decided to offer pulses to states at a **discount of Rs.15 per kilogram** over prevailing **wholesale prices** for schemes such as **PDS (Public Distribution System)** and **mid-day meal**.
 - The government will provide 3.5 million tonnes of tur, chana, masoor, moong and urad as it tries to dispose of surplus output.
 - It will spend **Rs.5,237 crore** for implementing this scheme.
- The government announced that carrying the original **Driving Licence** and **car's Registration Certificate** is not necessary, and a **Digital copy** saved on the **DigiLocker** or **mParivahan app** can be shown while checking by the traffic cops.

STATES

- **Rajasthan** became 1st state in India to implement **National Policy on Bio-fuels** unveiled by Union Government in May 2018.
 - Under this policy, Rajasthan State Government will lay emphasis on increasing production of oilseeds and establish **Centre for Excellence** in **Udaipur** to promote research in fields of alternative fuels and energy resources.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Government has approved an **unemployment allowance scheme** titled '**Mukhyamantri Yuva Nestam**'.
 - The scheme aims to provide **Rs.1000 per month** unemployed youth in the state.
- **Himachal Pradesh** Chief Minister **Jai Ram Thakur** launched '**Horn not ok**' awareness campaign and '**Shaur nahin**' (**no noise**) mobile application in state capital **Shimla**.
- **Uttarakhand** was going to become the 1st state to give **identity cards** to **gau rakshaks** (cow protectors).
- In an attempt to help students "befriend" the **English language**, the **Haryana** government has launched the '**I am not afraid of English**' campaign in **primary schools** in the state.
 - The students will be taught one English sentence a day as part of the campaign.
- In a bid to end the taxi issue in **Goa**, the state government has launched its own app-based taxi service titled '**GoaMiles**'.
 - The service was launched by the Chief Minister **Manohar Parrikar**.
- The **Telangana** government launched a first of its kind, **Rs.5 lakh insurance programme** for **farmers** in the state titled **RythuBandhu Life Insurance Bonds**.
- **Punjab** Chief Minister **Amarinder Singh** exempted **Ex-servicemen** and **Senior Citizens** from **mandatory dope tests** for issuance and renewal of arms licenses.
- The **Kerala** government will foot the bill for **Transgenders** willing to undergo sex change operations.
 - An amount of **Rs.2 lakh** will be reimbursed as hospital expenses, while those who have already undergone such surgeries can also apply for reimbursement.
 - Earlier, the **Tamil Nadu** government had announced free sex change surgeries in government hospitals for transgenders.
- The **Delhi Police** inducted an All-female **Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT)** team, making it the 1st unit of its kind in the country.
 - The 36 women, all from Northeastern states, underwent 15 months of training under the **National Security Guard (NSG)**.

- The **Uttar Pradesh** government has approached the Centre for its approval to rename **Bareilly Airport** to 'Nath Nagri'.
 - 'Nath Nagri' is believed to be an ancient name of the city which had worshippers of Lord Shiva.
- **Punjab** government started a '**Tatkal sewa**' for property registration across the state.
 - Under this scheme, people can seek appointment for 'tatkal' (instant) registration for properties for an hour-long slot from 9 am to 10 am, with facilitation charges Rs. 5000.
- In the memory of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the **Chhattisgarh** Government has decided to rename **Naya Raipur** as **Atal Nagar**.
 - **Bilaspur University** will also replace as Atal Bihari Vajpayee University and **Narrow Gauge Line** as **Atal Path**.
 - Atal ji played a crucial role in the formation of Chhattisgarh. For Atal ji's contribution to Pokhran Nuclear Test, a **police battalion** will be named as **Pokhran Battalion**.
- **Odisha** government has decided to launch a build-up campaign in 17 cities, ahead of the **2018 Men's Hockey World Cup Tournament** in the state.
- **Rajasthan** Chief Minister **Vasundhara Raje** has inaugurated the **Bhamashah Techno Hub** in **Jhalana Industrial Area** of **Jaipur**.
 - Raje also inaugurated an online payment app, **Bhamashah Wallet**.
- The **Madhya Pradesh** forest department has written to the **National Tiger Conservation Authority** to revive the plan to **reintroduce cheetahs** in the State's **Nauradehi sanctuary**.
 - MP houses six major reserves for the tiger and is often called as the 'tiger state'.
- The **Assam** state government has extended **Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA)** for another **six months**.

PERSONALITIES

- Freedom fighter and designer of the Indian flag, **Pingali Venkayya**, was born on 2nd August in the year 1876.
- During the World Hindi Conference held in Mauritius, the country's PM **Pravind Jugnauth** announced, "The **cyber tower** which Atal Ji had contributed to set up in Mauritius will henceforth be named as **Atal Bihari Vajpayee tower**."

DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY

- The **Indian Army** and the **Royal Thai Army** has completed a two-week-long platoon level annual joint military exercise "**Maitree**" held in **Thailand**.
- **China** has proposed to conduct military drills with the **10 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members** in the **South China Sea**.
 - China and ASEAN members including Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei have disputed claims over the sea.
- The joint military exercise **MILEX-18** will be held at the **Foreign Training Node at Aundh Military Station in Pune** in September 2018.
 - The armies of all seven **BIMSTEC countries** (India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Thailand and Myanmar) will be participating in the exercise.
- Joint military exercise **Maitree 2018** between **Indian Army** and **Royal Thai Army** was held in **Thailand** from 6 to 19 August 2018.
- As part of **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** initiatives, **SCO Peace Mission Exercise** was conducted biennially for SCO member states.
 - The joint exercise for the year 2018 was conducted by Central Military Commission of Russia from 22nd August to 29 August 2018 at **Chebarkul, Chelyabinsk, Russia**.

- Operation “**Madad**” has been launched by the **Southern Naval Command (SNC)** at **Kochi** for assisting the state administration and undertaking disaster relief operations due to the unprecedented flooding experienced in many parts of Kerala, owing to incessant rainfall and release of excess water from Idukki and other dams.
 - **INHS Sanjivani** is ready for rendering **medical assistance** as required and all preparations towards setting up community kitchen by naval personnel from **INS Venduruthy** have been made in case the need arises.
- Union Cabinet has given approval for raising of 4 additional battalions of **National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)** to strengthen the India’s disaster response set up.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)** chaired by Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** approved procurement of **6 indigenously** designed and manufactured **Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (NGOPVs)** for Indian Navy.
- During his speech at the Red Fort on the Independence Day, PM Narendra Modi announced that **Women** recruited through **Short Service Commission** in the **Armed forces** will be given status of **permanent** commission like their male counterparts.
- **Iran** unveiled the next-generation of its '**Fateh**' short-range ballistic missile amid ongoing tensions with the **US**.
- **India** has successfully flight tested the indigenously developed helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile '**HELINA**' from **Pokhran in Rajasthan**.
- The **Indian Air Force, IAF** was invited for the first time to participate in Exercise **Pitch Black** – a biennial multi-national large force employment warfare exercise hosted by the **Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)**. This exercise was conducted in Australia’s Darwin.
- **India** and **Japan** has resolved to expand their **maritime cooperation** and work together to ensure peace and stability in the **Indo-Pacific region**, which is witnessing growing Chinese assertiveness.
- The first-ever joint air exercise involving the **Indian Air Force** and the **Royal Malaysian Air Force** commenced at **Subang Air Base in Malaysia**.
- **Iran** unveiled a new **domestic fighter jet** with President **Hassan Rouhani**.
 - The jet was kept at the National Defence Industry exhibition in **Tehran**.
- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**, headed by Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman**, cleared the acquisition of **military hardware** for the **Indian Army and Navy** worth around **Rs 46,000 crore**.
 - Among its key decisions, the council approved the procurement of **111 utility helicopters** for the Indian Navy at a cost of over **Rs.21,000 crore**.
- The Indian naval stealth warship **Sahyadri** entered the **Port of Darwin in Australia** to take part in the maritime exercise **KAKADU**.
- **Russia** will next month hold its biggest war games since at least the 1980s, with around 300,000 troops and 1000 aircraft. The exercise will involve units from the Army, Air Force and Navy.
 - The **Vostok-2018 exercises** will be carried out from September 11 to 15 in the country’s east with the participation of **China and Mongolia**.

COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS

- Union Government has constituted 4-member Group of Ministers (GoM) to decide on **16-member Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations**.
 - **Head of this GoM:** **Suresh Prabhu** (Union Minister of Commerce and Industry)
- Union Cabinet has approved extension of term of **Commission** to examine the issue of Sub-categorization of **Other Backward Classes (OBCs)** in Central List till November 2018.
 - **Head of this Committee:** **G. Rohini** (former Chief Justice of Delhi High Court Justice (Retd)).

- A recent report by the **Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce**, has called for different weight age to different sectors of the industry by credit rating agencies, to ensure that banks don't deprive the **Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** of credit.
 - The observations came after the committee noted that the rules introduced by **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** to help banks to counter the non performing asset (NPA) problem have hit the MSMEs very hard.
 - **Head of this Committee: Naresh Gujral** (Shiromani Akali Dal leader)
- The **Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD)** has proposed to set up 5-member committee to suggest changes to **JEE (Advanced)** in the wake of an inadequate number of candidates qualifying entrance test this year.
 - **Head of This Committee: Bhaskar Ramamurthy** (Director of IIT-Madras)
- The **Pension Fund and Regulatory Development Authority (PFRDA)** has set up a standing committee to suggest steps to deal with **cybersecurity challenges** to **protect** the interest of subscribers.
 - The committee on '**Information Systems and Technology and Cyber Security**' will suggest steps to align PFRDA's technology with best industry practices.
- The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** has decided to form a three-member committee to look into the **draft food labeling and display regulations**.
 - The panel was headed by **B Sesikaran** (former director of National Institute of Nutrition (NIN)).
- A panel has been set up by the **Department of Telecom** to prepare a roadmap for rollout of **5G telephony in India** expects the service to be operational by **2020**.
 - Head of the panel: **AJ Paulraj**
- The **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has appointed former Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice **S J Vazifdar** as head of a three-member committee.
 - It has been framed to decide mining company Vedanta's plea challenging closure of its **Sterlite copper plant at Tuticorin**.
- The **Narendra Modi Government** has constituted a high power committee to advise it on policy matters related to **science, technology and innovation**.
 - It is named as **PM-STIAC** (Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Committee). The 21-member committee will be chaired by **K Vijay Raghavan**, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government.

SCHEMES/INITIATIVES

- The Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship **Dharmendra Pradhan**, laid the foundation stone for permanent campus of **National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) for Women at Mohali, Punjab**.
- **NITI Aayog** has launched Global mobility hackathon **Move Hack** to crowd source solutions aimed at future of mobility in India.
 - **Move Hack** aims to bring about innovative, dynamic and scalable solutions to problems pertaining to mobility.
 - It is organized in partnership with **Government of Singapore** and is powered by **Hacker Earth**.
 - **PwC** as knowledge partner and **NASSCOM** as strategic partner.
- The **FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO)**, the women's wing of Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has launched a mobile application titled **WOW (Wellness of Women)**.
 - **Aim:** To create awareness on preventive healthcare for women across the country.
 - WOW app is backed by Chennai-based **Apollo Hospitals Group** that offers access to renowned doctors and provides health tips.

- Union Government has announced that it has reached target of providing **5 crore free LPG connections** under **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)** almost eight months ahead of schedule (i.e. in 27 months instead of 35 months)
 - The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has recognized **PMUY** as one of decisive intervention by Government to address indoor air pollution which accounts for nearly 10 lakh deaths in year in the country.
- The government has recently announced that, at least 10,000 new jobs will be created with the implementation of the **Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Mission**, popularly known as **Modicare**.
 - Around one lakh **Ayushman Mitras** will be deployed at both private and government hospitals under the scheme.
- The **Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)** has approved 122 new research project proposals worth **Rs. 112 crore** for funding under its **IMPRINT-II (Impacting Research Innovation and Technology)** scheme.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the continuation of **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)** beyond the **12th five year** plan period.
 - The target of connecting 1,78,184 eligible habitations under PMGSY was expected to be completed by **March 2019**.
- The Union Cabinet also approved continuation and revision of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of **Post Matric Scholarship for Other Backward Classes Students for studying in India (PMS-OBC)** till 2020.
 - **Aim:** To provide financial assistance to OBC students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education.
- The Union Science and Technology Minister **Harsh Vardhan** inaugurated the **National Wildlife Genetic Resource Bank in Hyderabad (Telanagana)**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**, while addressing the nation on the 72nd Independence Day, announced that the prestigious public healthcare scheme **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Abhiyaan / Ayushman Bharat Healthcare Scheme** will be launched on September 25, 2018.
 - The scheme will provide health insurance of ₹5 lakh annually to over 10 crore poor families.
- The first project under **Swadesh Darshan Scheme 'North East Circuit: Imphal and Khongjom'** was inaugurated in **Manipur**.
 - The project covers two sites i.e. **Kangla Fort** and **Khongjom** in **Manipur**.
 - Under this project, the **Union Tourism Ministry** has carried out works such as restoration and improvement of outer and inner moat of old **Govindajee Temple** and rejuvenation of sacred ponds, reconstruction of old rampart, among others.
- The External Affairs Minister (EAM) **Sushma Swaraj** has inaugurated '**Panini Language Laboratory**' at Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) in **Mauritius**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched the **second** phase of the **FAME India scheme** offering incentives for mass **adoption** of **electric vehicles** with an outlay of **Rs 5,500 crore** on September 7.
 - The prime minister would unveil the scheme at the inaugural session of the '**MOVE**' – a global mobility summit.
- The Chief Minister of **Tamil Nadu** **Edappadi K. Palaniswami** laid the foundation stone for the **GMR Krishnagiri Special Investment Region**.
- The Union health minister **JP Nadda** launched logo of **Ayushman Bharat Scheme** and also unveiled unique **quick response (QR) code** that will be sent on September 5 to each identified family to avail of an **annual cashless health insurance cover** under the **Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)**.

- The **MHRD** has launched the **third** edition of **Smart India Hackathon**. The Smart India Hackathon 2019 was launched by the Union Minister for Human Resource Development, **Prakash Javadekar**, in **New Delhi**.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** gave its approval for implementation of an **umbrella** scheme '**Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modelling and Science (O-SMART)**'.
- The **National Mission on Government e Marketplace (GeM)** will be launched on 5th September 2018 to accelerate the adoption and use of **GeM** by major central Ministries, State Governments and their agencies.

SUMMIT/CONFERENCE

- **1st 'Nepal-India Think Tank' Summit** was recently held in **Kathmandu, Nepal**.
 - **Aim:** To foster greater collaboration and knowledge-sharing among the think tanks of the two countries.
- Policy think tank of the Government of India, **NITI Aayog** is hosting an **Investors' Conference** at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra for the **Holistic Development of Islands**.
 - The Conference was inaugurated by **Amitabh Kant**, CEO, NITI Aayog.
 - It will attract investment for the sustainable development of eco-tourism projects in **Andaman & Nicobar** and **Lakshadweep** islands.
- The President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind**, inaugurated the '**One District One Product**' Summit at **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**.
 - This summit is being organized by the Uttar Pradesh government to promote **traditional industries** in every district of the state.
- The **North and South Korea**s agreed to hold an **inter-Korean summit** in North's capital **Pyongyang** in September 2018.
- The **11th World Hindi Conference** was held in **Mauritian** capital **Port Louis**.
 - The conference was inaugurated by Mauritian Prime Minister **Praveen Kumar Jagannath**.
 - **Theme** - "Hindi World and Indian Culture".
- The **International Conference on Recent Advances in Food Processing Technology (iCRAFPT)** was held at Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IFPT), **Thanjavur** in **Tamil Nadu**.
 - **Theme** - "Doubling farmers' income through food processing".
- Ten years after it conducted the last State-level **cartoon conference**, the **Karnataka Cartoonists Association** was conducted 41st conference in the city on August 25 and 26.
- The President **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurates the **International Buddhist Conclave** in **New Delhi**.
 - **Theme** - Buddha Path - The Living Heritage.
 - This year **Japan** is the **partnering country** for the Buddhist conclave.
- The **Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)** along with its knowledge partner and the government Think Tank, **NITI Aayog** are organizing two-day **India Banking Conclave 2018 (IBC)** in **New Delhi**.
- In **Sri Lanka**, the fourth Asian electoral stake holders forum (AESF-IV) was held in **Colombo** to discuss the state of elections and democracy in the region.
 - **Theme** - 'Advancing Election Transparency and Integrity: Promoting and Defending Democracy Together'.
- The **third** edition of **Indian Ocean Conference** was held in **Hanoi**, the capital of Vietnam on August 27.
 - **Theme** - 'Building Regional Architectures'.

- The **First South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Agri Cooperative Business Forum** began in **Kathmandu**.
 - Theme - 'Organizing and Strengthening Family Farmers' Cooperatives to attain the Sustainable-Development-Goals-1 and 2 in South Asia'.

AGREEMENT/DEAL/SIGNED

- **Russian President Vladimir Putin** has signed a decree establishing a new directorate in the **Russian Army** to promote **Patriotism**.
 - Colonel-General **Andrei Kartaplov**, a Russian Army veteran who previously served in the country's conflict in Syria, will head the directorate.
- **National Health Accounts (NHA)** and **Common Service Center (CSC)** signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to implement the **Ayushman Bharat scheme** through 3 lakh CSCs across the country.
 - Ayushman Bharat is the **National Health Protection Scheme**, which will cover over 10 crore poor vulnerable families (around 50 crore beneficiaries) providing coverage of up to **₹5 lakh (per family per year)** for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.
- The **Telangana State Information Technology, Electronics and Communication department (ITE&C)** signed a MoU with Indian multinational IT provider, **Tech Mahindra** to launch India's first **Blockchain district**.
- **HDFC Life Insurance Company** inked an agreement with **Vijaya Bank** to tap customers of the state-owned lender.
- To end the 5 year Civil War, **South Sudan's President Salva Kiir** and rebel opposition leader **Riek Machar** have signed a **peace deal** to share power in a transitional government.
- Union Government, **NABARD** and **National Water Development Agency (NWDA)** have signed revised MoA for funding of central share of 99 prioritized irrigation projects under **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)** through **Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF)**.
 - This revised MoA will enable Ministry of Water Resources to release Central Assistance to prioritized projects under PMKSY as per requirements from time to time.
- **India** and **Myanmar** executed the landmark **Land Border Crossing Agreement**.
 - Under this agreement check points on both sides are included as part of the pact.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** approved the signing the MoU between **India** and **Indonesia** on **Health Cooperation** and **Scientific and Technological Cooperation**.
- **Pakistan** and **Russia** have signed contract on admission of service members of Pakistan in Russia's **Military Training Institutes**.
 - The agreement was signed at conclusion of first meeting of **Russia-Pakistan Joint Military Consultative Committee (JMCC)**, the highest forum of defence collaboration between both countries held in **Rawalpindi, Pakistan**.
- The **Andhra Pradesh** government signed a MoU with electronics company **Holytech**, to set up Holytech' plant in 75 acres land in **Tirupati** and **Chittoor** districts.
- The **Prasar Bharati** and **Mizzima Media** of **Myanmar** signed a Memorandum of Understanding in **broadcasting** and content sharing.
- The Union Water Resources Minister **Nitin Gadkari** has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **six states** for the construction of the **Lakhwar multi-purpose project** in the upper **Yamuna** basin to deal with water crisis.
 - The project will also generate 300 mw of power and will be executed by **Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (UJVL)**.

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** and **National Health Agency (NHA)**, to provide capacity building for **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY)**.
- The **World Bank** will provide a **\$250 million** loan facility to **Rajasthan** for improving the performance of its **electricity distribution sector**.
- The government, **World Bank** and state-owned **EESL** has inked a **\$220 million** loan agreement and **\$80 million** guarantee pact to push **energy efficiency programme in India**.
- The Government of India and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** signed a **\$375 million** loan agreement to contribute to **double farming incomes in Madhya Pradesh** by expanding irrigation networks and system efficiency.
- The **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**, **Ministry of Science and Technology**, and the **International Energy Agency (IEA)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Enhancing Innovation for **Clean Energy Transition**.
- **India** and **Asian Development Bank** have signed **346 Million dollar** loan agreement to improve over 400 kilometers of State highways in **Karnataka**.

MEET/VISIT

- The 2-day **17th Indo-US Military Cooperation Meeting** held as a prelude to 2+2 Dialogue between **India** and **United States** scheduled in September.
 - This meeting was co-chaired by Lieutenant General **Satish Dua** (Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman) and Lieutenant General **Bryan Fenton** (Deputy Commander, Indo-Pacific Command).
- A **Special Border Personnel** meeting took place in **Sikkim's Nathu La** between the **armies of India** and **China** as part of celebrations to commemorate the 91st anniversary of the foundation of China's **People's Liberation Army (PLA)**.
 - The Indian delegation attended the celebration following an invitation by the PLA.
- The **51st ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AMM-51)** was recently held at **Singapore**.
 - This meeting was chaired by Singapore Minister for Foreign Affairs **Vivian Balakrishnan**.
- The **3rd India-Nepal Coordination meeting** was held at **New Delhi**.
 - A seven-member delegation from Nepal, headed by Inspector General of Nepal Armed Police Force **Shailendra Khanal** took part in the three-day meeting.
- The **24th World Congress of Philosophy (WCP)** was held in **Beijing, China**.
 - **Theme** - "Learning To Be Human".
- **Chinese President Xi Jinping** is going to visit **North Korea** next month at the invitation of leader Kim Jong-un to attend the **70th Anniversary Celebrations** of the nation's founding.
- The External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** visited to **Vietnam** and **Cambodia**.
- The 8th meeting of **India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee** was held in **Nairobi, Kenya**.
- The 2-day **G20 Digital Economy Ministerial Meeting** was held in **Salta, Argentina**.
 - The Electronics and Information Technology Minister **Ravi Shankar Prasad** was represented India at the two-day meeting.
 - **Theme** - 'Building consensus for fair and sustainable development'.
- The Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** visited to **Kathmandu** to attend the 4th **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** Summit.
 - **Theme** - 'Towards a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable Bay of Bengal region'.
- The Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation **Suresh Prabhu** is leading the Indian delegation for the **6th RCEP Trade Ministers' Meeting** which is held in **Singapore**.

BILLS

- The **Lok Sabha** passed the **123rd Constitutional Amendment Bill** providing for a **National Commission for Backward Classes** as a constitutional body.
- Lok Sabha has passed **National Sports University Bill, 2018** by voice vote to set up **India's first National Sports University** in **Imphal (west), Manipur**.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** gave his assent to the **Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, 2018**.
 - This bill will prevent offenders from evading legal process and fleeing the country.
- The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have cleared **Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018**, which proposes **death penalty** for the **rape of girls below** the age of **12 years**.
 - The Bill amends Indian Penal Code (IPC), Criminal Procedure Code, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and Indian Evidence Act.
 - The bill also increases the minimum punishment for rape from 7 years to 10 years.
- Lok Sabha has passed **Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2017** by voice vote to extend the facility of 'proxy voting' to overseas Indians, on the lines of service voters.
- Parliament has passed the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2018**.
 - The Bill replaces ordinance promulgated in this regard and amends Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
- The Lok Sabha has passed **Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2018** to help India become hub for domestic and global arbitration for settling commercial disputes.

FUND

- The **US Congress** has passed **National Defense Authorization Act-2019 (NDAA-19)**, a Defence spending bill capping its security-related aid to **Pakistan** at 150 Million dollars, significantly below the level of more than one billion US dollars per year.
- US Secretary of State **Mike Pompeo** pledged nearly **\$300 million** in security funding for **Southeast Asia** at the **US-ASEAN ministerial meeting** in **Singapore**.
 - The aid is aimed at countering China's influence in the region.
- PM **Narendra Modi**, who was attending the convocation ceremony at **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay**, announced a financial aid of **Rs.1,000 crore** for the institute.
- **Qatar** pledged **\$15 billion** (over Rs.1 lakh crore) of investment in **Turkey** to support the country's economy.
- **India** has released additional **Rs.470 million** (Nepali) for Phase I of **Postal Highway Project** being constructed in Southern Plains of **Nepal**.
 - The amount released will help to maintain fund liquidity for ongoing construction of 14 road packages under Postal Highway Project.
- **United States** has announced to grant **\$39 million** as part its foreign military financing to **Sri Lanka** to boost maritime security.
 - The US funding for Sri Lanka is part of its **\$300 million** set aside for South and Southeast Asia to ensure free, open, and rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced an interim relief fund of **Rs.500 crore** for flood-hit **Kerala** after a meeting with the Chief Minister **Pinarayi Vijayan**.
- The **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** approved projects worth nearly **Rs 150 crores** in **Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar** and **West Bengal** under the Namami Gange programme during its **fifth Executive Committee** meeting held in **New Delhi**.
- The Centre has sanctioned **Rs.730 crore** for the **Gujarat's Sardar Sarovar Dam** project on the **Narmada river** for the current year and also committed soft loan of Rs 1,500 crore for the state's other irrigation projects.

- The **Board of Directors of the Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved a financing package totaling **\$245 million** to provide safe, sustainable, and inclusive **drinking water service**.
 - It would benefit to about 1.65 million people in three districts of **West Bengal**, affected by arsenic, fluoride, and salinity.

ECONOMY

- The **World Bank** has raised **\$110 million** (US\$80.09 million) from the sale of the **world's first bonds - bond-i** - created and managed using only **blockchain technology**.
 - The Kangaroo bond, referring to foreign bonds issued in Australia in local currency, has been named **bond-i**, an acronym standing for **Blockchain Offered New Debt Instrument**.
- In its recent report, the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** has projected **India's GDP** growth **7.3%** in the 2018-19 fiscal and **7.5%** in 2019-2020 on strengthening of investment and robust private consumption.
- The **Indian Rupee** hit a record low of **70** against the **US dollar** for the first time.
 - This comes amid ongoing financial crisis in Turkey as its currency lira fell 45% against USD this year.
- The **Turkish lira** has become more **volatile** than world's largest cryptocurrency **Bitcoin** amid the country's ongoing currency crisis.
- **Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro** has devalued the **Bolivar** (Venezuelan currency) by 95% ahead of the roll-out of a **new bolivar**.
 - The new currency will be called the '**Sovereign bolivar**' and will be based on the country's **Petro cryptocurrency**, now valued around \$60 or 3,600 sovereign bolivars.

COMPANIES/INDUSTRY

- **Facebook** has won the rights to show **Spanish top-flight soccer league** in the **Indian** subcontinent.
 - The company has signed an agreement to show the '**La Liga**' games free of charge for the next three years.
- **American** motorcycle maker **Harley-Davidson** announced that it is going to launch its first **electric motorcycle**, the **LiveWire**, in 2019.
- **American** multinational technology company, **Apple** became the **world's first trillion-dollar public company**.
- Search Engine giant **Google** has rolled out a '**3D Globe Mode**' on **Maps** which shows the Earth as a globe rather than a flat "Mercator" projection as before.
- Social networking giant **Facebook** has launched "**Digital Literacy Library**" to help young people build skills they need to safely enjoy online technology.
 - The lessons can be found on **Facebook's Safety Center** as well as on **Berkman Klein's Digital Literacy Resource Platform**.
- States are going to test a **20% cash back** incentive for Digital transactions made through **RuPay card** and **BHIM app** on the total **GST amount**.
 - The cash back or discount would be capped at Rs.100 per transaction.
- **French** company **IDEMIA**, a global leader in augmented identity, has become the first company to be given the certification to manufacture and personalize **RuPay chip contact and contactless cards** on the **qSPARC v2 platform**.
 - With this, cardholders can use a single card for multiple payment options such as for the Metro, bus, parking, toll, loyalty, and at retail outlets.
- **Google** announced '**Pie**' as the name for the **latest version** of the **Android operating system**, succeeding **Android Oreo**.

- It also has an '**App Timer**' that lets users set time limits on apps and greys out the icon when the time is up.
- In order to curb fake news, **WhatsApp** started rolling out the **limit** of **forwarding** messages, photos and videos to only **5 chats** at one time in **India**.
 - Globally, users can forward a message to **20 chats** at once.
- **Swedish** furniture giant **IKEA** opened its 1st-ever store in **India** at **Hyderabad** (Telangana).
 - IKEA plans to open its second store in Mumbai in 2019, followed by Bangalore and Delhi-NCR.
- **Walmart** had announced acquiring a 77% stake in Bangalore-based **Flipkart** in a \$16 billion deal.
 - **Bengaluru**-based e-commerce startup **Flipkart** shut down **eBay India**, more than a year after acquiring it.
 - The **Flipkart** has unveiled a dedicated portal '**2Gud**' for refurbished goods, including mobile phones, laptops and tablet.
 - India's largest online marketplace **Flipkart** has bought **Liv.ai**, an artificial intelligence (AI) start-up which has built a platform that converts speech to text in **10 Indian languages**.
- Digital payments major **Paytm** announced it had acquired **Bangalore**-based savings management start-up, **Balance Technology** for an undisclosed amount.
 - The acquisition will help **One97 Communications**, which operates the Paytm brand, in further enhancing its user and merchant interface.
- **Bharti Airtel** and **Zee Entertainment Enterprises** (ZEEL) have joined hands to drive entertainment content on mobile phones.
- **Paytm** has partnered with **Alibaba** to start its **cloud business**.
 - Paytm has announced that it is investing about **Rs.250 crore** in the business for the initial phase.
- The **Google** for India has rebranded its payments app for **India** **Google Tez** as **Google Pay**, and also launched its new features.
- At the fourth '**Google for India**' event, the internet search giant unveiled **Project Navlekha** – its new initiative to bring India's 135,000 Indic language publications online in a hassle-free manner.

STOCK MARKET

- The value of **China's stock market** fell to \$6.09 trillion, losing its spot as the second biggest stock market to **Japan** (\$6.17 trillion).
 - This comes amid China's trade war with the US and its campaign to cut debt.
- **Intercontinental Exchange**, which owns the **New York Stock Exchange**, has announced it is launching a new company '**Bakkt**', which aims to "create an open and regulated, global ecosystem for digital assets".
 - It has partnered with **Starbucks** and **Microsoft** for this venture to allow **futures** contracts on **Bitcoin** and take crypto from a speculative investment to a staple of global commerce.
- The **Receivables Exchange of India** (RXIL) has announced that **Hindustan Aeronautics** (HAL) has become the first **public sector enterprise** to make a transaction on the "**TReDS platform**".

EXPORTS/IMPORTS

- To help the domestic Solar Cell manufacturing sector, the Union Government has imposed **safeguard duty** of **25%** on **import of Solar Cells** (whether or not assembled in modules or panels) from **China** and **Malaysia**.
- To boost local production, the government **doubled** the **Import Duty** on as many as **328 textile products** to **20%**.
 - India's total textile imports jumped by **16%** to a record \$7 billion last fiscal, of which \$3 billion were from **China**.

- The government increased the import duty on other products including **fibre** and **apparels** last month.
- **Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry** has launched **Niryat Mitra** mobile application for **exporters and importers** of the country.
 - The app was developed by **Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO)**, the largest exporters organization of the country.
- The **Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)** under Ministry of Commerce and Industry has **banned** import of **Petroleum coke (petcoke)** for use as fuel.

SPACE

- **China** launched **Gaofen-11**, an optical remote sensing satellite which will be used to monitor its **Belt and Road Initiative**.
- Indian-origin U.S. astronaut **Sunita Williams** is among the 9 astronauts named by **NASA** for its 1st spaceflight programme using US-made commercial spacecraft developed by **SpaceX** and **Boeing**.
 - It will be the first human spaceflight from US soil since the retirement of its space shuttle in 2011.
- The launch of India's second Moon mission **Chandrayaan-2** has been delayed for the second time from October to **January 2019**.
 - The delay in launch comes after ISRO faced two setbacks this year, losing communication with **GSAT-6A satellite** and failing **PSLV-C39 mission**.
- Space agency **NASA's Curiosity rover** completed its 6th anniversary on **Mars**.
 - Curiosity, which landed on Mars in 2012, was designed to assess whether Mars ever had an environment able to support life forms.
- **Elon Musk**-led space startup **SpaceX** is going to launch its biggest batch of more than **70 satellites** into orbit aboard its **Falcon 9 rocket** later this year.
 - Dubbed the **SSO-A mission**, the payload includes 15 larger microsatellites and 56 smaller standardized satellites known as **CubeSats**.
 - Up to 18 different countries have payloads on the flight, including the US, Australia, Thailand, and Poland.
- The **US Defence Department** is going to create a **Space Force** as the **sixth branch** of the military by the year **2020**.
- **The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** successfully launched its **Parker Solar Probe**, aimed to enter the Sun's corona (outer atmosphere), where no spacecraft has gone before.
 - The Parker Solar Probe is the first NASA mission to be named after a living individual, **Dr Eugene Parker**.
- The lander of India's second lunar exploration mission '**Chandrayaan-2**', scheduled for next year, will be named '**Vikram**' in honor of ISRO Founder **Vikram Sarabhai**.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** is announced it plans to launch **ISRO TV**, a TV channel to promote scientific temper among people and conduct training camps for school students.
- SpaceX rival **Arianespace** is going to launch three heavy **Indian satellites** of ISRO over the next 9 months.
 - The 1st satellite, scheduled for November, will be launched aboard **Arianespace's Arian-5 rocket**.
- **Elon Musk**-led **SpaceX** has unveiled its **Crew Dragon** spacecraft and introduced **four NASA astronauts** for its first manned mission.

- The startup also unveiled its custom-built **SpaceX Space Suit**, which features a 3D printed helmet that comes with microphones and air cooling.
- Scientists have found **frozen water deposits** in the darkest and coldest parts of the **Moon's Polar Regions** using data from the **Chandrayaan-I spacecraft**, that was launched by India ten years ago.
- A new satellite "**Aeolus**" that will use advanced laser technology to track global **winds** and improve **weather forecasts** has been successfully launched.
- **China** has successfully sent **twin navigation satellites** into the space on a single carrier rocket.
 - The **Long March-3B** carrier rocket lifted off from Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization**, ISRO has unveiled India's **Gaganyaan programme** for manned space flight before **2022** as announced by the Prime Minister on the **Independence Day**.
 - India will be the **fourth** country after the USA, Russia and China to send humans to space.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- **Ranchi-based** software developer **Ranjit Srivastava** is developing the **world's first Hindi-speaking humanoid robot**.
 - Named **Rashmi**, the AI-powered robot can also speak Bhojpuri, Marathi, and English, and is equipped with facial expressions and recognition systems.
- Computer scientists from **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras** have developed first of a family of six industry-standard **microprocessors** under **Project Shakti**.
 - The initial batch of 300 chips has been named **RISECREEK** and has been fabricated at Intel's facility at Oregon, US for free to run Linux operating system.
 - **Project Shakti** was started in 2014 as IIT-M initiative and part of it is funded by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- **China** has launched a **new generation supercomputer prototype Sunway** that can execute quintillion (a thousand raised to the power of six) calculations per second.
 - It was developed by the National Research Center of Parallel Computer, National Supercomputing Centre, and the Pilot National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology.
- **Japanese** humanoid roboticist **Hiroshi Ishiguro** has unveiled an android robot called '**Tbuki**' which is modeled on a 10-year-old child.
- The **Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)**, one of India's premier avian research institutes, will start operating its regional centre on the campus of **Wetland Research and Training Centre** near **Chilika Lake, Odisha**.

HEALTH/DISEASES/DRUGS

- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** confirmed that there is decline in **HIV cases** overall in India whereas there is increase of HIV cases in 3 North Eastern states **Meghalaya, Mizoram** and **Tripura**

ENERGY/GAS/OIL

- The world's first-ever **Thermal battery plant** was inaugurated in **Amravati, Andhra Pradesh**.
 - This plant is owned by **Bharat Energy Storage Technology Private Limited (BEST)**.
- The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** launched **RUCO (Repurpose Used Cooking Oil)** initiative to enable collection and conversion of **used cooking oil** to **biodiesel**.
- The Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship **Dharmendra Pradhan** has launched an **online portal** for enabling easy, efficient and transparent booking of common carrier capacity for natural gas transmission services under **GAIL's pipelines**.

ENVIRONMENT

- On the occasion of **World Bio-fuel Day**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** launched a **Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System**, titled **PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub)**.
 - PARIVESH is developed in pursuance of the spirit of '**Digital India**' initiated by the Prime Minister and capturing the essence of Minimum Government and Maximum Governance.

EDUCATION

- The **Ministry of HRD** has embarked on a major and new initiative Project called '**Study Webs of Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds**' (**SWAYAM**), which will provide one integrated platform and portal for online courses.
 - This covers all higher education subjects and skill sector courses.
- Jammu** will be the 1st city in **north India** to get a **full-fledged space technology research centre** devoted to research, academics and post-graduation degree course.
 - The centre will function under the aegis of the **Central University Jammu** and will be exclusive in nature.

TRANSPORT/CARS/SCOOTERS

- Mughalsarai Junction railway station** (Uttar Pradesh) formally renamed as **Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Nagar Junction railway station** after RSS ideologue **Deen Dayal Upadhyay**.
- Union Civil Aviation Ministry** has given in-principle approval to set up **Water Aerodromes** (a small airport or airfield for sea planes) in **India**.
 - It has identified five states for development of water aerodromes. They are: Odisha, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Assam.
- SpiceJet** is planning to operate a flight from **Dehradun** to **Delhi** using **bio-fuel**, which would be first such experiment in India. India would be the first developing nation to experiment that.

FILMS AND FILM FESTIVAL

- For the first time in 17 years, the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences**, which awards the **Oscars**, has added a new category to recognize **popular films** in the awards.
 - The new Oscar will be awarded for "**Outstanding Achievement in Popular Film**".

FESTIVAL

- The President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind**, inaugurated the '**Festival of Democracy**' in **Thiruvananthapuram** to mark the conclusion of the **Diamond jubilee** (60th anniversary) celebrations of the **Kerala legislative assembly**.
- A 10-day **Pineapple Festival** showcasing different varieties of the fruit has been organized in **Thayong**, a remote village in **Manipur's Imphal**.
- In **Sri Lanka**, the ten-day festival of the historic **Esala Maha Perahera** began in **Kandy**.
 - The procession set off from the biggest Buddhist temple in Sri Lanka, **Sri Dalada Maligawa**.

APPOINTMENTS/ELECTION (OR) LATEST WHO IS WHO?

- The **Banks Board Bureau (BBB)** has appointed two firms **Egon Zehnder International Pvt. Ltd** and **Hay Consultants Pvt. Ltd** to assist in developing strategies for top bank management.
 - Egon Zehnder** was appointed as knowledge partner to design, implement and institutionalize a flagship leadership development strategy for state-run banks in India.
 - Hay Consultants** was appointed to assess leadership competencies and potential capabilities of people appearing for post of whole time directors in state-run banks.
- HDFC** Chairman **Deepak Parekh** was reappointed as **non-Executive Director** of the country's largest mortgage lender.
 - J J Irani** and **Keki Mistry** are also reappointment as **Directors** of the bank.

- The government appointed industrialists **Kumar Mangalam Birla** (Chairman of Aditya Birla Group) and **Y C Deveshwar** (Chairman of ITC) as Non-official Independent Directors in **Air India**.
- **Hanan Hamid**, the student from Kerala, who was trolled on social media for selling fish after college, has been appointed as the **Brand Ambassador** of the **Kerala Khadi Board**.
- **IIFL Mutual Fund** has appointed **Anup Maheshwari** as the joint **Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer**.
- The **Jammu and Kashmir High Court** get women judges for the first time after the government cleared the appointment of advocate **Sindhu Sharma** and former district and sessions judge **Rashid Ali Dar**.
 - Further, Acting Chief Justice of Delhi HC, **Gita Mittal** has been appointed Chief Justice, becoming the 1st woman to lead the court.
- **Glenn Jacobs**, best-known as WWE wrestler **Kane**, has been elected the **Mayor** of the **Knox County** in the **US state of Tennessee**.
- **Emmerson Mnangagwa** has been re-elected **Zimbabwe's President** after winning presidential elections held for the first time since the ouster of Robert Mugabe.
- India's envoy to Ireland **Vijay Thakur Singh** was named **Secretary** (East) in the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)**.
 - She is going to replace Preeti Saran on 1st October 2018.
- The **Russian Foreign Ministry** has appointed Hollywood actor **Steven Seagal** as its Special representative for **Russian-US humanitarian ties**.
- The nominating committee of **Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)** has selected **Ajay Data** as new **council member** of **Country Code Supporting Organization (ccNSO)**.
- The oath-taking ceremony for the 3 newly-elevated Supreme Court judges **Indira Banerjee**, **Vineet Saran** and **KM Joseph** took place.
 - Chief Justice of India **Deepak Misra** administered oath of office to new judges.
- 1981-batch officer of Indian Railway Service of Engineers (IRSE), **Anurag Sachan** was appointed as **Managing Director (MD)** of **Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL)**.
- The government appointed journalist **S Gurumurthy** and patron of Sahakar Bharathi **Satish Marathe** as Part-time Directors on the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** board.
- Indian Farm and construction equipment maker **Escorts Group** appointed **Nikhil Nanda** as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the company.
- UN Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres** has chosen former **Chilean** President **Michelle Bachelet** to be the world body's new **High Commissioner for Human Rights**.
 - Michelle will replace Jordan's Zeid Ra'ad al-Husseini, whose four-year term ends this month.
- The BJP-led NDA's candidate **Harivansh Narayan Singh** was elected new **Deputy Chairman** of **Rajya Sabha**, which fell vacant after the retirement of Congress' P J Kurien on 1st July 2018.
- US-based AI startup **Cerebras Systems** has hired former Intel executive **Dhiraj Mallick** as its **Vice President of Engineering and Business Development**.
- **American** politician and attorney, **Rashida Tlaib** is set to become the 1st Muslim woman elected to the **US Congress** after she won a Democratic primary election to represent **Michigan's 13th district**.
- **Colombia's** President-elect **Ivan Duque** has been sworn in as the country's 60th **President**.
 - Duque, a 42-year-old former senator, defeated left-leaning candidate, **Gustavo Petro**, in a presidential election held in June with 54 percent of the vote.

- Public sector non-life insurance company **United India Insurance Company Ltd (UIIC)** has appointed **S Gopakumar** as its **Director and General Manager** with immediate effect.
- The government reappointed **Ram Sewak Sharma** as the Chairman of telecom regulator **TRAI** (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India).
- Justice **Rajendra Menon** was sworn in as the new **Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court**.
- **Rekha Sharma** (54) was appointed as **Chairperson** of the **National Commission for Women (NCW)**.
- Justice **Vijaya Kamlesh Tahiramani** sworn in as the Chief Justice of the **Madras High Court**.
- 1992 batch IAS officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre, **Ashish Kumar Bhutani** has been appointed as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**.
- Indian origin online transportation network company **Ola** has appointed former Google Europe COO **Ben Legg** as **Managing Director** of its **UK operations**.
- Justice **Manjula Chellur** took oath as **Chairperson** of **Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (ATE)**, **Ministry of Power**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Governor **Anandiben Patel** was sworn in as **Chhattisgarh Governor** in Raipur.
- **Pakistan-born Mehreen Faruqi** became 1st **Muslim woman senator** in **Australia**.
- Former **Indian** team spinner **Ramesh Powar** has been named as the **Indian women's cricket team coach**.
- Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation **Nitin Gadkari** announced the appointment of Bollywood actor **Akshay Kumar** as **Road Safety Brand Ambassador**.
- **Asad Qaiser** of Pakistan Tehrik-e Insaf (PTI) party has been elected as the **Speaker** of **Pakistan's parliament**.
- IAS officer **K S Srinivas** has taken over as **Chairman** of **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)**.
 - Prior to this appointment, he had served as Joint Secretary in Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare in Ministry of Agriculture.
- **All India Football Federation** senior vice president **Subrata Dutta** was elected as a vice president of the newly formed **South West Asian Football Federation (SWAFF)** during its **General Assembly** in **Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**.
- **Malian** President **Ibrahim Boubacar Keita** has been re-elected as **president** after defeating opposition candidate, Soumaila Cisse, in a runoff vote.
- **Subhash Sheoratan Mundra** has been appointed as **Independent Director** on the **Board of Indiabulls Housing Finance** for a period of three years.
- The Cricketer-turned-politician and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman **Imran Khan** was sworn in as the **22nd Prime Minister of Pakistan**.
- The President **Ram Nath Kovind** has appointed governors for seven states.
 - **Satya Pal Malik** - Jammu & Kashmir (Replaced NN Vohra)
 - **Tathagata Roy** - Meghalaya (Replaced Ganga Prasad)
 - **Lalji Tandon** - Bihar (Replaced Satya Pal Malik)
 - **Ganga Prasad** - Sikkim (Replaced Shriniwas Patil)
 - **Kaptan Singh Solanki** - Tripura (Replaced Tathagata Roy)
 - **Satyadev Narayan Arya** - Haryana (Replaced Kaptan Singh Solanki)
 - **Baby Rani Maurya** - Uttarakhand (Replaced K K Paul).

- **Arun Jaitley** resumes charge as **Minister Of Finance and Corporate Affairs** after three months.
- **Australia's Malcolm Turnbull** has been elected as **prime minister**.
 - The Minister for the Environment and Energy, **Josh Frydenberg**, was elected deputy leader.
- The **Maharashtra** government has appointed Bollywood actor **Raveena Tandon** as the brand ambassador of the city-based **Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP)**.
- The **Industry chamber Assocham** has appointed former bureaucrat **Uday Kumar Varma** as its new **Secretary General**. He succeeds **DS Rawat** who held the position for nearly 14 years.
- The Centre has appointed renowned scientist, **Dr G Satheesh Reddy**, as **Chairman** of the **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)**.
- The Leading global investment bank **Goldman Sachs** has appointed **Prachi Mishra** as managing director and chief India economist with immediate effect.
- The **DHFL Pramerica Life Insurance (DPLI)** has appointed **Kalpna Sampat** as **Senior Executive Vice-President & Chief Operating Officer**.
- The UN Secretary General **António Guterres** has appointed veteran Indian development economist and UN official **Satya S Tripathi** as **Assistant Secretary-General** and **Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**.
- The senior diplomat **Ruchi Ghanashyam** has been appointed as **India's next High Commissioner** to the **United Kingdom**.
- **Chanda Kochhar** has been re-appointed as a **director** on the board of **ICICI Securities** with **ICICI Bank**.
- The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of **Rana Kapoor** as the **Managing Director** and **CEO** of **YES Bank** until further notice.

RESIGNATION/DISMISSED/RETIRED/QUIT

- **American** multinational food, snack, and beverage corporation, **PepsiCo** announced that its first female CEO **Indra Nooyi** will step down after 12 years.
 - President **Ramon Laguarta** is going to replace her as the new CEO.
- Veteran **German** striker **Mario Gomez** announced his retirement from international **football**.
- **HDFC Bank** announced that its Deputy Managing Director **Pareesh Sukthankar** has resigned and will vacate his post in 90 days.
- **Manchester City** midfielder 32 year old **David Silva** announced his retirement from international **football**.
- **Pakistani** Batsman **Nasir Jamshed** has been **banned** for **10 years** by **Pakistan Cricket Board's Anti Corruption Tribunal** for his involvement in the 2017 **Pakistan Super League (PSL)** spot-fixing scandal.
- The **Australian** fast bowler **Mitchell Johnson** has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- **Jhulan Goswami** retired from **T20 International cricket**.
- **Manu Ginobili** retired aged 41 after a "fabulous journey" in which he helped the **San Antonio Spurs** wins four **NBA championships** in 16 seasons with the club.
 - He is an **Argentine** retired professional basketball player.

ARRESTS/JAILED

- Former **Malaysian** Prime Minister **Najib Razak** will be charged for money laundering.
 - Razak was arrested last month and charged with abuse of power and criminal breach of trust.

- The **Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO)** arrested **Neeraj Singal**, Managing Director of **Bhushan Steel**, for allegedly siphoning **bank loans** of over **₹2,000 crore**.
 - **Tata Steel** acquired Bhushan Steel after insolvency resolution.

DEATHS

- Popular screenwriter and lyricist **Jalees Sherwani** (70) passed away.
- Engineering company **Escort Group's** Chairman **Rajan Nanda** (76) passed away.
- Senior Congress leader and long-time aide of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, **RK Dhawan** (81) passed away.
- DMK chief **M Karunanidhi** (94) passed away.
 - Karunanidhi, also fondly known as **Kalaignar**, was the 3rd Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and served in the position for 5 times.
- The Managing Director (MD) of **Bajaj Electricals**, **Anant Bajaj** (41) passed away after suffering a cardiac arrest.
- Nobel Prize-winning author **V S Naipaul** (85), who was born to parents of Indian descent, has passed away.
- Former Lok Sabha Speaker **Somnath Chatterjee** (89) passed away.
- **Chhattisgarh** Governor **Balram Das Tandon** (90) passed away after suffering a cardiac arrest.
- Former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna awardee **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** (93) passed away.
- Former India Test captain **Ajit Wadekar** (77) passed away.
- **Aretha Franklin** (76), the long-reigning Queen of Soul, died.
- **Kofi Annan** (80), the first black African to become UN secretary-general passed away.
 - He served two terms as UN chief from 1997 to 2006, and was awarded a **Nobel Peace Prize** for humanitarian work for his efforts in **2001**.
- **Uri Avnery**, a trailblazing **Israeli** journalist and peace activist and one of the first to openly advocate for a Palestinian state has passed away.
- The Eminent writer and journalist **Kuldip Nayar** has passed away.
- The Former **Odisha** Minister **Jadunath Das Mohapatra** has passed away.
- The former India batsman **Gopal Bose** has passed away.
- The Senator **John McCain**, the Vietnam War hero turned senator and presidential candidate has passed away.

AWARDS/HONOURS

- New Delhi-born **Australian** mathematician **Akshay Venkatesh** has won the prestigious **Fields Medal 2018**.
 - The Fields Medal is considered as the "**Nobel prize for mathematics**".
 - Venkatesh is one of the **4 winners** of the prestigious award. The other 3 **winners of Fields Medal 2018** are **Peter Scholze** (Germany), **Alessio Figalli** (Italy), and **Caucher Birkar** (Iran).
- The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, presented the **Outstanding Parliamentary Awards** for the years 2013-2017 in **New Delhi**.
 - **2013** - Najma Heptulla
 - **2014** - Shri Hukmdev Narayan Yadav
 - **2015** - Ghulam Nabi Azad
 - **2016** - Dinesh Trivedi
 - **2017** - Bhartruhari Mahtab

- **Hindi Academy Delhi** has given its highest **Shalaka Samman Award for 2017-18** to lyricist and poet **Javed Akhtar**.
 - Veteran theatre director **M K Raina** received the '**Shikar Samman Award**' at the same event.
 - Other recipients of the awards included **Abid Surti** (cartoonist), **Shaji Jama** (journalist) and **Abhisar Sharma** (journalist).
- **Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. (GCMMF)**, the marketers of the popular **Amul** brand of milk and dairy products, was honored with the '**Marketer of the Year 2018**' award by the **International Advertising Association of India (IAAI)**.
- **Polish-born scientist Marie Curie**, the first person to win two Nobel Prizes (and 1st woman to win one), has topped a **BBC History magazine** poll of top "**100 women who changed the world**".
 - Albanian-Indian Nobel Laureate **Mother Teresa** was placed **20th** on the list while former Prime Minister of India, **Indira Gandhi** was ranked **49th**.
- Indian-American high school student **Avi Goel** has won the **International Geography Bee world championship 2018** in **Berlin**.
- **Annie Zaidi** was awarded the prestigious **Hindu Playwright Award 2018** for her play '**Untitled-1**'.
- Major **Aditya Kumar** and Rifleman **Aurangzeb** (posthumously) were awarded the **Shaurya Chakra**, the 3rd highest peacetime gallantry award in **India**.
- **Three US scientists James Allison, Carl June and Steven Rosenberg** were declared winners of the prestigious **Albany Medical Center Prize** in Medicine and Biomedical Research for the year 2018.
 - They are being honored with this award in recognition to their leading role in the development of immunotherapy to treat **cancer**.
 - Albany Medical Center Prize is United States' **second highest value prize** in medicine and biomedical research, awarded by the Albany Medical Center.
- Oscar-winning director **Ang Lee** will be one of the recipients of the annual **Directors Guild of America (DGA) honors 2018**.
 - The event will be held at the DGA Theatre in **New York City**.
- The former army chief gen **Dalbir Singh** has been awarded with **United States (US) 'Legion of Merit'**.
- The Former West Bengal Governor **Gopalkrishna Gandhi** was honored with **2018 Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavna Award** for promoting communal harmony and peace.
- The **Delhi government's** additional director of health **S.K. Arora** has been awarded the prestigious **WHO World No Tobacco Day 2018 Award** for his extraordinary contribution towards tobacco control.
- **David Beckham** becomes the **third Englishman** to receive the **UEFA President's Award**.
 - **Sir Bobby Robson** (2002) and **Sir Bobby Charlton** (2008) are the previous English winners.
- The Reliance Power wholly-owned subsidiary **Reliance Power Netherlands BV** has won an **international arbitration award** of USD 56 million (Rs 390 crore) against **Prestige Capital Holdings** (a Seychelles-based company) and **Kokos Jiang**.
- The **PepsiCo's** India-born CEO **Indra Nooyi** will be honored with the **Game Changer of the Year award** by a global cultural organization **Asia Society**, in recognition of her business achievements, humanitarian record and advocacy for women and girls around the world.
- The **DBS Bank** has been named the **world's best bank** by **Global Finance magazine**.
- Croatian international and Real Madrid midfielder, **Luka Modric**, has been named the **best European player** by the continent's football governing body, **UEFA**.
 - Wolfsburg's **Pernille Harder** won the **women's player of the year award**.

- **San Jose Earthquakes** defender Guram Kashia won the inaugural **#EqualGame award** for his work promoting equality.
- The event was held at **Grimaldi Forum, Monaco**.

SPORTS/GAME

- **England** have become the 1st-ever team to feature in **1000 Test matches**, achieving the feat after taking the field against **India** at Edgbaston.
 - England is followed by **Australia**, who has played 812 Test matches.
- **Sashi Cheliah**, a 39-year-old Indian-origin prison officer from Adelaide, has won **Master-Chef Australia 2018**, defeating fellow contestant **Ben Borsht** and earning prize money of \$250,000.
- **Indian** professional badminton player, **Saina Nehwal** has become the **1st Woman shuttler** to reach **Badminton World Championships' quarter-finals** for the **8th straight edition**.
- India's ace badminton player **P V Sindhu** won the **Silver medal** at the **Badminton World Championships 2018** for the second straight year.
 - She lost **Carolina Marin** (2016 Olympics champion) in the final match.
- **Indian women's cricket team** opener **Smriti Mandhana** has become the **second Indian cricketer** to smash a **hundred** in women's T20 cricket.
 - First cricketer was **Mithali Raj** (for Railways in 2017)
- Gibraltar-based club **Gibraltar United** is set to become the 1st ever **football club** to pay its players in **crypto currency**.
- After scoring 200 runs in the first Test against England, Indian captain **Virat Kohli** became the **1st Indian to top the ICC Test batsmen rankings** since **Sachin Tendulkar**, who last topped the rankings in 2011.
- **Indian** skipper **Virat Kohli** overtook England's Jonny Bairstow to become the **highest run-scorer** of the year **2018** in international cricket.
 - **Shikhar Dhawan**, who has scored 1,055 runs, is the **second** highest run-scorer among Indians in 2018.
- The **10th edition of the Gay Games** was held in **Paris**.
 - Athletes from Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Russia are among the estimated 12,700 participants from 91 countries.
- Indian golfer **Gaganjeet Bhullar** won his 1st title on the European Tour in the form of the **Fiji International championship**, almost 12 years after turning a professional golfer.
- For the first time in the event's history, **Facial recognition software** is set to be used at the **2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympics Games**.
 - The system, provided by Japanese company NEC, will be used to identify over 300,000 people including athletes, volunteers, and media.
- **Netherlands** has been crowned the world champions for a record eighth time in **14th edition of Women's Hockey World Cup 2018** by defeating **Ireland**.
- The **Indian Women Chess Team** clinched the **Gold Medal** in the **Blitz event** at the **Asian Nations Cup 2018** held in **Iran**.
 - The team also won **silver** and **bronze** in the **Rapid** and **Classical** categories, respectively.
- **Lionel Messi** will replace **Andrés Iniesta** as **Barcelona's captain** for the new season, after the latter ended his 22-year stint at the Spanish club.
- **Argentine** professional footballer **Lionel Messi** became the most decorated player in **Barcelona's** history; by winning his 33rd trophy for the club as defending La Liga champions beat Sevilla to win their **13th Spanish Super Cup**.
 - This match was also Messi's first as club's first captain.

- The **2018 Vietnam Open badminton tournament** recently held at **Nguyen Du Cultural Sports Club** in **Vietnam**.
 - Indian shuttler **Ajay Jayaram** finished as runner-up in the men's singles event by losing the final to Indonesian shuttler **Shesar Hiren Rhustavito**.
 - **Women's Singles:** Yeo Jia Min (Singapore)
 - **Men's Doubles:** Ko Sung-hyun (South Korea), Shin Baek-cheol (South Korea)
 - **Women's Doubles:** Misato Aratama (Japan), Akane Watanabe (Japan)
 - **Mixed Doubles:** Nipitphon Phuangphupet (Thailand), Savitree Amitrapai (Thailand)
- **2018 Rogers Cup / Canadian Open Tennis Tournament Men's Singles:** Spain Rafael Nadal
 - **Women's Singles:** Romania Simona Halep
 - **Men's Doubles:** Henri Kontinen (Finland) / John Peers (Australia)
 - **Women's Doubles:** Ashleigh Barty (Australia) / Demi Schuurs (Netherlands)
- **Kerala's Nihal Sarin** has become India's **53rd Grandmaster** after attaining his third and final GM-Norm by drawing in the eighth round of **Abu Dhabi Masters** against **Uzbekistan's Temur Kuybokarov**.
 - The 14-year-old is the 12th youngest grandmaster in chess history.
- The 118-year-old **Davis Cup tournament** will be changed into an 18-team, week-long event after International Tennis Federation (ITF) approved a proposal by a consortium that has pledged support of **\$3 billion** over a 25-year-long duration.
- India's **Niki Kaliyanda Poonacha** won **Singles title** in the \$25,000 men's tennis event of **2018 ITF Men's Circuit** (July–September) held at **Jakarta, Indonesia**.
 - The doubles title was won by **Justin Barki** (Indonesia) and **Christopher Rungkat** (Indonesia).
- **Indian** Teen cyclist **Esow Alben** (17) created history by winning **Silver Medal** in the **Men's Keirin** event of the **UCI Junior Track Cycling World Championships** in **Aigle, Switzerland**.
- **Neeraj Chopra**, the 1st-ever Indian to win Gold Medal in javelin throw at Commonwealth Games, has been chosen as **India's flag-bearer** at the opening ceremony of the **18th Asian Games 2018**.
 - 18th Asian Games 2018 held in **Jakarta and Palembang** (Indonesia).
 - **Motto:** Energy of Asia
 - Shooting - Rifle Mixed Team - **Apurvi Chandela** and **Ravi Kumar** - Bronze
 - Shooting - Men's 10-metre Air Rifle - **Deepak Kumar** - Silver
 - Shooting - 10m Air Pistol - **Saurabh Chaudhary** - Gold
 - Shooting - Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions event - **Sanjeev Rajput** - Silver
 - Shooting - Women's 25m Pistol - **Rahi Sarnobat** - Gold
 - Shooting - Men's double trap - **Shardul Vihan** - Silver
 - Shooting - 10m air pistol - **Heena Sidhu** - Bronze
 - Wrestling - Men's freestyle 65-kg category - **Bajrang Punia** - Gold
 - Wrestling - 50 kilogram women's Freestyle - **Vinesh Phogat** - Gold
 - Wrestling - Free style 68 kg category - **Divya Kakran** - Bronze
 - Sepak Takraw - India - Bronze
 - Tennis - Women's singles - **Ankita Raina** - Bronze
 - Tennis - Men's doubles team - **Rohan Bopanna** and **Divij Sharan** - Gold
 - Kabaddi - Women's team - Silver
 - Kabaddi - Men's Team - Bronze
 - Men's Rowing Team - Gold
 - Rowing - Men's Lightweight Single - **Dushyant Chauhan** - Bronze.
 - Rowing - Lightweight double sculls - **Rohit Kumar** and **Bhagwan Singh** - Bronze
 - Wushu - **Naorem Roshibini Devi, Santosh Kumar, Surya Bhanu Partap Singh and Narender Grewal** - Bronze
 - Men's Shot put - **Tejinderpal Singh Toor** - Gold
 - Equestrian individual event - **Fouaad Mirza** - Silver

- Equestrian team event - Silver
 - Bridge - Men's Team - Bronze
 - Bridge - Mixed Team - Bronze
 - Squash - Men's singles - **Saurav Ghosal** - Bronze
 - Squash - **Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Joshna Chinappa** - Bronze
 - Women's Long Jump - **Neena Varakil** - Silver
 - Men's Triple Jump - **Arpinder Singh** - Gold
 - Kurash - Women's 52 Kg - **Pincky Balhara** - Silver
 - Kurash - Women's 52 kg - **Malaprabha Jadhav** - Bronze
 - Badminton - Women's singles - **Saina Nehwal** - Bronze
 - Badminton - Women's Singles - **P.V Sindhu** - Silver
 - Men's Compound Archery Team - Silver
 - Women's Compound Archery Team - Silver
 - Women's Heptathlon Event - **Swapna Barman** - Gold
 - Table Tennis - Mixed Doubles team - **Manika Batra and Sharath Kamal** - Bronze
 - Table Tennis - Men's team - Bronze
 - Sailing - 49er FX Women's event - **Harsha Gautham and Sweta Shervegar** - Silver
 - Sailing - 49er men's event - **Varun Thakkar Ashok and Chengappa Ganapathy Kelapanda** - Bronze
 - Sailing - Mixed Open Laser 4.7 event - **Harshita Tomar** - Bronze
 - Javelin Throw - **Neeraj Chopra** - Gold
 - Steeplechase - Women's 3000m - **Sudha Singh** - Silver
 - Men's 400m Hurdles - **Dharun Ayyasamy** - Silver
 - Women's 1500m - **P.U. Chitra** - Bronze
 - Women's 200m - **Dutee Chand** - Silver
 - Athletics - Women's 100m - **Dutee** - Silver.
 - Athletics - Women's 400m - **Hima Das** - Silver
 - Athletics - Men's 400m - **Muhammed Anas** - Silver.
 - Athletics - Men's 800m - **Manjit Singh** - Gold
 - Indian Mixed 4x400m Relay Team - Silver
- **Cincinnati WTA** held in Mason near Cincinnati, Ohio, USA.
 - **Kiki Bertens** defeats World No 1 Simona Halep to win **Cincinnati WTA** Title.
 - **Novak Djokovic** clinched **Cincinnati** title after defeating Roger Federer.
 - **India** defeated **Bangladesh** in the final of the **South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-15 Women's Championship** in **Thimpu, Bhutan**.
 - **Esow Alban** won India's first ever **junior cycling World Cup medal** when he finished **second** in the keirin event in **Aigle, Switzerland**.
 - The **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)** has given recognition to India's indigenous sport of **Kho-Kho**, a development that has been welcomed by Sports Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore.
 - The **Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel** won **Belgian grand prix** 2018.
 - He was followed by Mercedes player **Lewis Hamilton** and then Red Bull player **Max Verstappen**.
 - **Japan** won their first **Women's World Cup France 2018 Under-20** title with a 3-1 victory over **Spain** in the final.
 - **England** defeated France 4-2 on a penalty shoot-out to finish **third** after their play-off had ended 1-1.
 - **Takarada Saori** was named as the **Player of the match** with her goal and an assist.
 - Takarada was also awarded the **Adidas Bronze Boot** as well as the **Adidas Silver Ball**, while **Minami** was awarded the **Bronze Ball**.

- The 2019 Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships will be held in the North Korean capital **Pyongyang**.

REPORT

- **Mukesh Ambani**-led **Reliance Industries** has jumped 55 places to be ranked at **148th** on the **Fortune Global 500** list of the world's biggest companies by revenue.
 - State-owned **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** is the top-ranked Indian company at **137**.
 - Other Indian companies in the list are **ONGC, State Bank of India, Tata Motors, Bharat Petroleum and Rajesh Exports**.
- **Varanasi** and **Delhi** are among **14 Indian cities** dubbed **most polluted** by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** on account of the air quality measured in terms of particulate matter (PM) at the high level of 2.5.
 - **Other cities in this category are:** Jaipur, Jodhpur, Srinagar, Kanpur, Faridabad, Gaya, Patna, Lucknow, Agra, Gurgaon, Patiala and Muzaffarpur.
- **Delhi** has replaced **Gujarat** to top the **State Investment Potential Index** list of 21 states and Union Territories, prepared by economic think tank **National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)**.
 - **Tamil Nadu** moved up four spots to **2nd** while Gujarat fell two spots to rank at 3rd.
 - **Top 5:** Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra.
- **Andhra Pradesh** topped the **States' Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index (SEEPI)** released by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) and NITI Aayog.
 - **Top 5:** Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra.
- The **2018 Environmental Performance Index (EPI)** ranks 180 countries on 24 performance indicators across 10 issue categories covering environmental health (50%) and ecosystem vitality (50%).
 - **China** and **India** rank **120th** and **177th** respectively.
 - **Top 5:** Switzerland, France, Denmark, Malta, and Sweden.
- According to a recently released RBI survey, 4 States **Kerala, Maharashtra, Karnataka** and **Tamil Nadu** together received nearly **60%** of the total **remittances** in 2016-17.
 - The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** emerged as the **top source** of remittances with a share of 26.9%, followed by the **United States** (22.9%), **Saudi Arabia** (11.6%), **Qatar** (6.5%) and **Kuwait** (5.5%).
- **Pune** (Maharashtra) has emerged as the number **one** city in the **Ease of Living Index 2018** released by the government of India.
 - The Index was launched by Housing and Urban Affairs Minister **Hardeep Singh Puri**.
 - **Top 5:** Pune, Navi Mumbai, Greater Mumbai, Tirupati, and Chandigarh.
- **Smitha V. Crishna**, a third-generation heir of the **Godrej** family, ranked 1st in the Kotak Wealth Hurun-Leading **Wealthy Women 2018 list** with an estimated wealth of ₹ 37,570 crore.
 - **Top 5:** Smitha V. Crishna (Godrej), Roshni Nadar (HCL), Indu Jain (Times Group), Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (Biocon), Kiran Nadar (HCL).
- For the first time, **Vienna** (Austria's capital) has **topped** the Economist Intelligence Unit's **Global Livability Index 2018**, beating **Australian** city **Melbourne**, which had topped the list for the past seven years.
 - **Syrian** city **Damascus** was placed at the **bottom** of the list, while **Bangladesh's** capital **Dhaka**, and **Nigeria's** **Lagos** were placed at the second last and third last position respectively.
 - **Top 5:** Vienna, Melbourne, Osaka, Calgary, and Sydney.
- According to **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**, **Macau** in **China** would overtake oil-rich **Qatar** with highest per-capita gross domestic product of any country or jurisdiction on earth, by **2020**.

- Hollywood Actress **Scarlett Johansson** has become the **highest-paid actress** in the world with USD 40.5 million, according to Forbes magazine.
 - **Top 5:** Scarlett Johansson (\$40.5 million), Angelina Jolie (\$28 million), Jennifer Aniston (\$19.5 million), Jennifer Lawrence (\$18 million), and Reese Witherspoon (\$16.5 million).
- The **Kempegowda International Airport (KIA)** has emerged as the **second fastest growing airport** in the world in the first half of 2018 in terms of actual growth in number of passengers.
 - Only **Tokyo's Haneda International Airport** has **topped** the list.
 - **New Delhi's airport** is placed **sixth** while **Hyderabad** is placed **17th** in terms of actual growth of passengers.
- The **Reliance Industries** has become the **first** company to cross **Rs 8 trillion** in terms of market capitalization (market-cap), becoming the **country's most valued** firm.
- **George Clooney** has **topped** the annual list of the **world's highest-paid actors**.
 - **Akshay Kumar** ranks at number **seven** with earnings of 40.5 million dollars, while **Salman**, by earning 38.5 million dollars, has scored the **ninth** position.
 - **Top 5:** George Clooney, Dwayne Johnson, Robert Downey Jr., and Chris Hemsworth.
- The analysis – titled **The Urban Commute** – was released in **Kolkata**.
 - It had taken 60 years – from 1952 to 2008 – for the number of registered vehicles in the country to reach 105 million.
 - Overall emissions and energy consumption Rank: Bhopal, Vijayawada, Chandigarh
 - Per-travel trip emissions and energy consumption: Kolkata, Mumbai, Bhopal
- **Rajasthan's Jodhpur railway station** was ranked the **cleanest station** in the A1 Category in a cleanliness report released by the **Ministry of Railways**.
 - Jodhpur was followed by stations **Jaipur** and **Tirupati** in cleanliness in the A1 Category of railway stations.
 - **Rajasthan's Marwar** topped among the **A Category** railway stations, followed by **Phulera** and **Warangal**.
- **Serena Williams** (Tennis) tops **Forbes list of highest paid female athletes**.
 - **Top 5:** Serena Williams, Caroline Wozniacki, Sloane Stephens, Garbine Muguruza and Maria Sharapova.
 - Badminton's **PV Sindhu** (Only Indian in top 10) and race car driver **Danica Patrick** are the only non-tennis players in the top 10.
- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani-led telecom startup **Reliance Jio** has been ranked number **one** on **Fortune's global list**.
 - The '**Change the World**' list includes for-profit companies that help tackle social problems.
 - It ranked Jio ahead of pharma giant **Merck** and **Bank of America** and Chinese billionaire Jack Ma-led **Alibaba**.

NATIONAL PARTIES/REGIONAL PARTIES

- Senior **JD(S)** leader **A H Vishwanath** replaced Karnataka Chief Minister **HD Kumaraswamy** as the party's state president.

GENERAL - NATIONAL

- **India** unveiled a **Tri Color Logo** and **Tagline** for **Geographical Indication (GI)** certified products. Union Industry Minister **Suresh Prabhu** unveiled the Logo and Tagline in Delhi.
 - **Logo:** Tricolor in the form of G, Human being and location pointer.
 - **Tagline:** "Invaluable Treasures of Incredible India"
- Union Ministry of Culture launched **Seva Bhoj Yojna**, a new scheme to provide **financial assistance** on purchase of specific food items by **Charitable Religious Institutions (CRIs)** for free distribution among people.

- The White House has confirmed that **India** has invited US President **Donald Trump** to be the Chief Guest for **Republic Day parade 2019**.
- **Kadaknath chicken meat** from **Jhabua** district of **Madhya Pradesh** has received **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** in “Meat Product, Poultry & Poultry Meat” category.
- **India** has become the 3rd Asian Nation after **Japan** and **South Korea**, and 37th overall, to get the **Strategic Trade Authorization-1 (STA-1)** status from the **United States**.
- **India** has been elected as the **President** of the **Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)** for a period of **two years**.
 - **F. Sheheryar** (Director General of All India Radio) was re-elected as Chair of the executive board while **Sri Lanka** was elected as vice-chair.
- **India** formally submitted a request to **Antigua** for the extradition of **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** scam accused **Mehul Choksi**.
 - Choksi had acquired citizenship of the Caribbean nation in November 2017 and fled India in January, days before the \$2.1-billion scam was exposed.
- To help solve India's mobility issues, **NITI Aayog** has launched a global mobility hackathon '**Move Hack**'.
 - The organization will recognize the top 10 winners, with a total prize of over ₹2 crore.
- **Bangalore**, the capital city of Indian state Karnataka, launched a campaign to make people aware about the **National Anthem** and teach the correct lyrics and pronunciation on Independence Day.
 - This campaign will be led by Justice **Santosh Hegde** (former Karnataka Lokayukta and former Supreme Court judge).
- **Santali** has become the 1st **Indian tribal language** to get a **Wikipedia edition** in its own script after the Santali Wikipedia went live.
- **India** has handed over **404 houses** built for Indian-origin people in **Sri Lanka's** tea plantation areas at **Dunsinane Estate** in **Nuwara Eliya** city.
 - This is first lot of houses built under **Indian Housing Project** in Plantation Areas in Sri Lanka.
 - With grant of over US \$350 million, it is India's largest assistance project in any country.
- The Union Minister of Railways **Piyush Goyal** announced a **50% reservation for women** in the upcoming **recruitment of up to 10,000 Railway Police Force jawans**.
 - He also announced that 13,000 jobs are also coming up in Railways for which a **Computer-Based Test** will be conducted and **no interviews** will be taken.
- On the occasion of its 72nd Independence Day, **India** gifted **30 ambulances** and **6 buses** to the hospitals, charitable organizations and educational institutions of **Nepal**.
- Seeking to promote tourism, the **Indian government** has extended **e-visa facility** for citizens of **165 countries** at 25 airports and 5 seaports.
- The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** launched **UPI 2.0**, an upgraded version of the **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**.
 - With UPI 2.0, customers can now link overdraft account to UPI in addition to current and savings account, and the transaction limit has been doubled to ₹2 lakh.
- The **Union Ministry of Agriculture** has written to United Nation's **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** proposing declaration of year **2019** as “**International Year of Millets**”.
 - It has requested inclusion of this proposal in agenda of **26th Committee on Agriculture (COAG)** meeting, scheduled to be held in October 2018 in **Rome (Italy)**.
- The Home Ministry has issued a directive stating that no **ATM** will be refilled with cash after **9 pm in cities, 6 pm in rural areas** and **4 pm in Naxal-affected areas** from 8th February 2019.
 - The Ministry has also issued a directive stating every cash van will carry not more than ₹5 crore per trip, to reduce attacks on cash vans.

- The **Northern states** have decided to set up a joint secretariat at **Panchkula, Haryana** for data and information sharing to effectively fight the **drug menace**.
- Every year **September** would be celebrated as the **National Nutrition Month** to mark the country's fight against malnutrition.
 - The decision was taken during the second meeting of National Council on **India's Nutrition Challenges** under the **Poshan Abhiyaan**.
- The **ICOMOS**, a global monument conservation body, has launched an initiative to assess the damage to the **rich cultural** and **built heritage** in flood-devastated **Kerala** and set up an emergency response platform.
 - ICOMOS - International Council on Monuments and Sites.
- **NITI Aayog** has released **five** thematic reports on **Sustainable Development in Indian Himalayan Region**.
 - Himalayan Tourism is growing annually at 6.8 percent has created huge challenge related to solid waste, water, traffic, loss of bio-cultural diversity.

GENERAL - INTERNATIONAL

- The government of **UK (United Kingdom)** has announced new plans to change **law for Organ and Tissue donation** to address urgent need for organs within **Indian-origin communities** in the country.
 - This will be known as **Max's Law** after Max Johnson, a 10-year-old boy who was saved by a heart transplant.
- **France** passed a law banning **Smartphones, Tablets** and other **Internet-Enabled Devices** in **Schools**.
 - The law provides exceptions for educational use, extra-curricular activities and for students with disabilities.
- **Indonesia** has invited **North Korean** leader **Kim Jong-un** to attend the opening ceremony of the **Asian Games**.
 - This comes after Indonesia extended a similar invitation to **South Korean President Moon Jae-in**.
- The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** has begun a **3-month visa amnesty program** which allows **illegal foreign workers** to legalize their **status** in the country or return home.
- The **US Senate** passed a bill **National Defence Authorization Act (NDAA) 2019**.
 - This bill waives **sanctions against India** for buying **Russian arms**.
- **Bangladesh's** Cabinet approved a new **road safety law** promising to consider **death penalty** for deliberately causing accidents.
 - The maximum jail time for rash driving deaths has been raised to 5 years from three.
- The population of **Australia** hit a record **2.5 crore**, almost a decade earlier than projected.
 - The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has attributed 62% of the rise in population growth to net overseas migration, while 38% was due to natural increase.
- The **United Kingdom (UK)** has **rejected India's** request to **ban a pro-Khalistan** event in **London** to be held later this month.
 - The US-based **Sikhs for Justice (SFJ)** is holding a 'referendum' seeking Punjab's 'independence' on August 12.
- **Argentinian** lawmakers voted against a bill to **Legalize** elective **Abortion** in the first 14 weeks of pregnancy.
 - Argentina currently allows abortion only in cases of rape or risks to a woman's health.
- The **United States** has suspended the **International Military Education and Training program** with **Pakistan** as part of its decision to **reduce security assistance** to the country.

- The US had suspended military aid to Pakistan earlier this year over its inaction to combat terrorism on its soil.
- To reduce video game and social media addiction among teens, the **Malaysian government** is planning to **ban internet** from **12 am to 6 am** daily for teenagers under 17 years of age.
- **Australia** has resumed the **adoption of children** from **India** after 8 years.
- **New Zealand's** parliament passed a bill **banning** the **sale** of existing **homes** to **foreign buyers**.
- **United States** (US) State Department has announced creation of **Iran Action Group (IAG)** to execute President Donald Trump administration's **Iran strategy** and pressure country to change its behaviors.
- **Sweden** has released a handbook of its "**feminist foreign policy**" for rights groups and foreign governments.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Book's Name

Author's Name

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| • 281 and Beyond | VVS Laxman (former Indian cricketer) |
| • No Spin | Shane Warne |
| • Atal Ji Ne Kaha | Brijendra Rehi |
| • The Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu released a Book titled ' Bebak Baat ', | |
| – This book has been authored by Vijay Goel (Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Statistics & Programme Implementation) | |
| • Minister of state for Culture (I/C), Dr. Mahesh Sharma , released 3 books. They are: | |
| – ' Ghats of Banaras ' written by Dr. Sachidanand Joshi . | |
| – ' Untold Story of Broadcasting ' written by Dr. Gautam Chatterjee . | |
| – ' Jewellery ' written by Dr. Gulab Kothari . | |
| • Union Minister for Oil and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan launched the Odia edition of the book ' Exam Warriors ' written by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bhubaneswar, Odisha . | |

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TO THE POINTS: AUGUST-2018

- World Breastfeeding Week was celebrated on **August 1 to 7**.
- **Paytm Payments Bank** has stopped enrolment of new customers on its platform following observations made by the Reserve Bank of India.
- India got **96** rank in the United Nation's E-Government Development Index (EGDI) 2018.
- **Denmark** has topped the 2018 E-Government Development Survey.
- United States has eased export controls for high-technology product sales to **India**.
- **Chhattisgarh** has launched a smartphone distribution scheme called 'Mobile Tihar' under Sanchar Kranti Yojna.
- **Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** beat Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to become the most valued company in India.
- **Rajasthan** has signed a MoU with a private trust Sohanlalji Buladeviji Ojha Gaushala Samiti to build its first 'Cow Sanctuary', a shelter for 10000 cows.
- UAE Artificial Intelligence Bridge going to setup in **New Delhi**.
- **WhatsApp** launched 4 person group video calling.
- NASA's **Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)** was sent with mission in search for new planets.
- **Rajasthan** has become the first state in the country to implement National Policy on Bio-fuels unveiled by Union Government in May 2018.
- The Central government decided to set up a high level empowered panel to resolve issues plaguing the power sector and revive stressed assets. Head of this panel is **Pradeep Kumar Sinha**.
- **e-Aksharayan**, desktop software launched by IT ministry to enable editing of text printed on scanned documents and it can be downloaded for free from its website.
- **25%** of safeguard duty imposes on import of solar cells by the government from China and Malaysia.
- **Scutoid** is a new shape discovered by American and Spanish Scientists.
- **Gaofen-11**, optical remote sensing satellite launched by China to monitor Belt and Road Initiative.
- **Telangana** will set up of a state-of-the-art B-Hub, which will have a scale-up manufacturing facility for Biopharma based R&D.
- The tagline of tricolor logo for geographical indication (GI) is **Invaluable Treasures of Incredible India**.
- **7** Indian companies have been listed in the 2018 Fortune 500 Companies list.
- As per the Cabinet approval, the Agricultural Scientists' Recruitment Board (ASRB) will be restructured to have **4** members.
- **Bharti Airtel** has launched the "Bandwidth on Demand" platform for business.
- The 23rd Asian Athletics Championships will be held in **Doha, Qatar**.
- **Bhartruhari Mahtab** has been awarded with the Outstanding Parliamentarian Awards 2017.
- **Walmart** has topped the Fortune 500 Companies 2018 list.
- Karman Kaur Thandi is associated with **Tennis**.
- **Amul** has been awarded the 'Marketer of the Year' award by the International Advertising Association of India (IAAI).
- **BSE** has introduced a chatbot named Ask Motabhai.

- **2023** is the time limit to support Indian Entities bidding for strategically important infrastructure projects abroad.
- **Coralarium** is the name of World's first intertidal art gallery opens in Maldives.
- **Deepak Parekh** was reappointed as non-executive director on the board of Housing Development Finance Corp. Ltd (HDFC).
- India has signed an agreement with **Germany** on financial and technical cooperation focusing on sustainable urban development and renewable energy.
- **Amitabh Kant** inaugurated conference For Development Of Islands.
- The **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)** has launched a Dedicated Portal FOCAL For Cargo Owners And Shippers.
- **Lewis Hamilton** won 6th Hungarian Formula 1 Grand Prix recently.
- The Navy recently perform **Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Naval Prototype 2 (NP2)** test on the Shore Based Test Facility (SBTF) in Goa.
- Recently Union Government has set up the North East Venture Fund (NEVF) for North East Region. The capital commitment to the fund is **Rs.100.00 crore**.
- **Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Power** has launched "SAATHI" initiative.
- Recently National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **SBI** for a Long Term, unsecured Loan of Rs.25,000 Crore.
- **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)** has launched the Mission Solar Charkha for implementation of 50 Solar Charkha Clusters across the country with a budget of Rs.550 crore for the year 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- **NITI Ayog** has launched Move Hack, a global mobility hackathon to crowd source solutions aimed at the future of mobility in India.
- India and USA Military Cooperation Meeting held in **New Delhi**.
- Union Cabinet at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the raising of Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) of **Rs 15,000 cr** for the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) during 2018-19.
- **Rashmi** is the name of the world's first Hindi-speaking humanoid robot.
- **Emmerson Mnangagwa** won Presidential election in Zimbabwe.
- The Startup India Yatra was launched in **Raipur**.
- **Gita Mittal** was appointed as the Chief Justice of J&K High Court.
- **Vijay Thakur Singh** has been appointed as Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- GST council meeting was held in **New Delhi** to discuss about MSME Sector suggestions.
- **Kerala** has recently made the e-way bill mandatory for inter-State goods movements.
- **Integrate to Innovate Programme** launched by Invest India under Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) in partnership with energy companies.
- **FICCI** has launched WOW mobile app to create awareness on preventive healthcare.
- **Himachal Pradesh** launches Shaur Nahin mobile application.
- **Yemen** got warning from UNICEF about the outbreak of cholera.
- **Bharti Airtel** is planning to provide optical fibre network and to open 12,000 new mobile sites across Tamil Nadu.

- **Delhi** emerged the most-attractive for investors on the top position on the National Council for Applied and Economic Research (NCAER)'s 2018 State Investment Potential Index. Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh retained their first and second positions in state wise.
- **Chinese** researchers 'create' world's first single-chromosome yeast.
- The Mattala Airport is located at **Sri Lanka**.
- **Karnataka** launched 'Swachhameva Jayate' a rural cleanliness and sanitation campaign.
- **Fino Payments Bank** has been recently barred by the RBI from adding new customers over discrepancies in adherence to KYC norms.
- **Adani group** won the country's recent gas distribution network auction.
- **Rohit Kumar Paudel** has become the fourth youngest debutant in men's ODI cricket.
- **Netherlands** won Women's Hockey Tournament.
- **Carolina Marin** won gold in BWF World Championships 2018 in Nanjing, China.
- **Uttar Pradesh** renamed Mughal Sarai junction as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya.
- **Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana** launched by Bihar CM Nitish Kumar for a girl child.
- **Kyrgyzstan** joined with India to deepen bilateral ties on health, tourism, defence and security.
- 20% cash back for digital transactions are announced by GST Council.
- **Defence Ministry** launched Defence India Startup Challenge.
- **Indonesia** hosts Asian Games 2018 from August 18.
- 65,000 Indonesians performed poco-poco dance to promote Asian Games 2018 and to set a world record along the way.
- **Indra Krishnamurthy Nooyi** resigned her position as CEO of PepsiCo.
- The launch of India's second Moon mission Chandrayaan-2 has been delayed for the second time from October to **January 2019**.
- Google officially launched Android 9.0 named **Pie**.
- The ASEAN Foreign Ministers meeting held in **Singapore**.
- Indian army has conducted the final coordinating conference for the Joint Military Exercise (MILEX-18) in **Pune**.
- The **Bike-Maker Benelli** signs MoU for plant at Telangana.
- Article 35A gives special status to the State and People of **Jammu & Kashmir**.
- India has become the 3rd Asian nation to get Strategic Trade Authorization-1 (STA - 1) status from US. Two Asian nations which already got STA-1 status from US are **Japan and South Korea**.
- **Shri Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurates centenary celebrations of St Thomas College, Thrissur.
- **Uttarakhand** will soon become the first state to issue identity cards to gau rakshaks (protectors of cows).
- Muthuvel Karunanidhi was the former Chief Minister of **Tamilnadu**.
- 10th annual conference on oral implantology was held in **New Delhi**.
- The International Conference on Sustainable Growth through Material Recycling was inaugurated in **New Delhi**.
- ISRO will launch its heaviest satellite GSAT 11 on **November 30**.
- **Gopakumar** has appointed as Director and General Manager United India Insurance Company.
- A US-based pro-Khalistan group 'Sikhs for Justice' would hold its first global rally at **London**.

- Theme of International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples 2018 was **Indigenous peoples' migration and movement**.
- According to a report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South" the use of Internet in India is **19%**.
- **Non-Resident Indians** cannot file Right to Information (RTI) applications to seek governance related information from the Central government departments.
- **Haryana** launches online system of releasing grant-in-aid to government departments.
- World's first thermal battery plant will be unveiled in **Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Khangchendzonga** has become the 11th Biosphere Reserve from India that has been included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR).
- India Baja 2018 was held in **Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**.
- In **SBI's** ATM we can donate to clean Ganga fund.
- World Bio-fuel day was observed on **August 10**.
- **Shantali** has become the first Indian tribal language to get a Wikipedia edition in its own script.
- Ivan Duque was elected as President of **Colombia**.
- **Maharashtra Government** announced a special assistance of Rs.500 crore for OBC community to help them develop employment opportunities for the youth.
- **Karnataka** government launched a round-the-clock information and grievance helpline for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) across the state.
- **State Bank of India** has launched a payments machine called MOPAD.
- The government raised import duties on 328 textile products by up to **20%** percent.
- **Paytm** has acquired Bangalore-based savings management start-up, Balance Technology for an undisclosed amount.
- **Ram Sewak Sharma** has been got two-year extension as the chief of the telecom regulator TRAI.
- Germany's Mario Gomez related to **Football**.
- **Neeraj Chopra** has been named as the Indian contingent's flag-bearer for the Asian Games opening ceremony.
- Poet Sumatheendra R. Nadig who passed away recently, he was famous poet of **Kannada**.
- Taiwan's Wistron, a contract manufacturer of Apple iPhones in India, has plans to invest Rs.1150 crore in **Karnataka**.
- The Union Cabinet approved for **four** more battalions of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- **Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED)** has signed MOU with National Medicinal Plant Board.
- **Swaminathan Gurumurthy** has been appointed as part-time non-official directors on the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) board.
- Recently, Indian Government extended e-visa facility for citizens of **165 countries**.
- **Uttar Pradesh** is hosting the 'One District One Product' Summit 2018.
- **Marie Curie** has been voted the most influential woman in history as per the recent Readers of BBC History magazine poll.
- India's first all-woman Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team for antiterrorist operations has been inducted in **Delhi Police**.

- **Axis Bank** has become the India's first bank to introduce iris authentication for Aadhaar-based transactions through micro ATMs.
- Theme of the 2018 International Youth Day (IYD) was **Safe Spaces for Youth**.
- **Karnataka** has used drone with camera to detect the cultivation of ganja plants.
- Astronomers, from Pune, used an Indian telescope, Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT), and discovered the most distant **radio galaxy** ever known.
- According to the World Economic Forum (WEF) ranking, India has been placed **177th** rank out of 180 countries on the Environmental Performance Index 2018.
- According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, **Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura** have emerged as the new hotspots for HIV.
- **HDFC Bank** with Paypal offers Seamless Payment Experiences.
- **Google** launches Video Q&A App Cameos Aimed at Celebrities.
- Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) have decided to stop providing 'free travel insurance' to its passengers starting from **September 1, 2018**.
- **Macau** in China would become World's richest place by 2020, According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- **Vijaya Bank** joined with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance for Bancassurance Deal.
- **Israel** opened Visa Application Centre in Kolkata.
- India's first genetic bank for wildlife conservation was inaugurated in **Hyderabad**.
- **Nitin Gadkari** launched road safety awareness video with Brand ambassador of road safety campaign actor Akshay Kumar.
- **Malaysia** ban internet from 12 am to 6 am daily for teenagers under 17 years of age.
- **Pune** has ranked first in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs' Ease of Living Index.
- The Centre dismissed Usha Ananthasubramanian as MD and CEO of **Allahabad Bank**.
- ISRO has announced its plans to launch incubators across India to support startups; **Kailasavadivoo Sivan** is the present chairman of ISRO.
- Somnath Chatterjee who passed away recently, he was a **Former Lok Sabha Speaker**.
- Balramji Das Tandon who passed away recently, he was a governor of **Chhattisgarh**.
- Famous sports person Hakam Singh who passed away recently, he was related to **Race walk**.
- Lionel Messi named as the captain of **FC Barcelona**.
- In a cleanliness report released by the Ministry of Railways, **Jodhpur and Jaipur** railway stations captured the first two spots as India's cleanest A1 Category stations.
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay will get **1000 Cr** financial aid under the status of Institution of Eminence (IoE).
- **James Anderson** became the first bowler to take 100 Test wickets at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground.
- India will participate for the first time in the joint SCO Peace Mission Exercise, was conducted from August 22-29 at **Russia**.
- **State Bank of India** ranked as India's Most Patriotic Brand.
- **Haryana** inaugurates its first licensed Hisar Airport.
- **Green Mysuru drive** initiative is launched by the Karnataka government on 15th August.
- The 'Tatkal sewa' for property registration is a proposed initiative of **Punjab** government.

- The i5 Summit 2018, an entrepreneurship summit organized by IIM and IIT Indore held in **New Delhi**.
- India and **Singapore** will conduct joint exercises next month to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the maritime bilateral relations between the two countries.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to announce the launch of the Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Scheme (AB-NHPS), this scheme provides a medical coverage of **5 lakh**.
- Austria's capital **Vienna** has topped the Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Livability Index.
- **Canara Bank** plans to hire a social media agency as part of its brand promotion and to reach customers in a better way.
- Bharti Axa Life Insurance and **Airtel Payments Bank** entered into an alliance to offer the 'Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana' (PMJJBY).
- Mario Abdo Benítez has been sworn in as the new President of **Paraguay**.
- **Dipak Misra** launched the smart phone apps to help litigants, including convicts, from all parts of the country file cases and even make e-payments to courts.
- **Nihal Sarin** became India's 53rd Grandmaster after attaining his third and final GM-norm in the Abu Dhabi Masters.
- The multi-purpose Barak 8 missile defence system, jointly developed by India and **Israel**, will be procured by the Israeli Navy to protect its economic zones.
- 73-year-old Ibrahim Boubacar Keita re-elected as president of **Mali**.
- **35** Railway stations 'Digital Screens' were launched.
- Recently, Mamata Banerjee lifted family income ceiling for the beneficiaries of women welfare scheme 'Kanyashree'. The Earlier the ceiling is **Rs.1,20,000 or less**.
- 'Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme' is the flagship women welfare and United Nations (UN) award winning scheme of **West Bengal**.
- **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** launches RUCO initiative to collect, and convert used cooking oil into bio-fuel.
- The transaction limit of overdraft account to UPI in addition to current and savings account is **₹2 lakh**.
- **Delhi** will get free WiFi and high-speed broadband as Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh launched a host of 'Smart City' projects recently.
- **IIT Kharagpur** will set up a Re-Water Research Center, seed funded by two alumni members to replenish and rejuvenate water resources.
- FSSAI ropes in expert panel to review food labeling standards, The expert panel will be headed by **B Sesikeran**.
- The 11th World Hindi Conference held in **Mauritius**.
- **Beijing** to get first internet court to settle online disputes.
- **500 crore** amount allotted as an interim relief fund for Kerala by the Central Government.
- Icra downgraded **Syndicate Bank's** long-term rating for the Rs 3,250-crore Basel-III compliant tier-II bonds to AA (hyb) from AA+ (hyb).
- Imran Khan was sworn in as Prime minister of **Pakistan**.
- The 18th edition of the Asian Games held in **Indonesia**.
- Nasir Jamshed has been banned for ten years by the Cricket Board for his involvement in spot-fixing; he was the cricket player of **Pakistan**.

- Sadbhavana Diwas was observed on **August 20**.
- **Saudi Arabia** introducing free sleep pods for Hajj Pilgrims.
- UIDAI has announced a phased rollout of face recognition feature as an additional authentication mode from **October 01**.
- **Afghanistan** celebrated its 99th Independence Day on August 19, 2018.
- **Venezuelan** devalued the currency by 95% and raised the minimum wage.
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj inaugurated "Panini Language Laboratory" in **Mauritius**.
- State-level cartoon conference will be held in **Karnataka**.
- No ATM will be replenished with cash after 9 pm in cities and 6 pm in rural areas from **February 2019**.
- **Airtel** and Zee Entertainment Enterprises (ZEEL) have joined hands to drive entertainment content on mobile phones.
- India successfully flight tested the indigenously developed helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'HELINA' from Pokhran in **Rajasthan**.
- **Rishabh Pant** became the first Indian cricketer to score his first runs in Test cricket with a six.
- Bajrang Punia related to **Wrestling**.
- Deepak Kumar related to **Shooting**.
- **India** won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-15 Women's Championship title.
- Journalist and peace activist Uri Avnery passed away recently, he belonged to **Israel**.
- **Punjab** uses mobile app 'i-Hariyali' to distribute 13 lakh saplings.
- The Union Government has proposed to set up **Bhaskar Ramamurthy committee** to suggest changes to the JEE (Advanced) examination.
- Kofi Annan was from **Ghana**.
- 2018 World Humanitarian Day (WHD) theme - **#NotATarget**.
- 2018 World Photography Day (WPD) was observed on **August 19**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** launched Dial 100 Mobile App, which will help the need at the time of emergency.
- Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has inked a loan agreement with German Bank KfW for **200 million**.
- India has appointed **Egon Zehnder International** as a Knowledge Partner to the Banks Board Bureau to design, implement and institutionalize a flagship leadership development strategy for public sector banks in India.
- Every year, Sadbhavana Diwas or Harmony Day was celebrated on August 20 all over India to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Rajiv Gandhi**.
- **General Dalbir Singh** was awarded as US 'Legion of Merit' 2018.
- India's current account deficit (CAD) is expected to widen to **2.8 percent** of the GDP in this financial year, says a Nomura report.
- Ten-day festival of historic Esala Maha Perehera held in **Srilanka**.
- The International team of scientists has recently cracked the genetic code of **Wheat** for the first time.
- Governor of Uttarakhand - **Baby Rani Maurya**.

- **Deepak Kumar** bagged a Silver in the men's 10-metre Air Rifle event at the Jakarta Asian Games 2018.
- **SK Arora** has been conferred the WHO World No Tobacco Day 2017 Award.
- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited** has become the first Public Sector Unit (PSU) to make a transaction on the "TReDS platform".
- **Saurabh Chaudhary** has clinched India's 1st shooting gold at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games.
- **September** will be observed as National Nutrition Month by Union Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- **Japan** agreed to join with India and to expand maritime co-operation to ensure peace & stability in Indo-Pacific region.
- 5 new manufacturing plants is to set up by Maxxis, Taiwan-based tyre maker, in India.
- One97 Communications, the parent entity of Paytm launched "**Paytm AI Cloud for India**", an AI Cloud computing platform designed for developers, startups and enterprises.
- **Madhya Pradesh Government** will name three awards after the late former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as a tribute.
- **INS Khanjar** a Missile Corvette of Indian Navy was on a three-day visit to Yangon, Myanmar to undertake operational turn around (OTR) and as part of goodwill visit from 18 to 20 Aug 18.
- The Defence Minister of **Japan** is on a bilateral visit to India at the invitation of the Defence Minister of India Smt Nirmala Sitharaman from 19 to 20 August 2018.
- **T.N. Manoharan** is the new non-executive chairman of Canara Bank.
- **G. Padmanabhan** is the new non-executive chairman of Bank of India.
- Governor of Bihar - **Lal Ji Tandon**.
- **Vinesh Phogat** has become first Indian woman wrestler to bag gold at the 18th Asian Games 2018.
- Governor of Meghalaya - **Tathagata Roy**.
- Governor of Jammu and Kashmir - **Satya Pal Malik**.
- **Chhattisgarh** is going to rename its new capital as Atal Nagar.
- "International Buddhist Conclave 2018" held in **New Delhi**.
- The UIDAI has asked enrolment agencies of **Kerala** to provide free e-Aadhaar printouts.
- **Thiruvananthapuram** is soon going to have a cyclone warning centre.
- **Punjab** government has approved amendments to the Indian Penal Code (IPC) to make sacrilege of all religious text punishable with life imprisonment.
- **Kowsar**, the first domestically manufactured fighter jet unveiled by Iran.
- **VVS Laxman** wrote the book '281 And Beyond'.
- International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) launched Heritage Rescue Initiative in **Kerala**.
- India Banking Conclave 2018 held in **New Delhi**.
- **Kuldip Nayar** wrote the book "Beyond The Lines".
- **Shane Warne** wrote the book "No Spin".
- The draft International Air Connectivity (IAC) scheme aims to increase the international ticketing to 20 crore by **2027**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi to launch India Post Payments Bank from **September 1st**.

- **Air India** company airlines govt plans to transfer Non-Core Assets to Special Purpose Vehicle.
- Lokayukta was set up for **Corruption cases against public servants.**
- **Serena Williams** tops the Forbes' list of top 10 highest-paid female athletes of 2018.
- **PV Sindhu** is the only Indian to feature in Forbes' list of World's top 10 highest-paid female athletes of 2018.
- **INS Vikramaditya**, India's only aircraft carrier, is going to be fitted with marine hydraulic system for the first time as part of its upgrade that will give an edge to the air-capable wing of the ship.
- **Jhulan Goswami**, Indian woman cricketer has recently announced her retirement from International T20 cricket.
- UGC directs universities and higher education institutions to ban sale of **Junk Foods products.**
- **Raveena Tandon** has become the new brand ambassador of the Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP).
- **Appa Rao Podile** has been selected for the prestigious J C Bose Fellowship-2018.
- The regulator FSSAI has come out with food safety standards for honey and its products, in a bid to curb **adulteration.**
- According to recent report by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERTIn), maximum number of cyber-attacks on official Indian websites is from **China.**
- The 9th edition of Mountain Echoes Literature Festival 2018 has started at **Thimphu**, Bhutan.
- 3-day International Water Color Festival begins in **Ranchi.**
- India's largest Startup incubation and acceleration- Bhamashah Techno Hub – was inaugurated in **Jaipur.**
- The GDP of India in 2018-19, according to Moody is **7.5%.**
- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** offers overdraft for micro, small firms.
- According to Forbes magazine, Salman Khan get **11th** position in the highest paid actor list.
- Prof. **Chander Mohan**, an Indian-American scientist who has found simple way to predict Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD).
- **Kabir Mathur** is appointed as head of India investments by Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA).
- Odisha government invest **Rs.2,901.20 crore** in leveraging its ports.
- India Women's kabaddi team bagged silver medal for 1st time at the Asian Games after losing to **Iran.**
- **World Bank** launched 'bond-i', the world's first bond to be created, allocated, transferred and managed by using distributed ledger technology.
- **Kho -Kho** gets recognition from Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** conducted ReMix", an 'in-body GPS' system to track tumours.
- WhatsApp disagrees with the Centre's idea of **over tracing the origin of fake messages.**
- **Aeolus** is the name of the European wind survey satellite launched from French Guiana.
- The European Union announced an offer of **€190,000** (Rs.1.53 crore) in aid funding to the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS).
- **Volkswagen** planned to launch an all-electric car sharing service in Berlin.
- **Sea Prayer** is the name of the book written by Khaled Hosseini.

- The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is a private research university located in **Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States**.
- **Kempegowda International Airport** has emerged as the second fastest growing airport in the world.
- **David Beckham** will be conferred with the 2018 UEFA President's Award.
- **G Satheesh Reddy** has been appointed new chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- The 2018 Nallur Kantha Swamy festival has started in **Sri Lanka**.
- 2018 Krishi Kumbh International Conference and Exhibition held in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** has decided to organize youths' conclave 'ATAL' in September 2018.
- Tejinder Pal Singh Toor, who clinched Gold in men's Shot-Put event at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games, has set new Asian record of **20.75m**.
- The NETA app that seeks to let Indian voters rate their elected representatives is inspired by **United States'** approval system.
- The multi-nation counter-terror exercise "SCO Peace Mission 2018" held in **Russia**
- **Rahul Gandhi** heads the congress meeting at Germany.
- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has reportedly said that people will be allowed to make calls and use the internet during flights (at 30,000 ft) from **October, 2018**.
- **Exoplanet Excursions virtual reality app** was introduced by NASA that allows users to take selfies in front of cosmic locations.
- SBI asked its customers to switch to **MasterCard, Visa (EMV) chip** cards.
- **Indra Nooyi** was honored with the '2018 Asia Game Changer of the Year' award by global cultural organization Asia Society.
- **Anil D.Ambani** has resigned from his post as director from Reliance Naval and Engineering Limited (RNAVAL).
- The President of Zimbabwe - **Emmerson Mnangagwa**.
- **Prasar Bharati** inks MoU with Myanmar Media Group.
- **U K Varma** is appointed as Assocham Secretary General.
- India's Largest Business Incubator Bhamashah Techno Hub located at **Jaipur**.
- **Shri Pranab Mukherjee** launched National Electoral Transformation (NETA) app recently.
- India's tallest Film Studio has been inaugurated in **Tamil Nadu**.
- **FAME India** has been launched by the Indian government to offering incentives for mass adoption of electric vehicles.
- Noted **Malayalam film director** K K Haridas passed away.
- **Tamil Nadu** has launched the project "Special Investment Region".
- **Japan** won first Ever Title At FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup France 2018.
- **Neeraj Chopra** became the first Indian javelin-thrower to win an Asian Games gold medal as he shattered his own national record by clearing a distance of 88.06m in Jakarta.
- **National Anti-profiteering Authority** introduced GST helpline for customers.
- **Reliance Power** wins \$56-million International Arbitration Award.
- **PV Sindhu** becomes the first Indian badminton player to enter the finals of Asian Games.

- DBS bank has named world's best bank for its digital innovation: Global Finance magazine.
- 4th edition of Asian electoral stakeholders forum (AESF-IV) has started in **Colombo, Sri Lanka** to discuss the state of elections and democracy in the region.
- **Satya S Tripathi** has been appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- Ravinder Kumar Singhal, who has successfully completed the Ironman triathlon, is from **Maharashtra**.
- Reliance Communications Ltd. (RCom) said that it had sold its fibre and related infrastructure assets to the Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Jio Infocomm (RJio) which is of worth **Rs.3000 crore**.
- **Scotland** has become the world's first country to provide free sanitary products to all students in a bid to tackle 'period poverty'.
- Government approves commercial flying of remotely piloted aircraft or drones in India from **December 1**.
- **Lalchand Rajput**, former Indian cricketer who was appointed the head coach of Zimbabwe national cricket team.
- India's first bio-fuel flight was powered by blend of oil from **Jatropha** seeds.
- Google launches 'Navlekha' to help Indian language publishers take their content online. The word Navlekha is derived from Sanskrit meaning is **A New way to write**.
- **120 nanometres** is the size of the nano medical robot that set a new Guinness World Record.
- Tez app has rebranded as Google pay to offer Instant Bank Loans.
- **K Vijay Raghavan** is the head of New Science and Technology Council.
- SAARC Agri Cooperative Business Forum held in **Kathmandu**.
- Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued advisory to all states and Union Territories to not allow manufacture, sale and advertisement of **e-cigarettes** and other **Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)**.
- **O-SMART** approved by CCEA, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for implementation during the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20 at an overall cost of Rs.1623 crore.
- Digital marketplace for financial services **Freecharge** has announced the launch of a new category of service offering in partnership with AbhiBus.
- Google plans to introduce technology and product experiences which are locally relevant to users in India in **vernacular languages**.
- The Union Government is planning to launch India Post Payment Banks-IPPB at **650 places**.
- Sushma Swaraj inaugurated 'Jaipur Foot' camp in **Hanoi**.
- India's first interstate connected wind power project commissioned in **Bhuj, Gujarat**.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS: AUGUST-2018
MODEL QUESTIONS

1. What is the theme of the 2018 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples?
(1) Indigenous Peoples' migration and movement
(2) Indigenous Peoples' Right to Education
(3) Indigenous Peoples' Right to Health
(4) Ensuring indigenous peoples' health and well-being
(5) None of these
2. On which date, the 2018 World Elephant Day (WED) was observed recently?
(1) August 13 (2) August 14 (3) August 12 (4) August 15 (5) None of these
3. On which date, the 2018 World Organ Donation Day (WODD) has been observed recently?
(1) August 11 (2) August 13 (3) August 14 (4) August 12 (5) None of these
4. Which of the following is the 2018 World Humanitarian Day (WHD) theme?
(1) #ShareHumanity (2) #ImpossibleChoices (3) #OneHumanity
(4) #NotATarget (5) None of these
5. The first-ever International Day of Remembrance and tribute to the Victims of Terrorism is observed on which date?
(1) August 22 (2) August 21 (3) August 20 (4) August 19 (5) None of these
6. What is the current repo rate, as per 3rd bi-monthly monetary policy review for of 2018-19 of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?
(1) 6.50% (2) 6.00% (3) 6.25% (4) 6.75% (5) None of these
7. Under which section of the RBI Act 1934, Swaminathan Gurumurthy has been appointment as non-official director on the central board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?
(1) Section 8 (1) (a) (2) Section 8 (1) (f) (3) Section 8 (1) (e)
(4) Section 8 (1) (c) (5) None of these
8. Which of the following has become the India's first bank to introduce iris authentication for Aadhaar-based transactions through micro ATMs?
(1) ICICI Bank (2) Punjab National Bank (3) Axis Bank
(4) State Bank of India (5) None of these
9. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has conducted the first-ever Orientation Workshop on Election Management for IAS Asset Secretaries in which city?
(1) New Delhi (2) Jaipur (3) Mumbai (4) Bangalore (5) None of these
10. Which state government will setup a state of the art "B-Hub" for biotech and biopharma sector?
(1) Maharashtra (2) Telangana (3) Goa (4) Sikkim (5) None of these
11. Which state has become the first Indian state to implement the National policy on bio fuels?
(1) Kerala (2) Jharkhand (3) Rajasthan (4) Punjab (5) None of these
12. Which state government has launched a rural cleanliness and sanitation campaign "Swachhameva Jayate"?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Rajasthan (3) Goa
(4) Karnataka (5) None of these

13. Which state government has launched "Horn Not Ok" awareness campaign?
 (1) Uttarakhand (2) Himachal Pradesh (3) Gujarat
 (4) Kerala (5) None of these
14. The repatriation process of Bru tribals will start from which state to Mizoram from 14th August 2018?
 (1) Bihar (2) Bengal (3) Assam (4) Tripura (5) None of these
15. The 'Tatkal sewa' for property registration is a proposed initiative of which state government?
 (1) Punjab (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Maharashtra (4) Assam (5) None of these
16. Which state government has decided to organize youths' conclave 'ATAL' in September 2018?
 (1) Chhattisgarh (2) Assam (3) Jharkhand
 (4) Arunachal Pradesh (5) None of these
17. The Odisha government has launched which programme to identify young talents?
 (1) Mu Hero, Mu Odisha (2) Mu Power, Mu Odisha
 (3) Mu Startup, Mu Odisha (4) Mu Youth, Mu Odisha (5) None of these
18. The Mughalsarai junction has recently renamed as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya railway station. It is located in which state?
 (1) Bihar (2) Uttar Pradesh (3) Uttarakhand
 (4) Delhi (5) None of these
19. The Lakhwar multi-purpose project is associated with which river?
 (1) Kaveri (2) Yamuna (3) Chambal (4) Godavari (5) None of these
20. Which of the following countries is/are hosting the 2018 International Army Games (IAG)?
 (1) Iran (2) Armenia (3) Russia (4) All of the above (5) None of these
21. Which country is hosting the communication exercise "Pacific Endeavor-2018 (PE-18)" under the Multinational Communications Interoperability Program (MCIP)?
 (1) India (2) Nepal (3) Sri Lanka (4) Myanmar (5) None of these
22. Which of the following has become the first Defence PSU to be activated on the TReDS platform?
 (1) Bharat Dynamics
 (2) Dredging Corporation of India
 (3) Central Electronics Limited
 (4) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers
 (5) None of these
23. Recently tested Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'Helina' is helicopter-launched version of which missile?
 (1) Akash (2) Nag (3) Prithvi (4) Agni (5) None of these
24. Which country is host to the multi-nation counter-terror exercise "SCO Peace Mission 2018"?
 (1) Uzbekistan (2) Russia (3) China (4) Kazakhstan (5) None of these
25. Which Indian Naval Ship is participating in the multilateral regional maritime engagement exercise "KAKADU 2018"?
 (1) INS Vikramaditya (2) INS Satpura (3) INS Sahyadri
 (4) INS Viraat (5) None of these

26. Which state government has recently constituted two committees to deal with a possible influx of illegal immigrants?
(1) Manipur (2) Nagaland (3) Tripura (4) Meghalaya (5) None of these
27. Which committee has been constituted by the Central government to coordinate the discharge of floodwaters from Kerala-Tamil Nadu inter-State projects?
(1) Narendra Kumar committee (2) Kirti Sharma committee
(3) Ajit Doval committee (4) M S Das committee (5) None of these
28. FSSAI has constituted which expert committee to look into draft of Food Safety and Standards (Labeling and Display) Regulations 2018?
(1) P K Agarwal committee (2) B Sesikeran committee
(3) Hemalatha committee (4) Nikhil Tandon committee (5) None of these
29. The Union Government has proposed to set up which committee to suggest changes to the JEE (Advanced) examination?
(1) Kannan Moudgalya committee (2) Abhay Karandikar committee
(3) Vineet Joshi committee (4) Bhaskar Ramamurthy committee (5) None of these
30. Which Indian economist has been appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)?
(1) Nikhil Seth (2) Atul Khare (3) Rahguram Rajan
(4) Satya S Tripathi (5) None of these
31. India's first in-phone tourism guide and mobile application "Go whats That" has launched in which city?
(1) New Delhi (2) Pune (3) Chandigarh (4) Lucknow (5) None of these
32. Recently, the first electronics manufacturing cluster in the northeastern region under the Indian Government's 'Digital North East Vision 2022' was inaugurated in which city?
(1) Agartala (2) Dispur (3) Guwahati (4) Kohima (5) None of these
33. Which Indian authority has launched the RUCO initiative recently?
(1) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(2) National Disaster Management Authority
(3) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
(4) Narcotics Control Bureau
(5) None of these
34. NITI Aayog has launched which mobility pitch competition for budding startups in the mobility field?
(1) Pitch to Mob (2) Pitch to Move (3) Pitch to Start
(4) Pitch to Gear (5) None of these
35. The Amnesty International India has launched which campaign to create awareness among children to identify sexual abuse?
(1) Save Child, Save Future (2) Our Safety, Our Rights
(3) Goals Set (4) Safety is in Your Hands (5) None of these
36. The Union Cabinet has recently approved umbrella scheme "O-SMART" of Ministry of Earth Sciences. What does "O" stands here?
(1) Opacity (2) Orach (3) Oilcloth (4) Ocean (5) None of these

37. Which government organization will host Investors' Conference for the Holistic Development of Islands?
(1) Ministry of Home Affairs
(2) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(3) Niti Aayog
(4) Ministry of Earth Sciences
(5) None of these
38. The 10th annual conference on oral implantology has recently held in which city?
(1) New Jersey (2) New Zealand (3) New Delhi (4) New Guinea (5) None of these
39. NITI Aayog's International Conference on "Sustainable Growth through Material Recycling: Policy Prescriptions" was held in which city?
(1) New Delhi (2) Mumbai (3) Hyderabad (4) Kanpur (5) None of these
40. Which state is hosting the 'One District One Product' Summit 2018?
(1) Andhra Pradesh (2) Kerala (3) Uttar Pradesh
(4) Assam (5) None of these
41. What is the theme of the 9th edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit-2019?
(1) Towards a New India of the future
(2) Laying the foundations for New India
(3) Boost India in the World
(4) Shaping of a New India
(5) None of these
42. Which state is host to the 2018 International Conference on Recent Advances in Food Processing Technology (iCRAFPT)?
(1) Karnataka (2) Tamil Nadu (3) Odisha (4) Assam (5) None of these
43. Which of the following cities is the venue of the 11th World Hindi Conference (WHC) 2018?
(1) New Delhi (2) Port Louis (3) Johannesburg (4) Paramaribo (5) None of these
44. Which of the following is/are partner country for the 2018 International Buddhist Conclave (IBC)?
(1) Japan (2) Germany (3) Russia (4) All of the above (5) None of these
45. Which state government is host to the 2018 Krishi Kumbh International Conference and Exhibition?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Rajasthan (3) Gujarat
(4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these
46. Which state government has signed pact with Tech Mahindra to establish India's first Blockchain district?
(1) Odisha (2) Karnataka (3) Telangana (4) Kerala (5) None of these
47. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed pact with which bank for a long-term unsecured loan to the tune of Rs.25,000 crore?
(1) Bank of Maharashtra (2) Punjab National Bank (3) State Bank of India
(4) HDFC Bank (5) None of these
48. Prasara Bharati has tied up with which technological giant to telecast 2018 Independence Day programme live online?
(1) Facebook (2) Google (3) Twitter (4) Instagram (5) None of these

49. The recently signed MoU between Integrated Defence Staff and which organization aims to set up telemedicine nodes for soldiers in high-altitude areas?
(1) VSSC (2) ISRO (3) BARC (4) DRDO (5) None of these
50. India has signed \$300 million agreement with which International organization for its Energy Efficiency Scale-Up Program?
(1) IMF (2) World Bank (3) ADB (4) AIIB (5) None of these
51. Which union minister is leading the Indian delegation for the 6th RCEP Trade Ministers' Meeting 2018?
(1) Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore (2) Suresh Prabhu (3) Nitin Gadkari
(4) Sushma Swaraj (5) None of these
52. The World Bank will provide how much amount of loan facility to Rajasthan for improving the performance of its electricity distribution sector?
(1) \$450 million (2) \$350 million (3) \$250 million (4) \$550 million (5) None of these
53. India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has revised India's GDP growth to 7.2% for FY19. Ind-Ra belongs to which group?
(1) CRISIL (2) Standard & Poor's (3) Moody's Corporation
(4) Fitch (5) None of these
54. The world's first public blockchain bond "bond-i" has recently launched by which International organization?
(1) AIIB (2) ADB (3) World Bank (4) IMF (5) None of these
55. What is the India's GDP forecast for 2018, as per Moody's Investors Service report "Global Macro Outlook for 2018-19"?
(1) 7.8% (2) 7.5% (3) 7.6% (4) 7.7% (5) None of these
56. In which three southern states, Wipro has launched Santoor women's scholarship for higher education to girls from economically weaker families?
(1) Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh
(2) Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka
(3) Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka
(4) Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana
(5) None of these
57. Which of the following has become the first Public Sector Unit (PSU) to make a transaction on the "TReDS platform"?
(1) Steel Authority of India
(2) Coal India Limited
(3) Gas Authority of India Limited
(4) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
(5) None of these
58. Which technological giant has launched Project Navlekha to help Indian vernacular news publishers to take their content online?
(1) Infosys (2) Google (3) Facebook (4) Wipro (5) None of these
59. Which space agency has confirmed presence of ice on Moon using data from the Chandrayaan-I spacecraft?
(1) JAXA (2) NASA (3) Roscosmos (4) CNSA (5) None of these

60. The Copernicus project, under which wind-sensing satellite "Aeolus" has been launched recently, is a joint project of __:
(1) European Union and European Space Agency
(2) ISRO and JAXA
(3) NASA and ISRO
(4) Roscosmos and ISRO
(5) None of these
61. Which country's researchers have claimed to create the world's first single-chromosome yeast?
(1) Germany (2) United States (3) China (4) UK (5) None of these
62. Which Indian developer has claimed to develop the world's first Hindi speaking realistic humanoid robot "Rashmi"?
(1) Anand Kumar (2) Surabhi Patel (3) Kanwaljeet Sethi
(4) Ranjit Srivastava (5) None of these
63. The International team of scientists has recently cracked the genetic code of which cultivated crop for the first time?
(1) Wheat (2) Rice (3) Maize (4) Pulses (5) None of these
64. What is the scientific name of the deadly agricultural pest "Fall Armyworm", which has been spotted in Telangana?
(1) Chortoicetes terminifera (2) Heteronychus arator
(3) Spodoptera frugiperda (4) Mythimna convecta (5) None of these
65. Which Indian-American scientist has found simple way to predict Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)?
(1) Ashok Das (2) Chander Mohan (3) Krishan Sabnani
(4) Jogesh Pati (5) None of these
66. The Government of India (GoI) has decided to lift ban on retail sale of which life saving drug from September 2018?
(1) Nialamide (2) Metformin (3) Oxytocin (4) Cyclosporine (5) None of these
67. The elephants at which national park in Madhya Pradesh has enjoyed week-long picnic?
(1) Bandhavgarh National Park (2) Madhav National Park (3) Panna National Park
(4) Kanha Tiger Reserve (5) None of these
68. Which IIT has launched an exclusive incubator "Fabless Chip Design Incubator (FabCI)" to boost chip design?
(1) IIT Hyderabad (2) IIT Bombay (3) IIT Delhi
(4) IIT Madras (5) None of these
69. Which IIT has recently conducted study on River Ganga that indicates that river is drying up in summers due to groundwater depletion?
(1) IIT-Kharagpur (2) IIT-Madras (3) IIT-Bombay
(4) IIT-Delhi (5) None of these
70. The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has launched which dedicated portal to connect cargo owners and shippers with real time data on availability of vessels?
(1) VOCAL (2) FUCAL (3) DUCAL (4) FOCAL (5) None of these
71. Which city to host the 22nd edition of 'Parampara series - National Festival of Music and Dance' festival 2018?
(1) New Delhi (2) Pune (3) Lucknow (4) Hyderabad (5) None of these

72. Which city hosted the Nepal-India Literature Festival 2018?
 (1) Bharatpur (2) New Delhi (3) Kathmandu (4) Birgunj (5) None of these
73. The festival of the historic Esala Maha Perehera has started in which neighboring country of India?
 (1) Bhutan (2) Myanmar (3) Sri Lanka (4) China (5) None of these
74. Which country is host to the 9th edition of Mountain Echoes Literature Festival 2018?
 (1) Japan (2) South Korea (3) Bhutan (4) Myanmar (5) None of these
75. Which of the following cities is the venue of the International Water Color Festival 2018?
 (1) Bhopal (2) Ranchi (3) Patna (4) Hyderabad (5) None of these
76. The 2018 Nallur Kantha Swamy festival has started in which neighboring country of India?
 (1) Bangladesh (2) Bhutan (3) Sri Lanka (4) Nepal (5) None of these
77. Which telecom company has launched a VOIP based phone service "WINGS"?
 (1) Airtel (2) BSNL (3) Reliance Jio (4) Vodafone (5) None of these
78. Who has been appointed the new CEO of the Uralungal Labor Contract Co-operative Society Ltd (ULCCS)?
 (1) K Kumar (2) Raveena Kumari (3) Meera Kumar
 (4) Raveendran Kasthuri (5) None of these
79. Who has been appointed the new chairperson of the National Commission for Women (NCW)?
 (1) Lalitha Kumaramangalam (2) Jayanti Patnaik
 (3) Alphons Kannanthanam (4) Rekha Sharma (5) None of these
80. Justice Manjula Chellur, who has been appointed as new chairperson of Appellate Tribunal for Electricity was previously chief justice of which high court?
 (1) Jammu & Kashmir High Court (2) Punjab & Haryana High Court
 (3) Bombay High Court (4) Gujarat High Court (5) None of these
81. Who has been officially appointed new UN High Commissioner for Human Rights?
 (1) Dina Kavar (2) Mary Robinson (3) Ricardo Lagos
 (4) Michelle Bachelet (5) None of these
82. Who has been appointed CEO of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)?
 (1) Rajlakshmi Nirmal (2) Ashish Kumar Bhutani (3) Sunil Jain
 (4) Nitin Sharma (5) None of these
83. Who has been appointed India's new ambassador to Russia?
 (1) Partha Satpathy (2) Swetanshu Bora (3) Pankaj Saran
 (4) D Bala Venkatesh Varma (5) None of these
84. Who has been sworn-in as the new President of Paraguay?
 (1) Horacio Cartes (2) Federico Franco (3) Mario Abdo Benítez
 (4) Fernando Lugo (5) None of these
85. Who has been appointed the new Governor of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K)?
 (1) Satya Pal Malik (2) Tathagata Roy (3) Baby Rani Maurya
 (4) Satyadev Narayan Arya (5) None of these

86. Which Indian woman cricketer has recently announced her retirement from International T20 cricket?
 (1) Mansi Joshi (2) Puja Vastrakar (3) Shikha Pandey
 (4) Jhulan Goswami (5) None of these
87. Umbayee, the noted ghazal singer and composer has passed away. He belonged to which state?
 (1) UP (2) Assam (3) MP (4) Kerala (5) None of these
88. Dr Bhishma Narain Singh, who passed away recently, was associated with which political party?
 (1) INC (2) BJP (3) NCP (4) CPI (5) None of these
89. Which noted Kannada film producer has passed away, who was the only Kannadiga to chair the Indian Film Chamber of Commerce?
 (1) Srinivasa Murthy (2) Sahaya Sheelan Shadrach (3) V. Harikrishna
 (4) M Bhakthavatsala (5) None of these
90. Which of the following is not a work of late VS Naipaul, the Trinidad-born Indian origin Nobel Prize winning author who passed away recently?
 (1) A Bend in the River (2) Magic Seeds
 (3) A House for Mr Biswas (4) The Remains of the Day (5) None of these
91. Legendary singer Aretha Franklin, who passed away, had performed at the inaugurations of which of the following Presidents of the United States?
 (1) George W. Bush (2) Donald Trump (3) Jimmy Carter
 (4) Ronald Reagan (5) None of these
92. Rajabhai Godse, who passed away recently, was associated with which political party?
 (1) INC (2) BJP (3) Shiv Sena (4) NCP (5) None of these
93. Kofi Annan was from which African country?
 (1) Ghana (2) Morocco (3) Nigeria (4) South Africa (5) None of these
94. Which of the following is the autobiography of renowned journalist Kuldeep Nayar, who passed away recently?
 (1) In Jail (2) India House (3) Beyond The Lines
 (4) India After Nehru (5) None of these
95. Vijay Chavan, who passed away, was associated to which of the following regional cinemas?
 (1) Tamil (2) Marathi (3) Odia (4) Telugu (5) None of these
96. Gopal Bose, who passed away recently, was associated with which sports?
 (1) Cricket (2) Boxing (3) Tennis (4) Chess (5) None of these
97. Which of the following has been awarded the 'Marketer of the Year' award by the International Advertising Association of India (IAAI)?
 (1) Hindustan Unilever (2) Amul (3) LIC
 (4) Nestle (5) None of these
98. Who was the recipient of Outstanding Parliamentarian Award for 2015?
 (1) Najma Heptullah (2) Bhartruhari Mahtab (3) Hukum Dev Narayan
 (4) Ghulam Nabi Azad (5) None of these
99. Which Indian author has won the 2018 Hindu Playwright Award 2018?
 (1) Keval Arora (2) Sneh Sapru (3) Swetanshu Bora
 (4) Annie Zaidi (5) None of these

100. Which Indian sportsperson has won the Community Award in the Junior NBA World Basketball Championship 2018?
 (1) Ajmer Singh (2) Sunishka Kartik
 (3) Satnam Singh Bhamara (4) Geethu Anna Jose (5) None of these
101. Who has been conferred Praful Bidwai memorial award for 2018?
 (1) Medha Patkar (2) Vandana Shiva (3) Ulka Mahajan
 (4) Vandana Shiva (5) None of these
102. Karman Kaur Thandi is associated with which sports?
 (1) Tennis (2) Hockey (3) Badminton (4) Basketball (5) None of these
103. Which Indian origin personality has clinched the title of Master Chef Australia 2018?
 (1) Sashi Cheliah (2) Aarti Sequeira (3) Floyd Cardoz
 (4) Vikas Khanna (5) None of these
104. Who has won the 2018 Formula One Hungarian Grand Prix tournament?
 (1) Lewis Hamilton (2) Sebastian Vettel (3) Valtteri Bottas
 (4) Daniel Ricciardo (5) None of these
105. Who has become the first woman shuttler to win the women's singles World Badminton Championships for a third time?
 (1) Carolina Marin (2) PV Sindhu (3) Akane Yamaguchi
 (4) Tai Tzu-ying (5) None of these
106. Esow Alben, who scripted history by winning the India's first junior cycling World Cup medal, hails from which state/UT?
 (1) Daman & Diu (2) Gujarat
 (3) Andaman & Nicobar Islands (4) West Bengal (5) None of these
107. Which Indian sportsperson has clinched India's first Gold in the 18th Jakarta Asian Games 2018?
 (1) Mary Kom (2) Bajrang Punia (3) Apurvi Chandela
 (4) Neeraj Chopra (5) None of these
108. Which country's national team has clinched the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-15 Women's Championship 2018?
 (1) Bangladesh (2) India (3) Bhutan (4) Nepal (5) None of these
109. Which Indian shooter has clinched India's 1st shooting gold at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games?
 (1) Abhishek Verma (2) Saurabh Chaudhary (3) Lakshay Sheron
 (4) Deepak Kumar (5) None of these
110. Fouaad Mirza is related to which sports?
 (1) Tennis (2) Badminton (3) Sprint (4) Equestrian (5) None of these
111. Ravinder Kumar Singhal, who has successfully completed the Ironman triathlon, is from which state?
 (1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Madhya Pradesh (3) Odisha
 (4) Maharashtra (5) None of these
112. Which of the following has been ranked as India's most patriotic brand, as per survey conducted by UK-based online market research and data analytics firm YouGov?
 (1) Patanjali (2) State Bank of India (3) Tata Motors
 (4) Reliance Jio (5) None of these

113. UNESCO has included which Indian biosphere reserve in the list of World Network of Biosphere Reserve (WNBR) at the 30th Session of the Man and Biosphere International Coordinating Council?
- (1) Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve
 - (2) Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve
 - (3) Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve
 - (4) Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve
 - (5) None of these
114. Who will be the director of the 11th edition of the India Art Fair 2019?
- (1) Imran Qureshi
 - (2) G Ravinder Reddy
 - (3) Zoya Siddiqui
 - (4) Jagdip Jagpal
 - (5) None of these
115. Which of the following has become the India's first tribal language to get a Wikipedia edition in its native script?
- (1) Maithili
 - (2) Santhali
 - (3) Bodo
 - (4) Dogri
 - (5) None of these
116. The Postal Highway Project, for which Government of India (GoI) is providing financial support, is located in which country?
- (1) Afghanistan
 - (2) Myanmar
 - (3) Nepal
 - (4) Sri Lanka
 - (5) None of these
117. Which IIT has decided to set up a Re-Water Research Center to replenish and rejuvenate water resources?
- (1) IIT Delhi
 - (2) IIT Kharagpur
 - (3) IIT Madras
 - (4) IIT Bombay
 - (5) None of these
118. The NETA app that seeks to let Indian voters rate their elected representatives, is inspired by which country's approval system?
- (1) US
 - (2) Russia
 - (3) France
 - (4) Germany
 - (5) None of these
119. Mizzima Media Group, which was recently in news, is a company of which country?
- (1) Italy
 - (2) Japan
 - (3) Myanmar
 - (4) Sri Lanka
 - (5) None of these
120. Who is the author of the book "Atal Ji Ne Kaha"?
- (1) V S Naik
 - (2) Annu Kapoor
 - (3) Brijendra Rehi
 - (4) Chitra Banerjee
 - (5) None of these

Ans: 1-1, 2-3, 3-2, 4-4, 5-2, 6-1, 7-4, 8-3, 9-1, 10-2, 11-3, 12-4, 13-2, 14-4, 15-1, 16-4, 17-1, 18-2, 19-2, 20-4, 21-2, 22-4, 23-2, 24-2, 25-3, 26-1, 27-1, 28-2, 29-4, 30-4, 31-3, 32-3, 33-1, 34-2, 35-2, 36-4, 37-3, 38-3, 39-1, 40-3, 41-4, 42-2, 43-2, 44-1, 45-4, 46-3, 47-3, 48-2, 49-2, 50-2, 51-2, 52-3, 53-4, 54-3, 55-2, 56-4, 57-4, 58-2, 59-2, 60-1, 61-3, 62-4, 63-1, 64-3, 65-2, 66-3, 67-4, 68-1, 69-1, 70-4, 71-1, 72-4, 73-3, 74-3, 75-2, 76-3, 77-2, 78-4, 79-4, 80-3, 81-4, 82-2, 83-4, 84-3, 85-1, 86-4, 87-4, 88-1, 89-4, 90-4, 91-3, 92-3, 93-1, 94-3, 95-2, 96-1, 97-2, 98-4, 99-4, 100-2, 101-3, 102-1, 103-1, 104-1, 105-1, 106-3, 107-2, 108-2, 109-2, 110-4, 111-4, 112-2, 113-1, 114-4, 115-2, 116-3, 117-2, 118-1, 119-3, 120-3.

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