

GENERAL AWARENESS–CURRENT AFFAIRS

MONTH OF SEPTEMBER–2018

List of Important Days

- September-1 - Independence Day of Uzbekistan
- September 1-7 - National Nutrition Week (Theme - “Go Further with Food”)
- September 2 - World Coconut Day (Theme - “Coconut for Good Health, Wealth & Wellness”)
- September 5 - International Day of Charity
- September 5 - Teachers Day
- September 9 - Day of the Foundation of the Republic of North Korea
- September 9 - Independence Day of Tajikistan
- September 10 - World Suicide Prevention Day (Theme - “Working Together to Prevent Suicide”)
- September 12 - United Nations Day of South-South Cooperation
- September 14 - Hindi Diwas (Hindi Day)
- September 15 - International Day of Democracy
(Theme - “Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World”)
- September 15 - 51st Engineer's Day (Theme - “Engineering Challenges for Knowledge Era”)
- September 16 - International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (International Ozone Day).
(Theme - “Keep Cool and Carry on: Montreal Protocol”)
- September 16 - International Red Panda Day (IRPD)
- September 21 - International Day of Peace/World Peace Day
(Themes - “The Right to Peace - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70”)
- September 21 - World Alzheimer's Day
- September 27 - World Tourism Day (Theme - “Tourism and the Digital Transformation”)
- September 28 - World Rabies day (Theme - “Rabies: Share the message. Save a life”)
- September 29 - World Heart Day (Theme - “My Heart, Your Heart”)
- September 30 - International Translation Day
(Theme - “Translation: promoting cultural heritage in changing times”)

Reserve Bank of India

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has bought **Gold** for the first time in nearly 9 years in the financial year 2017-18.
 - The central bank added **8.46 tonnes** of gold last fiscal, taking the level of gold reserves to 566.23 tonnes as on June 30, 2018.
 - RBI last purchased 200 tonnes of gold from the **International Monetary Fund** in November 2009.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** asked all **Scheduled Commercial Banks** with more than 10 branches to appoint an **Internal Ombudsman (IO)**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has announced that the undivided area of the single largest piece of a damaged **Rs.2000 note** must be 88 square cm for a full refund and 44 square cm for half refund.
 - For exchanging **Rs.200 notes**, 78 square cm of undivided area is needed for a full refund, and 39 square cm for half refund.

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a **Rs.10 million** penalty on **Union Bank of India** for failing to detect and report fraud on time.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** purchase **Government securities (G-secs)** worth **Rs 10,000 crore** on September 19, a move aimed at inducing liquidity in the system.
 - The purchase of the government securities will be done through **Open Market Operations (OMO)**.
- **South African** conglomerate Naspers-owned online payments service provider **PayU** has received a license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to open its own **Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC)**.
 - The license will be used to start a new credit business, **PayU Credit**.
- US technology giant **Google** has agreed to **store data** from its payment service **Google Pay** in India as **mandated** by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has shortlisted 5 IT firms for implementation of **Centralized Information and Management System (CIMS)** for seamless data collection and validations.
 - These five IT firms are: Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Capgemini Technology Services India, IBM India, and Larsen & Toubro Infotech.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has imposed a total penalty of **Rs.3 crore** on 3 state-run banks (**Union Bank of India, Bank of India and Bank of Maharashtra**) for delay in detection and reporting of fraud in some accounts.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** barred **Bandhan Bank** from opening **new branches**, and also ordered freezing of the bank's CEO salary over failure to stick to shareholding rules.

State Bank of India

- India's largest lender **State Bank of India (SBI)** is going to run 10,000 ATMs on **solar power** in the next two years.

Other Banks

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** which will go live with 650 branches and 3,250 access points.
 - The government aims to link all **1.55 lakh post offices** to the India Post Payments Bank system by December 31.
 - The bank can accept deposits of up to Rs.1 lakh but can't issue loans or credit cards.
 - The **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** has announced that it will use **QR cards** instead of debit cards.
- **Union Bank of India** has announced that it will **close** its branch in the global **diamond hub** of **Antwerp** within a year.
- Financial Services Secretary **Rajiv Kumar** has announced that the boards of state-run **Dena Bank, Vijaya Bank** and **Bank of Baroda** have been advised to merge the three banks.
 - The amalgamated entity would be the **3rd largest bank** in India.
- **ICICI Bank** announced that it is going to acquire 8.85% stake in **Avenues Payment India** for Rs.10 crore in cash.
 - Avenues Payment provides a global remittance platform catering to both business-to-consumer (B2C) and business-to-business (B2B) market segments.
- State-owned **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** and private life insurer **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co Ltd (BALIC)** have entered into strategic partnership to provide life insurance solutions.

Insurance

- After the launch of payments bank, the **Indian Postal department** has announced that it is going to set up an **Insurance firm** as a special business unit within two years.
 - At present, the postal department offers Life Insurance Schemes including **Postal Life Insurance (PLI)**, **Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI)**, among others.
- Insurance regulator **IRDAI** has raised the minimum personal accident cover for owner-drivers to **Rs.15 lakh** and has fixed the premium for the cover at **Rs.750 per annum**.
 - Earlier, the mandatory cover was Rs.2 lakh for cars and Rs.1 lakh for two-wheelers.

Supreme Court

- The Supreme Court scrapped parts of **Section 377** of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the 1862 law which criminalized **homosexuality**.
- The Supreme Court ruled that the linking of a person's **Aadhaar** to his/her **bank accounts** is **not mandatory**.
 - The court also ruled that linking the Aadhaar card to **PAN** card is **mandatory** and is needed for filing income tax returns.
- In a landmark judgment, the **Supreme Court** scrapped the 150-year old Section 497, which deals with **Adultery** saying it is unconstitutional.
- The Supreme Court lifted the centuries-old ban on entry of women aged between 10 and 50 years in **Sabarimala Temple** (Kerala), thereby allowing women of all ages to enter the 800-year-old temple.

Central Government

- To mark fight against malnutrition, the **National Nutrition Month (Rashtriya Poshan Maah)** was observed across **India** in **September 2018**.
- **India** is going to purchase 18 bullet trains from **Japan** at a cost of Rs.7000 crore in a deal where the seller will also have to transfer technology for local production.
- The government has doubled the **Overdraft Cap** from Rs.5,000 to **Rs.10,000** under the **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana**.
- **Union Finance Ministry** has doubled **pecuniary limit** to **Rs. 20 lakh** from Rs.10 lakh for filing loan recovery application in **Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRT)** by banks and financial institutions.
 - It means that bank or financial institution or consortium of banks cannot approach DRTs if pecuniary limit amount due is less than Rs.20 lakh.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced that the government will issue a policy on **electric vehicles** and **vehicles running on alternative fuels**.
 - This comes a day after Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said electric vehicles and vehicles based on alternate fuels will be **exempted** from **road permits**.
- Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** has announced that the government is going to implement **115 sewage treatment projects** in **seven states** at an estimated cost of Rs.17,876 crore as part of the project for **Ganga river rejuvenation**.
- The Cabinet cleared a proposal to convert **GST Network (GSTN)** into a **100% government-owned company**.
 - Currently, the Centre and states together hold 49% stake in GSTN, which provides IT infrastructure to the new indirect tax regime.

States

- **Kerala** Government has decided to appoint professional service company **KPMG** (Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler) as project consultant partner for **rebuilding** state ravaged by recent massive floods.
 - Besides, **Tata Project Ltd** was entrusted with task of reconstructing roads, buildings and bridges destroyed in rain fury at Pamba, the foothills of famous Lord Ayyappa shrine in Sabarimala.
- Women belonging to **Below Poverty Line (BPL)** families in **Rajasthan** will soon get **free mobile phones** under the **Bhamashah Yojana**.
- The **Union Ministry of Home Affairs** has cleared proposal of **Jharkhand** Government to rename **Nagar Untari town and railway station** as **Banshidhar Nagar**, after Banshidhar Temple, which is dedicated to Krishna in **Garhwa district** of state.
- The **Tamil Nadu** cabinet has decided to recommend the release of the 7 convicts in the assassination of former Prime Minister **Rajiv Gandhi** to the state governor.
- **Delhi** government started its '**Doorstep Delivery of Services**' programme to make **40 government services** including Driving License, New Water connection and Ration Card available at residents' doorstep in the first phase.
- The **Andhra Pradesh** government launched an app titled **e-Rythu**, to digitize **agricultural** marketplaces and payments.
 - The app, developed by **Mastercard Labs** for Financial Inclusion in Nairobi, Kenya, has been customized for India through its team in Pune.
- **Tamil Nadu** has issued an order **banning** the manufacture, sale (including online sale) and possession of **e-cigarettes** with immediate effect.
- **Rajasthan's** 1st **Lion safari** was inaugurated at **Nahargarh Biological Park**.
- The **Nagaland** government has declared the **Singphan Wildlife Sanctuary** as an **elephant** reserve making it the 30th reserve for Elephants in India.
- **Uttar Pradesh** Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** announced that the state ranks 1st in the implementation of the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana**.
 - He said that the state has been successful in providing houses to **11 lakh** poor families.
- **Tamil Nadu** government has announced **Scheme for protection of exotic Neela kurinji (Strobilanthus kunthianus) plants** that flower only once in 12 years.
- The **Haryana** cabinet approved a scheme under which a **Monthly pension** will be provided to **Acid Attack survivors**.

Personalities

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been invited to the swearing-in ceremony of Maldives' President-elect, **Ibrahim Mohamed Solih**.
- **Assam's Binita Jain** became the 1st contestant to win Rs.1 crore on Amitabh Bachchan-hosted 'Kaun Banega Crorepati' season 10.

Defence and National Security

- The **Indian Navy** has defeated teams from 22 other nations to win **Kakadu Cup 2018** which was organized by the **Australian Navy** as part of its multi-nation maritime exercise.
 - **INS Sahyadri** had participated in the Cup which involved swimming, running, crossing water and land obstacles.
 - **China** is participating in **Exercise Kakadu**, **Australia's** largest maritime drill for the first time.

- **India, Kazakhstan** joint army exercise **KAZIND** was conducted between Indian and Kazakhstan Army in **Otar region, Kazakhstan** from 10th to 23rd September 2018.
- **Ukraine** has launched annual joint military exercise titled **Rapid Trident** with **United States** and other **NATO** (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) member countries.
 - The exercise was taken place in western **Ukrainian** village of **Starychi** from September 2 to 15, 2018.
- **India** along with 23 other nations will be participating in major Indian ocean-wide **tsunami mock exercise** known as **IOWave18**.
 - The exercise was organized by **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO**.
- The 6th edition of **India, Sri Lanka** joint naval exercise **SLINEX-2018** has started at Trincomalee, **Sri Lanka**.
 - Indian Naval Ships **Kirch, Sumitra** and **Cora Divh** are taking part in the exercise.
- **India** and **United States** conducted their annual combat exercise “**Yudh Abhyas**” at **Chaubatia** in **Uttarakhand** from 16 to 29 September, 2018.
- The **Defence Ministry** announced that **Aero India 2019** will be held in **Bangalore** from February 20-24 next year.
- **India, Mongolia** joint exercise **Nomadic Elephant 2018** commenced at Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) Five Hills Training Area in **Ulaanbaatar** (capital of Mongolia).
- **Russia** began '**Vostok-2018**' at eastern **Siberia**.
- As a part of the **Bay of Bengal initiative for multi-sectoral technical and economic cooperation (Bimstec)**, a field training military exercise (**MILEX-18**) was held at Foreign Training Node at Aundh in **Pune, Maharashtra**.
 - All member BIMSTEC countries, except Thailand and Nepal are taking active part in this exercise.
 - **Theme:** Counter-terrorism in semi-urban terrain.
- The mid-air re-fuelling of 'wet contact' trial for **Tejas aircraft** was conducted successfully by Indian Air Force at an altitude of 20,000 feet.
- **Nepal** is going to take part in '**Sagarmatha Friendship-2**' a 12-day-long military exercise with **China**. The exercise will take place in China's **Chengdu city**.
- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has commissioned indigenously built patrol vessel **ICGS Vijaya** in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** successfully flight tested the indigenously developed surface-to-surface tactical missile '**Prahar**', from Launch Complex-III, ITR, Balasore, **Odisha**.
- **China** has postponed joint military talks with the **US** in protest against a US decision to sanction a Chinese military agency and its director for buying Russian fighter jets and a surface-to-air missile system.
- **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has successfully test fired indigenously developed **Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) Astra** from Su-30 fighter aircraft.
 - The missile was tested at Kalaikunda Air Force Station, **West Bengal**.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the Army exhibition '**Parakram Parv**' in **Rajasthan's Jodhpur** to mark the 2nd anniversary of the **Surgical Strikes** by Indian security forces along the LoC.

Committees/Commissions

- 31st meeting of the **Central Hindi Committee** was recently held in **New Delhi** under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The government has appointed a panel under **Bimal Jalan** (former Reserve Bank of India governor) to **select** the next **Chief Economic Adviser** (CEA) in the finance ministry.
 - **Members** - C Chandramouli (Secretary of the department of personnel and training) and Subhash Chandra Garg (Economic affairs secretary)
- **Justice Mukul Mudgal**, who headed the Supreme Court-appointed probe into the 2013 IPL spot-fixing scandal, has been named Chairman of the **11-member selection committee to pick this year's Dronacharya and Dhyanchand awardees**.
- **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** (CCEA) has approved **100% electrification** of broad gauge routes of **Indian Railways (IR)** by the year 2021-22.
- The Supreme Court set up a 3-member committee to look into **issues afflicting Indian prisons** and recommend steps towards prison reforms.
 - **Head of this Committee:** Amitava Roy
- The government has set up a Panel to review the **Competition Act** to ensure that the legislation is in line with the changing **business environment**.
 - The nine-member panel will be headed by **Injeti Srinivas** (Corporate Affairs Secretary).
- Government has constituted 8-member search committee to recommend names for posts of **Lokpal chairperson and members**.
 - **The committee will be headed by:** Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai (former Supreme Court judge)

Schemes/Initiatives

- The **Haryana** government has settled the first claim of **Rs.9000** under the public insurance scheme **Ayushman Bharat** for a baby girl born in Karnal's Kalpana Chawla Government Medical College.
 - The scheme's first beneficiary **Mousami** gave birth to **Karishma** through a caesarean section on August 17 and the claim amount was paid to the treating hospital on August 31.
- The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development had inaugurated a **widows' home** titled '**Krishna Kutir**' at **Vrindavan** in **Mathura, Uttar Pradesh**.
 - Krishna Kutir is special home for 1000 widows set under **Swadhar Greh scheme** and is the largest ever facility of its kind created by government organization.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and his Bangladeshi counterpart **Sheikh Hasina** have launched 3 key projects via video conferencing. They are:
 - Rehabilitation of **Kulaura-Shahbazzpur** section of Bangladesh Railways.
 - **500 MW** additional power supply from India to Bangladesh via Bheramara-Baharampur interconnection.
 - **15 km Akhaura-Agartala** Rail Link
- The Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved **Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)** to protect income of **farmers growing pulses, oilseeds and copra**.
- **Union Ministry of Power** has launched **Chiller Star Labeling Program** to encourage deployment of energy efficient chiller systems in the country.
 - It was launched as part of occasion of 24th World Ozone Day and 31st Anniversary of Montreal Protocol, which was observed on 16th September 2018.
- The **Union Ministry of Tourism** has inaugurated India's first **tribal circuit** project connecting 13 tourism sites in **Chhattisgarh** under **Swadesh Darshan Scheme**.

- The circuit connects Jashpur, Kunkuri, Mainpat, Kamleshpur, Maheshpur, Kurdar, Sarodadadar, Gangrel, Kondagaon, Nathiya Nawagaon, Jagdalpur, Chitrakoot, and Tirthgarh in Chhattisgarh.
- **Union Ministry for Minority Affairs** has launched India's 1st **National Scholarship Portal Mobile App (NSP Mobile App)**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and his Bangladeshi counterpart **Sheikh Hasina** jointly inaugurated the construction of the **India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline Project** through video conferencing.
 - The 130-kilometre-long pipeline will connect **Siliguri** in **West Bengal** and **Parbatipur** in Bangladesh's Dinajpur district.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** launched a **Logo and a web portal** to commemorate **150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**, which is celebrated on October 2.
 - The portal (<http://gandhi.gov.in/>) has a feature '**Gandhipedia**' which is a "repository of Gandhian knowledge".
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for a Rs.13,000-crore project to revive **Talcher fertilizer plant** in **Odisha**.
 - Talcher Fertilizers, a joint venture between GAIL, Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers, Coal India and Fertilizer Corporation of India, was constituted to revive the plant.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the '**Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)**' scheme, deemed as the world's largest government-funded healthcare programme covering over 50 crore beneficiaries.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **Pakyong Airport** near **Gangtok** in **Sikkim**.
 - This is India's 100th airport and the state's first airport situated at an altitude of 4,500 feet above sea level.
- Modi also inaugurated a new airport in **Jharsuguda**.
 - It is first airport in **Odisha** to provide necessary connectivity to Bhubaneswar, Raipur and Ranchi under **Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (UdeDesh Ka AamNaagrik) Scheme**.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** has inaugurated Centenary celebrations of **Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha (DBHPS)** in **New Delhi**.
- Vice-President **M Venkaiah Naidu** inaugurated **Indian Culinary Institute (ICI)** in **Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh**.
- Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Environment **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** inaugurated air pollution control device **WAYU (Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit)** for traffic junctions at ITO intersection and Mukarba Chowk in **New Delhi**.

Summit/Conference

- The **4th BIMSTEC Summit** concluded in **Kathmandu** (Nepal's Capital) with signing and adoption of **Kathmandu Declaration** by all the 7 BIMSTEC members (India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand).
 - During the summit, foreign ministers of BIMSTEC member countries had also signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on establishment of **BIMSTEC Grid Interconnection**.
 - **Theme** - 'Towards a Peaceful Prosperous, and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region'.
- The **4th International Ayurveda Congress (IAvC)** was recently held at **Leiden, Netherlands**.
- The 3rd Summit of the **Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC)** opened in **Beijing**.
 - During the summit, Chinese President Xi Jinping pledged **\$60 billion** (over Rs.4 lakh crore) in financial support to Africa.

- The **6th East Asia Summit – Economic Ministers meeting EAS-EMM) & 15th India-ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM)** was held in **Singapore**.
- The **International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018** was concluded at **Kathmandu** (Nepal's capital).
 - **Theme** - "Equality begins with Economic Empowerment".
- The **North and South Korea**s have agreed to hold a **summit** during 18th to 20th September 2018 to discuss "practical measures" toward the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.
- The **International Aviation Summit** held in **New Delhi**.
 - This is organized by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), Ministry of Civil Aviation and International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- The **3rd ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Conference on 'Global Ageing and Human Rights of Older Persons'** was held in **Seoul**, capital of **South Korea**.
 - Indian delegation was led by Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment **Thaawarchand Gehlot**.
- Union Home Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated **3-day Defence & Homeland Security Expo and Conference – 2018** in **New Delhi**.
 - It was jointly organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in association with Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- The **World Hindu Congress (WHC-2018)** was held **Chicago, United States** from 7th to 9th September 2018.
 - **Theme** - "Sumantrite Suvikrante", which means - "Think collectively, achieve valiantly".
- The **World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018)** was recently held **New Delhi**.
 - **Theme** - "Challenges and Opportunities in Outcome Based Accreditation".
- The 2 day **Regional Conference on Good Governance with Focus on Aspirational Districts** was recently held in **Bhopal** (capital of Madhya Pradesh).
- **India** is Partner Country in **87th Izmir International tradeshow** in (Izmir) **Turkey**.
 - India also launched its mega business pavilion '**Source India**' hosting 75 Indian companies in the tradeshow.
- To boost dairy sector, the Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has launched **Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) Scheme** with an outlay of **Rs. 10881 crore**.
- The **Nelson Mandela Peace Summit** was recently held at **New York city**.
 - India was represented by External Affairs Minister (EAM) **Sushma Swaraj**.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- The **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)** under Union Ministry of Science and Technology has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **International Energy Agency (IEA)** for enhancing innovation for **Clean Energy Transition**.
- **India** and **Cyprus** have signed two MoUs in the field of sharing of **financial intelligence** and **environment**.
- The **Internet Society (ISOC)** has signed an MOU with **Internet Service Providers Association of India (ISPAI)** to undertake activities to promote security of network infrastructure in India to make the **web safe** for business and consumers alike.
- **India** signed the **Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA)** with the **US** during the 2+2 talks in **Delhi**.
- **American** security and aerospace giant **Lockheed Martin** has entered into an agreement with **Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)** to manufacture wings of its F-16 fighter jets in India.

- State-run **Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL)** has bagged an order worth Rs.9,200 crore for supply of 7 **Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM)** systems to **Indian Navy**.
 - In this regard, it has entered into a contract with **Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL)** and **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE)**.
- **India and Czech Republic** have signed **5 agreements**.
- **Haryana** Government has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** to set up **Ethanol plant** at **Bohali** village in **Panipat** district with an outlay of over **Rs.900 crore**.
- Union Cabinet has approved MoU signed between **Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank)** and member banks under **BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism** on Collaborative Research on Distributed Ledger and **Block chain Technology** in context of development of digital economy.
- **Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** and **Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd (TCIL)** have signed agreement for implementation of e-VidyaBharati and e-AarogyaBharati (e-VBAB) **Network Project** in **Africa**.
- **National Stock Exchange of India (NSE)** and **London Stock Exchange (LSE)** have signed MoU to collaborate on creating dual listing route for **masala bonds** and foreign currency bonds of Indian issuers.
- **Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** to set up of state-of-the-art Integrated Control Room for **Emergency Response (ICR-ER)**.
- Indian state-owned telecommunications company **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)** has signed a deal with Japan's **SoftBank** and **NTT Communications** to launch 5G internet service and Internet of Things technology in India.
- **Indian Navy** has signed contract with **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)** located in Visakhapatnam for construction of two **Diving Support Vessels (DSV)**.
- The state governments of **Punjab** and **Himachal Pradesh** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to build a **Rs.250-crore ropeway** connecting two renowned Sikh and Hindu shrines.
- **India** has signed **two** loan agreements with **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** for construction of **Mumbai-Ahmadabad** High Speed Rail Project and **Kolkata** East West Metro Project.
- Policy think tank of the Government of India, **NITI Aayog** has signed Statement of Intent (SoI) with US multinational computer technology corporation **Oracle** to pilot real drug supply-chain using blockchain distributed ledger and Internet of Things (IoT) software to fight growing problem of counterfeit drugs in India.

Meet/Visit

- The **6th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Trade Ministers' Meeting** was recently held in **Singapore**.
- The **7th meeting of National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB)** of **Ministry of AYUSH** was held under the chairpersonship of Minister of State for AYUSH, **Shripad Yesso Naik** at **New Delhi**.
- The bi-annual talks between **India** and **Bangladesh** border forces began in **New Delhi**.
- Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** visited the **Balbir forward post** in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- **US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo** was visited to **Pakistan**.
 - During this visit, he was meet Pakistan's Prime Minister **Imran Khan**.
 - The US State Secretary will head to India after his Pakistan visit.

- Foreign minister **Sushma Swaraj** and Defence Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** held the **1st high-level 2+2 talks** with their **US** counterparts **Mike Pompeo** and **Jim Mattis**.
 - Both the countries have agreed to work together towards India's entry in the **Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)**.
- **India, Afghanistan** and **Iran** held the 1st-ever trilateral meeting at the **Deputy Foreign Minister** level in **Kabul**.
 - The meeting focused on consolidating economic cooperation, including the **Chabahar Port**, as well as enhancing cooperation on counter-terrorism, counter-narcotics and continuing support for the Afghan-led peace and reconciliation process.
- External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** led the Indian delegation at the **23rd meeting of India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission (IRIGC-TEC)**
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** reached **Prague** (capital the Czech Republic) on the final leg of his three European nations visit (Cyprus, Bulgaria and Czech Republic).
- Vice President **M. Venkaiah Naidu** visited to **Belgrade** for the first phase of his 7- day tour to three central European countries, **Serbia, Malta** and **Romania**.
- A **Bilateral meeting on Tourism Cooperation** between **India** and **Morocco** led by the Minister of Tourism, Air Transport, Handicraft and Social Economy, Kingdom of Morocco, Mr. Mohamed Sajid and the Minister of State for Tourism (IC), Government of India, Shri. K. J. Alphons, held in **New Delhi**.
- Afghanistan President **Ashraf Ghani** was visited to **India** for a day-long visit.
- The inaugural **General Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA)** is going to be held on 2nd October 2018 in **New Delhi**.
- The **5th meeting of Boundary Working Group (BWG)** between **India** and **Nepal** held in **Kathmandu**.
- **Moroccan** Defence Minister **Abdeltif Loudiyi** was visited to **India** on a two day visit.
 - **India** and **Morocco** have agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation in the fields of Defence and Security.
- Russian President **Vladimir Putin** is going to visit **India** from October 4-5.
 - During this visit, he will attend the **19th India-Russia Annual Summit**.
 - The main highlight of the meeting is likely to be the gifting of three **Mig-21 fighter jets** to Russia.

Bills

- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** announced implementation of the **HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017**. The act criminalizes any kind of discrimination against people suffering from AIDS in terms of treatment, employment and workplace.
- Union Cabinet chaired has approved proposal for introduction of Bill in Parliament for **amendment of National Institutes of Design (NID) Act, 2014** for establishing four new NIDs across the country. These four new NIDs are:
 - National Institute of Design, Amaravati/Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.
 - National Institute of Design, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
 - National Institute of Design, Jorhat, Assam.
 - National Institute of Design, Kurukshetra, Haryana.
- The Union Cabinet approved the ordinance making **Triple Talaq** a punishable offence, after the bill to criminalize triple talaq got stuck in the Rajya Sabha.
- The 182-member **Gujarat Assembly** passed a bill to increase MLAs' monthly salaries by over **Rs.45,000**. The MLAs who were earlier paid Rs.70,727 will now get **Rs.1,16,316**, which is effective from December 22, 2017, so they will also receive the arrears.
- **Uttarakhand** passed a resolution to declare **Cow** the '**Rashtra Mata**' (Mother of the Nation).

Fund

- **Germany** has announced to provide soft loan of **euro 120 million** (Rs.990 crore approximately) to **India** to strengthen sewage water treatment infrastructure in **Uttarakhand** in an effort to clean River Ganga under **Clean Ganga Mission**.
 - German development agency GIZ also has prepared '**Ganga Box**' aimed to target schools-going children and inform them about the river.
- The **US military** has decided to **cancel 300 million dollars** aid to **Pakistan** over its failure to take decisive actions against terror groups.
- **India** has signed a **\$74 million** financing loan agreement with the **World Bank** for **Uttarakhand Workforce Development Project (UKWDP)**.
- The **BRICS' New Development Bank** has approved a **\$525-million** loan for infrastructure projects in **India**.
 - The loan will be used by the Indian government for on-lending to the **Madhya Pradesh** government for rehabilitating major district roads with a total length of about 2000 km.
- **Argentina** has received **\$57.1 billion** from the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** aimed at boosting the country's struggling economy.
 - This is the biggest loan package ever from the global body.
- The Union Cabinet cleared a Rs.5500-crore incentive package for the **Sugar industry**.
- Union Government has approved Rs.8606 crore for 60 projects being implemented under umbrella scheme of **Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM)**.
- Multilateral lender **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** is going to provide **US \$150 million** loan for establishing first Multi-skills Park in central Indian state of **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Union Government has enhanced its contribution in **State Disaster Response fund (SDRF)** from 75% to 90%.
- The Board of Directors of the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** approved a **\$455-million** loan for a road project in rural areas of **Andhra Pradesh**.

Economy

- Island nation **Mauritius** remained the top source of **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** into **India** in 2017-18 followed by **Singapore**, a recently released data by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** stated.
- The **Retail inflation** for the month of August dropped to a 10-month-low of **3.69%**, government data showed.
- The **Indian rupee** closed at a new lifetime low of **72.97** against the US dollar, down 46 paise against the previous close.
- **American** multinational investment bank and financial services company **Goldman Sachs** downgraded **Indian equities** for the first time since March 2014 citing expensive valuations and upcoming elections.
 - The investment bank cut India's rating to the equivalent of a '**hold**' from '**buy**'.
- The government has hiked **Interest rate** on **small savings schemes** including **Public Provident Fund (PPF)**, which will now fetch 8% interest rate for the October-December quarter, up from existing 7.6%.
 - The 5-year **Senior Citizen Savings Scheme** will fetch **8.7%**, while **Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme** **8.5%**.
- One of the "Big Three credit rating agencies (other two are Moody's and Standard & Poor's), **Fitch Ratings** in its Global Economic Outlook has revised up **India's** growth forecast for current fiscal year (2018-19) to **7.8%** from **7.4%** projected earlier.

Companies/Industry

- Indian Information Technology Services corporation **Wipro** has announced that it has bagged its biggest ever deal of **\$1.5 billion** from US-based **Alight Solutions** that provides technology-enabled health, wealth, HR and finance solutions.
- **Australia's Perth Mint** has unveiled the **most valuable coin** ever made in the country to meet growing demand for high-end collectables.
 - Called '**Discovery**', the coin is considered legal tender and will be sold to the highest bidder.
 - The **2-kg coin**, which is encrusted with rare pink diamonds worth Rs.12 crore, depicts a sailing ship, a gold prospector and boab trees.
- **Amazon India** launched a **Hindi version** of its mobile website and app for Android smart phones.
- To help scientists, data journalists and others find data required for their work, search Engine giant **Google** launched a new search engine called '**Dataset Search**'.
- **American** online social media and social networking service company **Facebook** announced that it is going to build its 1st **Asian data** centre in **Singapore**.
 - This 11-storey data centre is expected to open in 2022.
- **India's** second-largest IT services company **Infosys** has formed a joint venture with **Singaporean** holding company **Temasek** to support the investment company's digital transformation.
 - **Shveta Arora** (Vice President at Infosys) has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the new venture.
- State-owned **Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC)** has made oil and gas discoveries in **Madhya Pradesh** and **West Bengal** that may potentially open up two new sedimentary basins in country.
- American electronic commerce and cloud computing company **Amazon** is going to launch its checkout-free '**Amazon Go**' grocery store in **New York**.
- **Cyient Solutions & Systems**, a joint venture of IT firm Cyient and BlueBird Aero Systems of Israel) bagged order from **Indian Army** to supply **SpyLite mini UAV** (unmanned aerial vehicle) systems for high altitude aerial surveillance.
- The iconic **TIME magazine** was sold by Meredith Corporation (present owner) to **Salesforce.com's** Co-founder **Marc Benioff** and his wife **Lynne Benioff** for \$190 million (Rs.1,378 crore).
- Indian e-commerce payment system and digital wallet company **Paytm** has started testing the facial recognition feature that can unlock its payments app on a user's Smartphone.
- **American** multinational technology company **Microsoft** partnered with the **Data Security Council of India** to launch a three-year programme, called **CyberShikshaa**.
- Cab-hailing startup **Ola** launched a safety programme called '**Guardian**' in **India** to monitor rides in real time.
- US-based aircraft maker **Boeing** is setting up an electronics manufacturing and avionics assembly facility in **Bangalore** at an investment of Rs.1152 crore.

Exports/Imports

- The government has raised **Import duties** on 19 "non-essential items" including air conditioners, refrigerators, washing machines and jewellery items in a bid to reduce the Current Account Deficit.

Taxation/Trade

- US President **Donald Trump** imposed a **10% tariff** on \$200 billion of **Chinese** goods, intensifying the trade war between the world's largest economies.
 - **China** also announced tariffs on US goods worth \$60 billion, in retaliation to the 10% import tariffs.
- To promote local handset production, the government has waived basic **customs duty** on 35 capital goods used for making mobile phone components.

Space

- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** is going to conduct **19 missions**, including **10 satellites** and **nine launch vehicles**, in the next seven months between September and March.
 - It will include the launch of India's second moon mission Chandrayaan-2.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** is going to set up a **Satellite ground control station** at the **North Pole** for a "14-orbit coverage" to efficiently download data from India's Earth-observing satellites.
 - The space agency already has two ground stations, **IMGEOS** at Telangana's Shadnagar (built in 2011) and **AGEOS** in Antarctica.
- The **UAE's PM and Vice President, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**, has announced the names of two astronauts **Hazza Al Mansouri** and **Sultan Al Nayadi** for the country's first astronaut programme.
 - They were selected from over 4000 candidates and will be trained in **Russia**.
- **Japan** launched two **Cube satellites** to test the concept of **space elevator in Earth's orbit**.
- **India** and **France** announced a working group for Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) first manned space mission **Gaganyaan**.
- **ISRO** displayed a **prototype space suit** and **crew module** for India's first manned mission scheduled for **2022** during the Bangalore Space Expo.
 - The **orange-colored** prototype space suit was developed over the past two years at **Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre** in Thiruvananthapuram.
- Elon Musk-led space exploration startup **SpaceX** launched a heavy communications satellite to the orbit, completing its **16th Falcon 9 rocket launch** this year.
- Mukesh Ambani-led **Reliance Jio** is going to use satellites to provide 4G services in rural and remote areas of India.
 - It will use capacity from **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** and satellite technology from Hughes Communications.
- **China** successfully launched a new marine satellite called **HY-1C** aboard a **Long March-2C** rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in north China's Shanxi Province.
- The **UK Space Agency** is going to send hundreds of **microscopic worms** to the International Space Station to study spaceflight-induced muscle loss.
- The **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** launched its most advanced space laser, **ICESat-2**, a \$1-billion mission that will shoot lasers towards Earth to track the planet's melting ice.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** successfully launched its **PSLV-C42 rocket** carrying two **British** Earth observation satellites from **Andhra Pradesh's Sriharikota**.
 - The two satellites, **NovaSAR** and **S1-4**, are intended to improve UK's disaster management capabilities.
- Elon Musk-led startup **SpaceX** revealed that **Yusaku Maezawa**, founder of Japan's largest clothing website Zozotown, has signed up to be the world's first private passenger to fly around the Moon.
- ISRO Chairman **K Sivan** announced that India will get internet speeds of over 100 Gbps before the end of next year.
 - He added that India's **GSAT-19**, launched in 2017, and the yet-to-be-launched **GSAT-11**, **GSAT-29** and **GSAT-20** will together provide high bandwidth connectivity and bridge the digital divide.
- The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** is setting up 3rd launch pad at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh to undertake **Gaganyaan manned space flight programme**.

- Elon Musk's **SpaceX** has signed a deal with **Japanese** lunar-exploration startup **ispace** for a **Lunar Rover Mission**.
 - ispace plans to orbit its lunar lander around the Moon and, in its second mission, land two rovers on the Moon's surface using SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.
- SpaceX's French rival **Arianespace** has launched its **Ariane 5** rocket for the 100th time, propelling **two telecommunications** satellites into orbit.
- India's first dedicated multi-wavelength space observatory **ASTROSAT** has completed 3 years in Earth's orbit.
- **China** is planning to bring its Second Space Lab, **Tiangong-2** back to Earth in July 2019 in a "controlled deorbit".
 - This comes six months after China's first space lab, **Tiangong-1**, went "out of control" and burned up in the atmosphere before hitting the Pacific Ocean.

Science and Technology

- In a first, a **lioness** has given birth to a male and a female cub via **Artificial Insemination** in **South Africa**.
- To help train medical students, US-based Company **Gaumard Scientific** has developed a child robot called **HAL**.
- India's first underwater robotic drone **EyeROV TUNA** was handed over to Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL) of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- The Ocean Cleanup foundation (founded by 24-year-old Dutch innovator Boyan Slat) launched world's first ocean cleanup array titled **System 001**, from **San Francisco**, marking start of cleanup of **Great Pacific Garbage Patch**, a collection of marine debris in North Pacific Ocean.
- **European** railway manufacturer **Alstom** has launched world's first **hydrogen fuel cell train**.
 - The French company said that the **Coradia iLint** used fuel cells that turn hydrogen and oxygen into electricity.
- The world's first self-driving tram, fitted with multiple radar, LiDAR, and camera sensors, has successfully been tested in **Potsdam, Germany**.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- The government has **banned** manufacturing, sale or distribution of 328 **Fixed Dose Combination (FDC) drugs** including **Saridon** with immediate effect citing safety concerns.
- The **Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS)** has developed India's first indigenous **medical kit** for protection against **nuclear warfare** or **radioactive leakage**.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- Ahead of US sanctions on Iranian oil, **Iraq** has replaced Saudi Arabia as India's largest oil supplier in August.
- **Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Trombay** has re-commissioned India's oldest nuclear research reactor named '**Apsara**', which was shut down permanently in 2009 for repair.
 - The refurbished version of this reactor has been named as '**Apsara-upgraded**' (**Apsara-U**) and also has double capacity compared to its earlier version.
- **Karnataka** Chief Minister **H D Kumaraswamy** announced a **Rs.2 cut** in the cess of **both petrol and diesel** in the state.
 - Karnataka is the 4th state after **Rajasthan, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh** to have reduced state taxes on petrol and diesel.

Environment

- India's biggest cyclotron facility named **Cyclone-30** became operational at Kolkata-based **Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC)**, which comes under Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).
- The **Wild Tiger** population of **Nepal** has reached **235**, nearly doubling the baseline of around 121 tigers in 2009.
- A 10-foot-tall bird, **Vorombe titan**, known to have become extinct around 1000 years ago in **Madagascar**, has been declared as the world's largest bird.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- **Bangalore International Airport** has announced plans to introduce **Paperless Boarding** for passengers of some airlines from next year, and will use facial recognition technology for the same.
- **Nepal** flagged off a bus service between its capital **Kathmandu** and the Buddhist pilgrimage town of **Bodhgaya** (Bihar).

Films and Film Festival

- Indian movie 'Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota' has won the **People's Choice award** in the 'Midnight Madness' segment at the **43rd Toronto International Film Festival**.
 - The film is the first Indian film to be featured in the Festival's Midnight Madness section.
- Actor Irrfan Khan Starrer 'Doob', titled 'No Bed Of Roses' in English, has been chosen as **Bangladesh's official entry** for the **Oscars 2018** and will contest in the Best Foreign Language category at the 91st Academy Awards.
 - Directed by **Mostofa Sarwar Farooki**, the film was initially banned in Bangladesh over reports that it was based on late Bangladeshi writer-filmmaker Humayun Ahmed.
- **Assamese** film 'Village Rockstars' directed by Rima Das, has been announced as India's official entry for 2019 **Oscars'** Best Foreign Language Film category.

Festival

- **Ganesh Chaturthi**, the birthday of the elephant headed God of Wisdom and remover of obstacles, was celebrated with religious fervor and the usual enthusiasm all over India.

Media /I.T / communication

- The Cabinet approved the new telecom policy titled **National Digital Communications Policy-2018**.
 - **Aim:** To attract \$100 billion in investments and create 4 million jobs in the sector by 2022.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appointed **Anil Kumar Chaudhary** as new Chairman of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL).
- **Swedish** Prime Minister **Stefan Löfven** became the country's first leader to be ousted in a no-confidence vote.
- Justice **Syeda Tahira Safdar** was sworn in as the **Chief Justice** of the **Balochistan High Court**.
 - With this, she became the **1st woman Chief Justice** of a **Pakistani High Court**.
- The Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Punjab National Bank (PNB), **Sunil Mehta** was elected as new **Chairman** of **Indian Banks Association (IBA)** for year 2018-19.
 - Bank of India's managing director and chief executive **Dina Bandhu Mohapatra** was elected as the **Deputy Chairman**.
 - **Madhav Nair**, country head and chief executive, Mashreqbank PSC, was elected as **Honorary Secretary**.
 - State Bank of India (SBI)'s chairman, **Rajnish Kumar**, and Federal Bank's managing director, **Shyam Srinivasan**, will continue as **Deputy Chairmen** of IBA.

- US Army General **Austin Miller** has assumed command of the **41-nation NATO mission in Afghanistan** following a handover ceremony.
- **R Madhavan** has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of defence PSU **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**. He will replace T Suvarna Raju.
- Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) candidate **Arif-ur-Rehman Alvi** was elected as the 13th **President of Pakistan**.
- **WPP Plc**, the world's largest communication services group, has appointed **Mark Read** as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Executive Director (ED) with immediate effect.
- **SBI Mutual Fund**, a joint venture between the State Bank of India (SBI) and European asset management company **Amundi**, has appointed **Ashwani Bhatia** as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO).
 - He replaces **Anuradha Rao**, who now returns to **State Bank of India (SBI)** as Deputy Managing Director.
- **Dr. Poonam Khetrapal Singh** was unanimously re-elected as **World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for South-East Asia** for another five-year term beginning February 2019.
- **Anshula Kant** has been appointed as the **new Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI)**.
- State-run telecom firm **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL)** has appointed Indian boxer **MC Mary Kom** as its **Brand Ambassador** for two years.
- **HDFC Life's MD and CEO Amitabh Chaudhry** has received the RBI's approval to be appointed as the **MD and CEO of Private Sector Lender Axis Bank**.
- **Dr Arif ur Rehman Alvi** was sworn in as the 13th **President of Pakistan**.
 - Chief Justice of Pakistan **Mian Saqib Nisar** administered the oath to the 69-year-old at a ceremony in Islamabad.
- **India's ace sprinter Hima Das** was appointed as **Sports Ambassador of Assam** to inspire budding players of northeastern state to aim big and young generation to take up sports seriously.
- Ride-hailing startup **Uber** has appointed former Coca-Cola executive **Rebecca Messina** to serve as its 1st-ever Chief Marketing Officer (CMO).
- Long-term life insurance provider, **HDFC Life** has appointed **Vibha Padalkar** as its new MD & CEO for a period of 3 years effective September 12.
- **Anshdeep Singh Bhatia** has become the 1st Sikh to have been inducted into US President **Donald Trump's security detail**.
- The Executive Committee of the **Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)**, the apex body of the Indian automotive industry, elected **Rajan Wadhera** as its new **President**.
- President Ram Nath Kovind gave his approval to appoint **Justice Ranjan Gogoi** as the next Chief Justice of India.
- US bank **Goldman Sachs** has appointed **Stephen Scherr** as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO).
 - He will replace Martin Chavez, who will become the co-head of the trading division.
 - Goldman also named **John Waldron** as its next **President and Chief Operating Officer (COO)**, the second most powerful position in the bank.
- US President Donald Trump's administration has nominated Indian-American **Bimal Patel** to be the **Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions**.
- **Jammu and Kashmir Government** appointed **Dilbagh Singh** as **Director General of Police (DGP)** of the state.
- **Moutaz Mousa Abdallah** has been sworn in as the new Prime Minister of **Sudan**.

- **Tajinder Mukherjee** has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of **National Insurance Company Limited (NICL)**.
- India's largest lender, **State Bank of India (SBI)** has appointed **Prashant Kumar** as the **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)**.
- Bollywood Actors **Varun Dhawan** and **Anushka Sharma** have been signed on to promote and endorse the **Skill India Mission**, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked **Yes Bank's** Managing Director and CEO **Rana Kapoor** to step down after a term extension up to January 31, 2019.
- The government appointed new Managing Directors and Chief Executive Officers (MD & CEO) for 10 state-owned banks. They are:
 - **Mrutyunjay Mahapatra** - Syndicate Bank
 - **Padmaja Chundru** - Indian Bank
 - **Pallav Mohapatra** - Central Bank of India
 - **J Packirisamy** - Andhra Bank.
 - **Karnam Shekhar** - Dena Bank
 - **SS Mallikarjuna Rao** - Allahabad Bank
 - **AS Rajeev** - Bank of Maharashtra
 - **Atul Kumar Goel** - UCO Bank
 - **S Harisnagar** - Punjab & Sind Bank
 - **Ashok Kumar Pradhan** - United Bank of India
- The government has appointed **Revathy Iyer** and **Raghvendra Narayan Dubey** as Members in the **Northern local board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.
- Renowned scientist **Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas** has been appointed the Secretary of the **Department of Atomic Energy** and Chairman of the **Atomic Energy Commission**.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has chosen veteran scientist **Dr VR Lalithambika** to head its mission to put an Indian in space by **2022**.
- As part of its efforts to curb fake news, **WhatsApp** has appointed **Komal Lahiri** as the 'Grievance Officer for India'.
- **Maldives** opposition candidate **Ibrahim Mohamed Solih** has won the **Presidential** elections after having received 134,616 votes as compared to 96,132 votes received by incumbent President **Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom**.
- American multinational technology company **Google** has appointed **Keith Enright**, as **Chief Privacy Officer (CPO)** as the company proposed policies for potential federal regulation of data.
- American online social media and social networking service company **Facebook** appointed Hotstar CEO **Ajit Mohan** as the Managing Director and Vice President of Facebook India.
- **Mercedes-Benz** parent **Daimler** has named **Swedish** development head **Ola Källenius** as its next CEO.
- 1984-batch IPS officer of the Haryana cadre, **S S Deswal** has been appointed as the Director General of **Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)**.
- 1984-batch IPS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre, **Rajni Kant Misra** has been appointed as the Director General of **Border Security Force (BSF)**.
- **Aegon Life Insurance** announced appointment of **Ahmed Zackaria** as the Chief Distribution Officer (CDO).

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **England's** opener **Alastair Cook** has announced his retirement from all formats of the cricket.
- **Indian Pacer RP Singh** announced his retirement from cricket, exactly 13 years after making his international debut.

- **China's** richest man and e-commerce company **Alibaba's** Co-founder, 53-year-old **Jack Ma** has announced that he is going to step down from the post of Executive Chairman on September 10 to pursue philanthropy in education.
- Former Indian hockey team captain **Sardar Singh** announced his retirement from international hockey.
- **Denmark's** largest lender **Danske Bank's** CEO **Thomas Borgen** resigned following an investigation into payments of about \$234 billion through the bank's Estonian branch, many of which were suspicious.
- Leading life insurance company in India, **Max Life Insurance** has announced that its Managing Director **Rajesh Sud** has resigned after "18 years of building" the company.
 - **Prashant Tripathy**, currently a Senior Director and Chief Financial Officer of the company, will replace Sud as the new MD from January.

Deaths

- **North Korean** official **Ju Kyu-chang** (89) passed away. He is known to have been involved in development of the country's nuclear and missile technology.
- **American** actor, director and producer **Burt Reynolds** (82), known for films like 'Boogie Nights', 'Smokey and the Bandit' and 'Strip-tease', passed away.
- Noted Gujarati author, journalist and poet **Bhagwati Kumar Sharma** (84) passed away.
 - He had received Sahitya Academy award for his Gujarati novel **Ashuryalok**.
- **Chelsi Smith** (45), who was crowned **Miss Universe 1995** by 1994 title holder Sushmita Sen, passed away due to prolonged illness. Chelsi represented **USA** at Miss Universe pageant.
- Veteran Tamil film actor **Kumarasamy** (74), popularly known as **Kovai Senthil**, passed away.
- Padma Bhushan awardee and economist **V S Vyas** (87) passed away.
- Former Pakistan PM Nawaz Sharif's wife, **Begum Kulsoom Nawaz** (68), passed away.
- Bollywood writer **Brij Katyal** (85), who wrote the story of Shashi Kapoor starrer 'Jab Jab Phool Khile' passed away.
- Veteran freedom fighter and former Odisha minister **Dolagobinda Pradhan** (93) passed away.
- Veteran actor-director and a former army officer **Captain Raju** (68) passed away.
- India's first woman IAS officer post-Independence, Padma Bhushan **Anna Rajam Malhotra** (91) passed away.
- Former Union petroleum minister **Satya Prakash Malaviya** (84) died from prostate cancer.
- **Vietnam's** President **Tran Dai Quang** (61) passed away.
- **Yashvir Singh**, who was India's national wrestling coach when Sushil Kumar won the bronze medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, passed away following a prolonged illness.
- Filmmaker **Kalpana Lajmi** (64), known for films like 'Rudaali', 'Chingaari', and 'Ek Pal' passed away.
- US Actor, Singer and Former Marine who served in the Vietnam War, **Al Matthews** (75) passed away.
- Former Gujarat minister and Congress leader **Manoharsinh Jadeja** (83) passed away.
- Former Ranji Trophy player **Rajendra Shah** (68) died after a brief illness.

Awards/Honours

- **Nehal Chudasama** from Mumbai was crowned the **Yamaha Fascino Miss Diva Miss Universe 2018**.
- Eminent neurosurgeon **Dr B.K. Misra** has been named for this year's prestigious **Dr B.C. Roy National Award 2018** as an Eminent Medical Person of the Year.
- Indian poet-diplomat **Mr. Abhay K** became the 1st Indian poet **invited to record his poems** at the **Library of Congress in Washington D.C.**
 - The prestigious reading series is called '**The Poet and the poem**'.
- **Sara Iftekhhar**, a Pakistani-origin student from northern England became the **1st hijab-wearing finalist** of the **Miss England** beauty pageant.
- The **Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Assam** has got **7 Awards** from the Centre in implementation of **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)-Grameen** in the state.
 - Kamrup, Dhemaji and Goalpara districts have received best three positions in North East while three blocks have also been selected for awards.
- Bollywood Actress **Aishwarya Rai** was honored with the **Meryl Streep Award for Excellence at the Women in Film and Television (WIFT) India Award**.
 - Apart from Aishwarya, director Zoya Akhtar and actress Janhvi Kapoor, among others, were also honored at the event.
- Celebrity chef **Anthony Bourdain**, who passed away in June this year, has been honored with 6 awards posthumously at this year's **Creative Arts Emmys** for his CNN show 'Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown' and its digital spin-off.
- The US National Cancer Institute has given the **Outstanding Investigator Award** to Indian-origin Professor **Arul Chinnaiyan**.
- Noted Odia poet **Satrugna Panday** is going to be honored with the prestigious '**Sarala Puraskar**' for his poetry collection '**Misra Dhrupad**'.
- **Rajalakshmi Nandakumar**, an India-born woman scholar in the **US**, has been chosen for prestigious '**Young Scholar**' award for her work to help detect potentially life-threatening health issues using smart phones.
- Union Ministry of Water Resources has instituted **National Water Awards** with objective to encourage all stakeholders to manage their water resources efficiently and create water consciousness in the country.
 - The awards will be given for 13 categories.
- The **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad** was awarded **Airports Council International Airport Service Quality World no.1 Airport Award** in the 5-15 Million Passengers Per Annum (MPPA) category.
- **International Executive Council** (International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)), accorded Heritage Irrigation Structure (HIS) status on Telangana's **Sadarmatt anicut** and iconic **Pedda Cheruvu tank**.
- All the six members of the **Indian Navy's first all-women crew**, who sailed across the globe aboard **INSV Tarini** in 254 days, have been given the **Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2018**.
- Chairman and MD, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd., **Dr. Raghupati Singhania** has been conferred with '**Mexican Order of the Aztec Eagle**'.
 - **Melba Pría**, Ambassador of Mexico to India presented the award to Dr. Singhania on behalf of the President of Mexico on the eve of **128th National Day of Mexico**.
- Bollywood actor **Anushka Sharma** was facilitated with the **Smita Patil Memorial Award** for the year 2018, by Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari and Piyush Goyal at **Priyadarshni Academy 34th Anniversary Global Awards**, in Mumbai.

- The **National Sports Awards 2018** were officially announced.
 - **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna 2018** - India's highest sports honor.
 - S. Mirabai Chanu – Weightlifting
 - Virat Kohli – Cricket
 - **Dronacharya Awards 2018:**
 - Subedar Chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa – Boxing
 - Vijay Sharma – Weightlifting
 - Srinivasa Rao – Table Tennis
 - Sukhdev Singh Pannu -Athletics
 - Clarence Lobo – Hockey (Life Time)
 - Tarak Sinha – Cricket (Life Time)
 - Jiwan Kumar Sharma – Judo (Life Time)
 - VR Beedu – Athletics (Life Time)
 - **Arjuna Awards 2018:**
 - Neeraj Chopra – Athletics
 - Naib Subedar Jinson Johnson – Athletics
 - Hima Das – Athletics
 - Nelakurthi Sikki Reddy – Badminton
 - Subedar Satish Kumar – Boxing
 - Smriti Mandhana – Cricket
 - Shubhankar Sharma – Golf
 - Manpreet Singh – Hockey
 - Savita – Hockey
 - Col. Ravi Rathore -Polo
 - Rahi Sarnobat – Shooting
 - Ankur Mittal – Shooting
 - Shreyasi Singh – Shooting
 - Manika Batra – Table Tennis
 - G Sathiyam – Table Tennis
 - Rohan Bopanna – Tennis
 - Sumit – Wrestling
 - Pooja Kadian – Wushu
 - Ankur Dhama – Para-Athletics
 - Manoj Sarkar – Para-Badminton
 - **Dhyan Chand Award 2018:**
 - Satyadev Prasad – Archery
 - Bharat Kumar Chetri – Hockey
 - Bobby Aloysius – Athletics
 - Chougale Dadu Dattatray – Wrestling
- Three jailed Saudi human rights activists, **Abdullah al-Hamid, Mohammad Fahad al-Qahtani** and **Waleed Abu al-Khair**, have been awarded the **Right Livelihood Award** for the year 2018.
 - Right Livelihood Award is widely referred to as the '**Alternative Nobel Prize**'.
- Social networking giant **Facebook** has selected **3 Indian women** among five global leaders for \$1 million award as part of its Community Leadership Programme.
 - They are: Adhunikha Prakash, Chetana Misra, Tamanna Dhamija.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** is among the **6 winners** of the **UN's highest** environmental honor, the '**Champions of the Earth**' award.

- The winners of **2018 Nobel Prizes** will be announced from 1st October 2018.
- Goa Chief Minister **Manohar Parrikar** was conferred an honorary doctorate by **National Institute of Technology, Goa** for his contribution to the state and the country.
- **Uttarakhand** Tourism Minister **Satpal Maharaj** announced that an **unexplored peak in the Himalayas** will be named after late three-time PM **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**.

Sports/Game

- The **18th Asian Games 2018** ended in a glittering ceremony in **Jakarta** (Indonesia).
 - **China** led the medal table for the tenth consecutive time with a total of **289 medals** (132 Gold, 92 Silver and 65 Bronze).
 - **Japan** stood at the 2nd place with **205 medals** (75 Gold, 56 Silver and 74 Bronze).
 - **South Korea** is at the 3rd position with **177 medals** (49 Gold, 58 Silver and 70 Bronze).
 - The **Indian contingent** bagged a total of **69 medals** (15 Gold, 24 Silver and 30 Bronze), their best-ever medal tally in the history of the event.
 - **Japanese** swimmer **Rikako Ikee**, who bagged six gold and two silver medals at the Asian Games 2018, has been named as the quadrennial event's **Most Valuable Player**.
- British racing driver **Lewis Hamilton** (Mercedes) has won the **Italian Grand Prix 2018** held at Autodromo Nazionale Monza track, in **Italy**.
- **Lucknow** (**Uttar Pradesh's** capital) is going to host its **1st International match** in 24 years after the **BCCI** (Board of Control for Cricket in India) announced that the Indian cricket team will face the **Windies** in a T20I match on November 6.
- **India Blue** cricket team has won **2017-18 Duleep Trophy** by defeating defending champion India Red in the final match played at **NPR College ground in Dindigul, Tamilnadu**.
 - Himachal Pradesh batsman **Nikhil Gangta** was named **Man of Match**.
- Junior Shooters **Divyansh Singh Panwar** and **Shreya Agarwal** bagged the **Bronze** medal in the junior 10m air rifle mixed team event at the **ISSF World Championship**.
- India captain **Virat Kohli** has become the fastest batsman to reach 18,000 runs in international cricket, achieving the feat in his 382nd innings during the fifth England Test.
 - He surpassed ex-Windies captain **Brian Lara**, who took 411 innings to reach the milestone.
- World number 19 **Naomi Osaka** won her maiden Grand Slam title after defeating her childhood idol and 23-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams in the **US Open women's singles final**.
- Ex-England captain **Alastair Cook** slammed his 33rd Test Century in his last-ever Test innings against India.
 - Cook is the fifth cricketer to score a century in his first and last Tests.
- The Indian contingent finished the **Hyderabad Open 2018** with a haul of two titles:
 - **Sameer Verma** won the Mens Singles title.
 - **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** and **Chirag Shetty** won the Men's doubles title.
- Triple jumper **Arpinder Singh** created history by becoming the 1st Indian to win a medal in the **IAAF Continental Cup** as he clinched the **Bronze** Medal.
- **Indian** pacer **Jhulan Goswami** became the 1st bowler in women's cricket to pick **300 International Wickets** after reaching the landmark figure in India's nine-wicket win over Sri Lanka.
- England's **James Anderson** bowled India's Mohammad Shami in the fifth Test to go past former Australian cricketer Glenn McGrath's tally of 563 wickets to become the highest wicket-taking pacer in Test cricket history.
- **Man Kaur**, a 102-year-old Chandigarh-based athlete, won the **200m race** in the 100-104 age group category at the **World Masters Athletics Championships** in Spain.

- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has hired former left-handed **Sri Lankan** cricketer **Nuwan Seneviratne** as Team India's throw down specialist to help Indian batsmen prepare for left-arm fast bowlers in the **Asia Cup**.
- Left-arm spinner **Kuldeep Yadav** has become the quickest Indian spinner to take 50 wickets in ODI cricket, achieving the feat in his 24th ODI against Hong Kong in **Asia Cup**.
 - The previous quickest Indian spinner to achieve the milestone was **Amit Mishra**, who reached the 50-wicket mark in 32 ODIs.
- For the first time in the history of **FIFA** international football team rankings, **2 teams** are sharing the top spot.
 - They are **France & Belgium**.
- The Oscar-winning duo of composer **A R Rahman** and lyricist **Gulzar** is creating the Anthem song for the upcoming **Men's Hockey World Cup 2018**, which is set to be held in **Odisha** later this year.
- British racing driver **Lewis Hamilton** (Mercedes) won the **Singapore Grand Prix 2018** at Marina Bay Street Circuit, in **Singapore**.
- Russia's **Mikhail Youzhny**, who is nicknamed '**Colonel**', retired from professional **tennis** one win short of 500 career wins.
- Ex-Team India captain **M S Dhoni** has become India's second-most capped cricketer, achieving the feat against **Pakistan** in the Asia Cup.
- **Australian Cricket Team** has hired **three Indian** spin specialists to help with their training ahead of their upcoming series against Pakistan.
 - One of the specialists is former India all-rounder **Sridharan Sriram**, who has served as the spin bowling specialist with the Australian team in the past too.
- India's 37-year-old wicketkeeper **M S Dhoni** became the oldest player to captain India in an ODI after he led the Indian team against Afghanistan in Rohit Sharma's absence in the Asia Cup.
- **Sandeep Kaur**, an auto-rickshaw driver's 16-year-old daughter, beat Karolina Ampuska 5-0 to win a gold medal in the 52 kg category at the **13th International Silesian Boxing Championship** in **Poland**.
- The **Union of European Football Associations (UEFA)**, the administrative body for association football in Europe, has announced that **Germany** will host the 2024 European Championship.
- The BCCI's All India Women's Selection Committee announced a 15-member squad for the upcoming **ICC Women's World Twenty20** in **Guyana**. The Indian team will be led by **Harmanpreet Kaur**, while **Smriti Mandhana** will be the vice-captain.
- **India** defeat **Bangladesh** to win **Asia Cup** for the second straight time and overall seventh time.

Report

- **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** became the **2nd Indian company** to cross **Rs.8 trillion** in market capitalization after Mukesh Ambani-led **Reliance Industries**.
- Union Territory of **Puducherry** has bagged **top** position in **National Clean School Award 2018**.
 - As many as 52 schools from across India were bestowed with National Clean School Award in recognition of their efforts in carrying forward **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan**.
- The **Asia Index Pvt Ltd** has launched **S&P BSE Private Banks Index** to measure the performance of **private banks**.
- **India** has improved its ranking by one spot from 2016 and now stands **19th** in the '**Theft Ranking**' for countries with weapons usable nuclear materials, according to the **Nuclear Security Index** released.
 - **Australia**, which was at the top in 2012, 2014, and 2016 among the 22 countries with weapons-usable nuclear materials, this time shares the top spot with **Switzerland**.

- According to recent report, **Pakistan** could become world's **5th** largest **nuclear weapons** state after **Russia, United States, France and China** in terms of possession of total nuclear warheads.
 - Pakistan currently has 140 to 150 nuclear warheads and its stockpile is expected to increase to 220 to 250 by 2025 (surpassing United Kingdom) if its current proliferation trend continues.
- **Kolkata** has topped **OpenSignal's** list of **4G availability** across all of India's 22 telecom circles for the May-July period this year.
 - Top 5: Kolkata (90%), Punjab (89.8%), Bihar (89.2%), Madhya Pradesh (89.1%), and Odisha (89%).
 - **Jammu & Kashmir** was placed last with just over 80% 4G availability.
- Indian banking and financial services company **HDFC Bank** retained its top spot in the **Brand India Top 50** for the fifth year in a row.
 - **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** stood at the **second** spot due to the key role played by its pension plan business, followed by **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)**.
- **India** has climbed up one spot to rank **130** out of 189 countries in the latest **Human Development Index (HDI)** released by the United Nations Development Programme.
 - **Top 5:** Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Ireland, and Germany.
 - **Bottom 5:** Niger, The Central African Republic, South Sudan, Chad, and Burundi.
- **India** has been included in the UN's list of **38** "shameful" nations for intimidating people cooperating with the global body on **human rights**.
- **India** ranks **3rd** globally in terms of **Number of Family-owned Businesses** with 111 companies having a total market capitalization of \$839 billion, according to a Credit Suisse report.
 - **Top 5:** China (159), USA (121), India (111), Hong Kong (72), and France (45).
- According to the **2018 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index** released by **United Nations**, over **270 million** people in **India** moved out of poverty in the decade since 2005-06.
 - The Report stated that India's poverty rate came down to 27.5% from 54.7% during the period.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has topped the '**Ease of Living Index**' rankings released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under the **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)**.
 - Top 3: Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, and Madhya Pradesh.
- **India** has lost its tag as **Asia-Pacific's best-performing stock market** this year to **New Zealand**.
- According to **Barclays Hurun India Rich List 2018**, Reliance Industries Chairman **Mukesh Ambani's** family has emerged as **India's Richest Family** with Rs.3,90,500 crore wealth.
 - Top 4: Mukesh Ambani, Adi Godrej, SP Hinduja, Cyrus Mistry.
- The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore** has been named the **Top Indian institute** for the 5th straight year in the **Times Higher Education World University Rankings** and was placed in the 251-300 bracket.
 - Top 4: IISc, Bangalore, IIT, Indore, IIT, Bombay, IIT, Roorkee
 - Globally, **Oxford University** continues to hold the first place, followed by **Cambridge, Stanford, and MIT**.

General - National

- **India** is going to help **Nepal** build a railway line connecting **Raxaul** (Bihar) to **Kathmandu** (Nepal).
 - Both the countries have signed a MoU under which India will conduct a preliminary engineering and traffic survey of the new rail line.
- The **Home Ministry** has announced it will collect data on **Other Backward Classes (OBCs)** for the first time in the **2021 Census**.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** along with Nepal PM **K P Sharma Oli** inaugurated 400-bed **Nepal-Bharat Maitri Pashupati Dharamshala** in **Kathmandu**, capital of Nepal.
- The **Union Health Ministry** has released **Draft Rules on sale of Drugs by e-pharmacies** in order to regulate online sale of medicines.
 - The draft rules state that all the e-pharmacies will have to be registered compulsorily with the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organization**.
- The **Ministry of Tourism** sanctioned **Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project** under **Swadesh Darshan Scheme** for development of rural circuit in **Kerala**.
 - Under this project, the Ministry of Tourism will be developing three cruises with budget of **Rs. 80.37 crores**.
- **Cyient Solutions Systems Pvt. Ltd**, a joint venture between IT firm Cyient and BlueBird Aero Systems of Israel, has bagged order from **Indian Army** to supply **SpyLite mini UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) systems** for high altitude aerial surveillance.
- The **Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD)** has announced that it is going to participate in **Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)** after gap of 9 years.
- **Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry** has launched **National Mission on Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** for increasing awareness and accelerating use of GeM by major central Ministries, State Governments and their agencies.
- **India** is going to supply **160 railway passenger coaches** to **Sri Lanka** valued at around \$82.64 million.
- The **Women and Child Development Ministry (WCD)** has issued an advisory asking parents to monitor the social media activity of their children to ensure that they are not playing the "dangerous" suicide game titled '**Momo Challenge**'.
- The **International Labor Organization (ILO)** has predicted that **India's unemployment rate in 2018** will stay at **3.5 per cent** while **China's** would edge up from **4.7 per cent** to **4.8 per cent**.
- Union Ministry of **Home Affairs (MHA)** has launched India's **National Database of Sexual Offenders (NDSO)**.
 - With this, India became the 9th nation to maintain such thorough database.
- **India** has contributed **\$1 million** to United Nations (UN) Headquarters' **Solar Project**, under which solar panels will be installed on roof of world body's headquarters at **New York, US**.
 - This contribution makes India first responder to UN Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres'** call for climate action.
- **World Bank** board has approved ambitious 5-year **Country Partnership Framework (CPF)** for **India** that is in line with Government of India's objectives of high, sustainable and inclusive growth.
- India's first all-electric hyper car concept, **Vazirani Shul**, designed and developed by Mumbai-based **Vazirani Automotive** has been officially unveiled in the country.
- The **191st Gunners Day** was celebrated on September 28.
- **India** celebrated the 2nd Anniversary of Surgical Strikes as **Parakram Parv** during 29th to 30th September 2018.
 - The Parakram Parv celebrations were inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at 'Combined Commanders' Conference in Jodhpur, **Rajasthan**.
- Ministry of **Housing and Urban Affairs** has partnered with **Google** to launch **Loo Review campaign** on Google Map.
 - The joint campaign has been launched under aegis of **Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U)**.

General - International

- **China-Maldives Friendship Bridge** was recently opened for traffic.
- **Thailand's Royal Police Cadet Academy** has announced it will not admit **female candidates** from the next academic year.
 - The academy, which began admitting female students in 2009, has produced about 700 policewomen.
- **Qatar** amended its **residency laws** to allow **foreign workers** to leave the country without **exit permits** from their employers.
- **Qatar** has become the 1st Gulf nation to offer **permanent residency** to **expatriates** (a person temporarily or permanently residing in a country other than their native country).
- **China** and **Pakistan** have decided to extend the **China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project** towards **Afghanistan**.
 - The CPEC project aims to strategically link China's Xinjiang with Pakistan's Gwadar port.
- The **UN Security Council (UNSC)** held its 1st-ever meeting on **corruption** and its linkages to global conflicts.
 - UN Secretary-General **António Guterres** said that corruption is linked to illicit trafficking of arms, drugs and people as well as terrorism.
 - Citing the World Economic Forum's estimates, he added that corruption costs at least \$2.6 trillion or 5% of global GDP.
- US President **Donald Trump** signed an executive order enabling **sanctions on foreign countries** or people who try to interfere in the US political process.
- **North and South Korea**s opened a **Liaison office** in the North Korean city of **Kaesong** for the first time since the Korea was divided at the end of World War II in 1945.
- To ensure a high standard of cleanliness across the country before **Mahatma Gandhi's** birth anniversary (2nd October), Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched '**Swachhata Hi Seva**' movement.
- **Pakistan's** Prime Minister **Imran Khan** has pledged to implement the country's citizenship laws that would grant citizenship to all **Afghan** and **Bangladeshi** refugees born on Pakistani soil.
- **Germany** launched the world's first zero-emission **hydrogen trains** which will run on a 100-kilometre stretch.
 - Built by **French rail transport** company **Alstom**, the trains are equipped with fuel cells that produce electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen, leaving water and steam as the only emissions.
- **Pakistan** Prime Minister **Imran Khan** was visited **Saudi Arabia** for discussions on a possible economic bailout package as he seeks to resolve the country's debt crisis, according to reports.
- The **US State Department** imposed sanctions against the **Chinese military** for buying **Russian Sukhoi Su-35** fighter jets and S-400 air defence missile systems.
 - The US also blacklisted 33 people and entities associated with the Russian intelligence.
- Amid a rise in rape cases, **Nepal** has announced a **ban** on websites with **adult content** in the country.
- Around 129 countries at the **United Nations** pledged to combat drug problem, signing a US-drafted one-page "**call to action on the world drug problem**".
- **New Zealand** Prime Minister **Jacinda Ardern** became the 1st female world leader to attend the United Nations General Assembly with a newborn.
- The **European Union** and **Iran** have announced to create a new payment system to enable legal trade with Iran in a bid to avoid the US' sanctions.

- As part of its '**Saudi Vision 2030**' programme, **Saudi Arabia** inaugurated a high-speed rail line connecting the holy cities of **Mecca** and **Medina**.
- **South Korea's BTS band** became the 1st **K-Pop group** to address the **United Nations**.
 - Kim Nam-joon, the leader of the seven-member band delivered a six-minute speech during the launch of **UNICEF's 'Generation Unlimited' youth campaign**.
- International non-profit organization that publishes secret information, **WikiLeaks** has replaced **Julian Assange** as its Editor-in-chief with former spokesperson **Kristinn Hrafnsson**.
- **Pakistan** hiked its key interest rate by **100 bps** to a three-year high of 8.5%, citing rising inflation and concerns over large fiscal and current account deficits.
- **Russia** began delivering the S-300 surface-to-air missile system to **Syria** which will reach in two weeks.
 - Russia approved the sale after its military jet was mistakenly shot down by Syria earlier this month.

Books and Authors

Book's Name

Author's Name

- Shades of Truth : A Journey Derailed Congress MP Kapil Sibal
- Pyjamas are Forgiving Twinkle Khanna
- Watergate reporter **Bob Woodward**'s new book titled '**Fear: Trump in the White House**' is recently in news due to its controversial claim saying that the US President Donald Trump mocked Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi.
- The biography of **Dutee Chand**, who rose from abject poverty to become one of India's biggest sprinting stars, is going to be punished as a book with the title "**Story so far**".
 - The book is being written by journalist, author and filmmaker **Sandeep Misra**, who has previously authored a biography of hockey legend **Dhanraj Pillay**.
- The **Delhi High Court** has restrained the publication and sale of a book titled '**Godman to Tycoon: The Untold Story of Baba Ramdev**' till certain portions showing the yoga guru as an "ambitious villain" are removed.
 - The book has been authored by **Priyanka Pathak Narain**.



TO THE POINTS: SEPTEMBER-2018

- **Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements** (ARIIA) ranking system has been announced by the Union Government for higher educational institutions to promote innovation.
- The 6th edition of RCEP Trade Ministers' Meeting 2018 was held in **Singapore**.
- Indian Railways and **GAIL (India) Limited** Sign a MoU for use of Natural Gas in Railway Workshops.
- **ICAR** organizes 2-Day Conference on Motivating & Attracting Youth in Agriculture.
- **Maharashtra's Mahabaleshwar** becomes the wettest place in India.
- **SBI** changes its names and IFSC codes of its branches recently.
- **Odisha** signed a MoU with an America-based agency 'Malaria No More' to make the state malaria-free.
- The first U.S.-India 2+2 dialogue was held in **New Delhi**.
- The Krishna Kutir, special home for 1000 widows was set up by the **Ministry of Women & Child Development** (MoWCD) under the Swadhar Greh scheme.
- **Germany** has sanctioned Euro 120 million soft loan to India for National Clean Ganga Mission.
- **Madhya Pradesh** government has organized an interactive programme "Mil -Banche" in government schools of state.
- The next 5th Summit of BIMSTEC will be held in **Sri Lanka**.
- NITI Aayog organized MOVE: India's First Global Mobility Summit 2018 was held in **New Delhi**.
- The 4th International Ayurveda Congress (IAvC) 2018 held in **Netherlands**.
- **Pranab Bardhan** (60) and **Shibnath Sarkar** (56) have created history by clinching India's first ever gold in bridge at the Asian Games.
- **Sunil Mehta** has been elected as the new chairman of the Indian Banks Association (IBA).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) in **New Delhi** on September 1, 2018.
- **Punjab** has launched PUDA 360, an e-properties module to facilitate online property transactions.
- **R Madhavan** has taken over as Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Subramaniam Badrinath announced his retirement. He hails from **Cricket**.
- According to NCAER, India's growth forecast for current fiscal is **7.4** percent.
- The finance ministry expressed the hope of economy to be grown at **7.5** percent in the current fiscal.
- State Bank of India e-facilitation and e-corner facility for Indian army veterans was opened in **Kolkata**.
- UIDAI extended till **November 1** the deadline for banks to do minimum Aadhaar enrolments and updations in identified branches.
- The RBI has cancelled the license of **Rajasthan**-based Bhilwara Mahila Urban Co-operative Bank.
- **Ranjan Gogoi** is going to become the new Chief Justice of India on October 3, 2018.
- Wipro signed a \$1.6 billion 10-year contract with Illinois-based **Alight Solutions LLC**.
- **West Bengal** has launched a mobile blood donation camp.
- 7th Meeting of National Medicinal Plants Board held in **New Delhi**.

- **Venkaiah Naidu** wrote a book "Moving On, Moving Forward - A Year in Office" which is released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **Nehal Chudasama** is crowned as the new Yamaha Fascino Miss Diva - Miss Universe India 2018.
- Nagaland government has declared **Singphan Wildlife Sanctuary** as the 30th elephant reserve of the country.
- Vedanta Resources Plc. has appointed **Srinivasan Venkatakrishnan** as the CEO of the company.
- In the UEFA Awards, Croatia captain **Luka Modric** was voted the best player in Europe.
- The 6th East Asia Summit- Economic Minister Meeting (EAS-EMM) was held in **Singapore**.
- Harvard and **Google** joint hands and developed an Artificial Intelligence system to analyze and predict earthquake aftershocks might happen.
- **Power System Operation Corporation limited (POSOCO)** has developed the book on "Weather Information Portal for Indian Power System".
- 'Alaknanda' is the first five-star luxury cruise in **Varanasi**.
- **Hazza al-Mansouri and Sultan al-Neyadi** are the two astronauts chosen for the International space mission in United Arab Emirates.
- India and **Cyprus** signed two MOU on combating money laundering and cooperation in the field of environment.
- **Paytm** introduced an app on Google's Android platform and Apple's mobile operating system iOS with an aim to double the mutual fund investor base in India.
- **Jharkhand** Govt renames town and railway station after Bansidhar temple of Lord Krishna.
- **8.46 tonnes** of gold has been added by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) during the financial year 2017-18.
- **Rajasthan** state government will soon distribute mobile phones to women under the Bhamashah Yojana that has focused on women who fall under the Below Poverty Line (BPL).
- Nearly **Rs.400 crore** has been released by the Centre to 10 states, having international borders, for developing forward areas as part of an ambitious plan to ameliorate the problems.
- **China** has offered **USD 60 bn** funds to Africa in order to boost industry, counter hunger, and enhance security.
- **China** will be Jharkhand's partner country at the Food Processing Summit.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** launched its first Trade Finance Scorecard, a new tool to address market gaps stemming from the unintended consequences of global measures to fight money-laundering and terrorism.
- International Aviation Summit was held in **New Delhi**.
- International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018 was held in **Nepal**.
- **Dr Arif ur Rehman Alvi** (69) was elected as 13th President of Pakistan.
- **Tata Consultancy Services** becomes 2nd Indian company to cross **USD 8 trillion (Rs 8 lakh crore)** in market capitalization.
- **Coffee Connect** app has been launched for Coffee Stakeholders to ease the work of field functionaries and to improve the work efficiency.
- India has set a target to generate **100 GW** solar energy by 2022 for increasing share of carbon free energy in the energy mix.
- India will purchase 18 bullet train sets from **Japan** at a total cost of about **Rs 7,000 crore**.
- The first International Kho Kho championship will be held in **England**.

- Former India fast bowler RP Singh has announced his retirement from **Cricket**.
- World's first lion cubs born via artificial insemination in **South Africa**.
- Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit released the first copy of "Paritchaikku Bhayamen", the Tamil translation of **Exam Warriors**.
- **Amazon** became the 2nd publicly traded US Company to hit \$1 trillion in market capitalization after iPhone maker Apple.
- ISRO plans to set up its First Overseas Ground Station at **North Pole**.
- **Somudra Joy**, Bangladesh Naval Ship recently arrives at Visakhapatnam on a goodwill visit.
- Supreme Court decriminalized a portion of Section 377 of IPC. Section 377 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) is **Criminalizes sexual activities 'against the order of nature', arguably including homosexual acts**.
- 3rd ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Conference on 'Global ageing and Human Rights of Older Person's was held in **South Korea**.
- **Bidyut Chakrabarty** is the author of the Book 'Constitutionalizing India: an Ideational Project'.
- The central share for Project Tiger from 2017-18 to 2019-20 is **Rs.1731.72 crore**.
- **Canara bank** opened portal to claim education loan interest subsidy.
- **Japan** recently developed a space elevator and will conduct a first trial in September.
- **Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh**, Indian women nominated for 2nd term as Regional Director WHO South-East Asia.
- A Conference on "E-Mobility in Indian Railways" organized by Ministry of Railways through Institution of Railways Electrical Engineers (IREE) in association with NITI Aayog concluded in **New Delhi**.
- **UAE** has recently announced to launch Mars Mission "HOPE" by 2020.
- **Mary Kom** is appointed as the brand ambassador by BSNL for 2 years.
- **Australia** has minted a gold coin encrusted with rare pink diamonds worth US\$1.8 million to meet growing demand for high-end collectables.
- Ayushman Bharat call centre was opened in **Bangalore**.
- Recently **Rs.3,000 cr** has been sanctioned by Home ministry for special women safety programme.
- Recently **Anshula Kant** has been appointed as Managing Director of the State Bank of India by the Government of India.
- **Daniel Zhang** will be next executive chairman of Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.
- **Novak Djokovic** is the winner of US Open 2018.
- **Satrugna Pandav** will be honored with the 'Sarala Puraskar' award recently.
- **Indian Army** celebrated the 25th Raising Day of Delta Force on September 6.
- **Rs.132 crore** amount has been spent by Government on GST advertisements.
- The three-day World Hindu Congress held in **Chicago, USA**.
- **Pondicherry** has topped the National Clean School Award 2018 list with 7 schools.
- **Akshay Kumar**, Indian actor who was made as the first honorary ambassador of Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Foundation.
- Triple jumper **Arpinder Singh** has created history by becoming the first Indian to win a medal in the IAAF Continental Cup.

- The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 6th International Geriatric Orthopedic Society of India Conference at the **All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi**.
- **Airtel Payment Bank** announced that users can withdraw cash from ATMs, without the need for a physical debit card.
- **Cyient Solutions & Systems (CSS)** has received an order from Indian Army to supply SpyLite mini UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) systems for high altitude aerial surveillance.
- The armies of India and the US decided to hold an annual combat exercise “**Yudh Abhyas**” at Chaubatia in Uttarakhand.
- **Dr. Bibek Debroy**, an Indian economist, ideologist and author, has been conferred ‘Honoris Causa’ by the University of Engineering & Management (UEM) in Kolkata, West Bengal.
- **R Madhavan** to host National Geographics Mega Icons series.
- NASA's only robot (mission) **Dawn**, for exploring the Asteroid Belt is about to die due to lack of a key fuel known as hydrazine.
- **Andhra Pradesh** govt. announces Rs.2 cut in VAT on petrol, diesel.
- National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) operation started in **Vadodara**.
- A two-day India-UAE Partnership Summit (IUPS) will be held in **Dubai**.
- **India** is the focus country in 87th Izmir International Trade Show.
- “Apsara”, the first research reactor in Asia became operational in **Trombay** campus of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.
- **Rajalakshmi Nandakumar** has been selected for the 2018 Marconi Society Paul Baran Young Scholar award.
- India's longest rail-cum-road bridge "Bogibeel" will come up over **Brahmaputra** River.
- The Regional Conference on Good Governance with Focus on Aspirational Districts has started in **Bhopal**.
- **Haryana** government recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to set up an ethanol plant.
- **Jhulan Goswami** became the first bowler in women's cricket to pick 300 international wickets.
- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) cancelled the proposed seaplane and water aerodrome project at **Chilika Lake** in Odisha.
- **Preeti Shenoy** is the author of the book ‘The Rule Breakers’.
- Global Summit on Climate Action will be held at San Francisco in **California, United States**.
- India, Iran and Afghanistan held their first tripartite meeting in **Kabul**.
- Nepal will take part in a 12-day-long 'Sagarmatha Friendship-2' military exercise with **China**.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** circle comes at the last spot with 80.23 percent 4G availability.
- India will supply 160 railway passenger coaches to **Srilanka**.
- Amit Phangal who has been nominated for Arjuna awards 2018 is associated with **Boxing**.
- Delhi government will ink a pact with **Seoul** for cooperation in urban regeneration.
- The Union Cabinet has given its approval for introduction of Bill in Parliament for amendment of NID Act, 2014 to include **4 new National Institutes of Design (NID)** within the ambit of the National Institute of Design Act, 2014

- **Shri Manoj Jhalani** has been conferred with the prestigious UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) Award for his outstanding contribution towards prevention and control of non-communicable Diseases.
- **L K Advani** was re-nominated as Chairman of Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha.
- NITI Aayog collaborated with **Intel** to set up a Model International Center for Transformative Artificial Intelligence, ICTAI.
- India signed MoU with **Brunei** on cooperation in the operation of telemetry tracking and telecomm and station for satellite and launch vehicles.
- India signed MoU with **Malta** for strengthening cooperation in the field of tourism.
- India signed MoU with **South Africa** on cooperation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes.
- Centre launched **PM-AASHA** scheme recently aiming at to boost the pro-farmer initiatives of the government.
- Cabinet approved MoU on blockchain technology by **Exim Bank**.
- Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd.(TCIL) signed an agreement with Ministry of External Affairs for the implementation of e-VBAB (e-VidyaBharati and e- Aarogya Bharati) Network Project for a total value of **865 cr.**
- Regional Conference on Good Governance with Focus on Aspirational Districts held in **Bhopal**.
- **Lucknow** municipal corporation launched an anti-open defecation campaign, titled “Khule me Sauch ki ghanti bajao-siti bajao”.
- **Tamil Nadu** government signed an MoU with the Central Government to implement Ayushman Bharat Yojana in association with state-run Chief Minister’s Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme (CMCHIS).
- National Hindi Divas was observed on **September 14**.
- National Engineer’s Day was observed on **September 15**.
- India’s first underwater robotic drone **EyeROV TUNA** handed over to NPOL.
- **Union Ministry of Power** has launched Chiller Star Labelling Program on energy efficiency in chillers.
- First Tribal Circuit Project under Swadesh Darshan Scheme inaugurated in **Chhattisgarh**.
- **Uttarakhand** has been ranked the best among states in the country for the construction of maximum number of roads under the PMGSY during 2017-2018.
- **Rajiv Gandhi International Airport** is the world no 1 Airport in 5-15 Million Passengers Per Annum category.
- G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting held in **Argentina**.
- According to recent study by scientists from IIT Kanpur, rising **air pollution** is main reason for Erratic monsoon rainfall in India.
- India got **130th rank** in UN's human development index.
- **Assam** government will distribute over 1 lakh pump sets to double farmer's income by 2022.
- Reliance Infrastructure has sold its Mumbai city power distribution business to Adani Transmission Limited (ATL) for **Rs.18,800 crore**.
- Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) announced that it aims to become a carbon neutral company by **2040** with focus on energy efficiency and usage of renewable power.

- **Iraq** became top oil supplier to India in August 2018.
- **Maldives** have lifted the 2018 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Cup.
- **D K Jain** is the head of the committee of harrowing arrest and alleged torture of former space scientist Nambi Narayanan in the 'ISRO spy scandal's.
- Swachh Dhara programme for clean water flagged off in **Amaravathi**.
- Festival of Nuakhai was celebrated in **Orissa**.
- The first ever dedicated dog park was constructed in **Hyderabad**.
- World Bamboo Day was celebrated on **September 18**.
- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has inaugurated **S-Band** Polarimetry Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota spaceport.
- China the second edition of Nepal-China joint military exercise (JME) named Mt Everest Friendship Exercise-2018 recently commenced in **Sichuan**.
- **Kerala** state tourism has won two prestigious gold awards of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) for its innovative marketing campaigns.
- **Prashant Kumar** is appointed as new Chief Financial Officer of SBI.
- The Centre proposed the merger of state-owned Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank in order to create India's third-largest bank under the panel headed by **Arun Jaitley**.
- The purchase of the government securities (G-secs) by RBI will be done through Open Market Operations (OMO) for **Rs.10,000 crore**.
- **PNB** won the "Rajbhasha Kirti" award for outstanding performance in implementing the Official Language Policy during 2017-18.
- 'Jaipur Literature Festival' has begun in **Houston**.
- India got **127 rank** in gender inequality index.
- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the first phase of hi-tech smart fencing of an 11 km stretch on the International Border (IB) in **Jammu**.
- Bangladesh's Cabinet approved a proposed agreement with **India** to allow it to use the Bangladesh seaports.
- **Germany** has introduced world's first hydrogen powered train.
- **PayU** gets RBI approval to operate its own NBFC.
- WEF reports revealed machines will take over human work by **2025**.
- **Brookfield** buys Ambani's Reliance gas pipeline for Rs 14,000 crore.
- **CISCO** has signed two agreements with the NITI Aayog and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to speed up its Country Digital Acceleration programme in India.
- India got **3rd** rank in terms of number of family-owned businesses.
- **Saikhom Mirabai Chanu**, weightlifter has recommended for this year's Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award.
- India gets first ever gender-neutral hostel in **Mumbai**.
- **Packirisamy** is the new MD and CEO of Andhra Bank.
- **India** is the first country in world to develop document on cooling action plan.
- India's first 'smart fence' pilot project was inaugurated in **Jammu And Kashmir**.

- **Padmaja Chandru** is the new MD and CEO of Indian Bank.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu said that India is committed to be a five trillion dollar economy by **2025**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his **Bangladeshi** counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly launched the construction of India-Bangladesh Friendship Product Pipeline Project through video conferencing.
- Palaly airport is located in **Srilanka**.
- **Maharashtra** has set up new Cyber University.
- **World Bank** has lent \$74 mn for workforce training in Uttarakhand.
- **Salman Khan** has inaugurated Special Children's Centre 'Umang' In Jaipur.
- Actors **Varun Dhawan** and **Anushka Sharma** have been signed on to promote and endorse the Skill India Mission, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The national capital's **Indira Gandhi International Airport** (IGIA) has bagged the title of Best Airport to handle over 40 million passengers per annum (MPPA) by the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards 2017.
- **Sundeep Misra** is the author of the book Story So Far.
- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has written to the Vice-Chancellors of all universities to celebrate Surgical Strike Day on **September 29**.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved Revised Cost Estimate of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP). It has been increased to **Rs. 3,466 crore** from earlier Rs. 1968 crore.
- Union Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) has launched its monthly e-newsletter **MSME Insider**.
- The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) lifted a ban on **Russia's** anti-doping agency, RUSADA, paving the way for Russian athletes to return to competition across all sports.
- Australia to host major cultural festival in **India**.
- **Saudi Arabia** will be the third "strategic partner" of the \$50 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).
- **Punjab** government going to launch programme to curb oral cancer.
- Haryana will be made stray cattle-free by **January 26** next year.
- **IPPB** has announced a five-year partnership with Bajaj Allianz to sell life insurance products on a revenue share basis.
- Vodafone said it would have 1,000 5G-enabled network sites in Britain by **2020**.
- **Tajinder Mukherjee** has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of National Insurance Company Limited (NIC).
- 7th UNWTO Global Summit on Urban Tourism held in **Seoul**.
- **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, exchanged the MoUs with the Tata Trusts and Dell to provide a technological platform for nationwide prevention, control, screening and management program of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).
- Cyclone-30, the biggest cyclotron in India for medical application became operational in **Kolkata**.
- **SEBI** approved new KYC norms for Foreign Portfolio Investors.
- World Bank approves Country Partnership Framework for **India**.

- 4 members are appointed to the local boards of RBI by the Indian Government.
- **Anushka Sharma** has been bestowed with Smita Patil Memorial Award 2018.
- The Jharsuguda airport, which is in news recently, is located in **Odisha**.
- **Anindo Majumdar** has been appointed new secretary of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
- **Richa Mishra** has set record as best Indian performer in the women's 400m Individual in Swimming championship.
- International Day of Sign Languages was celebrated on **September 23**.
- **Japan** successfully lands robot rovers on an asteroid's surface known as MINERVA-III.
- **Nepal** has to be world's first country to double its tiger population.
- **Jharkhand** has tie-up with National Insurance Company Ltd to provide medical facilities to the people of the state under the Centre's flagship health scheme – Ayushman Bharat Yojana.
- **Tamilnadu** announces scheme for protection of exotic Neela Kurinji plants.
- The New Development Bank (NDB) of the BRICS countries has approved a \$525-million loan for infrastructure projects in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Yes Bank** has paid Rs.38 crore in fines to the GST department for alleged violations in domestic remittances.
- Cine artist **Jaya Prada** has been appointed Goodwill Ambassador for the promotion of Nepal tourism.
- **Vijay** won the Best International Actor Award by International Achievement Recognitions Awards (IARA).
- **T. Devender Goud** is the author of the book "My Journey".
- **Abhilash Tommy**, the navy officer participated in Golden Globe race.
- Union Minister Nitin Gadkari renovated and upgraded National Highway-44, which would boost industrial development in **Meghalaya**.
- **Asian News International** has signed a MoU with Emirates News Agency for bilateral cooperation in the area of the free news exchange.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has scored 1st place in Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.
- **BSNL** signs a deal with Softbank and NTT Communications to roll out 5G and internet of things (IoT) technology in India.
- **Andhra Pradesh** tops in terms of "Ease of Living Index" rankings launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- **Pavithra Naveen** claimed the Pan Tech-Abu Dhabi 83rd State senior championships at the EISA Badminton Academy.
- Corporation Bank signed pact with **National e-Governance Services** this for sharing security information under IBBI rule.
- **VR Lalithambika** is the head of India's First Human Space Flight Project.
- **Luka Modric** bagged the FIFA's Best Player of the Year Award.
- RBI told banks to share a maximum of **80 percent** credit risk for joint priority sector loans with non-banking finance companies.
- **Saraswat Bank** partnered with ICICI Prudential Life for bancassurance.
- India got **158th** rank in investment for health care and education.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan Inaugurated Air Pollution Control Device "WAYU" in **New Delhi**.

- **Hyderabad Metro** recently becomes India's 2nd largest metro rail network.
- **New Zealand** is the Asia's best-performing stock market.
- **Doob** film has been chosen as Bangladesh's official entry for the Oscars 2019.
- **Marta (Brazil)** won the award for FIFA Best Women's Player of the Year 2018.
- According to Finance Minister Arun Jaitley India's growth rate of FY 2018-19 is **8.0**.
- **Vazirani Automotive** unveiled India's 1st electric hypercar concept.
- Ministry of AYUSH has set up an AYUSH Information Cell at the premises of the Indian Embassy in **Romania** to disseminate authentic information about AYUSH system of medicine and encourage Ayurveda practice in Romania.
- Odisha's Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated Odisha Bhawan in **Chennai**.
- The theme of Odisha Conclave 2018 is **I am Odisha**.
- The growth forecast for Asia in 2019, according to ADB is **6.0**.
- According to PHD Chamber, India is approaching towards USD 100 billion FDI inflow per annum by **2022**.
- **Argentina** has received the biggest loan package ever from the International Monetary Fund.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has bagged the first prize in state category for comprehensive development of tourism.
- **Odisha** government has decided to adopt the 'No Work No Pay' policy with regard to the strike by the block grant teachers and lecturers.
- The ADB kept its growth forecasts unchanged at **7.3%** for 2018 and **7.6%** for 2019 as the temporary effects of the demonetization of large bank notes and the introduction of GST abate as expected.
- **Sanjay Kumar** was appointed as Director General of Fire Service, Civil Defence and Home Guards.
- **Rajni Kant Misra** is appointed as the chief of Border Security Force (BSF).
- **Ranjana Prakash Desai** is the head of the committee to recommend the chairperson and members of the anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal.
- **P V Sindhu** is the only sportsperson in Forbes India's maiden list of 22 young achievers.
- 7th National Conference on Excellence in Workplace Safety held in **New Delhi**.
- **India** will host the Deaf ICC T20 World Cup.
- **Google** has launched project to preserve, digitise Indian Railways' culture.
- The Centre announced to enhance its contribution to the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) from 75 per cent to **90 per cent** with effect from April 1 this year.
- 'Indra Jatra' festival was celebrated on **Nepal**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Parakram Parv at the Combined Commanders' Conference on **Jodhpur**.
- **ADB** has approved \$500 mn for Tamil Nadu water supply, sewerage, drainage infra.
- **Mary Kom** is the Brand Ambassador of Tribes India.
- **Injeti Srinivas** is the head of High Level Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility-2018
- 2nd IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting held in **New Delhi**.
- India got **96th rank** in Economic Freedom Index.



CURRENT AFFAIRS: SEPTEMBER-2018
MODEL QUESTIONS

1. What is the theme of the 2018 International Literacy Day (ILD)?
 - (1) Literacy and skills development
 - (2) Literacy in a digital world
 - (3) Reading the Past, Writing the Future
 - (4) Literacy and Sustainable Societies
 - (5) None of these
2. What is the theme of the 2018 International Day of Democracy?
 - (1) Fight for democracy
 - (2) Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World
 - (3) Democracy and conflict prevention
 - (4) Democracy for Universal Peace
 - (5) None of these
3. National Engineer's Day (NED) is celebrated in India on which date?
 - (1) September 16
 - (2) September 15
 - (3) September 14
 - (4) September 17
 - (5) None of these
4. What is the theme of the 2018 International Day of Peace?
 - (1) Partnerships for Peace – Dignity for All
 - (2) Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All
 - (3) Stand-Up For International Peace
 - (4) The Right to Peace – The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70
 - (5) None of these
5. On which date, the 2018 International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons was observed recently?
 - (1) September 27
 - (2) September 29
 - (3) September 26
 - (4) September 28
 - (5) None of these
6. According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s annual data, which country has topped the India's FDI chart in FY18?
 - (1) Netherlands
 - (2) France
 - (3) Singapore
 - (4) Mauritius
 - (5) None of these
7. The Government of India (GoI) has proposed to merge which of the following banks to create India's third largest lender?
 - (1) Indian Bank, PNB and BoB
 - (2) BoB, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank
 - (3) BoI, IDBI and PNB
 - (4) BoB, PNB and Allahabad Bank
 - (5) None of these
8. Which of the following technology initiatives has been launched by the Union Government for coffee growers?
 - (1) Coffee Krishi
 - (2) Coffee Tharanga
 - (3) Coffee Geo
 - (4) Coffee Connect
 - (5) None of these
9. The Union Home Ministry has collaborated with which of these organizations to set up Integrated Control Room for Emergency Response (ICR-ER)?
 - (1) NITIAayog
 - (2) Technology Development Board
 - (3) DRDO
 - (4) ISRO
 - (5) None of these
10. Which state government has decided to organize employment camps for martyrs' families?
 - (1) Haryana
 - (2) Punjab
 - (3) Rajasthan
 - (4) MP
 - (5) None of these

11. The Rajasthan government has decided to hold convention on preserving heritage properties in which city?
 (1) Bikaner (2) Jaipur (3) Udaipur (4) Bharatpur (5) None of these
12. India's first tribal circuit tourism project has launched in which state?
 (1) Assam (2) Rajasthan (3) MP (4) Chhattisgarh (5) None of these
13. Which state government has launched 'Star-Rating' system for industries to check air pollution?
 (1) Odisha (2) Punjab (3) Uttar Pradesh (4) MP (5) None of these
14. Which state government has rolled out "Swayangsiddha" to combat human trafficking?
 (1) Assam (2) Jharkhand (3) West Bengal (4) Bihar (5) None of these
15. Which state government has announced a novel scheme for the protection of the exotic Neela kurinji plants?
 (1) Nagaland (2) Manipur (3) Mizoram (4) Tamil Nadu (5) None of these
16. Which state government has decided to create the post of 'firewomen' to break gender stereotypes?
 (1) Kerala (2) Karnataka (3) Andhra (4) Odisha (5) None of these
17. India's longest rail-cum-road bridge "Bogibeel" will come up over which river?
 (1) Ganga (2) Yamuna (3) Brahmaputra
 (4) Godavari (5) None of these
18. India's first exclusive dog park has comes up in which city?
 (1) New Delhi (2) Lucknow (3) Jaipur (4) Hyderabad (5) None of these
19. Which of the following is the highest volcanic peak of Asia?
 (1) Mount Fuji (2) Mount Damavand
 (3) Mount Bromo (4) Mount Takao (5) None of these
20. Dambulla warehouse, which is in news recently, is located in which country?
 (1) Bangladesh (2) Nepal (3) Bhutan (4) Sri Lanka (5) None of these
21. Smart City Expo India-2018 has recently held in which city?
 (1) New Delhi (2) Jaipur (3) Bhopal (4) Pune (5) None of these
22. India's First TVET Skills Park is to be established in which city?
 (1) Bhopal (2) Pune (3) New Delhi (4) Lucknow (5) None of these
23. The series of sermons by Jain Muni Tarun Sagar ji was known by ___?
 (1) Kadve Shlok (2) Kadve Stotra (3) Kadve Pravachan
 (4) Kadve Shabad (5) None of these
24. Which Indian economist has been conferred 'Honoris Causa' by the University of Engineering & Management (UEM) in Kolkata?
 (1) Manmohan Singh (2) Amartya Sen (3) Bibek Debroy
 (4) Kaushik Basu (5) None of these
25. The multi-nation tsunami mock exercise (drill) "IOWave18" has started in which of the following oceans?
 (1) Indian Ocean (2) Pacific Ocean (3) Atlantic Ocean
 (4) Southern Antarctic Ocean (5) None of these

26. Recently, the 25th Raising Day of Delta Force celebrated. It is a counter insurgency force of which Indian Armed Force (IAF)?
 (1) Indian Navy (2) Indian Air Force (3) Indian Army
 (4) Indian Coast Guard (5) None of these
27. Which of the following cities is the venue of the 12th Aero India 2019?
 (1) Bengaluru (2) New Delhi (3) Pune (4) Chennai (5) None of these
28. The Indian Air Force has successfully carried out the first-ever mid-air re-fuelling of the indigenously build which aircraft?
 (1) Tejas (2) Sukhoi (3) Jaguar (4) Mirage (5) None of these
29. Which of the following is the India's first underwater robotic drone?
 (1) BrainROV TUNA (2) HeadROV TUNA (3) EyeROV TUNA
 (4) HandROV TUNA (5) None of these
30. Exercise Aviaindra 18 has started between which of the following countries?
 (1) Japan & India (2) Russia & Japan (3) China & Pakistan
 (4) India & Russia (5) None of these
31. Which of the following countries have recently celebrated the 100 years of Battle of Haifa?
 (1) India & Israel (2) Israel & UAE (3) India & Afghanistan
 (4) Pakistan & Iran (5) None of these
32. Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has recently commissioned which indigenously built patrol vessel?
 (1) Tarmugli (2) Vijaya (3) Chetlat (4) Baratang (5) None of these
33. Who will head the panel of secretaries to look into the issues raised on some proposals of the draft e-commerce policy?
 (1) Rajiv Gauba (2) Ajay Prakash Sawhney (3) S S Ahluwalia
 (4) Ramesh Abhishek (5) None of these
34. Who has been appointed new chairman of the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee?
 (1) Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank (2) Chandrakant B Khare (3) L K Advani
 (4) P Karunakaran (5) None of these
35. What is the purpose of Justice Amitava Roy committee constituted by Supreme Court recently?
 (1) Reforms in Tax Laws of India
 (2) Prison Reforms
 (3) Police and Public Order Reforms
 (4) Executive-Legislative Relations reforms
 (5) None of these
36. Who is the newly-appointed Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)?
 (1) Bharat Kumar (2) Kamlesh Nilakanth Vyas
 (3) Satyadev Prasad (4) Bobby Aloysius (5) None of these
37. India's first 205T Electric Drive Rear Dump Truck (BH205-E) has been launched by which public sector company?
 (1) GAIL (2) BHEL (3) BEML (4) SAIL (5) None of these
38. Which of the following cities is the venue of Defence & Homeland Security Expo and Conference - 2018?
 (1) Pune (2) Hyderabad (3) Agartala (4) New Delhi (5) None of these

39. Which country hosted the 6th East Asia Summit- Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS-EMM)?
 (1) Singapore (2) New Zealand (3) Malaysia (4) Japan (5) None of these
40. Which of the following cities is the venue of the first round of the India-US 'two-plus-two dialogue'?
 (1) Washington DC (2) Mumbai (3) New York
 (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
41. Which of the following cities is the venue of the International Aviation Summit 2018?
 (1) New Delhi (2) Pune (3) Kolkata (4) Chennai (5) None of these
42. The Indo-Bangladesh Border conference was held in which city recently?
 (1) Gangtok (2) Aizawl (3) Itanagar (4) Guwahati (5) None of these
43. India has recently signed agreements with which European country on combating money laundering and environment?
 (1) Croatia (2) Cyprus (3) Poland (4) Czech Republic (5) None of these
44. Which country has signed pact with India to collaborate on ISRO's first human spaceflight programme "Gaganyaan"?
 (1) Germany (2) France (3) Japan (4) United States (5) None of these
45. India has recently signed pact with which European country for establishment of Hindi chair at Sofia University?
 (1) Spain (2) Czech Republic (3) Cyprus (4) Bulgaria (5) None of these
46. Which military communications pact has been signed by India and the United States in the first round of the '2-plus-2-dialogue'?
 (1) GSOMIA (2) LEMOA (3) BECA (4) COMCASA (5) None of these
47. Which of the following cities is the venue of the Regional Conference on Good Governance with Focus on Aspirational Districts?
 (1) Patna (2) Lucknow (3) Jaipur (4) Bhopal (5) None of these
48. Which Indian software company has inked deal with Australian Open as official digital innovation partner?
 (1) TCS (2) Infosys (3) Wipro (4) HCL (5) None of these
49. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has tied up with which software company to create payments network for unorganized retail?
 (1) FSS (2) Oracle (3) Infosys (4) TCS (5) None of these
50. The Delhi government has signed a "Friendship and Cooperation Agreement" with which city to share expertise on 12 fields?
 (1) Geneva (2) Paris (3) Seoul (4) Berlin (5) None of these
51. Andhra Pradesh has recently signed pact with which US-based company to set up a solar battery manufacturing plant?
 (1) SunPower (2) Triton Solar Company
 (3) Horizon Solar Power (4) Sungevity (5) None of these
52. Which country is host to the 2018 G-20 trade and investment ministerial meeting?
 (1) Argentina (2) France (3) Germany (4) Brazil (5) None of these

53. India to hold its first-ever global tourism mart in which city?
 (1) Amritsar (2) Chennai (3) Pune (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
54. Which country is host to the World chefs' congress 2018?
 (1) Australia (2) India (3) China (4) Japan (5) None of these
55. Which of the following global financial institution provides financial support for Dam rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP)?
 (1) AIIB (2) ADB (3) World Bank (4) IMF (5) None of these
56. The New Development Bank (NDB) has approved how much amount of loan to Madhya Pradesh for infrastructure projects?
 (1) \$625-million (2) \$725-million (3) \$525-million (4) \$425-million (5) None of these
57. Which country has recently announced to launch Mars Mission "HOPE" by 2020?
 (1) Oman (2) UAE (3) Iran (4) Israel (5) None of these
58. Which launch vehicle of ISRO has successfully launched NovaSAR and S1-4 earth observation satellites of U.K from Sriharikota spaceport?
 (1) PSLV-C40 (2) PSLV-C44 (3) PSLV-C42 (4) PSLV-C41 (5) None of these
59. ISRO has recently launched its first Space Technology Incubation Centre in which state?
 (1) Maharashtra (2) Odisha (3) Tripura (4) Tamil Nadu (5) None of these
60. Which of the following is the first country to successfully land robotic rovers on an asteroid Ryugu?
 (1) United States (2) China (3) Japan
 (4) France (5) None of these
61. The researchers at which institute have developed cheaper organic solar cells using vitamin B12 derivative?
 (1) IISER Pune (2) IIITM Gwalior (3) IISER Bhopal
 (4) IISc Bangalore (5) None of these
62. Which IIT has developed a community supported supply of purified drinking water project in Bengal District?
 (1) IIT Kharagpur (2) IIT Bombay (3) IIT Madras
 (4) IIT Kanpur (5) None of these
63. The E-pharmacies will not be allowed to sell which of the following as per recently released draft rules on "sale of drugs by e-pharmacy"?
 (1) Tranquillisers (2) Narcotics (3) Psychotropic drugs
 (4) All of the above (5) None of these
64. The scientists at which central research institute have developed India's first indigenous anti-nuclear medical kit?
 (1) Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences
 (2) Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics
 (3) Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany
 (4) Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences
 (5) None of these
65. India has made alliance with which country to eliminate TB?
 (1) Bhutan (2) US (3) France (4) Nepal (5) None of these

66. According to Mercom India Research, what is the current total installed capacity of solar power generation of India?
 (1) 25GW (2) 22GW (3) 30GW (4) 28GW (5) None of these
67. India's first indigenously developed 500-megawatt (mw) prototype fast breeder reactor is located in which state?
 (1) Odisha (2) Andhra Pradesh (3) Tamil Nadu
 (4) Goa (5) None of these
68. Which of the following is the India's biggest cyclotron facility, which recently became operational?
 (1) Cyclone-103 (2) Cyclone-123 (3) Cyclone-68 (4) Cyclone-30 (5) None of these
69. 'Mega Icons' is the new series to be launched by which TV channel?
 (1) Sony (2) National Geographic
 (3) Discovery (4) BBC (5) None of these
70. Which of the following movies has been chosen as the India's official entry to Oscars 2019?
 (1) Kadvi Hawa (2) Raazi (3) Village Rockstars
 (4) Hichki (5) None of these
71. The Ministry of Tourism is organizing the festival of tourism "Paryatan Parv 2018" from which city?
 (1) Bhopal (2) Kanpur (3) Hyderabad (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
72. Which sportsperson has been appointed the new Brand Ambassador of BSNL?
 (1) Bajrang Punia (2) Mary Kom (3) Neeraj Chopra
 (4) Rani Rampal (5) None of these
73. Who has been elected as the new chairman of the Indian Banks Association (IBA)?
 (1) Shyam Srinivasan (2) Sunil Mehta (3) K R Kamnath
 (4) O P Bhatt (5) None of these
74. Who is the newly appointed Secretary of Ministry of Steel?
 (1) Binoy Kumar (2) Raghav Jain (3) Aruna Sharma
 (4) K L Manoj (5) None of these
75. Justice Ranjan Gogoi, who is expected to become 46th Chief Justice of India (CJI), hails from which North- East State of India?
 (1) Assam (2) Arunachal Pradesh (3) Tripura
 (4) Nagaland (5) None of these
76. Which renowned personality has been made the first Honorary Ambassador of the Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Foundation?
 (1) Medha Patkar (2) Chetan Bhagat (3) Narendra Modi
 (4) Akshay Kumar (5) None of these
77. Who has been sworn-in as the new Prime Minister of Sudan?
 (1) Bakri Hassan Saleh (2) Moutaz Mousa Abdallah
 (3) John Garang (4) Omar al-Bashir (5) None of these
78. Which Indian personality has been inducted into the board of the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)?
 (1) K S Rastogi (2) R P Gopalan (3) S Jaishankar (4) Vijay Kumar (5) None of these

79. Which Indian personality has been appointed goodwill ambassador for Nepal tourism?
(1) Jaya Prada (2) Aksay Kumar (3) Naseeruddin Shah
(4) Raveena Tandon (5) None of these
80. Who is the newly appointed chairman of the Steel Authority of India (SAIL)?
(1) V Gopi Suresh Kumar (2) Anil Kumar Chaudhary (3) PK Rath
(4) SaraswatiPrasad (5) None of these
81. Who has won the 2018 Presidential Election of Maldives?
(1) Mohamed Waheed Hassan (2) Abdulla Yameen
(3) Ibrahim Mohamed Solih (4) Mohamed Nasheed (5) None of these
82. Vijay Shankar Vyas, who passed away recently, was the noted personality of which branch of economics?
(1) Constitutional economics (2) Environmental economics
(3) Agricultural economics (4) Monetary economics (5) None of these
83. Brij Katyal, who passed away recently, was associated with which field?
(1) Sports (2) Politics (3) Painting (4) Film Industry (5) None of these
84. Which of the following women-oriented films was / were directed by renowned filmmaker Kalpana Lajmi, who passed away recently?
(1) Darmiyaan (2) Daman (3) Rudaali (4) All of the above (5) None of these
85. Who of the following Indians has/have received the 2018 Ramon Magsaysay Award?
(1) Deepa Joshi and Nileema Mishra
(2) Kulendi Francis and Anshu Gupta
(3) Sanjiv Chaturvedi
(4) Bharat Vatwani and Sonam Wangchuk
(5) None of these
86. Who has been named for Dr B.C. Roy National Award for 2018 as Eminent Medical Person of the Year?
(1) Basant Kumar Mishra (2) Indira Hinduja (3) Siva Ramakrishna
(4) Kamini Rao (5) None of these
87. Aurora Prize Laureate Kyaw Hla Aung, who will donate \$1 million award money to help Rohingya refugees, is from which country?
(1) South Korea (2) Indonesia (3) Myanmar (4) Japan (5) None of these
88. Which noted Odia poet will be honored with the prestigious 39th edition of the 'Sarala Puraskar' award 2018?
(1) Banaj Devi (2) Satrugna Pandav (3) Umesh Chandra Kar
(4) Ghasiram Mishra (5) None of these
89. Who will represent India at the 67th Miss Universe 2018 pageant in Bangkok?
(1) Nehal Chudasama (2) Hannah Reji Koshy (3) Aditi Hundia
(4) Roshni Sheoran (5) None of these
90. Which Indian-origin professor has been awarded an "Outstanding Investigator Award" by the U.S. National Cancer Institute to identify cancer biomarkers?
(1) Aswath Damodaran (2) Subramanyan Chandrasekhar
(3) Arul Chinnaiyan (4) Arup Chakraborty (5) None of these

91. Who will be honored with Meera Puruskar by Rajasthan Sahitya Academy?
(1) Sawai Singh Shekhawat (2) Brij Bhushan Kabra (3) Manisha Gulyani
(4) Man Singh Rathore (5) None of these
92. Which state Tourism bagged two Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) gold awards 2018 for its innovative marketing campaigns?
(1) Kerala (2) Odisha (3) Gujarat (4) Madhya Pradesh (5) None of these
93. Which Bollywood personality has been bestowed with Smita Patil Memorial Award 2018?
(1) Katrina Kaif (2) Aishwarya Rai Bachchan
(3) Priyanka Chopra (4) Anushka Sharma (5) None of these
94. Who of the following have won the 2018 Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna?
(1) Hima Das & Manika Batra
(2) Virat Kohli & Mirabai Chanu
(3) Jinson Johnson & Savita Punia
(4) Neeraj Chopra & Jiwanjot Singh Teja
(5) None of these
95. Which Indian personality has been awarded with the UN's highest environmental honor 'Champions of the Earth 2018'?
(1) Sonam Wangchuk (2) Maneka Gandhi (3) Chandi Prasad Bhatt
(4) Narendra Modi (5) None of these
96. Which Indian men's bridge pair have created history by clinching India's first-ever gold in bridge at the Asian Games?
(1) Subhash Gupta and Sapan Desai
(2) Sumit Mukherjee and Debabrata Majumder
(3) Pranab Bardhan and Shibhnath Sarkar
(4) Rajeev Khandelwal and Bachiraju Satyanarayana
(5) None of these
97. Which of the following has won India's only boxing Gold at the 18th Asian Games 2018?
(1) Gaurav Solanki (2) Shiva Thapa (3) Vikas Krishan Yadav
(4) Amit Panghal (5) None of these
98. Indian men's hockey team defeated which country to win bronze at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games?
(1) Japan (2) South Korea (3) Indonesia (4) Pakistan (5) None of these
99. The Government of India (GoI) has provided first-ever financial support to which International sporting event for participation in England?
(1) Bridge (2) Equestrian (3) Kabaddi (4) Kho Kho (5) None of these
100. Which of the following have become the first set of Indian shooters to secure quota places for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics?
(1) Apurvi Chandela and Ravi Kumar
(2) Heena Sidhu and Shreyasi Singh
(3) Anjum Moudgil and Apurvi Chandela
(4) Anisa Sayyed and Rahi Sarnobat
(5) None of these
101. Govindan Lakshmanan is associated with which sports?
(1) Sprint (2) Basketball (3) Hockey (4) Badminton (5) None of these

102. Who has created history by becoming the first Indian to win a medal in IAAF Continental Cup?
(1) Arpinder Singh (2) Rahi Sarnobat (3) Neeraj Chopra
(4) Heena Sidhu (5) None of these
103. Which country's team has lifted the 2018 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Cup?
(1) Bhutan (2) India (3) Maldives (4) Bangladesh (5) None of these
104. Which country is host to the 2018 Track Asia Cup cycling tournament?
(1) India (2) China (3) Nepal (4) Japan (5) None of these
105. Who has won India's first Gold in the Women's Junior 500 metres race at the 5th Track Asia Cup Cycling 2018?
(1) Deborah Herold (2) Mayuri Lute (3) M Sonali Chanu
(4) Alena Reji (5) None of these
106. Which country to host the 2018 Women's Boxing World Championship?
(1) Indonesia (2) India (3) Japan (4) France (5) None of these
107. As per culture study survey by US-based firm Kronos Incorporated, Which country is the world's hardest working country?
(1) Australia (2) India (3) Mexico (4) Japan (5) None of these
108. Which state has topped the charts among States in terms of "2018 Ease of Living Index" rankings launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)?
(1) Tamil Nadu (2) Madhya Pradesh (3) Odisha
(4) Andhra Pradesh (5) None of these
109. What is the India's rank for investment in health care and education, according to the first-ever scientific study by Seattle-based Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME)?
(1) 168th (2) 178th (3) 188th (4) 158th (5) None of these
110. Nepal-Bharat Maitri Pashupati Dharamshala, which is in news recently, is located on the banks of which river?
(1) Bagmati River (2) Trishuli River (3) Tamur River
(4) Seti Gandaki River (5) None of these
111. Which Indian airport is set to become first in Asia to use face recognition as boarding pass for passengers?
(1) Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel International Airport
(2) Indira Gandhi International Airport
(3) Kempegowda International Airport
(4) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport
(5) None of these
112. What is the purpose of recently launched 'e-Sahaj' portal?
(1) Security clearance to businesses
(2) Easy approval to manufacturing units
(3) E-filing of Income Tax returns
(4) Easy approval to manufacturing units
(5) None of these

113. Which international organization has approved Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for India to support its transition to higher middle- income country?
 (1) World Economic Forum (2) UNCTAD (3) IMF
 (4) World Bank (5) None of these
114. Project Unnati is related to:
 (1) Eradication of Poverty in rural areas
 (2) Upliftment Tribals by improving connectivity
 (3) Development of ports
 (4) Development of Railways in hilly areas
 (5) None of these
115. Which country is host to the 87th Izmir International tradeshow 2018?
 (1) Israel (2) Turkey (3) Kazakhstan (4) India (5) None of these
116. Which of the following countries will be the strategic partner of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)?
 (1) Kuwait (2) Oman (3) Iran (4) Saudi Arabia (5) None of these
117. Which country is set to become the world's first country to double its tiger population?
 (1) India (2) Nepal (3) Bangladesh (4) Myanmar (5) None of these
118. The Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace declared by United Nations recently is____.
 (1) 2019 to 2028 (2) 2020 to 2029 (3) 2021 to 2030
 (4) 2022 to 2031 (5) None of these
119. Which Indian woman writer has authored a new novel "The Rule Breakers"?
 (1) Anita Desai (2) Preeti Shenoy (3) Jhumpa Lahiri
 (4) Anuja Chauhan (5) None of these
120. Who is the author of the book "Kashi: Secret of the Black Temple"?
 (1) Navin Chawla (2) Neeta Gupta (3) Gaurav Bhatia
 (4) Vineet Bajpai (5) None of these

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

