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**"Mains Cracker**  
**The Complete"**

**GK Capsule**

**For IBPS CLERK**  
**MAINS 2018-19**

**Score 40/40 Guaranteed**  
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## **The Complete *GK Capsule* for IBPS Clerk Mains 2018-19**

- **Bank- Tagline- Headquarters..... 1-3**
- **Loan & Grants..... 4-5**
- **Union Budget..... 5-6**
- **BANKING & FINANCE (July to December).... 7-34**
- **Web Portal and Apps Launched..... 35-37**
- **Index Rank..... 38-40**
- **India's GDP Growth Rate 2018 Forecast..... 40**
- **Winners of Nobel Prize 2018..... 41**
- **Battle Exercise ..... 42-43**
- **Current Affairs (July to December)..... 44-128**
- **OBITUARY 2018..... 129-130**
- **Appointment (2018)..... 131-134**
- **Airport ..... 135**
- **Winners of Nobel Prize 2018..... 136**
- **Important days and Theme (2018)..... 137-145**
- **Sport (2018)..... 138-167**
- **List of Countries, Capitals, and Currencies..... 168- 171**
- **State wise Static ..... 172-200**

**BANKING & FINANCE (July to December) (last 6 Months)**  
**Bank- Tagline- Headquarters**

PSBs	Headquarters	Taglines
Andhra Bank	Hyderabad	Where India Bank
Allahabad Bank	Kolkata	A Tradition of Trust
Bank of Baroda	Baroda	India's International Bank
Bank of India	Mumbai	Relationship Beyond Banking
Bank of Maharashtra	Pune	One Family One Bank
Corporation Bank	Mangalore	A Premier Public-Sector Bank
Central Bank of India	Mumbai	"Central" to You Since 1911
Canara Bank	Bengaluru	Together We Can
Dena Bank	Mumbai	Trusted Family Bank
Indian Bank	Chennai	Your Own Bank
Indian Overseas Bank	Chennai	Good People to Grow With

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Oriental Bank of Commerce	Gurugram, Haryana	Where every individual is committed
Punjab National Bank	New Delhi	The Name You Can Bank Upon
Punjab and Sind Bank	New Delhi	Where Service is a Way of Life
Syndicate Bank	Manipal, Karnataka	Your Faithful and Friendly Financial Partner
Union Bank of India	Mumbai	Good People to Bank With
United Bank of India	Kolkata	The Bank that Begins with "U"
UCO Bank	Kolkata	Honours Your Trust
Vijaya Bank	Bengaluru	A Friend You Can Bank Upon
IDBI Bank Ltd.	Mumbai	Aao Sochein Bada
State Bank of India	Mumbai	The Banker to every Indian

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### Private banks

Bank Name	Headquarters	Tagline
AXIS Bank	Mumbai	Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi
Citi Union Bank	Tamilnadu	Trust and Excellence since 1904
Catholic Syrian Bank	Thrissur	Support all the way
Dhanlaxmi Bank	Thrissur, Kerala	Tann. Mann. Dhan
DCB Bank	Mumbai	We Value You
Federal Bank	Kerala	Your perfect banking partner
HDFC Bank	Mumbai	We understand your world
ICICI Bank	Mumbai	Khayaal Apka
IDFC Bank	Mumbai	Banking Hatke
IndusInd Bank	Mumbai	We make money simple
Jammu and Kashmir Bank	Srinagar	Serving to Empower
Karnataka Bank	Mangalore	Your family bank across India
Kotak Mahindra Bank	Mumbai	Let's make money simple
Karur Vysya Bank	Tamilnadu	Smart way to bank
Lakshmi Vilas Bank	Tamilnadu	The Changing Face of prosperity
Nainital Bank	Nainital	Banking with personal touch
RBL Bank	Maharashtra	Apno ka Bank
South Indian Bank	Kerala	Experience next generation banking
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited	Tamil Nadu	-
Yes Bank	Mumbai	Experience our expertise
Equitas Small Finance Bank	Chennai	Its Fun Banking

### Loan & Grants (July to December)

Organization	Amount	Project
ADB	\$ 346 million	To improve state highways (Karnataka)
ADB	\$ 240 million	Safe drinking water service (West Bengal)
ADB	\$ 150 million	First global skills park (M.P)
ADB	\$ 110 million	Rural Connectivity (M.P)
ADB	\$ 100million	To expand sewerage & drainage (Kolkata)

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ADB	\$ 150 million	India improve regional connectivity in north Bengal and North east
ADB	\$ 300 million	To support India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL)
ADB	\$169 million	To Tamil Nadu Urban Flagship Investment Program.
ADB	\$ 105 million	Transmission system upgrades in <b>Himachal Pradesh</b> for increased supply of hydropower to state and national grid.
ADB	\$ 200 million	for <b>Bihar</b> State Highways III Project (BSHP-III)
ADB	\$ 75 million	for <b>Karnataka</b> Integrated Urban Water Management Investment Program
ADB	\$ 60 million	To reduce floods and the riverbank erosion in <b>Assam</b>
World Bank	\$ 250 million	<b>Rajasthan</b> increase performance electricity distribution
World Bank	\$ 300 million	India Energy efficiency scale up program
World Bank	\$ 74 million	<b>Uttrakhand</b> workforce development project
World Bank	\$ 172 million	To make farming viable in <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>
NABARD	Rs. 735.53 Cr.	<b>West Bengal</b> (86 project)
NABARD	Rs. 772 Cr.	<b>Haryana</b> water Project
NABARD	Rs. 335 Cr.	<b>West Bengal</b> minor irrigation & flood protection
NABARD	Rs. 65,635 Cr.	Under PMKSY irrigation Project
IFC	\$ 100 million	Mahindra & Mahindra Financial service ITD.
IFC	\$ 100 million	India Resurgence Fund (IRF)
GOI (Govt of India)	Rs. 66,000 Cr.	To increase forest cover
GOI (Govt of India)	Rs. 122 Cr.	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b> - Rehabilitation heavy rain & snowfall
GOI (Govt of India)	\$ 310 million	for <b>Jharkhand</b> Power Improvement Project
AIIB	\$ 400 million	for water supply project in <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>
ADB	\$ 375 million	to improve irrigation efficiency in <b>M.P</b>

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Brics	\$ 525 million	To <b>Madhya Pradesh</b> for infrastructure projects.
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### Union Budget

Amount	Project
11 lakhs Cr.	Agriculture sector
500 Cr.	Operation Green
1290 Cr.	National Bamboo mission (Green Gold)
200 Cr.	Organic Farming
1400 Cr.	PM kisan samada yojana
10,000 Cr.	Fishery and animal Husbandry
1 Lakh Cr.	Rise- Revitalizing Infrastructure and system in education
3037 Cr.	Digital India
8000 Cr.	Disinvestment target
5.97 Cr.	Infrastructure
3 lakhs Cr.	Mudra loan
3794 Cr.	MSME
500 Cr.	Nirbhaya Fund
3000 Cr.	National nutrition mission
1600 Cr.	Soubhagya Scheme
1200 Cr.	Health and Wellness center
5750 Cr.	National Rural Livelihood mission

### ECB launch TIPS instant payment system

European Central Bank (ECB) launched a new pan-European smartphone payment system called TARGET Instant Payment Settlement (TIPS) in Rome. TARGET Instant Payment Settlement (TIPS) system will let people and companies in Europe transfer euros to each other within seconds and regardless of the opening hours of their local bank. U.S. firms PayPal, Google, Facebook and Amazon, and China's Alibaba and Tencent currently dominate such services in Europe. Payments take 10 seconds or less to process and cost the payment provider a fifth of a euro cent, or **0.002 euro**; however, the first 10 million transactions for each bank will be free before the end of 2019.

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### **World Bank unveils USD 200 bn in climate action investment for 2021-25**

World Bank unveiled USD 200 billion in climate action investment for 2021-25, adding this amounts to a doubling of its current five-year funding. The move coincides with a UN climate summit in Katowice (Poland). The breakdown of 200 billion dollars would comprise approximately 100 billion in direct finance from the World Bank. Around one-third of the remaining funding will come from two World Bank Group agencies with the rest private capital mobilised by the World Bank Group. In the 2018 fiscal year, running from July 2017 to June 2018, the World Bank had committed USD 20.5 billion to climate action, compared with an annual average of USD 13.5 billion for the 2014-2018 period.

### **CASHe partners with Mswipe to offer instant loans**

digital lending company for young salaried millennials CASHe partnered with Mswipe, India's leading mobile Point-of-Sale (POS) payment services provider, to launch the CASHe emi Mcards for its customers which will provide hassle-free loan experience at the point-of-sale. The card will offer instant pre-approved credit of up to INR 10,000 with three equated monthly instalments (EMIs) repayment plan. Cardholders can make a minimum purchase of INR 2,500 per transaction up to the limit of INR 10,000 at any of the 3,50,000, Mswipe terminals available in 650 cities across the country.

### **eATM: Instant fund credit feature to get cash within 30 minutes launched by ICICI Securities**

ICICI Securities (ISec), a brokerage firm, launched the 'eATM' instant fund credit feature to enable real-time payments in bank accounts upon selling stocks in Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). This feature is available to retail investors who can get payment against sell of stocks in BSE instantly compared to earlier waiting time of T+2 days. The payment is made directly to the bank accounts to within 30 minutes and the limit is Rs. 50,000 per client per day.

### **HDFC ERGO Announces Corporate Agency Tie-up with Federal Bank**

HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company, India's leading private sector general insurance company and Federal Bank, announced tie-up for the distribution of HDFC ERGO's range of non-life insurance offerings to the customers of the Bank through its network branches.

This Corporate Agency Tie-up offer's comprehensive Insurance solutions to customers both digitally and physically, which benefits the customers in many ways.

### **ADB enters an arrangement with World Bank for co-financed projects**

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has entered into an arrangement with the World Bank to put in place a single framework that will make co-financed projects more efficient.

ADB's first Alternative Procurement Arrangement (APA) with the World Bank will allow procedures on co-financed projects to follow a single procurement framework. The APA is a step further towards reducing procurement timelines in line with Strategy 2030. Strategy 2030 is ADB's long-term plan to respond effectively to the Asia and Pacific region's changing needs. In 2017, ADB operations totalled USD 32.2 billion, including USD 11.9 billion in co-financing.

### **Exim Bank extended USD 500 mn loan to Tanzania for water supply projects**

Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) announced extension of credit facility of USD 500 million to Tanzania for water supply projects in the country.

This is according to a MOU signed on May 10, 2018, between the EXIM Bank and Government of Tanzania. According to the RBI's statement, of the total credit by Exim Bank.

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### **India to retain top position in remittances with \$80 billion: World Bank**

India retain its position as the world's top recipient of remittances this year with its diaspora sending \$80 billion back home. India is followed by China (\$67 billion), Mexico and the Philippines (\$34 billion each) and Egypt (\$26 billion).

The Bank estimates that officially recorded remittances to developing countries will increase by 10.8% to reach \$528 billion in 2018, against a 7.8% growth in 2017. Global remittances, which include flows to high-income countries, are projected to grow by 10.3 per cent to \$689 billion.

### **Australia became world's biggest LNG exporter for 1st time, surpassing Qatar:**

#### **Australian Bureau of Statistics**

Australia surpassed Qatar to become the world's leading exporter of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) for the first time.

This was announced according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics which stated that Australia had exported 6.55 million tonnes of LNG in November 2018 compared to Qatar's 6.27 million tonnes. LNG is Australia's third-largest export commodity behind coal and iron ore.

### **NABARD signed USD 100 mn agreement with UNFCC approved Green Climate Fund to boost USD 250 mn worth solar power project**

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) signed a loan agreement worth USD 100 mn with Green Climate Fund (GCF) to boost rooftop solar power capacity projects through the private sector participation.

The Total corpus of the project is USD 250 mn, which will be executed by Tata Cleantech Capital Ltd. The Agreement was signed, on the sidelines of ongoing COP24 in Katowice, Poland, Shri Shankar A Pande, Chief General Manager, NABARD in the presence of Shri A K Mehta, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC). GCF is an UNFCC-promoted Fund that has NABARD as the National Implementing Entity (NIE).

### **AIIB Clears \$400 million loan for water supply project in Andhra Pradesh**

The Beijing Headquartered Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) had approved a \$400 million loan for a Water Sanitation Project in Andhra Pradesh. The Project will be very helpful for women and girls of affected community in Andhra Pradesh and it will reduce the health risks and health expenditure for the people of Andhra Pradesh.

### **RBI to implement an Ombudsman scheme for digital transactions**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said that it will implement an 'Ombudsman Scheme for Digital Transactions' covering services provided by entities falling under Reserve Banks regulatory jurisdiction. The scheme will be notified by the end of January 2019. The ombudsman scheme will provide cost-free mechanism to redress grievances of customers related to digital transactions to strengthen consumer confidence.

### **Tranche 4 loan agreement worth \$31 mn to develop Tourism infrastructure in Tamil Nadu under IDIPT signed between India and ADB**

Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a loan agreement of 31 million dollars in New Delhi to develop Tourism and boost Jobs in Tamil Nadu.

It was signed by Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Sameer Kumar Khare and Mr. Kenichi Yokoyama, Country Director for ADB in India. This was a tranche 4 loan for Infrastructure Development Investment Program for Tourism (IDIPT) for Tamil Nadu. The total

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cost of the project is \$44.04 million, of which the Government will provide \$13.04 million. The estimated completion date of the project is June 2020

### **AS Rajeev appointed MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra**

Executive Director of Indian Bank Mr. AS Rajeev became Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Maharashtra. He had worked in Syndicate Bank, Vijaya Bank and Indian Bank with three decades of professional experience. He is a mathematics graduate with professional qualifications of FCA, MBA, DISA and CAIIB.

### **Mauritius SBM gets RBI approval to merge operations with its Indian subsidiary**

The Reserve Bank of India said it has approved merger of SBM (Mauritius), India with SBM Bank (India). RBI has sanctioned the Scheme of amalgamation of the entire undertaking of SBM Bank (Mauritius) Limited, India with SBM Bank (India) Limited which has been granted licence by the Reserve Bank to carry on the business of banking in India through Wholly Owned Subsidiary (WOS) mode under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

### **Jana Small Finance Bank Launches Jana Bankable Debit Card**

Jana Small Finance Bank in association with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has launched Jana Bankable Debit Card.

This card is designed for **cricket fans** who like deals and offers on online shopping, gym membership, health & wellness products, food delivery, music and travel on top brands like Snap Fitness, Snapdeal, Gaana.com, IXIGO, Myntra, Crocs, Puma and GrowFit. The card comes with images of the top Indian cricketers – Virat Kohli, MS Dhoni, Shikhar Dhawan and Hardik Pandya. The Jana Small Finance Bank is the official sponsor of BCCI for all the cricket matches that are played in India. To grab the business, the bank is also offering interest rate of 8.5% and 9.1% for senior citizens on fixed deposit on tenor of 181 days to 5 years besides, offering 9% interest rate on Fixed Deposit with no premature withdrawal on a tenor of more than one year and up to 3 years.

### **RBI slapped Rs 1 crore fine on Indian Bank for violating cyber security norms**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a fine amounting to Rs. 1 crore on Indian Bank for violating cyber security norms. The Indian Bank had contravened the Circular on Cyber Security Framework in banks due to which it had to face the penalty. It is with regard to RBI's directions on Frauds- Classification and Reporting by Commercial Banks.

### **Shaktikanta Das takes charge as 25th Governor of the RBI**

Shaktikanta Das, former Economics Affairs Secretary appointed as 25th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a period of three years. He succeeded Urjit Patel after he resigned from the post on 10th December 2018.

### **RBI grants 40 branch licenses to Bandhan Bank**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed Bandhan Bank to open as many as 40 new branches, by the end of December, releasing the restriction that RBI has put on the Bandhan bank's branch opening spree three months back. The RBI had barred the bank from opening new branches in September after the private-sector lender failed to bring down main shareholder's stake to below 40 % as mandated in the licensing norms for universal banks. Bandhan Financial Services (BFSL) the promoter of Bandhan Bank, currently holds **82.28 %** stake in the bank. The bank is planning either to float an open offer for sale or to acquire a non-bank lender which would in turn bring down the promoters' stake.

### **Axis Capital CEO Dharmesh Mehta stepped down; Salil Pitale and Chirag Negandhi appointed as joint MD and co-CEO**

The bank had also elevated Salil Pitale and Chirag Negandhi as Joint Managing Directors and Co-Chief Executive Officer. Both are currently Co-Head of Investment Banking at Axis Capital since 2016. Pitale has been with Axis Capital and Axis Bank since 1999, while, Negandhi has been associated with Axis Capital since 2005.

### **Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) sign a \$60 Million Loan Agreement to reduce floods and the riverbank erosion in Assam**

Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$60 million loan agreement to reduce floods and the riverbank erosion in flood prone areas along the Brahmaputra river in Assam.

The loan is part of the 120 million dollars multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) for the Assam integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program approved by ADB in October 2010. The Program will fund a combination of structural and nonstructural measures in the three subproject areas of Palasbari-Gumi, Kaziranga, and Dibrugarh along the Brahmaputra river which include 20 km of riverbank protection works and upgrading of 13 km of flood embankments.

### **OBOPAY Card: new generation pre-payment instrument for enterprise customers launched by OBOPAY, Federal Bank and MasterCard**

OBOPAY, the global financial technology company, announced the launch of a new generation pre-payment instrument called- OBOPAY Card-in partnership with Federal Bank and Mastercard. It is built as a one-stop solution that facilitates easy disbursements and payments by enterprises.

### **Amazon India signed MoU with FISME to empower MSME sector**

Amazon India partnered with the Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) to encourage Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to sell products online through e-commerce. Amazon.in will collaborate with FISME to conduct various events and workshops across the country to educate

### **Sandip Somany takes over as new FICCI President; Uday Shankar as Vice President**

Sanitary ware firm HSIL (Hindustan Sanitaryware and Industries Ltd)'s CMD Sandip Somany has been elected as the new President of FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) for the year 2018-19 during its 91<sup>st</sup> annual general meeting.

Sangita Reddy, a current Joint Managing Director Apollo Hospitals has been elevated as FICCI Senior Vice President, while Uday Shankar, current Chairman and CEO of Star India and President of 21st Century Fox Asia-Pacific for Asia has joined the chamber as Vice President.

### **Pranab Kumar Das is appointed as new CBIC chairman**

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet had approved the appointment of Pranab Kumar Das as the new Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) from January 1, 2019.

### **Arti Chhabra Srivastava has been appointed as the first full time CVO in SEBI**

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) cleared the name of Arti Chhabra Srivastava as the first full-time Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of SEBI for an initial period of 3 years.

She is a 1990-batch Indian Ordinance Factory Services officer, and her appointment was approved by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). CVOs are considered an extended hand of the CVC, which is tasked with detecting graft by officials holding public office.

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### **IRDAI fines Iffco Tokio, Royal Sundaram Rs 5 lakh each**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has imposed fine of Rs 5 lakh each on Iffco Tokio General Insurance and Royal Sundaram General Insurance for violating motor tariff claims and file & use guidelines.

IRDAI also informed the companies violated File & Use guidelines and circulars issued by it from time to time advising insurers that they shall continue to use the coverage, terms & conditions, wordings, warranties, clauses and endorsements of the erstwhile tariff of classes of insurance covers until further orders.

### **Karnataka Bank partnered with Paisabazaar.com to offer home loans to customers**

Paisabazaar.com, online marketplace for financial products, and Karnataka Bank entered into a partnership to offer the bank's home loan product to customers on the Paisabazaar platform. Paisabazaar.com works with 30 partners for its home loan product, which includes country's biggest private and public banks and housing finance companies (HFCs).

### **India's stock market overtakes Germany to become 7<sup>th</sup> largest in the world**

India achieved another milestone when Indian Stock market overtakes Germany for the first time in seven years to become the world's seventh largest stock market. This move reflects India's positive returns this year as companies dependency on domestic demand enabled them to avoid meltdown in other emerging markets spurred due to U.S. – China trade war. South Asian Giant, India is projected to grow at 7.5 percent in 2018 and 7.3 percent in 2019 whereas Germany managed to achieve a growth rate of only 1.6 percent in 2018.

### **RBI shortlists TCS, Wipro, IBM and 3 others for setting up Public Credit Registry**

Reserve Bank of India has shortlisted six major IT companies, TCS, Wipro and IBM India, Capgemini Technology Services India, Dun & Bradstreet Information Services India, and Mindtree Ltd. to set up a wide-based digital Public Credit Registry (PCR) to capture details of all borrowers and willful defaulters. PCR will include data from entities like market regulator Sebi, corporate affairs ministry, Goods and Service Tax Network (GSTN) and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) to enable banks and financial institutions to get a 360-degree profile of the existing as well as prospective borrowers on a real-time basis.

### **P V Bharathi appointed MD and CEO of Corporation Bank; other appointments made by Ministry of Personnel**

Ministry of Personnel appointed P V Bharathi as the MD and CEO of Corporation Bank, effective from February 1, 2019 till March 31, 2020 – the date of her superannuation.

Bharathi is presently the Executive Director of Canara Bank. Additionally, Birupaksha Mishra and Balakrishna Aise S have been appointed as executive directors in Corporation Bank and Oriental Bank of Commerce, respectively.

### **RBI clears re-appointment of Aditya Puri as HDFC Bank MD & CEO**

HDFC Bank announced that, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved re-appointment of Aditya Puri as managing director and CEO of the bank for another 2 years.

RBI has approved the re-appointment of Aditya Puri, as MD & CEO of HDFC Bank from November 1, 2018 to October 26, 2020 i.e. until he attains 70 years of age.

### **Kirloskar group got RBI licence to open Rs. 1000 crore NBFC Kirloskar Capital**

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Reserve Bank of India gave licence to the Kirloskar group to launch a non-banking finance company (NBFC) named Kirloskar Capital. Kirloskar group would invest Rs 1,000 crore over the next three years in the proposed NBFC, which will be a fully-owned subsidiary of Kirloskar Oil Engines.

### **Atul Goel takes over as MD, CEO of UCO Bank**

Earlier, Atul Kumar Goel was executive director of Union Bank of India. He has replaced R K Takkar who completed his three-year term on November 1, 2018. He started his carrier as Chartered Accountant in Allahabad Bank in 1992. He has worked in various segments like corporate credit, foreign exchange and treasury.

### **Chola MS & IndusInd Bank renewed decade long Bancassurance partnership**

Chola MS General Insurance and IndusInd Bank Ltd renewed their corporate agency arrangement for a period of five years.

This is a part of a decade-long partnership has garnered around Rs 37 billion and insurance solutions, especially in claims servicing, targeting to double its premium over the next five years.

### **RBL Bank appointed Vikas Muttoo as CEO of its subsidiary Swadhaar Finserve**

RBL Bank announced appointment of Vikas Muttoo as CEO of Swadhaar Finserve.

Prior to this, Muttoo was the chief business officer of microlender Bharat Financial. Swadhaar Finserve Private Limited, wholly-owned subsidiary of the RBL Bank.

### **HSBC-ING completed industry's first blockchain-based transaction for Reliance Industries**

HSBC India and ING Bank Brussels finished executing a blockchain enabled, live trade finance transaction jointly with Reliance Industries and Tricon Energy.

The letter of credit (LC) was issued by ING Bank on behalf of the importer Tricon Energy (USA) with HSBC India acting as the advisory bank for RIL.

### **ICICI Bank launched co-branded credit card with Amazon pay**

### **State-owned Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank, Vijaya Bank to be merged: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley**

India plans to merge three state-run banks, Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank, the financial services secretary said in September, as part of efforts to clean up the country's banking system. The government will continue to provide capital support to the merged bank, expected to be India's third largest, Rajeev Kumar told reporters.

Banking sector reforms are a major plank of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration to revive credit growth, which has slowed to multi-decade lows as banks struggle with bad loans. New Delhi owns majority stakes in 21 lenders, which account for more than two-thirds of banking assets in Asia's third-biggest economy.

### **SBI appoints Prashant Kumar as CFO**

The State Bank of India (SBI) has announced Prashant Kumar as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). A Science graduate and a Law graduate from Delhi University, Kumar joined the bank in the year 1983, as Probationary Officer and since then he has held various important portfolios in Bank.

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### **PayU India gets RBI approval to operate its own NBFC**

PayU India has received Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to operate its own non-banking financial company (NBFC). The move will help PayU promote inclusive growth in the country by catering to the diverse financial needs of various segments of the society.

The approval from the central bank is subject to "certain pending RBI compliance", PayU said in a statement.

### **RBI announces norms for joint priority sector lending by banks, NBFCs**

The Reserve Bank Friday announced guidelines for co-origination of priority sector loans by banks and NBFCs with a view to enhancing flow of funds to the sector at competitive rates.

As per the norms issued by the RBI for all scheduled commercial banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks and Small Finance Banks) and Non-Banking Financial Companies - Non-Deposit taking-Systemically Important (NBFC-ND-SIs), the sharing of risks and rewards between these entities should be in a manner that enables appropriate alignment of respective business objectives, as per their mutual agreement.

### **Finance Minister launches Financial Inclusion Index, Jan Dhan Darshak app**

The Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Arun Jaitley launched the Financial Inclusion Index (FII) in New Delhi. The index was launched after the Finance Minister's annual performance review meeting with the CEOs of public sector banks.

The annual index will be released by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) under the Ministry of Finance by the end of this year and it would rate states on their performance on last-mile banking services availability. The index will be a measure of access and usage of a basket of formal financial products and services that includes savings, remittances, credit, insurance and pension products.

### **Jan Dhan Darshak App**

The app will be in a unique position to provide a citizen-centric platform for locating financial service touch points across all providers such as banks, post office and common service centres (CSC). These services could be availed as per the needs and convenience of the common people. Over 5 lakh financial service touch points including bank branches, ATMs and post offices have been mapped on the application and approximately 1.35 lakh bank mitras would be brought on board by December 1, 2018.

### **RBI eases cash reserve rules to ease liquidity condition of banks**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) eased mandatory cash requirement rules for banks to provide "durable liquidity" to the economy. Banks could 'carve out' up to 15 percent of holdings under the statutory liquidity reserves to meet their liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) requirements as compared to 13 percent now.

The relaxation in statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) requirement is with effect from October 1, 2018. This will supplement the ability of individual banks to avail of liquidity, from the repo markets.

### **Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launches web portal for MSME banking credit space**

The Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Arun Jaitley on September 25, 2018 launched [www.psbloansin59minutes.com](http://www.psbloansin59minutes.com) web portal, a transformative initiative in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) credit space.

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The web portal will enable in principle approval for MSME loans up to Rs 1 crore within 59 minutes from Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and 5 Public Sector Banks (PSBs). It is a strategic initiative of SIDBI led PSB consortium built up under the aegis of Department of Financial Services (DFS), Union Ministry of Finance.

### **Ravi Shankar Prasad launches DigiVAARTA to increase awareness on Digital Payments**

Union Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Friday launched DigiVAARTA, a multi-channel citizen engagement programme that can run on both feature and smartphones.

DigiVAARTA is a welcome addition to the government's drive to promote adoption and awareness on digital payments. The technology underlying the multi-channel engagement programme is SAMWAD – a platform for intuitive and interactive communication – supported by Centre for Digital Financial Inclusion (CDFI).

### **RBI cancels Bandhan Bank's permission for new branches, freezes chief's pay**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has restrained Bandhan Bank from opening new branches and also ordered freezing of remuneration of its CEO Chandra Shekhar Ghosh for not meeting the licensing conditions, the newly-launched bank said Friday.

The bank, on its part, said it is taking steps to comply with licensing condition to bring down the shareholding of non operative financial holding company (NOFHC) in the bank to 40 per cent.

### **ICICI Bank launches co-branded credit cards with MakeMyTrip**

ICICI Bank has partnered with travel marketplace MakeMyTrip to launch a range of co-branded credit cards which offers benefits on travel related spends. As part of the agreement, ICICI Bank will offer two types of credit card — MakeMyTrip ICICI Bank Platinum Credit Card and MakeMyTrip ICICI Bank Signature Credit Card.

### **IndusInd Bank Launches Voice-Based Banking Services Through Amazon Alexa**

In keeping up with this legacy, the Bank has launched its Artificial Intelligence (AI) based Alexa Skill – 'IndusAssist' – that enables its customers to conduct financial and non-financial banking transactions on Amazon Echo and other Alexa-enabled devices using voice based commands. Alexa is a virtual assistant developed by Amazon, and is capable of voice interactions for music playback, booking cabs, ordering food, providing information and much more.

### **Maharashtra continues to top list of states with maximum average AUM**

In August, the last month for which data is available, average assets under management (AUM) of mutual funds rose to an all time high of Rs 25.2 lakh crore, show numbers from the Association of Mutual Funds of India (AMFI). Maharashtra continues to be the state with the maximum penetration and assets under management, in line with it being one of the richest states in the country.

### **World Bank, Centre and Andhra govt signed an MOU to \$172 million loan to make farming viable in Andhra Pradesh**

The \$172.20 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), has a 6-year grace period, and a maturity of 24 years. This will benefit the Andhra Pradesh Integrated Irrigation and Agriculture Transformation Project (APIIATP) and over 200,000 families of poor and marginalised farmers.

### **Paytm tied up with 2 govt depts in Karnataka for better payment experience**

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Paytm partnered with two government departments in Karnataka for seamless payment experience.

The **two** departments of Karnataka government are:

- i) The Directorate of Electronic Delivery of Citizen Services (EDCS) and
- ii) DPAR (Department of Personnel and Administrative Service).

### **Enforcement Directorate flagged RBI of ponzi scheme in name of Islamic banking**

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) flagged the RBI about the activities of a Karnataka-based firm charging it with running a ponzi scheme “in the name of Islamic banking or halal investment”. It collected Rs 950 crore funds from gullible investors till now. The name of the firm is Ms Ambidant Marketing Private Limited, which is run by one S Fareed Ahmed and S Afaq Ahmed. Islamic banking or halal investment is illegal in India.

### **Siddharth Tiwari joined BIS as Chief Representative for Asia, Pacific**

Bank for International Settlements (BIS) announced appointment of Siddharth Tiwari as Chief Representative for Asia and the Pacific.

He succeeded Eli Remolona, who was Chief Representative of the Asian Office from 2008 to 2018. Prior to this, he served as the Executive Secretary to the G20 Eminent Persons Group on Global Financial Governance. He also is a veteran of the International Monetary Fund.

### **IndusInd Bank launches first interactive Credit Card in India with buttons**

IndusInd Bank launched first interactive Credit Card in India with buttons called IndusInd Bank Nexxt Credit Card. It will give customer multiple options on how to make a payment using his or her Credit Card. It has been created in partnership with Pittsburgh USA headquartered Dynamics Inc., which designs and manufactures intelligent, battery powered payment cards. This interactive Credit Card will provide customers with flexibility of three payment options at Point of Sale (POS) terminal – Credit, Converting Transactions into EMIs with 4 tenure options (6, 12, 18 & 24 months) or using accumulated Reward Points, by simply pushing a button on the card.

### **Ashok Chawla resigned as Yes Bank’s non-executive chairman**

Ashok Chawla, Yes Bank’s non-executive chairman, stepped down with immediate effect.

He resigned for the bank to find a new contender to fill in the Chairman’s duty. Apart from Yes bank, **Chawla** is also the chairman of National Stock Exchange since 2016. He had also worked as chairman of fair trade regulator CCI or Competition Commission of India.

### **Govt inks \$300 million loan agreement with ADB to support IIFCL**

Union Govt inked \$300 million Loan Agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to support lending by India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL).

It will enhance availability of long-term finance for PPP projects, improve operational capacity of IIFCL. It will expand portfolio of infrastructure financing instruments available to IIFCL.

### **India and ADB sign \$169 Million Loan**

Union Govt has inked \$169 Million Loan agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for Tamil Nadu Urban Flagship Investment Program. It is first tranche of \$500 million multi-tranche financing to provide water and sanitation services in Tamil Nadu. It will develop climate-resilient sewerage collection and treatment and drainage systems in 10 cities.

### **Govt inks \$105 million loan agreement with ADB**

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Union Govt and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed \$105 million loan to continue financing transmission system upgrades in Himachal Pradesh for increased supply of hydropower to state and national grid.

It is third tranche part of \$350 million multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) for Himachal Pradesh Clean Energy Transmission Investment Program approved by ADB Board in Sept 2011.

### **RBI imposed fine of Rs 3 crore each on Deutsche Bank, J&K Bank**

Reserve Bank of India imposed a fine amounting to Rs. **6.1 crores** fine on two lenders --- Deutsche Bank and Jammu and Kashmir Bank.

A monetary penalty of **Rs 30.10 million** on Deutsche Bank was imposed. The reasons are for non-compliance with the directions issued by RBI on Income Recognition and Asset Classification (IRAC) norms, Know Your Customer/Anti-money Laundering (KYC/AML) norms, and on disclosure of monetary penalties imposed by the regulator

### **Fitch Affirms India's rating at 'BBB-'; outlook stable**

### **Sunil Mehta committee incorporated 'Sashakt India AMC' for large NPAs over 500 crore rupees**

Sunil Mehta committee released the statement for formation of an asset management company (AMC) for resolving large bad loans.

The name of the AMC is: Sashakt India Asset Management. It was announced by Sunil Mehta, the chairman of a bankers' panel working on faster resolution of stressed assets in public sector banks on the sidelines of a CII-CFO summit held in Mumbai. The company will follow a five-pronged strategy under Project Sashakt to tackle stress in the banking sector.

### **Karnataka bank launches new SB scheme "KBL SB - TASC"**

Karnataka Bank introduced a new saving bank scheme 'KBL SB - TASC', a specialized scheme for Trusts, Associates Societies and Clubs during Current & Saving Accounts campaign (CASA) for FY 2018-19.

### **Government of India and World Bank signed \$310 million loan Agreement for Jharkhand**

Government of India along with Government of Jharkhand signed a \$310 million Loan Agreement for **Jharkhand Power Improvement Project** aimed to provide affordable and reliable electricity supply to citizens of Jharkhand.

This project is a part of Government of India's **Power for All program** launched in 2014. The plans aims addition of over 4.5 GW electricity generation capacity by 2022. Jharkhand Power System Improvement to provide reliable, quality and affordable electricity to the citizens of Jharkhand

### **Yes Bank Director R. Chandrashekhar Resigns**

R. Chandrashekhar is the third person to resign from Yes Bank, in the recent time. Non-executive Chairman Ashok Chawla resigned on November 14, 2018. O.P. Bhatt, resigned from the panel set up to find a new CEO, on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

### **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank launches personal loan facility for salaried individuals**

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, a wholly owned subsidiary of **Ujjivan Financial Services Limited** introduced a new personal loan scheme for salaried individuals. By this offer, it became **the first** small finance bank to introduce this type of facility.

### **State Bank of Mauritius appoints Sidharth Rath as MD of India operation**

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State Bank of Mauritius (SBM) has appointed Sidharth Rath as the Managing Director & CEO of SBM Bank (India). Before this he was working with Axis Bank as Group Executive and Head of Corporate, Transaction Banking and International Banking.

### **India and ADB sign \$200 Million Loan**

Union Govt signed \$200 million loan agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for Bihar State Highways III Project (BSHP-III). It will finance widening and upgrading of about 230 kms state highways in Bihar to all-weather standards with road safety features.

### **Govt inks \$75 million loan with ADB**

Union Govt inked \$75 million loan agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for Karnataka Integrated Urban Water Management Investment Program.

Under it 24 x7 water supply will be provided in Karnataka's four coastal towns of Kundapura, Mangalore Puttur and Udipi and improve sanitation infrastructure for Mangalore town. It was approved by ADB Board in 2014.

### **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), first PSU, won CII-Exim Bank Business Award in Bengaluru**

Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) won the CII-Exim Bank Business Excellence Award, for being a role-model organization, at the Quality Summit held in Bengaluru.

The Summit was organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The company's Bengaluru complex is the first state-run undertaking to be recognized as a role-model organization by the CII. 3 other BEL units at Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh, Chennai in Tamil Nadu and Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh received **Platinum** recognition for business excellence

### **HSBC appoints Surendra Roshia as India CEO**

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in July, 2018 announced the appointment of Surendra Roshia as Chief Executive Officer for HSBC India, subject to regulatory approvals.

### **Paytm Payments Bank CEO Renu Satti resigns, to head new retail unit**

Paytm Payments Bank CEO Renu Satti has resigned from her position and will now head the new retail initiative. The company has yet not zeroed in on a new CEO. She was appointed CEO of the Payments Bank last year.

### **Arunachal Pradesh State Cooperative Apex Bank to launch 200 micro-ATMs**

Arunachal Pradesh State Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd will launch 200 Micro-ATM services across the state. Chief Minister Pema Khandu launched the Micro-ATM services of the Arunachal Pradesh State Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd. Khandu said inclusion of micro-ATM services will immensely benefit the rural and poor people availing banking services.

### **Parliament passes bill for quick prosecution in cheque bounce cases**

The Parliament on July 26, 2018 passed an amended bill that will allow courts to try offences related to cheque bounce expeditiously and direct the drawee to pay a minimum of 20 per cent of the cheque amount as interim compensation. The Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Bill, 2018 was passed by the upper house of the Parliament, the Rajya Sabha through a voice vote. The Lok Sabha had cleared the bill on July 23. The new amendment has been brought in the law to ensure that people have trust and faith on issuing cheques.

### **OYO Hotels signs MoU with SBI and Bank of Baroda to offer financial support for small hotels**

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OYO announced in July, 2018 that it has inked MoUs with the State Bank of India and Bank of Baroda for extending its support to budget hotels and creating jobs across levels. Signed under the aegis of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna, the MoUs are aimed at providing financial support to OYO's existing and potential hotel partners for standardization at their properties, OYO said. OYO said towards enabling convenient financing and collateral-free loans for its asset partners through banks and NBFCs, it has also established an in-house Fintech division.

### **Cash-on-delivery deals by e-commerce firms not authorised, says RBI**

Cash-on-delivery (CoD) method of payment option provided by online retailers such as Flipkart and Amazon may be a regulatory grey area as per the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) response to a Right to Information (RTI) query. The RBI, in a response to an RTI query, said a collection of payment from platforms such as Amazon and Flipkart are not authorised.

### **Indian banks, financial institutions sign agreement to speed up bad loan resolution**

Indian banks and financial institutions signed an inter-creditor agreement on July 23, 2018 to fast-track the resolution of stressed assets of Rs 500 crore or above that are under consortium lending. The ICA was prepared in accordance to the recommendations of the Sunil Mehta Committee and under the aegis of Indian Banks' Association (IBA). It is a part of Project Sashakt, which aims to strengthen the credit capacity, credit culture and credit portfolio of public sector banks. The agreement has been approved by boards of respective lenders.

### **Federal Bank gets RBI nod to enter Bahrain, Kuwait, Singapore**

South-based private sector lender Federal Bank has received the regulatory nod to open offices in Bahrain, Kuwait and Singapore, but is awaiting local clearances before it starts operations, a top official has said. The Kochi-headquartered bank, which leads diaspora remittances, already has representative offices in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, and its desire to expand comes even as a majority of its larger peers are downsizing their overseas presence following the Rs 13,500-crore Nirav Modi scam and poor asset quality back home due to toxic loans.

### **Bank of Baroda signs MoU with ten companies to loan Rs 500 cr**

State-run Bank of Baroda signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ten companies including Uber, Oyo, Lava and Flipkart to provide loans to members in their supply chain like drivers and retailers in its efforts to raise its exposure to small enterprises. The bank will finance Oyo's hotel-partners, motorcycles for delivery boys at food-delivery company Swiggy and e-commerce logistics companies, and car drivers at cab aggregators such as Uber. BoB said that defaults by some drivers at Uber doesn't necessarily mean that all loans are risky.

### **Karnataka Bank launches DigiLocker facility**

Karnataka Bank, as part of its digital initiative launched DigiLocker facility by integrating DigiLocker with its Moneyclick Internet Banking channel. DigiLocker is a key initiative to store the digital documents, by National E-Governance Division under Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India, under Digital India, a flagship program aimed at transforming India into a digitally empowered Society.

### **KSUM, YES Bank ink Memorandum of Understanding to help startups**

In a major fillip to the startup ecosystem in the state, the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) and YES Bank will join hands to provide a host of startup-focused corporate and commercial banking services.

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Under the MoU, YES Bank will provide and render the platforms/services to the startups, subject to the relevant contractual arrangements. It will offer Special Current Account Proposition to all associated startups of KSUM, including a 'no minimum balance commitment' for one year after starting a current account with the bank, a press release said.

### **NABARD sanctions Rs 735.53cr for Bengal rural infra projects**

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 735.53 crore under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) to West Bengal during the first quarter of 2018- 19, according to an official release.

The funding would help execution of 86 projects, which included six solar power projects, works on one medium irrigation, five minor irrigation and 12 flood protection projects, besides 57 projects of widening and strengthening of roads and five rural bridges.

### **Vishwas Patel appointed Chairman of Payments Council of India**

The Payments Council of India in July, 2018 announced the appointment of Vishwas Patel as its new Chairman. Patel is the Director of Infibeam Avenues and succeeds Naveen Surya, who has been elevated to the post of Chairman Emeritus, the council said in a statement.

### **Ex-PNB executive T Latha appointed new MD & CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank**

Dhanlaxmi Bank Limited has appointed T Latha as the Managing Director & CEO. She has taken over from G Sreeram, who has retired from the office on July 1, 2018, on completion of his tenure. Her appointment will be for a period of three years w.e.f July 2, 2018.

### **Arijit Basu takes charge as Managing Director of SBI**

State Bank of India (SBI) in July, 2018 announced appointment of Arijit Basu as the Managing Director. A graduate in Economics and a Master of Arts in History, Basu will handle the areas of Commercial Credit and IT and will also hold additional charge of Stressed Assets Resolution Group. Prior to this role, Basu was designated as Deputy Managing Director (DMD) in the bank.

### **Project Sashakt: Sunil Mehta Committee's 5-pronged strategy to tackle NPAs approved**

Union Finance Minister Piyush Goyal on July 2, 2018 approved the Sunil Mehta Committee's suggestions of a 5-pronged strategy to tackle the Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The committee led by Punjab National Bank Chairman Sunil Mehta has submitted its draft report titled 'Sashakt' to the Finance Ministry with a strategy to tackle stress in the banking sector. However, there is no proposal or recommendation to create a bad bank. The recommendations now await the approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

- The 'Sashakt' Report highlights nine guiding principles aimed at the operational turnaround of the banking sector in a manner that will create jobs and enhance the value of public sector banks.
- Resolution of bad assets below Rs 50 crore within 90 days: Banks will be required to create a 'Focused Vertical' for bad assets below Rs 50 crore and set up a Steering Committee for resolution of such bad assets within 90 days.
- Resolution of consortium loans between Rs 50-500 crore within 180 days: It suggested the Bank Led Resolution Approach (BLRA) for loans between Rs 50 and Rs 500 crore. It suggested constitution of an Independent Screening Committee to examine resolution of such loans within 180 days and if there is no resolution in 180 days, then these bad assets will be moved to the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).

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- Resolution of loans above Rs 500 crore: The loans above Rs 500 crore will be dealt via AMC/AIF-led resolution process. The panel proposed creation of a national Asset Management Company (AMC) to take over such Non-Performing Assets from banks.

- Recommendations included creating platforms where banks can trade in bunched loan assets.

### **RBI grants licence to Bank of China to set up its first branch in India**

The Reserve Bank of India in July, 2018 issued licence to Bank of China to operate in India, according to sources. According to reports, the decision was based on the commitment made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Chinese leadership. Following this, the 106-year-old Bank of China will open a branch in India.

### **SBI Card launches AI virtual assistant ELA**

SBI Card, the country's second largest credit card issuer, in July, 2018 announced the launch of 'ELA' (Electronic Live Assistant), a virtual assistant for customer support and services.

Driven by Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, ELA is designed to enhance customer experience by providing relevant and instant responses to customer queries, SBI Card said in a statement.

### **Finzy receives NBFC-P2P certification from RBI**

Peer-to-peer (P2P) platform Finzy has received its NBFC-P2P certification from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The P2P industry being regulated ensures that only players who adhere to specific standards of operations and stringent information security guidelines are allowed to function. This helps build the credibility in the industry as a whole.

### **CSC SPV, HDFC Bank sign MoU to support financial inclusion in rural areas**

CSC SPV and HDFC Bank in July, 2018 announced signing of an agreement to enable three lakh Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) of the common services centers to operate as banking correspondents of HDFC Bank. The MoU signed between MD HDFC Bank, Aditya Puri and CEO, CSC SPV Dr. Dinesh Kumar Tyagi in the presence of Minister of Electronics & IT Ravi Shankar Prasad and Minister of State for Electronics & IT S.S. Ahluwalia, is expected to be a game changer as it would significantly contribute to Government's objectives of enabling Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of various schemes.

### **Karnataka Bank launches facility to withdraw cash from PoS terminals**

Karnataka Bank Ltd has introduced 'Cash@PoS' facility through its network of 13,100-plus Point of Sale (PoS) terminals installed at various merchant establishments throughout the country. A press release by the bank said here in July, 2018 that it is a facility through which any bank customer can withdraw cash using his/her debit card or open system prepaid card (issued by banks in India) at PoS terminals.

### **HDFC ERGO launches one of India's first title insurance policies**

Private general insurer HDFC ERGO in July, 2018 launched a title insurance policy, making it one of the first such products launched by private insurers. Title insurance refers to insurance for the title of a real estate property and is mandatory according to the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act 2016, or RERA.

### **HDFC securities enable MF transactions through Facebook messenger**

HDFC securities in July, 2018 announced launch of Mutual Funds transactional capabilities on Facebook Messenger through their virtual assistant, Arya. A subsidiary of HDFC Bank, HDFC securities rolled out a theme called "The Pace of Innovation" which is structured to innovate and

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provide intuitive and relevant digital solutions to customers and this effort, is in line with the vision.

### **PNB's Sunil Mehta elected chairman of the Indian Bank's Association**

Sunil Mehta, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Punjab National Bank has been elected as the new Chairman of Indian Bank's Association (IBA) for 2018-19. The IBA said that Mehta was elected chairman for the term 2018-19 at a meeting of the Managing Committee of the banking industry lobby group.

### **Google's payment app for India 'Tez' becomes Google Pay**

Readying its digital payment service for India, Tez, for a global roll out, Google in August 2018 renamed the app as Google Pay and introduced new features that could soon help its Indian users get instant "pre-approved" loans from some banks.

### **YES BANK, Rajasthan govt. partner to launch payments wallet 'Bhamashah'**

YES BANK, India's fourth largest private sector bank has announced its partnership with the Government of Rajasthan to launch Bhamashah Wallet, a simple instant payment digital wallet solution for the state of Rajasthan. The Bhamashah wallet, Rajasthan government's online payment application was launched by Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Vasundhara Raje. The wallet service was launched as a part of Bhamashah Yojana, a scheme introduced by the Government of Rajasthan to transfer financial and non-financial benefits of governmental schemes directly to women recipients in a transparent way.

### **ICICI Bank announces partnership with Manchester United**

ICICI Bank, India's private sector bank, has agreed to a multi-year partnership with Manchester United, bringing a range of competitive co-branded credit and debit card to the club's 35 million Indian followers.

According to the announcement, the Bank will be offering fans of the club two types of credit card – Manchester United Platinum Credit Card and Signature Credit Card.

### **Punjab National Bank gets top rank in digital transaction as per Ministry of Finance report**

Punjab National Bank (PNB) in August 2018 said a Department of Financial Services report has rated it as number one state-owned bank in terms of digital transactions. The Nirav Modi scam-hit bank is also rated as the sixth overall amongst all banks in India for digital performance, PNB said in a statement.

"Based on the recent findings of DFS, PNB is ranked number one PSU bank in digital transactions in India. The bank is fully committed to Digital India initiative," it said. The bank is rated as 'Good' by the government with a score of 71 which is the highest category of performance, it said.

### **SBI to have multiple modes of biometric authentication for apps**

The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) will soon be introducing 'multi-modal' biometric authentication for its mobile applications. This means that one of the two factors of authentication would be by using either fingerprint or face recognition or by using voice recognition software on the bank's servers.

The bank is planning to use biometrics for various mobile banking products including the mobile wallet and Unified Payment Interface (UPI) transactions. The bank is in the process of finalising a service provider and has called for applications from technology providers.

### **World Bank launches world-first blockchain bond**

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The World Bank has priced the world's first public bond created and managed using only blockchain in a A\$100 million (\$73.16 million) deal designed to test how the technology might improve decades- old bond sales practices. Commonwealth Bank of Australia, the sole manager of the deal, said in a statement that the two-year bonds had priced to yield 2.251% and would settle 28 August.

The prototype deal, dubbed a "Bondi" bond - standing for Blockchain Operated New Debt Instrument as well as a reference to Australia's most famous beach — is being viewed as an initial step in moving bond sales away from manual processes towards faster and cheaper automation.

**CEPR, NITI Aayog join hands for IBC 2018 to address issues of India's Banking Sector**  
Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) along with its knowledge partner and the government Think Tank, NITI Aayog are organizing two-day India Banking Conclave 2018 (IBC) in New Delhi between August 23-24, 2018.

The conclave, planned with the objective of making the banking sector more adaptable to face multiple future challenges in the coming years, will be addressed by Union Ministers such as Finance Minister, Arun Jaitley, Railways Minister Piyush Goyal and Civil Aviation Minister, Suresh Prabhu, apart from other important dignitaries such as BJP President, Amit Shah and Vice Chairman NITI Aayog, Rajiv Kumar.

**Bank Of Baroda signs Memorandum of Understanding with Korea's KB Financial Group to set financing corridor**

Public sector lender Bank of Baroda in July, 2018 said it has inked an agreement with South Korea's KB Financial Group to set-up financing corridor and development of digital payment ecosystem. The MoU was inked on July 9 during India-Korea Business Forum.

**Money2World platform partnered by ICICI Bank eases payments to Australian universities**

Fee payments from India to Australian universities have become a notch easier. Private sector lender ICICI Bank said in July, 2018 that it has partnered with Australia's Westpac Banking Corporation to create a platform named Money2World (M2W), which students with accounts in Indian banks can utilise to pay fee to Australian colleges.

**India becomes 69th shareholder of European development bank**

India on July 11, 2018 formally became the 69th shareholder of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), paving the way for more joint investment with Indian companies across the bank's regions of operation.

India was selected as a member after all the existing EBRD shareholders, who also form its board of governors, voted unanimously in favour of the country's application in March 2018.

**NTPC signs Rs 15 bn term loan with HDFC Bank for a period of 15 years**

NTPC, India's largest electricity generating company, in July, 2018 said it has signed a term loan agreement with HDFC Bank for availing a loan of Rs 15 billion.

The 15-year loan will bear an interest rate linked to 3-months MCLR of the bank, the company said in a statement.

**DBS to launch commercial banking operations in India in October**

Singapore-headquartered financial services giant DBS will begin commercial banking operations in India in October this year. DBS Bank India (DBS India), part of Asia's leading financial services group DBS Group Holdings, received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in

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September last year to convert its existing India franchise to a locally incorporated wholly-owned subsidiary (WOS) in India.

### **RBI nod for Fairfax's 51% stake acquisition in Catholic Syrian Bank**

The Reserve Bank of India has given its nod to Fairfax to acquire 51 per cent stake in Kerala-based Catholic Syrian Bank (CSB). This is the first stake sale of an Indian bank to a foreign non-banking entity since the Banking regulator tweaked ownership norms in May 2017.

### **LIC board approves acquisition of up to 51 per cent stake in IDBI Bank**

The Life Insurance Corporation of India's (LIC's) board has approved acquiring up to 51 per cent stake in state-run IDBI Bank. The information was shared by Economic Affairs Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg on July 16, 2018. Garg, who is on the board of the state-run LIC, stated that the move of buying additional stakes would most be likely through a preferential shares issue, enabling injection of funds to IDBI Bank.

### **Jana Small Finance Bank launches commercial operations**

Jana Small Finance Bank in July, 2018 announced the commercial launch of its banking operations, the last microfinance company to convert itself into a small finance bank (SFB), three years after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gave its in-principle approval.

The Bengaluru-based small finance bank, which was earlier called Janalakshmi Financial Services and weathered huge losses on account of demonetization, said it is confident of turning profitable before the end of fiscal year 2019.

### **Deepak Parekh re-appointed as Non-Executive Director on the board of HDFC**

Deepak Parekh was re-appointed as a Non-Executive Director on the board of the country's largest mortgage lender HDFC but nearly 23 per cent of the shareholders voted against his continuation.

### **Reserve Bank approves appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as COO at ICICI Bank**

ICICI Bank in August 2018 said the Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as the Chief Operating Officer with effect from July 31, 2018 for three years.

### **SBI's YONO to integrate with RIL's Myjio platform**

Reliance Industries (RIL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with State Bank of India (SBI) to integrate its Myjio platform with the latter's YONO application. The two companies are entering into the digital partnership which will help SBI widen its "digital customer base multi-fold" and Jio "will now bring in financial services capabilities of SBI and Jio Payments Bank." YONO's digital banking features will be enabled through the Myjio platform for an integrated customer experience. SBI YONO is an online platform offering digital banking, commerce and financial superstore services.

### **RBI asks Paytm, Fino payments banks to stop enrolling new customers**

Launched in 2015 with great fanfare, India's payments banking ecosystem has taken a serious hit as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has halted two of the three existing payments bank from enrolling new customers. Concerns over the eKYC, or electronically done know your customer process, as well as cases of more than Rs 100,000 being deposited in accounts, have caused the RBI to ask Paytm Payments Bank as well as Fino Payments Bank to halt inducting new customers for the time being. Airtel Payments Bank, which was earlier asked by the nodal agency not to enrol new customers, got permission to resume the process last month.

### **NHAI signs MoU with SBI for a Long Term Unsecured Loan of Rs 25000 Crore**

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The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on August 3, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the State Bank of India (SBI) for getting Long Term Unsecured Loan of Rs 25000 crore for 10 years with 3 years of moratorium on repayments. This is the SBI's highest long term unsecured loan to any entity. Moreover, this is the largest amount of loan to have been sanctioned to NHAI in one stroke by any institution.

### **IDBI Bank names RBSA as financial advisor to vet LIC's acquisition proposal**

Public sector lender IDBI Bank has appointed investment banking outfit RBSA Advisors as financial advisor for evaluating the potential of an investment proposal by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). On August 1, the Union Cabinet had approved the LIC's proposed acquisition of up to 51 per cent stake in the debt-ridden IDBI Bank.

### **Union Government, NABARD and NWDA sign revised MoA for funding of 99 projects under PMKSY**

The Union Ministry of Water Resources, the NABARD and the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) on August 6, 2018 signed a revised Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for funding of central share of 99 prioritised irrigation projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The funding will be done through the Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF). The Department of Economic Affairs has modified certain existing means of funding of 99 irrigation projects under the LTIF with reference to source of funds, repayment pattern of loan, and rate of interest on loan, etc.

### **Telangana launches life insurance scheme worth Rs 5 lakh for farmers**

The state government of Telangana on August 6, 2018 launched the first-of-its-kind life insurance programme worth Rs 5 lakh for the farmers in the state.

The scheme, which is called Rythu Bandhu Life Insurance Bonds, is expected to benefit 2.8 million farmers and their families. The launch comes ahead of the 2019 state and parliamentary elections. Under the programme, the families of the farmers will get the insurance amount irrespective of whether the farmer's death is natural or accidental.

The insurance amount will be given to the farmer's family within 10 days itself. The distribution of insurance papers to the farmers would begin from August 15. The scheme has been launched with a rough investment of Rs 650 crore.

### **S Gurumurthy, Satish Marathe appointed to RBI board**

The Centre has appointed Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)-affiliate Swadeshi Jagaran Manch co-convenor Swaminathan Gurumurthy and businessman Satish Kashinath Marathe to the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

### **SBI launches unified payment terminal- MOPAD**

State Bank of India (SBI) in August 2018 launched the Multi-Option Payment Acceptance Device or MOPAD, a unified payment option that accepts multiple payment methods.

Under this, customers will be able to pay through credit or debit cards, Bharat QR, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and SBI Buddy (e-wallet) at a Point of Sale (PoS) terminal. This initiative aims at providing digital convenience to customers and ease of doing business for merchants at the same time.

### **PayU, Reliance Money announce strategic partnership for instant loan**

PayU India in August 2018 announced entering into a strategic partnership with Reliance Money, leading NBFC brands in India, to offer instant app based personal loans, via LazyPay. In an attempt

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to reach out to the underserved consumers in India, both India">PayU India and Reliance Money will make sure that the entire process is completely digital, saving customers the hassle and the delays usually associated with a loan approval process.

### **JP Morgan-CIIE to set up Financial Inclusion Lab**

J.P Morgan, a global banking and financial services provider, along with the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) in August 2018 announced a collaboration to set up a Financial Inclusion Lab. The initiative, estimated to cost around USD 9.5 million, aims at identifying and bringing to scale early-stage FinTech start-ups that focus on helping people in India within the lower and middle income (LMI) segment.

### **RBI to pay Rs 50,000 crore dividend to government for FY18**

The Reserve Bank in August 2018 said it has decided to pay a dividend of Rs 50,000 crore to the Union government for the year ending June 30, 2018.

The decision was taken at its board meeting held here. "The Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India, at its meeting held on August 8, 2018, approved the transfer of surplus amounting to Rs 500 billion for the year ended June 30, 2018 to the Government of India," the central bank said in a statement

### **Axis Bank introduces iris authentication for Aadhaar-based transactions**

Axis Bank has become the first bank in the country to introduce Iris Scan Authentication feature for Aadhaar-based transactions through its micro ATM tablets. This service, which requires a customer to scan their iris on a tablet, will boost the bank's financial inclusion efforts by making Aadhaar authentication process hassle-free and offering easier access to digital banking for consumers especially in the rural parts of the country.

### **Exim Bank signs MoU with BRICS development banks on blockchain technology**

Exim Bank of India has signed a multilateral cooperation agreement with member development banks of BRICS to undertake "collaborative research" in distributed ledger/blockchain technology. The MoU — signed by Exim Bank Managing Director David Rasquinha — was an outcome of the discussions the member development banks had during their annual meeting, with the objective of strengthening the cooperation under the BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism.

### **PayPal, HDFC Bank partner to offer seamless payment experiences to consumers**

PayPal, a global technology platform and digital payments leader, has announced its strategic partnership with and HDFC Bank to offer safer, faster and convenient payment experiences for the bank's card holders. To initiate incremental digital spend, the HDFC cards will be presented as a payment option during enrollment and subsequent payments, with the ability for consumers to easily open PayPal accounts and set it as their preferred payment method.

### **No ATM to be replenished with cash after 9 pm from next year**

No ATM will be replenished with cash after 9 PM in cities and 6 PM in rural areas from next year. The announcement was made by the Union Home Ministry through a notification. The Ministry said that the deadline for putting money in the ATMs located in Naxal-hit areas will be 4 PM. It said that private cash handling agencies must collect money from the banks in the first half of the day and transport notes only in armoured vehicles. Two armed guards will accompany crisp notes in transit as per a new directive issued by the Home Ministry.

### **YES Bank and iCubesWire launch AI enabled digital innovation**

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The Parliament's Committee on Estimates, headed by veteran BJP leader Murali Manohar Joshi, looking into the issue of mounting non-performing assets (NPAs), asked former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan to appear before it and brief it on the matter of NPAs. Rajan was invited after former Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) Arvind Subramanian praised him before the Parliamentary Committee for identifying the NPA crisis and trying to resolve it.

### **ICICI Lombard launches India's first AI to automate instant health insurance claims**

ICICI Lombard has launched India's first Artificial intelligence (AI) based technology to facilitate instant health insurance claims approval. As a result, the traditional cashless claim request which takes an average of 60 minutes of processing has been drastically brought down to a minute using AI. The varied medical procedures where AI is being deployed includes Cataract, Maternity, Appendicitis, Hemodialysis and Hysterectomy. YES Bank has opted for iCubesWire's AI enabled solution, Instatalk, which provides an accurate platform for the customers to interact instantly with the brand and suits their requirements.

### **Airtel Payments Bank, Bharti AXA Life tie up to offer govt's insurance plan**

Airtel Payments Bank and Bharti AXA Life Insurance in August 2018 announced a pact to offer Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), leveraging the payments bank's network in rural pockets. The alliance will be supported by the payments bank's network "to reach deep rural pockets and serve the underinsured", a company statement said.

PMJJBY offers life insurance cover of Rs 200,000 at a premium of Rs 330 per annum, and will initially be available at 1,00,000 banking points of Airtel Payments Bank. The number of banking points will be scaled to over 5,00,000 over time.

### **NPCI launches UPI 2.0 with overdraft facility**

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in August 2018 launched Unified Payments Interface (UPI) 2.0, which among others allows customers to link their overdraft account to UPI, creation of one-time mandates and pre-authorisation of transactions for payment at a later date, and checking the invoice sent by merchant prior to making payment.

UPI is a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the "Peer to Peer" collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience.

NPCI is an umbrella organization for all retail payments in India. UPI version 1 was launched in April 2016. In addition to current and savings accounts, NPCI said customers can link their overdraft (OD) account to UPI in its latest version. Customers will be able to transact instantly and all benefits associated with OD account will be made available to the users.

### **Government dismisses Allahabad Bank CEO Usha Ananthasubramanian from service**

The Union Government on August 13, 2018 dismissed Usha Ananthasubramanian, former CEO/ MD of Allahabad Bank and scam hit Punjab National Bank (PNB), from service. Though the Allahabad Bank had divested Ananthasubramanian of all her powers as MD three months back, after she was named in the CBI charge-sheet in the Rs 14,000 crore PNB fraud case, she had continued to be an employee of the bank.

### **Paytm acquires Bengaluru-based Balance Technology**

Digital payments major Paytm in August 2018 said it has acquired Bengaluru-based savings management startup, Balance Technology for an undisclosed amount. The acquisition will help

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One97 Communications, which operates the Paytm brand, in further enhancing its user and merchant interfaces, Paytm said in a statement.

### **SBI ranked as India's most patriotic brand in survey; Tata Motors, Patanjali follows**

Country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) is considered to be the most patriotic brand, according to a survey, followed by Tata Motors, Patanjali, Reliance Jio and BSNL. Around 16 per cent respondents ranked SBI to be the most patriotic brand overall, followed by Tata Motors and Patanjali with 8 per cent each, and Reliance Jio and BSNL with 6 per cent each, the survey conducted by UK-based online market research and data analytics firm YouGov said.

In terms of sectors, the financial sector topped the chart of the most patriotic brands with two leading names - SBI and Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) - followed by auto, consumer goods, food and telecom sectors.

### **IFC to invest \$100 million in IRF, a Piramal-Bain joint venture**

International Finance Corporation (IFC) the finance arm of World Bank approved investment of \$ 100 million in India Resurgence Fund (IRF). India Resurgence Fund (IRF) is a joint venture of Parimal Enterprise Limited and Bain Capital. The fund originally needs a total of **\$300 million** and each of the partner organizations have invested \$100 million each.

### **SBI cut daily ATM cash withdrawal limit to Rs 20,000**

On October 1, 2018, SBI halved the withdrawal limit from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 20,000 per day. This was targeted for debit cards of the 'Classic' and 'Maestro' platforms. The main objective in doing so was to reduce the number of fraudulent transactions and promote cashless transactions.

### **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches India Post Payments Bank**

The Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi on September 1, 2018 launched the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi. The initiative seeks to leverage the expansive network of the postal department to ensure financial inclusion for the masses. In fact, simultaneous launch events were held for the IPPBs at 650 branches and 3,250 access points.

The objective of IPPB is to build the most accessible, affordable and trusted bank for the common man, spearhead the financial inclusion agenda by removing the barriers for the unbanked and reduce the opportunity cost for the under banked populace through assisted doorstep banking.

### **India Post Payments Bank replaces ATM/debit cards with QR cards**

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), which was launched in September by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, does away with ATM cards and debit cards for both cash and cashless transactions. Instead, IPPB will issue new QR (Quick-Response) cards which work on biometric authentication and not on passwords or PINs. At present, IPPB offers 3 types of savings accounts—regular, digital and basic—besides a current account. Although each one of them has different features yet none offers an ATM or debit card.

### **Airtel Payments Bank enables card-less cash withdrawal at ATMs**

Airtel Payment Bank, India's first payments bank, has announced that its customers can now make card-less cash withdrawals at over 100,000 ATMs across India. Airtel Payments Bank has partnered with Empays, a global provider of cloud based payment solutions, under which it will enable Airtel Payments Bank's savings account holders to withdraw cash using just their mobile phone through the card-less cash technology of Empays, called IMT (Instant Money Transfer).

### **i2iFunding receives NBFC-P2P certification from RBI**

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India's second largest peer-to-peer lending platform, i2ifunding.com in September announced receiving of Certificate of Registration (CoR) as NBFC-Peer to Peer Lending Platform (NBFC-P2P) from Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The central bank had issued master directions on in 2017, as per which each player in Peer-to-Peer Lending platforms are required to register as Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC-P2P).

i2iFunding.com is one of the pioneers of P2P Lending in India and has more than 80,000 registered users. It is backed by SucSEED Venture Partners and angel investors comprising industry veterans.

### **Former RBI governor Bimal Jalan to head panel to select new Chief Economic Advisor**

The Union Government has appointed former Reserve Bank of India governor Bimal Jalan as the head of the panel that has been tasked with selecting India's next chief economic advisor (CEA). The other members of the panel include secretary of the department of personnel and training C Chandramouli and economic affairs secretary Subhash Chandra Garg. The panel will screen the applications received and conduct interviews.

The move comes two months after the government sought applications for the post after previous CEA Arvind Subramanian resigned from office.

### **Parliamentary panel for raising PSB chiefs' retirement age to 70**

As the 'decade of retirement' in public sector banks (PSBs) nears its end, a parliamentary committee has called for increasing the retirement age of their chief executive officers (CEOs) to 70 years from the current 60. This comes after PSBs raised with the panel the prospect of a leadership vacuum in the near future.

### **ICICI Bank launches lending to MSMEs based on their GST returns**

Private sector lender, ICICI Bank Ltd. announced the launch of a new working capital facility that enables MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise) to get an overdraft (OD) based on the turnover reported in their Good and Services Tax (GST) returns. Christened 'GST Business Loan', the facility is available to any MSME including non-customers of ICICI Bank, upto Rs 1 crore, a bank release said.

### **Amitabh Chaudhry to take charge as Axis Bank MD and CEO from January 1**

The country's third largest private sector lender Axis Bank Saturday appointed Amitabh Chaudhry as Managing Director and CEO from January 1, after incumbent Shikha Sharma steps down at the end of this year. Chaudhry, who resigned from the post of MD and CEO of HDFC Standard Life Insurance Company in September, has been appointed as MD and CEO for a period of 3 years, with effect from January 1, 2019 up to December 31, 2021.

### **Bajaj Finserv RBL Bank supercard offers interest-free cash withdrawal**

Bajaj Finserv, is offering Interest-free cash withdrawal in its exclusive SuperCard series. The Bajaj Finserv RBL Bank SuperCard offer customers to withdraw interest-free cash from any ATM, by paying just a minimal processing fee. The cash can be used by customers for any financial requirement and interest will not be charged for up to 50 days.

Additionally, customers can opt to convert the cash limit of the SuperCard into a short interest-free personal loan with a repayment tenor of up to 90 days with a small processing fee. Merely, the principal must be repaid against this facility and that too in three EMIs.

### **YES Bank launches Cashless Payment Solution for Udaipur Smart City**

YES BANK, India's fourth largest private sector bank, launched a comprehensive cashless payment solution for Udaipur Smart City, in partnership with the Udaipur Municipal Corporation (UMC), in

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order to bolster Financial Inclusion and Digital India initiatives of the Government of India. The project was launched in September by Hon. Mayor of Udaipur, Chandra Singh Kothari and Sidharth Sihag, Commissioner, Udaipur Municipal Corporation & CEO, Udaipur Smart City Ltd.

### **HDFC Life appoints Vibha Padalkar as new MD & CEO**

HDFC Life, largest private life insurers, has announced the appointment of Vibha Padalkar as its new Managing Director and CEO for a period of three years effective from in September. After a successful listing on the bourses in November 2017, HDFC Life is one of the most valuable private life insurers with industry-leading profitability, delivering superior returns to investors.

### **Girish Radhakrishnan appointed CMD of United India Insurance Company**

Girish Radhakrishnan and Tajinder Mukherjee have been appointed chairmen-cum-managing directors of the United India Insurance Company and the National Insurance Company Limited respectively, according to an order issued in September. Radhakrishnan, at present a general manager in the New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL), has been appointed to the post till he attains the age of 60 years, the Personnel Ministry order said.

### **Nabard launches Rs 80 bn Dairy Processing and Infra Development Fund**

In a bid to support the modernisation of the dairy sector in the country, the Centre has set up a Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) at the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard), with a corpus of Rs 80.04 billion. According to Nabard, the fund is expected to achieve an investment of Rs 100 billion in the dairy sector by 2019-20.

### **ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB) AND INDIA SIGN \$150 MILLION LOAN TO IMPROVE REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY IN NORTH BENGAL AND NORTH- EAST**

To finance continued improvements to road connectivity and efficiency. The 2nd tranche loan agreement for the \$500 million South Asia Sub Regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Road Connectivity Investment Program. It was approved in 2014, to expand about 500 kilometers (km) of roads in India's North Bengal and northeastern region.

### **\$100 MILLION LOAN WAS SIGNED BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)**

Expand Sewerage and Drainage Coverage in Kolkata. This is the 3rd and final tranche under the \$400 million Kolkata Environmental Improvement Investment Program to expand sewerage and drainage coverage and provide sewage treatment in Kolkata.

### **MOBIKWIK'S NEW PRODUCT 'BOOST' TO OFFER INSTANT LOAN WITHIN 90 SECONDS**

1st wallet player to disburse loan amount in the user's mobile wallet. Loans of upto Rs. 60,000 are sanctioned and disbursed within 90 seconds. Loan sanction decision will be taken in 30 seconds, on the basis of an innovative risk scoring model called 'Mobiscore'. Users who avail loans via the app will have the option to transfer their loan amount to their bank account.

### **THE NEW GDPI CONTRIBUTORS FOR INSURANCE INDUSTRY IN INDIA, U.P IS AMONG THE TOPS: SBI GEN INSURANCE**

Uttar Pradesh is among the top 5 contributors to the insurance sector in terms of Gross Direct Premium Income (GDPI) as per SBI General Insurance in its latest report. Lucknow leads the section of retail and corporate policies as per its report.

The other highest selling policies are: Simple Health Policy in the health category and Personal Accident Policy in the motor category.

### **COAL INDIA SIGNS MOU WITH NLC FOR 5000 MW POWER GENERATION**

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The Coal India Limited (CIL) and NLC India (NLCIL), formerly known as Neyveli Lignite Corporation, signed an MOU in Kolkata for a 50-50 partnership to set up 5000 MW of power generation projects which comprised of 3000 MW of Solar powered project and 2000 MW of coal-fuelled project. The estimated cost for the project is at Rs 12,000 crore and would require a total of 15,000 acres of barren land.

### **OYO PARTNERS WITH PAYMENTS PLATFORM PHONEPE**

For the ease of OYO users to book a room through the PhonePe app. Enable all PhonePe users to access OYO's quality offerings across 160 cities in India while maintaining the convenience and security of their payments through PhonePe. PhonePe users can reserve a room at any OYO hotel in India by paying a token amount of Rs 99 upfront and paying the remaining amount later at the hotel.

### **IRCTC LAUNCHED 'ASK DISHA' ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) CHATBOT ON ITS E-TICKETING WEBSITE**

Designed for simulating conversation with users, over the internet. The AI chatbot is powered by CoRover, a Bengaluru-based startup. Chatbot is voice enabled and in the near future will support several regional languages.

### **RBI EASES LIQUIDITY NORMS FOR BANKS**

For Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), increased lenders' single borrower exposure limit to 15 per cent of capital funds. From December 31, 2018, single borrower exposure limit has been increased from 10 per cent of capital funds. Banks will be permitted to reckon Government securities held by them up to an amount equal to their incremental outstanding credit to NBFCs and Housing Finance Companies (HFCs).

### **INDIA'S 1ST CRYPTOCURRENCY ATM INSTALLED IN BENGALURU**

Installed by domestic bitcoin company Unocoin at the Kemp Fort Mall in Bengaluru. To deposit or withdraw money, customers can use this ATM, which can then be used to buy crypto currencies from Unocoin's website or mobile app.

### **SBI LAUNCHES "WEALTH HUB" IN MANGALURU**

1st bank to introduce wealth business services for its customers. Launched by SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar. Also launched Wealth Business services for NRIs.

### **PAYTM TEAMS UP WITH SOFTBANK, YAHOO TO LAUNCH 'PAYPAY' SERVICE IN JAPAN**

It is the joint venture set up by Japanese conglomerate SoftBank Corp. and Yahoo Japan Corporation. Japanese government is taking measures for raising the cashless payment ratio from the current 20% to 40% by 2025. Paytm is also offering a 'cashback' to users of PayPay in Japan, give electronic money equivalent to

¥500 to each customer downloading the application and authenticating it with a valid Japanese mobile number. Yahoo Japan will terminate "Yahoo! Wallet" with the launch of payment service called "PayPay".

### **NABARD, AYURVET RESEARCH FOUNDATION (AFR) SIGN MOU FOR COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES IN HARYANA**

For facilitating several collaborative initiatives for integrated agricultural and rural development of Haryana. Also enable to find practical solutions to the problems and challenges faced in integrated development of some districts of Haryana.

### **PayU India gets RBI approval to operate its own NBFC**

PayU India has received Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to operate its own non-banking financial company (NBFC), the digital payments firm owned by South Africa's Naspers Ltd said today. It aims to promote inclusive growth in the country by catering to the diverse financial needs of various segments of the society.

### **Public Sector Banks give 91 per cent of education loans: RBI report**

Private sector banks, which have recently come under the scanner for corrupt activities, have little concern for promoting education and literacy in the country by providing education loans. A large part of lending to the education sector in the country has been done by public sector banks. A recent RBI report disclosed that the share of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in lending to the education sector is 91.42 per cent.

### **Capital First merges with IDFC Bank to create IDFC First Bank**

Infrastructure Development Finance Company Bank (IDFC Bank) and non-banking financial company Capital First completed their merger process, creating a combined loan asset book of Rs 1.03 lakh crore for the merged entity IDFC First Bank, which will be headquartered in Mumbai. V Vaidyanathan will be the managing director and chief executive officer of the merged entity while **Rajiv Lall** will be the part-time non-executive chairman, subject to Reserve Bank of India approval.

### **RBI relaxes withdrawal limit for depositors of City Co-operative Bank**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has relaxed the norms for the Mumbai-based the City Co-operative Bank, allowing its depositors to withdraw a sum not exceeding **Rs 5,000** of the total balance in every savings bank or current account or any other deposit account, against **Rs 1,000** earlier.

### **Government infuses Rs 2159 cr in United Bank of India**

Union Government decided to infuse Rs 2,159 crore in the State-owned United Bank of India as a part of Rs 28,615 crore capital infusion to be done in seven public sector banks via recapitalisation bonds in near future. In 2018-19, the centre had announced an infusion worth Rs 65,000 crore in PSBs, out of which Rs 23,000 crore had been cleared already, while Rs 42,000 crore is still remaining. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley earlier this month, said the government would put an additional Rs 41,000 crore in PSBs over and above what was announced earlier and on December 20, the government sought Parliament's approval for infusion of an additional Rs 41,000 crore.

### **ICICI topped list of banks penalising staff for fraud in 2015-2017: RBI data**

According to data furnished by the Reserve Bank of India, between 2015 and 2017, private lender ICICI Bank penalised the highest number of employees for defrauding bank assets in the last three year out of 60 scheduled commercial banks operating in India. It is followed by State Bank of India and Punjab National Bank.

### **ESAF small finance bank gets RBI nod to operate as scheduled bank**

The Thrissur, Kerala-based ESAF Small Finance Bank has received the Reserve Bank approval to operate as scheduled bank making it the fifth scheduled bank that operates from **Kerala** after Federal Bank, South Indian Bank, Catholic Syrian Bank, and Dhanlaxmi Bank.

### **Government to infuse Rs 10,086 crore in Bank of India**

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state-owned Bank of India said that the government has decided to infuse Rs 10,086 crore in the bank as part of Rs 28,615 crore capital infusion to be done in about half a dozen public sector lenders.

### Web Portal and Apps Launched Recently (July to December)

Portal and App Name	Lunched by	Purpose
Aadhaar-based e-PAN allotment service	Income Tax Department	For individuals seeking PAN (Permanent Account Number) service for the first time
cVIGIL - app	Election Commissioner	To report any violation of the model code of conduct during elections.
Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System (CMSMS) and 'Khan Prahari' App	Union Minister of Coal, Railways, Finance & Corporate Affairs, Shri Piyush Goyal	To curb illegal mining in the country.
'GST Verify' app	Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)	To protect interest of consumer.
Mumbai Weather Live	Union Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)	To provide information on extreme weather events
e-Aksharayan - desktop software	IT ministry	To enable editing and printing of text in scanned documents
"Wings"	BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited)	India's first Internet telephony service
"WOW" (Wellness of Women)	FICCI Ladies Organisation,	To creating awareness on preventive healthcare
FOCAL portal	Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI)	To connect cargo owners and shippers with real time data on availability of vessels
Shaur Nahin	Himachal Pradesh Gov	Objective to stop unnecessary noise pollution
Portal: Bidder Information Management System (BIMS) and Bhoomi Rashi and PFMS linkage	Ministry for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping	Speeding up pre construction processes relating to bidding and land acquisition Through the initiatives the ministry would focus to reduce construction costs while enhancing quality.

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1. Mobile Apps DND 2.0 & 2. MyCall on UMANG platform	TRAI	To reach out to the consumers and to safeguard their interests
Niryat Mitra – mobile App	Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Aviation	To provides wide range of information required to undertake international trade
PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub)	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	To automates the complete process of submitting the application and tracking the status of proposals at every stage of processing.
Neta app	Pratham Mittal	To allows voters to rate and review their political representatives
PUDA360 module	Punjab Urban Planning and Development Authority (PUDA)	To facilitate online property transactions.
MOPAD (Multi Option Payment Acceptance Device)	State Bank of India	Ressure to increase the lending rate.
“MyDeal” app	HSBC	To simplify capital raising process through capital markets by offering real-time access to information like investors’ feedback, profiles, client orders and deal pricing
Coffee Connect	Minister for Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu	for coffee stakeholders Coffee KrishiTharanga
AAPOORTI	Minister of Railways & Coal, Piyush Goyal	To offers information and data related to e-tendering and e-auction activities of Indian Railways
State Data Sharing and Accessibility Platform (SDSAP).	Sikkim CM Pawan Kumar Chamling	It is the first data sharing and accessibility portal of Sikkim:
National Scholarship Portal Mobile App (NSP Mobile App)	Union Minister for Minority Affairs Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	For smooth, accessible and hassle- free scholarship system for students from poor and weaker sections
e-Rythu (e-farmer in Telugu) app	Andhra Pradesh	Enabling small-scale farmers to market their produce at reasonable prices

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Sidhhi app	DestaGlobal	To brings farmers, dealers together developed by DestaGlobal
<a href="https://pbdindia.gov.in/en">https://pbdindia.gov.in/en</a>	External Affairs Minister (EAM) Sushma Swaraj and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath	Website for the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD)
'e-Sahaj' portal	Union Home Secretary Shri Rajiv Gauba	For grant of Security Clearance
Web portal 'Budget Dashboard'	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	For information on budget and expenditure introduced by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Jan Dhan Darshak	Finance Ministry	To find financial service touch point at a given location in the country
Agmark online system	Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh	Online software for Agmark certification process
PMEGP Portal	Union Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises	A tool for increasing employment in micro enterprises.
e-Mitra (Mobile Integrated Toolkit RMNCH+A) app	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Women and Child Development	To complement the Aspirational District Programme
Maha Madat portal and app	Maharashtra Government	For collectively analysing the rainfall, crop situation and underground water level using modern technology
Mobile health App named 'MedWatch	Indian Air Force	It is the first such health app provided in the three Armed Services and is an initiative of the IAF with zero financial outlay. With an Objective to provide health information to airwarriors and all citizens of India
i-Khet Machine , e-PEHaL and e- Prevent app	Punjab Gov	To prevent crop residue burning. With an Objective to check and create awareness

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		about environmental effects of crop
Mahila-E-Haat	Women and Child Development	For promoting women farmers and entrepreneurs for unique organic products of the women farmers and entrepreneurs from across the country.
'NIPUN'	Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik	e-learning portal to impart in-service training to its personnel.NIPUN aims to provide online training and information through specialized courses designed by experts in NewDelhi
KOOL	Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE)	This will help Kerala to become India's first complete digital state in Education.
NSE goBID	National Stock Exchange of India (NSE)	For retail investors to buy government securities. The NSE goBID app will be available to all registered retail investors.
AirSewa 2.0 web portal and mobile app	Union Minister of Civil Aviation and Commerce & Industry, Suresh Prabhu, and Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Jayant Sinha	
PaiSA-Portal	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs	For Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access
Arunachal Suraksha App	Arunachal Pradesh Tourist Police	To help the citizens during emergencies
Single emergency number 112	Himachal Pradesh	To connecting police, fire, health and other helplines through an Emergency Response Centre (ERC) in the state
'SMiLE Virtual Tour Guide' site	Kerala Tourism Department	For the region in north Kerala.

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Index	Index released by	India's Rank	1st Rank	Lowest Rank
Global Economic Freedom Index	American think-tank	130th	Hong Kong	North Korea (186 <sup>th</sup> )
Environmental Performance Index 2018	World Economic Forum	177 <sup>th</sup>	Switzerland	Burundi (180 <sup>th</sup> )
Commonwealth innovation index	WIPO and GII	10 <sup>th</sup>	U.K	
Environmental Performance Index 2018	World Economic Forum	177 <sup>th</sup>	Switzerland	Burundi (180 <sup>th</sup> )
Global Democracy	EIU (Economist Intelligence Unit)	42 <sup>th</sup>	Norway	North Korea (167 <sup>th</sup> )
Corruption Perception Index	Transparency International	81 <sup>th</sup>	New Zealand	Somalia (180 <sup>th</sup> )
Inclusive Internet Index	EIU (Economist Intelligence Unit)	47 <sup>th</sup>	Sweden	Congo (86 <sup>th</sup> )
International Intellectual Property Index	US Chambers of Commerce	44 <sup>th</sup>	USA	Venezuela (50 <sup>th</sup> )
World Happiness report	UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network	133 <sup>rd</sup>	Finland	Burundi (156 <sup>th</sup> )
Ease of Doing Business	World Bank	77 <sup>TH</sup>	New Zealand	(190 <sup>TH</sup> )
Global manufacturing Index	World Economic Forum	30 <sup>TH</sup>	Japan	Nigeria (100 <sup>th</sup> )
Inclusive Development Index	World Economic Forum	62 <sup>th</sup>	Norway (Advanced) Lithuania (Emerging)	
Global Hunger Index (GHI)	IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute)	103 <sup>rd</sup>	Belarus	Central Africa Republic (119 <sup>th</sup> )
Climate change performance index	German watch	14 <sup>th</sup>	Sweden	Saudi Arabia (60 <sup>th</sup> )
World Inequality Index	Oxfam	147 <sup>th</sup>	Denmark	
Passport Index	Arton Capital	66 <sup>th</sup>	Singapore	Afghanistan (94 <sup>th</sup> )
Gender Gap	WorldEconomicForum	108 <sup>th</sup>	Iceland	

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Global connectivity index	Huawei's Global Connectivity	43th	US, Singapore and Sweden	
World press freedom index	Reporters Without Borders	138 <sup>th</sup>	Norway	
Global Innovation Index	Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organization	57 <sup>th</sup>	Switzerland, Netherland	
Travel and Tourism competitiveness index	World Economic Forum (WEF)	40 <sup>th</sup>	Spain, France and Germany	

### India's GDP Growth Rate 2018 Forecast

Organisations	India's GDP Predictions (2018-19)	India's GDP Predictions (2019-20)
Reserve Bank of India	7.4%	
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	7.3%	7.5%
World Bank	7.3%	7.5%
Asian development bank(ADB)	7.3%	7.6%
United Nation (UN)	7.6%	
Fitch Rating	7.8%	
CRISIL	7.5%	
FICCI	7.5%	
Central Statistic Office (CSO)	7.5%	
Nomura	7.7%	

### Winners of Nobel Prize 2018

Field	Winner	Description
Physiology or Medicine	James P Allison (USA) and Tasaku Honjo (Japan)	"for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation"
Physics	Arthur Ashkin (USA), Gerard Mourou (France) and Donna Strickland (Canada)	"for groundbreaking inventions in the field of laser physics"
Chemistry	(a) one half to Frances H. Arnold (USA) (b) other half jointly to George P. Smith (USA) and Sir Gregory	(a) "for the directed evolution of enzymes" (b) "for the phage display of peptides and antibodies"

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	P. Winter (UK)	
Peace	Denis Mukwege (Congo) and Nadia Murad (Iraq)	“for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict”
Economic Sciences	(a) William D. Nordhaus (USA) (b) Paul M. Romer (USA)	(a) “for integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis” (b) “for integrating technological innovations into long-run macroeconomic analysis.”

### Battle Exercise Army

<b>NBAX 1</b>	India - Vietnam	29 January- 3 February 2018	Jabalpur ,Madhya Pradesh	For the 1 <sup>st</sup> time the 2 nations held a joint military exercise to strengthen defense co operation.
<b>VAJRA PRAHAR</b>	India – United States of America	January	Joint base Lewis mc chord, Seattle Us	It's a joint military exercise held alternately in India and us. Its aim is to share the best practices between the 2 armies and the mutual exchange of strategic planning.
<b>SHAKTI - IV</b>	France	31 January- 5 February	Maily be camp, France	At the invitation of French chief of army staff, India deployed 45 personnel specializing in mountain combat in France
<b>LAMITYE VIII</b>	Seychelles	24 February- 4 march	Mahe, Seychelles	This exercise is 8 <sup>th</sup> in the series of bilateral exercises between the 2 countries.
<b>KHANJAR V</b>	Krygyzstan	16-29 MARCH	VAIRENGTE INDIA	Indo- Krygyzstan annual joint training exercise held at counter insurgency jungle warfare school, Vairengte, near SILCHAR in Assam- Mizoram border
<b>HARIMAU</b>	Malaysia	30 APRIL-	Hulu langat, Malaysia	Held in the jungles of hulu

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<b>SHAKTI</b>		13 MAY		langat, the 2 armies engaged in the series of counter guerilla warfare
<b>SURYA KIRAN XIII</b>	Nepal	May 30- 12 June	Pithoragarh, uttarakhand	The aim of this exercise was to conduct a battalion level joint training with emphasis on counter terrorism in mountainous terrain
<b>MAITREE</b>	Thailand	6- 9 August	Chachoengsao Thailand	The exercise focuses on anti terror co operation
<b>SCO PEACE MISSION</b>	Members of shanghai co-operation organization	20- 29 August	Chelyabinsk Russia	In 8 nation exercise, India participated for the first time and participated in the exercises which focused on countering anti-terrorism.
<b>Rapid Trident</b>	United States - NATO Members Countries	2-15 September	Ukraine	Its main goal is to practice countering armed aggression in conditions of the hybrid war.
<b>KAZIND 2018</b>	India - Kazakhstan	10-23 September	Otar Region, Kazakhstan	This will be third joint military exercise between two countries which have a history of extensive cooperation in the defence arena.
<b>Yudh Abhyas 2018</b>	India - United states	16-29 September	Chaubattia, Uttarakhand	The aim of this exercise will be to enhance interoperability between both the armies.
<b>Nomadic Elephant 2018</b>	India - Mongolia	10-21 September	UlaanBaatar	Nomadic Elephant is annual bilateral military exercise started in 2006. It is designed to strengthen partnership between Indian Army and Mongolian Armed Forces.
<b>Iron Magic 19</b>	UAE - US	October	Dubai	The exercise seeks to reinforce cooperation, joint actions and exchange of expertise in military areas between both countries.
<b>Druzhba</b>	Rusia - Pakistan	October	Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan	The two week long joint military exercise is aimed at bolstering and building

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				military cooperation between the two countries.
<b>Dharma Guardian</b>	India – Japan	1-14 November	Vairengte(Mizoram)	The exercise is aimed at developing mutual understanding and respect between militaries of both countries.
<b>Indra 2018</b>	India – Russia	18-28 November	Jhansi, UP	It was the tenth exercise in the series of Exercise INDRA aimed at increasing interoperability between Indian and Russian Armies.
<b>Vajra Prahar</b>	India – USA	November	Bikaner, Rajasthan	The exercise was called between Special Forces of both countries to deal with operations for counter-terrorism

#### Navy

<b>ALABAR</b>	Japan India U.S	7-16 June	Guam (pacific ocean )
<b>VARUNA</b>	France	19-24 March 2018	Vasco de Gama, Goa
<b>RIMPAC 2018</b>	26 countries	July- August 2018	Honolulu Hawaii
<b>KAKADU 2018</b>	25 countries	August - September 2018	Australia
<b>Sahyog HOP TAC 2018</b>	India Vietnam	October 2018	Bay of Bengal

#### Air force

<b>Pitch black</b>	Australia Us Netherlands France Germany Canada Indonesia New zealand Singapore Thailand Malaysia	27 July- 18 August	Darwin airforce base Australia
<b>BILATERAL EXERCISE</b>	Malaysia	20-22 August	Subhang air base Malaysia
<b>Aviandra-18</b>	India Rusia	17-28 September	Lipetsk Russia

### Current Affairs (July to December) (Last 6 Months)

#### UP govt in partnership with Japan to develop 'food value chain'

On October 30, 2018, the Uttar Pradesh cabinet presided over by UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath cleared a proposal for the development of 'Food Value Chain' in the state.

The 'Food Value Chain' will be developed by: UP government and Japan's agriculture, forestry and fisheries department. Under the agreement, in the first five years, Japanese companies will invest in agri-related and food-related industries.

#### 'Soura Jalanidhi' scheme launched in Odisha

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Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik launched 'Soura Jananidhi' scheme. The Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik has launched 'Soura Jananidhi' scheme aims at increasing use of solar energy for helping farmers in irrigation. Soura Jananidhi' is a dug well based solar pump irrigation system in convergence mode. Under the scheme, 5,000 solar pumps will be provided to farmers at a subsidy of 90 per cent to irrigate 2,500 acres of land. A total of Rs 27 crore will be spent for the programme.

### **Entrepreneurship scheme Samruddhi launched in Karnataka**

Karnataka Social Welfare Department launched the Samruddhi scheme to boost employment opportunities for SC/ST youth through entrepreneurship.

The scheme, targeted at socially marginalized communities to provide them with skill development and alternate means of employment has a total cost of Rs.800 crore.

For this, the government is partnering with private enterprises to train the youth from backward communities. The training will include: retail management, taxation policies and GST, inventory management, soft skills and logistics.

### **India ranked 66th in Global Passport Index, Singapore tops the chart**

latest ranking of the Global Passport Index, The Indian passport was ranked 66th in the world.

Other than India, Kyrgyzstan and Zimbabwe share the 66<sup>th</sup> rank. Singapore and Germany have the world's "most powerful" passport with access to 165 countries. In the last place of the list is Afghanistan, ranked 91 with a score of 22, followed by Iraq at 90, Pakistan at 89 and Syria at 88 and Somalia at 87.

### **NASA sets record with 'supersonic' parachute for Mars 2020 mission**

NASA's "supersonic parachute" that will have a major role in landing its Mars 2020 rover has created a world record by deploying in just four-tenths of a second and surviving 37,000 kg load.

### **Union Cabinet approved renaming of Jharsuguda Airport Odisha as "Veer Surendra Sai Airport, Jharsuguda"**

Veer Surendra Sai is a well-known freedom fighter of Odisha. This was done as per demand of the Odisha Government for giving tribute to the freedom fighter representing the state.

### **Union Cabinet approved the Agreement between India and Morocco Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.**

This will provide a broad legal framework for bilateral cooperation between India and Morocco in investigation and prosecution of crime, tracing, restraint etc. It will increase effectiveness in investigation and prosecution of crime and help in gaining better inputs and insights in the modus operandi of organized criminals and terrorists.

### **Union Cabinet approved the Agreement between India and Russia Federation cooperation in transport education and Railway**

MoU with the Ministry of Transport of the Russian federation for the development of cooperation in transport education and MoC with the Joint Stock Company "Russian Railways" (RZD) on technical cooperation in the field of railways

### **Approves MoU between India and South Korea**

The Union Cabinet has approved signing of MoU between India and South Korea for strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism. It will encourage cooperation between tourism stakeholders including hotels and tour operators. India and South Korea have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on sports cooperation.

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### **India ranked 77th in World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index**

India ranked 77th among 190 countries by leapfrogging 23 ranks in World Bank's Ease of Doing Business (EODB) 2018 rankings. In the 2017, India ranked 100th and had jumped 30 places.

### **Harsimrat Kaur Badal confers 'Swachhta' awards**

Harsimrat Kaur presented awards for cleanliness to Mega Food Parks and Cold Chain Units for maintaining, promoting and encouraging Swachhta Culture.

The 'Swachhta' award winners are as follows:

- First prize – M/s. Patanjali Food and Herbal Park (P) Ltd. in Haridwar
- Second prize – Satara Mega Food Park (P) Ltd., Satara District, Maharashtra
- Third prize – Pagro Frozen Foods Pvt.(P) Ltd. (Cold Chain Project) in Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab

### **Fourth NITI Aayog- DRC Dialogue Held in Mumbai**

4<sup>th</sup> Dialogue of the NITI Aayog – Development Research Centre (DRC) of the State Council, Peoples' Republic of China was held in Mumbai. The Chinese delegation was led by Mr. Li Wei, President of DRC and The Indian delegation was led by Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog.

### **First India-Japan military exercise begins in Vairengte, Mizoram**

The first joint military exercise named 'Dharma Guardian' between India and Japan has begun at Indian Army's Counter-Insurgency Warfare School at Vairengte (Mizoram). It is aimed at developing mutual understanding and respect between militaries of both countries, as also facilitate in tracking worldwide phenomenon of terrorism.

### **Decommissioned carrier INS Viraat to become a floating museum: Maharashtra cabinet**

The conversion of decommissioned carrier INS Viraat into a floating museum was approved by the Maharashtra Cabinet.

The project is worth Rs. 852 crore and will be implemented through public-private-partnership (PPP). The decision was aimed to make the new generation familiar with the glorious history of INS Viraat. The carrier will be housed on a concrete foundation near Nivati Rocks in Sindhudurg in Konkan region of Maharashtra.

### **'Little India Gate' inaugurated in Indonesia's Medan city**

The first-of-its-kind 'Little India Gate' was inaugurated at Kampung Madras or Madras Village area in Medan city, Indonesia.

It was jointly inaugurated by India's ambassador to Indonesia and Timor Leste Pradeep Kumar Rawat and Mayor of Medan H T Dzulmi Eldin S.

### **First Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health held in WHO Headquarters in Geneva**

1<sup>st</sup> Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health concluded at the World Health Organisation's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Theme of the conference was: **"Improving Air Quality, Combatting Climate Change-Saving Lives"**.

### **G.N. Bajpai resigns as Director of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS)**

GN Bajpai resigned from the board of IL&FS citing personal reasons. He is a former chairman of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

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He was one of the 7 directors appointed on the IL&FS board by the government, following National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) order, recently.

### **'Pather Panchali' included in BBC's 100 best foreign language films list**

Satyajit Ray's epic masterpiece 'Pather Panchali' has been included in BBC's 100 best foreign language films list of the 21st century. The film, which was released in 1955 and the first in his 'Apu' trilogy, is the only Indian film that find its spot in the BBC list and is placed at number 15.

### **Tata Steel named as an official partner of 14th edition of the FIH men's hockey World Cup 2018**

Steel manufacturing giant Tata Steel has been named as an official partner of the 14th edition of the FIH men's hockey World Cup 2018 to continue their efforts of promoting development through sports across the country. It is scheduled to be held at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha from Nov 28 to Dec 16.

### **Kolkata tops in 'Ease of Moving Index 2018' – India Report 2018**

According to India's first-ever 'Ease of Moving Index 2018' – India Report 2018, Kolkata topped the index in terms of cleanliness and affordability of public transport, followed by New Delhi and Chennai. The index was released by Ola Mobility Institute (OMI), the research and outreach arm of Ola ride-hailing platform.

### **India and Japan signs loan agreement worth Rs. 1817 crore**

India and Japan has signed the loan agreement worth Rs. 1817 crore for the 'Project for the Construction of Turga Pumped Storage (I)' in the State of West Bengal. It aims to strengthen the capability to respond to fluctuation in supply and demand of power and to improve stability of the power supply by constructing the pumped storage facilities, thereby contributing to the Industrial Development and Living Standard Improvement in the State of West Bengal.

### **India International Cherry Blossom (IICB) festival to held in Shillong**

The second edition of the India International Cherry Blossom (IICB) festival will held from Nov 14 to 17 in Shillong. It is the world's only autumn cherry blossom festival.

### **Indian Coast Guard launches new Offshore patrol vessel ICGS Varaha**

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has launched new Offshore patrol vessel (OPV) ICGS Varaha at L&T Kattupalli shipyard near Chennai, Tamil Nadu. It is the fourth in the series of 98 M OPVs designed and built indigenously by Larsen & Toubro (L&T).

### **Delhi govt, Indian Railways partnered for Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana**

Delhi government along with the Indian Railways launched a scheme to give free tourism package for senior citizens travelling to **Five** religious circuits.

The Delhi Tourism & Transportation Development Corporation Ltd., Delhi government and The Indian Railways and Catering Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia at the Delhi Secretariat in New Delhi.

### **18th Indian Ocean Rim Association Council of Ministers Meeting held in Durban, South Africa**

The Theme of the IORA meeting was: "**IORA: Uniting the Peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia and the Middle East through enhanced cooperation for Peace, Stability And Sustainable Development**".

South Africa is the current chairman of the IORA organization. The Meeting was chaired by

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Honourable Minister Lindiwe Sisulu, Foreign Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa, and Chair of the Association. Declaration on Guidelines for Enhancing Interaction with Dialogue Partners in IORA was adopted.

### **Ministry of Food Processing Industries issued guidelines for 'Operation Greens'**

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) under Union Minister Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal approved the strategy for operationalisation of **Operation Greens**.

The strategy consists of the following:

- Short term Price Stabilisation Measures,
- Long Term Integrated value chain development projects.

The Short term Price Stabilisation measures would be implemented by the Nodal agency **NAFED** and MoFPI will provide **50%** of the subsidy for transport and storage of **TOP (Tomato, Onion, Potato)**. The Long Term Integrated value chain development projects would include:

- Capacity Building of FPOs & their consortium
- Quality production
- Post-harvest processing facilities
- Agri-Logistics
- Marketing / Consumption Points
- Creation and Management of e-platform for demand and supply management of TOP Crops.

### **"Mere Pyaare Prime Minister" is the only Asian Film screened at Rome Film Festival**

"Mere Pyaare Prime Minister" was the only Asian film that was screened at the 13<sup>th</sup> Rome Film Festival held from 18<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in Rome. From Asia, filmmaker Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's upcoming film "Mere Pyaare Prime Minister" was screened.

### **Namrata Ahuja bags IPI-India Award for excellence in journalism 2018**

Namrata Biji Ahuja of The Week magazine has been awarded the IPI (International Press Institute) India Award for excellence in journalism 2018. Namrata Biji Ahuja is a senior special correspondent with The Week magazine. She has received this award for her exclusive story on Nagaland underground camps.

### **Dr. Ramdas M Pai, MAHE Chancellor, conferred 'Lifetime Achievement Award 2018' by FICCI**

Dr. Ramdas M Pai, Chancellor and President of Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), was awarded 'Lifetime Achievement Award 2018' by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), in New Delhi. Dr. Ramdas M Pai is also Chairman Emeritus, Manipal Education and Medical Group. He has been awarded for his contributions in the fields of education and healthcare.

### **United Nations Postal System issues special postal stamps to mark Diwali celebration**

United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) issued special stamps with Diyas lamps (special event sheet) to commemorate India Hindu festival of Diwali. These stamps are available at UN headquarters post office in New York, US and also online.

### **N Ram chosen for 'Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award' by Press Council of India (PCI)**

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Journalist and the Hindu Group of Publications Chairman N Ram has been chosen for the Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award, presented by the Press Council of India (PCI), for his contribution to journalism.

### **Faizabad to be known as Ayodhya: Yogi Adityanath**

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath renamed Faizabad as Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Ram. The Faizabad district comprises the twin towns of Faizabad and Ayodhya on the banks of the river Saryu. He also announced a medical college that would be named after Lord Ram's father in the epic Ramayana, Raja Dashrath. An airport in Ayodhya will be named after Lord Ram.

### **India pledged contribution of \$13.36 mn for UN agencies, development activities**

On November 7, 2018, 1<sup>st</sup> Secretary in India's Permanent Mission to the UN, Mahesh Kumar, on behalf of **India** pledged contributions of USD 13.36 million for the various UN agencies and development activities. This pledge was taken during the 2018 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities at the UN Headquarters in New York, USA.

### **India re-elected as a Member of the ITU Council for another 4-year term (2019-2022)**

India was re-elected as a Member of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Council at the elections of the council held during ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 at Dubai, UAE. India would be the Member of ITU Council for 4 more years (2019-2022). India secured the 3<sup>rd</sup> rank among the 13 countries, by getting 165 votes, from the Asia-Australasia region. Globally, it ranked 8<sup>th</sup> among the 48 countries.

### **"Notes of a Dream: The Authorized Biography of A.R. Rahman" by Krishna Trilok was launched**

### **Arunima Sinha, world's first Indian woman amputee to scale Everest gets honorary doctorate in UK**

Arunima Sinha was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Strathclyde of United Kingdom in Glasgow, Scotland. She has been awarded for her inspirational achievements in mountaineering. She is 30 years old. In 2013, she became the world's first woman amputee to climb Mount Everest.

### **Super 30 founder Anand Kumar honoured with education award 'Global Education Award' in Dubai**

Mathematician and Super 30 founder **Anand Kumar** was awarded '**Global Education Award**'. This was awarded by **Malabar Gold & Diamonds**, flagship company of Malabar Group, a leading Indian business conglomerate. He was honoured for his "pioneering" contributions to the field of education. His selection was done from a list of 100 names working in the field of education by a 12-member jury.

### **Jeff Sessions resigns as United States Attorney General**

United States Attorney General Jeff Sessions resigned from his position, at US President Donald Trump's request. **Matthew Whitaker** has been appointed the acting Attorney General of United States.

### **Retired Gauhati High Court judge Pranoy Kumar Musahary appointed as the first chairperson of Lokayukta in Meghalaya**

### **"Mahila-E-Haat": online portal to promote women farmers and entrepreneurs launched by WCD**

Women and Child Development Ministry launched an online marketing portal named: "**Mahila-E-Haat**" for promoting women farmers and entrepreneurs. It will serve as an e-platform to bring

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them together and promote the achievements of women farmers. It was launched during the 5<sup>th</sup> “Women of India National Organic Festival, 2018”.

#### **ADB to provide US \$13 million loan to EESL**

Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide US \$13 million loan to Energy Efficiency Services (EESL) to promote efficient energy usage in India. It will be provided by Global Environment Facility (GEF) as part of US \$200 million ADB-financed Demand-Side Energy Efficiency Sector Project.

#### **Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise to be held off Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal**

India and Singapore will hold 25th joint naval exercise SIMBEX, acronym for Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise from Nov 10 to 21 in India off Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. SIMBEX 2018 will mark silver jubilee of exercise and will be largest edition since 1994 in terms of scale and complexity.

#### **Ashok Kumar Gupta appointed as Chairperson of CCI**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appointed former IAS officer Ashok Kumar Gupta as Chairperson of Competition Commission of India (CCI). He replaces acting chairperson Sudhir Mital.

#### **Jawahar Lal Sarin presented with France's highest civilian honour**

Renowned French scholar Jawahar Lal Sarin has been presented with France's highest civilian honour Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur. He was presented with this award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to enhancing Indo-French cultural cooperation and promoting French language.

#### **Ladakh restoration project wins 2018 UNESCO Asia-Pacific award**

The restoration of an aristocratic house project from partial ruin state in Ladakh undertaken by LAMO (Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation) Center has won 2018 UNESCO Asia-Pacific award for Cultural Heritage conservation in Award of Distinction category.

#### **Approves India and Morocco Agreement**

Union Cabinet has approved agreement between India and Morocco on Mutual Legal Assistance in Civil and Commercial Matters. It will be beneficial for citizens of both the countries. It will also fulfill desire of both countries to strengthen bonds of friendship and fruitful cooperation in Civil and Commercial matters.

#### **Bihar approves funds worth Rs 25000 for graduate girls**

Bihar government approved a proposal to offer Rs 25,000 to every girl graduating in 2018 and onwards. This decision was made at the Cabinet meeting chaired by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. The one-time payment will be offered to every girl who graduated from the colleges of Bihar on or after April 25, 2018, irrespective of pass division, community or region. Bihar Cabinet has allotted Rs 300 crore for disbursement of this payment to an estimated 1,20,000 girls about clear graduation course this year.

#### **Kerala govt scheme to provide free education to Ockhi-hit kids**

The Kerala government has commenced a scheme to offer free education and vocational training to the children of fishermen who died or went missing in the 2017 Ockhi cyclonic storm. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan announced that government would allocate Rs 13.92 crore from the Chief Minister's Disaster Relief Fund.

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### **Bangalore ranked India's most congested city, Pune Ranked 7th : NBER**

According to a recent research by National bureau of economic research (NBER), analysis of the current status of mobility in urban India, using Google maps was conducted. The name of the research paper is: 'Mobility & Congestion in Urban India,'. It is the first large-scale analysis of traffic congestion in **154** Indian cities using Google maps. Researchers also analysed 22 million potential trips throughout the prominent cities of the country.

### **Election Commission sets up 'Sangwari' polling booths in various constituencies of Chhattisgarh to encourage women voters**

Election Commission has set up 'Sangwari' polling booths in various constituencies of Chhattisgarh to encourage women voters to vote in the Assembly elections. 'Sangwari' means friend, in Chhattisgarhi dialect. These women friendly booths will be manned by all-female staff like presiding officers, supervisors and security personnel. Chief Electoral Officer of Chhattisgarh, Subrat Sahoo announced that, 5 Sangwari Polling Centres have been set up for women in every assembly segments.

### **Fifth World Internet Conference (WIC) held in China**

5<sup>th</sup> World Internet Conference (WIC), also known as the Wuzhen Summit, was held in Wuzhen, China. The conference aimed to bring out exchanges, mutual learning, cooperation and sharing in the digital fields and stressed on peace and development of the global cyberspace. Top 15 of the latest scientific and technological achievements in the global internet industry were unveiled. They were selected from more than 400 candidate projects and programs, aimed at reaching faster Internet speed, more digital profit, and better web security.

### **Indian journalist Swati Chaturvedi wins 2018 London Press Freedom Award for Courage in UK**

She received the award at the 1<sup>st</sup> award ceremony organised by the United Kingdom chapter of Paris-based Reporters Sans Frontières (RSF) or Reporters Without Borders in London. She was one among the four worldwide winners who received awards at the ceremony. She is the author of the book 'I am a Troll: Inside the Secret World of the BJP's Digital Army'.

### **PM inaugurates country's first multi-modal terminal constructed on river Ganga in Varanasi**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated India's first Inland Multi-Modal Terminal Port on river Ganga at Ramnagar in Varanasi and received first container cargo belonging to PepsiCo. It is the first of four Multi-Modal Terminals being constructed on National Waterways-I (NW1) on River Ganga as part of World Bank-aided Jal Marg Vikas project of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI).

### **38th India International Trade Fair (IITF) held in New Delhi**

The 38th India International Trade Fair (IITF), inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Culture, Mahesh Sharma, held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. It is organised by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO).

### **6th Indian Social Work Congress in New Delhi**

The 6th Indian Social Work Congress held in New Delhi with the theme 'Human Development and Social Inclusion: Imperatives for Social Work Education and Practice'. It was jointly organized by National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) and Department of Social Work (Delhi School of Social Work), University of Delhi.

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### **5th WBF -2018 held in Putian**

The 5th edition of World Buddhist Forum (WBF -2018) held in Putian, the southeast Fujian Province of China. The WBF-2018 was jointly hosted by the Buddhist Association of China and the China Religious Culture Communication Association. It aims to carry forward the positive Buddhist cultural spirits, promote exchanges between Buddhism and other religions, and make contributions to building a community with a shared future for humanity.

### **India-Indonesia naval exercise 'Samudra Shakti' begins**

The inaugural edition of India and Indonesia Bilateral Naval Exercise 'Samudra Shakti' held at the port of Surabaya, Indonesia. It aims to strengthen bilateral relations, expand maritime co-operation, enhance interoperability and exchange best practices.

### **India, Russia joint military exercise held in Jhansi**

The joint military exercise between Indian and Russia 'Exercise INDRA 2018' was conducted at Babina Field Firing Ranges, Babina Military Station Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. It was tenth exercise in the series of Exercise INDRA aimed at increasing interoperability between Indian and Russian Armies.

### **UP cabinet approves renaming of Faizabad as Ayodhya, Allahabad as Prayagraj**

Uttar Pradesh Govt approved renaming of Faizabad and Allahabad divisions as Ayodhya and Prayagraj respectively. It was taken at the meeting of state cabinet presided over by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in state capital Lucknow.

### **2nd Mega Food Park in Maharashtra inaugurated in Aurangabad**

Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Harsimrat Kaur Badal has inaugurated the second Mega Food Park in Maharashtra, in Wahegaon and Dhangaon village in Paithan taluka of Aurangabad district. It was launched under Mega Food Park Scheme and is promoted by Paithan Mega Food Park Pvt Ltd. The first park was inaugurated in Satara district in Mar 2018. Third mega food park has been sanctioned by Union Ministry of Food Process Industries in Maharashtra in Wardha district.

### **Sri Ramayana Express flagged off**

Shri Ramayana Express, a special tourist train to run on Ramayana circuit to cover major spots related to Hindu epic has been flagged off by Indian Railways from Safdarjung Railway Station, New Delhi. The pilgrimage circuit of Shri Ramayana Yatra will have two travel components — one each in India and Sri Lanka.

### **Bengaluru ranked India's most congested city**

According to the report titled 'Mobility and Congestion in Urban India', Bengaluru has been ranked India's most congested city followed by Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Pune. This is published by the US-based National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Bengaluru was the second slowest city in terms of traffic speeds only behind Kolkata.

### **Rs 75 coin to be issued by government to mark 75th anniversary of Tricolour hoisting by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose**

Ministry of Finance issued a notification regarding the release of the **Rs 75 coin** to commemorate 75th anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose hoisting the Tricolour for the first time at Port Blair in Andaman Nicobar Islands.

### **Sadananda Gowda, Narendra Singh Tomar given charge of Ananth Kumar's portfolios**

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Union Ministers DV Sadananda Gowda and Narendra Singh Tomar were assigned additional portfolios of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs due to the sudden demise of Union Minister and Karnataka BJP leader **Ananth Kumar**.

### **India International Cherry Blossom Festival celebrated in Meghalaya**

India International Cherry Blossom Festival was celebrated at Polo 5th Ground, Shillong, Meghalaya. The festival celebrates the unique autumn flowering of the Himalayan Cherry Blossoms. The 2018 edition was inaugurated by Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma in the presence of Japanese Ambassador to India, Kenji Hiramatsu.

### **14th International Children's Theatre festival held in New Delhi**

The 14th edition of JashneBachpan, a theatre festival for children, organised by National School of Drama's (NSD) Theatre in Education (TIE) Company, held at the Sammukh, Abhimanch, Abhikalp and Little Theatre Group (LTG) auditorium in New Delhi. The main aim of the festival was to bring theatre into prominence as it has lost its sheen in modern era because of digital medium.

### **India's first specialized hospital for elephants opened in Mathura**

India's first specialized hospital for elephants has been formally opened Churmura village in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh. It is promoted by Wildlife SOS which had established first elephant conservation and care centre in 2010 and is currently looking after 20 elephants requiring specialised treatment.

### **Sanjay Kumar Mishra appointed Director of ED**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appointed Senior IRS officer Sanjay Kumar Mishra as full-time Director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED). He will have tenure of two-years from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

### **Nongkrem dance festival celebrated in Meghalaya**

Nongkrem dance festival, was celebrated by the people of the Khasi Hills, in Meghalaya. This festival is celebrated annually. People pray for good harvest, peace, and prosperity of the community. A unique dance named "Ka Shad Mastieh" is performed by the male members of Hima Khyrim, a sub-tribe of the indigenous Khasi tribe.

### **Cyclonic storm 'GAJA' over coastal Tamil Nadu**

cyclonic storm 'Gaja' crossed near Tamil Nadu causing severe damage to certain coastal regions. Six districts of Tamilnadu including Nagapattinam, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram and Tiruvarur met big disaster due to this cyclone. Vedaranyam (Nagapattinam district), Mannargudi (Tiruvarur) are disaster struck regions and expects for government rehabilitation schemes.

### **India, Morocco signed pacts to combat global terror**

India and Morocco signed extradition, mutual legal assistance and defence cooperation treaties to jointly fight threats from ISIS under their counter-terror partnership. The agreements were inked during Moroccan Justice Minister Mohamed Auajjar's visit to Delhi on November 2018,

### **Dr. Saroj Suman Gulati conferred with Global Education Leaders Award 2018**

Educationist Dr. Saroj Suman Gulati has been conferred the Global Education Leaders Award 2018 at the 2nd edition of India-UAE Partnership Summit (IUPS), held at The Atlantis, Dubai.

### **British Prime Minister Theresa May appoints junior health minister Stephen Barclay as new Brexit Secretary**

Junior Health Minister who voted to leave European Union in the 2016 referendum has been appointed as the new Brexit Secretary by British Prime Minister Theresa May. Stephen Barclay replaced Dominic Raab who resigned over Theresa May's draft plan for leaving EU. Barclay will focus on domestic readiness for Brexit. Earlier he served as a financial services minister.

### **Oracle veteran Thomas Kurian to become CEO of Google Cloud**

Indian-American Thomas Kurian, former Oracle President of product development and technologist, will become the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Google Cloud in early 2019. Thomas Kurian will replace Diane Greene. Thomas Kurian will join Google Cloud on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Diane Greene will continue as CEO till January 2019 and help Thomas Kurian transition into the leadership role.

### **Ex-IndiGo President Aditya Ghosh joins OYO as CEO for India, South Asia**

Budget hospitality chain OYO Hotels appointed Aditya Ghosh as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for its **India** and South Asia operations with effect from December 1, 2018. Aditya Ghosh was President of IndiGo Airlines for 10 years. He was also wholetime director of IndiGo Airlines. He resigned from IndiGo in July 2018. He was an advisor to Tata Trusts. He is a lawyer by profession. At present, South Asia region for OYO Hotels only includes India and Nepal.

### **'Toxic' declared Oxford Word of the Year 2018**

Oxford Dictionary announced **'Toxic'** as the Word of the year **2018**. The sheer scope of its application that has made it the standout choice as there has been a 45% increase in the number of times people have looked up the word on its website. The word of the year is chosen from a shortlist "drawn from evidence gathered by (its) extensive language

### **Ustad Amjad Ali Khan presented lifetime achievement award in Delhi**

One of India's greatest Sarod Master Ustad Amjad Ali Khan was presented "Sumitra Charat Ram Award for Lifetime Achievement" at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi for his immense contribution to the enrichment and promotion of Indian Classical Music.

### **Raghu Ram elected as president of Association of Surgeons of India (ASI)**

Eminent breast cancer surgeon Raghu Ram who is also the director of KIMS Ushalakshmi centre for breast diseases has been elected the President of Association of Surgeons of India (ASI) by defeating Tamas Chaudhuri from Kolkata.

### **UIDAI CEO Ajay Bhushan Pandey to replace Hasmukh Adhia as Revenue Secretary**

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet appointed Ajay Bhushan Pandey as the new Secretary in Department of Revenue. He would replace Hasmukh Adhia — the Gujarat-cadre IAS officer who is set to retire on November 30. He currently holds the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) Chairman. After the appointment he will continue to hold these positions.

### **Myntra to merge with Jabong ; Narayanan to continue as CEO**

Myntra revealed plans to integrate its sister firm, Jabong with itself. The integrated firm will continue to be led by Myntra CEO Ananth Narayanan. Post the merger, the companies will continue working as separate brands. Narayanan would report to Flipkart chief executive Kalyan Krishnamurthy after the exit of group CEO Binny Bansal.

### **CSE awarded Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development**

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Delhi-based environment think-tank, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) will be awarded Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development 2018 for its work in environmental education and protection. CSE is being awarded prize for its steadfast advocacy of measures to combat environmental deterioration and for its success in influencing public policies and programmes that have benefitted social and economic development in India. It was selected for this award by international jury, chaired by former president Pranab Mukherjee.

### **India-USA joint military exercise commences in Jaipur**

India-US Joint Special Forces Exercise 2018, "Vajra Prahar" has commenced at Mahajan Field Firing Range (MFFR), Bikaner in Rajasthan. It was called between Special Forces of both countries to deal with operations for counter-terrorism and is being done at unit as well as sub-unit levels.

### **Jalaj Srivastava appointed Chairman of IWAI**

Union Govt appointed senior IAS officer Jalaj Srivastava as chairman of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI). IWAI comes under Union Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, currently headed by Nitin Gadkari.

### **UASG confers Universal Acceptance Thought Leader award to Rajasthan CM Vasundhara Raje**

UASG (Universal Acceptance Steering Group) conferred "Universal Acceptance Thought Leader award" on Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje for providing Rajmail email service for citizens of Rajasthan in local script.

### **Sanjay Kumar Mishra appointed as Director of Enforcement Directorate**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi headed Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) appointed IRS officer Sanjay Kumar Mishra as the full-time chief of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) for 2 years.

### **Sumanta Chaudhuri as the new Coal Secretary**

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi named 1985-batch IAS from West Bengal cadre Sumanta Chaudhuri as the new Coal Secretary. He replaced Inderjit Singh. Prior to this appointment, he was the Managing Director of Small Farmers Agri Business Consortium.

### **India slips two places to 53<sup>rd</sup> Position on Global talent ranking; Switzerland on top**

India has slipped two places to rank 53<sup>rd</sup> Position in Global Annual talent ranking released by renowned IMD Business School, Switzerland on 20 November 2018. Switzerland retained the top Position for the fifth consecutive year. Denmark attained 2<sup>nd</sup> rank, while Norway attained 3<sup>rd</sup> Rank.

### **Adobe CEO Shantanu Narayen in Fortune Business Person of the Year 2018 list**

Indian-American Shantanu Narayen, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Adobe, has been named by Fortune in its 2018 Business Person of the Year list.

### **Union Minister Suresh Prabhu launches AirSewa 2.0 web portal and mobile app**

Union Minister of Civil Aviation and Commerce & Industry, Suresh Prabhu, and Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Jayant Sinha launched the upgraded version of **AirSewa 2.0** web portal and mobile app, in New Delhi. AirSewa 2.0 will address air passengers' grievances like flight delays, problem in a refund, long queues and complaints of lost baggage. Features included are: secure sign-up and log-

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in with social media, chatbot for travelers support, improved grievance management including social media grievances, real-time flight status and flight schedule, etc.

### **Approves setting up of Medical College at Silvassa in UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli**

Union Cabinet approved the setting up of a medical college in Silvassa of Dadar and Nagar Haveli. This will increase the availability of doctors and increase in medical education opportunities. The construction of this medical college will be done till 2019-20 and in accordance with the guidelines of the Medical Council of India and Central Health and Family Welfare Ministry.

### **Govt launches Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) Program**

Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) Program of Ministry of Human Resource Development's (HRD) Innovation Cell has been launched in New Delhi by Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar. HRD Ministry has established Innovation cell at AICTE with purpose to systematically foster culture of Innovation in all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the country.

### **PM sets up National Implementation Committee to commemorate 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has constituted National Implementation Committee (NIC) under Chairmanship of Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh to commemorate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak in the country and abroad. Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and Minister of State for Culture Dr. Mahesh Sharma are its Members.

### **AP govt launched web portal 'Bhuseva and Bhudaar'**

The Andhra Pradesh govt launched web portal 'Bhuseva and Bhudaar' which makes land records available to people with unique identification numbers just like Aadhar number. The 'Bhudaar' is an 11-digit unique identification code assigned to each agriculture land holding and rural and urban properties in the state.

### **Indo-Japan Business Council (IJBC) hosts business festival 'Konnichiwa Pune' in Pune**

The Indo-Japan Business Council (IJBC) hosted the first of its kind business festival 'Konnichiwa Pune' in Pune, Maharashtra. The fest aimed to promote exchange of trade, culture and educational ties between India and Japan in a friendly festive manner.

### **Sangai tourism festival held in Manipur**

The annual Sangai Festival celebrated in northeastern state of Manipur. It is grandest festival of state named after state animal, Sangai, the critically endangered brow-antlered deer found only in Manipur. It aims to promote Manipur as world class tourism destination.

### **Health ministry approved formula for compensation to patients who received faulty hip implants by subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson Pvt Ltd**

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India approved formula for compensation to the patients receiving faulty Articular Surface Replacement (ASR) hip implants manufactured by M/s. DePuy International Limited, U.K (M/S Johnson & Johnson Pvt Ltd).

The approved formula would see patients being compensated anywhere between Rs. 30 lakh and Rs. 1.23 crore, depending on the age and level of disability of the patient. The decision was taken by a Central Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.K. Arya, Director, Sports Injury Centre that determined the quantum of compensation.

### **15th India Health Summit held in New Delhi**

The leading industry body, Confederation of Indian industry (CII) organised its Annual Flagship, 15<sup>th</sup> India Health Summit-2018 in New Delhi.

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The theme of the summit this year is 'Indian Healthcare – A Changing Paradigm'. Ms Anupriya Patel, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare released a report, 'Creating the New Ecosystems to Provide Healthcare' on the occasion. Union Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship & Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan also addressed the summit.

### **Hornbill Festival of Nagaland commenced along with 55<sup>th</sup> Statehood Day; CM launched North-East region's 2<sup>nd</sup> Tourist Police**

Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio launched the state Tourist Police at Police Headquarter in Kohima.

Nagaland became the second state in the North East to introduce Tourist Police after Arunachal Pradesh. He also released the Tourist Police Handbook and launched Nagaland Police FIR Mobile App. Tourist Police will be deployed during Hornbill Festival of Nagaland, which is from 1st December to give safety and security of tourists.

### **India's first indigenous film festival to be held in Odisha next year**

India's first international indigenous film festival will take place in February next year in Odisha. It will be an initiative of activist film collective 'Video Republic'.

The three-stop event will kick off in Bhubaneswar on February 19 and 20, moving on to Puri from February 21 to 23 and will eventually culminate in an interaction with the adivasi communities at **Niyamgiri**. Films made by indigenous people or made by non-indigenous filmmakers in collaboration with the indigenous communities will be shown in the event.

### **Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey takes over as Revenue Secretary**

UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India) CEO Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey took over as the Revenue Secretary in the Finance Ministry after Hasmukh Adhia retires. Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey, a 1984-batch IAS officer of Maharashtra cadre with over 34 years of experience in state and Central governments, was welcomed to his new office by the outgoing Finance and Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia.

### **Georgia elects its first female president Salome Zurichishvili**

Salome Zurabishvili has won Georgia's presidential election, becoming the first woman to hold the office in the country. She will take oath for the office on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

The French-born ex-diplomat, backed by the ruling Georgian Dream party, had taken 59.52 % of the total votes and defeated her rival candidate Grigol Washadze who received 40.5% of the votes. The election was seen as a test of Georgia's democratic credentials as it seeks European Union and NATO membership.

### **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated second edition of Khasdar Mahotsav in Nagpur**

Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Shipping, Surface Transport and Ganga Rejuvenation inaugurated the second edition of Khasdar Mahotsav at the Ishwar Deshmukh College of Physical Education in Nagpur.

Mr Nitin Gadkari in presence of versatile Bollywood Film Actor Anil Kapoor and Jackie Shroff said that this event is not just a cultural programme but an attempt to provide the future generation with better infrastructure and facilities and make them aware about India's Rich heritage.

### **Union Agriculture Minister inaugurated Global Agriculture and Food Summit 2018 in Jharkhand**

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Global Agriculture and Food summit had been inaugurated by Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh in Tana Bhagat Stadium, Khel Gaon at Ranchi, Jharkhand. Governor of Jharkhand Droupadi Murmu was the chief guest for the closing ceremony on November 30.

To showcase rich agri ecosystem of Jharkhand and utilize the available potential in agriculture and food sector. To focus on organic farming in Agriculture and Horticulture sector and simultaneously network with policy makers, agri equipment manufacturers, academicians, agri startups, agri ecosystem companies etc. To double the farmers income by 2022 and to make Jharkhand as a food processing hub in eastern India.

### **Asia-Pacific Summit 2018 in Nepal**

Asia Pacific Summit-2018 has started in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. This summit was organized by South Korea-based Universal Peace Federation and supported by the Government of Nepal. This summit has attended by 1500 participants from 45 countries including India. Focus on various global issues including peace, development, good governance and role of parliamentarians, climate change and role of media.

**Theme** - Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values”

### **Andrés Manuel López Obrador became first leftist president of Mexico**

Andrés Manuel López Obrador sworn in as the First Leftist President of Mexico. He won an election which was conducted on July 2018. His first act after he became president was signing an agreement with three Central American counterparts to create a plan to stem the flow of migrants seeking asylum in the US.

### **J-K gov launches AB-PMJAY scheme**

Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik launched the ambitious “Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)” at Teacher’s Bhawan in Jammu.

The scheme which would benefit over **31 lakh** residents in the state will provide medical facilities to the poor and vulnerable families in secondary and tertiary care hospitals of the country. Marking the launch of the scheme, the Governor along with other dignitaries distributed Golden Cards among 10 eligible beneficiaries for availing the annual health cover facility. Recently the state received ‘Best Performing Large State’ award on account of high reduction in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in a single year and for effective implementation of health schemes by the India Today group at the “State of the States Conclave 2018”.

### **Pawan Singh is the first Indian to be elected in ISSF’s judges committee**

Pawan Singh became the first Indian to be elected as one of the 7 members of the Judges Committee of the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF).

Pawan Singh is also the Joint Secretary General of National Rifle Association of India (NRAI). He was a former coach of the Indian shooting team. Members of the administrative council of ISSF voted to select the committee, at the elections held at Munich. The Judges Committee consists of: a Chairman and 7 members. It is responsible for the uniform application of shooting rules. It offers guidelines for international judges. It prepares and conducts courses for judges and jury members.

### **Delhi government launched ‘One’ card for ease of commute on metro, buses**

Delhi government announced the launch of a common mobility card called ‘One’, with a tagline of ‘One Delhi One Ride’, for easy commute on public transport.

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It was launched by Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) managing director Mangu Singh. This would enable access to Metro and bus services with a single card at a 10 per cent discount. Further provision of coverage of auto-rickshaws, taxis, RTVs and other modes of transport would be inducted under this card.

### **Government of India and Asian Development Bank inked \$85 Million loan to support Odisha Skill Development Project**

Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$85 million loan in New Delhi, under the Odisha Skill Development Project to promote skill development in Odisha. This project would also receive a **\$2 million** technical assistance grant from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, financed by the Government of **Japan**. It will be administered by ADB. Under this project, the World Skill Center (WSC), an advanced skill training centre would be established in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

### **Ajay Narayan Jha takes over as Finance Secretary**

Ajay Narayan Jha, the current expenditure secretary, in the Ministry of Finance has been appointed as the new finance secretary, by the Union Government.

Ajay Narayan Jha, is a 1982-batch IAS officer of Manipur- Tripura cadre, and has succeeded Hasmukh Adhia who retired on November 30. Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led appointments committee of the Cabinet has cleared Jha's appointment to the post. Jha is an alumnus of St Stephens College. He is also an MPhil in public administration from Delhi University. Besides he is a recipient of World Bank scholarship to pursue masters in economic policy management from McGill University in Canada.

### **State Bank of India ropes in Swapna Barman as brand ambassador for YONO**

State Bank of India has roped in Asian Games gold medalist Swapna Barman as brand ambassador for its digital app YONO(You only need one).

YONO is an integrated digital banking platform offered by State Bank of India (SBI) to enable users to access a variety of financial and other services such as taxi bookings, online shopping, or medical bill payments.

### **Centre included Gangotri, Yamunotri in Uttarakhand, Amarkantak in MP and Parasnath in Jharkhand under PRASAD Scheme: Tourism Ministry**

central government announced inclusion of Gangotri and Yamunotri in Uttarakhand, Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh and Parasnath in Jharkhand under the scheme Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASAD).

It was launched by the Tourism Ministry in 2014-15.

The scheme aimed at the following:

- Infrastructure development (road, rail and water transport),
- last mile connectivity,
- basic tourism facilities like Information/ Interpretation Centers, ATM/ money exchange, eco-friendly modes of transport among others.

### **World Bank assisted project SMART launched in Maharashtra**

Maharashtra Govt has launched World Bank assisted State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project to transform rural Maharashtra. It aims to revamp agricultural value chains, with special focus on marginal farmers across 1,000 villages. This initiative is in line with Union Govt's step towards doubling farmers' income by 2022.

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### **Naveen Patnaik announces new initiative 'PEETHA'**

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has announced a new initiative 'PEETHA' to create awareness about various government schemes and improve transparency. It aims at improving transparency in the distribution of individual and social benefits. The acronym 'PEETHA' stands for Peoples Empowerment Enabling Transparency and Accountability. Every month the best panchayat in each Block will be given Rs 5 lakh for organising PEETHA.

### **Delhi govt launches the 'Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana' for senior citizens**

The Delhi govt has launched the 'Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana' for senior citizens — which offers free travel packages on five religious circuits for senior citizens from the national capital. It will enable 1,100 senior citizens from each Assembly constituency of Delhi per year to undertake free pilgrimage, the expenses for which will be borne by the Delhi government. Under the scheme, any resident of Delhi above 60 years of age will be eligible for the scheme and those above 70 years can have one attendant. The scheme does not have any income criterion, but preference will be given to those who are from the economically weaker section.

### **Luxembourg set to become the first country in the world to make all its public transport free**

Luxembourg is set to become the first country in the world to make all its public transport free by 2019. It aimed at addressing environmental issues and the problem of traffic congestion. Apart from providing free public transport, Luxembourg also intends to legalise cannabis and introduce two new public holidays.

### **Kerala becomes first state to have 4 international airports**

Kerala becomes the first state in the country to have four international airports with the inauguration of Kannur airport. The first commercial flight from this airport Air India Express flight IX 715 with 180 passengers on board to Abu Dhabi was flagged off recently. The other three international airports are Trivandrum International Airport, Cochin International Airport and Calicut International Airport. It is built on a public-private partnership (PPP) model.

### **Shi Yomi becomes 23rd district of Arunachal Pradesh**

Shi Yomi has formally become 23rd district of Arunachal Pradesh after it was inaugurated by Chief Minister Pema Khandu in presence of Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju. It was created by bifurcating West Siang district with its headquarters at Tato. It will have four administrative units namely Mechuka, Tato, Pidi and Manigong. Two more districts Pakke-Kesang and Lepa Rada will be formally inaugurated in the state within taking the total to 25.

### **Mushtaq Ahmad Tantray bagged 2018 Sahitya Academy Award**

Mushtaq Ahmad Tantray, a prominent Kashmiri short-story writer and eminent broadcaster, bagged 2018 Sahitya Academy Award for his collection of short stories 'AAKH'. He is presently posted as Head of the Regional News Unit at Radio Kashmir Srinagar.

Dr Krishnamurthy Subramanian appointed new Chief Economic Advisor

Dr Krishnamurthy Subramanian has been appointed new Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) for a period of three years. The post had been lying vacant since Arvind Subramanian left the finance ministry after a four-year stint.

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### **INDRA NAVY maritime exercise between India and Russia kicks off Visakhapatnam Coast**

The tenth edition of INDRA NAVY maritime exercise between India and Russia will be conducted off Visakhapatnam coast, Andhra Pradesh from Dec 09-16, 2018. It aims to increase interoperability amongst the two navies, develop common understanding and procedures for maritime security operations. It will be held in two phases viz. Harbour Phase and Sea Phase.

### **Exercise AVIAINDRA between Indian and Russian air forces held at Jodhpur**

The second edition of service specific exercise AVIAINDRA between Indian Air Force and Russian Federation Aerospace Force (RFSAF) held at Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan. The inaugural IAF-RFSAF Ex AVIAINDRA has been conducted in 2014 and since then it is conducted bi-annually (twice a year) in both countries. It aimed to focus towards anti-terrorist operations in bi-lateral scenario.

### **Ministry of Railways signed MoU with Madame Tussauds Wax Museum**

Ministry of Railways' National Rail Museum (NRM) and Madame Tussauds Wax Museum, New Delhi, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide an amazing discount offer to Delhi NCR tourists.

This innovative and first time ever, public-private museum collaboration, is expected to attract more tourists to both National Rail Museum and Madame Tussauds Wax Museum. A special discount of **35%** on ticket prices will be offered to NRM visitors when they visit Madame Tussauds Museum, while Madame Tussauds Wax Museum visitors will be getting an attractive discount of **30%** on combo packages of NRM.

### **Atul Sahai appointed as New India Assurance CMD for a 5 year term**

Government announced that Atul Sahai will be appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of New India Assurance (NIA) for a five year period replacing G Srinivasan.

Atul Sahai is currently the General-Manager at Oriental Insurance Company Pvt.Ltd(OIC) New India Assurance country's largest general insurer posted a 56 percent year-on-year (YoY) drop in its net profit at Rs 3.28 billion for the September 2019 quarter. Sahai had joined NIA in 1984 and would retire in 2022. He had moved to OIC in 2012 after getting promoted as a DGM.

### **Pm Modi appointed Krishnamurthy Subramanian as new Chief Economic Advisor**

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), chaired by PM Narendra Modi, appointed Krishnamurthy Subramanian as Chief Economic Advisor for a period of 3 years.

He is currently serving as Associate Professor of Finance (with tenure) and Executive Director for the Centre for Analytical Finance at the Indian School of Business, a top business school in India. He would replace Arvind Subramanian who resigned from the post on 20 June 2018.

### **James Quincey to Succeed Muhtar Kent as Chairman of The Coca-Cola Company**

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James Quincey was elected as the 14th chairman of the **Coca-Cola** Company, succeeding Muhtar Kent, who plans to retire in April after a Coca-Cola system career that started in 1978.

### **World Bank assisted project SMART launched in Maharashtra**

Maharashtra Govt has launched World Bank assisted State of Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation (SMART) Project to transform rural Maharashtra. It aims to revamp agricultural value chains, with special focus on marginal farmers across 1,000 villages. This initiative is in line with Union Govt's step towards doubling farmers' income by 2022.

### **Home Ministry launches Twitter account, @CyberDost**

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has launched Twitter account @CyberDost to spread awareness about cybercrimes and normal precautions to be taken. It aimed at enhancing people's basic knowledge about cybercrimes and precautions to be taken for prevention. The twitter handle will educate people about various channels through which complaints about cyber-crimes can be filed and makes people aware of their duties regarding misuse of cyber space by some people in the country.

### **Hand-in-Hand Military exercise between India, China begins**

The seventh edition Hand-in-Hand Military exercise between India, China began in Chengdu, China. It aims to improve capabilities of the two armies in fighting terrorism and promote mutual understanding. The exercise was held after gap of one year as both the sides were locked in 73-day standoff in Doklam in Sikkim sector of the border in 2017.

### **Surjit Bhalla resigns from Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council**

Eminent economist and columnist Surjit Bhalla resigned as part-time member of Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). His resignation comes day after Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Urjit Patel, quit abruptly after months-long tussle over policy with government. PMEAC is non-constitutional and non-statutory, non-permanent and independent body, constituted with the prime and sole aim to analyse all critical issues, economic or otherwise, referred to it by the prime minister and advising him thereon.

### **Shi Yomi became 23rd district of Arunachal Pradesh**

Arunachal Pradesh got Shi Yomi as its 23rd district after its inauguration by Chief Minister Pema Khandu in presence of Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju. The district, consisting of four circles — Mechuka, Pidi, Tato and Monigong — was carved out of West Siang district. This including two other districts- Pakke-Kesang, Lepa Rada- was created after the approval of District Re-Organisation Bill, 2018 on August 29, 2018.

### **Prathamesh Maulingkar from Goa, dubbed as Mr. India, became the first Asian/Indian to win 2018 Mister Supernational title**

Prathamesh Maulingkar from Goa, dubbed as Mr. India, became the first Asian/Indian to win 2018 Mister Supernational title after defeating 37 candidates in the 3rd edition of the competition held in Krynica-Zdroj, Poland. He was followed by Mr. Poland at 2nd position and Mr. Brazil at 3rd position. Mr. Brazil was also crowned with Mr Popularity sash.

### **SWIFT India appointed former SBI chief Arundhati Bhattacharya as board chairman**

Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) India appointed former SBI chief Arundhati Bhattacharya as the new Chairman of its board.

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She will succeed former banker M. V. Nair who will step down after the completion of his 5-year tenure. Earlier in October 2018, Arundhati Bhattacharya was designated as an independent additional director on the board of Mukesh Ambani-controlled Reliance Industries Ltd. She also had been elected as an advisor in the private equity firm ChrysCapital Advisors.

### **UP to establish Umbrella University named after former PM late Atal Bihari Vajpayee**

Uttar Pradesh Government announced creation of an umbrella university named after former Prime Minister late Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The decision was taken in a cabinet meeting headed by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at Lucknow. The University would be the controlling authority of all the medical and dental colleges and nursing institutions in the state.

### **Shri Bharat Bhushan Vyas takes Oath of Office and Secrecy as Member, UPSC**

Shri Bharat Bhushan Vyas, IAS officer from Jammu and Kashmir cadre of 1986 batch was administered the Oath of Office and Secrecy as Member, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) by Shri Arvind Saxena, Chairman, UPSC. The Members of UPSC is appointed by the Article 316 of the constitution.

### **Nepal government bans Indian currency notes above Rs 100**

Nepal government banned Indian currency above Rs 100. New Indian note of Rs 2,000, Rs 500 and Rs 200 denominations were banned as the Nepal government has not yet legalised them in the market. The announcement was made by Nepal's Minister for Information and Communications Gokul Prasad Baskota.

### **Tata Steel bags Prime Minister's Trophy for the 'Best Performing Integrated Steel Plant' for the year 2016-17**

Tata Steel Limited had been declared as the winner of the Prime Minister's Trophy for the 'Best Performing Integrated Steel Plant' in the country for the performance year 2016-17 making it the fourth consecutive year for Tata Steel being honoured with this coveted award.

### **Jharkhand gets "Krishi Karman" award in rice category**

The award which carries a cash prize worth **Rs 2 crore** and a citation will be given away in February 2019 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

As a gesture of appreciation to the farmers of the state for achieving the milestone, two progressive farmers, i.e. one male and one female, would also be given 'Agriculture Minister's Krishi Karman Award,' Each of the farmers would receive a cash award of Rs 2 lakh along with citation.

### **Gujarat Ranked Best Performer in first ever States Start-up Ranking 2018 by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)**

Gujarat Ranked Best Performer in first ever States Start-up Ranking 2018 released by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) at an event in New Delhi. Along with the States, Fifty-one officers from States and Union Territories have been identified as "Champions", who have made significant contributions towards developing their State's Start-up ecosystem.

### **Jharkhand announces Rs 2,250-crore scheme to help farmers: Mukhya Mantri Krishi Yojana**

Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghubar Das announced a Rs 2250 crore scheme named as "Mukhya Mantri Krishi Yojana" which will help around 22.76 lakh medium and marginal farmers to double

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their income by 2022. The Central Government has set a goal to double the income of all the farmers by 2022.

The Scheme will start from 2019-20 financial year. It will help farmers to procure seeds, fertilisers and other requirements for agricultural purposes. Under the scheme, the state government will give Rs 5000 per acre up to maximum of 5 acre to 22.76 lakh medium and marginal farmers. Those farmers who have less than 1 acre land will also get Rs. 5000.

### **Odisha government announces Rs 10,000 crore KALIA scheme for farmers development**

Odisha Cabinet headed by CM Naveen Patnaik announced the Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme to empower small, marginal & landless farmers as well as landless labourers.

The Rs 10,000 crore scheme, which would be executed through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode, covers 92% (over **30 lakh**) of cultivators, loanee and non-loanee, share-croppers & landless labourers. According to the scheme an amount of Rs 10,000 per family at the rate of **Rs 5,000** each for Kharif and Rabi seasons shall be provided as financial assistance for taking up cultivation.

### **PM Modi released Rs 100 commemorative coin in memory of Late former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a commemorative **Rs 100 coin** in memory of former prime minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**. This Rs 100 currency will be the highest denomination in the form of a coin and comes weeks after the government introduced Rs. 200 denomination notes for the first time. The coin was released on commemoration of the birth anniversary of the late Pm on December 25, which is also celebrated as 'Good Governance Day'.

### **Andhra, Himachal and Madhya Pradesh best performing states under maternity benefit programme PMMVY: MoSWCD**

Minister of State for the Women and Child Development Virendra Kumar released the performance of states and UTs under the maternity benefit programme named Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana.

Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh topped the charts as the best performing states. According to the finding, **51.70 lakh** beneficiaries are covered annually under the PMMVY. Grants-in-aid amounting to Rs 2,048.59 crores and Rs 369.31 crores have been sanctioned to the states and the Union Territories during the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively.

### **India's first and World's third railway university at Vadodara**

Union Railways Minister Piyush Goyal and Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani dedicated the nation's first National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) **in** Vadodara, Gujarat.

It is India's first and world's 3rd railway university after Russia and China. The Vice-Chancellor of the university is Ashwani Lohani who is the Chairman of the Railway Board of India. The Ministry of Railways had sanctioned **Rs. 421 crore** for the upcoming 5 years for the operation of the project.

### **Jammu and Kashmir becomes first state to have law banning sexual exploitation of women**

Jammu and Kashmir became the first state in the country to enact a law banning sexual exploitation of women "by those in positions of authority, having a fiduciary relationship or a public servant".

he decision in this regard was taken by Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Council (SAC) headed by Governor **Satya Pal Malik** by approving the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2018,

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and the Jammu and Kashmir Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018. The Jammu and Kashmir Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018 seeks to amend the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC)-a criminal code, whereby specific offence under section 354 E is being inserted to provide for the offence of 'Sextortion'. 'Sextortion' is a physical or non-physical form to extort sexual favours. People entrusted with power use 'sextortion' in a form of 'corruption'.

### **EU parliament approves 'world's largest' free trade deal with Japan**

European Parliament approved a free trade agreement between **Japan** and the **EU**, covering 635 million people and almost one-third of the world's economy.

The world's largest free trade agreement, the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement will remove duties on almost all agricultural and industrial products as well as open up the service sector and procurement. It also moves to eliminate non-tariff barriers to trade. The EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement which has been under discussion since 2013 will come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019.

### **Renowned English writer Amitav Ghosh selected for Jnanpith Award, 2018**

Jnanpith Selection Board chaired by eminent novelist, scholar and Jnanpith laureate Pratibha Ray selected Renowned English writer Amitav Ghosh for the prestigious Jnanpith Award 2018. Amitav Ghosh is one of the most prominent contemporary Writer who is famous connecting past with present in relevant ways in his novels. Shadow Lines, The Glass Palace, The Hunger Tide, River of smoke, Flood of Fire are some of the greatest novels of Amitav Ghosh.

### **MNF Chief Zoramthanga takes oath as Mizoram CM for Third Time**

President of Mizo National Front (MNF), Mr. Zoramthanga sworn in as the Chief Minister of Mizoram for the third time at Raj Bhavan in Aizawl.

MNF dethroned Congress by winning 26 seats in the 40 member legislative assembly. Congress bagged 5 seats whereas BJP won just 1 seat. **Mr Tawnluia** sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister of Mizoram.

### **Indian American Shree Saini from USA crowned Miss India Worldwide 2018**

Indian-American Shree Saini has been crowned Miss India Worldwide 2018 at 27th annual global pageant held in the Fords City of New Jersey. It is Organised by the New York-based India Festival Committee (IFC). Sakshi Sinha from Australia was declared as the first runner up and Anusha Sareen from United Kingdom declared as the second runner up.

### **Catriona Elisa Gray from Philippines bags Miss Universe 2018**

Miss Universe 2018 was held at Muang Thong Thani, Pak Kret, Thailand. The 24-year-old Filipino-Australian beauty Catriona Elisa Gray from Philippines bagged Miss Universe 2018 title. There are totally 93 contestants from various Countries participated in this contest. She was crowned by Miss Universe 2017 Demi Leigh Nel-Peters of South Africa. Tamaryn Green, a medical student from South Africa became first runner up and Sthefany Guterrez from Venezuela studying to be a lawyer became second runner-up.

### **Kamal Nath sworn in as 18th Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh**

Congress leader Kamal Nath, 72 took oath as 18<sup>th</sup> Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh after the 2018 Rajasthan Legislative Assembly election at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath of office of Kamal Nath. He Succeeds Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who hold the Office as C.M. from 2005 till 16th December 2018.

### **Bhupesh Baghel Sworn in as third Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh**

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Congress leader Bhupesh Baghel Sworn in as third Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, at an indoor stadium Raipur, Capital of Chhattisgarh. The Swearing in Ceremony is administered by Governor Anandiben Patel.

### **Ashok Gehlot sworn-in as 12th Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Sachin Pilot as his Deputy CM**

Ashok Gehlot took oath as the Rajasthan 12th Chief Minister of Rajasthan whereas Sachin Pilot took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister after the successful lead in 2018 Rajasthan Legislative Assembly election.

### **Sandip Somany takes over as new FICCI President; Uday Shankar as Vice President**

Sanitary ware firm HSIL (Hindustan Sanitaryware and Industries Ltd)'s CMD Sandip Somany has been elected as the new President of FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) for the year 2018-19 during its 91<sup>st</sup> annual general meeting.

Sangita Reddy, a current Joint Managing Director Apollo Hospitals has been elevated as FICCI Senior Vice President, while Uday Shankar, current Chairman and CEO of Star India and President of 21st Century Fox Asia-Pacific for Asia has joined the chamber as Vice President.

### **India ranks 108th in WEF gender gap index 2018**

WEF's Global Gender Gap Report 2018 has been released and India has ranked 108<sup>th</sup> in World Economic Forum (WEF) same as the previous year 2017 at 108<sup>th</sup>. Iceland holds the top spot in the index for the 10th consecutive year. Philippines tops in Asia in the World Economic Forum's latest gender equality rating and ranked 8<sup>th</sup> worldwide. The Global Gender Gap Index 2018 ranks 149 countries on health, education, economic and political indicators, including wage equality, educational attainment and representation in national government.

### **Sonam Kapoor named PETA India's 2018 Person of the Year**

Actor Sonam Kapoor named People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India's person of the year.

In 2016, Sonam Kapoor was named PETA India's Vegetarian Celebrity, and she earned a Compassionate Business Award from the group a year later for her cruelty-free handbag line. She donates "Kind Kites" to children to help prevent injuries from manja. Her past works include urging the Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change not to revoke the ban on classroom dissection for university life science and zoology students calling for a Maharashtra-wide ban on glass-coated manja that can entangle and kill birds.

### **Former Nepal Prime Minister Tulsi Giri passes away**

Dr. Giri was suffering from liver cancer for a long time and he was recently discharged from the hospital. Dr. Giri had a long political career. He served as the prime minister of Nepal twice, first from 1962 to 1964 and again from 1975 to 1977.

### **Pranab Kumar Das is appointed as new CBIC chairman**

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet had approved the appointment of Pranab Kumar Das as the new Chairman of Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) from January 1, 2019. Das, who is currently a Special Secretary and Member (Customs) at CBIC, will succeed **S. Ramesh**, who superannuates on December 31. Pranab Kumar Das is a 1983 batch IRS Officer of Customs & Central Excise Cadre and was appointed as Member in the Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC) in 2017.

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### **Bogibeel Bridge, India's longest rail cum road bridge, inaugurated in Assam by PM Narendra Modi**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's longest rail cum road bridge of **4.94 km** Bogibeel bridge, which spans the River Brahmaputra between Dibrugarh and Dhemaji districts of Assam. Till now Vembanad rail bridge in Kerala was dubbed as the longest railway-bridge in India at 4.62km of length.

The 4.94 km structure was built at a cost of Rs. 5900 crores by Indian Railways. It is India's only fully welded bridge for which European codes and welding standards were adhered to for the first time in the country. It is also Asia's 2nd longest rail-and-road connector having a life span of 120 years.

### **Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana launched in Uttarakhand**

Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Trivendra Singh Rawat launched the 'Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana' in Dehradun.

Under the scheme, each household in the state will be able to avail medical treatment of up to **5 lakh rupees** annually. A total of 99 government and 66 private hospitals have been selected under the scheme. Under this, the CM also signed MOUs with private hospitals and also announced availability of free of cost OPD facilities for children and elderly people in the state.

### **'Dwijing Festival' commenced on the banks of the Aye river in Assam**

'Dwijing Festival' celebrations commenced on the banks of the Aye river in Chirang district of Assam. It will continue till January 7, 2019. It will be organised by Assam Tourism and Bodoland Tourism.

The festival started as Aye River Festival in 2016-17 to promote river tourism in the rural areas under the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). It started under the name of 'AYE RIVER WINTER FESTIVAL'. The name was officially changed to "Dwijing (river bank in Bodo language)" in 2017.

### **Madhya Pradesh's Divya Patidar Joshi crowned Mrs. India 2018 title in New Delhi**

Divya Patidar Joshi from Madhya Pradesh was crowned with the Mrs. India 2018 title at the Mrs. India My Identity Beauty Pageant 2018 finale held in New Delhi. She defeated 24 promising contestants and won all the rounds of Beauty with Brain contest along with Best Cat Walk title.

With this win, in the year **2019**, she would be representing India for Mrs. Universe title.

### **Barack Obama named most admired man for 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row**

Former President of United States of America (USA), Barack Obama has been named as the most admired man by Americans for the 11<sup>th</sup> year in a row according to a Gallup poll. Present President of USA, Donald Trump ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> for the fourth consecutive year.

Former First Lady of USA Michelle Obama was also voted as the most admired woman by American. Hillary Clinton missed the top of the list this year, ended her 17-year run as most admired woman.

### **Kim Jong-yang elected as new President of Interpol**

Kim Jong Yang of South Korea has been elected Interpol President for two-year term by member countries at 87th General Assembly of Interpol, held for first time in Dubai. He secured at least two-thirds of votes cast at general assembly and defeated Russia's Alexander Prokopchuk.

### **Himachal Pradesh government approved implementation of Sashakt Mahila Yojna**

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Himachal Pradesh Cabinet under the Chairmanship of **Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur** approved implementation of Sashakt Mahila Yojna in the State. It aims to empower rural women by providing them an interface for organization and socio-economic development. The scheme would link rural women with sustainable livelihood opportunities and improving their skill by imparting training.

### **AAI inked agreement with US Trade and Development Agency to prepare modernized air traffic roadmap**

State-run Airports Authority of India (AAI) partnered up with the US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) to develop a roadmap for modernisation of its air traffic services. It is aimed at developing a CNS/ATM roadmap for the AAI for modernisation of the national airspace system (NAS). This would consist of air traffic management (ATM) and communication, navigation and surveillance (CNS) and ground equipage in the short, medium and long term (up to 10 years).

### **Fiji Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama re-elected for a second term**

Fijian Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama was re-elected for a second term after his ruling Fiji first Party won this year's general election. President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote will administer the oath of the office to the PM at State House.

### **Millie Bobby Brown named UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador**

Millie Bobby Brown, actor of Netflix sci-fi drama 'Stranger Things' has been appointed as UNICEF's latest Goodwill Ambassador. The 14-year old, Emmy award nominated star is **the youngest** person ever to be appointed to this position. Millie will use her global platform to help raise awareness of children's rights and issues affecting youth, such as lack of education, safe places to play and learn, and the impact of violence, bullying and poverty.

### **Paytm partners with LIC for insurance premium payments**

Softbank-backed, digital payments service provider, Paytm (One 97 Communications Limited) has partnered with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) **to offer** online insurance premium payments on its platform.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sayaji Ratna Award received by Film superstar Amitabh Bachcha**

Film star Amitabh Bachchan was awarded the third Sayaji Ratna Award in Laxmi Vilas Palace, Vadodara for his social contribution to pay off the loans of several farmers from Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. He had helped 1,398 farmers from Uttar Pradesh and 350 from Maharashtra through his contribution.

### **World Congress on Mountain Medicine held in Kathmandu**

The theme of the congress was "Mountain Medicine in the Heart of the Himalayas". The flagship event of the International Society for Mountain Medicine (ISMM) was held for the first time in Nepal and hosted by Mountain Medicine Society of Nepal (MMSN).

### **Air Asia India appoints Sanjay Kumar as CCO**

Effective from 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018, Former Senior Executive of Indigo, Mr. Sanjay Kumar has been appointed as the Chief Commercial Officer (CCO) of AirAsia India. Last month Sunil Bhaskaran from Tata Group has appointed the Managing Director and CEO.

### **7th International Tourism Mart 2018 being organised in Agartala**

The 7th edition of 'International Tourism Mart' held in Agartala, Tripura with the theme "Adventure Tourism". It has been organised by Union Ministry of Tourism in association with Department of Tourism, Govt of Tripura and North Eastern States.

### **Andhra Pradesh tops list of states with the highest employability**

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As per 6th edition of India Skills Report 2019, Andhra Pradesh has topped the list of states with the highest employability followed by Rajasthan and Haryana. The report highlights the fact that from FMCG to startups, every industry offers paid or unpaid internship programmes to youth.

#### **Sashastra Seema Bal to patrol Dudhwa tiger reserve**

Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR) and Sashastra Seema Bal joined hands to provide security to Dudhwa forests and its rich wildlife. It was part consensus reached among all security agencies including SSB, central and local intelligence officers, customs and excise officials, Special Tiger Protection Force and DTR's field staff to discuss issues involving safety of Dudhwa forests and its wildlife.

#### **IFFI nominates 12 movies for 2018 ICFT UNESCO Gandhi Medal**

The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) nominated 12 movies for 2018 International Council for Film, Television and Audio-visual Communication (ICFT) UNESCO Gandhi Medal. Of these 12 films, two are from India and the rest are foreign movies. The two Indian movies competing for the honour are Tamil film 'Baaram' and Ladakhi movie 'Walking with the Wind'.

#### **Indian Embassy in Nepal observed ITEC and 130<sup>th</sup> Maulana Azad Day in Kathmandu**

Embassy of India in Nepal celebrated Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day and 130<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, dubbed as Maulana Azad Day, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

#### **J-K Governor inaugurated annual week-long 'Jhiri Mela' festival in Jammu**

Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik inaugurated a week long annual 'Jhiri Mela' festival at village Jhiri in Jammu district. The governor announced the construction of a 'Sarai' (inn) at village Jhiri for the devotees. The annual fair is celebrated as a commemoration to the memory of a martyred farmer named, 'Baba Jittoo'.

#### **Jangalmahal Festival began in West Bengal**

Three-day-long annual 'Jangalmahal' festival began in the adjoining forested areas of West Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia districts of West Bengal. Initiated and organized by the 'Jangal Mahal Udyog', the festival aims to revive and popularise the culture and heritage of Jangal Mahal.

#### **Odisha's Baliyatra festival inaugurated**

Bali Yatra festival was inaugurated in Cuttack, Odisha on the occasion of Kartik Purnima by State Finance Minister Shashi Bhusan Behera. The 10 days long festival is the largest trade fair in Orissa and is likely to witness a footfall of millions of people and more than 1500 makeshift stalls to showcase a wide range of products, including ethnic items brought by artisans from across the country. It is held on the banks of Mahanadi river in Cuttack.

#### **Uttarakhand cabinet approved renaming of Dehradun's Jolly Grant airport after former PM Vajpayee**

Uttarakhand government chaired by Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat, approved a total of 27 proposals including renaming the **Dehradun airport** after former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. As per the approved proposal, the **Jolly Grant** airport in Uttarakhand will be renamed after Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### **Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti launched**

Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has launched 'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti' in New Delhi to boost Intellectual Property Right (IPR) culture in indigenous defence industry. It was

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instituted by Department of Defence Production as part of the ongoing initiatives to enhance self-reliance in defence. It aimed to provide a boost to IPR culture in indigenous defence industry.

### **Govt launches PAISA Portal**

Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched 'PAISA' – Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access during National Workshop on Municipal Finance and Urban Planning held in New Delhi. It is centralised electronic platform for quicker processing of loans under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

It aims to connect directly with beneficiaries and ensure there is greater efficiency in the delivery of services.

### **Noida and Greater Noida to participate in UN Global Sustainable Cities 2025 initiative**

The United Nations has officially selected Uttar Pradesh's Noida and Greater Noida to participate in its Global Sustainable Cities 2025 initiative. The twin-cities in Gautam Buddha Nagar district have been selected in the 'University City' category ahead of Mumbai and Bengaluru as the only invitees from India.

### **Sunil Arora appointed as new Chief Election Commissioner**

President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed senior IAS officer Sunil Arora as the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC). He will be the 23rd CEC and will succeed OP Rawat who retires in December 2018.

### **Akhilesh Ranjan appointed as Convenor of Task Force drafting New Direct Tax Legislation**

Union Finance Ministry appointed Akhilesh Ranjan, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) member as Convenor of Task Force that is drafting New Direct Tax Legislation (Law). He will replace Arbind Modi who retired in September 2018.

### **Nageshwara Rao Guntur appointed as Chairperson of AERB**

Union Govt appointed renowned scientist Nageshwara Rao Guntur as Chairperson of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). His appointment as the AERB chairperson will be for three years.

### **Govt transferred over Rs 1,600 crore to 48.5 lakh mothers under PMMVY: CDFI**

Centre for Digital Financial Inclusion (CDFI), the government had transferred over Rs 1,600 crore to 48.5 lakh mothers under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana through direct benefit transfer. The exact figure is Rs 16,04,66,63,000 and the process has been conceptualized, designed and implemented by CDFI through the PMMVY-CAS (Common Application Software) System.

### **Indian Social Entrepreneur Sanjay Kumar won the First UN Geospatial Ambassador Award**

Sanjay Kumar, Founder and CEO of Geospatial Media & Communications, was conferred the 'Global Geospatial Industry Ambassador' Award at the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress held at Deqing city in China. The Theme of the Congress is "The Geospatial Way to a Better World".

### **President Kovind appoints Sunil Arora as new Chief Election Commissioner**

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Sunil Arora, who is the senior-most commissioner in the poll panel, has been appointed as the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) by President Ram Nath Kovind. Arora will take charge as the CEC on December 2 by replacing current CEC OP Rawat, who retires on December 1.

### **Sashastra Seema Bal to patrol Dudhwa tiger reserve**

Sashastra Seema Bal(SSB) and Dudhwa Tiger Reserve of Uttar Pradesh have decided to work together for the security of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and its rich flora and fauna. As per the agreement, security of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve will be handed over to Sashastra Seema Bal.

### **Sustainable Blue Economy Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya**

First 3-day Sustainable Blue Economy Conference concluded at Kenyatta International Convention Center, KICC, in Nairobi, Kenya. It aims to work through the framework of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). The theme of this conference was 'The Blue Economy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.'

### **Ranbir Singh appointed as Chief Electoral Officer of Delhi**

Ranbir Singh who had earlier served as the commissioner of East Delhi Municipal Corporation was appointed as the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Delhi.

Ranbir Singh will succeed Vijay Kumar Dev who had been appointed as the chief secretary of the Delhi Government. The Post of Chief Secretary of Delhi was vacant after the transfer of Anshu Prakash.

### **KONKAN :India-United Kingdom Navy exercise begins in Goa**

KONKAN exercise between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of the United Kingdom started off at Goa. KONKAN-2018 will be conducted from 28 Nov to 06 Dec 2018. The Bilateral KONKAN exercise provides a platform for the two Navies to periodically exercise at sea and in harbour, so as to build interoperability and share best practices.

### **Karnataka Government and Numa launched 'DataCity' urban challenge in Bengaluru**

Karnataka government in partnership with start-up accelerator Numa, launched an initiative called 'DataCity' in Bengaluru. It will be jointly organised by Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and French utility company Suez.

### **Himachal Pradesh became first State to launch single emergency number '112' under ERSS**

Himachal Pradesh became the first Indian state to launch a single emergency number "112", connecting police, fire, health and other helplines through an Emergency Response Centre (ERC) in the state. Central government provided financial assistance of Rs. 4.71 crore and 13 vehicles for the implementation of the project in the state. One ERC has been established in Shimla and 12 District Command Centres have been made available across the state.

### **Uttarakhand adjudged 'best state'; Himachal pavilion gets 'silver medal' at India**

#### **International Trade Fair, New Delhi**

**38th India International Trade Fair**, which was held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from November 14 to 27, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu conferred the awards to the states. **Uttarakhand** is adjudged as Best State and **Himachal Pradesh** is awarded with **Second Position and holds the Silver Medal**.

### **Azim Premji conferred highest French civilian Honour**

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Global Software Major Wipro's Chairman Azim Premji was conferred with Highest French Civilian Award "Chevalier del la Legion d'Honneur" which means "Knight of the Legion of Honour" by the French Ambassador to India Mr. Alexandre Ziegler.

The award is presented the Azim Premji for his Contribution towards developing Information Technology (IT) industry in India, his economic outreach in France and his contribution towards society through **Azim Premji Foundation and University**.

### **Shri Arvind Saxena appointed as Chairman, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**

President of India Ram Nath Kovind appointed Shri Arvind Saxena as Chairman, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) till 07. 08.2020, i.e., until he attains the age of 65 years.

### **A.M. Naik appointed as Chairman of National Skill Development Corporation**

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship appointed Shri **A.M. Naik** as Chairman of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).

### **President gives assent to Karnataka Good Samaritan Protection Bill, 2016**

President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to Karnataka Good Samaritan and Medical Professional (Protection and Regulation during Emergency Situations) Bill, 2016 under Article 200 of Constitution. Karnataka has now become first state give legal protection to good Samaritans who help accidents victims with emergency medical care within golden hour.

### **India, Uzbekistan sign 17 agreements**

India and Uzbekistan have inked 17 agreements including for cooperation in the fields of tourism, national security, training of diplomats, against trafficking and visa free travel for diplomatic passport holders. These agreements have been signed after delegation level talks Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in New Delhi.

Both countries also agreed to hold joint military training exercise in area of counter-terrorism, cooperate in field of military education and military medicine, set up Joint Working Group (JWG) to support and sustain enhanced, mutually-beneficial defence-related activities.

### **Govt launches SATAT initiative**

The Union Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has launched Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) aimed at providing sustainable alternative towards affordable transportation. It was launched with PSU Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs i.e. IOC, BPCL and HPCL).

### **India ranks 5th in world terms of largest pictorial warning on cigarette packs**

India has been ranked 5th among 206 countries in Cigarette Package Health Warnings: International Status Report 2018 released by Canadian Cancer Society. The ranking of the countries was in terms of largest pictorial warning on cigarette packs. In India, 85% of both sides of cigarette packets are covered with warnings.

### **Indian-American Gita Gopinath appointed as Chief Economist of IMF**

India-born economist, Gita Gopinath has been appointed Chief Economist of International Monetary Fund (IMF). She will take over as IMF chief economist after Maurice Obstfeld retires in Dec 2018. It makes her second Indian after former RBI governor Raghuram Rajan to hold the position.

### **Odisha Govt launches food security scheme**

Odisha Govt has launched State Food Security Scheme (SFSS) to benefit the 25 lakh poor people who were left out of the National Food Security Act (NFSA). It has been launched by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti (Oct 02) in four districts – Bolangir,

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Balasore, Sundergarh and Mayurbhanj. In the rest of the parts of state, the scheme was launched by state's MPs and MLAs. The main beneficiary of this scheme will be vulnerable populace of state who were excluded from coverage under NFSA.

### **World's largest dome inaugurated in Pune**

The world's largest dome has been inaugurated at Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT)'s World Peace University (MIT-WPU) campus at Loni Kalbhor, Pune (Maharashtra).

It has been inaugurated by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu along with Peace Center on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

### **SC judge Madan Bhimarao Lokur appointed Executive Chairman of NALSA**

President Ramnath Kovind appointed senior judge of Supreme Court Madan Bhimarao Lokur as Executive Chairman of National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA). He was appointed by President in exercise of power conferred under Clause (b) of sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Legal Authorities Act, 1987. NALSA provides for free legal aid inter-alia to all persons in custody.

### **Joint Maritime Exercise between Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies held**

The sixth edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multi-national maritime exercise between Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies has been held at Simons Town, South Africa. It aims to undertake collective training for participating navies, building interoperability and mutual understanding as well as sharing of best practices. IBSA is international tripartite grouping for promoting international cooperation among India, Brazil, South Africa.

### **PM Narendra Modi conferred UNEP Champions of Earth Award 2018**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with United Nation's Champions of the Earth Award by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres at ceremony in Delhi. He is among the six winners who received this award. International Solar Alliance (ISA) and promoting new areas of cooperation on environmental action.

### **Justice Ranjan Gogoi sworn in as 46th Chief Justice of India**

Justice Ranjan Gogoi was sworn-in as 46th Chief Justice of India. He was administered oath of the office by President Ram Nath Kovind. With this, Justice Ranjan Gogoi is the first Chief Justice of India from the north-east.

### **SIDBI launches national level entrepreneurship awareness campaign**

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched Udyam Abhilasha, a national level entrepreneurship awareness campaign. It has been launched in 115 Aspirational Districts identified by NITI Aayog in 28 States. It will run from Oct 03 to Oct 08, 2018 across India and reach out to around 15,000 youth.

### **2nd Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo held in Noida**

The second Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo (REINVEST- 2018) has been organised by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in Noida from Oct 03 to 05, 2018. It has been inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the presence of Secretary General of United Nations Antonio Guterres.

### **India ranked 28th on government's adoption of e-payments in 2018**

India has been ranked 28th among 73 countries in 2018 Government e-Payments Adoption Ranking (GEAR). Norway has topped 2018 GEAR list scoring 89.7 points in seven categories. India

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has jumped by eight positions in this ranking from 36th in 2011 which reinforces country's progress towards digital transformation.

### **Govt nod to establishment of NIMHR in Sehore**

The Union Cabinet has remodified its earlier decision to establish of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) in Sehore District (Bhopal-Sehore highway) instead of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. It will be the first of its kind in the country in the area of mental health rehabilitation.

### **Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal hoisted India's tallest National Flag in Guwahati**

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, on the 149th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, hoisted India's tallest National Flag from the average city elevation at the Gandhi Mandap in Guwahati. The 9,600 sq ft flag stands on a 319.5 ft flag pole at Gandhi Mandap, a memorial for Mahatma Gandhi atop the Sarania Hill in the heart of Assam's principal city.

### **India launches Operation Samudra Maitri**

India launched massive humanitarian operation 'Samudra Maitri' to provide assistance to earthquake and tsunami victims in Indonesia. It was launched after telephonic conversation between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Indonesian President Joko Widodo and following Indonesia's acceptance of international aid. India has dispatched two aircraft C-130J and C-17 and three naval ships carrying relief material and personnel to the country.

### **First India-Vietnam Coast Guards exercise held in Bay of Bengal**

The maiden joint exercise of Coast Guards of India and Vietnam 'Sahyog HOP TAC -2018' has been held in the Bay of Bengal off the Chennai coast, Tamil Nadu. It aimed at strengthening the working level relationship between coast guards of both navies.

### **Thangvelli Mariyappan named flag-bearer for the 3rd Paralympic Asian games**

Rio Paralympic gold medallist Thangvelli Mariyappan has been named as flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the 3rd Paralympic Asian games to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia.

India will field its biggest ever contingent of 302 members including athletes, coaches, support staff, escorts and officials.

### **India's and Asia's first Dolphin Research Centre to come up soon in Patna**

National Dolphin Research Centre (NDRC) is going to be set up on the banks of the Ganga river in Patna University campus in Patna, Bihar. It will be India's and Asia's first Dolphin research centre. The announcement was made on the occasion of Dolphin day (October 5).

### **Govt releases policy on biometric based digital processing of passengers at airports**

Union Ministry of Civil Aviation has released policy on biometric based digital processing of passengers at airports called Digi Yatra. It seeks to promote paperless and hassle-free air travel.

### **Cave shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi declared the 'cleanest religious place'**

The cave shrine of Mata Vaishnodevi in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) has been declared the 'cleanest religious place' in the country. Mata Vaishno Devi shrine has won the prestigious 'cleanest religious place' award at Safaigiri Summit and Awards 2018 ceremony organised by the India Today Group in Mumbai on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

### **10th Biennial International Exhibition & Conference 'India Chem 2018' held in Mumbai**

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The 10th Biennial International Exhibition & Conference 'India Chem 2018' has held in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It was jointly organised by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

It is one of the largest composite events of Chemicals and Petrochemicals industry of the Asia Pacific region.

### **India ranked 28 in Visa's 2018 Govt e-Payment Adoption Ranking**

India ranked 28 among 73 countries in the Visa's 2018 Government e-Payment Adoption Ranking (GEAR). The 2018 GEAR is an Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) global Index and benchmarking study commissioned by Visa. Norway leads the pack in the 73-country ranking, followed by France and Denmark.

### **3rd edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise begins in Visakhapatnam**

The 3rd edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX) has commenced at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. JIMEX-18 aimed to enhance interoperability, improve understanding and imbibe best practices between navies of two countries.

### **Pravin Srivastava appointed as new CSI**

Pravin Srivastava has been appointed as new Chief Statistician of India (CSI). It comes into effect from the date of his assuming charge of the post till the date of his superannuation (Aug 31, 2020) or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

### **Arunachal Pradesh Govt launches Sashakt Kisan Yojana (SKY) and Krishi Samuh Yojana (KSY)**

The Arunachal Pradesh Govt has launched the Chief Minister's Sashakt Kisan Yojana (SKY) and Chief Minister's Krishi Samuh Yojana (KSY) in Itanagar. The Sashakt Kisan Yojana (SKY) will subsume three state flagship programmes, namely – CM's Employment Generation Scheme (EGS), CM's Agri-Mechanization Programme (AMP) and CM's Flagship Programme on Tea and Rubber.

### **ESIC wins ISSA GOOD Practice Award, Asia and Pacific 2018**

Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has been awarded ISSA (International Social Security Association) ISSA Good Practice Award for Administrative Solution for Coverage Extension at Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and Pacific held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

### **India suffered \$79.5 billion economic loss due to climate-related disasters in last 20 years**

According to latest report by United Nations titled 'Economic Losses, Poverty and Disasters 1998-2017', India has suffered whopping \$79.5 billion economic loss due to climate-related disasters in last 20 years. It was compiled by UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction which highlights impact of extreme weather events on global economy. The greatest economic losses was experienced by United States at \$944.8 billion followed by China (\$492.2 billion), Japan (\$376.3 billion), India (\$79.5 billion).

### **Approves MoC between India and Finland**

Union Cabinet approved Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and Finland on Environmental Cooperation. It will enable establishment and promotion of closer and long-term cooperation between two countries in field of environment protection and management of natural resources on basis of equity, reciprocity and mutual benefits.

### **Approves establishment of NCVET**

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Union Cabinet approved establishment of National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET). It will be set up by merging existing regulatory institutions in the skills space – National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) and National Skill Development Agency (NSDA).

### **Approves establishment of permanent campuses of two new IISERs**

Union Cabinet approved establishment and operationalisation of two new permanent campuses of the Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) in Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) and Behrampur (Odisha). Cabinet also has approved creation of two posts of Registrar, one in each IISER.

### **Approves Productivity linked bonus for Railway Employees**

Union Cabinet approved the payment of Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for financial year 2017-18 for all eligible non-gazetted Railway employees. It will be not available to Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel.

### **Stanford University named World's Most Innovative University**

Stanford University has been named as World's Most Innovative University by Reuters news agency rankings. The Reuters' top 100 World's Most Innovative University ranking recognises universities from across the world for their work in inventing new technologies, advance science and power new markets and industries.

### **Tushar Mehta appointed as new Solicitor General of India**

The Appointments Committee of Union Cabinet approved appointment of Tushar Mehta as the new Solicitor General of India. He will replace Ranjit Kumar, who had stepped down sometime back and shall hold office till Jun 30, 2020.

### **India elected to UN Human Rights Council**

India elected to United Nations' Human Rights Council', the main body of UN charged with promoting and monitoring human rights for period of three years beginning Jan 1, 2019. In this secret ballot election held in 193-member UN General Assembly (UNGA) India secured 188 votes in Asia-Pacific category, the highest number of votes among all candidates. From Asia-Pacific region category, Fiji with 187 and Bangladesh 178 votes were also elected along with India.

### **NITI Aayog, Microsoft sign agreement**

NITI Aayog inked agreement with Microsoft India to deploy artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to address challenges in agriculture and healthcare and promote adoption of local language computing among others. It will help NITI Aayog to move beyond pilots and understand how to scale AI implementation in sectors characterized by preponderance of public goods.

### **13th Convention of Central Information Commission held in New Delhi**

The 13th Convention of Central Information Commission, inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind, held in New Delhi. CIC was established in 2005 by Central Government under provisions of Right to Information (RTI) Act (2005).

### **India-Azerbaijan sign protocol**

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India and Azerbaijan signed protocol on trade and economic, science and technology cooperation. It has been signed at 5th meeting of India-Azerbaijan Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade and Economic, Science and Technology Cooperation (IA-IGC) held on 11-12 Oct, 2018 in New Delhi.

### **Sikkim awarded FAO's Future Policy Gold Award for 100% organic farming**

Sikkim awarded UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) Future Policy Gold Award (Gold Prize) for its achievement in becoming the world's first totally organic agriculture state. Sikkim is first organic state in the world and all farmlands in the state are certified organic.

### **First India-US tri-services exercise to be held in 2019**

The first India-United States tri-services exercise is likely to take place in 2019 in India. It will include all services of both countries and talks are on to include special forces. US will second country after Russia with whom India conducts tri-services exercise.

### **Shekhar Mande appointed as Director-General of CSIR**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Dr. Shekhar Mande as the Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Secretary of the Department of Scientific and Research (DSIR). He will succeed Girish Sahni who superannuated in Aug 2018.

### **Khayyam wins Hridaynath Award for Lifetime Achievement**

Veteran composer, lyricist, writer and national award winning music director Mohammed Zahur Khayyam Hashmi, famously known as Khayya was 2018 Hridaynath Award for Lifetime Achievement. The award will be conferred by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in Mumbai.

### **75th anniversary of establishment of Azad Hind govt observed**

75th anniversary of establishment of Azad Hind govt has been observed on Oct 21, 2018. Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoisted National flag and unveiled plaque at the Red Fort, Delhi. Azad Hind Government was founded in Singapore on Oct 21, 1943.

### **First India, Japan joint military exercise to be held in Mizoram**

The first joint military exercise named 'Dharma Guardian' between India and Japan is scheduled to be held at the Army's Counter-Insurgency Warfare School at Vairengte (Mizoram) from Nov 1 to 14, 2018. It is aimed at developing mutual understanding and respect between militaries of both countries, as also facilitate in tracking worldwide phenomenon of terrorism.

### **India, Japan, US planning to host joint trilateral air exercise**

India and US have agreed to elevate their bilateral 'Cope India' air exercise to trilateral format by including Japan. The next edition of this exercise is scheduled to be held in Dec 2018. Cope India is series of international Air Force exercises between Indian Air Force (IAF) and United States Air Force conducted on and over Indian soil. The first such exercise was conducted at IAF station in Gwalior from Feb 2004.

### **India, Myanmar sign MoU**

India and Myanmar have inked MoU for appointment of private port operator for Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of Sittwe Port, Paletwa Inland Water Terminal and associated facilities

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included in Kaladan Multi Model Transit Transport Project. It was signed by Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale on behalf of Government of India (GoI) and by U Win Khant, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Communications on behalf of Myanmar Govt.

### **Sujatha Gidla wins 2018 Shakti Bhatt Prize**

US-based Dalit writer Sujatha Gidla has won 2018 Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize for her debut book 'Ants Among Elephants: An Untouchable Family and the Making of Modern India'. It takes readers through four generations of her family at centre and mainly her uncle K G Satyamurthy, a Maoist leader who founded Left-wing guerrilla movement called People's War Group to overthrow Indian state.

### **India, China sign agreement**

India and China signed agreement on internal security cooperation. It is the first such agreement to be signed between the two countries. The agreement was signed by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and China's State Councilor and Minister of Public Security Zhao Kezhi in New Delhi. It aims to strengthen and consolidate assistance in counter-terrorism, organised crimes, drug control, human trafficking and exchange of information, marking a new beginning between the two countries.

### **PM Narendra Modi awarded 2018 Seoul Peace Prize**

Seoul Peace Prize Committee decided to confer 2018 Seoul Peace Prize on Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He becomes the fourteenth recipient of this award. The award will be presented to him by Seoul Peace Prize Foundation.

### **Russia and Pakistan holding military exercise in Pakistan**

The Druzhba 2018 (Friendship 2018) joint bilateral military exercise between Pakistan and Russian special forces has begun in Pakistan. It will be organized in north-western hill region in Nowshera district of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa of Pakistan. It is aimed at bolstering and building military cooperation between the two countries.

### **Fali S. Nariman awarded 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award**

Eminent jurist Fali S. Nariman has been awarded 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration. He was presented the award by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu at a function held in New Delhi.

### **SBI becomes the India's first PSU to introduce comprehensive wealth business services**

The State Bank of India (SBI) become the India's first PSU bank to introduce comprehensive wealth business services for its clients. The wealth hub has been inaugurated by SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar at the Lalbagh branch in Mangalore. The bank has re-branded its wealth business as 'SBI Wealth' offering best-in-class personalised banking and investment services to its elite High Net worth Individual (HNI) clients through a dedicated team of relationship managers.

### **5th Women of India Organic Festival held in New Delhi**

The 5th edition of the Women of India Organic Festival held at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi. It has been organised by the Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry to promote women organic farmers and entrepreneurs. It aims to empower women to boost organic culture and promote women organic farmers and entrepreneurs.

### **Kerala set to become India's first smoke-free State**

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Kerala is set to become the India's first smoke-free State with public sector oil companies eyeing 100% LPG penetration. It is estimated that one crore tonnes of emissions, from poisonous gases like firewood cooking, have been contained and 25 lakh trees have been saved with the introduction of LPG in villages.

### **IRDAI panel headed by Suresh Mathur**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) formed a panel under the chairmanship of headed by Suresh Mathur, ED (Health) in IRDAI to examine the feasibility of payment of general and health insurance claims in instalments. It will look into the need for allowing settlement of personal accident and benefit-based health insurance claims in instalments by general and health insurance companies.

### **Priyank Kanoongo appointed new Chairperson of NCPCR**

Priyank Kanoongo has been appointed as the new Chairperson of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) for a period of 3 years. The post felt vacant after Stuti Kacker's tenure ended on Sept 16, 2018. The NCPCR is a statutory body, which was set up by an Act of Parliament in 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.

### **Nimesh Shah elected as new Chairman of AMFI**

The MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund, Nimesh Shah has been elected as new Chairman of Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI). He succeeded A Balasubramanian, CEO of Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund.

### **India wins Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management Award, 2018**

India won Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management (CAPAM) Award, 2018. It was announced at Annual General Members Meet held at Georgetown, Guyana. Unnayan Banka initiative for reinventing education using technology of Banka District, Bihar was awarded under Category 'Innovation Incubation'.

### **Marsel van Oosten won the prestigious Wildlife Photographer Of The Year (WPY) 2018**

Dutch photographer Marsel van Oosten won the prestigious Wildlife Photographer Of The Year (WPY) 2018 for his stunning portrait of two endangered golden snub-nosed monkeys in China's Qinling mountains. The winning image – named as 'Golden Couple' – showcases a beautiful golden fur-blue face male monkey rested briefly on a stone seat, joined by female baby monkey.

### **Arshdeep Singh wins the 2018 Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year (Asia) Award**

Arshdeep Singh, at the age of 10, from Jalandhar made India proud by winning the 2018 Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year (Asia) Award (10 years and under age category) for his photograph 'Pipe Owls'. The award ceremony held at the Natural History Museum, London on Oct 15, 2018.

### **Mohammed Zahur Khayyam Hashmi named 2018 Hridaynath Award**

The National Award winning music director, Mohammed Zahur Khayyam Hashmi has been named for the 2018 Hridaynath Award for Lifetime Achievement. He is famous as 'Khayyam'.

### **World's Highest Railway Line to be built in India**

Indian Railways has announced a new plan to link New Delhi and Ladakh by means of a railway line that will run along the India-China Border. Once launched, the proposed Bilaspur-Manali-Leh Line

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would be the world's highest railway line. The projected cost to construct the 465 km line will be Rs 83,360 crore.

### **India to become Third Largest Aviation Market**

According to International Air Transport Association (IATA) report of 20- year air passenger forecast report, India will be among the top three aviation market by 2024. India is currently at seventh position in Global Aviation market. China will displace the US as the world's largest aviation market in the mid- 2020.

### **India ranked 9th most valuable nation brand in the world**

According to UK-based consultancy Brand Finance's Nation Brands 2018 report, India has been ranked 9th most valuable nation brand in the world. The US topped the list with a brand value of \$25,899 billion, an increase of 23% from the previous year. China ranked 2nd position with a brand value of \$12,779 billion, followed by Germany \$5,147 billion, UK \$3,750 billion of brand value.

### **Fali S. Nariman honoured with 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award**

The renowned jurist Fali S. Nariman has been honoured with the 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration for year 2018. He has been awarded by the Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu.

### **Winners of United Nations Human Rights Prize - 2018**

- The United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights (UN Human Rights Prize) has been announced by María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the 73rd Session of United Nations General Assembly.
- The winners of 2018 award are: Asma Jahangir – Pakistan's late human rights activist, Rebeca Gyumi – A Tanzanian human rights activist, Joenia Wapichana – Brazil's first indigenous lawyer, and Front Line Defenders – A human rights organisation of Ireland.

### **India donates 3 lakh dollars for peacekeeping initiative at UN**

India has donated three lakh Dollars for a peacekeeping initiative at the UN. The programme will help develop the capacity of future commanders and managers over a period of three years. The UN Department of Field Support announced that the Indian government donated the amount for the 'Pipeline to Peacekeeping Command Programme' with a specific focus on issues of conduct and discipline.

### **Gujarat's first Mega Food Park inaugurated in Surat**

Chief minister Vijay Rupani and Union minister for food processing industries Harsimrat Kaur inaugurated Gujarat's first Food Agro Infrastructure Mega Food Park at Shahu village in Mangrol taluka of Surat district. The mega food park has been built with financial assistance from central and state governments at a cost of Rs 120 crore on 70 acres of land.

A second Mega Food Park has been sanctioned by the Ministry in Mehsana District of Gujarat.

### **11th Global Agriculture Leadership Summit 2018 in New Delhi**

The 11th edition of Global Agriculture Leadership Summit 2018 in New Delhi from with the theme 'Connecting Farmers to Market'. The summit aims to discuss the national and global marketing scenario and success models to provide the best marketing models and linkages to Indian farmers through policy reforms and collaborative efforts.

### **North East Festival and Experiencing the North East held in New Delh**

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The sixth North East festival and the 15th edition of Indian International Centre festival held in New Delhi with the theme 'Experiencing the North East'. The festival is a part of Destination North East Series being organised by North Eastern Council, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER). The festival is organised by Indian International Centre as 15th anniversary of its annual festivals.

### **15th International Dance Festival 'Udbhav Utsav 2018' held in Gwalior**

The 15th edition of International Dance Festival 'Udbhav Utsav 2018' held in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh. It was inaugurated by Uzbekistan Ambassador to India Farhod Arziev. It aims to give opportunity to performers for creative communications, to present new talents and to facilitate acquaintance with pieces of national culture and arts in different countries.

### **India and Bangladesh signed agreements for enhancing inland and coastal waterways connectivity**

India and Bangladesh have signed several agreements for enhancing inland and coastal waterways connectivity between the two countries for trade and cruise movements. The two countries have signed an agreement to use Chattogram and Mongla Ports in Bangladesh for movement of goods to and from India.

### **Union Cabinet gave ex-post facto approval to MoU signed between India and Singapore**

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between India and Singapore in Jun 2018 on the constitution of a Joint Working Group (JWG) on FinTech.

Both countries will improve their regulatory connect to exchange best practices by sharing experience on policies and regulations related to fintech.

### **India's first engine-less train 'Train 18'**

India's first engine-less train 'Train 18' is set to hit the tracks for trials on Oct 29. 'Train 18' is designed and manufactured by the Chennai-based Integral Coach Factory (ICF) at a cost of Rs 100 crore. It is being regarded as a successor to the 30-year-old Shatabdi Express.

### **5th Women of India Organic Festival held in New Delhi**

Minister for Women and Child Development, Maneka Sanjay Gandhi will inaugurate the 5th edition of the Women of India Organic Festival at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi. It aims to boost organic culture and promote Women Organic Farmers and Entrepreneurs. The festival will have producers and manufacturers of Organic Products from 26 Indian States.

### **Ram Vanji Sutar to be conferred with the prestigious 2016 Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony**

Renowned sculptor Ram Vanji Sutar, who has designed the Statue of Unity in Narmada district in Gujarat, will be conferred with the prestigious 2016 Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony. The Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony for the years 2014 and 2015 is being conferred on the doyen of Manipuri dance Sh. Rajkumar Singhajit Singh and Chhayanaut (a cultural organization of Bangladesh), respectively.

### **Sri Lanka chosen as the best travel destination**

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Sri Lanka chosen as the best travel destination among the list of countries to visit in 2019, according to Lonely planet's Best in Travel 2019 book. The projection done by Lonely planet said that Sri Lanka topped the list primarily because travel has become much easier there since the civil war ended in 2009. Germany acquired 2nd position, followed by Zimbabwe, Panama, Kyrgyzstan and Jordan.

### **PM Modi dedicates Sardar Patel's 'Statue of Unity' to nation**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Oct 31 unveiled the 182-metre high 'Statue of Unity' in honour of country's first Home Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and dedicated it to the nation. It is built on Sadhu Bet Island on Narmada river. The imposing statue is touted to be the world's tallest. The ₹2,389 crore monument is a tribute to Patel who played a major role in integrating the princely states into the Indian Union after the partition of 1947.

### **13th India-Japan Annual Summit**

- The annual bilateral summit of India –Japan held in Japan.
- The Indian prime minister Narendra Modi attended the summit.
- Japan investors will invest around \$2.5 US dollars in India.
- The two sides agreed for a 2+2 dialogue between our foreign ministers and defence ministers to further work towards world peace.
- An India-Japan Business Platform will be established to enhance the development of industrial corridors and industrial network in the region Both countries will cooperate for the first time in the areas of traditional medicinal systems such as Yoga and Ayurveda.
- Both the countries have agreed to synchronize upon sharing benefits of the Ayushman Bharat scheme and the Japanese healthcare programme.

### **SBI, Hitachi Payments form joint venture for digital payment platform**

The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) and payments solution provider Hitachi Payment Services India have entered into an agreement to form a joint venture for establishing a card acceptance and digital payment platform. SBI will have a majority stake in the proposed joint venture.

### **Malala Yousafzai to receive Harvard award for activism**

Nobel Prize Winner Malala Yousafzai is being honored by Harvard University for her work promoting girls' education. She will be awarded the 2018 Gleitsman Award on Dec 06. She became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014 when she was recognized for her global work supporting schooling for all children.

### **Sanjay Kumar Mishra appointed as principal special director of ED**

Sanjay Kumar Mishra has been appointed as the principal special director in the central probe agency and entrusted with the 'additional' charge of Enforcement Directorate (ED) director for three months. He succeeded Karnal Singh. The post of ED director is an additional secretary rank post in the Union government.

### **4th BIMSTEC Summit held in Kathmandu, Nepal**

The fourth Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit has been held in Kathmandu, capital of Nepal with the theme 'Towards a

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Peaceful Prosperous, and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region'. India was represented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. BIMSTEC, headquartered in Dhaka, Bangladesh, is regional grouping of seven countries in South Asia and South East Asia lying in littoral and adjacent areas of Bay of Bengal constituting contiguous regional unity. India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka from South Asia and Myanmar, Thailand from South East Asia are the member countries of BIMSTEC.

### **India, Nepal sign MoU**

India and Nepal have signed MoU to build strategic railway line connecting Raxaul city in Bihar, India to Kathmandu, capital of Nepal. It has been signed after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks on all aspects of the bilateral ties with his Nepalese counterpart KP Sharma Oli on sidelines of 4th BIMSTEC Summit held in Nepal.

### **INS Sahyadri reaches Port Darwin in Australia**

Indian Naval Ship Sahyadri reached Port of Darwin, Australia to participate in multilateral regional maritime exercise KAKADU 2018 conducted by Australia. The ship was earlier deployed in South China Sea and Pacific Ocean for over four months and had represented Indian Navy in multinational exercises MALABAR 18 at Guam and RIMPAC 18 at Hawaii.

### **Sunil Mehta elected as new Chairman of Indian Bank's Association for 2018-19**

Punjab National Bank (PNB's) managing director and chief executive, Sunil Mehta has been 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 elected as the deputy chairman.

### **Govt inaugurates Krishna Kutir**

The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development had inaugurated widows' home '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. It aims to ensure economic and social security to women in distress or victims of difficult circumstances who are in need of institutional support for rehabilitation so that they could lead their life with dignity.

### **Indian Railways signed MoU with GAIL India Ltd**

Indian Railways has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with GAIL India Ltd for use of environment-friendly fuel 'Natural Gas' in Railway workshops and production units in New Delhi. It aims to replace Industrial gases like Dissolved Acetylene, LPG, Bharat Metal Cutting Gas (BMCG) and Furnace Oil / High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil with Natural Gas.

### **Madhya Pradesh govt organizes an interactive programme 'Mil -Banche'**

The Madhya Pradesh govt has organized an interactive programme 'Mil -Banche' in govt schools of state. It is a first of its kind initiative which is being organized for multi-dimensional development of children through language skill up-gradation, reading other books in addition to textbooks, developing interest in understanding and other co-curricular activities.

### **MOVE Cyclathon organized by NITI Aayog**

National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog flagged off cycle rally MOVE Cyclathon to spread message of clean mobility to the Indian public and promote cleaner, accessible modes of transport. The cyclathon has been held in run up to MOVE: Global Mobility Summit in New Delhi. It was aimed at promoting cycling for healthier life & less polluting city and spread message of a shared, connected, and zero-emission mobility in the country.

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### **Census 2021 for first time to collect data on OBCs**

The Union Home Ministry announced that Census 2021 for the first time in independent India will collect data on Other Backwards Castes (OBCs). This comes more than 25 years after implementation of 27% reservation for OBCs based on Mandal Commission's recommendations on basis of last castes data collected in 1931 census.

### **Google launches Project Navlekha**

At the 4th edition of Google for India event, Google has launched Project Navlekha to help Indian vernacular news publishers to take their content online. It does not require any technical know-how of web publishing and can be used by anyone. Navlekha, which means 'a new way to write' in Sanskrit, will allow 1.35 lakh Indian publishers to digitize their offline content by creating instant web pages using scanned documents or PDFs.

### **ISRO decided to launch 'Gaganyaan — India's first human spaceflight programme' by 2022**

The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has decided to launch 'Gaganyaan — India's first human spaceflight programme' by 2022. The mission will aim to send a 3-member crew to space for a period of 5 to 7 days. The spacecraft will be placed in a low earth orbit of 300-400km and the total programme cost is expected to be less than Rs. 10,000 crores.

### **4th International Ayurveda Congress held in Leiden, Netherlands**

The fourth International Ayurveda Congress (IAvC) was held in Leiden, Netherlands from Sept 1 to 2, 2018. It was inaugurated by Minister of State, (IC), for AYUSH Shripad Yesso Naik.

### **Govt launches Coffee Connect app and KrishiTharanga project**

Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry has launched Coffee Connect-India coffee field force app and Coffee KrishiTharanga – digital mobile extension services project for coffee stakeholders. These initiatives were developed by Coffee Board of India for the overall technological advancement of the coffee sector and value chain. India is 6th largest coffee producer in the world with 4% share after Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, Indonesia and Ethiopia.

### **Health Ministry releases draft charter of Patients' Rights**

Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare released draft Charter of Patients' Rights prepared by National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Ministry plans to implement the Charter of Patients' Rights through State governments for provision of proper health care by clinical establishments.

### **Govt receives Rs. 3,000 crore from MNCs that have entered into APAs**

Union Govt has received Rs. 3,000 crore of additional tax from MNCs that have entered into advance pricing agreements (APAs) with it over last five years and also has eliminated big source of tax litigation. It was revealed in recently released annual report on advance pricing agreements (APAs) with it over last five years and also has eliminated big source of tax litigation. It was revealed in recently released annual report on advance pricing agreements (APAs) for FY18 by Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).

### **Govt approves Jharkhand Govt's proposal to rename Nagar Untari town as Banshidhar Nagar**

Union Ministry of Home Affairs has cleared proposal of Jharkhand Govt to rename Nagar Untari town and railway station as Banshidhar Nagar, after Banshidhar Temple, which is dedicated to Krishna in Garhwa district of state. It has granted No-Objection Certificate (NOC) to Jharkhand Govt after there were no adverse reports from Intelligence Bureau, Geological Survey of India (GSI),

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Department of Post, Ministry of Earth Sciences and Ministry of Railways for renaming Nagar Untari town and railway station as Banshidhar Nagar.

### **NITI Aayog expert group urges plan to save springs in Himalayas**

NITI Aayog has constituted group of experts has submitted report titled 'Inventory and Revival of Springs in the Himalayas for Water Security.' It has mentioned that nearly 30% of springs crucial to water security of people are drying and 50% have reported reduced discharge.

### **Puducherry bags top position in National Clean School Award given by HRD Ministry**

Union Territory of Puducherry bagged top position in National Clean School Award after seven schools from Puducherry were awarded for cleanliness. As many as 52 schools from across the country were b

### **International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018 held in Kathmandu**

International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018, inaugurated by Vice President of Nepal Nanda Bahadur Pun held in Kathmandu, capital of Nepal from Sept 3 to 5, 2018 with the theme 'Equality begins with Economic Empowerment'. It was organised by the South Asian Women Development Forum. SAWDF is an autonomous, nonprofit organization based in Kathmandu, Nepal.

### **RBI introduces Internal Ombudsman (IO) scheme 2018**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced Internal Ombudsman (IO) scheme 2018 to tighten internal grievance redressal system at Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs). RBI has given statutory powers to Internal Ombudsman (IO) under section 35 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. The central bank has tightened the selection and operating procedure for IO in banks and made it mandatory for lenders with more than 10 branches (excluding Regional Rural Banks) to have an independent authority to review complaints that were partially or wholly rejected by the respective banks.

- An ombudsman is a person officially charged with investigating and addressing public complaints or violation of rights.
- The tenure of the IO cannot be more than 5 years and it is not open to reappointment.
- An IO also cannot be removed without consent from the RBI.

### **India, Bulgaria sign MoUs**

- India and Bulgaria signed four MoUs in fields of Civil Nuclear cooperation, investment, Tourism and establishment of Hindi chair at Sofia University.
- These agreements were signed after President Ramnath Kovind and his Bulgarian counterpart Rumen Radev held talks in Sofia, capital of Bulgaria.
- President Ram Nath Kovind visited Bulgaria on the second leg of his three-nation visit (Cyprus, Bulgaria and Czech Republic) to Europe to continue India's high-level engagements with the European countries.
- He was fifth Indian President to visit Bulgaria and first in 15 years.

### **Govt launches National Mission on Govt eMarketplace**

Union Ministry of Commerce & Industry launched National Mission on Govt eMarketplace (GeM) for increasing awareness and accelerating use of GeM by major central Ministries, State Govts and their agencies. It provides online, end to end solution for procurement of commonly used goods and services for all Central Govt Departments and State Govts, Public Sector Units and affiliated bodies. It aims to promote inclusiveness, transparency and efficiency in public procurement and achieve cashless, contactless and paperless transaction.

### **International Aviation Summit 2018 held in New Delhi**

The International Aviation Summit 2018 held in New Delhi, which was jointly organized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA), the Airports Authority India (AAI) and International Air Transport Association (IATA). It commemorates the approaching milestone of 50-straight months of double digit domestic growth for Indian aviation.

### **Govt extends Atal Pension Yojana indefinitely**

- Union Cabinet decided to indefinitely extended Atal Pension Scheme, which had lapsed in Aug 2018.
- It also has broadened its scope by keeping it open-ended.
- The extension was given by taking into consideration of mass participation.
- Earlier, people of age 18 to 60 years were entitled to enroll in this scheme.
- But now it has been relaxed further to 65 years, taking into consideration rise in average age-expectancy.

### **India and Cyprus signed two agreements**

India and Cyprus signed two agreements on combating money laundering and cooperation in the field of environment in the presence of President Ram Nath Kovind and his Cypriot counterpart Nicos Anastasiades in Nicosia. Both the countries also agreed for the revision in the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) made in 2016 to further enhance investment partnership to grow by strengthening the institutional framework to facilitate investment cross flows. Beside this, Cyprus also reaffirmed its support to India for its membership of the Nuclear Supplier's Group (NSG) and UN Security Council (UNSC).

### **India to participate in international students' test after 9 year Boycott**

Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has officially decided to participate in Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) after gap of nine years. It will send team of officers to Paris to negotiate India's terms of participation in PISA 2021.

### **Cabinet approves establishment and operationalization of permanent campus of seven new IIMs**

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved establishment and operationalization of permanent campus of seven new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs). These IIMs will be established at Amritsar (Punjab), Bodh Gaya (Bihar), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Sambalpur (Odisha), Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh), Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and Jammu.

### **Indian Air Force successfully carries first-ever mid-air refuelling of LCA Tejas**

Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully carried out first ever midair refuelling of indigenously developed light combat aircraft (LCA) Tejas. The midair refuelling test conducted involved dry linkup, meaning no fuel was actually transferred between IAF Il-78 tanker and Tejas fighter jet through its air-to-air refuelling probe. Russian-built IL-78 MKI tanker was launched from IAF's base in Agra while LCA Tejas fighter was launched from Gwalior. LCA Tejas is lightweight single-seat multi-role jet fighter, powered by single engine.

### **India and Sri Lanka conducts joint naval exercise at Trincomalee**

India, Sri Lanka joint naval exercise SLINEX-2018 held at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. SLINEX exercise started in 2005 was previously held once in two years and now it has been

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converted to annual event this year onwards. The exercise was conducted in two phases, namely Harbour and Sea Phase.

### **Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh re-elected as Regional Director of WHO's South-East Asian Region**

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 Feb 2019. She was reelected by 11 member states of the Region during elections held at ongoing Regional Committee meeting of WHO South-East Asia.

### **India, France ink agreement to collaborate for Gaganyaan mission**

India and France signed agreement to collaborate for ISRO's first human space mission Gaganyaan to be launched in 2022. The announcement was made at sixth edition of Bengaluru Space Expo (touted to be largest space conference in Asia and held in Bengaluru). Under this agreement, ISRO and French space agency CNES will form working group to exchange expertise in fields of astronaut life support, radiation protection, space debris protection and personal hygiene systems among others.

### **ONGC discovers oil, gas reserves in Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal**

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. They are category-III basins, having hydrocarbon and are considered geologically prospective for exploration.

### **Defence & Homeland Security Expo & Conference started in New Delhi**

Defence & Homeland Security Expo and Conference – 2018 held in New Delhi to enable nation become self-reliant in Home Land Security (HLS) & defence sector. It is being organized for the first time to make leading policy makers and luminaries from diverse defence segments take part with special focus on MSMEs in defense production and procurement.

### **India, US annual combat exercise to be held in Uttarakhand**

India and United States are going to conduct their annual combat exercise "Yudh Abhyas" at Chaubatia in Uttarakhand from Sept 16 to 29, 2018. The exercise will be held soon after both countries hold their inaugural top-level '2+2' dialogue in New Delhi.

### **Satrughna Pandav to be honoured with 'Sarla Puraskar' award**

Noted Odia poet Satrughna Pandav will be honoured with the prestigious 39th edition of the 'Sarla Puraskar' award 2018 for his poetry collection 'Misra Dhrupad'. The award, which carries a cash prize of Rs 5,00,000 and a citation, will be presented to Pandav on Oct 26.

### **Akshay Kumar becomes the first Honorary Ambassador of Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Foundation**

The National Award-winning actor, Akshay Kumar has been made the first Honorary Ambassador of the Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Foundation. It is the social organisation founded by the family of India's second Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri.

### **Mary Kom appointed Brand Ambassador of BSNL**

Olympic bronze medalist Mary Kom has been appointed the new Brand Ambassador of state-run telecom firm Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) for two years. The two-year contract will see boxer Mary Kom endorse as well as engage in various promotional events organized by BSNL for its different telecom services.

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### **.Govt of India (GoI) constitutes Bimal Jalan committee**

The Govt of India (GoI) has constituted a committee, headed by former Reserve Bank of India governor Bimal Jalan, to select the next Chief Economic Advisor (CEA). Apart from Jalan, secretary of the department of personnel and training C Chandramouli and economic affairs secretary Subhash Chandra Garg will be members of the panel which will vet the applications received and conduct the interviews. Recently, Arvind Subramanian resigned from CEA post before his tenure ends in May 2019 citing personal reasons.

### **Regional Conference on Good Governance started in Bhopal**

The Regional Conference on Good Governance with Focus on Aspirational Districts has been started in Bhopal. The Conference is an effort to create a common platform to share experiences in the formulation and implementation of Best Practices in Citizen Centric Governance and improved Public Service Delivery through e-Governance, transparent, accountable and citizen-friendly effective administration.

### **Nepal refuses to participate in first BIMSTEC joint military exercise**

Nepal refused to participate in inaugural joint military exercise of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) countries scheduled to be held in Pune, Maharashtra. Nepal's withdrawal comes in wake of stringent criticism from ruling and opposition parties in the country. It also goes against country's history of following policy of keeping equal distance from its neighbours, without ever being part of a regional bloc militarily.

### **Snow leopard spotted in Lippa-Asra wildlife sanctuary in Himachal Pradesh**

Snow leopard has been spotted at height of about 4,000 metres in Lippa-Asra wildlife sanctuary in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh. This findings have ascertained that snow leopards are inhabiting new areas. Snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*) is large cat native to mountain ranges of Central and South Asia- including Himalayas, and Russia's remote Altai mountains.

### **Nehal Chudasama crowned Yamaha Fascino Miss Diva – Miss Universe India 2018**

Nehal Chudasama from Mumbai has been crowned the Yamaha Fascino Miss Diva – Miss Universe India 2018 at a grand finale event in Mumbai. Now, she will represent at the 67th Miss Universe 2018 pageant, which is scheduled to be held in Bangkok, Thailand on Dec 16 2018.

### **Hima Das appointed as Sports Ambassador of Assam**

India's ace sprinter Hima Das has been appointed as Sports Ambassador of Assam to inspire budding players of northeastern state to aim big and young generation to take up sports seriously.

### **Infosys signed 3-year partnership with the Australian Open**

Software major Infosys has signed a 3-year partnership with the Australian Open as its official digital innovation partner. The partnership is about creating new ways of experiencing the Australian Open. Infosys will leverage its expertise in emerging technologies like Big Data and Analytics, Artificial Intelligence as well as Virtual and Augmented Reality, to provide unique, innovative and engaging experiences for fans. However, the financial details of the deal were, not disclosed.

### **NITI Aayog, Intel and TIFR collaborate to set up Model International Center for Transformative AI**

NITI Aayog, Intel, and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) are collaborating to set up Model International Center for Transformative Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI) in Bengaluru,

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Karnataka. This collaboration is part of NITI Aayog's 'National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence' Discussion Paper that focuses on establishing ICTAI in the country through private sector collaboration.

### **Rail Sahyog web portal launches**

Union Ministry of Railways launched Rail Sahyog web portal ([www.railsahyog.in](http://www.railsahyog.in)) to provide platform for Corporates and PSUs to fund creation of amenities at railway stations through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds. It will allow companies to register their requests for contributing to create amenities at railway stations through their CSR funds.

### **India, Bangladesh jointly inaugurate three projects**

India, Bangladesh jointly inaugurated three projects related to power supply rehabilitation of existing railway section. These projects were jointly inaugurated Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through video conference. These projects were Rehabilitation of Kulaura-Shahbazpur section of Bangladesh Railways, 500 MW additional power supply from India to Bangladesh and Akhaura-Agartala Rail Link.

### **2018 Global Summit on Climate Action held at San Francisco**

The 2018 Global Summit on Climate Action held at San Francisco in California, United States. The summit is a platform that brings together several decision makers and officials, as well as people, from around the world to discuss proposals for future action on climate change. It will serve as a starting point for broader and more effective global commitments, to reduce the impacts of climate change and achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

### **First military exercise of BIMSTEC countries held in Pune**

The first field training military exercise MILEX-18, as part of the Bay of Bengal initiative for multi-sectoral technical and economic cooperation (BIMSTEC) commenced at Foreign Training Node at Aundh in Pune, Maharashtra. All members of BIMSTEC countries, except Thailand and Nepal will take active part in this exercise. The theme of the exercise is counter-terrorism in semi-urban terrain. Its main aim is to promote strategic alignment among member-states and to share best practices in the area of counter-terrorism.

### **India, Mongolia joint exercise held in Ulaanbaatar**

India, Mongolia joint exercise Nomadic Elephant 2018 have been commenced at Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) Five Hills Training Area in Ulaanbaatar (capital of Mongolia). Nomadic Elephant is annual bilateral military exercise started in 2006.

### **Aishwarya Rai Bachchan honoured with the Meryl Streep Award**

Actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan has been honoured with the Meryl Streep Award for Excellence at the first-ever Women in Film and Television (WIFT-2018) India Award in Washington, United States. The award was established to honour the best female talent in Bollywood and Hollywood.

### **IPPB partnered with FSS to create payments network**

The India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has partnered with Financial Software and Systems (FSS) to create payments network for unorganized retail. FSS is a payments technology company that enables micro-merchants to accept payments online, or via Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Quick-Response (QR) codes, Aadhaar and IPPB accounts.

### **GoI set up group of secretaries chaired by Ramesh Abhishek**

The Government of India (GoI) has set up a group of secretaries to look into the issues raised on some proposals of the draft e-commerce policy. The group will be chaired by Ramesh Abhishek, the

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secretary in the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). The development comes at a time when the DIPP has effectively ruled out FDI in inventory based ecommerce models.

### **Govt approves 100% electrification of railways by 2021-22**

The Union cabinet has approved a proposal for the complete electrification of Indian Railways by 2021-22, reducing dependence on imported fossil fuel and saving revenue for the national carrier. The move will cost the government ₹12,134 crore. Indian Railways had moved the cabinet to electrify 108 sections of the railways covering 13,675 route kilometers of tracks.

### **AP Govt launches e-Rythu**

The govt of Andhra Pradesh has launched a mobile platform, e-Rythu (e-farmer in Telugu) which will enable small-scale farmers to market their produce at reasonable prices. The platform has been developed by global payments and technology company Mastercard and aims to digitize agriculture marketplaces, payments, workflows, and provide farmers an easy and secure way to buy, sell and receive payments for agricultural products via their feature phones.

### **Samsung opens world's largest mobile experience centre in Bengaluru**

Samsung has opened its biggest experience centre in Bengaluru. Earlier in July, it has launched the world's largest mobile phone-manufacturing factory in Noida. Opera House, the 33,000 sq ft iconic building in the city's central business district, has been given a facelift to showcase Samsung's mobile devices and other consumer electronic products.

### **BSNL, Unlimit ink partnership for IoT/M2M services in India**

Unlimit, end-to-end IoT service provider in India announced its partnership with State-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to offer comprehensive Internet of Things (IoT) solutions and services to the enterprise customers across India. The partnership will leverage seamless wireless network footprint pan India to provide its solutions and services across industries.

### **LK Advani renominated as Chairman of Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha**

Senior BJP leader L K Advani has been renominated as Chairman of Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha. He has been renominated by Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan. L K Advani represents Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency from Gujarat.

### **HDFC Life elevates Vibha Padalkar as MD & CEO**

HDFC Standard Life Insurance has elevated its Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer, Vibha Padalkar, to the post of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer for a period of three years. Her appointment comes after the current MD and CEO, Amitabh Chaudhry, resigned on Sept 8 to join Axis Bank as MD and CEO for a period of three years, effective Jan 1, 2019.

### **Country's first tribal tourism circuit inaugurated in Chhattisgarh**

The country's first tribal tourism circuit has been inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Tourism K J Alphons in Dhamtari district of Chhattisgarh. The tourism circuit is being developed under the Swadesh Darshan scheme. It covers 13 sites in Chhattisgarh including Jashpur, Kunkuri, Mainpat, Kamleshpur, Maheshpur, Kurdar, Sarodadadar, Gangrel, Kondagaon, Nathiya Nawagaon, Jagdalpur, Chitrakoot and Tirthgarh. It aims to showcase the state's rich and diverse tribal culture and traditions to the tourists.

### **Approves continuation of Capacity Development Scheme**

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Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved continuation of Capacity Development Scheme for period 2017-18 to 2019-20. It is ongoing Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI). It aims to augment infrastructural, technical as well as manpower resources for making available credible and timely official statistics for policy makers and public at large.

### **Approves MoU between EXIM Bank and BRICS banks**

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. The MoU was signed between Exim Bank, Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Economico e Social (BNDES, of Brazil), China Development Bank (CDB), State Corporation Bank for Development and Foreign Economic Affairs (Vnesheconombank of Russia) and Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA). Blockchain technology or Distributed Ledger holds potential for solutions to various challenges being faced in financial sector space of BRICS nations.

### **India's first railway university started in Vadodara, Gujarat**

India's first railway university, the National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) has started operations in Vadodara, Gujarat. The institute is located in the National Academy of Indian Railway (NAIR) having about 55 acres of campus. It is India's first university focused on transport-related education, multidisciplinary research and training.

### **India leads as the world's hardest working country**

As per the culture study survey by US-based multi-national workforce management firm Kronos Incorporated, India leads the way as the world's hardest working country with 69% of full-time employees are happy with 5-day work a week. Indians stated that they would work five days a week even if they had the option to work fewer days for the same pay. Mexico was the 2nd-highest at 43% of workers, followed by the US at 27%.

### **Agricultural festival of Nuakhai started in Odisha**

The agricultural festival of Nuakhai started in Odisha on Sept 13, 2018. The word 'nua' means new and 'khai' means food, so the name means the farmers are in possession of the newly harvested rice. The festival is seen as a new ray of hope, held the day after the Ganesha Chaturthi festival.

### **2018-20 trade and investment ministerial meeting held in Argentina**

The 2018 G-20 trade and investment ministerial meeting has been held at Mar del Plata in Argentina. From India, Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu participated in the meeting. The meeting assumes significance as countries including the US has significantly raised customs duties on products including steel and aluminium.

### **Nepal-China joint military exercise 'Sagarmatha Friendship-2018' started at Chengdu**

The second edition of the 10-day Nepal-China joint military exercise 'Sagarmatha Friendship-2018' started at Chengdu, the capital of China's southwestern Sichuan Province, from Sept 17. It aims to share expertise in disaster management and to fight terrorism, among others.

### **India hold first-ever global tourism mart in New Delhi**

India hosted the first-ever global tourism mart at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. It is modelled on the ITB Berlin (Internationale Tourismus-Börse Berlin), the world's largest tourism trade fair. It aims to

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create an annual global tourism mart for India in line with major international travel marts being held in countries across the world.

### **World Heritage Cuisine Summit & food festival to be held in Amritsar**

The first edition of the World Heritage Cuisine Summit and food festival is going to be held at the Qila Gobindgarh in Amritsar, Punjab from Oct 12-14. It will be organised by the World Cultural Culinary Heritage Committee, under the aegis of the World Association of Chefs' Societies (World Chefs). It will focus on inculcating appreciation for food culture and traditions, good food habits and sustainable practices.

### **Kerala Tourism wins two Pacific Asia Travel Association gold awards**

Kerala Tourism has won two prestigious gold awards of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) for its innovative marketing campaigns. These awards were won by Kerala Tourism's Yalla Kerala print campaign and Live Inspired Posters under PATA's Travel Advertisement Print and Travel Poster categories respectively.

### **Festival of tourism 'Paryatan Parv 2018'**

The Ministry of Tourism has organized the festival of tourism 'Paryatan Parv 2018' in collaboration with other Central Ministries, State Govts and Stakeholders at Rajpath Lawns in New Delhi. It aims to draw focus on the benefits of tourism, showcasing the cultural diversity of the country and reinforcing the principle of Tourism for All.

### **Sawai Singh Shekhawat to be honoured with Meera Puruskar**

The Jaipur-based poet and writer, Sawai Singh Shekhawat will be honoured with Meera Puruskar by Rajasthan Sahitya Academy for his contribution to Hindi literature. The award function will be held in Oct 2018. He served as Editor for Bakhat and Rajasthan Vikas magazines.

### **Moutaz Mousa Abdallah sworn-in as new PM of Sudan**

Moutaz Mousa Abdallah has been sworn-in as the new Prime Minister of Sudan at the presidential palace in Khartoum. He is also holding the finance portfolio in a bid to revive the country's ailing economy. He succeeded Bakri Hassan Saleh, who will retain the post of first vice president.

### **India, Germany sign MoA on skill development**

India and Germany signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on skill development, which will provide dual vocational education and training to Indian youth. It has been signed between Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (IGCC).

### **India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline Project construction launched**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly launched the construction of India-Bangladesh Friendship Product Pipeline Project through video conferencing. This is first such pipeline through which refined diesel will be supplied to Bangladesh from India. The project involves construction of 130-kilometre long pipeline that will connect Siliguri in West Bengal and Parbatipur in Dinajpur district of Bangladesh.

### **India ranked third globally in terms of number of family-owned businesses**

According to the report by 'Credit Suisse Family 1000 in 2018', India has been ranked third globally in terms of number of family-owned businesses with 111 companies having a total market

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capitalisation of \$839 billion. Indian family-owned companies generated a 13.9% annual average share price return since 2006, compared to 6% recorded by their non-family-owned peers.

### **India, Morocco sign revised Air Services Agreement enabling greater connectivity**

India and Morocco signed revised Air Services Agreement between two countries enabling greater air connectivity through modernized agreement. The agreement will enable code sharing with airlines of other party. It will also provide greater freedom in mounting direct flights.

### **West Bengal govt rolls out 'Swayangsiddha' scheme**

The West Bengal govt has rolled out 'Swayangsiddha' scheme in different districts of the state to combat human trafficking. The scheme aims to empower young boys and girls to make informed choices so that they are less vulnerable to trafficking and child marriage.

### **Varun Dhawan & Anushka Sharma signed as ambassadors of Skill India Campaign**

Bollywood stars Varun Dhawan and Anushka Sharma have been signed as ambassadors of Skill India Campaign to promote and endorse the Skill India Mission. The actors will next be seen in 'Sui Dhaaga - Made in India', which highlights the untapped potential of India's talented craftsmen and skilled workers at the grassroot level and the challenges and issues faced by them.

### **India, Russia Air Force joint exercise commences**

India and Russia joint air exercise Aviaindra 18 has been held in Lipetsk, Russia. The second session of Aviaindra 18 will be conducted in Jodhpur, Rajasthan (India) from Dec 10 to Dec 22, 2018.

Exercise Aviaindra is Air Force level exercise between India and Russia.

The aim of this exercise is focused towards anti-terrorist operations in bi-lateral scenario.

### **IPPB, Bajaj Allianz join hands 'to provide insurance to all'**

State-owned India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and private life insurer Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co Ltd (BALIC) entered into a strategic partnership to provide life insurance solutions, especially at the doorstep of every household in the country. It will leverage IPPB's last mile reach for building awareness about life insurance.

### **Health Ministry collaborates with Tata Trusts, Dell**

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has exchanged MoUs with the Tata Trusts and Dell to provide a technological platform for nationwide prevention, control, screening and management programme of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs). The user manual for NCD application under Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) IT Solutions has also been released.

### **Odisha Assembly passes resolution to name the newly-built Jharsuguda airport after Veer Surendra Sai**

The Odisha Assembly has passed unanimous resolution to name the newly-built Jharsuguda airport after noted freedom fighter Veer Surendra Sai. The airport is scheduled to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sept 22, 2018.

### **ISRO opens tech incubation centre in Agartala**

The ISRO Technology Incubation Centre has been launched in Agartala, remotely from here, jointly by KV Sivan, Chairman, ISRO and Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb.

### **Tamil Nadu Govt announces scheme for protection of exotic Neela Kurinji plants**

Tamil Nadu govt has announced Scheme for protection of exotic Neela kurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthianus*) plants that flower only once in 12 years. It comes following complaints that these rare

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and ecologically unique flowers are being packaged and sold on the commercial basis. Neelakurinji is a tropical plant species.

### **Delhi to host Women's World Boxing C'ship**

The World Women's Boxing Championships, to be hosted by India after more than a decade, will be held from Nov 15 in the national capital. The AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships will be held in New Delhi in from Nov 13 to Nov 25.

### **Anil Kumar Chaudhary appointed as new Chairman of SAIL**

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. He will in office till his superannuation in Dec, 2020.

### **PM Modi inaugurates Sikkim's first airport in Pakyong**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Pakyong Airport in Sikkim on Sept 24, nine years after the foundation stone was laid. The airport is the hilly state's first and only airport. It will improve connectivity and benefit the people of Sikkim. Currently, the nearest airport for the people of Sikkim is 124 kilometre (km) away in Bagdogra, West Bengal.

### **BSNL signs deal with Softbank, NTT**

State-run telecom firm BSNL has inked a pact with Japan's Softbank and NTT Communications to roll out 5G and internet of things (IoT) technology in India. Under the agreement, BSNL will look at solution specially for the smart cities. 3G was launched in India after seven years the technology was available in other foreign markets and 4G services after four years' lag but 5G will be launched in India in 2020 as soon the standards are freezed by ITU.

### **PM Modi launches world's largest health insurance scheme**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi rolled out the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana- Ayushman Bharat from, and termed it a 'game-changer initiative to serve the poor'.
- PMJAY-Ayushman Bharat is the biggest government-sponsored healthcare scheme in the world.
- The number of beneficiaries is almost equal to the population of Canada, Mexico and the US taken together.
- The magnitude of the scheme could be gauged from the fact that more than 1,300 ailments are covered under it, including heart diseases, kidney and liver disorders and diabetes.
- The health scheme will set an example for countries across the world.

### **PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Jharsuguda Airport in Odisha**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated new airport in Jharsuguda – also known as the powerhouse of Odisha. PM also flagged off the UDAN flight on Jharsuguda-Raipur sector. 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.

### **AP, Odisha and MP Bag Award Under Amrut**

Andhra Pradesh has topped the charts followed by Odisha and Madhya Pradesh among States in terms of "Ease of Living Index" rankings launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). The three States were awarded the three best performing States under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) at the National Dissemination Workshop on

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Ease of Living Index, 2018. Ease of Living Index is a Transformative Initiative of the Ministry to help Cities Assess Their Liveability like National & Global Benchmarks.

### **Prime Minister Modi gets UN's highest environmental honour**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been awarded with the UN's highest environmental honour, also given to five other individuals and organisations, for his leadership of the International Solar Alliance and pledge to eliminate single use plastic by 2022. Six of the world's most outstanding environmental changemakers have been recognised with the Champions of the Earth Award.

### **Andhra Pradesh topped charts among States in terms of '2018 Ease of Living Index' rankings**

Andhra Pradesh 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). Odisha and Madhya Pradesh bagged second and third best performing awards. The Ease of Living Index is a transformative initiative of the Ministry under AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation).

### **Ibrahim Mohamed Solih won 2018 presidential election of Maldives**

Opposition leader Ibrahim Mohamed Solih has won the 2018 presidential election of Maldives. He will take office on Nov 17, 2018, after having defeated President Abdulla Yameen in the election. The Maldives is a key battleground in the rivalry between China and India.

### **G4 Ministers from India, Brazil, Germany, Japan review UNSC reform**

G-4 Nations viz. India, Brazil, Germany and Japan have voiced concern over lack of substantive progress in long-pending United Nations Security Council (UNSC) reform. It has been convened during meeting of Ministers from four G4 Countries which was hosted by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj at Indian Mission to UN to review the reform progress. The G4 nations support each other's bids for permanent seats to United Nations Security Council. The primary aim of G4 nations is permanent member seats on Security Council.

### **Argentina gets biggest loan in IMF's history at \$57 bn**

Argentina has received the biggest loan package ever from the International Monetary Fund, aimed at shoring up the country's ailing finances: a whopping \$57.1 bn that will be disbursed over the next three years. This is the biggest loan in the history of the IMF.

### **Senior IPS officer Rajni Kant Misra appointed DG of BSF**

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) appointed senior IPS officer Rajni Kant Misra as Director General of Border Security Force (BSF). He has been tasked to head BSF for period up to his superannuation on Aug 31, 2019. He succeeds K K Sharma, who will retire at the end of this month.

### **NITI Aayog inks SoI with Oracle**

NITI Aayog signed Statement of Intent (SoI) with 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. Strides Pharma Sciences and Apollo Hospitals will partner for the supply-chain.

### **NITI Aayog and UN sign Sustainable Development Framework for 2018-2022**

NITI Aayog and United Nations in India signed Sustainable Development Framework for 2018-2022. The framework is reflection of commitment and efforts made by India towards attaining Sustainable Development Goals.

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### **Govt launches Rail heritage digitisation project in collaboration with Google**

The Union Railway Ministry has launched Rail Heritage Digitisation Project in collaboration with Google Arts and Culture Association. It can be accessed at "https://artsandculture.google.com/project/indian-railways". It is first-of-its-kind project that aims to showcase India's rail heritage to the national and international audience in an online story-telling platform.

### **Govt and Google launch campaign to review public toilets**

The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs 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). It will run throughout Oct and Nov 2018 in an effort to increase awareness and ease of locating public toilets across India.

The campaign aims to encourage all local guides in India to rate and review public toilets on Google Maps.

### **Startup India Yatra begins in Chhattisgarh**

The Startup India Yatra began on July 30, 2018 in Raipur. Students queued up in large numbers to register for the first boot camp at Raipur. The Startup India van will travel to various cities of Chhattisgarh like Bilaspur, Korba, Korja, Surguja, Jashpur, Raigarh, Balodabazar, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Balod, Dhamtari, Kanker, Kondagaon, Jagdalpur and Dantewada.

### **World's first thermal battery plant to be inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh**

The world's first-ever thermal battery plant will be unveiled in Andhra Pradesh by the state's Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on August 6, 2018. Manufactured by the Bharat Energy Storage Technology Private Limited (BEST), the first-of-its-kind batteries will aim to boost renewable sources of energy production and reduce the dependence on non-renewable fossil fuel-based energy generation.

### **Telangana Government Launches Country's First 'Blockchain District'**

The government of the Telangana, a southern Indian state, is partnering with a major IT firm to establish a district exclusive to blockchain startups in the state's capital city. The Telangana State Information Technology, Electronics and Communication Department (ITE&C) has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with multinational IT services giant Tech Mahindra to establish what is being billed as 'India's first Blockchain District'.

### **Benelli signs MoU with Telangana Govt to set-up manufacturing plant in the state**

Italy-based company Benelli, a global leader in the super bike segment has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Telangana Government to set up manufacturing unit in the state in partnership with Adishwar Auto Ride India (AARI), a subsidiary of Mahavir Group.

### **PepsiCo's Indra Nooyi To Step Down As CEO, Ramon Laguarta To Succeed Her**

PepsiCo Inc said in August, 2018 Indra Nooyi would step down as its longtime chief executive officer, handing over the reins to company veteran Ramon Laguarta at a time the beverage maker navigates a shrinking global soda market. Laguarta will take over on Oct. 3 and will also join the board, the company said in a statement.

### **Funding of projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)**

During 2016-17 and 2017-18, a cumulative loan amount of Rs 7863.60 crore has been availed from LTIF for funding these projects. During 2015-16, the PMKSY was launched by the Union Government with a vision to ensure access to some means of

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protective irrigation for all agricultural farms in the country and to produce 'per drop more crop'.

### **Transport Ministry launches BIMS, Bhoomi Rashi and PFMS linkage portals**

The Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Nitin Gadkari launched the Bidder Information Management System (BIMS) and Bhoomi Rashi and PFMS linkage portals on August 6, 2018. The two IT initiatives of the Transport & Highways Ministry are aimed at expediting pre-construction processes relating to bidding and land acquisition respectively.

### **Telangana launches life insurance scheme worth Rs 5 lakh for farmers**

The state government of Telangana on August 6, 2018 launched the first-of-its-kind life insurance programme worth Rs 5 lakh for the farmers in the state. The scheme, which is called Rythu Bandhu Life Insurance Bonds, is expected to benefit 2.8 million farmers and their families. The launch comes ahead of the 2019 state and parliamentary elections. Under the programme, the families of the farmers will get the insurance amount irrespective of whether the farmer's death is natural or accidental.

### **Government sets up GoM headed by Suresh Prabhu to decide on RCEP talks**

The Union Government on August 6, 2018 constituted a four-member Group of Ministers (GoM) headed by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu. The GoM has been constituted to advise Prime Minister Narendra Modi on whether to continue with or withdraw from the 16-member Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations. The GoM also includes Finance and Power Minister Piyush Goyal, Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri.

### **PayU, Reliance Money announce strategic partnership for instant loan**

PayU India in August, 2018 announced entering into a strategic partnership with Reliance Money, leading NBFC brands in India, to offer instant app based personal loans, via LazyPay. In an attempt to reach out to the underserved consumers in India, both India PayU India and Reliance Money will make sure that the entire process is completely digital, saving customers the hassle and the delays usually associated with a loan approval process. The loan amount will start from as low as Rs. 100 and will extend up to Rs. 1,00,000 with a duration varying from 15 days to 24 months.

### **Maharashtra Government announces special assistance of Rs 500 crore for OBC community**

The state government of Maharashtra has announced a special assistance worth Rs 500 crore for the Other Backward Classes (OBC) community in the state. With the move, the state government reaffirmed its commitment to retaining OBC quotas in jobs and rejected reports that Maratha community may be included in the OBC category for reservation purpose. The announcement was made by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis while addressing the 3rd National Convention of National OBC Association in Mumbai.

### **President Ram Nath Kovind Inaugurates 'One District One Product' Summit In UP**

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President Ram Nath Kovind in August, 2018 inaugurated 'One District One Product' (ODOP) Summit organised by the Uttar Pradesh government to promote traditional industries in every district of the state. The President reached the state capital this morning at Chowdhury Charan Singh airport, where he was received by Governor Ram Naik and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. During the summit, with a tagline of 'Nayi Udaan, Nayi Pehchan', the President distributed loan sanction papers to some artisans.

### **E-commerce major Amazon inks MoU with UP govt to boost MSME entrepreneurs**

E-commerce major Amazon India in August, 2018 signed a MoU with the Uttar Pradesh government to support MSME entrepreneurs across nine districts as a part of the state's One District One Product (ODOP) scheme. Amazon India through its Kala Haat programme will help traditional industries, synonymous with respective districts of the state, leverage e-commerce to scale and access the Indian market, the company said in a press release here.

### **Suresh Prabhu launches 'Niryat Mitra' mobile app**

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu on August 8, 2018 launched the 'Niryat Mitra' mobile App in New Delhi. The app has been developed by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), the largest exporters' organisation of the country. Niryat Mitra provides wide range of information required to undertake international trade from the policy provisions for export and import, applicable GST rate, available export incentives, tariff and market access requirements.

### **NITI Aayog launches 'Pitch to MOVE' for startups**

NITI Aayog on August 14, 2018 launched 'Pitch to MOVE', a mobility pitch competition that aims to provide budding entrepreneurs of India with a unique opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a distinguished jury. The competition would enable startups working in the various fields of mobility to pitch their ideas to industry leaders and venture capitalists for raising investments. The winners of the event will be felicitated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the valedictory session of the Global Mobility Summit on September 8, 2018.

### **NPCI launches UPI 2.0 with overdraft facility**

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in August, 2018 launched Unified Payments Interface (UPI) 2.0, which among others allows customers to link their overdraft account to UPI, creation of one-time mandates and pre-authorisation of transactions for payment at a later date, and checking the invoice sent by merchant prior to making payment.

- UPI is a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the "Peer to Peer" collect request which can be scheduled and paid as per requirement and convenience.
- NPCI is an umbrella organization for all retail payments in India. UPI version 1 was launched in April 2016.
- In addition to current and savings accounts, NPCI said customers can link their overdraft (OD) account to UPI in its latest version. Customers will be able to transact instantly and all benefits associated with OD account will be made available to the users.

### **Airtel Payments Bank, Bharti AXA Life tie up to offer govt's insurance plan**

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Airtel Payments Bank and Bharti AXA Life Insurance in August, 2018 announced a pact to offer Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), leveraging the payments bank's network in rural pockets. The alliance will be supported by the payments bank's network "to reach deep rural pockets and serve the underinsured", a company statement said. PMJJBY offers life insurance cover of Rs 200,000 at a premium of Rs 330 per annum, and will initially be available at 1,00,000 banking points of Airtel Payments Bank.

### **IRCTC Rail Connect Android App Gets PhonePe as a Payment Option**

PhonePe in August, 2018 announced entering into a partnership with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to facilitate convenient, fast and secure payments through PhonePe on the IRCTC Rail Connect Android app. The partnership will enable PhonePe's 100 million plus users to now pay directly from their bank accounts using UPI, credit and debit cards and also the PhonePe wallet for their travel bookings, PhonePe said.

### **ICICI Lombard launches India's first AI to automate instant health insurance claims**

ICICI Lombard has launched India's first Artificial intelligence (AI) based technology to facilitate instant health insurance claims approval. As a result, the traditional cashless claim request which takes an average of 60 minutes of processing has been drastically brought down to a minute using AI. The varied medical procedures where AI is being deployed includes Cataract, Maternity, Appendicitis, Hemodialysis and Hysterectomy.

### **YES Bank and iCubesWire launch AI enabled digital innovation**

YES Bank has opted for iCubesWire's AI enabled solution, Instatalk, which provides an accurate platform for the customers to interact instantly with the brand and suits their requirements. Through this campaign, YES Bank aims to enhance the user engagement and curtails the long process for queries revolving around savings accounts.

### **Health Insurance companies to cover mental illness under medical insurance policies: IRDAI**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on August 16, 2018 directed all the insurance companies to make a provision to cover mental illness also in insurance policies. The authority referred to Section 21(4) of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 which states that every insurer shall make provision for medical insurance for treatment of mental illness on the same basis as is available for treatment of physical illness. The Act came into force on May 29, 2018.

### **Flipkart acquires AI startup Liv.ai**

Indian e-commerce major Flipkart has augmented its capability to roll out voice-based shopping on its platform to compete with rival Amazon's Alexa by acquiring Bengaluru-based artificial intelligence startup Liv.ai. The startup, which set up shop in 2015, has built capabilities in speech recognition and translation in 10 different Indian languages. Flipkart says it will use Liv.ai's voice technologies to reach out to the next 100-200 million non-English speaking shoppers in the country.

### **Rural Electrification Corporation inks pact with German bank for 200 million euro loan**

State-run Rural Electrification Corporation in August, 2018 said it has inked a loan agreement with German bank KfW for EUR 200 million facility that would be used to finance clean energy projects in India.

### **ICICI Bank announces partnership with Manchester United**

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ICICI Bank, India's private sector bank, has agreed to a multi-year partnership with Manchester United, bringing a range of competitive co-branded credit and debit card to the club's 35 million Indian followers. According to the announcement, the Bank will be offering fans of the club two types of credit card – Manchester United Platinum Credit Card and Signature Credit Card.

### **India's first flight powered by biofuel lands at IGI Airport**

India's first flight powered by Biofuel landed at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi on August 27, 2018. The test flight had taken off from Dehradun. Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Civil Aviation Minister Suresh Prabhu, Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan and Minister of State for Civil Aviation Minister Jayant Sinha were present to receive the flight as it landed following its maiden run.

### **NITI Aayog kick-starts 'Mobility Week' in run up to 'MOVE: India's First Global Mobility Summit 2018'**

NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar, along with CEO Amitabh Kant, on August 30, 2018 unveiled a series of events to take place during the 'Mobility Week' from August 31 to September 6, 2018. These events will be organised in the run up to 'MOVE: The Global Mobility Summit 2018' that will be held during September 7-8, 2018 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Summit will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. 'Mobility Week' will see 17 events in 7 days. These events will facilitate interactions with various stakeholders across the mobility domain.

### **Indian Railways, GAIL India sign MoU for use of Natural Gas in railway workshops and production units**

Indian Railways on August 30, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with GAIL (India) Limited to provide infrastructure facilities for supply of Natural Gas to Indian Railways Workshops, Production Units and Depots. The MoU was signed by Chetram, CAO of the Indian Railway Organization for Alternate Fuels (IROAF) on and Gajendra Singh, Director (Marketing) of GAIL (India) Limited.

### **Health Ministry signs MoU with Ministry of Electronics to facilitate access to Ayushman Bharat**

The National Health Agency (NHA), under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on July 31, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Common Service Centres (CSC) scheme under the Digital India Programme. The MoU was signed with an aim to provide information and eligibility validation services to beneficiaries of the Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM), especially in remote areas. The National Health Agency is the apex body for the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM).

### **NITI Aayog launches global mobility hackathon**

Federal think-tank NITI Aayog has launched Move Hack, a global mobility hackathon to crowdsource solutions aimed at the future of mobility in India. Envisaged to be one of the largest hackathons globally, Move Hack is focused on 10 themes and structured over three legs: online, followed by Singapore leg, and the finals in New Delhi, an official statement said.

### **India, Germany sign agreement for cooperation in sustainable urban development**

India and Germany on August 1, 2018 signed an agreement on financial and technical cooperation, with a special focus on sustainable urban development and renewable energy. The agreement was signed between German Ambassador to India, Martin Ney and Joint Secretary, (Department of

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Economic Affairs), Finance Ministry, Sameer Kumar Khare. The agreement mainly prioritises cooperation between India and Germany in the area of renewable energy.

### **Ministry of Culture launches 'Seva Bhoj Yojna'**

- The Union Ministry of Culture on August 1, 2018 launched a scheme to reimburse central share of CGST and IGST on food, prasad, langar or bhandara offered by religious and charitable institutions.
- The scheme, Seva Bhoj Yojna, has a total outlay of Rs 325.00 crore for financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- The scheme will compensate the religious and charitable institutions of the Central Government share of the Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) and Integrated Goods and Service Tax (IGST).
- It mainly aims to lessen the financial burden on religious and charitable bodies that provide food, prasad, langar and bhandara free-of-cost without any discrimination to the public.

### **Cabinet approves increase in Extra Budgetary Resources for Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)**

The Union Cabinet approved raising funds up to Rs 15000 crore as Extra Budgetary Resources (EBR) for Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) (SBM (G)) during the financial year 2018-19 through NABARD. The cabinet also approved expansion of the scope of work of International Centre for Drinking Water Quality to authorise it for receiving EBR funds for SBM(G).

### **Uttarakhand HC bans commercial use of elephants in state**

Uttarakhand High Court (HC) on August 3, 2018 banned the commercial use of elephants in the state and directed the state forest department to rescue the elephants deployed for commercial purposes within a time span of 24 hours.

### **UP's Mughalsarai Junction renamed as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction**

The iconic Mughalsarai Railway Junction of Uttar Pradesh was on August 5, 2018 renamed as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction Railway station. Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) National President Amit Shah inaugurated the renamed station.

### **Bihar launches scheme for girl child**

Bihar CM Nitish Kumar recently launched the 'Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana'. The ambitious scheme will provide Rs 54100 to every girl child, from her birth till she graduates. The Mukhyamantri Kanya Utthan Yojana will be run by three departments — education, health and social welfare.

### **Karnataka launches rural cleanliness campaign 'Swachhameva Jayate'**

The state government of Karnataka in August, 2018 launched "Swachhameva Jayate", a campaign to make people in rural Karnataka take a pledge on cleanliness. Primary and high school students, who attended the event to launch the campaign here, took the pledge. • The Department of Rural Development also released the logo of the campaign — a boy and a girl standing in front of the map of Karnataka. "To take the message far and wide, the government has decided to focus on children as drivers of this message," said Rural Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda.

### **Sikkim's Khangchendzonga biosphere reserve added to UNESCO list**

India's Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve, one of the highest ecosystems in the world, has been added to UNESCO's list of World Network of Biosphere Reserve (WNBR). According to a statement issued by the Union Environment Ministry, the International Coordinating Council (ICC) of Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme, UNESCO, had designated Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve for

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inclusion in the World Network of Biosphere Reserve in its 30th session, which was held from July 23-27, 2018 at Palembang, Indonesia.

### **Hardeep Puri to launch Swachh Survekshan 2019, ODF+ & ODF ++ Protocols and Swachh Manch Web Portal**

Hardeep S Puri, Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs, will launch the Swachh Survekshan 2019 on August 10, 2018 in New Delhi. Puri will also launch a slew of new initiatives under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) as well as the Ease of Living Index.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) had conducted 'Swachh Survekshan-2016' survey for the rating of 73 cities in January 2016, followed by 'Swachh Survekshan-2017' conducted in January-February 2017 ranking 434 cities.

### **Jal Bachao, Video Banao, Puraskar Pao contest**

The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation announced the winners for the first fortnight of the Jal Bachao, Video Banao, Puraskar Pao contest that was launched on July 10, 2018. Shreshth Sahu from Varanasi, Satish Mewada from Bhopal and Gopal Kumar Prajapati from Bokaro have secured the first, second and third positions respectively for the period of July 10-24, 2018.

### **Cabinet approves joint issue of postage stamp between India and South Africa**

The Union Cabinet was apprised of joint issue of Postage Stamps on India-South Africa on the theme, "20 Years of Strategic Partnership between India and South Africa". The joint stamps were released in June 2018. The Commemorative Postage Stamps on India-South Africa: Joint Issue depicts image of Deen dayal Upadhyaya and Oliver Reginald Tambo of South Africa.

### **Haryana Government to launch Ayushman Bharat scheme on Aug 15**

The state government of Haryana has announced that it will be launching the Ayushman Bharat-Haryana Health Protection Mission on August 15, 2018. The scheme aims to provide cashless healthcare facilities to beneficiaries at empanelled hospitals. The scheme would be initially implemented on a pilot basis in one government hospital in each of the 22 districts, one ESI hospital and one medical college.

### **Uttarakhand High Court declares itself legal guardian of cows in state**

In a first of its kind ruling, Uttarakhand High Court on August 14, 2018 invoked the 'parens patriae' doctrine and declared itself as a legal guardian of members of the bovine family across the state. The 'parens patriae' doctrine translates as 'parent of the nation'. It grants the court inherent power and authority to act as guardian for those who are unable to take care of themselves.

### **Naveen Patnaik launches health scheme in Odisha**

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced the start of Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY), an universal health coverage scheme, in the state from in August, 2018 while unfurling the national flag at Mahatma Gandhi Road here during a drizzle. Stating that the scheme would benefit 70 lakh families in the state, Patnaik said it would be implemented with the cooperation of everyone using the state's money.

### **Railway Ministry launches 'Digital Screens' at 22 stations**

The Union Ministry of Railways on August 15, 2018 launched 'Digital Screens' to spread awareness about Indian Railways Heritage. The move is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for creating digital museums at stations using QR code. The project, initiated on a pilot basis, aims at

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showcasing the legacy of Indian Railways through one to two- minute-long movie clips on digital LED screens at the entrance gate of railway stations and also at different comfort areas.

### **11th World Hindi Conference begins in Mauritius**

The 11th World Hindi Conference was inaugurated in Mauritius on August 18, 2018 with the theme 'Hindi World and Indian Culture'. The three-day conference was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Praveen Kumar Jagannath in Port Louis.

### **Damodar Valley Corp to set up India's largest pump storage hydel power**

Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) in August, 2018 said it has decided to set up the country's largest pump storage hydel power project of 1,500 MW at an estimated cost of Rs 52 billion. "We are preparing to build six 250MW pump storage hydel power plants (1,500MW) at Lagu Pahar on Bokaro River which will be the largest in the country and possibly even in Asia," DVC chairman P K Mukhopadhyay said at the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organised 'Energy Conclave 2018'.

### **Sushma Swaraj inaugurates Panini Language lab in Mauritius**

External Affairs Minister (EAM) Sushma Swaraj in August, 2018 inaugurated 'Panini Language Laboratory' at Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) in Mauritius. The lab, gifted by the Indian government, will help MGI in teaching Indian languages in Mauritius.

### **India, Thailand conclude 'Maitree' military exercise**

The Indian and Thai armed forces in August, 2018 concluded a two-week long platoon level military exercise called 'Exercise Maitree 2018' in Jammu & Kashmir's Srinagar. The exercise was an annual event designed to strengthen the partnership between armies of the two countries.

### **MakeMyTrip inks pact with Indonesian tourism ministry**

Online travel firm MakeMyTrip in August, 2018 said it has signed an agreement with Indonesian tourism ministry to promote the Southeast Asian country as a preferred destination in India. Under the partnership, MakeMyTrip and Indonesian tourism ministry will run campaigns across the online travel firm's platforms to endorse tourism to Bali, Jakarta and other regions, the company said in a statement.

### **Aadi Mahotsav hosted in Nagaland to promote the tribal handicraft**

Recently, in a bid to promote the tribal handicraft and handloom products of the region and to showcase it to the world the essence of ethnicity, the northeastern province of Nagaland hosted the first ever 'Aadi Mahotsav' under the aegis of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED). True ethnicity is the perfect term that reveals the real identity of the handloom and handicraft items from the northeastern states of India. Home to more than 200 tribes, the region's tribal artisans have contributed largely in churning out some of the best quality handloom and handicraft products that hold the viewers captivated with their magnetic charms.

### **International Colour Festival inaugurated in Jharkhand**

Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghubar Das on August 23, 2018 inaugurated the five-day International Colour Festival in which artists would depict the state's image in their canvases. The festival, which is being organised by the state Art, Culture and Tourism departments, would be held till August 27.

### **Prasar Bharati & Mizzima Media of Myanmar ink an MoU**

Prasar Bharati and Mizzima Media of Myanmar signed a Memorandum of Understanding in August, 2018. This will boost centuries old ties between India and Myanmar. It will also strengthen India's soft power in its neighbourhood. The Agreement will realize cooperation and collaboration in

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various fields of broadcasting. It also envisions content-sharing covering a wide range of genres, including culture, entertainment, education, science, news and sports. India and Myanmar have shared history of their independent struggle and Prasar Bharat's rich archive will help them relive those precious moments.

### **Airtel, Netflix announce strategic partnership**

Airtel and Netflix in August, 2018 announced an expansion of their partnership in India through which subscribers of select Airtel Postpaid and V-Fiber Home Broadband plans will receive a three-month gift of a Netflix subscription. Post these three months, these subscribers will be able to pay for their Netflix subscription seamlessly, using their Airtel postpaid or home broadband bill.

### **J P Nadda launches logo of Ayushman Bharat Scheme; announces that 29 states and UTs signed MoU for implementation of scheme**

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, J P Nadda on August 27, 2018 announced that 29 States and Union Territories (UTs) signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the implementation of on Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (AB-PMJAY). These states have already started working on implementation of the scheme. The pilot project has started in 16 States and UTs. Other states/UTs will also start pilots before the pan-India launch of the scheme on September 25, 2018.

### **HRD Ministry launches third edition of 'Smart India Hackathon'**

The third edition of world's biggest open innovation model 'Smart India Hackathon 2019' was launched by the Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Prakash Javadekar in New Delhi on August 29, 2018. The 2019 edition is a nationwide initiative, which aims to provide students with a platform to solve some of the pressing problems faced by people in their daily lives and thus, inculcate a culture of product innovation and a mindset of problem-solving.

### **Google partners with AP State FiberNet for Wi-Fi services**

Google on August 28, 2018 said it has partnered with Andhra Pradesh State FiberNet Ltd (APSFNL) to facilitate Internet access to more than 12,000 villages, benefitting around 10 million people. The tech giant also rebranded its 'Tez' as 'Google Pay' as part of its efforts to take the digital payments app to more online and retail merchants across the country.

### **Union Cabinet approves Earth Sciences Ministry's umbrella scheme 'O-SMART'**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on August 29, 2018 gave its approval for implementation of an umbrella scheme 'Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modelling and Science (O-SMART)'. The CCEA, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the scheme for implementation during the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20 at an overall cost of Rs 1623 crore. The scheme covers a total of 16 sub- projects, which address ocean development activities such as services, technology, resources, observations and science.

### **India elected as President of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development**

India was on August 3, 2018 elected as the President of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) for a period of two years. India got elected against Iran during voting which took place at the 44th annual gathering of AIBD in Colombo. The three-day gathering was inaugurated by Sri Lankan Minister of Finance and Mass Media Mangala Samaraweera.

### **Indian-American Avi Goel wins International Geography Bee World Championship**

Indian-American high school student Avi Goel won the world championship at the International Geography Bee's junior varsity division which was held in Berlin in July 2018. Avi is a tenth grader

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at Silver Creek High School in Evergreen, San Jose, California. He won a gold medal in seven out of the 10 medal events, and a silver medal in two of the events, topping the overall medals tally.

### **India grants Rs 470 million for Nepal's Postal Highway Project**

India released additional Rs 470 million for Phase I of Postal Highway Project being constructed in Southern Plains of Nepal. The amount released will help to maintain fund liquidity of ongoing construction of 14 road packages under Postal Highway Project.

**Q1. French IT services company Atos is boosting its North American operations with a \$3.4 billion cash deal to buy Michigan-based IT services provider \_\_\_\_\_.**

Ans- Syntel Inc.

**Q2. Who is appointed as chief commercial officer of Bajaj Auto Ltd?**

Ans- Rakesh Sharma

**Q3. Which country is the second biggest oil supplier of India?**

Ans- Iran

**Q4. What is the rank of India in FDI Confidence Index in 2018?**

Ans- 11th

**Q5. The agreement, known as Inter-Creditor Agreement (ICA) was framed under the aegis of the Indian Banks' Association and follows the recommendations of the \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Sunil Mehta Committee

**Q6. Which state has registered the biggest increase in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from last year?**

Ans- Karnataka

**Q7. Public, private and foreign banks have signed ICA agreements under \_\_\_\_\_ to resolve stressed assets.**

Ans- Sashakt

**Q8. Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe flagged off an expanded emergency ambulance service, supported by the Indian government, at what cost?**

Ans. \$23 million

**Q9. The book "The Forgotten Cities of Delhi: Book Two in the Where Stones Speak trilogy" is written by which author?**

Ans. Rana Safvi

**Q10. The book "Polio: The Odyssey of Eradication" is written by which author?**

Ans. Thomas Abraham

**Q11. "The Dhoni Touch" book is authored by whom?**

Ans. Bharat Sundaresan

**Q12. "The Flavours of Nationalism: Recipes for Love, Hate and Friendship" book is written by which author?**

Ans. Nandita Haksar

**Q13. The book "The Unending Game: A Former R&AW Chief's Insights Into Espionage" is written by which author?**

Ans. Vikram Sood

**Q14. K.N. Anand, has passed away recently. He was related to which field?**

Ans. Journalism

**Q15. The AIIMS has signed a MoU with which IIT institute, for collaboration in education, research outreach and medical services?**

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Ans. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

**Q16. GKN Fokker Elmo has signed an MoU with which state government to set up its second manufacturing facility for wiring interconnection systems in India with an investment of \$10 million?**

Ans. Maharashtra

**Q17. State-owned Allahabad Bank proposed to close its only foreign branch in which country?**

Ans. Hong Kong

**Q18. Vikrant is an India maiden indigenous\_\_\_\_\_.**

Ans- Aircraft carrier

**Q19. The new denomination of 100 notes has motif of \_\_\_\_\_ on the reverse side.**

Ans- Rani ki Vav

**Q20. In the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill ,an arrest warrant has been issued against him for any specified offences where the value involved is over\_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans-100 crore

**Q21. Which country will host multinational air exercise Pitch Black 2018?**

Ans-Australia

**Q22. Which country biggest pension scheme is planning to investment in India Infrastructure projects?**

Ans-CANADA

**Q23. Gopal Das Neeraj died recently is related with which field?**

Ans-literature

**Q24. A notice for a no-confidence motion against a government is accepted only if at \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lower House support it.**

Ans-Least 50 members

**Q25. India is engaged with \_\_\_\_\_ for a "long-term partnership" on energy trade, and for operating the port of Chabahar.**

Ans-Iran

**Q26. India has started First 2+2 dialogue with which country?**

Ans-USA

**Q27. The ISRO nodal satellites division \_\_\_\_\_ signed a contract with three partners to assemble 27 satellites at a quick pace over the next three years.**

Ans- URSC (U.R. Rao Satellite Centre)

**Q28. Which has fined Google with a record fine o €4.34-billion (US\$5-billion) antitrust fine on for using its Android mobile operating system to squeeze out rivals?**

Ans- EU regulators

**Q29. The government has doubled \_\_\_\_\_ on more than 50 textile products for promoting domestic manufacturing?**

Ans- Import Duty

**Q2. Who is the CEO of LinkedIn?**

Ans- Jeff Weiner

**Q30. Tim Cahill who recently retires from the international football belongs to which country?**

Ans- Australia

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**Q31. Who is appointed as CEO of Cricket South Africa (CSA)?**

Ans- Thabang Moroe

**Q32. Parwinder Awana, announced his retirement belongs to which game?**

Ans- Cricket

**Q33. Who is the first Indian and Asian to become a chair umpire in Wimbledon?**

Ans- Sagar Kashyap

**Q34. Who tops in the Forbes list of the World's Highest Paid Celebrities 2018?**

Ans- Floyd Mayweather

**Q35. Presidents Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin held a historic summit, vowing to forge a reset of troubled relations between the world's greatest nuclear powers. The conference was held in**

Ans. Helsinki

**Q36. Inflation at the wholesale level quickened to \_\_ in June, the highest since December 2013.**

Ans. 5.77%

**Q37. The board of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has approved the proposal to buy 51% shares in which bank?**

Ans. IDBI Bank

**38. All three satellite launch vehicles of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) are set to add muscle to their spacecraft lifting power in upcoming missions this year. The space agency has improved the thrust of the \_\_\_\_ engine that powers all of them.**

Ans. Vikas

**Q39. The Home Ministry has further liberalized the process for granting LTVs to minorities from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh. What does stand for LTVs?**

Ans. long-term Visas

**Q40. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) projected a growth rate of \_\_ in 2018 and \_\_ in 2019 for India as against 6.7% in 2017, making it the fastest growing country among major economies.**

Ans. 7.3% and 7.5%

**Q41. Name the chairman of German industrial group Thyssenkrupp, who resigned.**

Ans. Ulrich Lehner

**Q42. Name the digital payments start-up company owned by Flipkart, which has acquired Zopper Retail, a hyper local point of sale platform for small and medium businesses.**

Ans. PhonePe

**Q43. Which player has been awarded with the Golden Ball award in FIFA 2018?**

Ans- Luka Modric

**Q44. Which player has been awarded with the Golden Boot award in FIFA 2018?**

Ans- Harry Kane

**Q45. Who is the winner of Men's Singles title in Wimbledon 2018?**

Ans- Novak Djokovic

**Q46. Which state government has launched 'Paudhagiri' campaign which aim to increase the green cover in the State?**

Ans- Haryana

**Q47. Who is the author of book "Devil's Advocate: The Untold Story"?**

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Ans- Karan Thapar

**Q48. ISRO joins hand with which state to set up a telemedicine center at high altitude?**

Ans- Jammu and Kashmir

**Q49. Who is appointed as chairman of Bhushan Steel?**

Ans- Mr. Narendran

**Q50. German GP event is related with which game?**

Ans-Car racing

**Q51. Germany's Angelique Kerber, who won her maiden Wimbledon, singles title by beating \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans. Serena Williams

**Q52. President Ram Nath Kovind nominated Ram Shakal, Sonal Mansingh, Rakesh Sinha and Raghunath Mohapatra as members of ?**

Ans. Rajya Sabha

**Q53. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj was on two-day visit of which country?**

Ans. Bahrain

**Q54. The book "Working with Muslims: Beyond Burqa and Triple Talaq" is written by which author?**

Ans. Farah Naqvi, with Sadbhavna Trust

**Q55. The book "The Billionaire Raj: A Journey through India's New Gilded Age" is written by which author?**

Ans. James Crabtree

**Q56. The book "India Moving: A History of Migration" is written by which author?**

Ans. Chinmay Tumble

**Q57. The book "Russian Roulette" is written by which author?**

Ans. Michael Isiko & David Corn

**Q58. The book "Hicky's Bengal Gazette: The Untold Story of India's First Newspaper" is written by which author?**

Ans. Andrew Otis

**Q59. The book "Rise and Kill First: The Secret History of Israel's Targeted Assassinations" is written by which author?**

Ans. Ronen Bergman

**Q60. Saurabh Chaudhary outclassed which player of Russia by 5.4 points to clinch the junior men's air pistol gold in the 28th Meeting of Shooting Hopes International championship**

Ans. Aleksandr Kondrashin

**Q61. Recently which country's former prime minister is convicted in a corruption case?**

Ans-Pakistan - Nawaz Sharif

**Q62. Which ministry launches Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 ranking?**

Ans-The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation

**Q63. India is going to purchase S-400 air defense systems from which country?**

Ans-Russia

**Q64. Who is appointed as the head of investment banking for HSBC India?**

Ans- Amitabh Malhotra

**Q65. Accenture announced that it will acquire \_\_\_\_\_, which will provide big data and AI services.**

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Ans- Kogentix

**Q66. Which Indian cricketer recently announced his retirement from all forms of the game ?**

Ans- Mohammad Kaif

**Q67. In recent Adultery case Supreme Court mention the article \_\_\_\_ for violation of women's fundamental right against discrimination?**

Ans- Article 15

**Q68. Which city police launched an all-woman motorbike squad against eve-teasers, stalkers and road side Romeos?**

Ans-Kolkata Police

**Q39. Ayushman Bharat scheme providing coverage up to \_\_\_\_\_ per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization?**

Ans-5 lakh rupees

**Q70. The Headquarter of NATO is in?**

Ans- Brussels, Belgium

**Q71. C.K. Birla Group Company HIL is acquiring German flooring solutions firm \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Parador

**Q72. Who is awarded with one of the world's most lucrative arts prizes?**

Ans- Catherine Deneuve

**Q73. "Tour de France" is an event related with which game?**

Ans-Cycling

**Q74. Under which section of the Indian Penal Code criminalized sexual activities "against the order of nature", including homosexual activities?**

Ans- Section 377

**Q75. India recently signed 11 MoUs and agreements including a statement on expanding the 2010 Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with which country?**

Ans- South Korea

**Q76. Which country assured Andhra Pradesh government to extend support financially for the development of state?**

Ans-Singapore

**Q77. Which state has recently ban the use of plastic bags and polythene from 2nd October?**

Ans- Odisha

**Q78. 'The Eat Right Movement' is launched by which Indian government authority?**

Ans- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

**Q79. What does CEPA stands for?**

Ans- Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement

**Q80. Which is the first state to sign a memorandum of understanding with Microsoft to provide digital training?**

Ans- Rajasthan

**Q81. Which Company announced 'Launchpad Accelerator India,' a mentorship program that would aim to support Indian startups that deploy artificial intelligence and machine learning to build solutions for local needs?**

Ans-Google

**Q82. Who resigned as coach of India national women's cricket team?**

Ans- Tushar Arothe

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**Q83. Which Institution has decided to go live on the camera as a part to bring transparency in their proceedings?**

Ans- Supreme Court

**Q84. How many Institutions are included in the name of Institutions of Eminence (IoE)?**

Ans- Six Institutions

**Q85. Which Company has set up the world's largest mobile phone factory in Noida?**

Ans- Samsung

**Q86. Kavi Kumar Azaad who recently passed away is related with which field?**

Ans- Acting

**Q87. Which bank signed €100 million loan agreement for Smart Cities Mission?**

Ans- French development bank

**Q88. Name the Foreign secretary of Britain who resigned from government on the issue of Brexit?**

Ans- Boris Johnson

**Q89. The telecom ministry approved the merger of Idea Cellular Company with \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Vodafone India

**Q90. Mercedes-Benz India has announced the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as its MD and CEO from November?**

Ans- Martin Schwenk

**Q91. Who has secured the approval of the Committee of Creditors (CoC) to acquire and revive the Adunik Metaliks integrated steel production operation in Rourkela Odisha?**

Ans- Liberty House part of Sanjeev Gupta's global GFG Alliance

**Q92. Which Congress leader a former Union Minister and former Governor of Meghalaya has passed away at the age of 91?**

Ans- M.M. Jacob

**Q93. Which state hosted the 67th meeting of North Eastern Council (NEC)?**

Ans- Meghalaya

**Q94. What do you understand by shell Company?**

Ans- A Shell Company is described as a non-trading organization that does not engage in any activity but exists only as medium for another organization's business activity.

**Q95. Who is the winner of British Grand Prix 2018?**

Ans- Sebastian Vettel

**Q96. Which Indian gymnast won Gold at the Gymnastics World Cup?**

Ans- Dipa Karmakar

**Q97. Srinagar lies on the bank of which river?**

Ans- Jhelum River

**Q98. Who is sworn in as the Chief Justice of the High Court at Hyderabad for the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh?**

Ans- Justice Thottathil Bhaskaran Nair Radhakrishnan

**Q99. Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan will attend the UNCTAD meeting of a third inter-governmental group of experts on consumer protection on July 9-10 in which city \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Geneva

**Q101. The book "God Save the Honorable Supreme Court" is written by which author?**

Ans- Fali S. Nariman

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**Q102. The book "The Generation of Rage in Kashmir" is written by which author?**

Ans- David Devadas

**Q103. The book "India Moving: A History of Migration" is written by which author?**

Ans- Chinmay Tumble

**Q104. Who is appointed as Asia's representative in the prestigious Athletes Advisory Commission of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF).**

Ans- Dipika Pallikal

**Q105. The Reserve Bank of India cancelled the license of which co-operative bank?**

Ans- Alwar Urban Cooperative Bank

**Q106. Stephen Ditko who died recently, he is a \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- comics' artist

**Q107. An anti-corruption court in Islamabad sentenced former Pakistan Prime Minister \_\_\_\_\_ for 10 years.**

Ans- Nawaz Sharif

**Q108. Who is appointed as the chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)?**

Ans- Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel

**Q109. Which country won the World ranking para archery championship in the Czech Republic 2018?**

Ans- India

**Q110. According to latest data released by the RBI the Total foreign exchange reserves are?**

Ans- \$406.1 billion

**Q111. Who is appointed as the managing director of National Film Development Corporation?**

Ans- Manoj Kumar Pingua

**Q112. Who resigns from the post of CEO on the issue of deal to merge European steel assets with Tata Steel?**

Ans- Heinrich Hiesinger

**Q113. Who is the U.S. Secretary of State?**

Ans- Mike Pompeo

**Q114. The 21st Law Commission of India is headed by former Supreme Court judge \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- B.S. Chauhan

**Q115. Which has launched 'Chai pe Charcha' or 'conversation over tea' campaign and interacted with scores of party workers and people at different places in the State?**

Ans- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar

**Q116. The headquarter of ISRO is located in which state of India?**

Ans- Karnataka

**Q117. The prime minister of Bhutan is on a three day visit to India for celebrating 50 years of diplomatic relations, what is the name prime minister of Bhutan?**

Ans- Tshering Tobgay

**Q118. India and which country likely to deal a negotiation to bring down the import duty on Harley Davidson motorcycles to zero?**

Ans- United states of America

**Q119. Jio Giga Fiber broadband service will be launched on which date?**

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Ans- August 15

**Q120. The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) opened a Center of Excellence (CoE) for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Bengaluru

**Q121. Infosys has signed a pact with which company to develop applications and services for MindSphere, an open cloud based IoT operating system?**

Ans-Siemens

**Q122. Claude Lanzmann, died in Paris at the age of 92 is related with which field?**

Ans- Filmmaking and writer

**Q123. Who won gold in 800m race in the Asian junior championship of athletics?**

Ans- Sreekiran Nandakumar

**Q124. According to the recent Supreme Court judgment Lieutenant Governor of National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCT) should work on aid and advice of \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Council of Ministers of Delhi Government

**Q125. Minimum support prices (MSPs) for crop is decided on the recommendation of \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices

**Q126. The first edition of the Malabar World Kayak Championship is organized by which state Government department?**

Ans- Kerala Tourism Department

**Q127. The DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2018, is the latest version of which bill ?**

Ans- Human DNA Profiling Bill

**Q128. The Union Cabinet permitted the "HEFA" to mobilize fund for research and academic infrastructure in higher educational institutions by 2022. What does "HEFA" stands for?**

Ans- Higher Education Funding Agency

**Q129. Which is the largest private sector bank lender in India?**

Ans- ICICI Bank

**Q130. Which bank had begun a credit restructuring exercise that will ensure that large accounts as well as lending operations are concentrated in a few specially designated branches.**

Ans- Punjab National Bank (PNB)

**Q131. Which Bank has received the final regulatory approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India to commence its mutual fund business?**

Ans- Yes Bank

**Q132. Which bank of china got approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to open branches in India?**

Ans- Bank of China

**Q133. Who has won the Gold in javelin throws of boys in the Youth Olympic Games?**

Ans- Ajai Raj Singh

**Q134. According to the Supreme Court, state government should consult with which constitutional body before appointing Director General of Police?**

Ans- UPSC

**Q135. Mount Kailash is located in which country?**

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Ans- China

**Q136. Annapurna Milk Scheme for supplying milk thrice in a week to children studying in the State run schools is a flagship scheme of which state government?**

Ans- Rajasthan

**Q137. Who is appointed as chairman of North East Coordination Congress Committee (NECCC)?**

Ans- Mukul Sangma

**Q138. "cVigil" a unique app has been launched by \_\_\_\_\_ for people to report model code violations?**

Ans- The Election Commission of India (ECI)

**Q139. Which non-banking financial institutions plans to acquire 85.39% stake in Hyderabad based**

**Indian School Finance Company (ISFC)?**

Ans- Manappuram Finance

**Q140. Which is the country's largest commodity exchange in terms of market share?**

Ans- Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX)

**Q141. Who has won the Commonwealth chess champion of 2018?**

Ans- P. Karthikeyan

**Q142. The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) at its first meeting directed which state to release water to Tamil Nadu and other States?**

Ans- Karnataka

**Q143. Who is the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs of India?**

Ans- Kiren Rijiju

**Q144. Kudankulam nuclear power plant is in which state?**

Ans- Tamil Nadu

**Q145. In Independent India first time the decennial exercise was conducted in which year?**

Ans- 1951

**Q146. Who is the Governor of Karnataka?**

Ans- Governor Vajubhai Vala

**Q147. The Interpol has issued the Red Notice against whom in the case of Punjab National Bank fraud?**

Ans- Nirav Modi and his brother Neeshal Modi

**Q148. Which Ministry has amended Intellectual Property rules to revoke the power vested with Customs authorities to seize imported products based on complaints of patent infringement?**

Ans- The Union Ministry of Finance

**Q149. What is the tenure of Central Vigilance Commission members?**

Ans- Four years or till attains the age of 65

**Q150. Who is the new president of Mexico?**

Ans- Andrés Manuel López Obrador

**Q151. Which country president will visit India from July 8 to July 11 2018?**

Ans- South Korean President Moon Jaein

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[Telegram Channel](#)

**Q152. Which Committee is set up to look into the faster resolution of stressed assets and has recommended the creation of an asset management company for the resolution of stressed loans worth more than 500 crore?**

Ans- The Sunil Mehta Committee

**Q153. Project "Sashakt" is proposed to address the problem of \_\_\_\_\_ in Indian Banking sector?**

Ans- Bad loan

**Q154. Who is appointed as CMD of Steel Authority of India by the Central Government?**

Ans- Saraswati Prasad

**Q155. Which Company announced that it will invest €1 billion in India primarily between 2019 and 2021 as part of its India 2.0 strategy?**

Ans- Volkswagen Group

**Q156. Bharti Infratel has got the approval from Competition Commission of India (CCI) for merging its operations with \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- Indus Towers

**Q157. Which Indian Cricketer is included in ICC Cricket Hall of Fame for his stupendous achievements in International cricket?**

Ans- Rahul Dravid

**Q158. Who is elected as the new president of Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA)?**

Ans- Rajat Sharma

**Q159. Which department has launched an 'instant' Aadhaar based PAN allotment service for individuals seeking the unique identity for the first time.**

Ans- Income Tax Department

**Q160. The GST revenue in June touched \_\_\_\_\_ from 94,016 crore in May?**

Ans- 95,610 crore

**Q161. Which ballistic missile will be inducted into the nuclear arsenal?**

Ans- Agni V

**Q162. INS Sahyadri an Indigenously built stealth frigate participated in which maritime exercise?**

Ans- RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific exercise)

**Q163. Who is appointed as Secretary of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)?**

Ans- Alka Tiwari

**Q164. According to the latest data of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), FDI inflows recorded a five year low of \_\_\_\_\_ percent in 2017-18.**

Ans- 3%

**Q165. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation will change the base year to 2017-18 for the calculation of GDP and IIP numbers from the current base year of \_\_\_\_\_?**

Ans- 2011-12

**Q166. Which country's team has won the 2018 Men's Hockey Champions Trophy?**

Ans- Australia

**Q167. Who is the winner of Austrian Grand Prix 2018?**

Ans- Max Verstappen

**Q168. Which state government decided to file an appeal in the Supreme Court against the setting up of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA)?**

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Ans- Karnataka government

**Q169. Irena Szewinska who has won Olympic gold medals in three different events passed away recently is related with which sports?**

Ans- Athletics

**Q170. Who has won the final of ITF men's Futures Tennis Tournament?**

Ans- Manish Sureshkumar

**Q171. Which country becomes champion of Kabaddi Masters Dubai 2018?**

Ans- India

**Q172. The book "War or Peace: The Struggle for World Power" is written by which author?**

Ans- Deepak Lal

**Q173. The book "Humans on the Run of Exiles and Asylum" is written by which author?**

Ans- Kumar M. Tiku

**Q174. Which ministry has launched the DISHA dashboard, a nifty tool that will make easier to monitor governance by geography in real time?**

Ans- Ministry of Rural Development

**Q175. Who has received the National Kalidas Samman for visual arts from the Madhya Pradesh government?**

Ans- Anjolie Ela Menon

### OBITUARY 2018

Name of person	Profession	Country
Liliane Montevecchi	French-Italian actress	USA
Kabutari Devi	Popular Kumaoni folk singer	India
Dada JP Vaswani	Spiritual leader and head of Sadhu Vaswani mission	India
Kanu Gohain	Former Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)	India
M.N. Vyasa Rao	Kannada poet and film lyricist	India
Gopal Das Niraj	Eminent Hindi poet	India
Basabi Nandi	Bengali actress	India
Ramapada Chowdhury	Bengali writer	India
John Sankaramangalam	Filmmaker and former director of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII),	India
VS Naipaul	Indian-origin British author	UK
Nand Lal Passi	Former MLA and Samajwadi Party leader	India
Gurudas Kamat	Congress leader and five-time parliamentarian	India
Chennupati Vidya	Former member of Lok Sabha, Andhra Pradesh	India

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Ajit Wadekar	Former Indian cricket captain	India
Somnath Chatterjee	Former Speaker of the Lok Sabha and 10 time MP, West Bengal	India
Krishna Shripadrao Deshpande	Eminent library scientist	India
M Karunanidhi	DMK chief and five-time Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu	India
Balramji Dass Tandon	Chhattisgarh Governor	India
Hakam Singh	Athlete	India
Atal Bihari Vajpayee	Former Indian Prime Minister & MP, New Delhi	India
Kuldip Nayar	Renowned journalist, author and human rights activist	India
Tran Dai Quang	President	Vietnam
Dr Rita Jitendra	Writer	India
Ganpatrao Andalka	Former Asian Games champion wrestler	India
Kondapalli Koteswaramma	Revolutionary leader, writer and feminist	India
Randhir Singh	Former Air Marshal	India
Biswanath Dutt	Former BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) president	India
Kavita Mahajan	Renowned Marathi writer, novelist and translator	India
Will Vinton	Oscar-winning animator	USA
Madan Lal Khurana	Former Delhi chief minister	India
Na. Muthuswamy	Popular theatre personality	India
Pradip Chowdhury	Journalist and former News Editor of Press Trust of India (PTI)	India
Sarvagya Singh Katiyar	Kanpur University's former Vice Chancellor	India

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Santosh Singh Jain	Indian film trade expert	India
Annapurna Devi	Eminent Hindustani Classical Musician	India
Narayan Dutt Tiwari	Former Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand chief minister	India
Qazi Abdussattar	Professor and Urdu writer	India
William Goldman	Writer	USA
Stephen Hillenburg	Animator and cartoonist	USA
Vice Admiral (retd) Manohar Pralhad Awati	Father of Indian Navy's circumnavigation adventures.	India
K P S Srivastava	Journalist	India
Vinod Agrawal	Indian Bhajan singer	India
Lalan Sarang	Actor, Maharashtra	India
H.N. Ananth Kumar	Politician, Bengaluru	India
T.N. Srinivasan	Economist	India
S N Phukan	Former SC Judge	India
Roshan Lal Sethi	Veteran sports journalist, New Delhi	India
Brigadier Kuldip Singh	Indian Army officer, Punjab	India

### Appointment (2018)

Person	Post
Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador	President of Mexico
Imran Khan	Prime Minister of Pakistan
Imran Khwaja, Mahinda Vallipuram and Tony Brian	Associate member directors of International Cricket Council (ICC)

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First Sikh man to be hired as an anchor by a news channel in Pakistan	Harmeet Singh
Seven members who took oath in Rajya Sabha are	Rakesh Sinha,Sonal Mansingh,Raghunath Mohapatra,Ram Shakal,Elamaram Kareem,Binoy Viswam,Jose K Mani
Anil Kumar Chawla	Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Southern Naval Command
Surendra Roshia	Chief Executive Officer of HSBC-India
K B Vijay Srinivas	Director and General Manager of United India Insurance Company
Amitabh Malhotra	Head of investment banking for HSBC India
Arijit Basu	Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI)
A.C. Rout	MD and CEO of Bank of Maharashtra
T Latha	Managing Director & CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank
P K Shrivastava	Director general and chairman of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB)
Saraswati Prasad	chairman and managing director (CMD) of SAIL (Steel Authority of India Limited)
Vishwas Patel	Chairman of Payments Council of India
Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel	Chairperson of National Green Tribunal
Uday Kumar Varma	Member of Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC)
Mr. Analjit Singh	Non-executive Chairman of Max Financial Services (MFS)
Dipika Pallikal	Asia's representative to Athletes Advisory Commission of the Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF)
Emmerson Mnangagwa	President of Zimbabwe
Ivan Duque	President of Colombia
Ibrahim Boubacar Keita	President of Mali
Mario Abdo Benítez	President of Paraguay
Scott Morrison	Prime minister of Australia
Satya S Tripathi	Assistant Secretary General and Head of the New York Office of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Ehsan Mani	Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board

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Lalchand Rajput	Head coach of Zimbabwe
India	President of Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD)
Harivansh	Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha
KM Joseph, Indira Banerjee, Vineet Saran	Judges, Supreme Court
Uday Kumar Varma	Secretary General of Industry Chamber Assocham
Anil Kumar Pathak	Member (Planning) of Airports Authority of India (AAI)
R. G Anand	Member of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
Ajay Data	Member of Country Code Names Supporting Organisation (ccNSO)
AdityaVikram and Pramod Chandra Mody	Member of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
Rekha Sharma	Chairperson of National Commission for Women (NCW)
Ram Sewak Sharma	Chairperson of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
ManjulaChellur	Chairperson of Appellate Tribunal for Electricity (APTEL)
Dr. G Satheesh Reddy	Chairman(DRDO) & Secretary(DoDRD) of DRDO
Ashish Kumar Bhutani	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) PradhanMantriFasalBimaYojana (PMFBY)
ImtaiyazurRahman	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)(Acting) - UTI Mutual Fund
AnupMaheshwari	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and chief investment officer (CIO)of IIFL Mutual Fund
C B Ananthkrishnan	Director (Finance) of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)
S Gopakumar	Director and General Manager of United India Insurance Company
ChandaKochhar	Director of ICICI Securities.
Egon Zehnder International	Knowledge Partner of Indian Banks' Association
Thothala Narayanasamy Manoharan. Gopalaraman Padmanabhan.	Non-Executive Chairman of Canara Bank & Bank of India
Deepak Parekh	Non-Executive Director of HDFC
AkilaKrishnakumar and Anil Tiwari	Non-executive independent directors of IndusInd Bank
KalpanaSampat	Senior Executive Vice-President & Chief Operating Officer (COO) of DHFL Pramerica Life Insurance (DPLI)
Ex-judge Justice SJ Vazifdar	Chairman of panel to decide Vedanta's plea challenging closure of Sterlite copper plant
Paresh Sukthankar	Deputy managing director of HDFC Bank (resigned )

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Usha Ananthasubramanian	Allahabad Bank's MD and CEO (resigned )
Sriram Kalyanaraman.	National Housing Bank (NHB) Managing Director (resigned )
Ranganath	Infosys' Chief Financial Officer (CFO) MD (resigned )
Arif Alvi	President of Pakistan
Ibrahim Mohamed Solih	President of Maldives
Moutaz Mousa Abdallah	Prime Minister of Sudan
Dr.Poonam Khetrapal Singh	Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia Region
Keith Enright	Chief Privacy Officer of Google
Anil Kumar Chaudhary	Chairman of Steel Authority of India
R Madhavan	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)
Tajinder Mukherjee	Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of National Insurance Company Limited (NIC)
Rajni Kant Mishra	Director- General of Border Security Force (BSF).
Anshula Kant	Managing Director of State Bank of India
Four members to the local boards of RBI	Rakesh Jain and Sachin Chaturvedi have been appointed as member in Southern local board and Eastern local board of RBI.Revathy Iyer and Raghvendra Narayan Dubey
Ashwani Bhatia	MD & CEO of SBI Mutual Fund
Vibha Padalkar	MD & CEO of HDFC Life
Mrutyunjay Mahapatra	MD & CEO of Syndicate Bank
Padmaja Chundru	MD & CEO of Indian Bank
Pallav Mohapatra	MD & CEO of Central Bank of India
J Packirisamy	MD & CEO of Andhra Bank
Karnam Shekhar	MD & CEO of Dena Bank
SS Mallikarjuna Rao	MD & CEO of Allahabad Bank
AS Rajeev	MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra
Atul Kumar Goel	MD & CEO of UCO Bank
S Harisankar	MD & CEO of Punjab & Sind Bank
Ashok Kumar Pradhan	MD & CEO of United Bank of India
Amitabh Chaudhry	CEO and MD of Axis Bank
Prashant Kumar	Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of State Bank of India
Sunil Mehta	Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)
Binoy Kumar	Secretary of Ministry of Steel, Government of India
Anindo Majumdar	Secretary of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)
Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas	Secretary of Atomic Energy Commission
A Gitesh Sarma	Secretary (West) of Ministry of External Affairs
Anil Khosla	Vice Chief of Indian Air Force
Barham Salih	President(8th ) of Iraq

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Paul Biya	President(7th ) of Cameroon
Michael D Higgins	President of Ireland
Jair Bolsonaro	President of Brazil
Sahle-Work Zewde	President of Ethiopia
Maeen Abdulmalik	Prime Minister of Yemen
Ravi Venkatesan	Special representative of young people, UNICEF
Sajjan Jindal	Treasurer of World Steel Association
Justice Ranjan Gogoi	Chief Justice(46 <sup>th</sup> ) of India
Mahesh Y Reddy	Secretary General of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Air Marshal Harjit Singh Arora	Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of South Western Air Command of the Indian Air Force (IAF).
Alok Kumar Verma	Director of CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation)
Tushar Mehta	Additional Solicitor General (ASG) of Central government
Nimesh Shah	Chairperson of Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)
Prashant Tripathy	Managing Director of Max Life Insurance
Rakesh Sharma	Managing Director of IDBI Bank
PS Jayakumar	Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Baroda
Satish Kumar Gupta	CMD (Chairman-cum-Managing Director) of Paytm Payments Bank
Nimesh Chandan	Head- Investment, Equity of Canara Robeco Mutual Fund
TS Vijayan & OP Bhatt	External member of YES Bank
Vinay Razdan	Chief human resources officer (CHRO) of HDFC Bank
Sudhir Garg	CMD (Chairman-cum-Managing Director) Interim Of National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC).
Priyank Kanoongo	Chairperson of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)
Sanjay Kumar Mishra	Chief of Enforcement Directorate (ED)
Pravin Srivastava	Chief statistician of India (CSI)
Vice Admiral Narayan Prasad	Director-General of Naval Projects (DGNP) at Visakhapatnam.
Arun Kumar	Director-General of Railway Protection Force (RPF)
Shekhar C. Mande	Director-General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
Madan Bhimarao Lokur	Executive Chairman of National Legal Services Authority of India (NALSA)
Arundhati Bhattacharya	Independent director of Wipro
Hima Das	HR Officer (Grade A) of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)
Arundhati Bhattacharya	Independent additional director of Reliance Industries (RIL)

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Sunil Bhaskaran	Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of AirAsia India
Rajesh Agrawal	Member (Rolling Stock) of Railway Board
Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad	President of Hockey India
Vineet Nayyar	Vice-chairman and Managing Director (MD) of infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS)
G Balasubramanian	Vice-Chancellor of Tamil University
Arun Kumar Rath	CEO of Bhilai Steel plant
Adam Mosseri	CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Instagram
Ramon Laguarta	CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of PepsiCo
Gita Gopinath	Chief economist of International Monetary fund
Brett Kavanaugh	Chief Justice of U.S
6-member board led by Uday Kotak	To appoint chairman of IL&FS
B Sriram	CEO and MD of IDBI Bank(Resigned)
Chanda Kochhar	ICICI Bank MD and CEO (Resigned)
Meng Hongwei	President of Interpol (Resigned)
Nikki Haley	United States ambassador to United Nations(Resigned)
MJ Akbar	Minister of state for external affairs(Resigned)
Vibhav Kapoor	IL&FS Investment Managers Ltd non-executive director
Nick Clegg	Global affairs and communications head of Facebook
Jayesh Sanghrajka	Interim Chief Financial Officer (CFO)of Infosys
Rajesh Ram Mishra	President of India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA)
Raghu Ram	President of Association of Surgeons of India (ASI)
Sachin Khandelwal	Strategic advisor and mentor of Elysium Capital
Thomas Kurian	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Google Cloud
John Dugan	Chairman of Citigroup
Robyn Denholm	Chairman of Tesla
Abhijit Bose	Head(India)of WhatsApp
Sanjiv Ahuja	Non-executive director of Vodafone Group
Stephen Barclay	Secretary of New Brexit
Gafur Rakhimov	President of International Boxing Association (AIBA)
Rahul Johri	CEO of Board of Control for Cricket (BCCI)
J. Prithviraj	President of Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India (FMSCI)
Earl Eddings	Chairman of Cricket Australia (CA)
Anupam Kher	Chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) – Resigned
Jeff Sessions	United States Attorney General – Resigned

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Binny Bansal	CEO of Flipkart – Resigned
Vinod Dasari	CEO and MD of Ashok Leyland – Resigned
Ashok Chawla	Yes Bank’s non-executive chairman – Resigned
O P Bhatt	Resigned from the External Expert on the Search and Selection Committee (S&SC) panel – Resigned
R. Chandrashekha	Independent director at Yes Bank – Resigned
Erik Solheim	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Executive Director – Resigned

### Airport

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport	Kolkata	West Bengal
Indira Gandhi International Airport	New Delhi	New Delhi
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport	Hyderabad	Telangana
Swami Vivekananda Airport	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
Biju Patnaik International Airport	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport	Guwahati	Assam
Kempegowda International Airport	Bangalore	Karnataka
Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
Raja Bhoj International Airport	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
Maharana Pratap Airport	Udaipur	Rajasthan
Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport	Amritsar	Punjab
Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Airport	Patna	Bihar
Birsa Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
Bagdogra Airport	Bagdogra	West Bengal
Rajahmundry Airport	Rajahmundry	Andhra Pradesh
Kandla Airport	Kandla	Gujarat
Tezu Airport	Tezu	Arunachal Pradesh
Lengpui Airport	Aizwal	Mizoram
Veer Savarkar International Airport	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar
Silchar Airport	Silchar	Assam
Zaruki International Airport	Shillong	Meghalaya
Sonari Airport	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand
Agatti Aerodrome	Agatti	Lakshadweep

### Winners of Nobel Prize 2018

Field	Winner	Description
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Physiology or Medicine	James P Allison (USA) and Tasaku Honjo (Japan)	"for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation"
Physics	Arthur Ashkin (USA), Gerard Mourou (France) and Donna Strickland (Canada)	"for groundbreaking inventions in the field of laser physics"
Chemistry	(a) one half to Frances H. Arnold (USA) (b) other half jointly to George P. Smith (USA) and Sir Gregory P. Winter (UK)	(a) "for the directed evolution of enzymes" (b) "for the phage display of peptides and antibodies"
Peace	Denis Mukwege (Congo) and Nadia Murad (Iraq)	"for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict"
Economic Sciences	(a) William D. Nordhaus (USA) (b) Paul M. Romer (USA)	(a) "for integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis" (b) "for integrating technological innovations into long-run macroeconomic analysis."

## Important days and Theme (2018)

### January

Date	Day	Information /Theme
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**4th January** - World Braille Day - To mark the birthday of Louis Braille, inventor of Braille

**9th January** - Pravasi Bharatiya Divas - To mark the contribution of overseas development of India

**10th January**- Raising Day of Army Air Defence- Every year all over India

**10th January**- World Hindi Day- Celebrated by the World Hindi Secretariat (WHS) Mauritius

**12th January**- National Youth Day- Theme "Sankalp Se Siddhi"

**15th January**- Indian Army Day- To honour Indian soldiers

**18 January to 24 January 2018**- Girl Child week

**24th January 2018**- National Girl Child Day- Theme A girl is flower, not a thorn

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**25th January-** National Voters' Day- Theme for 2018 is Accessible Elections .  
Also 25th Jan is foundation day of Election Commission

**26th January-** Republic Day- Theme "Sangat and Pangat"

**26th January-** International Customs Day- Theme "A secure business environment for economic development."

**27th Jan 2018-** International Holocaust Remembrance day- Theme "Holocaust Remembrance and Education: Our Share Responsibility"

**28th January-** World Leprosy Day World- Leprosy Day 2018 aims to attain Zero Disabilities and Zero Leprosy in the world.

**30th January** - Martyrs day

## February

**4 February-** World Cancer Day - "We Can, I Can"

**6 February-** International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation

**11 February-** International Day of Women and Girls in Science- "Gender, Science and Sustainable Development: The Impact of Media"

**12 - 18 February-** National Productivity Week- "Industry 4.0 Leapfrog Opportunity for India"

**13 February-** World Radio Day- "Radio and Sports"

**20 February-** World Day of Social Justice- "Workers on the Move: the Quest for Social Justice"

**21 February-** International Mother Language Day- "Our languages, our assets"

**28 February-** National Science Day- "Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future"

## March

**1 March-** World Civil Defence Day- Theme 2018: "Civil defence and the national institutions for more efficient disaster management"

**3 March-** National Defence Day

**3 March -** World Wildlife Day- Theme " Big Cat –predators under Threat"

**3 March-** World Hearing Day- Theme "Action for hearing loss: make a sound investment"

**4 March -** National Security Day

**8 March-** International Women's Day- Theme 2018: "Time is Now: Rural and urban

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- 9 March** – World Kidney Day- activists transforming women’s lives”  
 Theme “Kidneys and Women Health”
- March 4-10, 2018-** National Safety Week
- 12 March** - Commonwealth Day- Theme 2018: “Towards a Common Future”
- 15 March** – World Consumer Day- Theme “Making Digital Marketplaces fairer”
- 20 March-** International Day of Happiness- Theme 2018: “Share Happiness”
- 21 March-** International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination- Theme 2018:  
 “Promoting tolerance, inclusion, unity and respect  
 for diversity in the context of combating racial discrimination”
- 21 March** – International Day of Forest – Theme “ Forest and Sustainable Cities”
- 21 March-** World Poetry day
- 22 March** – Water Day- Theme “Nature For Water”
- 23 March-** World Meteorological Day- Theme 2018: “Weather-ready, climate-smart”
- 24 March** - World Tuberculosis Day- Theme : “Wanted: Leaders for a TB-free world”
- 24 March, 2018-** 2018 Earth Hour- 11<sup>th</sup> edition [8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m] It is a global  
 initiative of the World Wide Fund for Nature  
 India or WWF-India “Give Up to Give Back” initiative was launched .
- 27 March** - World Theatre Day

## April

- 2 April-** World Autism Awareness Day- “Empowering women and girls with autism”
- 5 April-** National Maritime Day- “Indian Shipping – An Ocean of opportunity”
- 7 April-** World Health Day- “Universal health coverage: everyone, everywhere”
- 14 April-** Ambedkar Jayanti or Bhim Jayanti- Chairman-Drafting committee of  
 constitution.
- 18 April-** World Heritage Day - **Theme is** “Heritage for Generations”.
- 21 April-** National Civil Services Day- ‘Evolving Strategies for Transforming Aspirational  
 Districts’.
- 22 April-** International Earth Day- “End Plastic Pollution”
- 23 April-** World Book and Copyright Day- “Quotes Wishes Slogans Greetings”
- 24 April-** National Panchayati Raj (PR) Diwas
- 25 April-** World Malaria Day- “End Malaria for good”
- 26 April-** World Intellectual Property Day (WIP)- “Innovation – Improving Lives”

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## May

**May 1-** International Labour Day- Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement

**May 1-** World Asthma Day - Never too early, never too late. It's always the right time to address airways disease

**May 3 -** World Press Freedom Day- Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law

**May 5-** World Cartoonist's Day

**May 7-** World Athletics Day

**May 11-** National Technology Day- Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future

**May 12-** International Nurses Day- Nurses A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human right

**May 15-** International Day Of Families- Families and inclusive societies

**May 17-** World Telecommunication And Information Society Day- Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All

**May 18-** International Museum Day- Hyper connected museums: New approaches, new Publics

**May 18-** World AIDS Vaccine Day

**May 21-** Anti-Terrorism Day

**May 24-** Commonwealth Day- Towards a Common Future

**May 29-** International Day Of UN Peacekeepers- UN Peacekeepers: 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice

## June

**5th June-** World Environment Day- The theme is "Beat Plastic Pollution".

**8th June-** World Ocean Day- Main focus - to prevent plastic pollution and encourage solutions for a healthy ocean

**12th June-** World Day Against Child Labour- Main Focus on child labour and the action and efforts needed to eliminate it.

**14 June-** World Blood Donors Day- theme - 'Be there for someone else. Give blood. Share life'

**20 June-** World Refugee Day- The theme is 'Now More Than Ever, We Need to Stand with Refugees'

**21 June-** 4th International Yoga Day- The theme is "Yoga for Peace"

**21 June-** World Music Day- known as 'Fete de la Musique' after a music festival that began in France in 1982.

## July

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- 1 July** - National Doctors' Day - "Zero tolerance to violence against doctors and clinical establishment".
- 1 July**- Goods And Services Tax Day- 1st Anniversary of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) coming into force on 1st July 2017 also commemorated as 'GST Day.
- 4 July** - America Independence Day- 242nd America Independence Day
- 7 July** - World Chocolate Day- Celebrated since 2009
- 7 July**- International Day Of Cooperatives- 'Sustainable societies through cooperation'.
- 11 July**- World Population Day- 'Family Planning is a Human Right'
- 12 July**- International Malala Day- 12 July, the day of Malala's Birth was declared as Malala Day by UN General Secretary Ban-Ki-Moon on her 16th Birthday.
- 15 July** - World Youth Skills Day- The United Nations General Assembly has decided to celebrate the first World Youth Skills Day (WYSD) on 15 July 2015.
- 17 July** - World Day for International Justice- The aim of this day is to unite everyone who wants to support justice as well as promote victims rights.
- 18 July**- Nelson Mandela International Day- The Nelson Mandela Foundation is dedicating this year's Mandela Day to 'Action Against Poverty',
- 26 July** - Kargil Vijay Diwas- India Celebrates 19th Anniversary
- 28 July** - World Hepatitis Day- Test. Treat. Hepatitis
- 29 July** - International Tiger Day- Established at the Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit in 2010 to raise awareness for this species.
- 30 July** - World Day against Trafficking in Persons- Responding to the trafficking of children and young people

## August

- 6th August**- 73rd Hiroshima day
- 7th August**- National Handloom Day
- 9th August**- International Day Of The World's Indigenous Peoples- Theme - 'Indigenous peoples' migration and movement'.
- 12th August**- 18th International Youth Day- Theme: "Safe space for Youth".
- 14th August**- Shaheed Saman Diwas- Observed in all districts of Madhya Pradesh, to honour families of martyrs of Madhya Pradesh origin.
- 15th August**- 72nd Independence Day
- 19th August**- World Photography Day

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**19th August-** World Humanitarian Day- Campaign launched on World Humanitarian Day is "#NotATarget"

**20th August-** National Sadbhavana Day- 74th birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi

**21<sup>st</sup> August-** World senior citizen day- Theme - "Stepping into the Future: Tapping the Talents, Contributions and Participation of Older Persons in Society."

**29th August-** National Sports Day- Birthday of legendary hockey player Dhyan Chand

**29<sup>th</sup> August-** International Day against Nuclear Tests

**30th August-** International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances

## September

**2 September-** World Coconut Day- Coconut for Good Health, Wealth and Wellness

**1-7 September-** National Nutrition Week- Go Further with Food

**5 September-** International Day for Charity, Teacher Day

**8 September-** World Literacy Day- Literacy and Skill Development

**14 September-** Hindi Diwas

**15 September-** International Day of Democracy- Democracy Under Strain: Solution for a Changing World

**21 September-** International Day of Peace- The Right to peace- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights AT 70

**27 September-** World Maritime Day- MO 70: Our Heritage: Better Shipping for better future

**27 September-** World TOURISM day- Tourism and the digital transformation

**28 September-** World Rabies Day- Rabies: Share a message, Save a life

**29 September-** World Heart Day- My Heart, Your Heart

**30 September-** International Translation Day- Translation: Promoting cultural heritage in changing times

## October

**1 October-** World Habitat Day- Municipal Solid Waste Management

**1 October-** International Day For Older Persons- Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions

**1 October-** International Coffee Day- Women In Coffee

**2 October-** International Day Of Non Violence (the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi)

**4 October-** World Animals Day

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[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

**5 October-** World Teachers Day -The Right To Education Means Right T A Qualified Teacher

**9 October-** World Post Day

**10 October-** World Mental Health Day- Young People And Mental Health In A Changing World

**11 October-** International Day Of Girl Child- With Her-Skilled Girl Force

**11 October-** World Obesity Day- To Focus On Weight Stigma

**11 October-** World Sight Day- Eye Care Everywhere

**12 October-** World Arthritis Day

**12 October-** World Egg Day

**13 October-** World Migratory Bird Day- Unflying Our Voices For Bird Conservation

**15 October-** International Day For Rural Women- Sustainable Infrastructure, Services And Social Protection For Gender Equality And Empowerment Of Rural Women And Girls

**15 October-** World Students Day

**16 October-** World Food Day- Our Actions Are Our Future. A ZeroHunger World By 2030 Is Possible

**17 October-** International Day For Eradication Of Poverty- Coming Together With Those Farthest Behind To Build An Inclusive World of Universal Respect for Human Rights and Dignity

**24 October-** World Polio Day

**24 October-** United Nation's Day

**31 October-** Ekta Diwas-To Commemorate The Birth Anniversary Of Sardar Vallabh

**(Very important**  **)**

Bhai Patel

## November

**1 November-** World Vegan Day

**5 November-** World Tsunami Awareness Day

**5 November-** Ayurveda Day. ( The theme of 2018 Ayurveda Day was: **"Ayurveda for Public health".** )

**7 November-** National Cancer Awareness Day

**8 November-** International Day Of Radiology or World Radiography Day- Theme- **Cardiac imaging**

**10 November-** World Science Day for Peace and Development (Theme- **"Science, a Human Right"** )

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- 11 November**- National Education Day  
**13 November**- World Kindness Day  
**14 November**- Children's Day  
**14 November**- World Diabetes Day ((Theme- 'The Family and Diabetes')  
**16 November**- International Day for Tolerance, National Press Day  
**17 November**-International Students Day  
**19 November**- World Toilet Day ((Theme- "When Nature Calls")  
**19 November**- International Men's Day  
**20 November**- Universal Children's Day (Theme- Children are taking over and turning the world blue)  
**21 November**- World Television Day  
**25 November**- International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women ((Theme-Orange the World: #HearMeToo.)  
**26 November**- Constitution Day/ Samvidhan Divas

## December

- 1 December**- World AIDS Day  
**2 December**- World Computer Literacy Day  
**4 December**- Indian Navy Day  
**7 December**- International Civil Aviation Day  
**7 December**- Indian Armed Force Flag Day  
(Theme- "Working Together to Ensure No Country is Left Behind.")  
**9 December**- International Anti-Corruption Day  
**10 December**- Human Rights Day (Theme- StandUp4HumanRights.)  
**16 December**- Vijay Diwas  
**18 December**- International Migrants Day  
**18 December**- National Minority Rights Day  
**22 December**- National Mathematics Day  
**23 December**- Kisan Diwas/Farmers Day  
**24 December**- National Consumer Day  
**25 December**- Good Governance Day

## Sport (2018) Tennis

### Australian Open 2018 Winners List:

Category	Winner	Runner Up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Roger Federer (Switzerland)	Marin Cilic (Croatia)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Caroline Wozniacki (Denmark)	Simona Halep (Romania)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Oliver Marach (Austria) & Mate Pavic (Croatia)	Robert Farah (Colombia) & J. Cabal (Colombia)
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Kristina Mladenovic (France) & Tímea Babos (Hungary)	Elena Vesnina (Russia) & Ekaterina Makarova (Russia)
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) & Mate Pavic (Croatia)	Rohan Bopanna (India) & Timea Babos (Hungary)

### French Open 2018 Winners List:

Category	Winner	Runner Up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Dominic Thiem (Austria)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Simona Halep (Rome)	Sloane Stephens (USA)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Nicolas Mahut (France) and Pierre-Hugues Herbert (France)	Oliver Marach (Austria) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Barbara Krejckikova (Czech Republic) and Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic)	Eri Hozumi (Japan) and Makoto Ninomiya (Japan)
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Latisha Chan (Taiwan) and Ivan Dodig (Croatia)	Gaby Dabrowski (Canada) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)

### Wimbledon Championship 2018 Winners List:

Category	Winner	Runner Up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Kevin Anderson (South Africa)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Angelique Kerber (Germany)	Serena Williams (USA)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Mike Bryan (USA) and Jack Sock (USA)	Michael Venus (New Zealand) and Raven Klaasen (South Africa)
<b>Women's</b>	Barbora Krejckikova (Czech Republic)	Nicole Melichar (USA) and Kveta

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<b>Doubles</b>	and Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic)	Peschke (Czech Republic)
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Alexander Peya (Austria) and Nicole Melichar (USA)	Victoria Azarenka (Belarus) and Jamie Murray (United Kingdom)

### The US Open 2018 Winners List:

Category	Winner	Runner Up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Juan Martin del Potro (Argentina)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Naomi Osaka (Japan)	Serena Williams (USA)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Mike Bryan (USA) and Jack Sock (USA)	Łukasz Kubot (Poland) and Marcelo Melo (Brazil)
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Ashleigh Barty (Australia) and CoCo Vandeweghe (United States)	Timea Babos (Hungary) and Kristina Mladenovic (France)
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Bethanie Mattek-Sands (United States) and Jamie Murray (United Kingdom)	Alicja Rosolska (Poland) and Nikola Pietrangeli (Croatia)

### ATP World Tour Awards 2018 announced

Category	Winner
<b>Comeback Player of the Year</b>	Novak Djokovic
<b>ATP World Tour No. 1 Doubles Team</b>	Oliver Marach- Mate Pavic (1 <sup>st</sup> time)
<b>Most Improved Player of the Year</b>	Stefanos Tsitsipas
<b>Newcomer of the Year</b>	Alex de Minaur
<b>Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award</b>	Rafael Nadal (2 <sup>nd</sup> time)
<b>Arthur Ashe Humanitarian Award</b>	Tommy Robredo
<b>ATP Coach of the Year</b>	Marian Vajda
<b>Fans' Favourite (Singles)</b>	Roger Federer (16 <sup>th</sup> time)
<b>Fans' Favourite (Doubles)</b>	Mike Bryan & Jack Sock
<b>Ron Bookman Media Excellence Award</b>	Sue Barker
<b>ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Tournament of the Year</b>	BNP Paribas Open (5 <sup>th</sup> time)
<b>ATP World Tour 500 Tournament of the Year</b>	Fever-Tree Championships (2 <sup>nd</sup> Time)
<b>ATP World Tour 250 Tournament of the Year</b>	Intrum Stockholm Open (2 <sup>nd</sup> time)

### Formula 1 Race (2018)

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<b>Grand Pix</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Car</b>
<b>Australia</b>	Sebastian Vettel	FERRARI
<b>Bahrain</b>	Sebastian Vettel	FERRARI
<b>China</b>	Daniel Ricciardo	RED BULL RACING TAG HEUER
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Spain</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Monaco</b>	Daniel Ricciardo	RED BULL RACING TAG HEUER
<b>Canada</b>	Sebastian Vettel	FERRARI
<b>France</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Austria</b>	Max Verstappen	RED BULL RACING TAG HEUER
<b>Great Britain</b>	Sebastian Vettel	FERRARI
<b>Germany</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Hungary</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Belgium</b>	Sebastian Vettel	FERRARI
<b>Italy</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Singapore</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Russia</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>Japan</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES
<b>United States</b>	Kimi Räikkönen	FERRARI
<b>Mexico</b>	Max Verstappen	RED BULL RACING TAG HEUER
<b>Brazil</b>	Lewis Hamilton	MERCEDES

## Badminton

### Thomas Cup (Men's Competition)

- Gold Medal – China (3-1)
- Silver Medal-Japan
- Bronze Medal – Denmark and Indonesia

### Uber Cup (Women's Competition)

- Gold Medal – Japan (3-0)

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- Silver Medal-Thailand
- Bronze Medal – South Korea and China
- Japan has won Uber Cup after 37 years.

### World Cup

Category	Winner	Runner Up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Kento Momota	Shi Yuqi
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Carolina Marin	Pusarla V. Sindhu
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Li Junhui/ Liu Yuchen	Takeshi Kamura/ Keigo Sonoda
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Mayu Matsumoto/ Wakana Nagahara	Yuki Fukushima/ Sayaka Hirota
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Zheng Siwei/ Huang Yaqiong	Wang Yilyu/ Huang Dongping

### 2018 Fuzhou China Open (badminton tournament)

Category	Winner	Runner Up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Kento Momota (Japan)	Chou Tien-chen (Chinese Taipei)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Chen Yufei (China)	Nozomi Okuhara (Japan)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Marcus Fernaldi Gideon, Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo (Indonesia)	He Jiting, Tan Qiang (China)
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Lee So-hee, Shin Seung-chan (South Korea)	Mayu Matsumoto, Wakana Nagahara (Japan)
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Zheng Siwei, Huang Yaqiong (China)	Wang Yilyu, Huang Dongping (China)

### 2018 Fuzhou China Open (badminton tournament)

Event	Winners	Runners-up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Kento Momota (Japan)	Chou Tien-chen (Chinese Taipei)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Chen Yufei (China)	Nozomi Okuhara (Japan)
<b>Men's Doubles</b>	Marcus Fernaldi Gideon, Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo (Indonesia)	He Jiting, Tan Qiang (China)
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Lee So-hee, Shin Seung-chan (South Korea)	Mayu Matsumoto, Wakana Nagahara (Japan)
<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	Zheng Siwei, Huang Yaqiong (China)	Wang Yilyu, Huang Dongping (China)

## Cricket

### Duleep Trophy

**Winner-** India Blue

**Runner up** – India Red

### Vijay hazare trophy

**Winner** – Mumbai

**Runner up** – Delhi

### Deodhar Trophy.

**Winner** – India “B”

**Runner Up-** Karnataka

### Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy

**Winner** – Delhi

**Runner Up-** Rajasthan

## ASIAN games 2018

The Indian contingent won 69 medals in total at **18th edition of Asian Games** held in **Jakarta-Palembang** in **Indonesia**. **China with 289 medals**, which includes 132 Gold, 92 Silver and 65 Bronze, topped the ranking followed by Japan with 205 medals, which include 75 Gold, 56 Silver and 74 Bronze medals.

The Logo for the 18th Asian Games is a **colorful circle** taken from the shape of the Gelora Bung Karno Stadium, and named the **Energy of Asia**.

The 18th Asian Games also introduces three mascots namely Bhin Bhin, Atung and Kaka.

The mascots represent three aspects of these competitive games, being: Strategy, Speed and Strength.

The Asian Games was first held on March 4-11th 1951 in **New Delhi India**.

India ranked eighth with overall 69 medals having 15 Gold medals.

**Gold Medal – 15**

**Silver Medal – 24**

**Bronze Medal – 30**

**Gold Medal (15)**

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### Medalist Name

### Category

Neeraj Chopra (Athletics)	Men's Javelin Throw
Tejinderpal Singh Toor (Athletics)	Men's Shot Put
Jinson Johnson (Athletics)	Men's 1500m
Hima Das, M R Poovamma, Saritaben Gayakwad and Vismaya Velluva Koroth (Athletics)	Women's 4x400m Relay
Manjit Singh (Athletics)	Men's 800m
Arpinder Singh (Athletics)	Men's Triple Jump
Swapna Barman (Athletics)	Women's Heptathlon
Rahi Sarnobat (Shooting)	Women's 25m Air Pistol
Saurabh Chaudhary (Shooting)	Men's 10m Air Pistol
Bajrang Punia (Wrestling)	Men's Freestyle 65 kg
Vinesh Phogat (Wrestling)	Women's Freestyle 50 kg
Pranab Bardhan and Shibhnath Sarkar (Bridge)	Men's Pair Event
Sawaran Singh, Dattu, Om Prakash and Sukhmeet (Rowing)	Men's Quadruple Sculls event
Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan (Tennis)	Men's Doubles event
Amit Phangal (Boxing)	Men's 49kg

### Silver

Ayyasamy Dharun (Athletics)	Men's 400m Hurdles
Hima Das (Athletics)	Women's 400m Race
Dutee Chand (Athletics)	Women's 100m Race

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<b>Dutee Chand (Athletics)</b>	<b>Women's 200m Race</b>
<b>Sudha Singh (Athletics)</b>	<b>Women's 3000m Steeplechase</b>
<b>Muhammed Anas (Athletics)</b>	<b>Men's 400m Race</b>
<b>Jinson Johnson (Athletics)</b>	<b>Men's 800m Race</b>
<b>Neena Vakaryl (Athletics)</b>	<b>Women's Long Jump</b>
<b>India (Athletics)</b>	<b>Men's 4x400 Relay Team Event</b>
<b>India, (Athletics)</b>	<b>4x400m Mixed Relay Team Event</b>
<b>India (Equestrian)</b>	<b>Equestrian Team Event</b>
<b>Fouaad Mirza (Equestrian)</b>	<b>Equestrian Individual Event</b>
<b>Rajat Chauhan, Abhishek Verma and Aman Saini (Archery)</b>	<b>Compound Men's Team</b>
<b>Deepak Kumar (Shooting)</b>	<b>Men's 10m Air Pistol</b>
<b>Lakshya Sheoran (Shooting)</b>	<b>Men's Trap Event</b>
<b>Shardul Vihan (Shooting)</b>	<b>Men's Double Trap Event</b>
<b>Sanjeev Rajput (Shooting)</b>	<b>Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions Event</b>
<b>Muskan Kirar, Madhumita Kumari and Jyothi Surekha Vennam (Archery)</b>	<b>Compound Women's Team</b>
<b>Tanvi Khanna, Dipika Pallikal Karthik, Sunayna Kuruvilla and Joshana Chinappa (Squash)</b>	<b>Women's Team Event</b>
<b>Gautham Varsha and Shervegar Sweta (Sailing)</b>	<b>49er FX Women Race 15</b>
<b>India (Kabaddi)</b>	<b>Women's Kabaddi</b>
<b>India (Hockey)</b>	<b>Women's Team Event</b>
<b>PV Sindhu (Badminton)</b>	<b>Women's Singles</b>
<b>Pincky Balhara (Kurash)</b>	<b>Women's 52 kg</b>

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### Bronze Medals (30)

Saurav Ghoshal (Squash)	Men's Singles
Joshna Chinappa (Squash)	Women's Singles
Dipika Pallikal Karthik (Squash)	Women's Singles
Saurav Ghosal, Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu, Ramit Tandon & Mahesh Mangaonkar (Squash)	Men's Team
Santosh Kumar (Wushu)	Men's Sanda 56kg
Surya Bhanu Pratap Singh (Wushu)	Men's Sanda 60kg
Narender Grewal (Wushu)	Men's Sanda 65kg
Roshibina Devi Naorem (Wushu)	Women's Sanda 60kg
Abhishek Verma (Shooting)	Men's 10M Air Pistol
Apporvi Chndela and Ravi Kumar (Shooting)	10m Air Rifle Mixed Team
Heena Sidhu (Shooting)	Women's 10M Air Rifle
Prajnesh GP (Tennis)	Men's Singles
Ankita Raina (Tennis)	Women's Singles
Varun Thakkar and Ganapathy Chengappa (Sailing)	49er Men
Harshita Tomar (Sailing)	Open Laser 4.7
Dushyant (Rowing)	Men's Lightweight Single Sculls
Rohit Kumar & Bhagwan Singh (Rowing)	Men's Lightweight Double Sculls
Seema Punia (Athletics)	Women's Discus Throw
PU Chitra (Athletics)	Women's 1500m Race
Achanta Sharath Kamal, G Sathyan, Harmeet Desai, Anthony Amalraj & Manav Thakkar (Table-	Men's Team

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<b>Tennis)</b>	
<b>Achanta Sharath Kamal &amp; Manika Batra (Table-Tennis)</b>	<b>Mixed Doubles</b>
<b>Jaggy Shivdasani, Rajeshwar Tewari, Ajay Khare, Raju Tolani, Debabrata Majumder &amp; Sumit Mukherjee (Bridge)</b>	<b>Men's Team</b>
<b>Kiran Nadar, Hema Deora, Himani Khandelwal, Bachiraju Satyanarayana, Gopinath Manna &amp; Rajeev Khandelwa (Bridge)</b>	<b>Mixed Team</b>
<b>Saina Nehwal (Badminton)</b>	<b>Women's Singles</b>
<b>India (Sepaktakraw)</b>	<b>Men's Team Regu</b>
<b>India (Hockey)</b>	<b>Men's Team Event</b>
<b>India (Kabaddi)</b>	<b>Men's Kabaddi</b>
<b>Malaprabha Jadhav (Kurash)</b>	<b>Women's 52 kg</b>
<b>Divya Kakran (Wrestling)</b>	<b>Women's Freestyle 68 KG</b>
<b>Vikas Krishan Yadav (Boxing)</b>	<b>Men's Middleweight</b>

### **SAFF (Game)**

#### **SAFF U-15 (Women)**

Winner- India

Runner up - Bangladesh

Held In- Bhutan

#### **SAFF Championship Men-**

Winner- Maldives

Runner Up- India

Held in- Bangladesh

#### **SAFF U-18 Women**

Winner- Bangladesh

Runner Up- Nepal

Held in- Bhutan

#### **SAFF U-18 Men**

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Winner – Bangladesh

Runner Up- Pakistan

Held in- Nepal

### List of Upcoming Sports Venues

Tournament	Venue
<b>Summer Olympics</b>	Japan (2020); Paris (2024); Los Angles (2028)
<b>Winter Olympics</b>	Pyeong Chang, South Korea(2018); Beijing China (2022)
<b>Common Wealth Games</b>	Queensland, Australia (2018); Birmingham, England(2022)
<b>Asian Games</b>	Jakarta, Indonesia (2018); Hangzohu, China (2022)
<b>FIFA Football World Cup</b>	Russia (2018); Qatar (2022)
<b>FIFA (Women) World Cup</b>	2019 (France)
<b>ICC Men Cricket World Cup</b>	2019 (England); 2023(India)
<b>ICC Women Cricket WorldCup</b>	2021 (New Zealand)
<b>ICC Men T20 World Cup</b>	Australia(2020)
<b>ICC Women T20 World Cup</b>	2018 (West Indies)
<b>Men Hockey World Cup</b>	2018 (India)

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<b>Women Hockey World Cup</b>	2018 (England)
<b>ITTF Table Tennis WorldCup</b>	2018 (London)

### National Sports Awards - 2018

#### Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna 2018 (2 players)

<b>Ms. S. Mirabai Chanu</b>	Weightlifting
<b>Shri Virat Kohli</b>	Cricket

#### Dronacharya Awards 2018 (8 persons)

Name of the Coach	Game
<b>Subedar Chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa</b>	Boxing
<b>Shri Vijay Sharma</b>	Weightlifting
<b>Shri A. Srinivasa Rao</b>	Table Tennis
<b>Shri Sukhdev Singh Pannu</b>	Athletics
<b>Shri Clarence Lobo</b>	Hockey (Life Time)
<b>Shri Tarak Sinha</b>	Cricket (Life Time)
<b>Shri Jiwan Kumar Sharma</b>	Judo (Life Time)
<b>Shri V.R. Beedu</b>	Athletics (Life Time)

#### Arjuna Awards 2018 (20 players)

<b>Shri Neeraj Chopra</b>	Athletics
<b>Naib Subedar Jinson Johnson</b>	Athletics
<b>Ms. Hima Das</b>	Athletics
<b>Ms. Nelakurthi Sikki Reddy</b>	Badminton
<b>Subedar Satish Kumar</b>	Boxing

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<b>Ms. Smriti Mandhana</b>	Cricket
<b>Shri Shubhankar Sharma</b>	Golf
<b>Shri Manpreet Singh</b>	Hockey
<b>Ms. Savita</b>	Hockey
<b>Col. Ravi Rathore</b>	Polo
<b>Ms. Rahi Sarnobat</b>	Shooting
<b>Shri Ankur Mittal</b>	Shooting
<b>Ms. Shreyasi Singh</b>	Shooting
<b>Ms. Manika Batra</b>	Table Tennis
<b>Shri G. Sathiyam</b>	Table Tennis
<b>Shri Rohan Bopanna</b>	Tennis
<b>Shri Sumit</b>	Wrestling
<b>Ms. Pooja Kadian</b>	Wushu
<b>Shri Ankur Dhama</b>	Para-Athletics
<b>Shri Manoj Sarkar</b>	Para-Badminton

### **Dhyan Chand Award 2018 (4 Sports persons)**

<b>Shri Satyadev Prasad</b>	Archery
<b>Shri Bharat Kumar Chetri</b>	Hockey
<b>Ms. Bobby Aloysius</b>	Athletics
<b>Shri Chougale Dadu Dattatray</b>	Wrestling

### **Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2018**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Name of the entity</b>
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<b>Identification and Nurturing of Budding &amp; Young Talent</b>	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited
<b>Encouragement to Sports through Corporate Social Responsibility</b>	JSW Sports
<b>Sports for Development</b>	Isha Outreach

### Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2017-18:

#### 1. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2017-18:

#### Asian Air Gun Championship in Kuwait

India's junior shooters won a total of **11 medals**: 4 gold, 5 silver and 2 bronze medals.

Medal	Event	Name
Gold	10m rifle mixed team junior	Elavenil Valarivan & Hriday Hazarika
Gold	10m Air Pistol men's junior	Saurabh Chaudhary
Gold	10m air pistol mixed team junior	Manu Bhaker & Saurabh Chaudhary
Gold	10m Air Pistol team junior	Saurabh Chaudhary, Arjun Singh Cheema & Anmol Jain
Silver	10m Air Pistol team junior	Manu, Abhidnya & Neha
Silver	10m air rifle men's junior	Divyansh Singh Panwar
Silver	10m Air Pistol men's junior	Arjun Singh Cheema
Silver	Men's junior team	Mehuli Ghosh, Elavenil Valarivan & Shreya Aggarwal
Silver	Women's junior team	Hriday Hazarika, Arjun Babuta & Divyansh Singh Panwar
Bronze	10m air rifle mixed team junior	Mehuli Ghosh & Arjun Babuta
Bronze	10m air rifle women's junior	Elavenil Valarivan

**Qatar to host 23rd edition of the World Corporate Games**

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- Qatar will host the 23rd edition of the World Corporate Games (WCG) in Doha in 2019, which will provide an opportunity for corporations around the world to showcase their competitive prowess through sports.
- It will be the first time that the WCG incorporate eSports and mindsports.
- The event features both individual and team competitions, open equally to women and men of all ages and abilities with team events for skilled, semi-skilled or novice participants.

#### **Rahul Dravid inducted into ICC Hall of Fame**

- Former Indian captain Rahul Dravid has been officially inducted into International Cricket Council's (ICC) Hall of Fame.
- He presented memento by the legendary opener Sunil Gavaskar at Greenfield International Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- With this, Dravid became fifth Indian cricketer after Bishan Singh Bedi (inducted in 2009), Sunil Gavaskar (2009), Kapil Dev (2010) and Anil Kumble (2015) to be named on the elite list.
- In July 2018, ICC had announced Rahul Dravid, Australian legend Ricky Ponting and former England Women's wicket-keeper Claire Taylor's induction into Hall of Fame during ceremony in Dublin.

#### **Pankaj Advani won the second leg of Asian Snooker Tour title**

- Nineteen-times world champion Pankaj Advani won the second leg of Asian Snooker Tour title by delivering a power-packed performance to outclass China's Ju Reti 6-1 in the final at Jinan, China.
- With this, he has become the first Indian to win an Asian Snooker Tour event.

**Mary Kom named as brand ambassador of 10<sup>th</sup> AIBA Women's World Championship**  
**MC Mary Kom** was named as the **brand ambassador** of the **10th edition of AIBA Women's World Championship**, which will be held from November 15-24, 2018, in **New Delhi**.

Boxing Federation of India (BFI) also launched the logo and anthem of the 10<sup>th</sup> AIBA Women's World Championship.

The logo depicted "fire and women's empowerment". Theme of the anthem was: "Make some noise, scream and shout! We are here to knock you out!!!"

Near 300 pugilists from 70 countries across 10 weight categories will take part in the tournament.

**President** – Ajay Singh

**Objective** – development and promotion of Olympic-style boxing in India

#### **2018 SAFF U-15 Championship in Nepal**

**5<sup>th</sup> SAFF U-15 Championship 2018** was held at the ANFA Complex, Kathmandu, **Nepal**.

**Bangladesh** beat Pakistan 3-2 on penalties in the final, and won its **2<sup>nd</sup> SAFF U-15 Championship title**. Earlier, Bangladesh had won the title in 2016.

Pakistan finished as the runner-up. **India** beat Nepal 1-0 and finish in the **third** position.

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**President** – Mr. Kazi Md. Salahuddin

**Secretariat** – Dhaka, Bangladesh

**Gafur Rakhimov elected as AIBA president**

**Gafur Rakhimov**, an **Uzbek** businessman, was elected **president** of **International Boxing Association (AIBA)**, the amateur boxing federation.

**Headquarters:** Lausanne, Switzerland.

**Lucknow's Ekana cricket stadium renamed after Atal Bihari Vajpayee**

- Uttar Pradesh Govt decided to rename newly-built Ekana International Stadium in capital city Lucknow after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- The stadium with a seating capacity of around 50,000 will now be known as 'Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee International Cricket Stadium'.
- It was renamed just ahead of first-ever international cricket match – T20 International between India and West Indies.
- UP Govt through Lucknow Development Authority (LDA) used powers vested as per clause 17.5.1 of agreement signed between Ekana Sports City Private Ltd; GC Constructions; Development Industries Pvt Ltd and LDA.

**Angad Vir Singh Bajwa wins gold in Men's Skeet**

- Angad Vir Singh Bajwa has won gold medal by setting world record score in men's skeet final of the 8th Asian Shotgun Championship held in Kuwait.
- He became first Indian skeet shooter to win continental or world level event.
- In the final round of this event, Angad shot perfect 60 out of 60 to claim top spot ahead of China's Di Jin who shot 58, winning silver medal.

**Thailand's Luksika Kumkhum wins first WTA title in the L&T Mumbai Open in Mumbai**

Thailand's **Luksika Kumkhum** won her first WTA (Women's Tennis Association) title by winning the singles title in the **L&T Mumbai Open** at the Cricket Club of India courts, in **Mumbai**.

**National Junior Athletics Championships 2018 in Ranchi**

34th National Junior Athletics Championships 2018 was held at the Birsa Munda Athletics Stadium in **Ranchi, Jharkhand**. It was organized by Jharkhand Athletics Association under the guidance of Athletics Federation of India (AFI). This is an Annual Athletics event of AFI. Over 2000 athletes from various parts of India took part in the championship.

**Odisha government signs MoU with AIFF to host national camps, become home of Indian Arrows**

**Odisha** government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** to host National team camps and become the home of the I-League side Indian Arrows.

The MoU between AIFF and Odisha government was signed at the Kalinga Stadium complex in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The training and related infrastructure like gymnasiums,

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swimming pool, etc, will be set up at the Kalinga Stadium Complex. The Indian Under-15 National team and AIFF's development side Indian Arrows, consisting of Indian Under-17 World Cup players, have been using the infrastructure.

### **15-year-old Kashmiri student Aabid Hamid wins gold for India at World Kick Boxing Championship in Argentina**

**Aabid Hamid**, a 15-year-old Kashmiri student, has won **gold medal**, at the **World Kick Boxing Championship** in **Argentina**.

Aabid Hamid won gold medal in the 52kg category. He was the only gold medal winner from India in the tournament. He was part of nine-member Team India. Eight other players including three from Kashmir won silver medals. Master Hashim, Ms Abrou and Mr Irshad Ahmad Ganie are among the silver medal winners.

### **Lakshya Sen wins bronze medal in men's singles at World Junior Badminton Championship**

- India's top junior shuttler Lakshya Sen at the age of 17 won bronze medal at Li Ning BWF World Junior Badminton Championships 2018 held at Markham, Canada.
- In singles semi-final match, he lost to top seed and world junior number one Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand by 22-20, 16-21, 13-21 score.

### **UNICEF appoints Hima Das as India's first ever Youth Ambassador**

Asian Games gold-medallist sprinter Hima Das was appointed as the **first ever youth ambassador** of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) India.

As a Youth Ambassador, Hima Das will work towards creating awareness about the rights and needs of children. She hails from Nagaon district of Assam. She had won gold medal in Women's 4 x 400 m Relay event at the 2018 Asian Games. She had also won a silver medal in Women's 400m Race event with a timing of 50.59 seconds.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

**President** – Tore Hattrem

**Headquarters** – New York, United States

### **8<sup>th</sup> Asian Shotgun Championship in Kuwait**

8<sup>th</sup> Asian Shotgun Championship held from 3<sup>rd</sup> November to 11<sup>th</sup> November in Kuwait. Angad Vir Singh Bajwa has become the first Indian skeet shooter to win a gold. He set a world record with a shot of perfect 60 out of 60 in final round. He defeated China's Di Jin who shot 58 in the final round. Saeed Al Maktoum of UAE won the bronze medal with a score of 46.

### **India's Ankita Raina and Karman Kaur Thandi win Women's Doubles title at Taipei OEC Open tennis**

- India's Ankita Raina and Karman Kaur Thandi, playing together for the first time, won doubles title at \$125,000 Taipei Open.
- They defeated Russian pair of Olga Doroshina and Natela Dzalamidze 6-3, 5-7, 12-12 score.

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- The champions collected \$5,500 in prize money and earned 160 points, which is expected to push both within 200 of WTA world rankings.
- This win marks the first WTA title for an Indian since Sania Mirza, success came on WTA Tour and Grand Slam stage.

### **Bangladesh Krida Shiksha Prothishtan (BKSP) wins 59th edition of Subroto cup International Football Tournament**

The finals of the 59<sup>th</sup> edition of Subroto Cup International Football Tournament (Junior Boys category) was won by Bangladesh's Krida Shiksha Prothishtan (BKSP) by defeating **Amini School of Afghanistan** with a solitary goal scored by Habibur Rahman a the 11<sup>th</sup> minute. The Closing Ceremony & the Final Match was held at **Dr. Ambedkar Stadium, Delhi Gate, New Delhi**.

### **Rahul Johri to continue as CEO of BCCI**

Committee of Administrators (CoA) appointed three-member probe panel cleared Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) CEO Rahul Johri of allegations of sexual harassment, dismissing the charges levelled by two women as "mischievous and fabricated" and allowed him to resume duties.

### **Mary Kom wins record sixth gold medal at World Boxing Championships**

- India's boxing legend Mary Kom has won gold medal at World Women's Boxing Championships held in New Delhi.
- It was her sixth medal in World Boxing Championships.
- She defeated 22-year-old Ukrainian boxer Hana Okhaya of Ukraine.

### **Sameer Verma wins Syed Modi International Badminton title 2018**

- India's Sameer Verma won Syed Modi India Grand Prix Gold badminton title 2018 in men's singles category in the final match held in Lucknow.
- He defeated China's Lu Guangzu by 16-21, 21-19 and 21-14 score.
- Women's singles title was won by China's Han Yue after defeating India's Saina Nehwal by 21-18, 21-8 score.

### **Australian women's team lifted the ICC Women's World Twenty-20 title**

- The Australian women's national cricket team lifted the ICC Women's World Twenty-20 title for the fourth time.
- In the title clash played at Antigua in West Indies, the Aussies recorded an emphatic 8-wicket win over England.

### **Syed Modi International 2018**

Badminton World Federation (BWF) Organized Syed Modi International Badminton Championship at the Babu Banaras Das Indoor **Stadium in Lucknow, India** with the total prize of **\$150,000**.

**Men's Single** - On 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018, India's 24 years old **Sameer Verma** won the Men's single title by defeating China's Lu Guangzu in the final to retain the title.

**Women's single**- One of the India's greatest Badminton player, **Saina Nehwal** missed an

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opportunity to get Gold after her defeat against China's Han Yue in Women's Singles event. She has to satisfy with Silver Medal.

#### **Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton wins Abu Dhabi Grand Prix**

Five-time world champion, Lewis Hamilton signed off the season in style and kept the Mercedes dominance by winning at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix — the 21<sup>st</sup> and final race of the 2018 F1 calendar at the Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi.

#### **Croatia wins the 2018 Davis Cup, beating France**

**Croatia** defeated the defending champion France in the final of 2018 Davis Cup organized by **BNP Paribas** (Banque Nationale de Paris) for securing the title second time after 13 years.

#### **Netherlands win FIH Women's Hockey Champions Trophy**

**Netherlands** took a decisive seventh title at the International Hockey Federation (FIH) **Women's Hockey Champions Trophy** event with a 5-1 victory over Australia in Changzhou Wujin, China.

#### **Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2018 Inaugurated at Kalinga Stadium**

Hockey Men's World Cup kicked off with a grand opening ceremony at the Kalinga Stadium in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**. Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaik declared the Hockey World Cup open. The event is being held from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

#### **Magnus Carlsen Retains His Title as World Chess Champion**

Norway's **Magnus Carlsen** retained his title as World Chess Champion beating US opponent **Fabiano Caruana** in a tie-breaker event at the **World Chess Championship** held in London

#### **Abhinav Bindra: First Indian to get the Blue Cross, highest shooting honour by ISSF**

India's Olympic and world champion shooter Abhinav Bindra was conferred the Blue Cross, the ISSF's highest award at the General Assembly in Munich.

It was bestowed upon him for his outstanding services as the chairman of the International Shooting Sport Federation's Athletes Committee. Also the committee has brought out a comprehensive Athletes Handbook, for the benefit of shooters around the world. Bindra was succeeded in the post by the American shooter **Kimberly Rhode**.

#### **2018 Ballon d'Or:Luka Modric and Ada Hegerberg win awards**

Annual football award ,2018 Ballon d'Or Award was announced.Real Madrid's Croatia midfielder Luka Modric was named winner of the 2018 Ballon d'Or.Ada Hegerberg was named as the First Recipient of Ballon d'Or Féminin award 2018. The award functions held in Paris (France).

#### **Jon Ridgeon Appointed CEO of IAAF**

International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) announced the appointment of Jon Ridgeon as its new CEO following approval by the IAAF Council on the first day of its 215<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting in Monaco.

#### **Eliud Kipchoge and Caterine Ibarguen named IAAF athletes of the year**

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Kenya's Marathon world record holder Eliud Kipchoge and Colombian jumper Caterine Ibarguen was awarded with Male and Female World athlete of the year for the first time at the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) Athletics Awards 2018 held at the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco.

### **Budapest to host 2023 IAAF World Championships**

Hungarian capital Budapest was officially confirmed as the host city of the 2023 International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Championships. The decision in this regard was taken at the IAAF Council meeting held in Monaco. The World Championships will return to Europe after a six year hiatus following Doha, Qatar in 2019 and Eugene, USA in 2021. The 2017 IAAF World Championships was held at London, England.

### **Raninder Singh becomes first Indian to be elected ISSF's vice-president**

Raninder Singh became the first Indian to be elected as the vice-president of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF).

The elections were held during the General Assembly meeting of ISSF in Munich in which Raninder secured 161 votes to make it to the coveted position. The 51-year-old Raninder is currently the president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI). The NRAI president was also awarded the ISSF diploma of honour gold medal at the General Assembly by the outgoing longest serving president of the ISSF, Olegario Vazquez Rana, who was at the helm for 38 years.

### **WV Raman appointed India women's cricket team coach**

Former India opener WV Raman has been appointed the new coach of the Indian women's cricket team. He played 11 Tests and 27 ODIs. Raman is an experienced coach, The team he had given coaching were Tamil Nadu team, Bengal Ranji Trophy team and India U-19 team. He had beaten South Africa's Gary Kirsten and India's Venkatesh Prasad for the position of India's women's cricket coach.

### **Belgium to end the year as No. 1 in FIFA global ranking**

Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) released the Global football ranking topped by Belgium who have 1727 points as per FIFA calculations. So Belgium is going to end the year as No. 1 ahead of World Champion France.

France ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> with 1726 points and Brazil ranked third with 1676 points. India ranked at 97<sup>th</sup> Position in the latest FIFA ranking released on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

### **B V P Rao elected as president of Archery Association of India**

B V P Rao was elected as the President of Archery Association of India(AAI),the election was held under the Supervision of former Chief Election Commissioner S. Y. Quraishi. Maha Singh was elected as secretary of Archery Association of India,D K Vidyarthi was elected as the treasurer.Sunil Sharma was elected senior vice-president and Rajendra Singh Tomar and Purnima Mahato will be the vice presidents.

### **Lewis Hamilton awarded Drivers' Driver of the Year**

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Lewis Hamilton was awarded with Drivers' Driver of the Year after claiming the 5th World Drivers' Championship. After this he became the **3rd** man in history to secure the 5th world title. This was a part of vote given by the F1 management for the first time among 17 of the 20 drivers participating in the event. He was followed by Max Verstappen in the second place, Fernando Alonso in the third place.

### **PV Sindhu Won BWF World Tour Finals 2018**

BWF(Badminton World Federation) World Tour 2018,officially known as HSBC BWF World Tour Finals 2018,concluded in Tianhe,Guangzhou, China.It was the final tournament of the 2018 BWF World Tour.It was inaugurated from 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018.The total Prize of the Championship is \$1,500,000.

### **Belgium defeated The Netherland and won their First Men's Hockey World Cup Championship held in Bhubaneswar,Odisha**

Belgium defeated Netherland in Shoot Out Match and won their First Men's Hockey World Cup Championship,which is 14th edition of the Hockey World Cup. It is organized by International Hockey Federation(FIH).Mascot: Turtle 'Olly' is the official Mascot of the Championship.

### **CA Kuttappa appointed India's new chief men's boxing coach**

Dronacharya awardee C A Kuttappa has been appointed as India's chief boxing coach at the ongoing national camp.

He replaced veteran coach SR Singh. Kuttappa is just one of the two coaches from the reigning national champions, the Services Sports Control Board (SSCB), in the camp. As head coach of the Indian Boxing team, Kuttappa's first major assignment would be the **second** edition of India Open, which is scheduled to be held in January 2019 in Guwahati, Assam and the Strandja Memorial in Bulgaria.

## **List of Countries, Capitals, Currencies**

### **List of Countries having Rupee/Rupiah as their Currency**

Country	Capital	Currency
India	New Delhi	Rupee
Indonesia	Jakarta	Rupiah
Nepal	Kathmandu	Nepalese Rupee
Sri Lanka	Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte	Sri Lankan Rupee
Seychelles	Victoria	Seychellois Rupee
Pakistan	Islamabad	Pakistani Rupee
Maldives	Male	Maldivian Rufiyaa
Mauritius	Port Louis	Mauritian Rupee

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### List of Countries having Dinar/Dirham as their Currency

Country	Capital	Currency
Algeria	Algiers	Algerian Dinar
Bahrain	Manama	Bahraini Dinar
Iraq	Baghdad	Iraqi Dinar
Jordan	Amman	Jordanian Dinar
Kuwait	Kuwait City	Kuwaiti Dinar
Libya	Tripoli	Libyan Dinar
Macedonia	Skopje	Macedonian Denar
Serbia	Belgrade	Serbian Dinar
Tunisia	Tunis	Tunisian Dinar
UAE	Abu Dhabi	UAE Dirham

### List of Countries having Euro as their Currency

Country	Capital	Country	Capital
Andorra	Andorra la Vella	Latvia	Riga
Austria	Vienna	Luxembourg	Luxembourg
Belgium	Brussels	Malta	Valletta
Cyprus	Nicosia	Monaco	Monaco
Estonia	Tallinn	Montenegro	Podgorica
Finland	Helsinki	Netherlands	Amsterdam
France	Paris	Portugal	Lisbon
Germany	Berlin	San Marino	San Marino
Greece	Athens	Slovakia	Bratislava
Ireland	Reykjavik	Slovenia	Ljubljana
Italy	Rome	Spain	Madrid
Lithuania	Vilnius	Vatican City	Vatican City

### List of Countries having Dollar as their Currency

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Country	Capital	Currency
Antigua and Barbuda	Saint John's	Eastern Caribbean Dollar
Australia	Canberra	Australian Dollar
Bahamas	Nassau	Bahamian Dollar
Barbados	Bridgetown	Barbadian Dollar
Belize	Belmopan	Belize Dollar
Brunei	Bandar Seri Begawan	Brunei Dollar
Bermuda	Hamilton	Bermudian Dollar
Canada	Ottawa	Canadian Dollar
Dominica	Roseau	Eastern Caribbean Dollar
Fiji	Suva	Fijian Dollar
Grenada	Saint George's	Eastern Caribbean Dollar
Guyana	Georgetown	Guyanese Dollar
Jamaica	Kingston	Jamaican dollar
Kiribati	Tarawa	Kiribati dollar
Liberia	Monrovia	Liberian dollar
Namibia	Windhoek	Namibian Dollar
Nauru	Yaren District	Australian Dollar
New Zealand	Wellington	New Zealand Dollar
Palau	Ngerulmud	United States Dollar
Panama	Panama City	United States Dollar
Singapore	Singapore	Singapore Dollar
Taiwan	Taipei	New Taiwan Dollar
Trinidad and Tobago	Port of Spain	Trinidad and Tobago Dollar
Tuvalu	Funafuti	Australian dollar, Tuvaluan dollar
United States	Washington, D.C.	United States Dollar
Zimbabwe	Harare	Zimbabwe Dollar

### Countries having Peso as their Currency

Country	Capital	Currency
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Argentine peso

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<b>Chile</b>	Santiago	Chilean peso
<b>Colombia</b>	Bogotá	Colombian peso
<b>Cuba</b>	Havana	Cuban convertible peso
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	Santo Domingo	Dominican peso
<b>Mexico</b>	Mexico City	Mexican peso
<b>Philippines</b>	Manila	Philippine peso
<b>Uruguay</b>	Montevideo	Uruguayan peso

**Countries having Rial/Riyal as their Currency**

Country	Capital	Currency
<b>Cambodia</b>	Phnom Penh	Riel
<b>Iran</b>	Tehran	Rial
<b>Oman</b>	Muscat	Rial
<b>Qatar</b>	Doha	Riyal
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Riyadh	Saudi Riyal

**Countries having Pound as their Currency**

Country	Capital	Currency
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Currency	Pound sterling
<b>Egypt</b>	Cairo	Egyptian pound
<b>Lebanon</b>	Beirut	Lebanese pound
<b>South Sudan</b>	Juba	South Sudanese pound
<b>Sudan</b>	Khartoum	Sudanese pound
<b>Syria</b>	Damascus	Syrian pound

**Countries having Currency same as their Country name**

Country	Capital	Currency
<b>Afghanistan</b>	Kabul	Afghan Afghani
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Dhaka	Bangladeshi taka
<b>Georgia</b>	Tbilisi	Georgian lari
<b>Israel</b>	Jerusalem	Israeli new shekel
<b>Japan</b>	Tokyo	Japanese yen

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<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Astana	Kazakhstani Tenge
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	Bishkek	Kyrgyzstani Som
<b>Laos</b>	Vientiane	Lao kip
<b>Malaysia</b>	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysian ringgit
<b>Mongolia</b>	Ulaanbaatar	Mongolian Togrog
<b>Myanmar (Burma)</b>	Naypyidaw	Burmese kyat
<b>North Korea</b>	Pyongyang	North Korean won
<b>South Korea</b>	Seoul	South Korean won
<b>Tajikistan</b>	Dushanbe	Tajikistani Somoni
<b>Thailand</b>	Bangkok	Thai baht
<b>Turkey</b>	Ankara	Turkish lira
<b>Turkmenistan</b>	Ashgabat	Turkmenistan Manat
<b>Uzbekistan</b>	Tashkent	Uzbekistani Som
<b>Nicaragua</b>	Managua	Nicaraguan Cordoba
<b>Bolivia</b>	Sucre La Paz	Bolivian boliviano
<b>Paraguay</b>	Asunción	Paraguayan Guarani
<b>Venezuela</b>	Caracas	Venezuelan bolivar
<b>Albania</b>	Tirana	Albanian Lek
<b>Belarus</b>	Minsk	Belarusian Ruble
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Sofia	Bulgarian lev
<b>Croatia</b>	Zagreb	Croatian Kuna
<b>Czech Republic</b>	Prague	Czech koruna
<b>Denmark</b>	Copenhagen	Danish krone
<b>Hungary</b>	Budapest	Hungarian forint
<b>Iceland</b>	Reykjavik	Icelandic krona
<b>Norway</b>	Oslo	Norwegian krone
<b>Poland</b>	Warsaw	Polish zloty
<b>Romania</b>	Bucharest	Romanian Leu
<b>Russia</b>	Moscow	Russian Ruble

Sierra Leone  
Rwanda  
Madagascar  
Kenya

Freetown  
Kigali  
Antananarivo  
Nairobi

Sierra Leonean Leone  
Rwandan Franc  
Malagasy Ariary  
Kenyan shilling

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Banjul  
Addis Ababa  
Luanda

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Ghanaian cedi  
Gambian dalasi  
Ethiopian birr  
Angolan kwanza

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**Countries having Different Currencies**

Country	Capital	Currency
China	Beijing	Renminbi
Peru	Lima	Sol
Mozambique	Maputo	Metical
Mali	Bamako	West African CFA franc
Bhutan	Thimphu	Bhutanese ngultrum

**Static  
Maharashtra**

<b>Capital (राजधानी )</b>	Mumbai
<b>C.M</b>	Devendra Fadnavis (BJP)
<b>Governor</b>	C. Vidyasagar Rao
<b>High Court</b>	Bombay High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Naresh Harishchandra Patil</b> )
<b>Lake(झील)</b>	Gorewada Lake, Khindsi Lake, Lonar Lake, Mehrun Lake, Pashan Lake, Powai Lake, Rankala Lake, Salim Ali Lake, Shivasagar lake, Talao Pali, Upvan Lake, Venna Lake
<b>River(नदी)</b>	Amba, Ambika, Bhima River, Girna, Godavari, Indravati, Krishna River, Manjra, Narmada, Pranhitha, Purna, Tapi, Wainganga, Wardha
<b>Dam(बांध)</b>	Koyna Dam(Koyna River), Jayakwadi Dam (Godavari River), Isapur Dam (Penganga river), Totladoh dam (Pench river), Warna Dam (Warna River), Bhatsa Dam (Bhatsa river)
<b>Stadium(स्टेडियम)</b>	Wankhede Stadium,DY Patil Sports Stadium , Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium , Nehru Stadium,Brabourne Stadium ,Mahindra Hockey Stadium , Dadaji Kondadev Stadium

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<b>Festival(त्यौहार)</b>	Kalidas Festival, Gudhi Padva
<b>Folk Dance(लोक नृत्य)</b>	Lavani, Koli Dance, Lezim, Pavri Nach
<b>Port(बंदरगाह)</b>	Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mumbai Port Trust
<b>National Park(राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Chandoli National Park, Gugamal National Park, Navegaon National Park, Sanjay Gandhi (Borivilli) National Park, Tadoba National Park, Pench National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant(ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Tiroda Thermal Power Station , Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station , Kaparkheda Thermal Power Station , RattanIndia Amravati Thermal Power Project
<b>Nuclear Power Plant(परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Tarapur Atomic Power Station , Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project
<b>Solar Power Plant(सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Mahagenco plans 125 MW solar power project ,Sakri Photovoltaic solar energy project
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary(वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Tadoba Andhari Reserve, Anerdam Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhamragarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Bor Tiger Reserve is a wildlife, Chaprala Wildlife Sanctuary, Dnyanganga Sanctuary, Gautala Autramghat Sanctuary, Jayakwadi Bird Sanctuary , Karnala, Katepurna Sanctuary, Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Malvan Marine Wildlife Sanctuary, Mansingh-Deo, Mayureswar Wildlife Sanctuary, Melghat was declared, Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary, Mayureswar Wildlife Sanctuary, Nandur Madhmeshwar Bird Sanctuary, Karnala is a protected wildlife park, Navegaon National Park, Painganga Wildlife Sanctuary, Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary, Sagareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Tansa wildlife sanctuary, Tipeswar wildlife sanctuary, Yawal Wildlife Sanctuary

### Tamil Nadu

<b>Capital</b>	Chennai
<b>C.M</b>	Edappadi K. Palaniswami (AIADMK)
<b>Governor</b>	Banwarilal Purohit
<b>High Court</b>	Madras High Court(Chief of Justice- <b>Vijaya Kamlesh</b> )

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

	<b>Tahilramani)</b>
<b>Language</b>	Tamil
<b>Lake</b>	Berijam Lake, Chembarambakkam Lake, Kaliveli Lake, Kaveripakkam Lake, Kodaikanal Lake, Ooty Lake, Perumal Eri, Red Hills Lake, Sholavaram Lake, Singanallur Lake, Veeranam Lake
<b>River</b>	Kaveri River, Thamirabarani River, Bhavani River, Palar River, Vaigai River
<b>Dam</b>	Mettur Dam(river Cauvery), Solaiyar Dam, Bhavanisagar Dam(Bhavani river)
<b>Stadium</b>	M. A. Chidambaram Stadium or Chepauk Stadium
<b>Festival</b>	Thae Pongal, Thaipusam or Thaipooasam, Jallikattu, Natyanjali Dance Festival
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Bharatanatyam, Thappattam, Karagattam, Bommalattam or puppet dance, Oyilattam, Kolattam, Kummi, Bamber dance, Chakkai Attam, Devarattam, Paraiyattam
<b>Port</b>	Chennai Port, V.O.Chidambaranar Port, Ennore Port
<b>National Park</b>	Mukurthi National Park, Mudumalai National Park, Indira Gandhi (Anamalai) National Park, Guindy National Park, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant</b>	Mettur Thermal Power Station, Ennore Thermal Power Station
<b>Nuclear Power Plant</b>	Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant
<b>Solar Power Plant</b>	Kamuthi Solar Power
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary, Chitrangudi Bird Sanctuary, Indira Gandhi National Park, Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary, Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary, Karikili Bird Sanctuary, Palani Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, Koonthankulam Bird Sanctuary, Mudumalai National Park, Oussudu Lake Bird Sanctuary, Point Calimere Sanctuary, Vaduvur Bird Sanctuary, Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, Vellode Birds Sanctuary, Vettangudi Bird sanctuary

### Andhra Pradesh

<b>Capital</b>	Amaravati (de facto), Hyderabad (de jure)
<b>C.M</b>	N Chandrababu Naidu
<b>Governor</b>	E. S. L. Narasimhan

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>High Court</b>	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad (Chief of Justice- <b>Thottathil B. Radhakrishnan</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Telugu
<b>Lake</b>	Kolleru Lake, Pulicat Lake
<b>River</b>	Gautami Godavari, Godavari, Krishna River, Palar, Pennar, Tungabhadra
<b>Dam</b>	Srisaillam Dam(Krishna River), Somasila Dam (Penna River), Prakasam Barrage (Krishna River), Tatipudi Reservoir(River Gosthani ), Gandipalem Reservoir (River Penner), Ramagundam dam, Dummaguden Dam (river Godavari)
<b>Stadium</b>	Visakhapatnam ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium, Indira Gandhi Stadium, Indira Priyadarsini Stadium
<b>Festival</b>	Sri Venkateswara Swami vari Brahmotsavam, Ugadi , The Deccan Festival brings
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Kuchipudi, Vilasini Natyam, Andhra Natyam, Burrakatha, Veeranatyam, Butta bommalu, Tholu Bommalata, Dappu Dance, Tappeta Gullu, The Lambadi, Kolatam
<b>Port</b>	Visakhapatnam Port , Krishnapatnam Port
<b>National Park</b>	Papikonda National Park, Sri Venkateswara National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant</b>	Simhadri Super Thermal Power Plant, Ennore Thermal Power Station
<b>Nuclear Power Plant</b>	Kovvada Atomic Power Project
<b>Solar Power Plant</b>	Kurnool Ultra Mega Solar Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary, Kolleru Bird Sanctuary, Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary, Nagarjunsagar-Srisaillam, Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary, Pulicat Lake Bird Sanctuary, Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary, Sri Lankamalleswara Wildlife Sanctuary, Sri Venkateshwara National Park

### Telangana

<b>Capital</b>	Hyderabad
<b>C.M</b>	K. Chandrashekar Rao (TRS)
<b>Governor</b>	E. S. L. Narasimhan
<b>High Court</b>	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad (Chief of Justice- <b>Thottathil B. Radhakrishnan</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Telugu, Urdu

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[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Lake</b>	Alwal Cheruvu Lake, Durgam Cheruvu (Secret Lake), Himayat Sagar, Hussain Sagar, Osman Sagar, Safilguda Lake, Saroornagar Lake, Shamirpet Lake
<b>River</b>	Bhima River, Godavari, Krishna River, Manjira, Pranhitha, Tungabhadra, Wainganga, Wardha
<b>Dam</b>	Nagarjuna Sagar Dam (Krishna river), Sri Ram Sagar (River Godavari), Nizam Sagar Dam (Manjira River), Dindi Reservoir (River Krishna), Lower Manair Dam (Manair River), Singur Dam (river Manjira)
<b>Stadium</b>	Gymkhana Ground, Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium
<b>Festival</b>	Bonalu or Goddess Mahankali bonalu
<b>National Park</b>	Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park, Mahavir Harina Vanasthali National Park, Mrugavani National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant</b>	NTPC Ramagundam
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary, Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary, Kawal Tiger Reserve, Manjira wildlife sanctuary, Pocharam Wildlife Sanctuary, Pranahita wildlife sanctuary

### Karnataka

<b>Capital</b>	Bangalore (Bengaluru)
<b>C.M</b>	H. D. Kumaraswamy (JD (S))
<b>Governor</b>	Vajubhai Vala
<b>High Court</b>	Karnataka High Court (Chief of justice - <b>Dinesh Maheshwari</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Kannada
<b>Lake</b>	Agara Lake, Bellandur Lake, Byrasandra Lake, Hebbal Lake, Kempambudhi Lake, Lalbagh Lake, Madiwala Lake, Puttenahalli Lake, Sankey Lake, Ulsoor Lake, Dalavai Lake, Devanoor Lake, Karanji lake, Kukkarahalli lake, Lingambudhi Lake, Honnamana Kere, Pampa Sarovar
<b>River</b>	Krishna River, Cauvery, Pennar, Netravati, Kalinadi, Manjira, Palar, Sharavati, Bhima River, Tungabhadra

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Dam</b>	Krishna Raja Sagara, Tungabhadra Dam (Tungabhadra River), Bhadra Dam (Bhadra River), Linganamakki dam (Sharavathi river), Malaprabha dam (Malaprabha river), Raja Lakhamagouda dam (Ghataprabha River), Hemavathy Dam (river Hemavathy), Supa Dam (Kali river), Lakya Dam (river Lakhya), Almatti Dam (Krishna River)
<b>Stadium</b>	M. Chinnaswamy Stadium
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Yakshagana, Suggi Kunitha, Karaga
<b>Port</b>	New Mangalore Port
<b>National Park</b>	Bandipur National Park, Bannerghatta National Park, Kudremukh National Park, Nagarahole National Park, Anshi National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant</b>	Bellary Thermal Power station , Udupi Power Plant
<b>Nuclear Power Plant</b>	Kaiga Generating Station
<b>Solar Power Plant</b>	Pavagada Solar Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Adichunchanagiri Wildlife Sanctuary, Arabithittu Wildlife Sanctuary, Attiveri Bird Sanctuary, Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary, Biligiriranga Swamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary, Brahmagiri wildlife sanctuary, Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, Chincholi Wildlife Sanctuary, Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary, Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary, Malai Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary, Melkote Temple Wildlife Sanctuary, Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary, Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary, Pushpagiri Wildlife Sanctuary, Ranebennur Blackbuck Sanctuary, Sharavathi Wildlife Sanctuary, Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary, Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary, Talakaveri Wildlife Sanctuary

## Kerala

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Capital</b>	Thiruvananthapuram
<b>C.M</b>	Pinarayi Vijayan
<b>Governor</b>	P. Sathasivam
<b>High Court</b>	Kerala High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Hrishikesh Roy</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Malayalam, English
<b>Lake</b>	Ashtamudi Lake, Kuttanad Lake, Maanaanchira, Kozhikode, Manakody Kayal, Padinjarechira, Thrissur city, Paravur Kayal, Punnamada Lake, Shasthamkotta lake, Vadakkechira, Thrissur city, Vanchikulam, Thrissur, Vellayani Lake, Vembanad Lake
<b>River</b>	Bharathapuzha, Kallada, Kalpathi Puzha, Koraiyar R, Mannaur R, Periyar, Ponnar R, Pulantod, Varattar
<b>Dam</b>	Kakki Reservoir, The Idukki Dam (Periyar River), Cheruthoni Dam, Kulamavu Dam (Periyar river), Idamalayar Dam (Idamalayar River)
<b>Stadium</b>	Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium , Kerala University Stadium
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Kathakali, Ottan Thullal, Mohiniyattam, Kaikottikali
<b>Port</b>	Cochin Port
<b>National Park</b>	Eravikulam National Park, Mathikettan Shola National Park, Periyar National Park, Silent Valley National Park, Anamudi Shola National Park, Pambadum Shola National Park
<b>Festival</b>	Onam, The annual Vaikathashtami festival, Vishu,"Bisu sankramana
<b>Solar Power Plant</b>	Banasura Sagar Dam Floating Solar Power Plant
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary, Chimmuni Wildlife sanctuary, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary, Chulanur Peafowl (Peacocks) Sanctuary, Idukki Wildlife Sanctuary, Kottiyoor, Kurinjimala Sanctuary, Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary, Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary, Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary, Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Thattekkad Bird Sanctuary

### Himachal Pradesh

<b>Capital</b>	Shimla, Dharamshala (Second Capital in Winter)
<b>C.M</b>	Jai Ram Thakur (BJP)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Governor</b>	Acharya Dev Vrat
<b>High Court</b>	Himachal Pradesh High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Surya Kant</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Hindi
<b>Lake</b>	Brighu Lake, Dashair and Dhankar Lake, Kareri and Kumarwah lake, Khajjar Lake, Macchial Lake, Manimahesh Lake, Nako Lake, Pandoh Lake, Prashar Lake, Renuka Lake, Rewalsar Lake, Seruvalsar and Manimahesh Lake
<b>River</b>	Yamuna, Ghagghar, Beas, Satluj, Chenab
<b>Dam</b>	Srisaillam Dam (Krishna River), The Somasila Dam (Penna River), Prakasam Barrage (Krishna River), Tatipudi Reservoir (River Gosthani), Gandipalem Reservoir (River Penner), The Ramagundam dam, Dummaguden Dam (river Godavari)
<b>Stadium</b>	Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Nati, Kinnauri Nati, Namgen dance, Jhali, Mahasu, Dangi Nritya
<b>National Park</b>	Pin Valley National Park, The Great Himalayan National Park, Inderkilla National Park, Khirganga National Park, Simbalbara National Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Bandli Wildlife Sanctuary, Chail Wildlife Sanctuary, Churdhar Sanctuary, The Daranghati Sanctuary, Gangul Wildlife Sanctuary, Kais wild life sanctuary, Kalatop Khajjar Sanctuary, Kanawar Wildlife sanctuary, Khokhan wildlife sanctuary, Kibber Wildlife Sanctuary, Lipa Asrang Wildlife Sanctuary, Majathal Sanctuary, Nargu Wildlife Sanctuary, Renuka Wildlife Sanctuary, Sainj Wildlife Sanctuary, Rupi Bhaba Sanctuary, Sangla Valley (Rakchham-Chitkul), Sechu Tuan Nala Wildlife Sanctuary, Shikari Devi Sanctuary, Water Catchment Sanctuary, Talra Wildlife Sanctuary, Tirthan wildlife sanctuary, Tundah Wildlife Sanctuary

### Assam

<b>Capital</b>	Dispur
<b>C.M</b>	Sarbananda Sonowal (BJP)
<b>Governor</b>	Jagdish Mukhi

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>High Court</b>	Gauhati High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>A. S. Bopanna</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Assamese, Bengali, Bodo
<b>Lake</b>	Chandubi Lake, Chapanala Lake, Haflong Lake, Son Beel Lake
<b>River</b>	Subansiri, Lohit/ Tellu R, Dihang/Siang, Kopili, Dhaleswari, Barak, Dhaleswari, Kameng, Brahmaputra, Kameng
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Bihu dance, Bagurumba, Bhortal Dance, Jhumur dance
<b>National Park</b>	Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, Kaziranga National Park, Manas National Park or Manas Wildlife Sanctuary, Nameri National Park, The Orang National Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary, Borail Wildlife Sanctuary, Bornadi Wildlife Sanctuary, Bherjan-Borajan-Padumoni, Bura Chapori Wildlife Sanctuary, Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary, The Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary, Garampani Wildlife Sanctuary, Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary, The Hoollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary, Laokhowa Wildlife Sanctuary, Nambor Wildlife Sanctuary, Nambor - Doigrung Wildlife Sanctuary, Pobitora or Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, Pani Dihing Wildlife Sanctuary

### Goa

<b>Capital</b>	Panaji (Panjim)
<b>C.M</b>	Manohar Parrikar (BJP)
<b>Governor</b>	Mridula Sinha
<b>High Court</b>	Bombay High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Naresh Harishchandra Patil</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Goan
<b>River</b>	Chapora River, Mandovi River, Mapusa River, Sal River, Terekhol River, Zuari River
<b>Stadium</b>	The Fatorda
<b>Port</b>	Mormugao port
<b>National Park</b>	Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) National park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, The Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, The Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary, Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

### Arunachal Pradesh

<b>Capital</b>	Itanagar
<b>C.M</b>	Pema Khandu
<b>Governor</b>	B.D. Mishra
<b>High Court</b>	Gauhati High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>A. S. Bopanna</b> )
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>River</b>	Subansiri, Lohit/ Tellu R, Dihang/Siang, Kameng
<b>National Park</b>	Namdapha National Park, Mouling National Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Daying Ering Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary, The Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary, Eaglenest or Eagle's Nest Wildlife Sanctuary, The Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary, Kane wildlife sanctuary, Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary, Pakke Tiger Reserve, Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary, Sessa Orchid Sanctuary, Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Yardi-Rabe Supse Wildlife Sanctuary

### Tripura

<b>Capital</b>	Agartala
<b>C.M</b>	Biplab Kumar Deb (BJP)
<b>Governor</b>	Kaptan Singh Solanki
<b>Language</b>	Bengali, English, Kokborok
<b>High Court</b>	Tripura High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Sanjay Karol</b> )
<b>River</b>	Dhalai River, Feni River, Gumti River (Tripura), Haora River, Juri River, Khowai River, Longai River
<b>Festival</b>	Kharchi puja
<b>National Park</b>	Rajbari National Park, Clouded Leopard National Park
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Hojagiri dance
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary, Rowa Wildlife Sanctuary, Sepahijala Wildlife Sanctuary, Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary

### Mizoram

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Capital</b>	Aizawl
<b>C.M</b>	Zoramthanga
<b>Governor</b>	Kummanam Rajasekharan
<b>Language</b>	Mizo, English, Hindi
<b>High Court</b>	Gauhati High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>A. S. Bopanna</b> )
<b>River</b>	Barak, Dhaleswari
<b>Lake</b>	Palak dil, Tam Dil
<b>Festival</b>	The Chapchar Kut
<b>National Park</b>	Murlen National Park, Phawngpui Blue Mountain National Park
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Cheraw dance
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Dampa Tiger Reserve, Khawnglung Wildlife Sanctuary, Lengteng Wildlife Sanctuary, Ngengpui Wildlife Sanctuary, Pualreng Wildlife Sanctuary, Tawi Wildlife Sanctuary Thorangtlang Wildlife, Palak (Tokalo) Wildlife Sanctuary

### Manipur

<b>Capital</b>	Imphal
<b>C.M</b>	N. Biren Singh (BJP)
<b>Governor</b>	Najma Heptulla
<b>Language</b>	Meitei (Manipuri)
<b>High Court</b>	Manipur High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>ramalingam sudhakar</b> )
<b>Lake</b>	Loktak Lake
<b>River</b>	Barak
<b>Festival</b>	Yaosang, 'Chavang-Kut
<b>National Park</b>	Keibul Lamjao National Park
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Dhol Cholom
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Khongjaingamba Ching Wildlife Sanctuary, Yaingangpokpi Lokchao Wildlife Sanctuary

### Sikkim

<b>Capital</b>	Gangtok
<b>C.M</b>	Pawan Chamling (SDF)
<b>Governor</b>	Ganga Prasad
<b>Language</b>	<b>Official</b> –English, <b>Additional official</b> - Nepali, Bhutia, Lepcha, Limbu, Gurung, Manger, Mukhia,

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

	Newari, Rai, Sherpa, Tamang'
<b>High Court</b>	Sikkim High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Vijay Kumar Bist</b> )
<b>Lake</b>	Gurudongmar Lake, Khecheopalri Lake, Lake Tsongmo, Lake Cholamu
<b>River</b>	Teesta
<b>Festival</b>	Saga Dawa Festival
<b>National Park</b>	Khangchendzonga National Park
<b>Folk Dance</b>	Singhi Chham
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Fambong Lho Wildlife Sanctuary, Kitam Bird sanctuary, Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary, Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary, Varsey Rhododendron Sanctuary

### Meghalaya

<b>Capital</b>	Shillong
<b>C.M</b>	Conrad Sangma (NPP)
<b>Governor</b>	Tathagata Roy
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>High Court</b>	Meghalaya High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Mohammad Yaqoob Mir</b> )
<b>Lake</b>	Umiam Lake
<b>River</b>	Kopili
<b>Festival</b>	Nongkrem Dance, Wangala Festival, Ahaia
<b>National Park</b>	Balpakram National Park, Nokrek National Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Baghmara Pitcher Plant Wildlife Sanctuary, Nongkhylllem Wildlife Sanctuary, Siju Bird Sanctuary

### Nagaland

<b>Capital</b>	Kohima
<b>C.M</b>	Neiphiu Rio (NDPP)
<b>Governor</b>	Padmanabha Acharya
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>High Court</b>	Gauhati High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>A. S. Bopanna</b> )
<b>River</b>	Longleng, Peren, Workha, Kiphire, Mokokchung, Phek, zunheboto, Kohima, Mon, Tuensang
<b>Festival</b>	The Hornbill Festival, The Moatsü Mong festival
<b>National Park</b>	Intanki National Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Fakim Wildlife Sanctuary, The Pulie Badze Wildlife

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

	Sanctuary, Rangapahar Reserve Forest
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### Delhi

<b>C.M</b>	Arvind Kejriwal (AAP)
<b>Lt. Governor</b>	Anil Baijal
<b>High Court</b>	Delhi High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>Rajendra Menon</b> )
<b>Language</b>	Hindi, English
<b>River</b>	Yamuna
<b>Stadium</b>	Feroz Shah Kotla Ground
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Asola-Bhatti Wildlife

### Chandigarh

<b>Mayor</b>	Devesh Maudgil
<b>High Court</b>	Punjab and Haryana High Court (Chief of Justice Mr. <b>Krishna Murari</b> )
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary</b>	Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary

### Bihar

<b>Capital ( राजधानी )</b>	Patna
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Nitish Kumar
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	LaljiTandon
<b>Legislative Assembly (विधान सभा)</b>	243 Seats
<b>High Court</b>	Patna High Court (Chief of Justice - <b>RajendraMenon</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Maithili language, Bhojpuri, Angika, Magahi, MagadhiPrakrit, Hindi in Bihar, and Urdu Language in Bihar
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Kanwar Lake (Garhpura), Muchalinda Lake (Mocharim, Bodhgaya), GhoraKatora Lake (near Rajgir)
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Ghaghara,Ganga, Ajay N, BurhiGandak, Mahananda, Kosi, Gandak, Son River
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	Kohira Dam (Kohira River) and Nagi Dam (Nagi River)
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	Bihula, Chhath, Madhushravani, Rajgir Dance festival
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Jhijhian ,Jat-Jatin, Jhumeri Dance, Sohar-Khilouna, SamaChakeva

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

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<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Valmiki National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Barauni Thermal Power Station (Begusarai district)
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Bhimbandh Wildlife Sanctuary, GautamBudha Wildlife Sanctuary, The KanwarTaal or KabarTaalKaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, Nagi Dam Bird Sanctuary, Nagi Dam Bird Sanctuary, Valmiki National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary

### Uttarakhand

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Dehradun
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Trivendra Singh Rawat
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Baby Rani Maurya
<b>High Court</b>	Uttarakhand High Court (Chief of Justice- Ramesh Ranganathan)
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Hindi, Sanskrit, Garhwali, Kumaoni, Jaunsari, Urdu
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	- Skeleton Lake (Roorkund Lake), Bhimtal Lake, Dodital, Nainital Lake, Naukuchiatal, Sat Tal
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Yamuna River, Tons River, Saryu River, Ramganga River, Pindar River, Nayar River, Nandakini, Mandakini River, Alaknanda River, Bhagirathi River, Bhilangna River, Dhauliganga River – Garhwal, Ganga River, Gaula River, Kali
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	Ramganga Dam (Ramganga River) , Jamrani Dam (Gola River), The Tehri Dam (Bhagirathi River)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	Ganga Dussehra
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Jhora, Chholiya
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	- Gangotri National Park, Govind Pashu Vihar National Park, Jim Corbett National Park, The Nanda Devi National Park, The Nanda Devi National Park, The Nanda Devi National Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary, Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary, Askot Musk Deer

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[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

	Sanctuary, GovindPashuVihar National Park, Kedarnath Wild Life Sanctuary, Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary
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### Jharkhand

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Ranchi
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Raghubar Das
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	DraupadiMurmu
<b>High Court</b>	Jharkhand High Court(Chief of justice- <b>Aniruddha Bose</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Hindi is the state language of Jharkhand, Tribal languages Mundari, Santali, Ho, Kurukh
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Bokaro, Damodar, Jumar, Karo, North Koel, Koel, Sankh, Subarnarekha
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	The Maithon Dam, Panchet Dam, Tenughat Dam
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	Jharkhand States Cricket Association International Cricket Stadium, Keenan Stadium, BirsaMunda Athletics Stadium
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	Sarhul festival, RaniKarma Puja, Jharkhand Hal Punhya Festival, Rohin, Bandana
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Karma dance
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Betla National Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary, GautamBudha Wildlife Sanctuary, Hazaribag Wildlife Sanctuary, Koderma Wildlife Sanctuary, The Lawalong Wildlife Sanctuary, Mahuadanr (Wolf) Wildlife Sanctuary, Palkot Wildlife Sanctuary, Parasnath wildlife sanctuary, Udhwa Lake Bird Sanctuary

### Uttar Pradesh

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Lucknow
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Yogi Adityanath
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Ram Naik
<b>High Court</b>	Allahabad High court (Chief of Justice - <b>GovindMathur</b> )

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Language(भाषा)</b>	Hindi, Urdu, Awadhi, Braj, Bhojpuri, Bundelkhandi
<b>Lake(झील)</b>	
<b>River(नदी)</b>	Betwa River, Chambal River, Dhasan River, Gandak, Ganga, Ghaghara, Gomti, Ken River, Ramganga, Son River, Tons, Yamuna
<b>Dam(बांध)</b>	Rihand Dam or GovindBallabh Pant Sagar( <b>Rihand River</b> ),Matatila Dam( <b>River Betwa</b> ),The Rajghat Dam ( <b>Betwa River</b> )
<b>Stadium(स्टेडियम)</b>	The K D Singh Babu Stadium, Bharat RatnaShriAtalBihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium
<b>Festival(त्योहार)</b>	KumbhMela or KumbhaMela, TajMahotsav
<b>Folk Dance(लोक नृत्य)</b>	MayurNritya or Peacock Dance ,Rasleela
<b>National Park(राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Dudhwa National park ( <b>Lakhimpur-Kheridistrict</b> )
<b>Thermal Power Plant(ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Singrauli Super Thermal Power Plant ,National Capital Power Station (Dadri), Rihand Super Thermal Power Project (Sonbhadra district),Anpara Thermal Power Station (Anpara in Sonbhadra district ),Obra Thermal Power Project ,Rosa Power Plant (Shahjahanpur),Feroze Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Plant ,National Capital Thermal Power Plant
<b>Nuclear Power Plant(परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Narora Atomic Power Station (NAPS)
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary(वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	The Bakhira Bird Sanctuary, The Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, The Chandra Prabha Wildlife Sanctuary, Kaimoor Wildlife Sanctuary,TheKishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary ,Lakh Bahosi Sanctuary , Mahavir Swami Sanctuary, The Okhla Bird Sanctuary , The ParvatiAranga Bird Sanctuary , Patna Vihar Bird Sanctuary , Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary, Saman Bird

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[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

	Sanctuary, Samaspur Sanctuary , Sandi Bird Sanctuary , SohagiBarwa Wildlife Sanctuary , Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary , SoorSarovar Bird Sanctuary , Jai PrakashNarain Bird Sanctuary , Kachhua Sanctuary , VijaiSagar Sanctuary , Pilibhit Tiger Reserve
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### West Bengal

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Kolkata
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Mamta Banerjee
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	KeshariNathTripathi
<b>High Court</b>	Calcutta High Court (Chief of Justice - <b>DebasishKar Gupta</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	English and Bengali are the two official (presumably, first official) languages of the state. To these will be added Urdu, Gurmukhi, Nepali, Ol-Chiki, Oriya and Hindi
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Debar Lake, East Calcutta Wetlands, JorePokhri, Mirik Lake, RabindraSaroar, Rasikbil, Santragachhi Lake, Senchal Lake
<b>River(नदी)</b>	Ajay N, Barakar, Bhagirathi, Bhairab R, Damodar, Ganga, Ganga or Padma, Hooghly River, Jalangi N, Jaldhaka, Mahananda, Subarnarekha, Teesta, Torsa
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	The Mukutmanipur Dam
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	Eden Gardens
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	Nandikar's National Theatre Festival, Durga pooja
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Gambhira Dance, Kathi dance, The Baul dance, Domni, Dhunachi
<b>Port (बंदरगाह)</b>	The Port of Kolkata
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Gorumara National Park, Buxa National Park, Buxa National Park, Singalila National Park, Jaldapara National Park, Sundarbans National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Farakka Super Thermal Power Plant, Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Ballabhpur Wildlife Sanctuary, Bethuadahari Wildlife Sanctuary , The Buxa Tiger Reserve , Chapramari Wildlife Sanctuary , ChintamoniKar Bird Sanctuary , The Haliday Island Wildlife , JorePokhri Wildlife Sanctuary , Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary , Raiganj Wildlife Sanctuary , Ramnabagan Wildlife Sanctuary , SajnakhaliWildlifeSanctuary , Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary , The Sundarbans National Park
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### Odisha

<b>Capital (राजधानी )</b>	Bhubaneswar
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Naveen Patnaik (BJD)
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	GaneshiLal
<b>High Court</b>	Odissa High Court (Chief of Justice - <b>KalpeshSatyendraJhaveri</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Odia
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Anshupa Lake, Chilika Lake, Kanjialake
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Mahanadi, Brahmani, Baitarani, Inderavati, Rushikulya, Vamsadhara, Nagavali, Budhabalanga, Subernarekha, Bahuda, Kolab
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	Hirakud Dam (Mahanadi River), Rengalidam(Brahmani River), Indravati Dam(Indravati River), The Jalaput Dam(Machkund River), Mandira dam(Sankh river)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	The iconic Barabati Stadium, The Kalinga Stadium, DilipTurkey Stadium
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	Konark Dance Festival
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Odissi, Chhau dance, Ghumara Dance, Gotipua, Sambalpuri folk dance
<b>Port (बंदरगाह)</b>	Paradip Port
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Bhitarkanika National Park ,Simlipal National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Talcher Thermal Power station, Vedanta Jharsuguda Power

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Solar Power Plant (सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Green Energy Development Corporation of Odisha Ltd. (GEDCOL)
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Badrama Wildlife Sanctuary , Baisipalli Wildlife Sanctuary , Balukhand-Konark Wildlife Sanctuary ,Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary ,Chandka Elephant Sanctuary , Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary , Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary , Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary , Khalasuni Wildlife Sanctuary ,Kotagarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary , Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary , The Lakhari Valley Wildlife , Nandankanan Zoological Park , Satkosia Tiger Reserve , SimlipalNational Park , Kapilasa Wildlife Sanctuary

### Jammu And Kashmir

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Srinagar (Summer) Jammu (Winter)
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	President Rule
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Satya Pal Malik
<b>High Court</b>	Jammu and Kashmir High Court (Chief of Justice <b>Gita Mittal</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Kashmiri, Hindi, Dogri, Gojri, Ladakhi, Pahari, Balti and Urdu
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Dal Lake, Manasbal Lake, Mansar Lake, PangongTso, Sheshnag Lake, TsoMoriri, Wular Lake
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Chenab, Indus, Jhelum and Ravi
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	Salal Dam (Chenab River), Baglihar Dam (Chenab River)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	Barkatullah Khan Stadium, SawaiMansingh Stadium
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	Dosmoche, MathoNagrang, Hemis Monastery, GaldanNamchot
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Rauf, Hikar dance, Dhamali
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Dachigam National Park, Hemis National Park, Kishtwar National Park, Salim Ali National Park

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Thajwas (Thajiwas) (Baltal), Changtang Wildlife Sanctuary, Hirpora Wildlife Sanctuary, Jasrota Wildlife Sanctuary, Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary, Lachipora Wildlife Sanctuary, Kazinag National Park, Kazinag National Park, Nandini Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajparian Wildlife Sanctuary, Ramnagar Wildlife Sanctuary, Trikuta Wildlife Sanctuary
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### Chhattisgarh

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Raipur
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Bhupesh Baghel
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Anandiben Patel
<b>High Court</b>	Chhattisgarh High Court( Chief of Justice - <b>Ajay Kumar Tripathi</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Hindi, Chhatasgarhi
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Mahanadi, Godavari, Indravati, Hasdeo, Son River
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	HasdeoBango Dam ( <b>Hasdeo River</b> )
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	RautNacha, Panthi Dance
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Indravati National Park, Kanger valley, Guru Ghasi das (sanjay) National park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Korba Super Thermal Power Plant, Sipat Super Thermal Power Station or Rajiv Gandhi Super Thermal Power Station, The NSPCL Bhilai Power Plant
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	The Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary, Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary, Badalkholsanctuary, Bhairamgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Boramdeo Wildlife Sanctuary, Gomarda Wildlife Sanctuary, The Pamed Wildlife Sanctuary, Sitanadi Wildlife Sanctuary, TamorPingla Wildlife Sanctuary, Udanti Sanctuary

### Rajasthan

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Jaipur
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Ashok Gehlot
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Kalyan Singh
<b>High Court</b>	Rajasthan High Court (Chief of Justice- <b>PradeepNandrajog</b> )

[Facebook Page](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Hindi, Malvi, Dhundhari, Marwari, Dhundhari, Harauti
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Ana Sagar Lake, Balsamand lake, Dhebar Lake, Jaisamand Lake, JalMahal, Man Sagar lake, Kaylana Lake, Nakki Lake, Pushkar Lake, Rajsamand Lake, Ramgarh Lake, Talwara Lake, Sambhar Salt Lake, FatehSagar Lake, Rangsagarlake, Udaysagar Lake
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Banas, Banas River, Chambal River, Luni River, Mahi, Parbati River, Sabarmati, Sahibi River
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	RanapratapSagar Dam (Chambal River), Mahi Bajaj Sagar Dam (Mahi River), Bisalpur Dam (Banas River)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	Barkatullah Khan Stadium, SawaiMansingh Stadium
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	- Gangaur, Bundi Festival, Jaisalmer Desert Festival, BrijMahotsav, Matsya Festival
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Ghoomar, Chakri dance, Gangaur, Kalbelia, TeraTali
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Sariska Tiger Reserve, Ranthambore National Park, Mukundra Hills National Park, Desert National Park, Keoladeo Ghana National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Chhabra Thermal Power Plant, Kalisindh Thermal Power Station
<b>Nuclear Power Plant (परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Banswara Power Station
<b>Solar Power Plant (सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Welspun Energy 50MW Rajasthan Solar Project, Bhadla Solar Park
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary, BhensrodGarh Sanctuary, Darrah National Park, JamwaRamgarh, Kesarbagh Wildlife Sanctuary, Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary, PhulwarikiNal Wildlife Sanctuary, RamgarhVishdhari Sanctuary, Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary, Ranthambore National Park, SawaiMansingh Wildlife sanctuary, Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary, The Sita Mata Wildlife Sanctuary, Tal

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[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

	Chhapar Sanctuary, Van Vihar Wildlife Sanctuary
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### Madhya Pradesh

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Bhopal
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Kamal Nath
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Anandiben Patel
<b>High Court</b>	Madhya Pradesh High Court (Mr. Shri justice Sanjay Kumar Seth)
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Hindi, Malvi, Nimadi, Bundeli, Bagheli
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Bhoj Wetland, Lower Lake, Moti lake, Sarangpani lake, Shahpura lake, Tawa Reservoir, Upper Lake
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Betwa River, Chambal River, Dhasan River, Ken River, Mahi, Narmada, Parbati River, Son River, Tapi, Tons, Wainganga, Wardha
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	Gandhi Sagar Dam(Chambal River), Tawa Reservoir(Tawa Reservoir), Indira Sagar Dam(Narmada River)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	Holkar Cricket Stadium
<b>Festival (त्योहार)</b>	Khajuraho dance festival, PachmarhiUtsav
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Tertali, Jawara, Matki Dance, Phulpati Dance, Grida Dance, Maanch
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Bandhavgarh National Park , Kanha Tiger Reserve, Madhav National Park,Mandla Plant Fossils National Park,Panna National Park,Pench National Park,Sanjay National Park,Satpura National Park,Van Vihar National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station, Satpura Thermal Power Plant, Sanjay Gandhi Thermal Power Plant,Singaji Super Thermal Power Project, Amarkantak Thermal Power Plant
<b>Nuclear Power Plant (परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Chutka Nuclear Power Plant
<b>Solar Power Plant (सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Tata Power Solar, Welspun Solar MP

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[Facebook Group](#)

[Telegram Group](#)

[Telegram Channel](#)

<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Bagdara Wildlife Sanctuary, Bori Wildlife Sanctuary, Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary, Ghatigaon Wildlife Sanctuary, Ken Gharial Sanctuary, Kheoni Wildlife Sanctuary, National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary, Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary, Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary, The Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve, Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary, Gangau is a mini wildlife sanctuary, Pench National Park, Phen Wildlife Sanctuary, Ratapani Tiger Reserve, Sailana Wildlife Sanctuary, Sanjay Dubri National Park, Sardarpur Wildlife SanctuarSinghori Wildlife Sanctuary, Son Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary, VeeranganaDurgawati Wildlife Sanctuary
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### Punjab

<b>Capital (राजधानी )</b>	Chandigarh
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Captain Amarinder Singh
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	V P Singh Badnore
<b>High Court</b>	Punjab and Haryana High Court(Chief of Justice Mr. <b>Krishna Murari</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Punjabi and Hindi
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Harike Lake, Kanjli Lake, Ropar Lake
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Satluj, Beas, Ravi, Chenab, Jhelum
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	RanjitSagar Dam (Ravi River)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	Gandhi Stadium, Guru Gobind Singh Stadium, Guru Nanak Stadium, PCA IS BINDRA STADIUM
<b>Festival (त्योहार)</b>	Baisakhi, Lohri
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Bhangra, Giddha, Karthi, Kikkli, Sammi
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Abohar Wildlife Sanctuary, Abohar Wildlife Sanctuary, BirBhadson Wildlife Sanctuary, BirDosanjh wildlife sanctuary, BirGurdialpura Wildlife Sanctuary, BirMehaswala Wildlife Sanctuary, BirMotiBagh Wildlife Sanctuary

## Gujarat

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Gandhinagar
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	Vijay Rupani
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Om PrakashKohli
<b>High Court</b>	Gujarat High Court(Chief of justice <b>AnantkumarSurendraray</b> Dave)
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Gujrati, Hindi
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Hamirsar Lake, Kankaria Lake, Lakhota Lake, Sursagar Lake, Thol Lake, Vastrapur Lake
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Sabarmati, Narmada, Tapti, Betwa, Mahi,,Karjan river
<b>Dam (बांध)</b>	SardarSarovar Dam(Narmada river), Ukai Dam(Tapti River), Kadana Dam( Mahi River), Karjan Reservoir (Karjan river)
<b>Stadium (स्टेडियम)</b>	Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Reliance Stadium or Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd Sports Complex Ground,MadhavraoScindia Cricket Ground,MotiBagh Stadium
<b>Festival (त्यौहार)</b>	Saptak, Kite
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Garba, DandiyaRaas, Tippani Dance, Padhar dance
<b>Port (बंदरगाह)</b>	Kandla Port Trust or Deendayal Port
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Blackbuck (Velavadar) National Park, Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, Marine National Park, Vansda National Park
<b>Thermal Power Plant (ताप विद्युत संयंत्र)</b>	Mundra Thermal Power Station or Mundra Thermal Power Project, Sikka Thermal Power Station, Wanakbori Thermal Power Station, Ukai Thermal Power Station, Gandhinagar Thermal Power Station
<b>Nuclear Power Plant (परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Kakrapar Atomic Power Station, NPP at Mithivirdi
<b>Solar Power Plant (सौर ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Charanka Solar Park, Bitta Solar Power Plant
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	BalaramAmbaji Wildlife Sanctuary, Barda Wildlife Sanctuary, Gaga Wildlife Sanctuary, Gir Forest National Park,

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[Facebook Group](#)

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[Telegram Channel](#)

	Jambughoda is a Wildlife Sanctuary, Jessore Sloth Bear Sanctuary, Kutch Bustard Sanctuar, Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary, Marine National Park, Mitiyala Wildlife Sanctuary, NalSarovar Bird Sanctuary, Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary, Pania Wildlife Sanctuary, Porbandar Bird Sanctuary, Purna Wildlife Sanctuary, Rampara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thol bird sanctuary, Indian Wild Ass Sanctuary, Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary
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### Haryana

<b>Capital (राजधानी)</b>	Chandigarh
<b>C.M (मुख्यमंत्री)</b>	ManoharLalKhattar (BJP)
<b>Governor (राज्यपाल)</b>	Satyadev Narayan Arya
<b>High Court</b>	Punjab and Haryana High Court(Chief of Justice Mr. <b>Krishna Murari</b> )
<b>Language (भाषा)</b>	Hindi,Haryanvi, Punjabi
<b>Lake (झील)</b>	Badkhal Lake, Beauty lake, Blue Bird Lake, Brahma Sarovar, Current lake, Karna Lake, SannihitSarovar, Surajkund, Tilyar Lake
<b>River (नदी)</b>	Yamuna, Ghagghar, Sahibi River
<b>Folk Dance (लोक नृत्य)</b>	Phag Dance, Daph dance, Dhamaldance ,Loor dance, Jhumar
<b>National Park (राष्ट्रीय उद्यान)</b>	Kalesar National Park, Sultanpur National Park
<b>Nuclear Power Plant (परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र)</b>	Gorakhpur Nuclear Power Plant
<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (वन्यजीव अभ्यारण्य)</b>	Abubshahar Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary, BirShikargah Wildlife Sanctuary, Chhilchhila Wildlife Sanctuary, Kalesar National Park, Khaparwas Bird Sanctuary, Khol Hi-Raitan Wildlife Sanctuary, Nahar Wildlife Sanctuary

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