

- **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** inaugurates the **most advanced System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting (SAFAR)** to track **UV-Index, PM1, Mercury and Black carbon** in real time at Chandni Chowk in **New Delhi**.
- **Bihar** has recorded the highest **monsoon deficiency of 48%**, while eastern **Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand** have recorded **46% and 42%** respectively - **The India Meteorological Department data**.
- **The Kanti Velugu programme** of the State government to **check up the eyes of every citizen for ailments** will be launched across **Telangana** on August 15.
- **Kumbakonam** became the **first town in the State** to acquire the **Bandicoot Robotic Scavenger**, developed by **Genrobotics**, would clear over 5,300 manholes of the underground sewer system.
- **The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi**, delivered an address over live video link, on the occasion of the **expansion of Emergency Ambulance Service over the entire island in Sri Lanka**, with Indian Assistance.
- **Chinese President Xi Jinping** has offered **Sri Lanka** a fresh grant of **two billion yuan (\$295 million)**.
- **Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune** to **improve cancer drug delivery** by encapsulating the poorly water-soluble anticancer drug **Alisertib** in polysaccharide nano-sized balls or vesicles.
- **IISc Bengaluru** researchers have found that **cholesterol** present in cell membrane plays a crucial role in **stabilising and binding** together the pore-forming **toxin cytolysin A**.
- **NASA** is preparing to send the **Parker Solar Probe**, a robotic spacecraft the size of a small car closer to the sun to **study this outermost part of the stellar atmosphere** that gives rise to the solar wind.
- **New Delhi and Mumbai airports** will soon get environmentally friendly **Israeli TaxiBots** to help **reduce carbon emissions**.

Public Affairs Index 2018

- Best governed large State – **1) Kerala 2) Tamilnadu**
3) Telangana 4) Karnataka

- **The Goods and Services Tax Council**, at its 28th meeting **reduced the rates on more than 50 products**, including sanitary pads, small televisions, washing machines, and refrigerators.
- **Justice V.K.Tahilramani** – New Chief Justice of Madras High Court
- **Sports Authority of India** took significant step towards the development of sports, cleared **734 players** for a scholarship programme under **Khelo India Talent Identification Development scheme**.
- The 2nd edition of the ‘**Sagarmatha Friendship-2**’, 10-day **Nepal-China joint military exercise** will be held at Chengdu, the capital of China’s southwestern Sichuan Province.
- **Kerala’s Health Minister K.K. Shylaja** - Leadership Award 2018
- **Haryana’s Mohit Kumar** broke the **under-18 national decathlon record** in the 15th National youth athletics championships at **Vadodara, Gujarat**.
- **Davis Cupper Ramkumar Ramanathan** powered into his **maiden ATP Tour final** as he beat Tim Smyczek of the US in the **Hall of Fame tennis tournament**.
- **Sachin Rathi & Deepak Punia** won gold at the **Junior Asian Wrestling Championships**.
- **Lakshya Sen** became only the **third Indian shuttler to secure a gold medal** at the **Badminton Asia junior championships in Indonesia**.