

- **Tamil Nadu government** is planning a **massive solar energy programme** through setting up of **grid-connected rooftop solar panels** in government buildings.
- **UAE** formed an **emergency committee** to **help Kerala flood victims**
- **Saudi Arabia** prepares for the annual **Muslim hajj pilgrimage**
- **Kofi Annan**, former Secretary-General of United Nation, **dies at 80**
- **Scientists** have **discovered a beetle trapped in amber** that dates back to **99 million years**, a finding that may **help better understand the relationship** between **ancient flowering plants and pollinators**.
- Researchers from **Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru**, have developed a **new type of gold** in the form of very small crystals, **microcrystallites**.
- In a major scientific breakthrough, **international team of scientists including 18 Indian scientists decodes complex wheat genome**.
- **Pension Fund and Regulatory Development Authority (PFRDA)** has set up a **standing committee** to suggest steps **to deal with cybersecurity challenges** to protect the interest of subscribers.
- **Aditya Birla (AB) Group** entity **Jaya Shree Textiles** is **planning to unveil** a range of **linen-blended fabrics** under a new brand name, **Mazury**, complementing its offering of **linen-blended apparels** under the **Cavallo** brand.
- **Mr. S.S. Mundra** [Former Deputy Governor of the RBI] - **Independent director of Indiabulls Housing Finance (IBHFL)**.
- **Exercise Pitch Black** a biennial multi-national large force employment warfare exercise was hosted by **Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)** from 24 Jul 18 to 18 Aug 18 in Darwin, Australia.
- **Indigenously developed Helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'HELINA'** and **SAAW (Smart Anti Airfield Weapon) guided bombs** were successfully flight tested.
- **The Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)**, India's next indigenous fighter, is expected to make its first flight by 2032.

- **Exercise Maitree 2018**, culminated on 19 August 2018 is an annual event designed to strengthen the partnership between **Royal Thai Army and Indian Army** and the exercise commenced on 06 August 2018 **in Thailand**.

### 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Games 2018

- The 18th Asian Games, the biggest multi-sport event after the Olympics, **begins in Jakarta and Palembang, Indonesia**.
- **Wrestler Bajrang** wins India's **first gold medal** in the **65kg** freestyle wrestling competition.
- **Apurvi Chandela and Ravi Kumar** finish third in the **rifle mixed team shooting event** and won the **bronze medal**.
- **Raghul Rangasamy** won the **first race** of the MRF F1600 class in the fourth round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI **Indian National Racing Championship** at the MMRT.

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