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New Chief Justice of India



September Current Affairs 2018



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1. Important Days

Date	Day	Details
2-Sep	World Coconut Day	World Coconut Day is observed to make people understand that this crop has a vital role in poverty reduction.
5-Sep	National Teachers Day	Teacher's Day is celebrated on September 5 every year in India. The birth date of the second President of India, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, 5 September 1888, has been celebrated as Teacher's Day since 1962 in India.
5-Sep	International Day of Charity	The date of 5 September was chosen in order to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 "for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace."
10-Sep	World Suicide Prevention Day	World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD), on 10 September, is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP). WHO has been co-sponsor of the day. The purpose of this day is to raise awareness around the globe that suicide can be prevented.
11-Sep	125th Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's Chicago speech	On 11th September 1893, Swami Vivekananda delivered his first speech in the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago. He is remembered as one of the key people who introduced philosophies such as Vedanta and Yoga to the West.
21-Sep	International Day of Peace	The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly. 2018 Theme: "The Right to Peace – The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70"
22-Sep	World Rhino Day	World Rhino Day was first announced by WWF-South Africa in 2010. The following year, World Rhino Day grew into an international success, encompassing both African and Asian rhino species. It celebrates all five species of rhino: Black, white, greater one-horned, Sumatran and Javan rhinos.
23-Sep	International Day of Sign Languages	The first International Day of Sign Languages will be celebrated on 23 September 2018 as part of the International Week of the Deaf, which will take place on 24-30 September. 2018 theme – "With Sign Language, Everyone is Included!"
25-Sep	Antyodaya Diwas	25th September is observed as Antyodaya Diwas every year to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

26-Sep	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons	The General Assembly declared the International Day for the nuclear disarmament on 26 September 2013, in New York to raise public awareness and to seek deeper engagement on nuclear disarmament matters.
27-Sep	World Tourism Day	World Tourism Day is commemorated to foster awareness among the international community of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic value.
28-Sep	International Day for Universal Access to Information	The International Day for the Universal Access to Information (commonly called the Access to Information Day) is an international day of recognition designated by the UNESCO General Conference to be held on September 28. Theme – “The Asian Digital Revolution: Transforming the Digital Divide into a Dividend through Universal Access”.
28-Sep	World Rabies Day	It is celebrated annually to raise awareness about rabies prevention. 28 September also marks the anniversary of Louis Pasteur’s death, the French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first rabies vaccine. 2018 Theme – ‘Rabies: Share the message. Save a life’.
30-Sep	International Translation Day	30 September celebrates the feast of St. Jerome, the Bible translator who is considered the patron saint of translators.
30-Sep	National Nutrition Month	The National Nutrition Month is being celebrated across the country to mark the fight against malnutrition. Women and Child Development Ministry to spread broad awareness on the issues related to malnutrition like stunting, under-nutrition, anaemia and low birth weight in children.

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2. Rankings

Reports	India's Rank/State's Rank	Top rank/Other ranks
Ease of Living Index – 2018 Launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).	1) Andhra Pradesh	2) Odisha 3) Madhya Pradesh
Economic Freedom Index released by the Centre for Civil Society (CCS)	India – 96th among 162 countries	1) Hong Kong 2) Singapore 3) New Zealand
MGNREGA ‘transparency and accountability’ category	1) Andhra Pradesh	2) Telangana 3) Sikkim
Mauritius tops India’s FDI charts	Mauritius remained the top source of foreign direct investment (FDI) into India in 2017-18	2) Singapore
World’s best batsman in ICC ranking	Virat Kohli	2) South Africa
ICC Test Rankings	India	3) Australia

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3. Summit / Conference

International Summit & Conference:

Summit/Conference	Details
6th East Asia Summit and 15th India - ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting @ Singapore	Commerce & Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu attended the 6th East Asia Summit- Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS-EMM) and 15th India-ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (AEM) in Singapore. Singapore is currently holding the Chair of ASEAN
71st Session of the WHO Regional Committee for South-East Asia @ New Delhi	It meets in September every year to review progress in health development in the Region, formulate resolutions on health issues for the Member States, as well as to consider the regional implications of World Health Assembly resolutions, among others.
International Women Entrepreneurs Summit @ Kathmandu, Nepal	The International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018 is being held in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. Vice President of Nepal Nanda Bahadur Pun inaugurated the summit. Theme:- "Equality begins with Economic Empowerment".
3rd ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Conference on 'Global Ageing and Human Rights of Older Persons' @ Seoul, South Korea	Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment is heading a 3-member Indian Delegation to attend the 3rd ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Conference on 'Global Ageing and Human Rights of Older Persons'
'Source India' @ Turkey	India is the Partner Country in the 87th Izmir International tradeshow which begins in Turkey. In this tradeshow India will also be launching a mega business pavilion 'Source India' hosting 75 Indian companies with the aim of tie-ups in order to increase India's exports to Turkey and other neighbouring countries.
G20 Education Ministers' and Joint Ministerial Meeting @ Mendoza, Argentina	The Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Dr. Satya Pal Singh lead a high level delegation to the G-20 Education Ministers' Meeting as well as Joint Ministerial Meeting. It was the first ever meeting of Education Ministers in the history of G-20.
Global Climate Action Summit @ San Francisco, California	A high-level UAE delegation, headed by Dr Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, will take part in the upcoming Global Summit on Climate Action.

Eastern Economic Forum @ Vladivostok in Russia	Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, recently visited the Eastern Economic Forum
IRIGC-TEC meet @ Moscow, Russia	External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj reached Moscow to attend the 23rd meeting of the Inter-Governmental Commission on Technical & Economic Cooperation, IRIGC-TEC. She will co-chair the meeting with Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Yuri Borisov.
G-20, Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting @ Mar del Plata in Argentina	Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, will participate in the G-20, Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting
India – Morocco Tourism Bilateral meeting @ New Delhi	A bilateral meeting on Tourism Cooperation between India and Morocco agreed to enhance the tourism cooperation between India & Morocco. Agreement of Cooperation signed between ITDC and Moroccan Agency for Tourism Development
73rd session of the UN General Assembly @ New York, US	External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has arrived here to represent India at the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly and hold several bilateral and multilateral meetings with her global counterparts.
Interfaith Alliance Forum @ Abu Dhabi, UAE	The forum aims to address and discuss social challenges and to strengthen efforts by religious leaders to formulate cohesive ideas that enhance the protection of the young individuals from extortion and crime via the internet.

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National Summit / Conference

Five-day training programme on ‘Landslide Mitigation and Detailed Project Report (DPR) Preparation’

- A five-day training programme on ‘**Landslide Mitigation and Detailed Project Report (DPR) Preparation**’ concluded at IIT-Mandi successfully at Himachal Pradesh supported by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

Future Mobility Summit-2018

- NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant has said India will shortly unveil a One Nation-One Card policy for public transport that will entail connectivity between various modes of transport.

Conference on E-Mobility in Indian Railways

- A Conference on “E-Mobility in Indian Railways” organized by Ministry of Railways through Institution of Railways Electrical Engineers (IREE) in association with NITI Aayog concluded.

31st meeting of Central Hindi Committee

- 31st meeting of Central Hindi Committee concluded under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister in New Delhi.

Global Sanitation Convention to Herald 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

- Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation will organize a global sanitation convention to mark the beginning of the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, also coinciding with the fourth anniversary of the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission.

Defence & Homeland Security Expo and Conference

- Three day Defence and Homeland Security Expo and Conference inaugurated by Home Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi.

6th International Geriatric Orthopaedic Conference

- The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 6th International Geriatric Orthopaedic Society of India Conference on the theme “Increased Longevity with Reduced Fragility and Enhanced Mobility”, at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

4th World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018)

- Union Minister for HRD Shri Prakash Javadekar inaugurates 4th World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA-2018) at New Delhi.

Regional Conference on Good Governance

- The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG), Government of India in association with Government of Madhya Pradesh is organizing a Regional Conference on Good Governance with Focus on Aspirational Districts, in Bhopal.

Training Programme on Documentation of Information

- Two-day Training Programme on Documentation of Information into National AYUSH Morbidity and Standardized Terminologies Portal (NAMSTP) organised by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS).

First Regional Workshop on RERA

- A New Era of Transparency and Accountability in Real Estate, 2 years of implementation and way forward (Western Region)” in Pune

Conference of DGPs, IGPs and Heads of Central Police Organizations of North East

- The 25th conference of DGPs, IGPs and Heads of Central Police Organizations of North Eastern Region started in Arunachal Pradesh capital Itanagar.

First ever India tourism Mart 2018

- The Union Minister for Railways and Coal, Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated the ‘first ever’ India Tourism Mart (ITM 2018) in New Delhi. The India Tourism Mart is being organized by the Ministry of Tourism.

National Convention of National Association of Street Vendors of India, NASVI

- Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated a two-day National Convention of National Association of Street Vendors of India, NASVI, in New Delhi.

First General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance

- The first General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance, ISA, will be inaugurated on the 2nd of October in Delhi.

First assembly of ISA, Second ministerial of IORA and Second REINVEST meet in India

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is organising the First Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA); the 2nd Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting and the 2nd Global Renewable Energy Investment Meeting and Expo, (REINVEST- 2018) from 2nd to 5th October 2018 in New Delhi.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association’s India Region-IV conference

- In Himachal Pradesh, two day Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Indian Region-IV, Conference and Workshop is being organised in Shimla.

National Conference on Excellence in Workplace Safety & Occupational Health

- Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Santosh Kumar Gangwar inaugurated the 7th National Conference on Excellence in Workplace Safety and Occupational Health in New Delhi.

National literary and intellectual conference- “Lok Manthan 2018”

- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated a national literary and intellectual conference- “Lok Manthan 2018” organised by Department of Culture of Jharkhand in Ranchi.

International conference on plastics recycling and waste management

- Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurates International conference on plastics recycling and waste management in New Delhi.

GST Council Meeting

- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council will meet in New Delhi. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley will chair the 30th Meeting of the Council via Video Conferencing.

Inauguration of Conference on Academic Leadership on Education for Resurgence

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to inaugurate Conference on Academic Leadership on Education for Resurgence on 29th September, 2018 in New Delhi.

National Level Workshop on Nutri-cereals (Millet)

- Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the National Level Workshop on Nutri-cereals (Millet). Twenty Embryo Transfer Technology Centres are being established in the country and a proposal of 19 centres has been approved.

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4. Appointments

National:

S. No	Name	Designation
1	Justice Ranjan Gogoi	Chief Justice of India
2	Rajni Kant Mishra	Director-General of Border Security Force (BSF)
3	Ravi, Vijay Kumar Chopra	Chairman and Vice Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI)
4	Sunil Mehta	Indian Banks Association's (IBA) New chairman for 2018-19
5	Anshula Kant	Managing Director of SBI
6	Prashant Kumar	SBI Chief Financial Officer
7	Ashwani Bhatia	Managing director and chief executive officer of SBI Mutual Fund
8	Vibha Padalkar	New CEO of HDFC Life
9	Binoy Kumar	Secretary in Steel Ministry
10	Mary Kom	Brand ambassador of BSNL
11	Amitabh Chaudhry	Managing director & CEO of Axis Bank
12	Sharad Sharma	Independent director of the Jet Airways
13	Sanjay Agarwal	New Secretary, Agriculture
14	Varun Dhawan & Anushka Sharma	Ambassadors of Skill India Campaign
15	Ajit Mohan	Managing Director and Vice-President of Facebook India
16	Shri A. Gitesh Sharma	Secretary (West) Ministry of External Affairs
17	R Madhavan	Assumes charge as Hindustan Aeronautics Limited [HAL] Chairman and Managing Director [CMD]
18	Pritam Singh	Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)
19	Vijay Amritraj	Tamil Nadu Tennis Association (TNTA) president
20	Headed by former Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai	Lokpal search committee
21	Shri Sanjay Kumar	Director General, Fire Service, Civil Defence & Home Guards (FS, CD & HG)
22	Anil Chandra Punetha	Next Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh

International:

S. No	Name	Designation
1	Moutaz Mousa Abdallah	Sudan's New Prime Minister
2	Arif Alvi	Pakistan President
3	Justice Tahira Safdar	First woman chief justice of Balochistan High Court, Pakistan
4	Justice Om Prakash Mishra	New Chief Justice of Nepal
5	PoonamKhetrapal Singh	Re-elected as WHO South-East Asia Regional Director
6	General Purna Chandra Thapa	New Chief of Army Staff of Nepal

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5. Science and Technology

Ocean mean temperature can better predict Indian summer monsoon

- Scientists from Pune’s Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) find that ocean mean temperature (OMT) that has better ability to predict this than the sea surface temperature. Success rate of predicting the Indian summer monsoon, OMT has 80% success rate.

Sea food waste prevents steel corrosion

- Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi, have successfully produced a chitosan-based corrosion inhibitor that shows over 90% efficiency.

Aptamer inhibits TB bacteria entry into cells

- A small single-stranded DNA molecule (DNA aptamer) that specifically binds to a single protein (HupB) present in TB bacteria, researchers have been able to achieve 40-55% reduction in the bacteria’s ability to enter into human cells and infect them.

India joins elite group of countries capable of Air-to-Air fuel transfer

- The first ever mid-air refuelling of the indigenously developed light combat aircraft Tejas(LCA Tejas MK-1) was successfully carried out, placing India in an elite group of countries having air-to-air refuelling capacity for military planes.

Apsara – U Reactor

- “Apsara”, the first research reactor in Asia became operational in Trombay campus of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in August 1956. Nearly sixty-two years after Apsara came into existence, a swimming pool type research reactor “Apsara-upgraded”, of higher capacity was born at Trombay on 10th September 2018

U.K. physicist donates \$3 mn prize to boost diversity

- Jocelyn Bell Burnell, one of Britain's leading astrophysicists is donating her \$3 million purse from a major science prize to encourage diversity in physics.

Government prohibits 328 Fixed Dose Combinations drugs for human use

- Government has prohibited the manufacture, sale or distribution of 328 Fixed Dose Combinations (FDCs) for human use with immediate effect.

Medical Cyclotron Facility Cyclone-30 Became Operational

- Cyclotrons are used to produce radioisotopes for diagnostic and therapeutic use for cancer care. Cyclone-30, the biggest cyclotron in India for medical application became operational at Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC), Kolkata.

5.1 Inventions / Discover**Drug target for neurodegenerative diseases and cancer discovered**

- Bhubaneswar-based researchers have discovered that activation of a particular protein (TRIM16) can turn out to be a potential therapeutic intervention strategy for neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

New device harvests energy from walking, jogging, say scientists

- Scientists have developed a wearable device that could generate energy from the swing of an arm while walking or jogging. The device, about the size of a wristwatch, produces enough power to run a personal health monitoring system.

IISER Bhopal develops organic solar cell using vitamin B12 derivative

- Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Bhopal have developed cheaper and more flexible organic solar cells using a synthetic derivative of vitamin B12.

Electrochemical sensor detects dopamine, paracetamol

- A team from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bengaluru, has come up with a nanocomposite material made of platinum-doped cerium oxide and cuprous oxide that works efficiently in electrochemical cells to detect dopamine and paracetamol levels, in combination, in spiked human urine and serum samples.

New device may help treat dizziness

- Scientists have developed a new vibrating device that is placed behind a patient's ear to diagnose dizziness.

Insect-inspired flying robot

- Scientists have now developed a novel autonomous flying robot named DelFly Nimble that mimics the rapid flight of insects.

IIT-incubated startup to roll out cheaper lithium batteries

- A startup incubated at Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad (IIT-H) has developed lithium batteries with wide applications in fields of agriculture and aerospace.

Amazon Alexa smart speakers

- Alexa is a voice-enabled platform led by artificial intelligence. Information and Broadcasting Minister Rajyavardhan Rathore launched All India Radio's streaming Services on Amazon's Alexa Smart Speakers in New Delhi.

IISc team finds new approaches to kill TB bacteria

- For the first time a protein (WhiB4) that condenses the DNA of TB-causing bacteria in response to oxidative stress has been found by a multi-institutional team led by Prof. Amit Singh from Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.

5.2 Space Science

France to provide life support and medicine for ‘Gaganyaan’ crew

- The national human space mission ‘Gaganyaan’ will get French support in the form of life support and medicine for the Indian crew.

SpaceX announces new plan to send tourist around Moon

- SpaceX announced a new plan to launch a tourist around the Moon using its Big Falcon Rocket (BFR), a massive launch vehicle that is being designed to carry people into deep space.

PSLV-C42 launches 2 foreign satellites

- The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C42) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched two satellites NovaSAR and S1-4- from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota.

NASA puts laser satellite in space to track ice loss

- NASA’s most advanced space laser satellite ICESat-2 launched on a mission to track ice loss around the world (Greenland and Antarctic sheets) and improve forecasts of sea level rise as the climate warms.

NASA’s Hubble starts new mission to study early galaxies

- The Hubble Space Telescope has started a new mission to study six massive galaxy clusters that may help shed light on how the earliest galaxies evolved in the universe.

ISRO setting up launch pad for Gaganyaan mission

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is setting up a third launch pad at Sriharikota to undertake the Gaganyaan manned space flight programme.

Japan's Maezawa lands first SpaceX moon flight

- SpaceX, Elon Musk's space transportation company named its first private passenger on a voyage around the moon as Japanese billionaire Yusaku Maezawa.

Japan's two hopping rovers successfully land on asteroid Ryugu

- MINERVA-III (Micro Nano Experimental Robot Vehicle for Asteroid, the second generation) Two robotic rovers have become world's first to successfully land on the surface of an asteroid Ryugu by the Japanese space agency JAXA.

5.3 App/ Web Portal/ Toll Free**Coffee Connect and Coffee KrishiTharanga**

- The mobile app Coffee Connect has been developed to ease the work of field functionaries and to improve the work efficiency. The Coffee KrishiTharanga services are aimed at providing customized information and services to increase productivity, profitability, and environmental sustainability.

Siddhi

- An app unveiled by DestaGlobal, an agritech e-commerce company (Mumbai-based start-up), earlier this year is bringing farmers and dealers of agricultural equipment under one roof.

Aapoorti mobile app

- Piyush Goyal-led Railway Ministry has launched the Aapoorti mobile app of Indian Railways e-procurement system (IREPS) in a bid to provide information as well as data related to e-tendering and e-auction related activities of the national transporter.

Rail Sahyog web portal

- Rail Sahyog web portal will provide a platform for the Corporates & PSUs to contribute to creation of amenities at/near Railway Stations through CSR funds.

Google's 'Neighbourly' app

- Google will unveil its 'Neighbourly' app, to five more Indian cities. It helps users find answers to all types of questions such as shopping, fitness, food and tuition centres.

National Scholarship Portal Mobile App

- Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi launched the country's first National Scholarship Portal Mobile App in New Delhi for a smooth, accessible and hassle-free scholarship system for students belonging to poor and weaker sections.

NHA launches website, helpline number

- The National Health Agency (NHA), the apex body implementing the Ayushman Bharat– National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM), has launched a website and a helpline number.

'e-Sahaj' portal

- The Union Home Secretary Shri Rajiv Gauba launched an online 'e-Sahaj' portal for grant of Security Clearance.

Logo and web portal launched for Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary

- President Ram Nath Kovind launched the logo and the web portal for the commemoration of 150th birth anniversary of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

C-DAC Information Media Server (CIMS)

- Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, Hon'ble Minister of State for Electronics and IT launches C-DAC Information Media Server (CIMS) for enhancing Good Governance.

'Budget dashboard'

- In a bid to ensure transparency, the Ministry of Health has introduced 'budget dashboard', an internal web portal comprising information on budget, expenditure and bill payment positions.

Union Home Minister launches two portals to strengthen Women Safety

- **Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC) portal** – to check objectionable online content
- **National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO)** – to aid in monitoring & investigation of sexual crimes

Jan Dhan Darshak

- Finance Ministry Launches Mobile Application "Jan Dhan Darshak" as A Part of Financial Inclusion.
- Mobile App to Provide Guidance to the Common People in Locating a Financial Service Touch Point at a Given Location in the Country.

Online software for Agmark

- Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh today launched the online software for Agmark and it is being implemented across the country to conduct quality control functions.
- The processing of Agmark certification application will be available 24x7

Finance Minister launches web portal www.psbloansin59minutes.com

- The web portal www.psbloansin59minutes.com will enable in principle approval for MSME loans up to Rs. 1 crore within 59 minutes from SIDBI and 5 Public Sector Banks (PSBs).

DigiVaarta

- Digi VAARTA, is a Vehicle to Accelerate Access and Reach to Transformational Action, is a platform designed to enable Financial and Social Inclusion by educating citizens on various schemes and programmes.

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6. Schemes

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

- The government has said that treatment of childhood cancer will be covered under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana. The scheme will provide health insurance cover of five lakh rupees to poor families.

PM-AASHA Scheme

- Cabinet approves New Umbrella Scheme “Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan” (PM-AASHA). The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018.

Capacity Development Scheme

- Cabinet approves continuation of Capacity Development Scheme for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20. The overall objective of the scheme is to augment infrastructural, technical as well as manpower resources for making available credible and timely Official Statistics for policy makers and public.

Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh launches Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund in New Delhi.

Power Ministry launches ambitious program on energy efficiency in Chillers

- Ministry of Power, Government of India launched an ambitious program to encourage the deployment of Energy Efficient chiller systems in the country. The Chiller Star Labelling Program has been formulated by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).

Government to convert 1.5 lakh Primary Health Centers into Wellness Centers

- Union Health Minister JP Nadda has said that 1.5 lakh Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and sub-centres will be converted into wellness centers by 2022.

All India Pension Adalat

- The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh will inaugurate the All India Pension Adalat.

Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna

- The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has approved a new scheme – Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna for Insured Persons covered under the Employees' State Insurance Act.
- This scheme is a relief payable in cash directly to their Bank Account in case of unemployment and while they search for new engagement.

Novel scheme for the protection of the exotic Neela Kurinji plants

- Tamil Nadu government has announced a novel scheme for the protection of the exotic Neela kurinji (*Strobilanthus kunthianus*) plants that flower only once in 12 years.

India contributes 1 million to UN's ambitious solar project

- India has contributed one million US dollars for the installation of solar panels on the roof of the imposing UN building at the world body's headquarters in New York. The contribution will help reduce carbon footprint and promote sustainable energy.

Mushairas

- Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India, is organising “Mushairas”, based on the themes of teachings and principles of Mahatma Gandhi, across the country as a part of the Modi Government’s decision to commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of the Father of the Nation.

SOUVAGYA scheme

- The Assam government will provide electricity connection to all households by December 31st this year under SOUVAGYA scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra

- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan along with spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar inaugurated Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra at Dharmagarh, Kalahandi, Odisha.
- This centre will deliver skills development courses in five job roles like organic grower, plumber, sewing machine operator, home health aide and electrician domestic solutions.

SATAT initiative to promote Compressed Bio-Gas as an alternative, green transport fuel

- Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship will kick off an innovative initiative in New Delhi on 1st October, 2018, with PSU Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs ,i.e. IOC, BPCL and HPCL)

Wage Compensation scheme

- Assam government will launch Wage Compensation scheme for Pregnant Women in tea gardens of the state which will provide better health and nutrition supplements to the pregnant women.

“Rail Heritage Digitisation Project”

- Minister of Railways and Coal, Shri Piyush Goyal has launched “Rail Heritage Digitisation Project” of Indian Railways in collaboration with Google Arts & Culture to showcase country’s Rail Heritage to National and International audience in an online story-telling platform.

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7. Economic Affairs

New hybrids will help raise yields of silkworm farmers

- The newly developed hybrid of mulberry silkworm (PM x FC2) can produce 60 kg of cocoons per 100 Disease Free Layings (silkworm eggs) and is said to be 'better than' the earlier race titled PM x CSR.

Amazon unveils Hindi platform

- Amazon India, an e-commerce website and mobile application launched its Hindi platform.

SpyLite mini UAV systems

- Cyient Solutions & Systems Pvt. Ltd., a joint venture between IT firm Cyient and BlueBird Aero Systems of Israel, has bagged an order from the Indian Army to supply mini UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) systems for high altitude aerial surveillance.

U.S. places \$500-billion target in 2+2 backdrop

- India's first '2+2 dialogue' with the U.S. will help achieve the \$500 billion bilateral trade target between the two nations by 2025 and deepen ties among the world's largest democracies.

Monetary limit for filing cases in DRT doubled to Rs 20 lakh

- The government doubled the monetary limit to 20 lakh rupees for filing loan recovery application in the Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRT) by banks and financial institutions aimed at helping reduce pendency of cases in DRTs. There are 39 DRTs in the country.

Ashok Leyland sets up EV unit

- Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) inaugurated an in-house start-up electric vehicle (EV) facility at its Ennore plant here as part of its 70th anniversary celebrations.

SpiceJet to start dedicated air cargo services from September 18

- Low-cost carrier SpiceJet introduced air cargo services when it also inducted its first freighter aircraft. The first 'SpiceXpress' flight will be from the national capital to Bengaluru.

Centre hikes ethanol prices

- The Centre has hiked ethanol prices, with a special incentive for ethanol directly produced from 100% sugarcane juice, in a dual bid to reduce both surplus sugar production and the fuel import bill.

BPCL to invest Rs.40,000 crore in new petrochemicals plant

- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is planning to set up a Rs.40,000-crore petrochemicals plant at Rasayani in Raigad District of Maharashtra to manufacture polypropylene (PP) and polyethylene.

Copernicus launches premium segment e-bike

- Copernicus, an Indian motor vehicle brand that is into designing and manufacturing electric vehicles launched its first premium segment e-bike.

U.S. sanctions Russian, Chinese tech firms over funds for N.Korea

- The United States imposed sanctions on a China-based tech firm, its North Korean CEO and a Russian subsidiary, accusing them of moving illicit funding to North Korea in violation of U.S. sanctions.

NITI Aayog for clear policy on 'jhum' cultivation

- NITI Aayog proposes that land for shifting cultivation be recognised as agricultural land under agro-forestry.

Sebi approves new KYC norms for FPIs

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved new KYC norms for foreign portfolio investors.

BSE, NSE to conduct mock trading in commodity derivatives segments

- Leading stock exchanges BSE and NSE will conduct mock trading in commodity derivatives segments in order to familiarize brokers with the trading systems.

Government hikes interest rate of small savings between 30 to 40 basis points

- Government hiked interest rate of small savings between 30 to 40 basis points for third quarter of current financial year starting from 1st of next month.
- The interest rate of one to three year time period has been increased by 30 basis points and five year time period by 40 basis points.

SEBI relaxes KYC norms for foreign investors

- Securities and Exchange Board of India, SEBI has issued revised Know Your client (KYC) norms, providing relief to foreign portfolio investors, FPI.
- Under new norms residents as well as non-resident Indians have been permitted to hold a non-controlling stake in such entities.

Government cuts gross borrowing estimate

- Economic Affairs Secretary SC Garg has announced a reduction in gross borrowing estimate for the current fiscal by 70,000 crore rupees and maintained that the government will contain fiscal deficit target at 3.3 %.

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Banking Affairs

India Post Payments Bank launched

- Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi.

RBI slaps Rs.1-cr penalty on Union Bank

- Reserve Bank of India has imposed a Rs.1-crore penalty on Union bank for delay in detection and reporting of fraud.

Centre proposes to amalgamate Bank of Baroda, Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank

- The government has proposed amalgamation of Bank of Baroda, Vijaya Bank, and Dena Bank to create India's 3rd largest globally competitive Bank.

World Bank approves Country Partnership Framework for India

- World Bank Board has endorsed an ambitious five-year Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for India, which aligns with New Delhi's objectives of high, sustainable and inclusive growth.

ADB approves \$500 mn for Tamil Nadu water supply, sewerage, drainage infrastructure

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved financing of up to \$500 million for a multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) that will develop climate-resilient water supply, sewerage, and drainage infrastructure in at least 10 cities in Tamil Nadu.
- The country's first solar-powered sewage treatment plant on a pilot basis will also be part of the programme.

8. Mou /Agreement

International

S. No	Mou Between	Fields	Country Details
1	India and U.S.A	India and the United States began a new generation of military and security cooperation by signing Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) and formed an alliance comprising leading experts in public and private sectors to combat the menace of tuberculosis.	President - Donald Trump
			Vice President - Mike Pence
			Capital - Washington, D.C.
			Currency - US dollar
2	India and France	Mobilise Your City (MYC) aims at supporting three pilot cities viz. Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad for reduction of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions related to urban transport.	President - Emmanuel Macron
			Prime Minister - Edouard Philippe
			Capital - Paris
			Currency - Euro, CFP franc
3	India and South Africa	Cooperation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes.	President - Cyril Ramaphosa
			Vice President - David Mabuza
			Capital - Pretoria
			Currency -South African rand
4	India and Egypt	cooperation in the field of Agriculture & allied sectors.	President - Abdel Fattah el-Sisi
			Prime Minister - Mostafa Madbouly
			Capital - Cairo
			Currency -Egyptian pound
5	India and Bangladesh	India and Bangladesh had entered into an agreement for the pipeline construction 130-kilometre pipeline will connect Siliguri in West Bengal in India and Parbatipur in Dinajpur district of Bangladesh.	President - Abdul Hamid
			Prime Minister - Sheikh Hasina
			Capital - Dhaka
			Currency -Taka
6	India and China	An internal security cooperation agreement during the forthcoming visit of China's Minister of Public Security, marking a new beginning in bilateral relations.	President - Xi Jinping
			Premier-Li Keqiang
			Capital - Beijing
			Currency -Renminbi
7	India and South Korea	Enhancing cooperation in Applied Science and Industrial Technology.	President - Moon Jae-in
			Prime Minister -Lee Nak-yeon
			Capital - Seoul

			Currency - South Korean won
8	India and UN	Sign a Five-Year Sustainable Development Framework (2018-2022)	Secretary general - António Guterres
			Headquarters - New York City
			Founded - 24 October 1945, San Francisco
			Founders - United States of America, India, Venezuela, Iran, Brazil etc.
9	India and World Bank	A Loan Agreement for IBRD Credit of US\$74 million equivalent for the Uttarakhand Workforce Development Project (UKWDP) was signed with the World Bank.	President - Jim Yong Kim
			Headquarters - Washington, D.C., United States
			CEO - Kristalina Georgieva
			Membership -189 countries (IBRD); 173 countries (IDA)
10	India and Japan	Construction of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project (I) and Kolkata East West Metro Project (III) with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).	President - Moon Jae-in
			Prime Minister -Lee Nak-yeon
			Capital - Seoul
			Currency - South Korean won

Other MOU / Agreements:

S. No	Mou Between	Fields	Country Details
1	India and Cyprus	two agreements on combating money laundering and cooperation in the field of environment	President -Marie Louise Coleiro Preca
			President of the Parliament - Demetris Syllouris
			Capital -Nicosia
			Currency - Euro
2	India and Brunei Darussalam	Cooperation in the operation of Telemetry Tracking and Telecommand station for satellite and launch vehicles, and for cooperation in the field of Space Research, Science and Applications.	Sultan and Yang di-Pertuan - Hassanal Bolkiaah
			Crown Prince - Al-Muhtadee Billah
			Capital - Bandar Seri Begawan
			Currency -Brunei dollar
3	India and Malta	strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism.	President -Marie Louise Coleiro Preca
			Prime Minister - Joseph Muscat

			Capital - valletta
			Currency - Euro
4	India and Morocco	revised Air Services Agreement between the two countries enabling greater connectivity through a modernized agreement	President - Mohammed VI
			Prime Minister - Saadeddine Othmani
			Capital - Rabat
			Currency - Moroccan dirham
5	India and Uzbekistan	Mutual Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotics, Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors, Cooperation in the Sphere of Law & Justice, strengthening cooperation in the field of Tourism, cooperation for establishment of Uzbek-Indian Free Pharmaceutical Zone in the Andijan region of Uzbekistan, cooperation in health and medical science and cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Allied sectors	President -Shavkat Mirziyoyev
			Prime Minister - Abdulla Aripov
			Capital - Tashkent
			Currency - Uzbek som
6	India and Kenya	Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya (ICPAK).	President - Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta
			Vice President - William Ruto
			Capital - Nairobi
			Currency - Kenyan shilling
7	NITI Aayog, and Russian Federation	NITI Aayog, and Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation (MEDRF) in the field of social, economic, industrial and regional development programs	President - Vladimir Putin
			Prime Minister - Dmitry Medvedev
			Capital - Moscow
			Currency - Russian ruble
8	India and Oman	Enhance Bilateral Cooperation in the Field of Maritime Security and Defence Industry.	Sultan - Qaboos bin Said al Said
			Deputy Prime Minister - Fahd bin Mahmoud al Said
			Capital - Muscat
			Currency -Rial
9	UAE and Red Cross	cooperation agreement with the International Committee of the Red Cross, ICRC, to support the humanitarian response plan in Yemen, Myanmar and the Democratic Republic of Congo	President - Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
			Prime Minister - Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
			Capital - Abu Dhabi
			Currency - UAE dirham
10	Goa and Portugal	A Memorandum of Understanding	President - Marcelo Rebelo de

	(MoU) signed between the Portuguese Environment Ministry and the Public Works Department of Goa will help to develop common initiatives for water supply and waste water management.	Sousa
		Prime Minister - António Costa
		Capital - Lisbon
		Currency - Euro

National:**Cabinet approves continuation of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats beyond 12th Plan**

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the PM Modi has approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats (CSS-IDWH) beyond the 12th Plan period from 2017-18 to 2019-20.

NITI Aayog, Intel and TIFR collaborate to set up a ICTAI

- NITI Aayog, Intel, and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) are collaborating to set up a Model International Center for Transformative Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI) towards developing and deploying AI-led application-based research projects.

Cisco signs agreements with NITI, BSNL

- Cisco, a U.S.-based firm, that makes networking telecommunications equipment, has signed two agreements with the NITI Aayog and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to speed up its Country Digital Acceleration programme in India.

MHA signs MoU with ISRO

- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Department of Space signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for setting up of an state-of-the-art Integrated Control Room for Emergency Response (ICR-ER) in Ministry of Home Affairs.

Health Ministry partners with Dell and Tata Trusts

- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare exchanged the MoUs with the Tata Trusts and Dell to provide a technological platform for nationwide prevention, control, screening and management program of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

Jharkhand government inks MoU with NICL

- The Jharkhand government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Insurance Company Ltd to provide medical facilities to the people of the state under the Centre's flagship health scheme – Ayushman Bharat Yojana.

BSNL signs deal with Softbank, NTT to roll out 5G

- BSNL has inked a pact with Japan's Softbank and NTT Communications to roll out 5G and internet of things (IoT) technology in India.

MoU between Punjab & Himachal Pradesh

- Punjab and Himachal Pradesh governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding to set up a ropeway in Public Private Partnership mode between Anandpur Sahib and Naina Devi.

NITI Aayog and Oracle sign a Statement of Intent

- In order to fight the growing problem of counterfeit drugs in India, NITI Aayog and Oracle signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to pilot a real drug supply-chain using blockchain distributed ledger and Internet of Things (IoT) software. Apollo Hospitals and Strides Pharma Sciences will partner in this effort.

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9. Indian Forces (Defence)

Ukraine launches joint military drills with NATO

- Ukraine launched joint military exercises with the U.S. and a string of other NATO countries. The annual Rapid Trident military exercises, taking place in the western Ukrainian village of Starychi, involve some 2,200 soldiers from 14 countries.

Air Chief Marshal visit to Myanmar and Malaysia

- Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa reached Naypyitaw of his official visit to Myanmar and Malaysia. The main focus will be to share ideas, enhance mutual engagement and promote understanding.

KAZIND Joint Army Exercise

- Indo-Kazakhstan Joint Army Exercise ‘KAZIND’ will be conducted between the Indian and Kazakhstan Army from 10 to 23 Sep 2018 in Otar region, Kazakhstan.

IOWave18

- India along with 23 other nations will participate in a major Indian ocean-wide tsunami mock drill which will involve evacuation of thousands of people from coastal areas in over half a dozen coastal states. It is being organised by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

Joint exercise SLINEX-2018

- Indian navy ships and aircraft have arrived in Sri Lanka to take part in the joint exercise SLINEX-2018 to be held with Sri Lankan navy at Trincomalee.

Ministry of Defence announces aershow

- The Government has decided to hold the Aero India 2019 in Bengaluru from 20-24 February 2019. This five-day event will combine a major trade exhibition for the aerospace and defence industries with public air shows.

Nepal to skip BIMSTEC military drill in India

- The Nepal Army has withdrawn from the first BIMSTEC military exercise to be held in India following a political row in the country over the participation in the event.

INDO-MONGOLIA joint exercise Nomadic Elephant-2018

- Indo-Mongolia joint exercise Nomadic Elephant-2018, commenced at Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) Five Hills Training Area, Ullanbaatar, Mongolia.

BIMSTEC Field Training Military Exercise (MILEX-18)

- The Inaugural Military Field Training Exercise for the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technological and Economic Cooperation(BIMSTEC) nations named MILEX-18 at Aundh Military Station.

Yudh Abhyas 2018

- Indo-US joint military training Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2018 is scheduled to be conducted in the foothills of Himalayas at Chaubattia in Uttarakhand.

KAZIND 2018

- Exercise KAZIND-2018, a joint military exercise between Indian and Kazakhstan Armies, commenced in Otar Military Area, Kazakhstan.

India's first missile tracking ship readying for sea trials

- Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) is gearing up to undertake sea trials of India's first missile tracking ship by the first week of October and cruise the country into a global elite club.

BSF plans to install hi-tech surveillance system along Pak, B'desh borders

- Border Security Force is planning to install a hi-tech surveillance system covering a total length of about 2,000 km along Pakistan and Bangladesh borders.

Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)

- Indigenously developed weapon system Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM), was successfully flight tested for the second time successfully.

Mountaineers Satyarup & Mousumi climb Asia's highest volcanic peak

- Mountaineers Satyarup Siddhanta and Mousumi Khatua created history by climbing Asia's highest volcanic peak Mount Damavand in Iran.

Air force association Celebrates Annual Day

- The Annual Day of Air Force Association celebrated at Amar Jawan Jyoti at India Gate in the memory of those who laid down their lives for the motherland.

Nepal, China begin joint military exercises

- "Sagarmatha Friendship-2" military exercise in China's Sichuan province between Nepal and China focuses on counter-terrorism and disaster management.

Russia's military jet lost over the Mediterranean sea coast

- Russia's military aircraft Il-20 with 14 people on board has disappeared over Syria's Mediterranean Sea coast.

Japan conducts submarine drill

- Japan has carried out its first submarine drill in the disputed South China Sea in the region to improve strategic techniques.

23rd edition of the International Seapower Symposium (ISS)

- Indian Chief of the Naval Staff visiting Rhode Island, USA on a bilateral visit attending the 23rd edition of the International Seapower Symposium (ISS) organised by the US Navy.

Exercise Aviaindra-18

- Exercise Aviaindra is an Air Force level exercise between India and the Russian Federation is being conducted at Lipetsk, Russia from 17 Sep to 28 Sep 18 and will be conducted in Jodhpur, India from 10 Dec to 22 Dec 18.

Successful Flight Test of Prahar

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested the indigenously developed surface-to-surface tactical missile 'Prahar'. It is a contemporary weapon system capable of carrying multiple types of warheads and neutralizing a wide variety of targets.

India successfully test fires Prithvi Defence Vehicle

- India successfully conducted an interceptor missile test off the Odisha coast achieving a major milestone in developing a two-layer Ballistic Missile Defence system.

DAC approves procurement of one thousand engines for T-72 tanks

- The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has approved procurement of 1,000 engines for fitment in T-72 tanks of the Army at an approximate cost of over 2,300 crore rupees.

IAF successfully test fires air-to-air Astra missile

- The Indian Air Force successfully test fired the indigenously developed Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile.

IONS Working Group Meeting on HADR

- The 3rd Meeting of Indian Ocean Naval symposium (IONS) Working Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) was inaugurated at Maritime Warfare Centre, Visakhapatnam.

India to gift Mig-21 fighter jets to Russia

- A highlight on the sidelines of the upcoming India-Russia bilateral summit is likely to be the gifting of three Mig-21 fighter jets to Russia.

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10. Awards and Achievement

International

S. No	Awards	Awardees
1	UEFA Men's Player of the Year trophy	Croatia captain Luka Modric (Voted the best player in Europe)
2	FIFA's best player of the year award	Croatian footballer Luka Modric
3	UN Champions of the Earth Award	Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (For his leadership of the International Solar Alliance and pledge to eliminate single use plastic in India by 2022)
4	Award for Entrepreneurial Vision	Cochin International Airport
5	Policy Leadership category (For their pioneering work in championing the International Solar Alliance)	i) French President Emmanuel Macron and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi
6	2018 honorary award	Thelma Aldana of Guatemala and Colombia's Ivan Velasquez
7	The Right Livelihood Award known as the "Alternative Nobel"	Abdullah al-Hamid, Mohammad Fahad al-Qahtani and Waleed Abu al-Khair [Saudi Arabia]
8	Miss America	Nia Imani Franklin
9	Meryl Streep award for Excellence	Aishwarya Rai Bachchan
10	UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) Award	Shri Manoj Jhalani
11	Platinum certification by the United States Green Building Council.	i) The Mysuru campus (LEED EBOM (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – Existing Building Operation & Maintenance)) ii) Infosys
12	Two Pacific Asia Travel Association gold awards (For an innovative poster for Kochi-Muziris Biennale)	Kerala Tourism ('Yalla Kerala' travel advertisement print media campaign in the Gulf countries)
13	Zoological Society of London honour	Biospeleologist Shabuddin Shaik

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National

S. No	Awards	Awardees
1	Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna	1) Virat Kohli 2) Mirabai Chanu
2	National Tourism Awards 2016-17	1) Andhra Pradesh 2) Kerala 3) Rajasthan & Goa
3	Best Airport Award in Major Cities category	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad
4	Best Airport Award in 'Rest of India' category	Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar Airport, Indore
	'Best Airport by Region'	
5	Prestigious Dr B.C. Roy National Award	Dr B.K. Misra (Eminent Medical Person of the Year)
6	Jal Bachao, Video Banao, Puraskar Pao Contest	1) Mohd Amjad from Patna 2) Sh. Supreeth Dev from Tumkur, Karnataka 3) Sh. Chandan Kumar from Champaran
7	WiFi Leadership Awards 2018	BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited)
8	WiFi leader of the year	Vipin Tyagi
9	Gandhi Global Foundation's Gandhidarsan International Award [Kerala]	Dalai Lama
10	Gandhidarsan National Award	Arun Jaitley
11	Best Chief Minister Award	Pinarayi Vijayan
12	Business awards	1)A. Yusuf Ali 2)B.R. Shetty 3)B. Govindan
13	Award for philanthropy to be given posthumously	Joseph Pulikunnel
14	E-governance award by the Karnataka government	For e-auction of cocoons in Karnataka.
	Third South Asia Digital Media Awards @ 26th annual conference of WAN-IFRA India 2018	
15	Gold trophy	Madras Courier
16	Silver trophy	The Hindu's mobile app Briefcase & Sakal Media's Agrowon App
17	Bronze trophy	The Hindu Group's Sportstar Live

11. National Affairs

Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code is clearly unconstitutional : SC

- The Supreme Court decriminalised homosexuality with a prayer to the LGBTQ (Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) community to forgive history for their “brutal” suppression.

President Kovind sets off on Europe tour

- President Ram Nath Kovind arrived in Cyprus on the first leg of his three-nation tour to continue India’s high-level engagements with European countries. He will also visit Bulgaria and the Czech Republic.

Bi-annual talks between Indian and Bangladesh

- The bi-annual talks between Indian and Bangladeshi border forces began in New Delhi aimed at increasing bilateral cooperation in checking trans-border crimes such as smuggling of drugs and narcotics, cattle lifting and gun running across the international border between the two countries.

Government approves proposal to increase wages of artisans by over 36 %

- The Government has approved a proposal to increase wages of artisans by over 36 per cent, from five rupees 50 paise per hank to seven rupees 50 paise.

Gandhijis Nai Talim – curriculum on Experiential Learning released

- Union HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar released the curriculum on Experiential Learning – Gandhijis Nai Talim in New Delhi. This curriculum was brought out simultaneously in 13 languages in consultation with the state councils of educational research and training along with the universities in the country.

“**Moving On, Moving Forward – A Year in Office**” book – Venkaiah Naidu [to mark one year in office of Vice President Venkaiah Naidu] released by PM Modi.

An array of initiatives towards strengthening the skills ecosystem launched

- Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) announced an array of initiatives towards strengthening the skills ecosystem in India.

India to soon deploy 1st ‘smart fence’ project along Pak, Bangladesh border

- The first ‘smart fence’ pilot project, which entails deploying laser fences and technology-enabled barriers to plug venerable gaps along India’s borders, is expected to be formally launched by Home Minister Rajnath Singh

Universal helpline service for women in distress

- Goa government’s Women and Child Development Ministry launched a universal helpline service (by dialling 181) for women in distress in the coastal state.

Haryana CM announces sharp reduction in power tariff

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has announced a sharp reduction in electricity tariff in the state.

All railway tracks to be electrified

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the proposal for electrification of the remaining 13,675 route km of railway tracks converting the entire railway network into electric.

New Domestic Terminal Building at Patna Airport

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the construction of New Domestic Terminal Building and other allied structures at Patna airport.

Bihar government approves Rs. 1 lakh interim relief for mob violence victims

- Bihar government has approved a scheme for providing interim relief of Rs. one lakh to those affected by mob violence.

SC issues directions to Centre, states for rehabilitation of leprosy patients

- The Supreme Court directed the Centre to consider framing separate rules for granting disability certificates to leprosy patients for availing reservation and various welfare benefits.

Paryatan Parv

- The ‘Paryatan Parv’ by the Ministry of Tourism was inaugurated by Shri Rajnath Singh.

Space technology incubation centre in Tripura

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched a space technology incubation centre in Tripura capital Agartala.

DAC Approves Procurement of Equipment Worth Rs 9,100 Crores

- The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) accorded approval for the procurement of equipment for the Defence Forces valued at over Rs 9,100 crores.

Revised Cost Estimate of Dam rehabilitation and Improvement Project

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the Revised Cost Estimate of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) at the revised cost of Rs 3466 crore with the financial assistance of the World Bank to improve safety and operational performance of Dams.

Cabinet approves ordinance making triple talaq a punishable offence

- Union cabinet approved an ordinance making instant triple talaq a punishable offence with a three-year jail term.

Ordinance banning the practice of instant triple talaq promulgated

- President Ram Nath Kovind has promulgated an Ordinance banning the practice of instant triple talaq.

‘Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha’ inaugurated

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the centenary celebrations of the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha in New Delhi.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Ayushman Bharat in Ranchi

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana from Ranchi in Jharkhand.

PM inaugurates Jharsuguda Airport

- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated a new airport in Jharsuguda – also known as the powerhouse of Odisha. The Prime Minister also flagged off the UDAN flight on Jharsuguda-Raipur sector.

PM inaugurates Pakyong Airport in Sikkim

- Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Pakyong Airport in Sikkim. This is the first airport in the Himalayan State, and the 100th airport in the country.

SC declares Aadhaar scheme as Constitutionally valid

- The Supreme Court declared the Centre’s flagship Aadhaar scheme as constitutionally valid.

Cabinet approves National Digital Communication Policy

- The Cabinet has approved the National Digital Communication Policy 2018 which aims to provide universal broadband connectivity at 50 MBPS to every citizen. It will also provide one Gbps connectivity to all Gram Panchayats by 2020 and 10 Gbps by 2022.

Government increases customs duties on 19 items

- The government has increased Custom Duty on 19 items, including jet fuel, ACs and refrigerators to curb imports of non-essential goods.

Adultery no longer a criminal offence

- Supreme Court scrapped the pre-Independence provision of adultery in the Indian Penal Code (IPC), which treats a married woman as a commodity owned by her husband.
- Section 497 (adultery) gives a husband the exclusive right to prosecute his wife's lover. If found guilty, the adulterer faces five years behind bars.

Inauguration of Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention in New Delhi.

Country's first tribal tourism circuit inaugurated in Chhattisgarh

- The country's first tribal tourism circuit was 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.

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12. State Wise Affairs

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ANDHRA PRADESH

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Hyderabad (Amaravati)	N. Chandrababu Naidu	E. S. L. Narasimhan

HSL commissions State's largest rooftop solar power plant

- Hindustan Shipyard Limited has commenced production from the State's largest rooftop solar power plant. The plant is built and operated by Clean Max.

International tsunami drill

- The National and the State Disaster Response Forces, the Fire Services and the Police Departments, the Navy and the Air Force took part in the international tsunami mock drill across the State.

Zeba' to the rescue of Rayalaseema farmers

- Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said that the government was enhancing the moisture retention capacity of soil by using a chemical product called 'Zeba' on a pilot basis in Rayalaseema.

Andhra Pradesh announces Rs 2 cut in VAT on petrol, diesel

- The Andhra Pradesh government has announced a 2 rupees cut in VAT on petrol and diesel to check the mounting prices of the fuels.

RPF 34th Raising Day

- The Railway Protection Force (RPF) is organising several passenger awareness programmes on safety on trains and on railway premises.

186-km rally for peace in the Red heartland

- Around 150 people, from various States affected by Maoist insurgency will begin a 186-km long ‘Peace Padyatra’ (peace march) from Andhra Pradesh on the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, will conclude in the Chattisgarh.

Telugu Bible turns 200

- The churches in the city will be celebrating this year the 200th year of the translation of Bible from original Greek to Telugu.

ASSAM

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Dispur	Sarbananda Sonowal	Jagdish Mukhi

Assam government to distribute over 1 lakh pump sets

- Assam government will distribute over 1 lakh pump sets to double the farmers income by 2022.

Chief Minister’s Free Diagnostic services

- Assam government has extended the services of Chief Minister’s Free Diagnostic services to nearly 1000 government hospitals.

Assamese movie is India’s official entry for Oscars 2019

- Assamese movie ‘Village Rockstars’ has been selected as India’s official entry to the Oscars 2019. The film is directed by Rima Das.

No genuine citizen to be excluded from NRC

- The Assam government has asserted that no genuine citizen would be excluded from the National Register of Citizens.

Government to launch the Universal Pension scheme in the state

- The Assam government will launch the Universal Pension scheme in the state on the 2nd of next month, the birth anniversary of the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi.

Methanol to be introduced as a cooking fuel

- Public sector Assam Petrochemicals Limited is set to introduce (first in India) – methanol as cleaner, cheaper alternative to liquefied petroleum gas. It will be launched on October 5.

DELHI

Chief Minister	Lieutenant Governor
Arvind Kejriwal	Anil Baijal

Battery Operated Bus services at AIIMS

- Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare flagged off the Battery Operated Bus Services at AIIMS, New Delhi.

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu visit to Serbia, Malta, Romania

- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu left for Belgrade for the first phase of his 7- day tour to three central European countries, Serbia, Malta and Romania.

Doordarshan foundation day

- Doordarshan celebrates its 59th foundation day

‘Swachhta Hi Seva’ campaign launched

- Tourism Minister K. J Alphons launched the ‘Swachhta Hi Seva’ campaign near Sai Mandir surroundings on Lodhi Road in New Delhi.

Rashtriya Poshan Maah celebrated at CCRAS

- Ministry of AYUSH and Central Council of Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), all 25 Clinical Research Institutes of CCRAS are conducting various health care activities during the Rashtriya Poshan Maah being observed in the month of September, 2018.

ITU South Asia Area Office and Technology Innovation Centre

- The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) South Asia Area Office and Technology Innovation Centre will be established in New Delhi.

Local Treatment of Urban Sewage Streams and Bio-toilets inaugurated

- Union Science & Technology minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated Local Treatment of Urban Sewage Streams for Healthy Reuse (LOTUSHR) project & two bio toilets installed at Sun Dial Park in New Delhi.

Prime Minister to lay foundation stone of world class Convention centre

- Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, will lay the foundation stone of India International Convention and Expo Centre (IICC) at Dwarka in New Delhi.
- The IICC is being developed to promote meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (MICE) activities to attract and promote business and industry for growth of industrial development in the country.

Health Ministry launches sputum sample transportation

- A pilot for utilising services of Department of Post for transport of sputum specimen for TB Diagnosis in Delhi was launched by the Health Ministry

India's 1st ever online, centralised NDSO to be launched

- Home Minister Rajnath Singh will launch India's first ever online and centralised National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO) in New Delhi. With this, India will become the ninth country in the world to maintain such a database.

Air pollution mitigation devices inaugurated

- Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest and Climate change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated air pollution control device WAYU(Wind Augmentation PurifYing Unit) for traffic junctions at ITO intersection and Mukarba Chowk in Delhi.

Tribes India launches "Punch Tantra Collection"

- Tribes India and TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched "Punch Tantra Collection and Ms. Mary Kom as Brand Ambassador of Tribes India".

Gandhi's heart will beat at National Museum

- Digital recreation of the iconic leader's heartbeat and digital kit will be launched at National Museum in New Delhi to mark his 150 birth anniversary.

GUJARAT

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Gandhinagar	Vijay Rupani	Om Prakash Kohli

PM Modi to inaugurate statue of Patel on Oct 31

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the gigantic statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Narmada district of Gujarat on 31st of October. The day marks the anniversary of the great leader and freedom fighter.

Entire Kutch district declared scarcity affected area

- Gujarat government has declared the entire Kutch district as scarcity affected area.

Farmers' accident insurance amounts doubled

- The Gujarat government has doubled the monetary assistance to farmers under the state-run Farmers' Accident Insurance Scheme. The insurance scheme covers over 2.5 crore farmers who own agricultural land in the state.

Modi to open Gandhi museum in Rajkot

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi to inaugurate a museum dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi at the Alfred high School in Rajkot.

JAMMU & KASHMIR:

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Jammu (Winter) Srinagar (Summer)	-	Satya Pal Malik

Inauguration of AIR's 10 KW FM transmitter

- Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated a 10 KW FM transmitter of All India Radio (AIR) in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district.

J&K SAC okays Centre, state's joint venture for development of Ratle HEP

- Jammu and Kashmir State Administrative Council (SAC) has approved formation of a joint venture between the Centre and the state government for development of 850 Mega Watt Ratle Hydro Electric Project (HEP).

J&K declared Open Defecation Free

- Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik has declared the state open defecation free (ODF) state.

KARNATAKA

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Bengaluru	H. D. Kumaraswamy	Vajubhai Vala

Facial recognition facility from 2019 at Bengaluru International Airport

- Bengaluru International Airport plans to roll out facial recognition facility for the passengers of some select airlines from early next year.

6th edition of Bengaluru Space Expo inaugurated

- The 6th edition of the biennial Bengaluru Space Expo was inaugurated by ISRO Chairman Dr.K Sivan in Bengaluru. The three day event will showcase industry participation in Indian space programme.

One-day Karnataka Health Summit

- A one-day ‘Karnataka Health Summit-2018’ on ‘Universal Health Care Opportunities and Challenges’ is being organised in Bengaluru.

India’s first 205 tonne dump truck by BEML launched in Mysuru

- The country’s first 205T Electric Drive Rear Dump Truck (BH205-E) – designed and developed at the Mysuru plant of Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) – was flagged off.

Samsung opens its largest experience store in Bengaluru

- Bengaluru has got the world’s largest mobile experience centre opened by Samsung. It will bring together technology, lifestyle and innovation to offer people unique experiences.

Tumakuru police launches e-beat system

- Chief Executive Officer of Tumakuru Zilla Panchayat Annies Kanmani Joy inaugurated the e-Beat system in three police station limits of the town.

First state in the country to give legal protection to good Samaritans

- President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to a Karnataka Good Samaritan and Medical Professional (Protection and Regulation during Emergency Situations) Bill, 2016 providing legal protection to the good samaritans in Karnataka, who help accident victims with emergency medical care within the golden hour.

KERALA

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	P. Sathasivam

AWOS being installed at Kannur airport

- The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has commenced work to install the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) in the Kannur international airport to ensure the safety and efficiency of aircraft operations.

Technology to convert waste plastic into fuel

- The NIT-C and the FACT Engineering Design and Organisation (FEDO), the consultancy division of Kochi-based FACT Ltd, have inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the design and implementation of a pilot plant for converting waste plastic into energy.

State's first Ability Cafe opens in Kozhikode

- The first Ability Cafe in the State, aimed at providing vocational rehabilitation to the mentally challenged, opened on the Collectorate premises in Kozhikode.

Flightless bird research centre

- The Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (KVASU) has set up a flightless bird research centre, a first in the State, on the university campus at Pookode in Wayanad district.

8th Asian Yoga Sports Championship

- Thiruvananthapuram is all set to host the 8th Asian Yoga Sports Championship. The event will witness around 500 participants representing 14 Asian countries showcasing their yoga skills.

Supreme Court paves the way for women's entry into Sabarimala Temple

- The Supreme Court paved the way for the entry of women of all ages into the Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala in Kerala.

Kerala takes an e-vow

- The State is all set to join the country's e-mobility push, setting ambitious deadlines and targets for itself to fully electrify all classes of motor vehicles by 2030.

MADHYA PRADESH

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chouhan	Anandiben Patel

Narmada-Malwa Link Project

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will dedicate the Narmada-Malwa Link Project in Indore district. This seeks permanent solution to the water crisis of Malwa region.

Commemoration birth centenary of Rajmata of Gwalior

- The Government of India has decided to celebrate the birth centenary of Smt. Vijaya Raje Scindia, Rajmata of Gwalior, from 11 October 2018 to 11 October 2019.

1st corn festival of country

- In Madhya Pradesh, the first corn festival of the country is being held in Chhindwara and is one of a kind international event.

52nd district of MP

- Niwari will become the 52nd district of Madhya Pradesh, with effect from October 1.

MAHARASHTRA

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Mumbai	Devendra Fadnavis	Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao

Marbat festival celebrated with great fervour in Nagpur

- Thousands of people thronged the streets of Maharashtra's Nagpur city to celebrate the Marbat festival.

Maharashtra to set up cyber varsity

- The Maharashtra Government has taken the first step towards setting up a Cyber University dedicated to mitigating cyber threats.

Mumbai Corporation to kickstart leprosy detection drive

- The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) will be undertaking a survey from September 25 to October 9 to identify new leprosy patients as part of the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP).

Start-up yatra to be launched

- The Maharashtra government will tap into the vibrancy of the start-up ecosystem by launching a yatra to search for future entrepreneurs and unicorns in rural areas.

The Startup India – Maharashtra Yatra

- The Startup India – Maharashtra Yatra will be launched on the 3rd of October, 2018 by Union Minister for Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, at Raj Bhawan, Mumbai.

ODISHA

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Bhubaneswar	Naveen Patnaik	Dr S.C. Jamir

Odisha House nod for Legislative Council

- A resolution seeking creation of a Legislative Council in Odisha was passed in the State Assembly.

Nuakhai festival celebration

- In western Odisha, the festival of Harvest Nuakhai is being celebrated. After harvest of new paddy of this season, rice has been processed and offered to Goddess Samaleswari in Sambalpur.

North East Frontier Railway eliminated all unmanned level crossing

- North East Frontier Railway has eliminated all unmanned level crossing across the zone.

Jharsuguda airport to be named as Veer Surendra Sai airport

- The Odisha Assembly passed a unanimous resolution to name the newly-built Jharsuguda airport after noted freedom fighter Veer Surendra Sai. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the airport.

Cyclone Daye weakens into deep depression

- The cyclonic storm “DAYE” over south Odisha and its neighbourhood has moved west-northwestwards.

Odisha to celebrate Gandhi’s 150th birth anniversary for 2 years

- The Odisha government decided to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi for two years from October 2 this year.

PUNJAB

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Chandigarh	Amarinder Singh	V. P. Singh Badnore

20kW FM transmitter of All India Radio inaugurated

- A 20kW FM transmitter of All India Radio located at Gharinda close to the international border at Attari in Amritsar was formally inaugurated by Vijay Sampla Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment.

Punjab to post nodal officers to curb stubble burning

- The Punjab government has directed the procurement agencies to ensure prompt lifting of the crop from markets and to curb the menace of stubble burning, the State has decided to appoint nodal officers in 8,000 paddy growing villages.

RAJASTHAN

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Jaipur	Vasundhara Raje	Kalyan Singh

4% reduction in VAT on petrol & diesel

- Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje announced a four-per cent reduction in value-added tax (VAT) on petrol and diesel, which will reduce their prices by 2.5 rupees per litre in the state.

Smart City Expo India-2018

- Vice president M.Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated Smart City Expo India-2018 in Jaipur.

Parakram Parv exhibition in Jodhpur

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is participating in the Unified Commanders' Conference in Jodhpur, Rajasthan. He also inaugurated an exhibition of the Indian army.

TAMIL NADU

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Chennai	Edappadi K. Palaniswami	Banwarilal Purohit

First licence for private power distribution

- The State Electricity Regulatory Commission (TNERC) has permitted the India Power Corporation (Tuticorin) Private Limited (IPCTPL), a Kolkata-based company, to provide electricity to units in the multi-product special economic zone (SEZ) at Nanguneri in Tirunelveli district.

Tamil version of Modi's 'Exam Warriors' launched

- Governor Banwarilal Purohit released the first copy of Paritchaikku Bhayamen, the Tamil translation of Exam Warriors, a compilation of speeches made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Exam Warriors was translated into tamil by V. Inuvai and published by The Alliance Co.

TN State govt bans e-cigarettes in state

- The Tamil Nadu government has banned Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, known as e-cigarettes in the state.

TELANGANA

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Hyderabad	K Chandrasekhar Rao	E.S Lakshmi Narasimhan

Stage set for Telangana Assembly dissolution

- The Cabinet likely to pass resolution for the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly to opt for early elections.

Heritage tag for 2 irrigation facilities in Telangana

- Sadarmatt anicut across river Godavari in Nirmal district and Pedda Cheruvu in Kamareddy district got heritage tag for irrigation facilities in Telangana.

70th anniversary of Hyderabad merger

- Merger of erstwhile Hyderabad State with the Indian Union on September 16th in 1948 on different names based on their political ideologies.

UTTAR PRADESH

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Lucknow	Yogi Adityanath	Ram Naik

Iconic ‘Hazratganj Chauraha’ of Lucknow city to be renamed

- In Uttar Pradesh, the Iconic ‘Hazratganj Chauraha’ of Lucknow city will be renamed after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as ‘Atal Chowk’.

Foundation stone of Delhi-Saharanpur Highway in Baghpat

- Road, Transport and Highways Minister, Nitin Gadkari and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath will lay the foundation stone of Delhi-Saharanpur 154 km long National Highway in Baghpat.

15th Prawasi Bhartiya Diwas to be held in Varanasi

- The 15th Prawasi Bhartiya Diwas -2019 will be held at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh in January next year.

4th India International Science Festival

- The fourth edition of India International Science Festival will be inaugurated by President of India in Lucknow on October 6, 2018.
- IISF-2018 with its focal theme “Science for Transformation”

WEST BENGAL

Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Kolkata	Mamta Benerjee	Keshari Nath Tripathi

New trekking route coming up in Mirik

- The West Bengal State Tourism Department has decided to open a new trekking route in Mirik, passing through picturesque tea gardens, forests and mountains.

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13. International Affairs

At 95, WW II veteran is oldest scuba diver

- A 95-year-old British veteran of Second World War broke his own record as the world's oldest scuba diver after taking the plunge to explore a shipwreck off Cyprus.

France's ban on bee-killing pesticides begins

- A ban on five neonicotinoid pesticides enters into force in France, placing the country at the forefront of a campaign against chemicals blamed for decimating critical populations of crop-pollinating bees.

France bans use of phones in schools

- A nationwide ban on mobile phones in France schools was brought in under a law passed which also banishes tablets and smart watches from primary and junior schools.

Spanish PM proposes referendum on greater Catalan autonomy

- Spain's Prime Minister proposed holding a referendum in Catalonia on greater autonomy for the wealthy region but ruled out allowing a vote on independence as demanded by Catalan leaders.

Tropical Storm Gordon

- Tropical Storm Gordon lashed South Florida with heavy rains and high winds and is expected to strengthen into a hurricane when it hits the central U.S. Gulf Coast.

Typhoon Jebi

- Japan issues evacuation advisories for almost 300,000 people and cancelled hundreds of flights as typhoon Jebi approaches.

Qatar lifts exit permit system

- Qatar amended its residency laws to allow most foreign workers to leave the country without exit permits from their employers.

Mahatma Gandhi statue unveiled in Bulgaria

- President of India Ram Nath Kovind jointly with the President of Bulgaria, unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi at South Park, Sofia in Bulgaria.

Facebook to invest \$1 billion in data centre in Singapore

- Facebook to invest more than \$1 billion to build its first data centre in Asia in Singapore, slated to open in 2022.

LEMOA fully operational now

- The India-U.S. foundational agreement for mutual logistics support, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), has been fully operationalised.

Florence expected to become a major hurricane as it heads to US

- Hurricane Florence is expected to become a dangerous ‘major hurricane’ as it heads toward the US East Coast and is expected to slam the Carolinas and Virginia the hardest.

Pakistan-China pledge to complete multi-billion dollars CPEC

- Pakistan and China pledged to complete the multi-billion dollars China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and further enhance the bilateral strategic partnership.

PM Modi, Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina, CMs of West Bengal and Tripura, jointly dedicate three projects in Bangladesh

1. 500 MW additional power supply from India to Bangladesh, through the existing Bheramara (Bangladesh) – Baharampur (India) interconnection.
2. Akhaura – Agartala Rail Link.
3. Rehabilitation of the Kulaura-Shahbazpur section of Bangladesh Railways.

First ever bus services between Bihar and Nepal flagged off

- For the first time bus services between Bihar and Nepal have started following the agreement between India and Nepal.

US marks 17th anniversary of 9/11 attacks

- Americans mark the 17th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks that killed almost 3,000 people in New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Vladimir Putin suggests long-awaited peace treaty to Japan

- Russian President Vladimir Putin suggested that Russia and Japan should sign a much-anticipated peace treaty formally ending hostilities from World War II before the end of the year.

UN gets access to Rakhine for the first time since Aug. 2017

- The UN began work inside Myanmar's violence-torn northern Rakhine State of Rohingya Muslims, the first time its agencies have been granted permission to operate there.

Typhoon Mangkhut

- Super Typhoon Mangkhut is heading for the Philippines, Taiwan and Hong Kong.
- Typhoon Mangkhut, which is currently a Category 4 hurricane, is due to make landfall on the northern tip of the main island of Luzon.

Hurricane Florence downgraded to category two storm

- Hurricane Florence has been downgraded to a category two storm as it approaches the US.

UN agrees global plan to step up fight against TB

- United Nations member states have agreed on a global plan to step up fight against tuberculosis, the world's number one killer among infectious diseases.

Jaipur Literature Festival

- Jaipur Literature Festival began in Houston at the Asia Society of Texas.

Archaeologists discover ancient sphinx in Egypt

- Egypt says archaeologists have discovered a statue of a lion's body and a human head in the southern city of Aswan.

Germany rolls out world's first hydrogen train

- Germany rolled out the world's first hydrogen-powered train, signalling the start of a push to challenge the might of polluting diesel trains with costlier but eco-friendly technology.

Expats in UAE will be allowed to stay back in country for longer period of time after their retirement

- The length of the residency period in case of retired expats will be five years, with the possibility of renewal. The new policy is likely to be implemented from 2019.

Bangladesh Cabinet clears deal with India for port usage

- Bangladesh's Cabinet has approved a draft agreement with India to enable New Delhi to use the Chittagong and Mongla ports for the movement of goods to and from northeast India.

North Korea, Moon sign agreement on denuclearization

- North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in signed an agreement on denuclearisation, reducing military tensions and defusing crisis on the peninsula in Pyongyang.

Nepal celebrates its Constitution Day

- Nepal is celebrating its Constitution Day which is also known as the National Day. The new constitution of Nepal was promulgated on this day in 2015.

India, Romania agree to intensify cooperation at UN

- India and Romania have agreed to intensify cooperation at the United Nations and other multilateral fora in order to address global challenges.

AYUSH Information Cell set up in Romania

- Ministry of AYUSH has set up an AYUSH Information Cell at the premises of the Indian Embassy in Romania to disseminate authentic information about AYUSH system of medicine and encourage Ayurveda practice in Romania.

UAE re-affirms commitments to developing nuclear programme to highest safety standards

- The UAE has re-affirmed its commitment to develop its national nuclear programme to the highest standards of safety, security, non-proliferation and transparency.

ANI, WAM sign MoU

- Asian News International, ANI and Emirates News Agency, WAM, the official news agency of the UAE government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU, to reinforce and develop bilateral cooperation in the area of the free news exchange.

Russia, Turkey agree on borders of demilitarised zone in Syrian

- Russia and Turkey have agreed on the borders of a demilitarised zone in northern Syria.

India, Nepal agree to use satellite images in boundary survey work

- India and Nepal have agreed to explore the possibility of using high-resolution satellite images in boundary survey work.

Hong Kong opens high-speed rail link with mainland China

- Hong Kong opened a new high-speed rail link to inland China that will vastly decrease travel times but also raises concerns about Beijing's creeping influence over the semi-autonomous Chinese region.

Nepal to be world's first country to double its tiger population

- Nepal is likely to be the first country in the world to double its tiger population. Nepal announced that there are now an estimated 235 wild tigers in the country, nearly doubling the baseline of around 121 tigers in 2009.

Maldives Presidential elections

- Opposition candidate Ibrahim Mohamed Solih has emerged victorious in Maldives Presidential elections.

'Indra Jatra' festival being celebrated in Kathmandu

- In Nepal, the famous Indra Jatra festival is being celebrated in Kathmandu with gaiety and religious fervor.
- The eight day long annual festival is observed to worship Indra, the lord of rain and good harvest.

‘Gandhi March’ in Netherlands

- India will organise ‘Gandhi March’ from the iconic Peace Palace at the Hague to Grote Kerk to launch the two-year long celebrations of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

Statue of Nelson Mandela unveiled at United Nations

- A statue of Nelson Mandela has been unveiled at the United Nations to honour the late South African leader’s birth. This year marks the 100th anniversary of Mandela’s birth, and the U.N. is declaring 2019-2028 the “Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace.

India to ship first consignment of common grade rice to China

- India will send its first consignment of common grade rice to China. China is a leading importer of rice and sugar, while India is the world’s biggest exporter of rice.

Typhoon Trami hit Japan’s southern island of Okinawa

- Typhoon Trami hit Japan’s southern island of Okinawa with a maximum speed of 216 kilometres per hour.

Syria says vital border crossing with Jordan

- A vital border crossing between Syria and Jordan reopened for the first time in years adding that the flow of trucks and transit across the border has begun.

Macedonia holds referendum

- Macedonia is holding a referendum on whether to change its name to the Republic of North Macedonia.

Sweden's anti-doping dog is 'world's first'

- Sweden's Sports Confederation says Molly is the world's first anti-doping dog, introduced to broaden the country's efforts in curtailing the use of performance-enhancing drugs in sport.

China tests three hypersonic missiles

- China has achieved a feat of testing three types of hypersonic aircraft missiles at the same time. The tests of three scaled-down models of 'wide-speed-range vehicles', which can fly at from hypersonic velocity to lower than the speed of sound, were carried out.

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14. Sports

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FOOT BALL

South Asian Football Federation Cup

- Maldives lift SAFF cup, defeat India 2-1 in Dhaka

CRICKET

India lift Asia Cup

- India has lifted the Asia Cup for a record-extending seventh time. India defeated Bangladesh by 3 wickets in the finals.

India Vs England Test Cricket

- England beat India by 118 runs in the fifth and final Test to wrap up the series 4-1. James Anderson surpassed Glenn McGrath as the highest wicket- taking pacer in Test match history with 564 wickets in 143 matches.

England's Alastair Cook retires from international cricket

- England's Alastair Cook has announced his retirement from international cricket, with the fifth Test against India at the Oval.

Duleep Trophy

- India Blue thrashed defending champion India Red by an innings and 187 runs in the final to win the Duleep Trophy

Former England captain Paul Collingwood retires

- Former England captain Paul Collingwood to retire from professional cricket.

Indian women beat Sri Lanka, clinch series

- The Indian women's cricket team beat Sri Lanka in the second ODI, taking an 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Asia Cup 2018

- The 14th edition of the Asia Cup begins in the UAE. Six nations [India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Afghanistan] participating in this cricket tournament.

India-Sri Lanka Women T20 Series

- Indian women cricket team won the T20 series 4-0 against the Sri Lanka.

TENNIS**U.S. Open Tennis**

- Naomi Osaka of Japan beat Serena Williams at the U.S. Open Tennis to clinch her maiden Grand slam singles title.

Novak Djokovic wins men's title in US open Tennis

- Novak Djokovic of Serbia won the Men's singles final defeating Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina. It was Djokovic's 14th Grand Slam title and the third US Open title.

HOCKEY**Sardar Singh announces retirement**

- Former Indian captain Sardar Singh announces retirement from international hockey.

SHOOTING

52nd World shooting championship

- Anjum Moudgil bagged the Olympic quota place in women's air rifle in style, with a silver medal in the 52nd World shooting championship.

ISSF World Championship

- Om Prakash Mitharwal picked up his maiden gold medal in the 50 metres pistol event at the International Shooting Sport Federation World Championships.
- Divyansh Singh Panwar and Shreya Agarwal netted a bronze in the 10 metres air rifle mixed team junior event of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championships in Changwon, South Korea.
- India's Saurabh Chaudhary clinched the 10 metres Air Pistol Junior gold at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Shooting World Championship. Arjun Singh Cheema claimed bronze in the same event.
- Hriday Hazarika won Gold Medal in the 10m Air Rifle Junior Men's event in the ISSF Shooting World Championships.
- Ankur Mittal claimed the men's double trap gold medal in the ISSF World Championship.
- India's Junior shooters won the country's first set of skeet medals at the ISSF World Championships.
- Men's team of Gurnihal, Ananjeet Singh Naruka and Ayush Rudraraju won silver.
- Gurnihal Singh Garcha won the individual bronze.
- Udhayveer Singh won individual gold in the junior men's 25m pistol event after spearheading India to the team gold in the World Shooting Championships.
- Gurpreet Singh clinched silver in the senior men's standard pistol.
- Vijayveer Sidhu won gold in the 25m standard pistol event for junior men and Vijayveer Sidhu, Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu and Adarsh Singh won the team gold.

Indian shooters secure quota places for 2020 Olympics

- Anjum Moudgil and Apurvi Chandela have become the first set of Indian shooters to secure quota places for the 2020 Olympics.

Other Sports**Indian Kho Kho team to participate at the First International Kho Kho Championship**

- Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (I/C) Col Rajyavardhan Rathore has approved the participation of Kho Kho team from India at the First International Kho Kho Championship in England with financial support from the Government of India.

Olympic Host Nation

- Indonesia will bid to host the 2032 Olympics. Tokyo – 2020 Olympics with Paris – 2024 Olympics and Los Angeles – 2028 Olympics respectively.

Lewis Hamilton triumphs at Italian GP

- Lewis Hamilton won the Italian Grand Prix to tie Michael Schumacher's record of five Italian GP victories.

Raghul clinches MRF F1600 title

- Raghul Rangasamy emerged champion of the MRF Formula 1600 category

IAAF Continental Cup

- Arpinder Singh won the bronze in the men's triple jump in the IAAF Continental Cup athletics at Ostrava, Czech Republic.

Ahmet Comert Tournament

- Indian boxers Simranjit Kaur, Monika and Bhagyabati Kachari won gold medals at Ahmet Comert Tournament in Istanbul, Turkey.

Medved International tournament

- Sakshi Malik will face Marianna Sastin of Hungary for title clash in the 62 kg category of the Medved International tournament in Minsk, Belarus.

Silesian Open boxing Tournament for women

- M C Mary Kom clinched her third gold medal of the year in 48 kg category, while Jyoti Gulia won gold in 51 kg of the youth category of the Silesian Open boxing Tournament for women in Gliwice, Poland.

New marathon world record

- Kenyan Eliud Kipchoge set a new marathon world record in Berlin, smashing the previous best as he clocked 2 hour 1 minute 39 second.

IAAF accords gold label to Tata Mumbai Marathon

- The Tata Mumbai Marathon, to be held on January 20, 2019, has been accorded the gold label by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

Medved International Wrestling

- Sakshi Malik won Silver medal lost to Hungary's Marianna Sastin in the 62 kg category at the Medved International Wrestling tournament at Minsk, Belarus.
- Pooja Dhanda won Bronze medal in the 57 kg category.

World Champion Kevin Mayer sets new world record in Decathlon

- World champion Kevin Mayer set a new world record in the decathlon with 9,126 points become just the third decathlete to surpass the 9,000-point barrier at the Decastar event in Talence, France.

North, South Korea agree to jointly bid for 2032 Olympics

- North and South Korea agreed to prepare a joint bid for hosting the 2032 Summer Olympics, as part of agreements reached during the third inter-Korean summit of the year.

Junior World Wrestling Championship

- India's Sajan Bhanwal has advanced to the finals of 77 kg Greco-Roman event in the Junior World Wrestling Championship at Trnava, Slovakia.

WADA lifts ban on Russia

- The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) lifted a ban on Russia's anti-doping agency, RUSADA, paving the way for Russian athletes to return to competition across all sports.

Track Asia Cup

- India won 3 Gold, 3 Silver and a Bronze on the opening day of the 5th Track Asia Cup Cycling in New Delhi. Mayuri Lute won the country's first Gold in the Women's Junior 500 metres race.

Junior world wrestling championships

- India's Deepak Punia won silver medal in 86kg freestyle event in Slovakia.
- India's Naveen Sihag has progressed to the 57kg gold medal bout in the men's freestyle competition.

Asian Team Snooker Championship

- India won silver medal after losing to Pakistan 2-3 in the final of the Asian Team Snooker Championship in Doha, Qatar.

China Open Badminton

- Indonesia's Anthony Sinisuka Ginting beat Japan's Kento Momota to take the Men's singles China Open title. Spain's Carolina Marin beat China's Chen Yufei to take the women's singles title.

Serbia Junior & Cadet Open

- India have swept the team Table Tennis titles in the girls and cadet boys category at the 2018 Serbia Junior and Cadet Open in Belgrade.

Archery World Cup

- India have clinched three medals at the Archery World Cup Final in Samsun, Turkey. Deepika Kumari won a bronze medal in Women's Recurve event. Abhishek Verma had bagged a bronze medal in men's compound event. Abhishek Verma & Jyothi Surekha Wennem won a silver in the mixed team event.

Asian Junior Squash title

- Yuvraj Wadhvani has won the 25th Asian junior individual squash championship title.

Formula One championship

- Lewis Hamilton wins the Russian Grand Prix in the Formula One Championship.

Ryder Cup – Golf

- Europe beat United States to regain Ryder Cup – Golf.

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