Monthly Current Affairs October 2018
## Table of Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Page No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Important Days</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ranking</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Summit / Conference</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Appointments</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Science and Technology</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Inventions / Discover</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Space Science</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>App/ Web Portal/ Toll Free</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Schemes</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Economic Affairs</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>Banking Affairs</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>MOU/Agreement</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Indian Forces (Defence)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Awards and Achievement</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>National Affairs</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>State Wise Affairs</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>International Affairs</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 1. Important Days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>International Day of Older Persons</td>
<td>The day is observed on 1st October every year to reaffirm the commitment to promoting the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by older persons. <strong>2018 theme</strong> – ‘Celebrating Older Human Rights champions’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2</td>
<td>International Day of Non-Violence</td>
<td>The International Day of Non-Violence is marked on 2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>World Teachers’ Day</td>
<td>World Teachers’ Day, also known as International Teachers Day, is held annually on October 5. Established in 1994 aims to focus on “appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>World Smile Day</td>
<td>World Smile Day is celebrated on the first Friday in the month of October every year. The idea of was coined and initiated by Harvey Ball, a commercial artist from Worcester, Massachusetts. The World’s first World Smile Day was held in the year 1999.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Indian Air Force’s 86th anniversary</td>
<td>The Indian Air Force (IAF) is the air arm of the Indian armed forces. It ranks fourth amongst the airforces of the world. It was officially established on 8 October 1932 as an auxiliary air force of the British Empire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Andaman and Nicobar Command 18th Raising Day</td>
<td>The Andaman and Nicobar Command, the only joint tri-services operational Command of the country, is celebrating its 18th Raising Day. The joint tri-services operational Command was created in 2001 to safeguard India’s strategic interests in the region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>World Post Day</td>
<td>World Post Day is celebrated each year on 9 October, the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern. It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 4 to October 10</td>
<td>World Space Week</td>
<td>World Space Week is an annual holiday observed from 4–10 October in various parts of the world, including Europe and Asia. World Space Week is officially defined as “an international celebration of science and technology, and their contribution to the betterment of the human condition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>World Mental Health Day</td>
<td>World Mental Health Day is observed on 10 October every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>International Day of the Girl Child</td>
<td>International Day of Girl Child is an international observance day declared by the United Nations; it is also called the Day of Girls and the International Day of Girls. <strong>2018 Theme – With Her: A Skilled Girl Force.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>World Egg Day</td>
<td>World Egg Day is celebrated around the world and helps to raise awareness of the benefits of eggs and their importance in human nutrition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13</td>
<td>International Day for Disaster Reduction</td>
<td>The International Day for Disaster Reduction was started in 1989, after a call by the United Nations General Assembly for a day to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction. The 2018 theme continues as part of the “Sendai Seven” campaign, centred on the seven targets of the Sendai Framework. This year focuses on Target C of the Sendai Framework, reducing disaster economic losses in relation to global GDP by 2030.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Mahila Kisan Diwas</td>
<td>Mahila Kisan Diwas is being celebrated to increase the active participation of women in agriculture. Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh will address the function in New Delhi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam birth anniversary</td>
<td>A grateful nation is remembering former President Dr A P J Abdul Kalam on his birth anniversary. Dr Kalam is also known as the Missile Man of India.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>World Food Day</td>
<td>World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world on 16 October in honor of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 17</td>
<td>International Day for the Eradication of Poverty</td>
<td>The United Nations’ (UN) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed on October 17 each year since 1993. It promotes people’s awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution worldwide, particularly in developing countries. <strong>2018 theme – “Coming together with those furthest behind to build an inclusive world of universal respect for human rights and dignity”</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>World Statistics Day</td>
<td>World Statistics Day on October 20 aims to show that good data and statistics are indispensable for informed decision-making by all actors in society. The United Nations event is celebrated every 5 years. The resolution was adopted by the UN General Assembly on June 3, 2015. This is the second World Statistics Day. <strong>Theme: Better Data, Better Lives</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>United Nations Day</td>
<td>24 October has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948. On this day United Nations was created. The United Nations Day celebrates and honors all the work they have done to promote peace around the world and all the good they have done with their network of specialized agencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Details</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>World Development Information Day</td>
<td>The United Nations’ (UN) World Development Information Day is annually held on October 24 to draw attention of worldwide public opinion to development problems and the need to strengthen international cooperation to solve them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>World Polio Day 2018</td>
<td>World Polio Day will be celebrated on 24th October 2018 globally, to generate awareness towards eradication of polio as well as to commemorate the efforts of thousands of employees of WHO and other volunteers committed to the eradication of Polio. <strong>Theme 2018 – “End Polio Now”</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>World Day for Audiovisual Heritage</td>
<td>The World Day for Audiovisual Heritage takes place every 27 October. This commemorative day was chosen by UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) in 2005 to raise of awareness of the significance of and preservation risks recorded sound and audiovisual documents. <strong>Theme “Your Story is Moving”</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>Dr Homi Jehangir Bhabha birth anniversary</td>
<td>Dr Homi Jehangir Bhabha birth anniversary, the Father of India’s nuclear programme and a stalwart of scientific research in India, Dr Bhabha, laid the foundation of several iconic institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>World Cities Day</td>
<td>The first World Cities Day was celebrated in Shanghai, China on 31 October 2014. The day is expected to greatly promote the international community’s interest in global urbanization enhance cooperation among countries and cities in meeting opportunities and addressing challenges of urbanization, and contribute to sustainable urban development. <strong>2018 Theme: Better City, Better Life</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>‘Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' (National Unity Day)</td>
<td>Sardar Patel was instrumental in keeping India united. He was the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of India. He is credited for the integration of over 500 independent princely states in 1947-49 from the British colonial provinces by Independence Act 1947. He is known as the Iron Man of India or Bismarck of India and he is also remembered as the Patron Saint of India's civil servants for establishing modern all-India services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th October - 3rd November</td>
<td>Vigilance Awareness Week</td>
<td>The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) observes the Vigilance Awareness Week every year during the week in which the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (31st October) falls. <strong>Theme for this year is ‘Eradicate Corruption-Build a New India’</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
2. Rankings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reports</th>
<th>India's Rank/State's Rank</th>
<th>Top rank/Other ranks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Index – 2018</td>
<td>India – 58th most competitive economy, India’s rank rose by five places from 2017.</td>
<td>1) USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2) Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3) Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Arcelor Mittal Chairman and CEO Lakshmi Mittal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICC ODI Rankings for Batsmen</td>
<td>1) Virat Kohli</td>
<td>2) Rohit Sharma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3) Joe Root</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5) Shikhar Dhawan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICC ODI Rankings for Bowlers</td>
<td>1) Jasprit Bumrah</td>
<td>2) Rashid Khan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3) Kuldeep Yadav</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badminton World Federation Rankings</td>
<td>1) Chinese Taipei’s Tai Tzu Ying</td>
<td>2) Indian PV Sindhu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### 3. Summit / Conference

#### International Summit & Conference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summit/Conference</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12th ASEM summit</td>
<td>Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu left for Brussels in Belgium to attend the 12th Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) summit. Theme “Global Partners for Global Challenges”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th India-Japan Annual Summit</td>
<td>Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit to Japan on 28-29 of this month for the 13th India-Japan Annual Summit. This will be the fifth Annual Summit meeting between Prime Minister Modi and the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th India-Russia Annual Bilateral Summit</td>
<td>Russian President Vladimir Putin will reach New Delhi on a two day visit to India to attend the 19th India-Russia Annual Bilateral Summit in New Delhi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th CHG meeting of SCO</td>
<td>External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will be participating in the 17th Council of Heads of Government, CHG, meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th India International Silk Fair</td>
<td>Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani, inaugurated the 6th India International Silk Fair (IISF) at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th European SMEs Congress</td>
<td>A delegation of 32 Indian SMEs led by Ms. Alka Arora, Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSME, is participating in the 8th European Congress on SMEs at Kotawice, Poland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM)</td>
<td>Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman holds bilateral talks with her US, ASEAN counterparts in Singapore.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32nd world conference of World Union of Wholesale Markets</td>
<td>Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Purushottam Rural inaugurated the 32nd world conference of World Union of Wholesale Markets, WUWM at Gurugram, Haryana. This is for the first time a WUWM conference is being organised in India. Theme – ‘The Wholesale Markets in the Digital Era: Challenges and Opportunities.’</td>
</tr>
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<td>UN Day Concert 2018</td>
<td>The Permanent Mission of India to the UN is hosting the UN Day Concert 2018. Sarod maestro Amjad Ali Khan to perform at UN Day Concert pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi at an annual concert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFITA/WCCA 2018 Conference</td>
<td>International Conference of Asia Pacific Federation for Information Technology in Agriculture (AFITA) and World Congress on Computers in Agriculture (WCCA) is organised at IIT Bombay from October 24 to 26, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Agriculture Leadership Summit 2018</td>
<td>The Global Agriculture Leadership Summit 2018 opened in New Delhi. The theme of the 2-day summit is, ‘Connecting Farmers to Market’.</td>
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2nd International Conference on Primary Health Care

Shri J P Nadda addresses 2nd International Conference on Primary Health Care towards UHC & SDGs at Astana, Kazakhstan.

13th Annual Bilateral Summit between India and Japan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached Tokyo on a three-day tour to Japan to attend the 13th Annual Bilateral Summit between the two countries.

22nd National level meeting held between India and Myanmar

The 22nd National Level Meeting between India and Myanmar was held from 25 to 26 October, 2018. The two countries agreed on providing of security cooperation along with international border and facilitating movement of people and trade across the international border.

India-Italy Technology Summit

India-Italy Technology Summit in New Delhi, technology has made a medium for social justice, empowerment, inclusion, competent government system and transparency.

Expo Cihac

Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI) is leading a contingent of 45 exhibitors, representing various sectors of the construction industry like building materials, construction equipment, interior furnishing, manufacturing and marketing of ceramic vitrified tiles to Expo Cihac in Mexico City.

National Summit / Conference

International Human Rights Conclave

- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu addressing the International Human Rights Conclave in its Silver Jubilee celebration organized by the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, in New Delhi.

International Sanitation Convention

- The Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention is being organised in New Delhi by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation 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.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres will address the convention.
1st Swachhata Mela at AIIMS

- Health Minister J P Nadda inaugurated the First Swachhata Mela organised by All India Institute of Medical Sciences, in New Delhi.

Inauguration of the first Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in New Delhi this evening in the presence of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

Inauguration of the second Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Renewable Energy Ministerial meeting

- The event will also mark the inauguration of the second Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Renewable Energy Ministerial meeting, and the Second Global RE-Invest, Renewable Energy Investors’ Meet and Expo.

Second RE-INVEST

- The second RE-INVEST aims at accelerating the worldwide effort to scale up renewable energy and connect the global investment community with Indian energy stakeholders.

PAN India Workshop on Prevention of Hazardous Cleaning of Sewers and Septic Tanks

- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot inaugurated a “PAN India Workshop on Prevention of Hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks” organized by National Safai Karmcharis Finance & Development Corporation (NSKLFDC) under Ministry of Social Justice
National level entrepreneurship awareness campaign – Udyam Abhilasha

- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched a national level entrepreneurship awareness campaign – Udyam Abhilasha, in 115 aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog in 28 States.

‘Women in Detention and Access to Justice’ Conference

- The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), Ministry of Home Affairs is organising the First ever Regional Conference at Shimla on ‘Women in Detention and Access to Justice’ in Himachal Pradesh.

Second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting

- As many as 21 countries in the Indian Ocean Rim Association, IORA, adopted the Delhi Declaration on Renewable Energy in the Indian Ocean Region.
- These nations adopted the Delhi Declaration post the second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting held in Greater Noida, near Delhi.

International Conference on Technological Advancements in Railway and Metro Projects (IC-TRAM 2018)

- Minister of Railways & Coal, Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated International Conference on Technological Advancements in Railway and Metro Projects (IC-TRAM 2018) in New Delhi.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference of Indian Region

- The Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference of Indian Region will begin in Guwahati. Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan will attend the event along with Assam Chief Minister Sarbanand Sonowal.
International Conference on Women’s Health, Wellness and Empowerment

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, graced and addressed an International Conference on Women’s Health, Wellness and Empowerment organised by the Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India and the Kanpur Obstetric and Gynaecological Society in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

India Skills 2018

- The country’s biggest skill competition, India Skills 2018 has concluded in New Delhi.

Revisiting Gandhi: The Art of Shelly Jyoti exhibition

- Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani inaugurated the exhibition “Revisiting Gandhi: The Art of Shelly Jyoti” at IGNCA, New Delhi.

Silk Expo & Workshop

- Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated a three-day Silk Expo and Workshop on Silk Samagra in Imphal.
- Under the supervision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Centre has enhanced funding to North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS) under which a large number of textile parks and textile units are currently functional in the North East region.

Workshop on best practices in International Arbitration


National Crisis Management Committee Meeting

- Cabinet Secretary P K Sinha chaired a meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee in New Delhi to take stock of preparatory measures in the wake of impending landfall of the cyclonic storm – TITLI along the coast between Odisha and north Andhra Pradesh.
Accountants General Conference

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 29th Accountants General Conference in New Delhi.

13th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission

- President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the 13th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission in New Delhi.
- The Convention will deliberate on three specific subjects – Data privacy and Right to Information, Amendment in the RTI Act and Implementation of the RTI Act.

Army Commanders Conference

- The Army Commanders’ Conference, an apex level biannual event, which formulates important policy decisions through collegiate deliberations, is being held in New Delhi from 09-15 October 2018.

5th Dental Surgeons Conference

- Vice President Venkaiah Naidu addresses 5th Dental Surgeons Conference in New Delhi.

6th meeting of UAE-India High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments

- India will soon set up a special UAE desk to facilitate investments and resolve any business issues between the two nations. Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu made the announcement after co-chairing the sixth meeting of UAE-India High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments in Mumbai.

46th edition of IHGF-Delhi Fair

- Minister of State for Textiles Ajay Tamta on Sunday inaugurated the 46th edition of world’s largest IHGF-Delhi Fair at India Expo Centre and Mart at Greater Noida.
Road Show for Phase II of Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves launched

- Government of India’s one of the key initiative towards energy security of the country – the strategic petroleum reserves program, envisions creation of additional crude oil reserves facilities in Private Public Partnership (PPP) mode and the road show for the same was launched in New Delhi by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (SDE).

Health on GeM workshop

- The six-week long National Mission Series concluded with a workshop on Health on GeM in New Delhi.

6th meeting of NDMA

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi chaired the sixth meeting of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) at New Delhi.
- Prime Minister reviewed the activities of NDMA to effectively manage and respond to disasters affecting the country.

Conclave on Capital Goods in Steel Sector

- Ministry of Steel is organising a Conclave on “Capital goods in Steel sector: Manufacture in India” in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 23rd October 2018.

Sagar conference

- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu will inaugurate the second edition of the Sagar conference at Bambolim, Goa being organised by the Forum for Integrated National Security (FINS).

‘Vishwa Shanti Ahimsa Sammelan’

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated a three-day ‘Vishwa Shanti Ahimsa Sammelan’ at Mangi Tungi in Nashik district of Maharashtra.
4th edition of NITI Lecture Series on artificial intelligence

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the fourth edition of NITI Lecture Series being organised at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- Theme is ‘Artificial Intelligence for All: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Inclusive Growth’.

National workshop on physical & mental disabilities

- Social Justice & Empowerment Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot inaugurated a national workshop on physical and mental disabilities in New Delhi.

International Arya Mahasammelan-2018

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the International Arya Mahasammelan – 2018 (October 25, 2018) in Delhi.

10th Nuclear Energy Conclave

- Kaiga Atomic Power Station unit sets world record among PHWR for operating uninterrupted for 895 days.

North East festival

- The 5-day extravaganza Experiencing North East festival will begin at the India International Centre in New Delhi.
- The festival, depicting the uniqueness of North Eastern culture is being organised by North Eastern Council, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region in collaboration with India International Centre.
5th edition of Women of India National Organic Fest 2018


India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2018

- India Mobile Congress (IMC) showcasing the latest and the best in digital communications technologies, products, services, and applications; and establishing the future horizons. Theme “New Digital Horizons – Connect. Create. Innovate.”

Conference on Innovation in Cyberspace, Cyber Security Challenges & Innovations

- Defence Research and Development Organization, DRDO organised a day-long conference on “CCTNS–Good practices and Success Stories” organised by National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) in New Delhi.

5th National Summit on Public Health Care

- The 5th National Summit on Good and Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems in India began at Kaziranga in Assam.

Financial Stability and Development Council Meeting

- The Financial Stability and Development Council, FSDC, held a meeting in New Delhi which was presided over by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.
4. Appointments

National New Appointments:

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<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Justice Ranjan Gogoi</td>
<td>46th Chief Justice of India</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Tushar Mehta</td>
<td>Solicitor General of India</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Air Marshal Anil Khosla</td>
<td>Vice Chief of Air Staff</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Air Marshal Amit Dev</td>
<td>Director General Air (OPS)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Air Marshal VR Chaudhari</td>
<td>Deputy Chief of the Air Staff</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Air Marshal Raghunath Nambiar</td>
<td>Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Air Command</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Air Marshal Harjit Singh Arora</td>
<td>Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief South Western Air Command</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pankaj Sharma</td>
<td>India’s Ambassador to UN Conference on Disarmament</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Justice A.S. Bopanna</td>
<td>Chief Justice of Guwahati High Court</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Justice Surya Kant</td>
<td>Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Justice Naresh Harishchandra Patil</td>
<td>Chief Justice of Bombay High Court</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sanjay Verma</td>
<td>India’s Ambassador to Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Sunil Bhaskaran</td>
<td>New Air Asia India boss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Lok Sabha MP Ganesh Singh</td>
<td>The Parliamentary Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Shri Rajesh Agrawal</td>
<td>New Member (Rolling Stock), Railway Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sachin Chaturvedi, Revathy Iyer</td>
<td>Central board members of the Reserve Bank of India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Sandeep Bakshi</td>
<td>Managing Director and CEO of ICICI Bank for 3 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International Appointments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Susane Giti</td>
<td>First female major general of Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Barham Salih</td>
<td>Iraq’s President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Shiite Adel Abdul Mahdi</td>
<td>Iraq’s Prime Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Michael D Higgins</td>
<td>Re-elected as Irish president for second term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jair Bolsonaro</td>
<td>Wins Brazil Presidential elections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Brett Kavanaugh</td>
<td>114th Justice of the US Supreme Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Asim Munir</td>
<td>New Pakistan ISI chief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Kevin Roberts</td>
<td>New CEO of Cricket Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Srinivasan K. Swamy</td>
<td>Chairman &amp; World president of International Advertising Association (IAA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gita Gopinath</td>
<td>International Monetary Fund (IMF)’s Chief Economist Counsellor and Director</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Science and Technology

Rare 5 kg moon rock auctioned for over $600k

- An extremely rare lunar meteorite — comprised of six fragments that fit together like a puzzle — has been sold for $612,500, according to US-based RR Auction.

Indian monsoons influence Atlantic hurricanes

- Strong monsoons in the Indian Ocean can induce easterly winds that push Atlantic Ocean hurricanes westward, increasing the likelihood they will make landfall in the Americas, according to a study. The newly-discovered relationship could help scientists better predict the path of oncoming hurricanes, especially in late summer months like September, when Atlantic hurricane activity peaks.

Emission testing Facility

- Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan said an Emission testing Facility has been established at CSIR-NEERI and extensive training is in progress for conventional and green crackers for monitoring the emissions and sound.

SWAS, SAFAL and STAR

- CSIR scientists have developed Less Polluting Firecrackers which are not only environment friendly but 15-20 % cheaper than the conventional ones.
- These crackers have been named as safe water releaser (SWAS), safe minimal aluminium (SAFAL) and safe thermite cracker (STAR).

5.1 Inventions / Discover

Tiny spheres can trap water pollutant

- Scientists have created tiny spheres that can catch and destroy bisphenol A (BPA), a synthetic chemical used to make plastics that often contaminates water.
IIT Guwahati fabricates superior scaffold for cartilage repair

- Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati have addressed this shortcoming by fabricating a silk scaffold where the junction between the cartilage and bone scaffold is continuous and seamless and hence less prone to damage under load-bearing environment of the joint.

Bacteria to degrade toluene

- Using bacteria isolated from soil and effluents near an oil refinery, researchers from the University of Delhi and Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi, have successfully degraded toluene into less-toxic byproducts.

Cell-sized robots can be used to detect diseases

- MIT scientists have developed a method to mass produce robots no bigger than a cell “syncells” (short for synthetic cells) that could be used to monitor conditions inside an oil or gas pipeline, or to search out disease while floating through the bloodstream.

World’s smallest optical gyroscope developed

- Scientists have developed the world’s smallest optical gyroscope – a device that helps vehicles, drones and handheld electronic devices know their orientation in 3D space.

Two new gecko species

- The spot-necked day gecko and the Anaimudi day gecko, both very distinctly-patterned lizards found only in the Agasthyamalai and Anamalai hill ranges in the Western Ghats, are the latest additions to India’s reptile fauna.

New leaf-warbler bird species discovered in Indonesia

- A new bird species founded named as Phylloscopus rotiensis after the Rote, dry Indonesian island, the only locality where it can be found.
Aloe vera to remove oil from water

- IIT Guwahati researchers use aloe vera gel to convert a commercially available porous material that is oil-loving (oleophilic) to become extremely oil-repelling by coating it with the gel.

5.2 Space Science

First moon outside our solar system discovered

- Astronomers have discovered the first moon detected outside our solar system, a large gaseous world the size of Neptune that is unlike any other known moon and orbits a gas planet much more massive than Jupiter.

Japan drops new robot on asteroid

- Hayabusa2, a Japanese probe launched the French-German Mobile Asteroid Surface Scout, or MASCOT, towards the Ryugu asteroid’s surface by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to shed light on the origins of the solar system.

Parker Solar Probe completes first Venus flyby: NASA

- NASA’s Parker Solar Probe – mankind’s first mission to ‘touch’ the Sun – successfully completed a flyby of Venus at a distance of about 2,415 kilometres during its first gravity assist from the planet, according to the US space agency.

Superflares from young stars may imperil planets: NASA

- Violent flares from the host star may make planets orbiting it uninhabitable by affecting their atmospheres, scientists using NASA’s Hubble Space Telescope have found.
- Hubble is observing such stars through a large programme called HAZMAT — Habitable Zones and M dwarf Activity across Time
NASA probe to fly by most distant object ever visited by a spacecraft

- NASA’s New Horizons probe is on course to flyby the Kuiper Belt object nicknamed Ultima Thule, which is at a distance of 6.6 billion kilometers from Earth this New Year. This event will set the record for the most distant object ever visited by a spacecraft.

Europe, Japan send spacecraft on 7-year journey to Mercury

- European and Japanese space agencies said an Ariane 5 rocket successfully lifted a unmanned BepiColombo spacecraft carrying two probes into orbit for a joint mission to Mercury, the closest planet to the sun.

NASA names gamma-ray constellations after Godzilla, Hulk

- NASA scientists have devised a new set of 21 modern gamma-ray constellations and named them after fictional characters such as the Hulk and Godzilla.

NASA CubeSat beams back image of Mars

- NASA’s first CubeSats called MarCO-A and MarCO-B, to travel into deep space have beamed back an image of Mars visible as a tiny red dot against the dark sky.

First Soyuz Rocket launched successfully

- Russia has successfully launched a Soyuz rocket for the first time since the failure of a similar rocket aborted a manned take-off to the International Space Station (ISS) on October 11.

5.3 App/ Web Portal/ Toll Free

“Digi Yatra”

- Civil aviation Ministry releases the policy on Biometric based Digital processing of passengers at airports called “Digi Yatra”.

Website: www.examsdaily.in Facebook: Examsdaily Twitter: Examsdaily
‘eVigil’

- The “eVigil” mobile application for citizens to share proof of malpractices by political parties, candidates and activists would be available for use soon after the notification of polls in five States.

Aeroindia 2019 Website

- India is hosting the 12th edition of “Aero India 2019” at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru, (Karnataka) from 20 to 24 February, 2019. A newly designed website has been launched for Aero India 2019 (https://aeroindia.gov.in) for registration of exhibitors and visitors.

New online portal for facilitating filing of online applications for Industrial Entrepreneurs’

- Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has developed a new online portal for grant of Industrial Entrepreneurs’ Memorandum and Industrial Licence

Android app ‘Rail Partner’ to provide authentic rail data

- Named ‘Rail Partner’, the Android app rolled out for Indian Railways by the passenger marketing wing of the commercial department of Southern Railway provides an array of information and services and acts as a direct communication medium between passengers and Railways.
- ‘Rail Partner’ will also provide direct call facilities to 20 most required helplines

DRDO website ‘The Kalam Vision – Dare to Dream’

- Defence Minister Nimala Sitharaman dedicated a DRDO website ‘The Kalam Vision – Dare to Dream’ to former president and ‘Missile Man’ Dr APJ Abdul Kalam in New Delhi.

“Main Nahin Hum”

- The portal which works on the theme “Self for Society” will enable IT professionals and organizations to bring together their efforts towards social causes, and service to society, on one platform. The portal is expected to help catalyse greater collaboration towards the service of the weaker sections of society, especially by leveraging the benefits of technology.
‘Khushi’

- Life insurer PNB Metlife has unveiled an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered customer service app ‘Khushi’.
- The app is designed to be a one-stop shop providing insurance-related information, anytime, anywhere, such as policy features, premium due details besides providing fund value and portfolio details.

Web portal of the Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC)

- The Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Prakash Javadekar launched the web portal of the Scheme “Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC)” in New Delhi.

AMRUT scheme

- The Assam government will provide drinking water facilities to urban households of the state using Brahmaputra river as the main source, under the AMRUT scheme.

General Knowledge Study Materials [Click Here for Download]

All subject Study Materials [Click Here for Download]

2018 Current Affairs Download – [Click Here]

Whatsapp Group [Click Here]

Telegram Channel [Click Here]
6. Schemes

Nationwide Action Research Project of Gram Panchayat development scheme

- The nationwide Action Research Project of Gram Panchayat development scheme will be inaugurated by the Minister of Rural Development Narendra Singh Tomar at a function organized at Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh.
- The project is designed for the sustainable and holistic development of rural areas of the country.

River Pollution Abatement Project


Food security scheme

- Odisha government launched the State’s own food security scheme to cover the poor people.

Mission Gange

- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has partnered with Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF) to launch a month-long rafting expedition of a team of 40 members which will be led by the first Indian woman to scale Mount Everest Ms. Bachendri Pal.

Task Force for Closing the Skills Gap in India

- Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship launched a Task Force for Closing the Skills Gap in India, in collaboration with the World Economic Forum.

Launch of Methanol Cooking Fuel Program

- Asia’s first cannisters based and India’s first Methanol Cooking Fuel Program launched in Assam by the Northeast and Assam Petro-Chemicals.
Chief Minister’s Sashakt Kisan Yojana and Krishi Samuh Yojana

- Arunachal Pradesh Government launched the Chief Minister’s Sashakt Kisan Yojana [Employment Generation & Agri-Mechanization Programme] and Chief Minister’s Krishi Samuh Yojana [empowering the farmers through cooperative approach] in Itanagar.

JIMEX 18

- Bilateral Maritime Exercise between Japan and India (JIMEX 18) to Commence at Visakhapatnam.

Shankhnaad

- Shankhnaad, a military tune eulogizing the valour of Veer Mahar soldiers, dedicated to the Nation by the General Bipin Rawat, Chief of the Army Staff. The tune has been written by Brigadier Vivek Sohal (Retired) and composed by Dr (Mrs) Tanuja Nafde.

India for Humanity initiative

- India External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj launched India for Humanity initiative in New Delhi as part of 150th Birth Anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi being held over the next one year.
- ‘India for Humanity’ features a year-long series of artificial limb fitment camps in a number of countries spanning the globe.

Saubhagya scheme

- Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana -“Saubhagya” scheme has brought a monumental change in the lives of the poor people in Odisha.
- The objective of the scheme is to provide energy access to all by last mile connectivity and electricity connection to all un-electrified households in rural as well as urban areas.
High level strategic policy group setup

- The government has set up the Strategic Policy Group (SPG) to assist the National Security Council, which advises the prime minister on matters of national security and strategic interests.

EC to set up all women-managed polling stations

- The Election Commission to set up all women-managed polling stations for each of the assembly constituencies in the poll bound states of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Mizoram and Telangana.

NITI Aayog’s AIM & IBM India’s Internship Programme

- NITI Aayog and IBM announced a first-of-its-kind internship programme for students selected by Atal Innovation Mission (AIM).

Self-Employment Scheme for identified manual scavengers

- Government is implementing a Self-Employment Scheme for the Rehabilitation of identified manual scavengers under which onetime cash assistance, skill development training and loan subsidy will be provided for their rehabilitation.

Saubhagya Award scheme

- Shri RK Singh, Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy announced an award scheme under Saubhagya to felicitate the DISCOMs / Power Department of the States and their employees for achieving 100 per cent household electrification in their area of operations.

Youth Road Safety Learners Licence programme

- The government launched a training programme which is expected to help achieve its target of reducing road accidents by 50 per cent by 2020.
- The initiative aims to bring a formal and structured training program for young, first-time drivers as they apply for a learner’s license.
Target Olympic Podium Scheme

- Sports Authority of India’s Target Olympic Podium Scheme organised a life skills workshop for 35 elite athletes at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana

- Shri Mandaviya also inaugurated Digital Cash Management System for Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana to be implemented as a partnership between BPPI and Bank of Baroda.

POCSO e-Box

- Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi has said that a victim of Child Sexual Abuse can file a complaint at any time irrespective of his or her present age. She urged the victims to report the cases through POCSO e-Box.

First cruise service ‘Angriya’ launched between Mumbai and Goa

- To develop Cruise Tourism in the country, the first cruise service has been launched between Mumbai and Goa. Union Shipping, Ports and Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari launched the service in Mumbai.

Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali

- Environment Ministry has launched Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali campaign. This campaign was initiated in 2017-18 wherein large number of school children participated and took pledge to minimize bursting of crackers.
- It is now merged with “Green Good Deed” movement that has been initiated as a social mobilization for conservation and protection of environment.

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)

- Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) is being implemented with a view to promote organic farming in the country.
Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for creation of special Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF).
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), National Cooperatives Development Corporation (NCDC) and all scheduled Banks (hereinafter referred as Banks) shall be the nodal Loaning Entities.

BIOFACH INDIA

- Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu at the inauguration of BIOFACH INDIA which is the world’s largest event on organic industry organized by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Indo-German of Commerce in New Delhi.

Electoral Bond Scheme 2018

- Only the Political Parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last General Election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly of the State, shall be eligible to receive the Electoral Bonds.

Darpan scheme

- Digital Advancement of Rural Post Offices in India.

Namami Gange programme

- Twelve projects worth Rs 929 crore have been approved under the Namami Gange programme. Two Sewage Treatment Plants have been sanctioned for Delhi for creating 340 million litres per day waste treatment capacity at a cost of 580 Crore rupees.
7. Economic Affairs

Oil firms increase ATF prices by 7.25%

- Aggravating the problem for loss-making airlines, oil marketing companies have increased the domestic Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) prices by 7.25% effective October 1.

BSE introduces commodity segment

- BSE became the first equity exchange to unveil its commodity segment with contracts in popular commodities like gold and silver.

Government decides to cut petrol, diesel prices

- The government has decided to cut Rs 2.50 per litre on both petrol and diesel.

USFDA nod for breast cancer drug

- Drug firm Zydus Cadila has received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) to market Exemestane tablets, used for treatment of breast cancer.

IMF predicts 7.3% growth rate

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicted a growth rate of 7.3 per cent for India in the current year and 7.4 per cent in 2019.

IMF study says gender diversity is likely to boost productivity growth

- IMF study says gender diversity is likely to boost productivity growth including in countries like India. The Research Paper said the women bring new skills to the workplace.
Centre decides to start issuing Sovereign Gold Bonds

- The Centre in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India has decided to issue Sovereign Gold Bonds 2018-19.

WhatsApp sets up system to store payments-related data

- Messaging platform WhatsApp has set up a system in India that stores payments-related data locally in the country to comply with RBI regulations.

Government hikes import duty on certain communication items up to 20%

- The government has hiked the import duty on certain communication items, including base stations, to up to 20 per cent as part of efforts to check a widening current account deficit by curbing imports.

Chinese Stock market’s plunge to lowest levels in four years

- China stock markets plunged to their lowest levels in four years following a global rout, marking the lowest level since November 2014.

SpiceJet will offer WiFi on flights soon

- SpiceJet is set to offer its passengers access to internet on board its aircraft. Airline CMD Ajay Singh made the announcement at a ceremony to induct its first Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft, which has arrived equipped with satellite communication device.

Govt hikes GPF interest rate to 8%

- The union government has increased the rate of interest for General Provident Fund (GPF) and other related schemes by 0.4 percentage points to 8 per cent for the October-December quarter of current financial year.
WPI inflation rises to 5.13% in September

- Inflation based on wholesale prices rose to a two-month high of 5.13 per cent last month, mainly due to hardening of food prices and rise in cost of petrol and diesel.

India imposes anti-dumping duty on certain steel products from China

- India has imposed anti-dumping duties of up to 185.51 US dollars per tonne for five years on certain varieties of Chinese steel to protect the interest of the domestic players on the recommendations of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR).

Income Tax returns growth of over 80 per cent

- The number of Income Tax returns filed in the last four financial years has registered a growth of over 80 per cent.
- The number was 3.79 crore in the year 2013-14 which has increased to 6.85 crore in 2017-18.

GST Council Secretariat asks six states to set up appellate authorities

- The GST Council Secretariat has asked six states to expeditiously set up appellate authorities to enable aggrieved entities to file appeals against orders of the Authority for Advance Rulings (AAR).

India takes lead in delivering equipment to France for ITER research project

- India has taken a lead over others nations in delivering equipment to France for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) research project which is aimed at generating energy through nuclear fusion.

Govt clears five more rice mills for exporting non-basmati rice to China

- The government has cleared five more rice mills for exporting non-basmati rice to China. With this, the number of Indian mills exporting rice to China goes up to 24.
- China buys over five million metric tonnes of rice from India. India also intends to export sugar to China to bridge the trade deficit.
India set to be third largest aviation market

- India will be the third largest aviation market globally a year sooner than was earlier predicted.
- It is now expected to be among the top three countries by 2024 from its current seventh position, according to global aviation body IATA.

Massive inflow of tourists in last few years

- Arunachal Pradesh has witnessed massive inflow of tourists both domestic and international jumping from 2.5 lac to 9 lac in last few years.

Japan agrees to 316 Billion Yen loan for infrastructure projects in India

- Japan has agreed to provide loans of about 316 Billion Yen for seven major infrastructure projects in India. These include Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train, projects in Delhi, North East and Chennai.

Oil prices fall on rising supply

- Oil prices fell signs of rising global supply despite looming sanctions on Iran’s crude exports.

Banking Affairs

RBI to inject Rs. 36,000 cr into system through purchase of government bonds

- The Reserve Bank announced that it will inject 36,000 crore rupees into the system through purchase of government bonds in October to meet the festival season demand for funds.

SBI reduces ATM withdrawal limit to Rs 20,000

- State Bank of India has slashed the daily withdrawal limit on its classic debit card from Rs 40,000 to Rs 20,000. The new limit will be effective from October 31st this year.
RBI allows state-owned oil companies to borrow long term working capital from overseas

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed state-owned oil companies to borrow long term working capital from overseas. RBI relaxed the policy on borrowing up to 10 billion US dollar from the overseas by the state owned fuel retailers.

RBI imposes penalty on Federal Bank

- Reserve Bank has imposed a penalty of five crore rupees on Federal Bank for non-compliance of certain RBI directions among other deficiencies.

RBI keeps key rates unchanged

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to keep the interest rate unchanged at 6.5%. The reverse repo rate at 6.25%. The Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) at 4% while the bank rate is at 6.75%.

SBI to triple asset purchase from NBFCs

- State Bank of India (SBI) has decided to triple the target for loans it purchases from non-banking finance companies (NBFCs). The move is expected to provide much-needed liquidity to these entities.

RBI issues guidelines to facilitate payments among PPI

- In a move aimed at promoting digital transactions, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released operational guidelines to facilitate payments among prepaid instruments (PPI) such as mobile wallets.

RBI opposes move for independent Payments Regulatory Board

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has opposed the move to have an independent Payments Regulatory Board (PRB) as envisaged by the draft proposal for amendments to the Payment & Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
Speed up cyberheist response, RBI says to banks

- The Reserve Bank of India’s IT arm has asked banks to have a protocol in place to ensure quick response to a cyberheist and to effect recovery. The directive comes in the wake of multiple attempted heists in Indian banks in recent years.

New SBI ATM withdrawal limits

- New ATM cash withdrawal rules for SBI account holders will come into effect from October 31.
- The country’s largest bank will reduce the daily cash withdrawal limit for Classic and Maestro debit cards to Rs 20,000 per day, from Rs 40,000.
## International MoUs and Agreements:

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<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Mou Between</th>
<th>Fields</th>
<th>Country Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ADB and India</td>
<td>Sign $150 Million Loan to Improve Regional Connectivity, sign $150 Million Loan Agreement to support India’s First Global Skills Park in State of Madhya Pradesh, sign $240 Million Loan to Provide Safe Drinking Water Service in 3 West Bengal Districts, sign $110 Million Loan to Improve Rural Connectivity in Madhya Pradesh.</td>
<td>President - Takehiko Nakao  &lt;br&gt; Formation -19 December 1966  &lt;br&gt; Head Quarters - Manila, Philippines  &lt;br&gt; Membership - 67 countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>India and Russia</td>
<td>Bilateral Cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Road Transport and Road Industry, sign $5.43 billion missile deal, agreements on cooperation in space, agriculture, nuclear sectors, Mou was exchanged between India’s Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the Russian Federation’s SIRIUS Educational Foundation in New Delhi.</td>
<td>President - Vladimir Putin  &lt;br&gt; Prime Minister - Dmitry Medvedev  &lt;br&gt; Capital - Moscow  &lt;br&gt; Currency - Russian ruble</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>India and Singapore</td>
<td>Cabinet approves Second Protocol amending the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA). Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between India and Singapore on the constitution of a Joint Working Group (JWG) on FinTech</td>
<td>President - Halimah Yacob  &lt;br&gt; Prime Minister - Lee Hsien Loong  &lt;br&gt; Capital - Singapore  &lt;br&gt; Currency - Singapore dollar</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>India and Finland</td>
<td>Memorandum of Cooperation between India and Finland on Environmental Cooperation.</td>
<td>President - Sauli Niinistö  &lt;br&gt; Prime Minister - Juha Sipila  &lt;br&gt; Capital - Helsinki  &lt;br&gt; Currency - Euro</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>India and Sri Lanka</td>
<td>Signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) for construction of 1200 houses through 50 model villages, using Indian grant assistance of 60 crore Sri Lankan rupees.</td>
<td>President - Maithripala Sirisena  &lt;br&gt; Prime Minister - Mahinda Rajapaksa  &lt;br&gt; Capital - Colombo  &lt;br&gt; Currency - Sri Lankan rupee</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>India and China</td>
<td>Security cooperation in the first India-China high-level meeting on bilateral security cooperation held in New Delhi.</td>
<td>President - Xi Jinping  &lt;br&gt; Premier - Li Keqiang  &lt;br&gt; Capital - Beijing  &lt;br&gt; Currency - Renminbi</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>India and BRICS nations</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) among Brazil, Russian Federation, India, China, South Africa, regarding Cooperation in the Social and Labour Sphere and on Environmental Cooperation.</td>
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<td>BRICS Countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.</td>
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<td>Founded Year - June 2006</td>
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<td>First summit - Russia, 2009</td>
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<td>10th summit 2018 - South Africa</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>India and Bangladesh</td>
<td>Signed several agreements for enhancing inland and coastal waterways connectivity for trade and cruise movements.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>President - Abdul Hamid</td>
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<td>Prime Minister - Sheikh Hasina</td>
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<td>Capital - Dhaka</td>
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<td>Currency - Taka</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>India and European Commission</td>
<td>Cooperation on Digital communications &amp; economy discussed between India and European Commission.</td>
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<td>President - Jean-Claude Juncker</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Formation - 16 January 1958</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Head Quarters - Brussels, Belgium; Luxembourg City</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Membership - 28 countries</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>India and Japan</td>
<td>Signed six agreements and made two key announcements on defence and development projects, following the 13th Annual Bilateral Summit led by Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Shinzo Abe in Tokyo.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Crown Prince - Naruhito</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prime Minister - Shinzō Abe</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capital - Tokyo</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Currency - Yen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>India and Afghanistan</td>
<td>Mutual co-operation framework in the areas of Capacity Building of “Afghanistan Accountancy Board (AAB)”, strengthening the IT Capacity and Quality Assurance in Afghanistan through facilitating Knowledge Transfer; Students and Members Exchange Programs; Conduct of Seminars, Conferences and Joint Activities mutually beneficial to both the parties.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>President - Ashraf Ghani</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer - Abdullah Abdullah</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capital - Kabul</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Currency - Afghani</td>
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</table>
## Other MOU / Agreements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Mou Between</th>
<th>Fields</th>
<th>Country Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1     | India and Uzbekistan | Signed 17 MoUs in various fields including agriculture, Tourism, combating illicit trafficking, health and medical science and pharmaceuticals. | President - Shavkat Mirziyoyev  
Prime Minister - Abdulla Aripov  
Capital - Tashkent  
Currency - Uzbek som |
| 2     | India and Kazakhstan | To boost Defence and Military Technical Cooperation. | President - Nursultan Nazarbayev  
Prime Minister - Kokhir Rasulzoda  
Capital - Astana  
Currency - Tenge |
| 3     | India and Tajikistan | Signed MoUs in various fields including political relations, strategic research, agriculture, renewable energy, traditional medicine, space technology, youth affairs, Culture and Disaster Management. | President - Emomali Rahmon  
Prime Minister - Abdulla Aripov  
Capital - Dushanbe  
Currency - Somoni |
| 4     | India and Lebanon | MoU between India and Lebanon for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors | President - Michel Aoun  
Prime Minister - Saad Hariri  
Capital - Beirut  
Currency - Lebanese pound |
| 5     | India and Romania | Memorandum of Understanding between India and Romania in the field of tourism. | President - Klaus Iohannis  
Prime Minister - Viorica Dăncilă  
Capital - Bucharest  
Currency - Romanian Leu |
| 6     | India and Azerbaijan | Sign protocol on trade and economic, science and technology cooperation. | President - Ilham Aliyev  
Prime Minister - Novruz Mammadov  
Capital - Baku  
Currency - Manat |
| 7     | India and Tanzania | Signed two MoUs between Foreign Service Institute of India and Centre for Foreign Relation, Tanzania and National Research Development Corporation and Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Corporation. | President - John Magufuli  
Prime Minister - Kassim Majaliwa  
Capital - Dodoma  
Currency - Tanzanian shilling |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Country Pair</th>
<th>Agreement/Details</th>
<th>Designated Officials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 8  | India and Croatia | Signed two agreements to strengthen cultural and diplomatic cooperation between the two countries. | President - Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović  
Prime Minister - Andrej Plenković  
Capital - Zagreb  
Currency - Kuna |
| 9  | India and Malawi | Signing and ratification of the Extradition Treaty between India and Malawi. The Treaty would provide a legal framework for seeking extradition of terrorists, economic offenders and other criminals from and to Malawi. | President - Peter Mutharika  
Vice President - Saulos Chilima  
Capital - Lilongwe  
Currency - Kwacha |
| 10 | India and Qatar | To establish a joint commission to strengthen their relations in various fields with a view to furthering the common interest of the people of the two countries. | Emir - Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani  
Prime Minister - Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani  
Capital - Doha  
Currency - Riyal |
| 11 | Russia and Egypt | Signed a strategic co-operation treaty. The treaty, designed to increase trade, military and other ties, was signed by the two leaders in Sochi. | President - Abdel Fattah el-Sisi  
Prime Minister - Mostafa Madbouly  
Capital - Cairo  
Currency - Egyptian pound |

**National Agreements:**

**Cabinet approved to give bonus for non-gazetted railway employees**

- Cabinet approved Railway ministry proposal to give bonus to nearly 12 lakh non-gazetted railway employees.

**Cabinet decides to set up National Council for Vocational Education and training [NCVET]**

- Cabinet has decided to set up National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET) by merger of the National Council for Vocational Training and the National Skill Development Agency (NSDA) into NCVET.
550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev next year with events across the globe

- The Government will commemorate the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev next year with events across the globe. The decision was taken at a high-level meeting of the National Implementation Committee chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi.

Special package for footwear and leather sector

- The Central Government has approved a special package for employment generation in leather and footwear sector. Centre has approved four projects worth over 105 crore rupees to promote leather industry in Tamil Nadu.

Cabinet approves Scheme for setting up of Indian Institute of Skills at different locations

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the for setting up of Indian Institute of Skills (IISs) at different locations across the country in Public Private Partnership (PPP), which will be explored for promotion of IIS at select locations based on demand and available infrastructure.

SC rules out sale and registration of BS-IV vehicle from 1st April, 2020

- The Supreme Court has said, no Bharat Stage, BS-IV vehicle would be sold or registered in the country from 1st April, 2020. BS emission norms are standards instituted by the government to regulate output of air pollutants from motor vehicles.
- The BS-IV norms have been enforced across the country since April last year. In 2016, the Centre had announced the country would skip the BS-V norms altogether and adopt BS-VI norms by 2020.

DAC approves upgrade of 17 Dornier aircrafts of Indian Coast Guard

- The Defence Acquisition Council on Saturday approved the Mid Life Upgrade of 17 Dornier Aircraft of Indian Coast Guard at an approximate cost of Rs 950 crore.
- The upgrades will be carried out by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
Governors’ panel submits 21 recommendations to President for doubling farmers’ income

- A committee of governors set up by President Ram Nath Kovind submitted a report on approach to agriculture for doubling the income of farmers in the country which made 21 major recommendations. Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik headed the panel.
9. Indian Forces (Defence)

High level meeting between Indian and Vietnamese Coast Guards

- A High Level Meeting between Coast Guards of India and Vietnam was held at Coast Guard Headquarters under the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2015.

IBSAMAR-VI

- The sixth edition of IBSAMAR, a joint Multi – National Maritime Exercise between the Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies, is being held at Simons Town, South Africa from 01 – 13 Oct 18.

Sahyog HOP TAC-2018

- Coast Guards of India, Vietnam hold Sahyog HOP TAC-2018 – joint exercise off Chennai aimed at strengthening the working level relationship between them.

Japan military joins historic Philippine war games “Kamandag”

- Japanese troops stormed a beach in the Philippines in joint exercises with US and Filipino troops marked the first time Tokyo’s armoured vehicles rolled on foreign soil since World War II, 1945.

NS Rana at South Korea to Participate in IFR

- INS Rana which is currently on Operational Deployment to the North West Pacific region in the pursuance of India’s Act East Policy, arrived Jeju, Republic of Korea to participate in the International Fleet Review (IFR).

32nd India – Indonesia coordinated patrol (CORPAT)

- Indian Naval Ship Kulish, a Kora class missile corvette entered Belawan harbour, Indonesia for the opening ceremony of the 32nd edition of India – Indonesia coordinated patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT).
Goa Maritime Symposium – 2018

- The Goa Maritime Symposium – 2018, the second edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium (GSM) – a forum towards fostering friendly relations with the maritime neighbours – was inaugurated by the Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Sunil Lanba at INS Mandovi at Goa on 16th October 2018.

Newly inducted Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV)

- The Indian Navy’s submarine rescue capabilities have got a boost with the successful maiden trials of its newly inducted Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV).

China and ASEAN to hold joint naval exercises

- China and Southeast Asian Nations will hold their first joint maritime exercises next week. The navies of China and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will hold ASEAN-China Maritime Exercise in the South China Sea near the city of Zhanjiang.

Dharma Guardian- 2018

- India and Japan are all set to hold the first ever joint military exercise ‘DHARMA GUARDIAN-2018’ involving the Indian Army and Japan Ground Self Defence Force in India from 01 November to 14 November 2018.
- The Indian contingent will be represented by 6/1 GORKHA RIFLES.

India, Japan, U.S. plan joint air exercise

- India, Japan and the U.S. are set to elevate the bilateral ‘Cope India’ air exercise to a trilateral format. The three countries already conduct naval war games under the expanded Malabar naval exercise.

NATO’s biggest military maneuvers

- NATO’s biggest military maneuvers since the Cold War began in Norway.
Defence Pension Adalat

- A Defence Pension Adalat was conducted at Aundh Military Station, Pune, Maharashtra.

57th Raising Day Parade of ITBP

- Home Minister Rajnath Singh attended the 57th Raising Day Parade of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) at Greater Noida.

72nd Raising day of the Infantry battalion of the Indian Army in Ooty

- Special parade, march past and offering of wreaths were held at the Madras Regiment Training Centre, Wellington, Coonoor, Ooty, Tamil Nadu to commemorate the 72nd Raising day of the Infantry battalion of the Indian Army.

US military successfully tests ballistic missile intercept system

- The US military successfully shot down a medium-range ballistic missile in a test of a new interceptor system. It is co-developed with Japan.
10. Awards and Achievement

International

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Awardees</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>UNEP Champions of the Earth award</td>
<td>Narendra Modi [In New Delhi presented by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>UN Food and Agriculture Organisation’s Future Policy for Gold Award</td>
<td>Sikkim [for its achievement in becoming the world’s first totally organic agriculture state] Brazil, Denmark and Equador won Silver for their policies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Man Booker Prize 2018 [For Novel ‘Milkman’]</td>
<td>Irish Author Anna Burns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kleinman Center for Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania awards</td>
<td>4th annual Carnot Prize – Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal [annual recognition of distinguished contributions to energy policy through scholarship or practice]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Seoul Peace Prize</td>
<td>Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with the Seoul Peace Prize for 2018 for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management Award, 2018</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>UN Human Rights Prize</td>
<td>1) Pakistan’s human rights activist and lawyer Asma Jahangir [posthumously]</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2) Rebeca Gyumi of Tanzania</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3) Brazil’s first indigenous lawyer Joenia Wapichana</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4) Ireland’s human rights organisation Front Line Defenders</td>
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Nobel Prize Winners

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<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Awardees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine</td>
<td>James P. Allison [USA] and Tasuku Honjo [Japan] [For their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Nobel Prize in Physics</td>
<td>Arthur Ashkin [USA] [For the optical tweezers and their application to biological systems] ; Gérard Mourou [France] and Donna Strickland [Canada] [For their method of generating high-intensity, ultra-short optical pulses]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Nobel Prize in Chemistry

Frances H. Arnold [USA] [For the directed evolution of enzymes]; George P. Smith [USA] and Sir Gregory P. Winter [UK] [For the phage display of peptides and antibodies].

### Nobel Peace Prize

Congolese Dr. Denis Mukwege, Yazidi rights activist Nadia Murad [For their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict].

### Nobel Prize for Economic Sciences

William D. Nordhaus [USA] [For integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis] & Paul M. Romer [USA] [For integrating technological innovations into long-run macroeconomic analysis].

### National Awards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Awardees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>First position in Kayakalp awards with prize money of Rs. 5 crore</td>
<td>AIIMS Delhi (To recognise the efforts of the central and states hospitals for maintaining cleanliness in their premises).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>NIPM Ratna Award</td>
<td>Tapan Kumar Chand, CMD, NALCO</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Rajkumar award for lifetime achievement for 2017</td>
<td>Multi-lingual senior actor Lakshmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Award for the largest contribution to the Swacch Bharat Kosh.</td>
<td>Mata Amritanandamayi Devi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2018 ‘Visishta Puraskaram’ by the Ramineni Foundation</td>
<td>Badminton coach Pullela Gopichand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Young Innovator Award</td>
<td>24-year-old Jawwad Khizar Patel, young social innovator and research scientist from Hyderabad was awarded the National Youth Award for Excellence in Research and Innovation by the Government of India. Santosh Kaveri of Belgaum, another recipient bagged the award for his contribution in the field of agriculture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Prasar Bharti CEO distributes Rajbhasha awards</td>
<td>Prasar Bharti CEO Shashi Shekhar Vempati distributed Rajbhasha awards to Prasar Bharti employees in New Delhi.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Valmiki award for Deve Gowda</td>
<td>The Karnataka government has chosen former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda for the Maharishi Valmiki award for 2018-2019 for his work towards uplifting SC/ST communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony</td>
<td>2014 – Manipuri dance Sh. Rajkumar Singhajit Singh</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Top Challengers’ and Best Mining Equipment Seller Award</td>
<td>Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), a Mini Ratna Public Sector Undertaking, under the Ministry of Defence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. National Affairs

Centre to set up 5,000 Compressed Bio Gas plants

- The Centre has planned to set up 5,000 Compressed Bio Gas plants in the country in the next four years with an investment of around one lakh 75 thousand crore rupees.

Monsoon 2018 ends with 9% below normal rains

- The Monsoon season has come to an end with a below normal showing this year as the country recorded a nine per cent deficit in rainfall. Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and northeastern states recorded the maximum deficiency.

Nation pays homage to the former PM Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary

- The Nation also pays homage to the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary. Shastri gave the powerful slogan of *Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan* to enthuse soldiers and farmers.

MNS Celebrates 93rd Raising Day

- The Military Nursing Service (MNS) celebrating its 93rd Raising Day on October 1st.

BCCI, brought under RTI Act

- Central Information Commission (CIC) has ruled that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is covered under the RTI Act and answerable to the people of the country.

Inauguration of Multimedia Exhibition

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Information & Broadcasting and Sports & Youth Affairs Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore (Retd.) inaugurated Multimedia Exhibition on 150 years of Celebrating Mahatma Gandhi’s Birth Anniversary.
Cabinet hikes MSP of Rabi crops

- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, CCEA, has increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all Rabi crops for the current financial year which will be marketed in 2019-20 season.
- The MSP of wheat – raised by 105 rupees per quintal, Safflower – 845 rupees per quintal, Barley – 30 rupees a quintal, Masur – 225 per quintal, Gram – 220 per quintal and rapeseed & mustard – 200 rupees per quintal.

Centre sanctions 122 schemes

- The Centre has sanctioned 122 schemes to mitigate ill effects of arsenic in Assam.

Redevelopment of Railway Stations

- Cabinet approves Redevelopment of Railway Stations by IRSDC as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and longer lease tenure.

Nagaland’s ‘Gandhi’ Natwar Thakkar dies

- Noted Gandhian Natwar Thakkar came to be accepted as “Nagaland’s Gandhi” died in a private hospital in Guwahati.

State to partner with Goa International Film Festival

- Jharkhand to become partner state at Goa International Film Festival to showcase its culture and favourable film.

PM to unveil Deenbandhu Sir Chhotu Ram statue

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi to unveil a statue of Deenbandhu Sir Chhotu Ram at Sampla in Rohtak.
Uttarakhand CM flags off test run of state’s first electric bus

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat flagged off the test run of the state’s first electric bus to encourage the operation of pollution-free vehicles in the state.

Online Assurances Monitoring System (OAMS) inauguration

- Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Statistics & Programme Implementation, Shri Vijay Goel, inaugurated the Online Assurances Monitoring System (OAMS), developed by the Union Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi attended and delivered an address at the event to mark the launch of the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Silver Jubilee celebrations of NHRC

- The three-day Silver Jubilee celebrations of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) begin to mark the occasion. The Commission is completing 25 years of its existence with its 26th Foundation Day. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the Silver Jubilee Foundation Day of the Commission in New Delhi.

Mission to sequence genes of Indians

- India is planning a major mission to sequence the genes of a “large” group of Indians to improve health as well as buck a global trend of designing ‘personalised medicine.’ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Department of Biotechnology would be closely associated with the project.
Inauguration the hi-tech Central Warehouse

- Union Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Road Transport & Highways, Shipping, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the hi-tech Central Warehouse, setup by the Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) in Bilaspur, Gurugram.

Two-day Agri-startup and Entrepreneurship inauguration

- On the occasion of World Food Day, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated a two-day Agri-startup and Entrepreneurship in New Delhi.
- Theme – Unleashing potentials in agriculture for young agri-preneurs.

NGT fines Delhi government Rs 50 crores

- The National Green Tribunal has fined the Delhi government 50 crore rupees for its “failure” to take action against steel pickling units in residential areas as they fall under the prohibited list of industrial activity.

NITI Aayog launches guidelines for Public-Private partnership in NCDs

- NITI Aayog launched the model guidelines for Public – Private partnership in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). As per the guidelines, the private partner will invest in upgrading, building and deploying human resources.

75th anniversary of Azad Hind government

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will join a flag-hoisting ceremony at Red Fort on 21.10.2018 to mark the 75th anniversary of the Azad Hind government constituted by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Revised CBSE Affiliation Bye Laws

- Union HRD Minister releases the revised CBSE Affiliation Bye Laws to ensure speed, transparency, hassle-free procedures and ease of doing business with the CBSE.
Centre notifies special courts for benami transaction cases

- The Centre has issued the notification that Sessions Courts in 34 states and union territories, will act as Special Courts for the trial of offences under the benami transaction law.

SC allows green crackers with permissible sound limits on Diwali

- The Supreme court permitted sale and manufacture of “green” crackers which have low emission across the country.

SC directs Rajasthan govt to stop illegal mining in Aravalli hills

- The Supreme Court directed the Rajasthan government to stop illegal mining in a 115.34-hectare area in Aravalli hills within 48 hours.

1500 crore rupees will be spent to develop the NH in A&N Islands

- Government says 1500 crore rupees will be spent to develop the National Highway in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Goa gets English translation of Portuguese civil code, 1867

- The English translation of the Portuguese civil code, 1867, followed in Goa, is now available at the Official Gazette, a year after the Goa bench of the Bombay High Court took suo moto cognizance of a news article that pointed out the inefficiencies of the uniform civil code that often got lost in translation.

GoM to strengthen legal & institutional frameworks to deal with & prevent sexual harassment at workplace

- The Government today constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to examine the existing legal and institutional frameworks for dealing with matters of sexual harassment of women at the workplace. GoM to be headed by the Union Home Minister
Two day Children’s Film Bonanza

- In Arunachal Pradesh, the two day Children’s Film Bonanza begins in Naharlagun. Internationally acclaimed film Gauru will be screened during the two day event.
- The film festival is being organized by the Children’s Film Society, India, in collaboration with Arunachal Pradesh Information and Public Relation Department.

Supreme Court bans 15-year-old petrol & 10-year-old diesel vehicles in NCR to curb pollution

- The Supreme Court has prohibited the plying of 15-year-old petrol and 10-year-old diesel vehicles in the national capital region due to the prevailing pollution situation.
- The Apex court made it clear that such vehicles would be impounded if found on the roads in Delhi-NCR.

Supreme Court modifies Diwali cracker ban order

- The Supreme Court modified its order fixing a time slot of 8 pm to 10 pm for bursting firecrackers on Diwali.
- The apex court said the timing will be changed in places like Tamil Nadu and Puducherry but will not exceed two hours a day.

Fabric of Unity unveiled

- Textiles Minister Smriti Zubin Irani unveiled the Fabric of Unity on the occasion of the 143rd birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Gurugram in Haryana.
12. State Wise Affairs

- Andhra Pradesh
- Assam
- Bihar
- Delhi
- Gujarat
- Jammu & Kashmir
- Karnataka
- Kerala
- Maharashtra
- Madhya Pradesh
- Meghalaya
- Odisha
- Punjab
- Rajasthan
- Tamil Nadu
- Telangana
- Uttar Pradesh
- West Bengal

**ANDHRA PRADESH**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Governor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad (Amaravati)</td>
<td>N. Chandrababu Naidu</td>
<td>E. S. L. Narasimhan</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Tirupati bans plastic carry bags

- Ban on plastic carry bags came into force in Tirupati on Gandhi Jayanti day.

Appeal to accord special category status

- The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has appealed to 15th Finance Commission to accord special category status to the state.

**ASSAM**

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<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Governor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dispur</td>
<td>Sarbananda Sonowal</td>
<td>Jagdish Mukhi</td>
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Guwahati sports India’s ‘tallest’ national flag

- The Assam government celebrated the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi by unfurling India’s tallest National Flag from the average city elevation. The 9,600 sq ft flag stands on a 319.5 ft flag pole at Gandhi Mandap, a memorial for Mahatma Gandhi atop the Sarania Hill
Assam Assembly passes amendment in GST Act

- The Assam Assembly has passed an amendment in the GST Act by exempting GST registration for companies having up to 20 lakh rupees turnover per annum.

Assam govt to provide 1 lakh shallow tubewells to farmers

- Assam government to provide 1 lakh shallow tubewells to small and marginal farmers.

New Roll on -Roll off facility

- Inland Waterways Authority of India has started a new Roll on -Roll off facility in collaboration with the Assam government for Majuli Island district.
- Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off the Ro-Ro Service.

Second Guwahati International Film Festival

- In Assam, the second Guwahati International Film Festival begins. Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal will inaugurate the festival.

BIHAR

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<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Governor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Patna</td>
<td>Nitish Kumar</td>
<td>Lalji Tandon</td>
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Postal department’s cultural centre named after Madan Mohan Malaviya

- Union Minister for Communications Manoj Sinha named a pre-Independence period cultural centre of the Postal department in the heart of Patna city after freedom fighter Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya.

Government announces Rs 1500 Cr for immediate relief works in drought affected 206 blocks

- Bihar government has announced that 1500 Crore rupees would be spent for immediate relief works in drought-affected 206 blocks of 23 districts in the state.
DELHI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Lieutenant Governor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arvind Kejriwal</td>
<td>Anil Baijal</td>
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‘Walkthon’ for Senior Citizens

- Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment flagged off a “Walkthon” for older persons and senior citizens to celebrate the International Day of Older Persons at Commonwealth Games Village Stadium, near Akshardham Mandir.

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) celebrated its Annual Day

- To commemorate its establishment on 1st October, 2016, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has instituted an Annual Day Lecture in New Delhi.

Rejuvenated Lake and Illumination of Purana Qila

- Rejuvenated Lake and Illumination of Purana Qila inaugurated by Dr. Mahesh Sharma, in Delhi.

Multimedia exhibition on 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi’s birth anniversary

- A week-long multimedia exhibition on 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi’s birth anniversary is being held in New Delhi.

Air Quality Warning System launched

- Minister Dr Harshvardhan unveiled an Air Quality early warning system for Delhi region, in New Delhi designed with the help of American and Finnish models to predict extreme air pollution levels.

Foundation Stone of National Institute of Homeopathy at Narela

- Union Minister of State for AYUSH Shri Shripad Yesso Naik laid the foundation stone of National Institute of Homeopathy at Narela.
Foundation stone for Museum on Prime Ministers of India

- Minister Mahesh Sharma and Minister Hardeep Singh Puri laid the foundation stone for Museum on Prime Ministers of India in New Delhi.

Delhi records its worst air quality of this season

- Delhi recorded its worst air quality of this season today as a thick haze engulfed the national capital which continued to grapple with deteriorating air quality.
- Overall Air Quality Index of the national capital was recorded at 381 which falls in the very poor category, the highest of this season and just points below severe pollution level.

GUJARAT

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<tr>
<td>Gandhinagar</td>
<td>Vijay Rupani</td>
<td>Om Prakash Kohli</td>
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PM inaugurates LNG terminal and pipeline projects at Anjar

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Mundra LNG terminal, the Anjar-Mundra Pipeline Project and the Palanpur-Pali-Barmer pipeline project, at Anjar.

PM Inaugurates modern food processing facilities in Anand

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, inaugurated modern food processing facilities, including Amul’s ultra-modern Chocolate Plant, at Anand.

World’s tallest statue, the Statue of Unity to be unveiled on 31st October

- The world’s tallest statue, the Statue of Unity dedicated to the iron man of India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel is all set to be unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 31st October, the birth anniversary of Sardar Patel.
Gujarat govt declares 51 talukas as water scarcity hit

- The Gujarat government declared 51 talukas, comprising 3,291 villages, as scarcity hit owing to scanty rains.

Unique Ro-Pax ferry service launched

- In Gujarat, an unique Ro-Pax ferry service between Ghogha and Dahej was launched by Chief Minister Vijay Rupani.

First Mega Food Park in Surat

- Union Minister Smt Harsimrat Badal inaugurates Gujarat’s first Mega Food Park in Surat; says 2nd Park in Mehsana sanctioned.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation Statue of Unity

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation Statue of Unity, built in honour of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Kevadiya in Narmada district of Gujarat.
- 182-metre statue of the Iron Man of India, world’s tallest, unveiled on his 143rd birth anniversary.
- The statue will remind the world about the courage of the man who thwarted attempts to disintegrate India.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

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<tr>
<td>Jammu (Winter)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Satya Pal Malik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Srinagar (Summer)</td>
<td>-</td>
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Vajrapani Stupa inauguration

- Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor (CEC), Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Kargil inaugurated Vajrapani Stupa at Garkone.
Free accident insurance cover for pilgrims

- In Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has approved the enhancement of free accident insurance cover for pilgrims visiting the shrine to five lakh rupees.

KARNATAKA

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<th>Capital</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Governor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>H. D. Kumaraswamy</td>
<td>Vajubhai Vala</td>
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8th International Food Convention in December

- The 8th International Food Convention (#IFCON-2018), a mega event of the Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (I) in association with the CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) and DRDO-Defence Food Research Laboratory (DFRL), will be held in Mysuru.

Health department begins drive against H1N1

- Karnataka Health department has started a drive against H1N1 or swine flu. The move comes as 400 positive cases of the flu were reported in the state since January this year.

Mobile application ‘Chunavana’

- In Karnataka, the Election Commission will provide a pick-up and drop facility for the differently abled voters to enable them to exercise their franchise without difficulty.
  - The facility launched for the first time in the country as a pilot project can be booked in advance through a mobile application ‘Chunavana’ till midnight of November 1.

KERALA

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<th>Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thiruvananthapuram</td>
<td>Pinarayi Vijayan</td>
<td>P. Sathasivam</td>
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Red Button Public Robotic Spectrum (RBPRS), an intelligent robotic terminal

- Red Button Public Robotic Spectrum (RBPRS), an intelligent robotic terminal to help the public to reach out to police and track crimes, will be installed at two places in Cherthala.

Rekha Nair new RCC director

- Rekha Nair, Additional Professor of Pathology at the Regional Cancer Centre (RCC), has been appointed the new director of the institution. Dr. Rekha Nair is the first woman to head the RCC, the oldest and the premier cancer treatment centre in the State.

Foundation for India’s largest Dry Dock

- Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation for the country’s largest Dry Dock at Cochin Shipyard in Kerala.
- It is being constructed at a cost of 1,799 rupees crore and will be completed by May 2021.

MADHYA PRADESH

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<th>Capital</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Governor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bhopal</td>
<td>Shivraj Singh Chouhan</td>
<td>Anandiben Patel</td>
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Establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation

- Cabinet approves establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation in Sehore District instead of Bhopal.

Election Commission bans poll campaign through SMS, Whatsapp

- In Madhya Pradesh, the Election Commission has banned the poll campaign through SMS and Whatsapp Call from 10 in night to 6 in the morning for the Assembly election.
Election commission is establishing 500 pink booths

- In Madhya Pradesh, the election commission is establishing 500 pink booths in the state for the assembly election.

**MAHARASHTRA**

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<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
<th>Governor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>Devendra Fadnavis</td>
<td>Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao</td>
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Plastic ban implementation in Maharashtra to be stricter

- Plastic ban implementation in Maharashtra is expected to be stricter as the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) has instructed its officials to initiate action against plastic manufacturers violating a ban imposed on the product in the state from October 1.

Maharashtra brings in 31 GST reforms

- Maharashtra government brought in 31 reforms in the state GST structure to promote ease of doing business. The changes have been brought in for the first time since the introduction of the GST.

GI Tag for Alphonso from Konkan

- Alphonso from Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Palghar, Thane and Raigad districts of Maharashtra, is registered as Geographical Indication (GI).

Hindustani classical musician Annapurna Devi passes away

- Renowned Hindustani musician Annapurna Devi passed away at 91. Annapurna Devi was an Indian Surbahar player of Hindustani classical music and she was the daughter and disciple of Allauddin Khan. She was married to sitar maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar.
Government proposes to extend benefits of Employees Provident Fund

- The Maharashtra government has proposed to extend benefits of Employees Provident Fund (EPF) as well as insurance schemes to those cutting, harvesting and transporting sugarcane.

Government declares drought in 180 Tehsils of state

- The Maharashtra cabinet has declared drought-like situation in 180 tehsils of the state. The cabinet also announced eight schemes to provide relief in the affected areas.

Internet connection and free set top boxes to be provided to one lakh homes

- An MoU in this regard was signed in Mumbai today between Education Department and Stream cost company to provide e-education in rural parts of the state, internet connection and free set top boxes will be provided to one lakh homes in Sindhudurg district in Maharashtra.

MEGHALAYA

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<th>Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shillong</td>
<td>Conrad Sangma</td>
<td>Tathagata Roy</td>
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Blue Revolution to be launched


Textile Ministry to construct textile tourism complex

- Minister of State for Textiles, Ajay Tamta has said that the Ministry will release 7.8 crore rupees for the construction of a textile tourism complex in Nongpoh, Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya.

Textile tourism complex

- Textile Ministry to release Rs 7.8 Cr for construction of textile tourism complex in Nangpoh, Meghalaya.
ODISHA

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<th>Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bhubaneswar</td>
<td>Naveen Patnaik</td>
<td>Dr S.C. Jamir</td>
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Foundation stone for Second Generation (2G) Ethanol Bio-refinery

- The foundation stone for Second Generation (2G) Ethanol Bio-refinery of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited being set up at Baulasingha village, Bargarh district, Odisha was laid by Governor of Odisha Professor Ganeshi Lal.

PUNJAB

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<tr>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>Amarinder Singh</td>
<td>V. P. Singh Badnore</td>
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Punjab Cabinet approves policy for regularization of Unauthorized colonies

- Punjab Cabinet approved a policy for regularization of unauthorized colonies developed before March 19, 2018.

RAJASTHAN

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<th>Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jaipur</td>
<td>Vasundhara Raje</td>
<td>Kalyan Singh</td>
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Biggest Zika virus outbreak in Jaipur

- A total of 50 people have tested positive for Zika virus in Jaipur making it the biggest outbreak of the deadly disease in India so far. This development comes few days after the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) sought a comprehensive report from the Health Ministry on the outbreak of Zika virus.

HM Rajnath Singh to celebrate Dussehra with BSF

- Home Minister Rajnath Singh will visit Bikaner in Rajasthan to be with the Border Security Force personnel guarding the Indo-Pakistan border and will celebrate Dussehra with them.
TAMIL NADU

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<th>Capital</th>
<th>Chief Minister</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>Edappadi K. Palaniswami</td>
<td>Banwarilal Purohit</td>
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NE monsoon in Tamilnadu will bring 12% excess rainfall

- Northeast monsoon in Tamilnadu will bring 12% excess rainfall this year: IMD official

First printed Tirukkural to be republished after 165 years

- Sivalayam J. Mohan, to bring out the edition on October 5, exactly 165 years after it [1853 edition] was first published because it falls on the birthday of Ramalinga Vallalar.

Southern Railway becomes unmanned level crossing free zone

- The Southern Railway has said it has become Unmanned Level Crossing (UMLC) Free Zone, eliminating over 1,000 such level crossings.

Joint operations to combat Left Wing Extremism

- Odisha and Andhra Pradesh Police have decided to conduct joint operations and share information to effectively combat the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) in the border areas of the two states.

Tamil Nadu CM announces 3% sub-quota in recruitments for sportspersons

- The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has announced that sportspersons would be given three percent sub-quota for recruitments in Government Departments and public sector undertakings.

India’s first engineless train

- Train 18, the country’s first engineless train, which is being regarded as a successor to the 30-year-old Shatabdi Express, is set to hit the tracks for trials on October 29. Train 18, the swanky 16-coach prototype, was developed by the Chennai-based Integral Coach Factory in 18 months.
Sukanya Samridhi Yojana in TN

- Tamil Nadu has created a national record by opening over 16 lakh postal savings accounts under the Sukanya Samridhi Yojana.

**TELANGANA**

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<th>Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>K Chandrasekhar Rao</td>
<td>E.S Lakshmi Narasimhan</td>
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Siemens CoE to be set up at NIT

- A Siemens Centre of Excellence is proposed to be set up on the National Institute of Technology (NIT) campus here at a cost of Rs.210 crore.

**Inauguration of NIT Warangal Diamond Jubilee Celebrations**

- Vice President, M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of National Institute of Technology (NIT) in Warangal, Telangana.

Harsha becomes GM

- Harsha Bharathkoti has become the second Grandmaster from Telangana

Sri Lankan Police Officers participate in Industrail Security training program

- A team of 30 Sri Lankan Police Officers participated in a training program on Industrial security at the National Industrial Security Academy (NISA) in Hyderabad. The training programme was fully-funded by the Government of India, with a sponsorship of over 50 lakh Sri Lankan rupees.

**UTTAR PRADESH**

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<th>Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lucknow</td>
<td>Yogi Adityanath</td>
<td>Ram Naik</td>
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</table>
Indian International Science Festival

- A four-day Indian International Science Festival (IISF) 2018 kicked off in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- Theme :- Science for transformation.

UP cabinet decides to rename Allahabad as Prayagraj

- Uttar Pradesh cabinet decided to change the name of Allahabad city to Prayagraj.

PM Modi inaugurates Krishi Kumbha 2018

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Krishi Kumbha 2018 in Lucknow through video conferencing, Mr Modi reiterated the government’s commitment to double farmers’ income by 2022 will help the nation’s food producers at every stage from sowing to selling.

WEST BENGAL

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<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>Mamta Benerjee</td>
<td>Keshari Nath Tripathi</td>
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Compensation of Rs 210 Cr to hailstorm affected farmer

- The West Bengal Government will give a compensation of 210 crore rupees to farmers who had incurred loss due to hailstorm this year.

First container movement on inland waterways

- Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) will transport container cargo belonging to the food and beverage giant PepsiCo (India) from Kolkata to Varanasi on river Ganga (National Waterway-1).
- This would be the country’s first container movement on inland vessel post-independence.
13. International Affairs

Serena releases song to increase awareness about breast cancer

- Tennis superstar Serena Williams releases song “I Touch Myself” to raise awareness for breast cancer.

Tropical Storm Rosa

- Tropical Storm Rosa is nearing northwest Mexico where its heavy rains were expected to cause flooding and landslides before drenching parts of the U.S. Southwest.

Canada agrees to join trade accord with US & Mexico

- Canada and the United States reached a deal last night for Canada to stay in a free trade pact with the U.S. and Mexico.

Programmes for 150 years of celebrating Mahatma Gandhi commences in Sri Lanka

- In Sri Lanka, programmes for 150 years of celebrating Mahatma Gandhi commenced with several functions organised on the occasion of his 149th birth anniversary.

Resolution to posthumously award US Congressional Gold Medal to Mahatma Gandhi

- In the United States, half a dozen influential US lawmakers, including four Indian Americans, have moved a resolution in the US House of Representatives to posthumously award the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal to Mahatma Gandhi in recognition of his promotion of peace and non-violence.

Mahatma Gandhi’s 149th birth anniversary commemorated in China

- Mahatma Gandhi’s popular quotes and bhajans resonated at the Chaoyang Park in Beijing, China as people from all walks of life gathered to commemorate the 149th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
Australia scraps ‘tampon tax’

- Australia finally agreed to scrap its so-called “tampon tax”.

Amazon to raise minimum wage to $15 for U.S. employees

- Amazon.com Inc to raise its minimum wage to $15 per hour for its U.S. employees from next month as it faces criticism for pay disparity from lawmakers and labour unions.

International Court of Justice orders U.S. to lift sanctions on humanitarian goods’ import by Iran

- The United Nations’ highest court ordered the United States to lift sanctions on Iran that affect imports of humanitarian goods and products and services linked to the safety of civil aviation.

Kulbhushan Jadhav case in International Court of Justice

- The case of Kulbhushan Jadhav, the Indian national who was sentenced to death by a Pakistani court on spying charges, will be heard by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) from 18th February to 21st February next year.

Bangladesh scraps unpopular quota scheme for government jobs

- Bangladesh abolished a controversial quota system for civil service jobs.

Pakistan to set up a oil refinery in Balochistan with the aid of Saudi Arabia

- Pakistan’s Cabinet gave nod to the signing of a memorandum of understanding with Saudi Arabia to set up a oil refinery in the southwestern province of Balochistan.

Indian-American nominated to key post

- S. President Donald Trump has nominated prominent Indian-American nuclear expert Rita Baranwal to head the nuclear energy division at the Department of Energy.
Joint WHO-UNICEF campaign

- More than 306,000 people, including over 164,000 children under the age of 15, were vaccinated against cholera as part of a joint WHO-UNICEF campaign in Yemen.

Tropical Storm Michael

- A tropical storm “Michael” is likely to develop in the northwestern Caribbean and bring storm surges and heavy rainfall to the U.S. Gulf Coast.

UN panel on climate change issues extensive warning on rising global temperatures

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has issued it’s the most extensive warning on the risks of rising global temperatures.
- The report says the world is now completely off track, heading towards increase of 3 degree Celsius.
- The report pleads to keep the target of 1.5 degree Celsius above pre-industrial level.

Bill to set up the Office for Reparations in Sri Lanka

- In Sri Lanka, a bill to set up the Office for Reparations was introduced for debate in Parliament. The Bill provides for the provision of individual and collective reparations for aggrieved persons who have suffered violations of human rights or humanitarian law.

Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Auditorium

- In Sri Lanka, the Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Auditorium built with Indian grant assistance of 30 crore Sri Lankan rupees was dedicated to the people.

Cyclonic storm Titli

- The cyclonic storm ‘Titli’ over west central Bay of Bengal intensified into a severe cyclonic storm.
Malaysia cabinet decides to abolish death penalty

- Malaysia cabinet decided to abolish the death penalty. Capital punishment in Malaysia is currently mandatory for murder, kidnapping, possession of firearms and drug trafficking, among other crimes.

World Bank, IMF heads urge the US, China to play by trade rules

- The heads of the World Bank and IMF urged the US and China to follow world trade rules and de-escalate a dispute over Beijing’s technology development strategy that threatens to do lasting damage to the global economy.

Compensation to victims of the island’s brutal civil war

- Sri Lankan Parliament has passed legislation to pay compensation to victims of the island’s brutal civil war, which claimed one lakh lives during a decade.

World’s largest fish market reopens

- World’s largest fish market 83-year-old Tsukiji market reopens at new site in Tokyo.

India wins election to UN Human Rights Council

- India was elected to the United Nations’ top human rights body for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019, getting 188 votes in the Asia-Pacific category, the highest number of votes among all candidates.
- In the Asia Pacific category, India got 188 votes followed by Fiji with 187 votes, Bangladesh 178, Bahrain and Philippines 165 each.

Hurricane Leslie heading to Portugal, Spain

- Hurricane Leslie is heading toward Portugal and Spain, with forecasters expecting it to bring heavy rains and dangerous winds and surf to parts of the Iberian Peninsula. The Category 1 storm was about 910 km southwest of Lisbon, Portugal, and about 320 km northwest of Madeira
World’s longest flight: Singapore Airlines sets record

- A Singapore Airlines flight arrived in Newark after a nearly 18-hour trip from Singapore, completing the world’s longest commercial flight. It marked the revival of a route that had been eliminated in 2013.

First joint programme for Afghanistan to train its diplomats

- India and China have launched their first joint programme for Afghanistan to train its diplomats in India.

Storm Callum

- In the United Kingdom, storm Callum is set to continue causing disruption across parts of south Wales. The Meteorological Office issued an amber warning for heavy rain in south Wales.

Sri Lanka sets up committee to help Sri Lankan businesses

- Sri Lanka sets up committee to formulate a strategy to help Sri Lankan businesses invest more in the Indian market.

Afghan-Pakistani border closed after clashes

- A major part of the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan remained closed for the second consecutive day following clashes between the security forces of the two countries.

North Korea, South Korea and UN Command begin talks on demilitarising border

- North Korea, South Korea and the US-led United Nations Command began talks on demilitarising a section of the heavily fortified border dividing the peninsula.
Palestinians win UN backing to lead developing country bloc

- The Palestinians have won backing to lead the biggest bloc of developing countries at the United Nations.
- The General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to grant the observer-state of Palestine temporary rights to act as chair of the Group of 77 plus China, a bloc that has grown to 134 countries at the United Nations.

Third parliamentary elections in Bhutan

- The stage is set for third parliamentary elections in Bhutan.

Festival of Fulpati

- The festival of Fulpati was celebrated with traditional gaiety and religious fervour in various parts of Nepal. In Nepali, “Phool” means flower and “Pati” means leaves and plants.

US announces fresh sanctions on Iran

- The United States Treasury has announced fresh sanctions on Iran, targeting banks and investment companies.

Ethiopian prime minister’s new cabinet has 50% women

- Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed formed a new cabinet with 50% women.

Landslides blocked Milin Section of Yarlung Zangbo River in Tibet

- China has informed India that landslides have blocked the Milin Section of the mainstream of Yarlung Zangbo River in Tibet.
- The river is known as Siang and Brahmaputra in India.
US to merge Jerusalem consulate general with new embassy

- The United States is to merge its consulate general in Jerusalem, which deals with Palestinian affairs, with its new embassy.

Russia opposes the US sanctions against Iran

- Russia has opposed the US sanctions against Iran, saying that Washington seems to be taking every opportunity to exert pressure on countries that do not follow its policies.

New government in Bhutan

- Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa to form new government in Bhutan. The party has won 30 seats in 47 member National Assembly, the lower house of the parliament.

World’s longest sea bridge between China-Hong Kong

- The world’s longest sea bridge Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge will be thrown open for traffic on October 24.

China-built world’s largest amphibious plane

- China’s indigenously designed and built amphibious aircraft AG600, touted as the world’s largest, successfully carried out its first take-off and landing tests.

Climate fund approves 1B for projects in poor countries

- A UN-backed fund has approved more than 1 billion dollars for 19 new projects to help developing countries tackle climate change.

US will withdraw from nuclear arms treaty with Russia

- President Donald Trump has confirmed that the US will pull out of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, INF treaty that it had signed with Russia during the Cold War.
Hurricane Willa

- Hurricane Willa has grown rapidly into an extremely dangerous near-Category 5 storm in the eastern Pacific, on a path that could hit Mexico’s western coast in the coming days.

Paul Biya wins 7th presidential term in Cameroon

- In Cameroon, Paul Biya, who has ruled the country since 1982, won seventh presidential term with a landslide victory in presidential election.

Japan orders Facebook to improve data protection

- The Japanese government ordered Facebook to improve the protection of users’ personal information following data breaches affecting tens of millions of people worldwide.

Water, Energy, Technology, and Environment Exhibition begins in Dubai

- This is considered as one of the leading sustainability exhibitions in the Middle East and North Africa region. The India Pavilion at WETX 2018, set up by the Indian Chamber of Commerce with support of the Consulate General of India, Dubai and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is in line with the vision and commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to have sustainable and inclusive growth for all with access to clean water, electricity and housing.

Nepal launches electric bus service in Kathmandu

- Nepal has introduced electric buses on the roads of the capital Kathmandu with Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli emphasising on the operation of such vehicles to deal with the shortage of petroleum products in the land-locked country.

South Asia Regional WASH innovation

- India’s legend cricketer and UNICEF Ambassador for South Asia, Sachin Tendulkar gave away prizes to the winners of South Asia Regional WASH innovation in Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan.
2018 UN Day Concert in the General Assembly Hall at United Nations Headquarters

- 2018 UN Day Concert to be held in the General Assembly Hall at United Nations Headquarters in New York. **Theme of this year’s concert “Traditions of Peace and Non-violence”**

European Parliament backs ban on single-use plastics

- The European Parliament has overwhelmingly backed a wide-ranging ban on single-use plastics to counter pollution in seas, fields and waterways.
- The ban would affect a range of products for which valid alternatives are available – from plastic straws to earbuds and plates – as of 2021 and would make sure that plastic bottles are 90 per cent recycled by 2025.

Japan’s Okinawa to hold referendum

- Japan’s Okinawa to hold referendum on polarising plan to relocate US military base.

‘Cesspool’ reopens to visitors

- Philippine tiny Boracay Island once called ‘Cesspool’ reopens to visitors.

Foreign workers in Qatar can now leave country without prior permission from employers

- In Qatar, the long-awaited reform of controversial foreign workers exit visa system came into force.
- Under the new law, all but five per cent of a company’s workforce, except those in most senior positions, can leave without prior permission from employers.

100,000 people around world are missing: ICRC

- The International Committee of the Red Cross, ICRC has said over 100,000 people around the world are missing, which has created a global crisis.
14. Sports

- **Cricket**
  - Tennis

- **Hockey**
  - Other Sports

**CRICKET**

**India clinch Blind T20 series against England**

- India beat England by 55 runs in the second T20 game in Bengaluru to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the bilateral cricket series for the blind.

**U-19 Asia Cup cricket**

- India entered the Under-19 Asia Cup cricket final after beating Bangladesh by two runs in Dhaka.

**2nd Youngest Indian to score a century in Cricket**

- Prithvi Shaw became the second youngest Indian to score a century behind the master blaster Sachin Tendulkar.

**Quickest batsman to reach 24 Test centuries**

- India captain Virat Kohli became the quickest batsman to reach 24 Test centuries after the great Donald Bradman early on day two against the West Indies.

**U-19 Asia Cup**

- Indian won the U-19 Asia Cup defeating Sri Lanka in the final.

**Test series against West Indies**

- India has swept the test series 2-0 against West Indies in Cricket.
Pakistan Vs Australia Test Cricket

- Pakistan defeat Australia by 373 runs in 2nd Cricket Test in Abu Dhabi and won the two-match series 1-0.

Vijay Hazare trophy

- Mumbai beat Delhi to lift title for third time

Kohli becomes the fastest to score 10,000 ODI runs

- Virat Kohli broke the world record for the fastest 10,000 one-day international runs. He reaches the milestone in his 205th innings, surpassing Sachin Tendulkar’s record of 259 innings.

West Indies Dwayne Bravo announces retirement

- West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo announces his retirement from international cricket.

Chris Broad completes triple century of ODIs

- Chris Broad became the second member of the ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees to reach 300 ODIs trails the Sri Lankan Ranjan Madugalle by only 36 ODIs.

TENNIS

China Open Tennis

- Caroline Wozniacki won her 30th WTA singles title in the China Open final in Beijing.

Santo Domingo Open trophy Tennis

- Leander Paes won the Santo Domingo Open trophy with partner Miguel Angel Reyyes-Varela.
Shanghai Masters Tennis

- Novak Djokovic beat Croatia’s Borna Coric in the final of the Shanghai Masters Tennis.

Wimbledon Tennis 2019

- Wimbledon to introduce fifth-set tiebreakers starting in 2019.

India’s new number one doubles player

- Divij Sharan became India’s new number one doubles player, overtaking veteran Rohan Bopanna by moving to 38 in the latest ATP Tennis rankings.

HOCKEY

Sultan Johar Cup Hockey

- Great Britain defeated India 3-2 in the final and lifted the 2018 Sultan of Johor Cup in Malaysia.

Asian Champions Trophy

- India & Pakistan declared joint winners of Asian Champions Trophy in Oman after rain washes off summit clash.

Other Sports

31st All India Railways Chess tournament

- The 31st All India Railways Chess tournament will begin at Trichy in Tamil Nadu.

SAFF U-18 Women’s Championship

- India to face Nepal in semi-finals of SAFF U-18 Women’s Championship at Thimphu, Bhutan
36th National Games

- 36th National Games in Goa will be held from March 30 to April 14 next year.

Japanese Grand Prix

- Lewis Hamilton won the record-extending 80th pole position at the Japanese Grand Prix.

Chess Olympiad

- Indian men took the sixth spot and the women finished eighth in the Chess Olympiad that concluded in Batumi.

IBSF World U-16 Snooker Championships

- India’s Keerthana Pandian won the girls’ title in the IBSF World Under-16 Snooker Championships in the final in St Petersburg, Russia.

India’s Premier Cyclothon

- Deborah Herold won the gold medal in the elite women’s 40 kilometre competition at Saksham Pedal Delhi, India’s Premier Cyclothon. The honour in men’s 50 kilometres was bagged by Shreedhar Savanur.

Youth Olympic Games

- Shooter Tushar Mane bagged silver in the men’s 10 metre air rifle event.
- Thangjam Tababi Devi became India’s first judo medallist at the Olympic level, claiming a silver medal.
- Jeremy Lalrinnunga wins the first gold for India in the Men’s 62 kg category weight lifting. Sandeep Chaudhary in Javelin throw men’s category, Raju Rakshitha in women’s 1500 meters and swimmer Jadhav Suyash Narayan in men’s 50-meter butterfly won gold medal.
- Saurabh Chaudhary bags Gold in 10-metre air pistol event.
• Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen settled for a silver medal after he lost the men’s singles summit clash against Li Shifeng of China in straight games in the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires.

• Manu Bhaker became the second Indian after judoka Tababi Devi to win two medals at the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) after winning a silver.

• Indian Men’s team lost to Malaysia & Women’s Hockey team lost to Argentina and won Silver medals at Youth Olympic Games in Argentina.

• Suraj Panwar clinches silver in men’s 5000m race walk event in Argentina.

• Indian Triple Jumper Praveen Chitravel has bagged a Bronze medal at the 2018 Summer Youth Olympics in the Argentina.

• Akash Malik became India’s first silver-medallist in archery at the Youth Olympic Games being held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Para Asian Games

• Men’s badminton team won bronze.

• Farman Basha won silver and Paramjeet Kumar won the bronze in the 49 kg men’s powerlifting event.

• Swimmers Devanshi Satijawon won silver in women’s 100 metre butterfly and Suyash Jadhav won the bronze in the men’s 200 metre individual medley.

• Ekta Bhyan won gold at the Asian Para Games by topping the women’s club throw event. Monu Ghangas in the men’s shot put, Anandan Gunasekaran in men’s 200m and Jayanti Behera in the women’s 200m race secured bronze medal.

• Harvinder Singh won gold in the men’s individual recurve [Archery]. Monu Ghangas won the silver in the men’s discus throw F11 category, while Mohammed Yasser won bronze in the men’s shot put F46 category.

• Narayan Thakur won gold in men’s 100 meters dash, para-shooter Manish Narwal won gold in the men’s 10 meter air pistol event.

• Surender Aneesh Kumar in men’s discus, Ram Pal in men’s high jump and Virender in men’s shot put won silver medal.

• Sundar Singh Gurjar won a silver medal in the javelin throw men’s F46 category.

• Deepa Malik set a new Asian record with her best throw of 10.71 meters and won bronze in the women’s F51/52/53 discus throw event.
• In men’s singles SL3 class badminton, India’s Pramod Bhagat defeated Ukun Rukaendi of Indonesia to clinch the gold medal, Tarun added another gold for India on the final day of the event by beating Yuyang Gao of China 21-16 21-6 in the men’s singles SL4 class.

• India to play with Japan in the semi-final of the Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament in Muscat.

Nehru Trophy Boat race to be held on Nov 10

• Kerala’s famed Nehru Trophy Boat Race will be held on November 10 in Alappuzha’s Kuttanad,. The annual event was delayed by two months this year due to devastating floods in Kerala

World Wrestling Championships

• World Wrestling Championships begin in Budapest, Hungary.
• 30-member team led by Sakshi Malik, Bajrang Punia to represent India at World Wrestling Championships in Budapest, Hungary.
• India’s Sumit Malik recorded one of the biggest results of his career by reaching the semifinals of the World Wrestling Championships.
• Bajrang Punia has entered 65 kg category Final at the World Wrestling Championships in Budapest, Hungary.
• Bajrang Punia had to settle for silver in the 65 kg category of the World Wrestling Championship after losing to youngster Japanese Takuto Otoguro in the final at Budapest.
• Pooja Dhanda won a bronze medal in the women’s freestyle 57kg weight class in Budapest, Hungary.

Delhi Half Marathon men’s race

• Ethiopian Andamalak Belihu won in the men’s elite field to win his maiden Airtel Delhi Half Marathon.

French Open Badminton tournament

• French Open badminton tournament begins in Paris.
Liuzhou International Challenger

- In Tennis, seventh seed Indian Prajnesh Gunneswaran defeated Johan Tatlot of France in closely contested straight sets 6-4, 7-5 in the men’s singles of Liuzhou International Challenger in Guangyuan, China

Valencia race

- Kenyan distance runner Abraham Kiptum won the Valencia race, setting a new world best time of 58mins 18sec for the half-marathon.

Panasonic Open India Golf

- Indian golfer Khalin Joshi clinches Panasonic Open India title at Delhi Golf Club.

ITTF Challenge Belgium Open

- Indian table tennis player Ayhika Mukherjee has won a silver medal in the under-21 women’s singles category of the ITTF Challenge Belgium Open.

Isle of Man International Chess tournament

- Grandmaster B Adhiban finished tied third at the Isle of Man International tournament after beating highly-regarded Michael Adams of England in Isle of Man, United Kingdom.

Asian Snooker Tour

- Pankaj Advani wins Asian Snooker Tour in Jinan, China.

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