



Current Affairs - May to October 2018

Month Type



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(Showing **126** Important Ones)

Days

- ▶ 2019 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) in January 6-9, 2019, with theme *Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India*.
- ▶ 20th of May 2018 is first World Bee day, declared by United Nations General Assembly. First World Bee Day celebrations held in Slovenia.
- ▶ 28 September: World Rabies Day. 2018 theme is *Rabies: Share the message. Save a life*. It seeks to raise awareness about impact of rabies on animals and human beings. It is also observed as UNESCO International Day for Universal Access to Information.
- ▶ 2nd Anniversary of Surgical Strike celebrated as Parakram Parv or Surgical Strike Day on September 29 - 30, 2018 by Indian Army to showcase gallant action of brave Army in conduct of Surgical Strikes on September 29, 2016. It also marked to remember sacrifice of soldiers during 'Uri Attacks'. PM Modi inaugurated an Exhibition in Jodhpur (Rajasthan), on this occasion.
 - ▶ UGC also directed all universities / higher educational institutions to observe September 29 as Surgical Strike Day.
- ▶ 4 June: International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression.. June 4, 2018 also marks 29th anniversary of Tiananmen Square protests of China. In 1989, Chinese troops violently retook Tiananmen Square in Beijing from pro-democracy protesters. It killed over 200 citizens, being biggest Massacre in Modern Chinese History.
- ▶ Assam government decided to observe September 22 as "Rhino Day".
- ▶ Aug 1 - Earth Overshoot Day. It is the day each year when humans have consumed a year's worth of planet's natural resources. It was earlier called Ecological Debt Day. It is calculated illustrative calendar date on which humanity's resource consumption for year exceeds Earth's capacity to regenerate those resources that year. In 2018, it falls on Aug 1.
- ▶ Aug 10 - World Biofuel Day. On this day in 1893, Sir Rudolph Diesel (inventor of diesel engine) successfully ran mechanical engine with Peanut Oil. His research experiment predicted that vegetable oil may replace fossil fuels in next century to fuel different mechanical engines.
 - ▶ On this occasion, PM Narendra Modi launched PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub), as a Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System.
- ▶ Aug 12 - International Youth Day. 2018 theme is *Safe Spaces for Youth*. It is also observed as World Elephant Day.
- ▶ Aug 15, 2018 - 72nd Independence Day of India.
 - ▶ President Ram Nath Kovind has approved 131 Gallantry Awards to Defence Personnel, including 1 Kirti Chakras, 20 Shaurya Chakras (Army - 14, Navy - 1, MHA - 4), 3 Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 93 Sena Medals (Gallantry), 11 Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) and 3 Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).
 - ▶ Kirti Chakra - Sepoy Vrahma Pal Singh of Rajput Regiment. He laid down his life in a fierce counter-insurgency operation in which 3 terrorists were killed at Pulwama in J&K in November 2018.
 - ▶ Shaurya Chakras Include Rifleman Aurangzeb and Major Aditya Kumar of Indian Army.
 - ▶ Vayu Sena Medals - P Prasad, Vernon Desmond Keane, Abhishek Sharma.
 - ▶ Medals for Coast Guard Personnel -
 - ▶ 1 President's Tatrakshak Medal (PTM) (Distinguished Service) - Rakesh Pal
 - ▶ 5 Tatrakshak Medal (TM) (Gallantry)
 - ▶ 2 Tatrakshak Medal (TM) (Meritorious Service)

- ✎ On this occasion, Railways made 'digital screens' operational at 22 stations, to spread awareness among public about heritage of Indian Railways.
 - ✎ PM Narendra Modi as part of his Independence Day speech announced to put India in space by 2022 under manned space mission on board 'Gajanan'. India will become fourth nation in the world to send astronaut into space after US, Russia and China. Former Indian Air Force (IAF) pilot Rakesh Sharma was first Indian to travel to space, as part of Soviet Union's Soyuz T-11 expedition in April 1984.
 - ✎ Government announced launch of Ayushman Bharat (now Jan Aarogya Abhiyan) on September 25, aiming to provide country's poor access to quality and affordable healthcare. Nearly 10 crore families will get health cover worth Rs 5 lakh each year under this.
 - ✎ On this occasion, Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BY) which provides annual cashless health coverage of Rs 5 lakh per beneficiary family per annum. Patnaik also handed over 'Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak' and 'Jeevan Rakshya Padak' to two children – Pankaj Kumar Mahanta and Mamata Dalai, respectively, for their act of bravery.
 - ✎ On this occasion, Telangana Govt launched 2 Schemes -
 - ✎ Rythu Bandhu - Its first-of-its-kind life insurance programme worth Rs 5 lakh for farmers in state, with cost approx 650 Crores. Insurance amount will be given to farmer's family within 10 days, in case of death of Farmer. It will bear the annual premium of **Rs 2,271** per farmer. Some Limitations are -
 - ✎ It is limited to farmers aged 18 - 60 years.
 - ✎ Limited to landowners who received monetary assistance of Rs 4000 from the state government to bear farming costs under the 'Rythu Bandhu' programme earlier this year.
 - ✎ Tenant farmers have been left out of it.
 - ✎ Kanti Velugu - free eye screening for all citizens.
 - ✎ A special film festival on theme *Freedom Struggle and Freedom Fighters* held to mark India's 72nd Independence Day, in Mumbai.
11. ▶ Aug 19 - World Humanitarian Day (WHD). 2018 Campaign theme for 2018 World Humanitarian Day is *#NotATarget*. Aug 19 is also observed as World Photography Day.
 12. ▶ Aug 20 - National Sadvbhavna Diwas in India. It commemorates Birth Anniversary of Former Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi. Former West Bengal Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi was conferred with 2018 Rajiv Gandhi National Sadvbhavana Award.
 13. ▶ Aug 21 - UN International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism.
 14. ▶ Aug 21 - World Senior Citizens Day. Note that Similar Sounding *UN International Day of Older Persons* is held annually on October 1.
 15. ▶ Aug 29 - National Sports Day. It marks birthday of Major Dhyan Chand Singh, hockey player who won gold medals in Olympics for India in 1928, 1932 and 1936. He scored over 400 goals in his career, from 1926 to 1948. It is also observed as International Day against Nuclear Tests.
 16. ▶ Aug 7, 2018 - 4th National Handloom Day in India.
 17. ▶ Aug 9 - International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples. 2018 theme is *Indigenous peoples' migration and movement*. Also, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) through its Resolution on 'Rights of Indigenous Peoples' proclaimed 2019 as *International Year of Indigenous Languages*.
 18. ▶ August 23 - International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition. It marks anniversary of 1791 insurrection of enslaved men and women in western part of island of Santo Domingo, which is now known as Haiti.
 19. ▶ Disarmament Week observed across Globe from Oct 24 - 30, 2018.
 20. ▶ Government observed 75th anniversary of formation of Azad Hind Government, led by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. Founded on 21st October, 1943 was inspired by Neta ji Subhash Chandra Bose who was leader of Azad Hind Government and also Head of State of this Provisional Indian Government-in-exile.
 21. ▶ July 1 - Doctors Day in India.
 - ✎ It honours legendary physician and 2nd Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy. He was born on July 1, 1882 and died on the same date in 1962, aged 80 years. He was honoured with highest civilian award *Bharat Ratna* in February 1961.
 22. ▶ July 1 - GST (Goods and Services Tax) Day. Govt. Launched GST regime on July 1, 2017. It replaced all indirect taxes in India with a single GST, with 4 Components - CGST, IGST, SGST and UTGST. GST has 5 Tax Slabs - 0%, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%.
 23. ▶ July 11 - World Population Day. 2018 theme is *Family Planning is a Human Right*. On this occasion, A workshop with title *Population stabilization: A right and Responsibility*, was organized in New Delhi.
 24. ▶ July 12- Observed as UN International Malala Day. According to World Bank, not educating girls or creating barriers in their school education globally costs between \$15-30 trillion.
 - ✎ July 12 is also Foundation day of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), founded in 1982. On this occasion, A national seminar on 'Collectivisation and Market linkages: Farmers Producers Organizations' organized in Mumbai.

25. ▶ July 15 - World Youth Skills Day. It aims to raise awareness on importance of investing in youth skills development.
26. ▶ July 17 - International Justice Day, marks 1998 Rome Statute that created International Criminal Court (ICC).
27. ▶ July 18 - UN Nelson Mandela International Day 2018. This year marks 100th birth anniversary of Great South African Social Reformer Nelson Mandela.
28. ▶ July 26 - Kargil Vijay Diwas. It marks success of Operation Vijay. On this day in 1999, India successfully took command of high outposts intruded by Pakistanis.
29. ▶ July 28 - World Hepatitis Day. 2018 theme is *Test. Treat. Hepatitis.*
 - ▶ On this occasion, Government launched National Viral Hepatitis Control Program, aiming to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030. India is also working to end TB by 2025, five years ahead of global target of 2030. It aims to reduce morbidity and mortality due to viral hepatitis.
30. ▶ July 29 - International Tiger Day. The annual day is celebrated with slogan *Their survival is in our hands.*
31. ▶ July 30 - World Day against Trafficking in Persons. 2018 Theme is *responding to the trafficking of children and young people.* On This occasion, Ministry of Women and Child Development launched a contest, '#Childline1098'. It invites people to share images of the Childline 1098 logo that they spot at unique locations and send it with a tagline.
32. ▶ July 4 - American Independence Day. USA Attained independence from UK in 1776.
33. ▶ June 01 - World Milk Day. India is leading Milk Producer in world with 23.69% increase during 2014-2018 and Annual increase of 6.3%. India's Milk production was 165.5 Million Tonnes in FY 2016-17. Also On June 1 2018, India's first superfast train, Deccan Queen express from Mumbai to Pune marked 88 years of service.
34. ▶ June 1 - Global Day of Parents. It was Announced by UNICEF in 2012.
35. ▶ June 12 - World Day against Child Labour. 2018 theme is 'Generation Safe & Healthy'. Campaign aims to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets of ending all forms of child labour by 2025 and achieving safe working environments for all workers by 2030.
36. ▶ June 13 - International Albinism Awareness Day. 2018 theme is *shining our light to the world.*
37. ▶ June 14 - World Blood Donor Day. 2018 theme is *Be there for someone else. Give blood. Share life.* The 2018 host is Greece.
38. ▶ June 17 - World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (WDCDD). 2018 Theme is *Land has true value – invest in it.* Global observance of WDCD 2018 was hosted by Ecuador.
39. ▶ June 18 - World Sustainable Gastronomy Day, proclaimed by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in December 2016.
40. ▶ June 2 - Telangana Statehood Day. It was formed in 2014, after Bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.
41. ▶ June 20 - World Refugee Day. 2018 theme is *Now More Than Ever, We Need to Stand with Refugees.*
42. ▶ June 21 - World Music Day. 2018 theme is *Live the music together.*
43. ▶ June 21 is longest day of the year. It marks beginning of summer in Earth's Northern Hemisphere, referred to as 'summer solstice'. A solstice is an astronomical event when tilt of Earth's axis with respect to the Sun is maximum. After summer solstice, days start getting shorter till winter solstice on December 21, Northern Hemisphere's shortest day.
44. ▶ June 21, 2018 - 4th UN International Yoga Day. 2018 theme is *Yoga for Peace.*
 - ▶ Main Yoga Day 2018 events held in Dehradun (Uttarakhand).
 - ▶ Guinness world record was created by conducting largest yoga session on International Yoga Day at Kota (Rajasthan), where 1 lakh people together performed yogic exercises.
 - ▶ 3 day National Yoga Olympiad concluded at All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in New Delhi. Prizes were distributed by Eric Falt (Director and UNESCO Representative to India, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka), who was Chief Guest.
 - ▶ Yoga is inscribed since 2016 on UNESCO's Representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
 - ▶ Winners -
 - ▶ Upper Primary (Girls) – Gold won by the Sikkim team, Silver by Gujrat team and Bronze by Delhi
 - ▶ Upper Primary (Boys) – Gold won by Gujrat team, Silver by Delhi team and Bronze by Tamil Nadu.
 - ▶ Secondary (Girls) – Gold by Sikkim team, Silver by Manipur team and Bronze by Delhi team.
 - ▶ Secondary (Boys) – Gold by Delhi, Silver by Haryana and Bronze by Karnataka.
 - ▶ Shri Vishwas Mandalik, Nasik and The Yoga Institute, Mumbai are recipients of Prime Minister's Award for outstanding contribution for promotion and development of Yoga for the year 2018, selected from among 186 nominations.
 - ▶ HRD Ministry approves setting up an inter-university yoga centre at Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana in Bengaluru.
 - ▶ Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar announced to set up a 'Yog Aayog' in state.
 - ▶ West Bengal University Visva-Bharati received INR 5 crores central grant for setting up a 'Yoga Gram' in university campus.

-  PM Modi inaugurated a nature center in New York City, through video conferencing called *YO1 Nature Cure Center*.
45. ▶ June 23 - is observed as United Nations Public Service Day. It is also observed as International Olympics Day and UN International Widows' Day.
46. ▶ June 25 - Day of the Seafarer. 2018 theme is *Seafarers wellbeing*.
47. ▶ June 26 - International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. 2018 theme is *Listen First – Listening to children and youth is the first step to help them grow healthy and safe*.
48. ▶ June 27 - UN Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Day (MSME) Day. It was declared by UN General Assembly in 2017.
-  On this occasion, Udyam Sangam 2018 was held in New Delhi, where President Ram Nath Kovind launched Solar Charkha Mission. It will cover 50 clusters and every cluster will employ 400 to 2000 artisans. MSME Ministry will disburse subsidy of 550 crores to artisans.
-  Also, under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) budgetary allocation for FY 2018-19 has been increased by 75% to 1800 crores.
-  A Portal of Ministry of MSME called *Sampark* was also launched by President.
49. ▶ June 29 - International Day of Tropics.
50. ▶ June 29 - National Statistics Day. It marks Birth anniversary of Regarded statistician Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, who founded Indian Statistical Institute. 2018 theme is *Quality Assurance in Official Statistics*.
-  2018 marks 125th Birth Anniversary of Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis and 12th Indian Statistics Day. On this occasion, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released commemorative coin of Rs 125 and circulation coin of Rs 5 denomination, at Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata.
51. ▶ June 3 - First UN World Bicycle Day. It aims to encourage a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transportation.
52. ▶ June 30 - International Day of Parliamentarism. It is also observed as International Asteroid Day.
53. ▶ June 5 - World Environment Day. 2018 Theme is *Beat Plastic Pollution*. On this Occasion -
-  Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) signed MOU to set up a resource efficiency cell, aim to focus on waste management and resource efficiency by enabling coordinated thinking among various ministries. It would focus on system based use of materials, products and processes in India. Effective collection, recycling and use of bio-degradable plastic can reduce emission of Green House Gases (GHG).
-  A thematic knowledge conference on "Plastic Pollution and Management" was organized at "Vigyan Bhawan" in New Delhi.
-  Environment Minister (IC) Mahesh Sharma Issued a Pledge Titled *Taj Declaration to Beat Plastic Pollution*, aiming to make 500-meter area around Taj Mahal litter free and phase out single use plastic.
-  Uttarakhand Government announced to completely prohibit use of polythene or plastic from July 31, 2018.
-  Tamil Nadu Govt also announced that state would ban use of plastic from 2019.
-  Telangana government also directed all urban local bodies and civic municipal bodies to ban usage of single-use plastic in offices.
-  June 5 is also observed as *International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing*.
54. ▶ June 8 - World Oceans Day. 2018 theme is *Peventing plastic pollution and encouraging solutions for a healthy ocean*. June 8 is also observed as World Brain Tumor Day.
55. ▶ May 01 - Statehood Day of Maharashtra and Gujarat. It commemorates formation of Maharashtra and Gujarat from division of the Bombay State on 1 May 1960.
56. ▶ May 02 - World Tuna Day. 2018 theme is *Smart Tuna – Smart Ocean*.
57. ▶ May 03 - World Press Freedom Day. was observed across the world on May 3, 2018 with an aim to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom, defend the media from attacks and pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives while being on duty. The Theme for 2018 is 'Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law'.
58. ▶ May 1 - World Asthma Day. 2018 theme is *Never too early, never too late. It's always the right time to address airways disease*.
59. ▶ May 1 - International Workers' Day, also known as Labour Day AND May Day. 2018 Theme is *Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement*.
60. ▶ May 11 - National Technology Day. 2018 theme is *Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future*.
-  On 11th May 1998, India carried out series of nuclear tests at Pokhran. Also first indigenous aircraft "Hansa-3" was test flown on this day and India also performed successful test firing of Trishul missile on same day.
-  Considering these technological advancements, then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared 11th May as National Technology Day.

 On this occasion, Atal Tinkering Marathon's Top 30 Innovations to be supported through industry partnerships were showcased. Atal Tinkering Labs of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog organized an Atal Tinkering Marathon in an effort to identify India's best student innovators. It was six month long nationwide challenge across 6 thematic areas - *clean energy, water resources, waste management, healthcare, smart mobility and agriculture-tech*.

61. ▶ May 12 - International Nurses Day (IND). It marks birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, founder of modern nursing. 2018 theme is *Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human Right*. On this occasion, President conferred National Florence Nightingale Awards to nursing personnel from across country.

62. ▶ May 12 - World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD). 2018 theme is *Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation*.

63. ▶ May 15 - International Day of Families. 2018 theme is *Families and inclusive societies*.

64. ▶ May 16 - UNESCO International Day of Light AND International Day of Living Together in Peace.

65. ▶ May 17 - World Hypertension Day. 2018 theme is *Know Your Numbers*.


66. ▶ May 17 - World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. 2018 Theme is *Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All*.

67. ▶ May 18 - International Museum Day. 2018 theme is *Museums and Hyper Communication – New Approaches and New Public*. It is also observed as AIDS Vaccination day.

68. ▶ May 20 - World Metrology Day. 2018 Theme is *Constant evolution of the International System of Units*.

69. ▶ May 21 - Anti Terrorism Day. It marks assassination of Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991. It is also observed as *World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development*.

70. ▶ May 22 - International Day for Biological Diversity. 2018 theme is *Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity*.

 On this occasion, National Mission for Clean Ganga and World Wildlife Federation (WWF) - India jointly organised workshop *Ganga and its Bio-diversity: Developing a Road Map for Habitat and Species Conservation* in New Delhi. Also, national-level celebrations were held at Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU) in Hyderabad.


 On this occasion, India Biodiversity Awards 2018 were announced in 4 categories -


 Conservation of Wild and Domesticated Species -

 Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve Management Committee (Arunachal Pradesh) - For Conservation of Bugun Liocichla, a critically endangered bird.

 Lemsachenlok Organization (Nagaland)


 Kutch Unt Uchherak Maldhari Sangathan (Gujarat) - Conservation of Kharai camel. which is unique for its ability to adapt well to both terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

 Kalden Singhi Bhutia (Sikkim) - For conservation of Tibetan sheep.

 Sustainable Use of Biological Resources -

 Sangham Women Farmers Group (Medak district of Telangana) - Working towards conservation of agro-biodiversity for 15 years.


 Parvathi Nagarajan - (Tamil Nadu) - Works for environment protection, wellness and women's empowerment.


 Raipassa Biodiversity Management Committee (Tripura) - Community depends on cultivation, collection and sale of broom grass for its livelihood. Villagers collect about 50 tonnes of broom grass per season, and sell it at Rs. 22/Kg.

 Replicable Mechanisms for Access and Benefit Sharing



 Best Biodiversity Management Committees -

 Eraviperoor Grama Panchayat (Kerala) - is an excellent model of a multi-stakeholder partnership in local biodiversity conservation. BMC has rejuvenated a tributary of river Pampa, successfully recovered 13.5 acres of river bank and shown exemplary work in plastic waste management.

 Pithorabad Grama Panchayat (Madhya Pradesh) - Sustained efforts towards the conservation and sustainable utilization of bio-resources. It conserves around 115 traditional types of paddies, 32 varieties of vegetables, and medicinal plants.

71. ▶ May 24 - Commonwealth Day.

72. ▶ May 28 - International Day of Action for Women's Health.

73. ▶ May 29 - International Day of UN Peacekeepers. 2018 Theme is *UN Peacekeepers: 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice*.

74. ▶ May 30 - Goa Statehood Day. It attained full statehood on 30th May 1987 becoming India's 25th state. Daman and Diu were separated from Goa and continue to be administered as a UT.

75. ▶ May 31 - World No Tobacco Day. 2018 theme is *Tobacco and heart disease*.

76. ▶ May 8 - World Red Cross Day. Theme of 2018 is *Memorable smiles from around the world*.

77. ▶ National Nutrition Week observed from 1st to 7th September, to spread awareness regarding importance of nutrition.
78. ▶ Oct 01 - International Coffee Day. 2018 theme is *Women in Coffee*. Oct 1 is also observed as World Vegetarian Day.
79. ▶ Oct 01 - International Day of Older Persons. 2018 theme is *Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions*. On this occasion, Vice President Venkaiah Naidu conferred *Vayoshreshtha Samman-2018* on eminent senior citizens and institutions.
80. ▶ Oct 01 - World Habitat Day. 2018 theme is *Municipal Solid Waste Management*.
81. ▶ Oct 02, 2018. 150th Birth Anniversary of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. Its also observed as UN International Non Violence Day, since 2007.
- ▶ Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention (MGISC) held in New Delhi.
 - ▶ Earlier, On Sep 15 of 2018, PM Modi launched mega countrywide campaign- Swachhata hi Seva Campaign 2018.
 - ▶ PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Mahatma Gandhi Museum in Rajkot (Gujarat). He also launched Mujkva Solar Energy Cooperative Group in Gujarat, created with assistance of National Dairy development Board.
 - ▶ On this occasion, Odisha government launched its own State Food Security Scheme (SFSS). Under this, 18.32 lakh poor and eligible people will receive 5 kg of rice at rate of Rupee 1 per kg. This is in response to the failure of the central government's approval against the state's request to include 25 lakh people under NFSA.
 - ▶ 6 US lawmakers (Including 6 Indian Americans) moved a resolution in US House of Representatives to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to Mahatma Gandhi for his contribution towards promotion of peace and non-violence.
 - ▶ On this occasion, SIDBI launched a National Level Entrepreneurship Awareness Campaign, Udyam Abhilasha in 115 Aspirational Districts identified by NITI Aayog. Campaign would run from Oct 3 - 8, 2018 across India. Objectives include -
 - ▶ Inspire rural youth in aspirational districts to be entrepreneurs by assisting them to set up their own enterprise
 - ▶ Impart trainings through digital medium, to create business opportunities for CSC VLEs (Village level entrepreneurs).
 - ▶ On this occasion, world's largest dome inaugurated at Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT)'s World Peace University (MIT-WPU) campus in Pune (Maharashtra). It has diameter of 160 feet, overtaking earlier record holding Vatican Dome having diameter of 139.6 feet . It stands 263 feet tall with bell hanging from centre and has prayer hall with area of around 30,000 sq ft.
 - ▶ On this occasion, National Khadi Festival 2018 began in Mumbai, organised by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to promote Khadi products.
 - ▶ Ministry of Railways was named the best department for its contribution to "Swachhta Pakhwada" under the "Swachhta Hi Seva" category of awards.
 - ▶ Assam Govt.launched Universal Pension scheme in the state. Under it, pension will be given to all BPL and APL ration card holders over 60 years of age.
 - ▶ 50 lakh rupees has sanctioned to filmmaker Rima Das whose movie Village Rockstar has been nominated for Oscars.
 - ▶ Small tea growers exempted from levy of cess amounting to 10 paise per kilogram.
 - ▶ Approved amendment in Assam GST Act by which GST registration has been relaxed from 10 lakh rupees annual turnover to 20 lakh rupees annual turnover.
 - ▶ Sports University Bill introduced to set up a sports university at Chabua named after Aniruddha Dev.
82. ▶ Oct 04 - World Animal Day.It marks *feast day* of Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.
83. ▶ Oct 09 - World Post Day. It marks anniversary of establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in Swiss Capital, Bern. 2018 theme is *Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers?.* Oct 9 - 15 is also observed as Postal Week in India.
84. ▶ Oct 1 - World Vegetarian Day.
85. ▶ Oct 10 - World Mental Health Day. 2018 Theme is 'Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World'. On this Occasion, Britain Govt appointed Jackie Doyle-Price as Nation's First suicide-prevention minister, as part of a national effort to reduce number of people who take their own lives.
86. ▶ Oct 11 - International Day of the Girl Child. 2018 theme was *With Her: A Skilled Girl Force*.
87. ▶ Oct 11 - World Obesity Day. 2018 theme is *It's time to End Weight Stigma*. It is also named as World Sight Day.
88. ▶ Oct 13 - International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR). 2018 theme is *Reducing Disaster Economic Losses*.
- ▶ On This occasion, United Nations report titled 'Economic Losses, Poverty and Disasters 1998-2017' was released. As per the report -
 - ▶ India suffered \$79.5 billion economic loss due to climate-related disasters in last 20 years.
 - ▶ Greatest economic losses was experienced by United Stats at \$944.8 billion followed by China (\$492.2 billion), Japan (\$376.3 billion), India (\$79.5 billion), Puerto Rico (\$71.7 billion), France (\$48.3 billion).
 - ▶ Floods (43.4%) followed by storms (28.2%) are the two most frequently occurring disasters.
89. ▶ Oct 13 - World Migratory Bird Day. 2018 theme is *Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation*.

90. ▶ Oct 14 - World Standards day.
91. ▶ Oct 15 - International Day of Rural Women. 2018 theme is *Sustainable infrastructure, services and social protection for gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls*. It is observed as Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas in India.
92. ▶ Oct 15 - World Students' Day. In 2010, UN declared 15 October as World Students' Day, commemorating birth anniversary of Late APJ Abdul Kalam, scientist and former President of India.
93. ▶ Oct 16 - World Food Day. 2018 Theme is *Our actions are our future – A zero hunger world by 2030 is possible*.
- 🔗 On this occasion, Government launched national campaign 'Swasth Bharat Yatra', to sensitise people about eating safe food and be healthy. Under it, pan-India cycle rally is being organized to create consumer awareness about eating safe and nutritious food for becoming healthy and combating food adulteration.
 - 🔗 On this occasion, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated a two-day Agri-startup and Entrepreneurship event in New Delhi.
 - 🔗 On This Occasion, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee launched 'Khadya Sathi' Food security scheme.
94. ▶ Oct 17 - UN International Day for Eradication of Poverty. 2018 theme is *Coming together with those furthest behind to build an inclusive world of universal respect for human rights and dignity*.
95. ▶ Oct 20 - National Solidarity day. On October 20, 1962, China started the attacks on India and the Sino-Indian War started.
96. ▶ Oct 20 - World Osteoporosis Day. Osteoporosis is a disease in which bones become weak and brittle and increases the risk of a broken bone.
97. ▶ Oct 21 - Police Commemoration Day, observed in memory of policemen killed at Hot Springs in Ladakh by Chinese troops on this date in 1959. On this occasion, National Police Memorial was dedicated to nation by PM Narendra Modi, in Chanakyapuri (New Delhi).
- 🔗 On this Occasion, PM also announced an annual award in name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for police and paramilitary forces for commendable contributions in disaster relief operations.
98. ▶ Oct 22 - International Stuttering Awareness Day.
99. ▶ Oct 24 - 2nd World Diplomats Day. It began in 2017.
100. ▶ Oct 24 - United Nations Day. It marks enactment of UN Charter on this day in 1945. 2018 theme is *Traditions of Peace and Non-violence*. It is also observed as World Development Information Day, established in 1972.
- 🔗 2018 UN Day Concert held at UN Headquarters in New York (US). Theme of this year's concert, which is sponsored by Permanent Mission of India to UN, is *Traditions of Peace and Non-violence*.
 - 🔗 Oct 24 is also observed as World Polio Day.
101. ▶ Oct 27- World Day for Audiovisual Heritage. 2018 theme is "Your Story is Moving".
102. ▶ Oct 28 - International Animation Day.
103. ▶ Oct 31 - Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.
- 🔗 It was introduced by Government of India in 2014, marking Birth Anniversary of Legendary Leader and 1st Deputy PM of India, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel.
 - 🔗 On this occasion, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's memorial in Gujarat's Narmada district. Called the Statue of Unity, the bronze sculpture is the world's tallest statue measuring 600 feet (182m). It has overtook China's Spring Temple Buddha (153m) and USA's Statue of Liberty (93m). It was constructed in 33 months at 2,989 crores.
 - 🔗 On this occasion, Home Minister Rajnath Singh flagged off 'Run for Unity' from Major Dhyan Chand Stadium (New Delhi). PM Narendra Modi also unveiled the 'Wall of Unity', a wall created with the earth samples collected from various states across country.
104. ▶ Oct 31 - World Cities Day. 2018 Sub-theme is *Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities*.
105. ▶ Oct 5 - World Teachers' Day. 2018 marks 70th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) that recognizes education as a key fundamental right. 2018 theme is *The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher*.
- 🔗 Note that In India, National Teachers Day is held on Sep 5. It marks Birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (2nd President of India).
106. ▶ Oct 8, 2018 - 86th Indian Air Force Day. It was officially established on October 8, 1932 as an auxiliary air force of the British Empire and the prefix Royal was added in 1945 in recognition of its services during World War II.
- 🔗 On this occasion, IAF launched 'MedWatch' mobile health app to provide health information to users, including first-aid and other health and nutritional topics. It is first of its kind mobile health app built by any of the three armed forces.
107. ▶ Sep 05 - International Day of Charity.
108. ▶ Sep 05 - International Day of Charity.
109. ▶ Sep 05 - National Teachers' Day in India.
- 🔗 On this occasion, Vice President Venkai Naidu presented National Awards for Teachers 2017 to 45 teachers from across country.

It marks birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, first Vice-President, and second President of independent India. Celebration of National Teacher's Day started in 1962.

As a gift on occasion of Teachers' Day, Uttar Pradesh government has decided to give 7th pay commission pay scale to teachers and professors of state colleges and universities.

On this occasion, A book named 'Experiential Learning – Gandhi's Nai Talim' (basic education) was released.

110. ▶ Sep 08 - International Literacy Day. 2018 theme is *Literacy and skills development*.

111. ▶ Sep 10 - World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD).

112. ▶ Sep 12 - International Day for South-South Cooperation.

113. ▶ Sep 14 - National Hindi Divas. marking adaptation of Hindi language as official language of India by Constituent Assembly of India on 14 September 1949. Under Article 343 of Constitution, Hindi written in Devanagiri script was adopted as official language.

On this occasion, President Ram Nath Kovind presented Rajbhasha awards for Year 2016-17 at Rashtrapati Bhawan. PNB bagged *Rajbhasha Kirti* award for outstanding performance in implementing Official Language Policy during 2017-18.

114. ▶ Sep 15 - Engineers' Day in India. IOT marks birth anniversary of Sh. Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, a world-renowned civil engineer who was a master of irrigation design.

He was awarded India's highest honour, Bharat Ratna, in 1955 for his work in engineering and education. He was also awarded British knighthood King also awarded to by George V, giving him the honorific "sir".

115. ▶ Sep 15 - International Coastal Cleanup Day.

116. ▶ Sep 15 - International Day of Democracy. 2018 theme is *Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World*. Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 2007 to strengthen national programmes devoted to promotion and consolidation of democracy.

117. ▶ Sep 16 - UN International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

This designation was made on December 19 2000, in commemoration of the date, in 1987, on which nations signed the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

On this occasion, Ministry of Power launched Chiller Star Labelling Program to encourage deployment of energy efficient chiller systems in India. Based on test certificate from designated agencies and after verification from Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), star label on the scale of 1 (less efficient) to 5 (most efficient) will be assigned.

It will help in saving over 500 million units of electricity in 2019 along with Green House Gases reduction of 0.5 million-ton equivalent of CO₂. It will also save more than 4 billion units of electricity by 2030 with CO₂ emission reduction of 3.5 million ton.

On this occasion, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) released draft India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP), making India first country in world to develop such document. It aims to provide sustainable cooling, while protecting ozone layer.

It provides a 20-year perspective, with projections for cooling needs in 2037-38.

Goals suggested in ICAP are -

Reduce refrigerant demand by 25% to 30% by year 2037-38.

Reduce cooling demand across sectors by 20% to 25 % by 2037-38.

Reduce cooling energy requirements by 25% to 40% by 2037-38.

Train and certify 100,000 servicing sector technicians by 2022-23, in synergy with Skill India Mission.

118. ▶ Sep 21 - International Day of Peace. 2018 Theme is *The Right to Peace – The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70*. Sep 21 is also observed as World Alzheimer's Day.

119. ▶ Sep 23 - International Day of Sign Languages. 2018 theme is *With Sign Language, Everyone is Included*. Sep 23, 2018 Also marks Centenary of the Battle of Haifa, when on 23 Sep 1918, Indian soldiers from Jodhpur, Mysore and Hyderabad Lancers liberated city of Haifa (Israel).


120. ▶ Sep 26 - International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, proclaimed by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) by adopting resolution 68/32 in December 2013.

121. ▶ Sep 27 - World Tourism Day. 2018 theme is *Tourism and the Digital Transformation*. Hungary is the host country for 2018's WTD, While India will be official Host country for WTD 2019. This year, 77 awardees were honored under National Tourism Awards 2016-17. Notable Awardees are -

Best State/ UT (Comprehensive Development of Tourism) - Andhra Pradesh (1), Kerala (2), Goa & Rajasthan (Joint 3rd). Sikkim in category of Jammu & Kashmir & North East of India including Sikkim.


Madhya Pradesh won Hall of Fame National Award, given to a state for being best for tourism three years consecutively. MP also won 10 other awards.


Best Tourist Friendly Railway Station - Secunderabad Railway Station

 Best Tourist Friendly Airport - Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport Ahmedabad (Class X cities), Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport Indore (Rest of India)

 Best Film Promotion Friendly State/ UT - Rajasthan

 Best Tourism Film - Department of Tourism, Govt. of Kerala for 'Live Inspired'.

 Best Heritage City - Ahmedabad (Gujarat) and Mandu (Madhya Pradesh) as Joint Winners.

 Tourism Minister also launched 'Incredible India Mobile App' and the 'Incredible India Tourist Facilitators Certification' programme.

122. ▶ Sep 27, 2018 - World Maritime Day (WMD) 2018. It is observed every year on last Thursday of September. 2018 theme is *IMO 70: Our Heritage – Better Shipping for a Better Future*. The day was first observed in 1978.

123. ▶ Sep 29 - World Heart Day.

124. ▶ Sep 30 - International Translation Day. 2018 Theme is *Translation: promoting cultural heritage in changing times*.

125. ▶ Sep 9 is observed as Himalaya Day in Uttarakhand , since 2014 onwards.

126. ▶ September 2 - World coconut day.

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