



## Current Affairs - October to December 2018

Month  Type



- [37 Current Affairs were found in Last Three Months for Type - Persons on Visit/In News](#)

### Persons

#### 1. Obituaries (Dec 2018) -

- George H .W. Bush - Former USA President.
- Arun Kumar Shaw - Swimmer (Seven-time former national champion).
- Jagdish Thakkar - Senior journalist and Public Relations Officer (PRO) in PM office.
- Lyudmila Alexeyeva - Noted Russian rights activist and former Soviet dissident.
- Mushirul Hasan - Noted Historian. He has extensively written on India's Partition.
- Thoppil Ajayan - National award winning Malayalam film director.
- Nancy Wilson - 3 times Grammy award winner american jazz singer.
- Pandit Arun Bhaduri - Noted classical singer. She is named as one of masters of Bengali songs and bhajans.
- Tulsi Giri - Former Nepalese Prime Minister.
- Tulsi Ramsay - Filmmaker. He is noted for directing old Bollywood Horror flicks.
- Sulagitti Narasamma - Padma Shri awardee Noted Social worker.
- Dipali Borthakur - Noted Assamese singer, also known as the "Nightingale of Assam".
- Prabhanjan - Noted Tamil writer and Sahitya Akademi award winner.
- Dwijen Mukhopadhyay - Noted Rabindra Sangeet singer.
- Jai Narain Prasad Nishad - Former Union Minister, served as Minister of state, Environment and Forests (IC) during 1996-97.
- Hamidi Kashmiri - Noted Urdu Literataur.
- Mrinal Sen - Noted filmmaker.
- Lawrence Gilman Roberts - American Scientist, known for development of ARPANET, called early Internet.
- Norman Gimbel - the Oscar and Grammy-winning American lyricist.
- Nirendranath Chakraborty - Noted Bengali poet.
- Shehu Shagari - 2nd President of Nigeria.

#### 2. Visits to India (Nov 21 - 30, 2018) -

- Hu Wei, Vice Minister of General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) Visited India. A protocol on Hygiene and Inspection requirements for the export of Fish Meal and Fish Oil from India to China was signed, enabling India to commence export of fish meal and fish oil to China.
- Romanian Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu visited India.
- Minister of Foreign Affairs of Gabon (Central Africa), Regis Immongault Visited India.
- Maldivian Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid Visited India.

#### 3. 3 Indian-Americans named in the Time magazine's 2018 list of the 50 most influential people whose work is transforming healthcare in US. They are Divya Nag, Raj Panjabi and Atul Gawande.

#### 4. Amnesty International took away its highest honour, the 'Ambassador of Conscience' award, from Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi, over her indifference to atrocities committed by the Myanmar military against and increasing intolerance of freedom of expression.

5. ▶ Chagari Praveen Kumar is appointed as acting Chief Justice of Andhra High Court. Andhra HC is newly created and 25th High Court in India.
6. ▶ Colin O'Brady (USA) became first person to complete a solo journey across Antarctica, unaided and unsupported, after finishing a two-month expedition.
7. ▶ Controversial Candidate Brett Kavanaugh Sworn In as a US Supreme Court Judge After Senate Confirmation.
8. ▶ Former Indian cricketer and UNICEF Ambassador for South Asia, Sachin Tendulkar gave away prizes to winners of South Asia Regional WASH innovation in Thimphu (Bhutan). The basic aim of challenge was to identify innovative solutions to promote practice of hand washing with soap.
9. ▶ Govt. released a Commemorative Postage Stamp on Rajkumar Shukla, who drew attention of M K Gandhi to plight of peasants suffering under an oppressive system established by European indigo planters in Champaran (Bihar). He made great contribution in launch of Champaran Satyagraha in 1917.
10. ▶ India's Aadi Sai Vijaykaran won Junior Debate Championship at World Scholar's Cup at Yale University (USA), becoming first Indian to do so.
11. ▶ Indian mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta became first Indian to climb Mt Giluwe - second highest mountain in Papua New Guinea (4367 metres). Satya now scaled 5 of 7 volcanic summits. He will now set out to summit Mt Wilhelm (highest mountain of Papua New Guinea with height 4509 Metres).
12. ▶ Kerala government approved Compensation worth 50 Lakh for Former ISRO scientist Nambi Narayanan, in compliance with a September 14 Supreme Court order, that required awarding the compensation to him for being falsely implicated in 1994 espionage case.
13. ▶ Maharashtra's 20-year-old cyclist Vedangi Kulkarni completed 29,000-km distance required to qualify as bicycling across globe in 159 days. She reached Kolkata after pedalling up to 300 km a day in 14 countries across 159 days.
14. ▶ Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi became first person from whom honorary Canadian citizenship has been taken back, for her role in gross human rights violations against Rohingya Muslims. The honour was bestowed on Suu Kyi in 2007.
15. ▶ Obituaries (November 2018) -
  - ▶ Stan Lee - Noted American comic book writer. He was Marvel Comics' primary creative leader.
  - ▶ Lalan Sarang - Noted Marathi actress.
  - ▶ M.P. Awati - 1971 War Hero. He commanded a naval unit of Eastern Fleet that led to destruction of an enemy submarine.
  - ▶ K P S Srivastava - Noted Journalist.
  - ▶ Vinod Agrawal - Noted Bhajan singer.
  - ▶ Anant Kumar - Serving Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. After his demise, DV Sadananda Gowda got additional charge of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Narendra Singh Tomar was assigned Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
  - ▶ Roshan Lal Sethi - Noted Sports journalist.
  - ▶ Chitta Jena - Noted Odia singer.
  - ▶ Banamali Maharana - Noted Odissi percussionist. He was known for expertise in Mardala Instrument.
  - ▶ Kuldip Singh Chandpuri - Noted war veteran of 1971. He led India in famous battle of Longewala in Rajasthan in which just 120 Indian men defeated over 2000 Troops strong contingent of Pakistani Army.
  - ▶ TS Kanaka - Asis's first woman neurosurgeon, and third woman neurosurgeon in world.
  - ▶ Alyque Padamsee - Padma Shri awardee Indian Theatre Personality and Ad Film Maker.
  - ▶ Ustad Imrat Khan - Classical Singer. He was noted for sitar and surbahar expertise.
  - ▶ Sandeep Michael - Former Indian hockey player.
  - ▶ William Goldman - Oscar-winning American screenwriter author.
  - ▶ MH Ambareesh - Kannada actor and former union minister.
  - ▶ Fahmida Riaz - India-born Pakistani poet and human rights activist.
  - ▶ C. K. Jaffer Sharief - Former Union Railway Minister.
  - ▶ Mohammed Aziz - Playback Singer.
  - ▶ Bernardo Bertolucci - Oscar Winning Italian filmmaker.
  - ▶ Irvatham Mahadevan - leading scholar on Indus Valley and Tamil Brahmi scripts.
16. ▶ Obituaries (October 2018) -
  - ▶ Otis Rush - Noted Chicago blues guitarist (USA).
  - ▶ Balabhaskar - Noted violinist.
  - ▶ Thampi Kannanthanam - Noted Veteran Malayalam film personality.
  - ▶ Will Vinton - Oscar-winning American animator.

- 🔗 Natwar Thakkar - Noted Eminent Gandhian social worker from Nagaland.
- 🔗 Montserrat Caballé - Noted Spanish Opera singer.
- 🔗 Pradip Chowdhury - Noted journalist and former News Editor of Press Trust of India (PTI).
- 🔗 M N Paloor - Noted Malayalam poet.
- 🔗 G.D. Agarwal - Environmentalist. He was on a fast for last 111 days demanding a clean Ganga.
- 🔗 Annapurna Devi - Noted musician. She was daughter and disciple of Noted sarod player Allauddin Khan, and married to sitar maestro Ravi Shankar.
- 🔗 Kishour Giri - Assamese singer and music director.
- 🔗 Paul Allen - co-founder of Microsoft.
- 🔗 N D Tiwari - Former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
- 🔗 Osamu Shimomura - Japanese-born Marine biologist. He won Chemistry Nobel Prize in 2008, for discovery of a jellyfish protein that contributed to cancer studies.
- 🔗 Madan Lal Khurana - Former Delhi Chief Minister
- 🔗 Qazi Abdus Sattar - Urdu writer. He won Padma Shri in 1974 and was first recipient of Ghalib Academy Award in 1978.
- 🔗 Yeshwant Deo - Noted Marathi musician.

17. ▶ Persons Resigned / Retired (October 2018) -

- 🔗 Igor Akinfeev - Russian footballer.
- 🔗 Mile Jedinak - Australian footballer.
- 🔗 Nick Compton - England Cricketer Retires.
- 🔗 John Terry - England Footballer.
- 🔗 Meng Hongwei - resigned as President of International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol).
- 🔗 Indian American Nikki Haley resigned as United States Ambassador to the United Nations (UN).
- 🔗 Abdur Rehman - Pakistani Cricketer.
- 🔗 Praveen Kumar - Indian Cricketer.
- 🔗 MJ Akbar - resigned as Union minister of state for external affairs. He is facing allegations of sexual harassment.
- 🔗 Rangana Herath - Sri Lankan Cricketer.
- 🔗 Dwayne Bravo - West Indies Cricketer (Trinidad).
- 🔗 Anupam Kher - Chairan of Film & Television Institute of India Pune.

18. ▶ Persons Resigned / Retired in November 2018 -

- 🔗 Azhar Ali - Pakistani Cricketer.
- 🔗 John Hastings - Australian cricketer.
- 🔗 Ambati Rayudu - Retired from First Class Cricket, including Ranji Trophy, to focus on limited-overs cricket.
- 🔗 Former Australia captain Mark Taylor resigned from Cricket Australia board.
- 🔗 Jeff Sessions - United States Attorney General.
- 🔗 Binny Bansal - Flipkart co-founder.
- 🔗 Ashok Chawla - Chairman of Yes Bank.
- 🔗 Joe Cole - England Footballer.
- 🔗 Munaf Patel - Indian Cricketer.
- 🔗 Isobel Joyce and Cecelia Joyce - Ireland Female Cricketers.
- 🔗 Erik Solheim - UN's environment chief.
- 🔗 Didier Drogba - Ivorian Footballer.
- 🔗 R. Chandrashekhar - Yes Bank independent director.

19. ▶ Persons Retired / Resigned (December 2018) -

- 🔗 Gautam Gambhir - Indian cricketer.
- 🔗 Paul Polman - Resigned as CEO of Unilever (consumer goods firm).
- 🔗 Urjit Patel - Resigned as Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Mr. Patel is First RBI governor to resign before completion of term, which was to end in September 2019.
- 🔗 Upendra Kushwaha - Resigned as Minister of State in Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- 🔗 Ananth Narayanan - Resigned as CEO of Fashion e-tailer Myntra, with his position set to be abolished. Flipkart's Amar Nagaram appointed as head of Myntra.

- ✎ Dharmesh Mehta - Resigned as MD & CEO of Axis Capital. Salil Pitale and Chirag Negandhi appointed as Joint MD and Co-CEO of the entity.
  - ✎ Surjit S Bhalla - resigned as Member of Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister. Council is headed by NITI Aayog member Bibek Debroy.
  - ✎ Charles Michel - Resigned as Belgian Prime Minister.
  - ✎ Anup Kumar - Indian Kabaddi player and former World Cup-winning captain.
20. ▶ Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani named as richest Indian for 11th consecutive year with a net worth of USD 47.3 Billion, according to Forbes magazine. He is also year's biggest gainer, adding USD 9.3 billion to his wealth. Wipro Chairman Azim Premji retained 2nd spot, followed by Arcelor Mittal Chairman and CEO Lakshmi Mittal at 3rd place.
21. ▶ The city of Paris will take back Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi's honorary freedom of Paris award, over her failure to speak out against a crackdown on Rohingya Muslims. She has already been stripped of her honorary Canadian citizenship and her Amnesty International's 'Ambassador of Conscience Award'.
22. ▶ Visits From India (Nov 11 - 20, 2018) -
- ✎ President Ram Nath Kovind Visited Vietnam and Australia.
    - ✎ Vietnam - 4 cooperation agreements signed -
      - ✎ Cooperation in Ministries of Communications.
      - ✎ Cooperation among Department of Foreign Affairs.
      - ✎ Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics in Hanoi and New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University.
      - ✎ Confederation of Indian Industry(CII) and the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
    - ✎ Australia - 5 Cooperation Agreement signed -
      - ✎ Welfare of Differently abled persons, bilateral investment, scientific collaboration and innovation.
      - ✎ Agreement between Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University Guntur and University of Western AustraliaPerth for cooperation in agricultural research and education.
      - ✎ Joint PhD agreement between Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi (IIITD) and Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Brisbane.
  - ✎ PM Narendra Modi Visited Singapore -
    - ✎ He attended 33rd ASEAN Summit, 13th East Asia Summit , 16th ASEAN-India Summit and 2nd RCEP Summit. Also, Officials from 4 countries (Quad) – Australia, India, Japan and the United States also held their third "Quadrilateral" meeting in Singapore.
    - ✎ He attended 3rd Singapore Fintech Festival and launched Application Programming Interface Exchange (APIX) platform through which ASEAN financial institutions, innovators and users would connect with Indian users. APIX aims to connect companies to financial institutions globally and become a banking solution for two billion people without bank accounts worldwide.
    - ✎ He invited South African president Cyril Ramaphosa to be chief guest at 2019 Republic Day parade of India.
  - ✎ PM Narendra Modi Visited Maldives, to attend swearing in ceremony of Ibrahim Mohamed Solih as new President of Maldives.
23. ▶ Visits from India (Nov 21-30, 2018)
- ✎ First India Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue held at St. Petersburg in Russia. Indian side was led by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar.
  - ✎ Nitin Gadkari (Minister for *Shipping, Road Transport & Highways, Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation*) Visited Nigeria for Attending Blue Economy Conference held in Nairobi. Kenya hosted conference with Canada and Japan as co-hosts.
  - ✎ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited Laos.
  - ✎ Navy Chief Sunil Lanba Visited Russia.
24. ▶ Visits from India (Dec 01 - 10, 2018) -
- ✎ Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman visited USA.
  - ✎ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited UAE for 12th India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting for Economic and Technical Cooperation. During this meet, India and UAE signed an agreement on Currency Swap worth INR 3500 crores, along with MOU for Development Cooperation in Africa.
  - ✎ Indian Air Force Chief Birender Singh Dhanoa visited Japan.
25. ▶ Visits from India (Dec 11 - 20, 2018) -
- ✎ Indian Army Chief Bipin Rawat visited Tanzania and Kenya.

- ✍ Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman visited USA, focusing around US-India Defence partnership.
- ✍ President Ram Nath Kovind visited Myanmar.
  - ✍ He dedicated - India assisted project 'Advanced Centre for Agricultural Research & Education' (CARE) - to the people of Myanmar.
  - ✍ 2 MOUs signed -
    - ✍ MOU on training of Myanmar judicial officers in India.
    - ✍ MOU to enhance cooperation in science and technology.
- ✍ Minister for Minority Affairs, Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi Visited Saudi Arabia. India and Saudi Arabia signed bilateral annual Haj 2019 agreement.

26. ▶ Visits from India (Nov 1 - 10, 2018) -

- ✍ 18th Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers Meeting held in Durban (South Africa), attended by VK Singh (Minister of State for External Affairs) on India's Behalf. Bangladesh was appointed as Vice Chairman of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) for 2019-21 and eventually as Chairman for 2021-23. 'Be the Legacy' internship programme announced to be launched on July 18, 2019, 101st birth anniversary of Nelson Mandela.
- ✍ Vice President Venkaiah Naidu visited African Nations Botswana, Zimbabwe and Malawi -
  - ✍ Botswana -
    - ✍ An MoU was signed for waiving Visa for Diplomatic Passport holders.
    - ✍ Botswana decided to join India based International Solar Alliance.
  - ✍ Zimbabwe -
    - ✍ India announced \$310 million loan to Zimbabwe to finance a rehabilitation project for a thermal power plant that would entail upgrading the station and extending its lifespan. A fund of \$2.9 million will also be extended to upgrade the Indo-Zim Technology Centre, which India had gifted to the African country.
    - ✍ India and Zimbabwe signed six signed agreements, including on mining, Information and communications technology (ICT), visa waiver and traditional medicine.
  - ✍ Malawi -
    - ✍ India and Malawi have signed three MoUs on Extradition Treaty, cooperation in the field of Atomic Energy for peaceful
    - ✍ India will also extend a new Line of credit of 215 million US dollars to Malawi for 18 water projects.
- ✍ Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu visited France to represent India at events commemorating centenary of signing of the armistice ending World War I. He inaugurated first India-bult war memorial in northern France, to pay tribute Indian soldiers who sacrificed lives during World War I.

27. ▶ Visits from India (Oct 11 - 20, 2018) -

- ✍ Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Visited France. She participated in the 1st India-France Ministerial level annual defence dialogue in Paris.
- ✍ 7th meeting of education ministers of member states of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) held in Astana (Kazakhstan). India was represented by Minister of State (MoS) Human Resource Development Satyapal Singh.
- ✍ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited Tajikistan capital Dushanbe to attend Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Heads of Government Council Meeting.
- ✍ Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu visited Azerbaijan to attend 5th meeting of India-Azerbaijan Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade and Economic, Science and Technology Cooperation (IA-IGC).
- ✍ President Ram Nath Kovind Visited Tajikistan (Central Asia). 9 MOUs were signed on the occasion, for cooperation in Political relations, Strategic research, Agriculture Renewable energy, Traditional medicine, Space technology, Youth affairs, Disaster Management AND Culture. India also announced grant of USD 20 Million to Tajikistan for implementation of development projects of Tajikistan.

28. ▶ Visits from India (Oct 21 - 31, 2018) -

- ✍ Minister of State (IC) for Tourism, K. J. Alphons attended 109th session of United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Executive Council in Manama (Bahrain). India will be the chair of Programme and Budget Committee of UNWTO Executive Council till 2021.
- ✍ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited Qatar and Kuwait.
  - ✍ India and Qatar established a joint commission to review all bilateral matters, as well as regional and global issues of mutual interest.
- ✍ Prime Minister Narendra Modi Visited Japan -

✍ Attended 13th annual bilateral summit of India –Japan -

✍ Agreed for a 2+2 dialogue between our foreign ministers and defence ministers to further work towards world peace.

✍ India-Japan Business Platform will be established to enhance the development of industrial corridors and industrial network in the region.

✍ 6 MOUs were signed -

✍ Food Safety

✍ MoU between Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India and NEXI, Japan

✍ MoU between CSIR India with Hiroshima University and University of Tokyo (Japan) for Research Partnership.

✍ MoU between National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) India, and Shizuoka University (Japan) for Academic and Research exchanges.

✍ MoU between Sports Authority of India (SAI) India and University of Tsukuba (Japan) for academic exchanges and sports cooperation.

✍ Other Important Agreements -

✍ Joint Venture Agreement between State Bank of India (SBI) and SBI Payment Services Pvt. Ltd and Hitachi Payment Services Pvt Ltd.

✍ India and Japan signed an agreement for \$75-billion bilateral currency swap, representing increase of 50 % percent over last currency swap arrangement between the two countries. This will enable agreed amount of foreign capital being available to India for use as and when need arises.

✍ Japan announced joining the International Solar Alliance (ISA), submitting instrument of ratification. As of now, 70 countries have signed ISA Framework Agreement (ISA FA) and 47 countries that have ratified it.

✍ Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman visited Indonesia.

✍ Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, C. R. Chaudhary Visited Czech Republic for attending 11th session of India – Czech Republic Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation (JCEC).

29. ▶ Visits from india (Oct 1 - 10, 2018) -

✍ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited Kazakhstan (Central Asia).

✍ President Ra Nath Kovind Visited Tajikistan -

✍ Signed MoUs in various fields including political relations, strategic research, agriculture, renewable energy, traditional medicine, space technology, youth affairs, Culture and Disaster Management.

✍ Indian grant of 20 million US dollars was announced for Tajikistan to finance development projects.

✍ Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, C. R. Chaudhary Visited Nigera for Regional Conclave on India-West Africa Project Partnership held in Abuja, organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)- EXIM Bank.

30. ▶ Visits to India (Oct 21 - 31, 2018) -

✍ Andrus Ansip (European Commissioner for Digital Single Market and Vice President of the European Commission) Visited India. .

✍ Prime Minister of Italy, Giuseppe Conte Visited India. He attended India-Italy Technology Summit at New Delhi.

✍ Sri Lankan prime minister Ranil Wickremesinghe visited India, as his fifth official visit to India since taking office in 2015.

✍ Rajiv Gauba (Home Secretary) Visited Myanmar, to attend 22nd National Level Meeting between India and Myanmar.

✍ Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Croatia Marija Pejcinovic Burić Visited India, with 2 agreements signed to strengthen cultural and diplomatic cooperation.

✍ China's State Councilor and Minister of Public Security Zhao Kezhi Visited India. India and China have signed agreement on internal security cooperation, as first such agreement to be signed between the two countries.

31. ▶ Visits to India (Dec 01 - 10, 2018) -

✍ Minister of Foreign Affairs & Cooperation of Mozambique (East Africa), Jose Condungua Antonio Pacheco Visited India.

✍ Foreign Minister of Romania, Teodor Melescanu visited India.

✍ Foreign Minister of Maldives, Abdulla Shahid visited India.

✍ Chairman of 'Duma' of Russian Parliament (Counterpart of India's Lok Sabha), Vyacheslav Volodin Visited India. He attended 5th Meeting of India-Russia Parliamentary Commission in New Delhi.

32. ▶ Visits to India (Dec 11 - 20, 2018) -

✍ Foreign Affairs Minister of South Korea, Ms. Kang Kyung-wha Visited India, for 9th India-Korea Joint Commission Meeting held in New Delhi. India and South Korea agreed to raise bilateral trade to 50 billion dollars by 2030.

✍ Minister of Trade of Turkey, Rushtar Pekcan Visited India.

- ✈️ Nepal Minister for General Administration and Federal Affairs, Lal Babu Pandit Visited India.
- ✈️ Thailand Navy Chief Luechai Ruddit Visited India.
- ✈️ Patrick Matibini, Speaker of National Assembly of Zambia visited India. Zambia approved its membership of India led International Solar Alliance.
- ✈️ Foreign Affairs Minister of Denmark, Anders Samuelsen Visited India.
- ✈️ Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France Visited India.
  - ✈️ India signed mega supercomputer *Bull Sequana* deal with France, to procure supercomputers worth INR 4,500 crores into India. Contract will last for 3 years for developing Bull Sequana (high-performance supercomputers), with computing power of over 10 petaflops.
- ✈️ Achmad Taufiqerochman, Chief of Indonesia Coast Guard (called BAKAMLA) visited India, for 6th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting in New Delhi.
- ✈️ Maldives President Ibrahim Solih Visited India -
  - ✈️ India announced a \$1.4 billion package for Maldives, to meet its capital requirements.
  - ✈️ 4 agreements signed - Facilitation of Visa Arrangements , Cultural Cooperation, Mutual Cooperation to Improve Ecosystem for Agribusiness AND Cooperation in field of Information & Communications Technology and Electronics.
    - ✈️ Maldives announced to re-join the Commonwealth AND joining Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) family.
- ✈️ Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu visited India for 18th meeting of India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Military Technical Cooperation (IRIGC-MTC), held in New Delhi.
- ✈️ Foreign Affairs Minister of South Korea, Kang Kyung-wha visited India for attending 9th India-ROK Joint Commission meeting, held in New Delhi.

33. ▶ Visits to India (Dec 21 - 31, 2018) -

- ✈️ Prime Minister of Bhutan, Lotay Tshering Visited India.
  - ✈️ India announced to contribute INR 4500 crores to Bhutan for 12th five-year plan.
  - ✈️ 2018 also marks 50th (Golden Jubilee year) of establishment of formal diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan.
  - ✈️ 2018 also marks 50th (Golden Jubilee year) of establishment of formal diplomatic relations between India and Bhutan.
- ✈️ Wang Yi, Foreign Minister of China Visited India, to attend first-ever meeting of India-China High-Level Mechanism on Cultural and People-to-People Exchanges, held in New Delhi.

34. ▶ Visits to India (Nov 1 - 10, 2018) -

- ✈️ Mrs. Kim Jung-sook, First Lady of South Korea Visited India -
  - ✈️ She was Chief Guest at Deepotsav event being organized by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and ceremony of new Memorial of Queen Suriratna (Heo Hwang-ok) in Ayodhya. Ayodhya and Korea have a deep historical connection through the legendary Princess Suriratna of Ayodhya, who traveled to Korea in 48 CE and married Korean King Suro.
  - ✈️ MOU signed for cooperation in sports and Tourism.

35. ▶ Visits to India (Nov 11 - 20, 2018) -

- ✈️ Minister for Public Service & Good Governance, Law & Justice of Tanzania, Haroun Ali Suleiman Visited India.
- ✈️ 9th Session of India-Kyrgyz Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation (IK-IGC) held in New Delhi. Kosmosbek Cholpon Baev, Health Minister of Kyrgyzstan Visited India.
- ✈️ India and Morocco have signed an agreement on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters, during India visit of Morocco Minister of Justice, Mohamed Aujjar.

36. ▶ Visits to India (Oct 1 - 10, 2018) -

- ✈️ Malaysia's Human Resources Minister M. Kulasegaran Visited India.
- ✈️ Opposition leader of Canada, Andrew Scheer Visited India.
- ✈️ President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev Visited India. 17 MOUs were signed -
  - ✈️ Visa-free travel for diplomatic passport holders.
  - ✈️ cooperation in field of tourism, military education, sphere of Law and Justice, agriculture and allied sectors, scientific-technical and innovation fields, health and medical science, combating illicit trafficking narcotic drugs, exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes, Foreign Affairs.
  - ✈️ MoU between Samarkand City of Uzbekistan and Municipal Corporation of Agra (Uttar Pradesh).
  - ✈️ Establishment of the Uzbek-Indian Free Pharmaceutical Zone in the Andijan Region of Uzbekistan.
  - ✈️ Cooperation between Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under President of Uzbekistan.

- ✍ UN Secretary-General António Guterres (Portugal) Visited India.
    - ✍ Formally opened new UN House in New Delhi.
    - ✍ Participated in closing session of Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention. He will also meet with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Sumitra Mahajan, before giving an address at the India Habitat Centre.
    - ✍ Took part in General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance.
  - ✍ Russian President Vladimir Putin Visited India -
    - ✍ Attended 19th India-Russia Annual Bilateral Summit 2018 in New Delhi.
    - ✍ Attended AIM-SIRIUS Innovation Festival 2018 in New Delhi.
    - ✍ India and Russia signed their biggest defence deal in over two decades for Five S-400 air defence systems with worth \$5.43 billion ( Rs. 40,300 crores) -
      - ✍ The S-400 regiments will be delivered starting 2020 and are likely to be deployed to cover both the Pakistani and Chinese borders.
      - ✍ China was first foreign buyer Signed a \$3 billion deal for integrating Six S-400 in 2014.
      - ✍ U.S. warned deal could attract sanctions under Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) law that restricts defence purchases from Russia, Iran and North Korea.
      - ✍ S-400 Air Defence System (Previously known as the S-300 PMU-3)
        - ✍ The S-400 uses four missiles to fill its performance envelope: the very-long-range 40N6 (400 km), the long-range 48N6 (250 km), the medium-range 9M96E2 (120 km) and the short-range 9M96E (40 km).
        - ✍ One S-400 can launch 160 guided missiles simultaneously, engage 80 targets at a time.(2 Missile to attack 1 target).
        - ✍ It can hit aircraft, cruise missiles and even fast-moving intermediate range ballistic missiles. The S-400 has three components — the missile launchers themselves, a powerful radar and a command centre.
        - ✍ The radar can track targets 600 km away. For example, S-400 systems deployed in India can track aircraft flying well outside the country's borders, which is a major threat deterrence to the enemy's air force.
    - ✍ 8 MOUs signed -
      - ✍ Protocol for Consultations between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and MEA for the period 2019-2023
      - ✍ MoU between NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission and Russian Creative school SIRIUS, to provide a platform for joint scientific and entrepreneurial efforts by youth of two nations.
      - ✍ MOU between ISRO and ROSCOSMOS on Joint Activities in field of Human Spaceflight Programme.
        - ✍ ROSCOSMOS offered ride to Indian astronaut short visit to International Space Station (ISS) on board Soyuz spacecraft for short training mission in 2022.
      - ✍ Cooperation between Railways, Nuclear Field, Transport Education, MSME, Fertilizers Sector.
37. ▶ Visits to India (Oct 11 - 20, 2018) -
- ✍ Andreas Krause, Chief of German Navy visited India.
  - ✍ Augustine P. Mahiga , Foreign Minister of Tanzania Visited India. He attended 9th Session of India - Tanzania Joint Commission Meeting.

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