



Current Affairs - February 2018

Month Type



- [175 Current Affairs were found in Period - February 1 - 10, 2018 for Type - All](#)

Appointments

- ▶ A.K.Prasad has been appointed as new Financial Commissioner (Railways).
- ▶ Abdul Hamid has been re-elected as President of Bangladesh for 2nd term. Additionally, Bangladesh former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia was jailed for 5 years, after being found guilty in a corruption case.
- ▶ Abhilasha Kumari is appointed as Chief Justice of Manipur High Court.
- ▶ Anil Chauhan took charge as Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of Indian Army, succeeding A K Bhatt.
- ▶ Antony Dominic is appointed as Chief Justice of Kerala.
- ▶ B A Chopade has been appointed as the vice-chancellor of Banaras Hindu University (BHU).
- ▶ Dinesh Srivastava has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC).
- ▶ Google's Parent Company Alphabet appointed John L. Hennessy as new board chairman of company, replacing Eric Schmidt.
- ▶ Hardayal Prasad is appointed as Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of India's second-largest credit card issuer *SBI Card*.
- ▶ Jnanpith recipient and Kannada literatureur Chandrashekhar Kambar is elected as President of Sahitya Akademi. Hindi poet Madhav Kaushik was elected as vice president of the Sahitya Akademi.
- ▶ Mukul Asthana is been appointed as Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Air).
- ▶ Naba Kumar Nayak has been appointed as the State Election Commissioner in Odisha.
- ▶ National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) appointed Biswamohan Mahapatra as non-executive chairman for 2 years.
- ▶ Neelam Kapoor has been appointed as Director General (DG) of Sports Authority of India (SAI).
- ▶ Nicos Anastasiades won re-election for a second term as President of Mediterranean Nation Cyprus.
- ▶ PepsiCo Chairman and CEO Indra Nooyi is appointed as International Cricket Council's (ICC) first-ever independent female director.
- ▶ Syed Mahmud Hossain has been appointed as new Chief Justice of Neighboring Nation Bangladesh.
- ▶ Thanglura Darlong has been appointed as Indian Ambassador to Romania.

[Top](#)

Awards

- ▶ Indian princess Sophia Alexandra Duleep Singh honoured with a Royal Mail stamp of the UK to mark centenary of suffragette movement.
 1. Sophia, daughter of Maharaja Duleep Singh, is only woman to have 1 of 8 stamps to herself. Image on stamp shows her selling copies of a Suffragette newspaper in 1913.
- ▶ Industrial Awards in Feb 2018 -
 1. Reliance Industries (RIL) is awarded Golden Peacock Award 2017 for corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.
- ▶ Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) committee will bestow V. Shantaram lifetime achievement Award to noted producer and director Shyam Benegal. It includes a trophy, cash price of 10 lakh rupees, a certificate and a shawl.
- ▶ Odisha Government won *Geospatial World Excellence Award-2018* for successful IT application for tracking of mineral production, dispatch and value accrued on real-time basis through its i3MS web-based software. Award was presented at

Geospatial World Forum Meeting IN Hyderabad.

- ▶ Times Group celebrated invaluable contribution of women by introducing *Times Power Woman 2017 (Pune) awards*, honoring 34 select women with power, supremacy, command and control. Shabnam Asthana was awarded *Times Power Women of the Year 2017*.

[Top](#)

Books

- ▶ Book *Exam Warriors*, written by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been released. It includes Insights from PM Modi about handling exam stress and help students conquer bigger peaks in life.
- ▶ Book *Hisaab Kitaab*, written by Actress Anjana Sukhani on household budgeting has been released.
- ▶ Book *Mere Sapnon ka Bharat*, written by Tarun Vijay has been released. It is It compilation of interviews of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- ▶ Noted cricketer Sachin Tendulkar launched a book on child health care titled *Even When There Is A Doctor*, written by Yashwant Amdekar along with Rajesh Chokhani and Krishnan Sivaramakrishnan.

[Top](#)

Committees

- ▶ Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence Production) constituted a 17 member task force headed by Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran to study use and application of artificial intelligence (AI) in military.
- ▶ Ministry of Defence (MoD) constituted 13-member Raksha Mantri Advisory Committee on Ministry of Defence Capital Projects (RMCOP), to be headed by former secretary Vinay Sheel Oberoi. It will monitor and expedite capital acquisition projects for modernisation of armed forces and bolster armed forces preparedness.

[Top](#)

Days

- ▶ Feb 02 - World Wetlands Day. It marks adoption of Convention on Wetlands (also called as Ramsar Convention) in 1971 in Ramsar (Iran). Theme for 2018 is *Wetlands for a Sustainable Urban Future*.
 - ▶ On this occasion, Floating Treatment Wetland (FTW) was inaugurated in Nekkampur Lake in Hyderabad to purify polluted lake. Plants planted on FTW can clean lake by absorbing nitrates and other pollutants in water.
- ▶ Feb 04 - World Cancer Day. 2018 Theme is *We can. I can*.
 - ▶ Feb 4, 2018 is also 70th Independence Day of Neighboring Nation *Sri Lanka*. On Feb 4 in 1948, Sri Lanka achieved freedom from British rule.
- ▶ Feb 06 - International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation.
- ▶ Feb 1 - Foundation day of Indian Coast Guard (ICG).
- ▶ Google launched '#SecurityCheckKiya' campaign in India to create awareness around Internet safety. It was launched on occasion of Safer Internet Day (6 February).
 - ▶ On this occasion, Google and National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) signed a pact to integrate a course on 'Digital Citizenship and Safety' in information and communication technology (ICT) curriculum.
- ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) launched National Deworming Initiative on National Deworming Day (10 February). It aims to reach over 32 crore children aged between 1 to 19 years to combat parasitic worm infections.
 - ▶ National Deworming Day was launched in 2015 and is a single fixed-day approach to treating intestinal worm infections in all children aged 1- 19 years. It is held on 10 February and 10 August each year.

[Top](#)

Defence

- ▶ Defence Acquisition Council approved capital acquisition of 7.4 lakh assault rifles, 17,000 light machine guns, 5,719 sniper rifles and Mareech advanced torpedo decoy systems for Indian Navy, worth INR 15935 crores. DAC is headed by Defence Minister (Nirmala Sitharaman Currently).

2. ▶ Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) conducted first flight of Hawk-i Trainer Jet, with indigenous Real Time Operating System (RTOS).
 1. Hawk-i is first indigenous RTOS developed in India and certified by Center for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC).
 2. RTOS is system software that provides standard run-time environment for real-time applications execution in a safe and reliable manner.
3. ▶ Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) for first time successfully flown home-made 5.8-tonne Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) with its own automatic flight control system, powered by 2 Shakti engines.
4. ▶ Home Ministry sanctioned approx INR 370 crore to Border Security Force (BSF) and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) to strengthen border infrastructure along Indo-Pak and Indo-China border.
5. ▶ Indian Army will contribute 2300 personnel to support United Nations Peacekeeping Missions to South Sudan (UNMISS) in order to bring peace and normalcy in the war-torn african country. It includes deployment of 7 Garhwal Rifles Infantry battalion group of Indian Army.
6. ▶ Indian Coast Guard interceptor boat *V-410* has been launched. It is 6th in series of 15 interceptors for which BDIL had been given a contract.
7. ▶ Indian Navy unveiled Integrated Automatic Aviation Meteorological System (IAAMS) at INS Garuda naval air station in Kochi (Kerala). It is 4th air station installed with this integrated system. IAAMS aims to modernise Meteorological infrastructure of 9 Naval Air Stations (NAS), to bring accuracy in weather monitoring mechanism in Indian Navy.
8. ▶ Indigenously developed short-range nuclear capable ballistic Agni-1 successfully test-fired, with strike range of 700-900 KM.
 1. Nuclear capable surface-to-surface Prithvi-II missile was also successfully test fired, with range under 350 km.
9. ▶ Maratha Light Infantry celebrated 250 years of its existence on 4 February 2018. first battalion of regiment was raised as ‘Second Battalion Bombay Sepoys’ on Feb 2 in 1768.

Top

Economy

1. ▶ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) increased Minimum Support Price (MSP) for *Milling Copra* for 2018 season. MSP for *Milling Copra* is now INR 7500 per quintal and INR 7750 per quintal for Ball Copra.
 1. Copra is the dried meat or kernel of coconut, which is the fruit of coconut palm.
2. ▶ Commerce and Industry Ministry launched 3 tools to rank States / UTs on basis of measures taken to promote entrepreneurship. Tools are - *start-up-India ranking framework*, *compendium of good practices for promoting startups* AND *Startup India Kit*.
 1. *Startup India Compendium of Good Practises* aims at enriching startup ecosystem through ethical behaviours, currently followed by 18 States/UTs. It covers 95 good practises across 7 areas of intervention for evaluating the performance of startup ecosystem
 2. *Startup India Kit* acts as a guide on all Startup India offerings and offers vital information and assistance through stats, tools, templates, events, competitions and a glossary on startup terms.
3. ▶ Competition Commission of India (CCI) imposed fine of Approx INR 136 crores on search engine Google for unfair business practices in Indian market for online search. It was alleged that Google is indulging in abuse of dominant position in market for online search through practices leading to search bias and search manipulation.
4. ▶ Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched *CriSidEx* as India's first sentiment index for Micro and small enterprises (MSEs) developed jointly by credit rating body CRISIL and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
 1. CriSidEx is a composite index based on a diffusion index of 8 parameters and measures MSE business sentiment on a scale of 0 (extremely negative) to 200 (extremely positive).
 2. CriSidEx's readings will flag potential headwinds in production cycles and help improve market efficiencies. It will also offer actionable indicators on foreign trade, by capturing sentiment of exporters and importers.
5. ▶ Finance Ministry is planning to ban cryptocurrencies from payments system and at the same time appoint regulator to oversee unregulated exchanges that trade in crypto assets. Dinesh Sharma committee constituted by Government will look into issues relating to cryptocurrencies will finalise its recommendations by submitting its report by March 2018.
6. ▶ Government made amendments in *Prevention of Money-laundering Act 2002 (PMLA)* through Finance Act 2018 to enhance its effectiveness and widen its scope.
 1. Definition of *proceeds of crime* has been amended to include *property equivalent held outside country*.
 2. Applicability of bail conditions has been made uniform to all offences under PMLA.

3. Section 447 of Companies Act dealing with 'fraud' is being included as scheduled offence under PMLA.
4. 90 days more time has been given for investigation to Enforcement Directorate, before prosecution is filed.
5. Special Court has been permitted to consider claims for purposes of restoration of confiscated properties even during trial.
7. ▶ Government mandated Permanent Account Number (PAN) for financial transactions of over 2.5 lakh INR.
8. ▶ Government proposed merger of Government Savings Certificates Act 1959 and Public Provident Fund Act 1968 with Government Savings Banks Act 1873, to remove ambiguities due to multiple Acts and Rules for Small Saving Schemes, in line with *Minimum Government, Maximum Governance*. This will also bring certain flexibilities for the investors, Including -
 1. Foreclosure of PPF Account - Depositors will be able to withdraw money from their PPF Account before 5 years.
 2. Investment in Small Savings Schemes can be made by Guardian On behalf of minors.
 3. Provisions for differently-abled people - In new umbrella Act, government will allow accounts in name of differently abled persons.
 4. Right of Nominees - As per existing provisions of the Acts, if depositor dies and nomination exists, the outstanding balances will be paid to nominee(s).
 5. Grievance redressal - New act will allow Government to put in place mechanism for redressal of grievances and for expeditious settlement of disputes relating to Small Savings.
 6. No change in interest rate or tax policy.
9. ▶ IndusInd Bank launched its new Sonic Identity, a musical logo called *MOGO*. Its aims to build brand imagery with strategic use of music and sound for brand experiences and audience connection.
10. ▶ NITI Aayog recommended setting up independent Debt Management Office for better servicing of loans that will lead to substantial reduction in India's interest payment. Currently, government debt (including market borrowings) is managed by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
 1. Independent Debt Management Offices will help to resolve issues relating to conflict of interest as RBI decides on key interest rates as well as undertakes buying and selling of government bonds. It will also help in strengthen bond market and help to promote investment.
 2. It will be in pursuance global practice of shifting public debt management from central bank to a debt management office.
11. ▶ Public Sector Banks Wrote Off Bad Loans Worth INR 81683 Crores in 2016-2017, led by SBI which wrote off bad loans worth INR 20339 Crores in 2016-17. Loans written off by PSBs in past years are -
 1. 2012 - 13 -> 27231 crores
 2. 2013 - 14 -> 34409 crores
 3. 2014 - 15 -> 49018 crores
 4. 2015 - 16 -> 57585 crores
12. ▶ Reserve Bank of India announced setting up ombudsman for addressing customer grievances in non-banking finance companies (NBFCs). RBI will start with deposit-taking NBFCs and widen the scope to cover NBFCs with asset size of INR 100 crore. There are 20 banking ombudsmen across India Currently.
13. ▶ Reserve Bank of India relaxed priority sector norms for banks by classifying all loans to micro small and medium enterprises (MSME) as priority sector lending, a long time demand from banks. Till now, loans up to INR 10 crore per MSME borrower was considered for priority sector calculation.
 1. Sub-target for lending to micro enterprises is 7.50 % of net credit. Foreign banks will also have to follow 8% sub-target for lending to small and marginal farmers.
14. ▶ Reserve Bank of India will link base rate with MCLR from 1st of April 2018 to ensure expeditious transmission of its policy rate to borrowers.
 1. RBI Observed that large proportion of bank loans continued to be linked to Base Rate, even after RBI introduced Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rates (MCLR) system in 1st April 2016.
 2. This will enable faster propagation of Effects of RBI Rate Changes to Interest rates of consumer Loans.
15. ▶ Reserve bank of India (RBI) tightened rules for bank loan defaults and asked banks to immediately identify defaults and make disclosures every Friday to the RBI credit registry from February 23.
 1. To accelerate resolution of bad loans, RBI abolished several loan-restructuring mechanisms including *Corporate Debt Restructuring Scheme, Flexible Structuring of Existing Long Term Project Loans, Strategic Debt Restructuring Scheme (SDR), Framework for Revitalising Distressed Assets, Change in Ownership outside SD, Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets (S4A) and Joint Lenders' Forum (JLF)*.
 2. Revised Framework for Early identification and reporting of stress -

1. Lenders shall identify stress in loan accounts, immediately on default, by classifying stressed assets as special mention accounts (SMA) as per given categories -
 1. SMA - 01 to 30 days
 2. SMA-1 - 31 to 60 days
 3. SMA-2 - 61 to 90 days
 2. Lenders shall report credit information, including classification of an account as SMA to Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC) on all borrower entities having aggregate exposure of INR 5 crore or more.
 3. CRILC-Main Report will now be submitted on a monthly basis with effect from April 1, 2018.
 4. Lenders shall also report to CRILC, all borrower entities in default (with aggregate exposure of Rs 5 crore and above), on a weekly basis on Friday, from Feb 23 Onwards.
16. ▶ Singapore Telecommunications (Singtel) invested \$413 million on shares in Bharti Telecom, lifting its stake in Bharti Airtel to 48.9 % and 39.5 % in Bharti Airtel.
17. ▶ State Government Budgets 2018-19 -
1. Kerala -
 1. INR 2000 crores package for restoration works in wake of cyclone Ockhi. Additionally, INR 900 crores investment will be made in coastal areas through Kerala Infrastructure Investment Board (KIIFB).
 2. To shore up revenues, sales tax on IMFL has been increased by 200 % and beer by 100 %.
 3. Allocated INR 2,500 crore to *Livelihood Inclusion and Financial Empowerment (LIFE) project* that ensures housing for all.
 4. 40,000 smart classes will be set up in 4,775 schools.
 5. Women welfare schemes have budget of INR 1250 Crores. It Includes *She Lodges* to be set up in Kochi and *Nirbhaya Homes* for survivors of Sexual Assaults. Financial assistance for unwed mother raised to INR 2000 per month.
 6. A Malayalam University will come up at Tirur.

[Top](#)

International

1. ▶ 2 Indian institutes featured in top 50 Asian institutes in *TIMES Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings for educational institutes in Asia*. These institutes are Indian Institute of Science (29th) and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (44). List is Topped by National University of Singapore.
2. ▶ According to global traffic scorecard published annually by *Inrix*, top 5 most congested cities are -
 1. Los Angeles (USA)
 2. New York City (USA)
 3. Moscow (Russia)
 4. Sao Paulo (Brazil)
 5. San Francisco (USA)
 6. Further, most congested country is Thailand, followed by Indonesia and Colombia.
3. ▶ As per Airports Council International (ACI), Dubai International Airport retained No 1 rank as world's busiest airport for international travel, with 88.2 million passengers.
 1. Dubai witnessed 15% growth in tourist arrivals from India in 2017, hosting 2.1 million visitors, retaining top spot as source market.
4. ▶ Bank of Baroda will cease its 21 years long operations in South Africa by March-end, amid a probe into alleged compliance lapses by BOB there.
5. ▶ Bermuda became first country to legalize and then repeal same-sex marriage, after it reversed right of gay couples to marry.
6. ▶ Britain's Prince Charles launched a new 10-million-dollar Development Impact Bond (DIB) to help improve education for over 200,000 children in India, as largest such bond in South Asia. It is the latest fundraising initiative by British Asian Trust (BAT) set up by royal 10 years ago to fight poverty in South Asia.
7. ▶ Britain's fertility regulator Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) allowed doctors to create country's first 'three-parent' babies through mitochondrial donation therapy (or MRT), to prevent passage of incurable genetic diseases from mothers to offsprings.
8. ▶ China resumed Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through Nathu La route, which was stopped by China amid Doklam military face-off with India last year.

9. ▶ China successfully launched 'Zhangheng 1', its first seismo-electromagnetic satellite to study seismic precursors. The Long March-2D rocket carried China Seismo- Electromagnetic Satellite (CSES) of 730 kg. Zhangheng 1 will let scientists monitor the electromagnetic field, ionospheric plasma and high-energy particles for five years.
10. ▶ China, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Pakistan signed USD 4 million agreement to provide assistance to people of Fata and Balochistan region in Pakistan.
11. ▶ Chinese Air Force commissioned its new generation J-20 fourth-generation stealth fighter into combat service. China is 2nd country (after USA) to commission domestically developed stealth aircraft.
12. ▶ Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and Russia's United Shipbuilding Corporation (USC) signed MoU to jointly Develop State-of-Art vessels for Inland and Coastal Waterways in India.
13. ▶ Forbes' First Ever Crypto Rich List (comprising 20 wealthiest people in cryptocurrency space)-
 1. Ripple Co-founder Chris Larsen at atop with crypto net worth of \$7.5-8 billion.
 2. Ethereum Co-founder Joseph Lubin (\$1-5 billion) is 2nd and Founder of cryptocurrency exchange Binance Changpeng Zhao (\$1.1-2 billion) is 3rd.
14. ▶ Gevora Hotel in Dubai became *world's tallest hotel* with 356.53 Metres height, 1 metre taller than previous title holder *JW Marriott Marquis*.
15. ▶ Global Democracy Index by Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) (165 Nations and 2 Territories) -
 1. India slipped to 42nd place among 165 Nations, from 32nd place last year.
 2. List has been divided into 4 broad categories - *full democracy, flawed democracy, hybrid regime and authoritarian regime*.
 3. North Korea is ranked lowest 167th, while Syria is a 2nd worst at 166th place.
 4. Top 5 - Norway (1), Iceland (2), Sweden (3), New Zealand (4) and Denmark (5).
16. ▶ Google launched *Bulletin* app that allows anyone to submit stories related to their local communities. Users can do this easily with their phone and it will be published straight away in the web. Google has not mentioned how it will verify the authenticity of the content.
17. ▶ Google signed USD 1.1 billion deal with HTC for talent acquisition, to acquire nearly 2000 HTC engineers, to expand in hardware sector and in Asia Pacific region.
18. ▶ India and Pakistan extended agreement of Thar Link Express, second solitary rail service between both countries for upto 2021. It links Jodhpur (India) and Karachi (Pakistan) via Munabao (Rajasthan)-Khokhrapar (Sindh) border crossing and carries only passengers.
19. ▶ India contributed additional \$1 million to India-UN Development Partnership Fund, earmarked for South-South cooperation. It aims to intensify partnerships with other developing countries in south
 1. India pledged multi-year contribution of \$100 million to the fund established in June 2017. India has already provided \$6 million within 7 months since launch of fund.
20. ▶ India joined Ashgabat Agreement which envisages facilitation of transit and transportation of goods between Central Asia and Persian Gulf to significantly boost up trade and investment.
 1. Ashgabat Agreement aims at establishment of International Transport and Transit Corridor between the Iran, Oman, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, signed in April 2011.
21. ▶ India's NTPC will supply 300 megawatts (MW) of electricity to Bangladesh for 15 years, earning 900 Crores in annual revenue. It is under a Tender by Bangladesh for supply of 500 MW power from India.
22. ▶ International Intellectual Property (IP) Index report by Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC) of US Chambers of Commerce (50 Nations) -
 1. India Ranked 44th, increasing substantially from 25% in 5th edition of Index to 30% in 6th edition.
 2. Top 3 - USA, United Kingdom, Sweden.
23. ▶ Maldives Govt. declared a state of emergency deepening political crisis, after armed troops stormed country's top court.
24. ▶ Mumbai is named among top 15 wealthiest cities globally, with a total wealth of \$950 billion. New York (USA) topped the list. Mumbai also features among top 10 cities in terms of billionaire population, with 28 billionaires.
25. ▶ Nancy Pelosi has set up record for longest speech in American Senate by delivering her speech for over 8 hours, breaking a record that dated back to 1909, set by Champ Clark (spoke for 5 hours and 15 minutes).
26. ▶ Nepalese tea received an international trademark, after over 150 years of beginning of cultivation in country. Now, tea will be sold in international market with a common logo, representing national identity.
27. ▶ New Manchester-India Partnership (MIP) aimed at connecting Indian companies with Northern regions of England has been launched in London (UK). This partnership is aimed at advancing trade, investment, science and innovation ties between India

and Britain.

28. ▶ Russian space agency Roskosmos launched *Progress MS-08* unmanned cargo spacecraft for International Space Station (ISS). It carried equipments for German-Russian ICARUS research project aimed at studying wildlife-migration patterns and other material.
29. ▶ Rwanda (East Africa) became first low-income country to provide universal eye care for its 12 million population. Its Government partnered with *Vision for a Nation (VFAN)* to train over 3,000 eye care nurses based in over 500 local health centres.
30. ▶ Sweden signed Strategic Partnership Agreement with United Nations for committing record \$370 million dollars to UN World Food Programme, for next 4 years (2018-2021). It is biggest ever contribution made by a donor within a WFP Strategic Partnership Agreement.
31. ▶ Tanzania withdrew from United Nation's *Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework*, citing security reasons and lack of funds. Tanzania is considered as safe haven for refugees, particularly from conflict hit Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi.
32. ▶ United Arab Emirates opened world's longest zip line in Ras al-Khaimah, measuring 2.83 km in length, enetring Guinness book of World Records for the same.

[Top](#)

National

1. ▶ Uttar Pradesh Government in association with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) launched 'DASTAK', a door to door campaign to eradicate deadly Acute Encephalitis (AE) Syndrome and Japanese Encephalitis (JES) disease from state, with tagline *Darwaja khatkhatao, AES aur JE ko bhagao*.
2. ▶ 2nd edition of 'Nobel Prize Series India 2018' strated in Panaji (Goa). Its a month-long Nobel Science Exhibition in which Nobel laureates interact with school children and teachers. Theme of Nobel Prize Series India 2018' is *Science Impacts Life*.
3. ▶ *Advantage Assam*, Assam's first Global Investors summit held in Guwahati. During this, Assam Government signed MoU with National Building Construction Corporation (India) Limited for setting up a twin tower trade centre in Guwahati with a project cost of INR 1950 crores.
4. ▶ A new record was added to Golden Book of World Records, after over 2,100 saints and locals blew 'shankh' (conch shells) together, during Rajim Kumbh Mela in Chhattisgarh.
5. ▶ According to report by green energy market tracker Mercom Capital, India has achieved 20 GW (Giga watt) cumulative solar power capacity, Out of which, utility-scale cumulative installations is 18.4 GW and rooftop solar is 1.6 GW.
 1. By 2022, India is targeting installation of 175GW of renewable energy capacity. It Includes 60GW of large and medium-scale gridconnected solar power projects, 60GW wind, 40GW solar rooftop projects, 10GW of bio-power and 5GW of small hydro.
6. ▶ Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu laid foundation for *Universal Peace Retreat Center of Prajapita Brahmakumari Eswariya University* in Amravati. It will propagate and teach Raja yoga, Dhyana, Youth development, women empowerment, stress relief activities, child care, positive attitude, life skills and moral values.
7. ▶ Annual multicultural festival *Kala Ghoda Arts Festival* held in South Mumbai (Maharashtra). This year's theme is 'Hara Ghoda' (Green Horse), focusing on sustainability and environment-friendliness.
8. ▶ Bihar Government banned sale of loose cigarettes, to be deterrent to kids and youngsters who start smoking by buying loose cigarettes.
9. ▶ Business Info Provider *Dun & Bradstreet* released *Port Logistics: Issues & Challenges in India* report, looking into various roadblocks and suggests policy recommendations to resolve challenges across ports in India.
 1. Report proposes 60 policy measures to strengthen ports sector, that represents bulk of India's merchandise trade.
 2. Report introduces a 'Port Performance Index' to benchmark performance of various ports by combining qualitative perception of stakeholders with quantitative outcome based data. It covers 13 ports that handle around 67 % of India's maritime trade.
 3. Out of 13 major ports, 3 ports (*Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPT)*, *Kamarajar Port*, *Visakhapatnam Port*) received 'Good' score.
10. ▶ Cab Aggregator Ola and Assam Government signed MoU to pilot an app-based river taxi service in Guwahati. River taxis will be machine-operated boats and users will be able to book rides through Ola app.
11. ▶ Cabinet Approvals on Feb 7, 2018 -
 1. MoU with Tunisia for cooperation on Youth matters.
 2. Protocol amending Agreement between with China for Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion.

3. MOU with USA on Law Enforcement Training.
4. MoU with UK on Cooperation in Skill Development, Vocational Education and Training.
5. MoU for Secondment Programme with Australia.
6. Ratification of Minamata Convention on Mercury, enabling India to become a Party of Convention. It gives flexibility for continued use of mercury-based products and processes involving mercury compound up to 2025. Minamata Convention was signed in October 2013 in Kumamoto (Japan), aimed to protect human health and environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.
7. Government approved 2nd round of Discovered Small Field (DSF) auctions under Discovered Small Field Policy, to offer total 60 un-monetized discoveries with an estimated 194.65 Million Metric tonnes of oil.
 1. Of these, 22 fields belong to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), 5 to Oil India Limited (OIL), 12 are relinquished discovered fields from New Exploration and Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks, and 21 fields that did not receive any investor interest in first round of DSF.
8. Amendment to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act 2006 for classifying MSMEs from current *investment in plant and machinery* criteria to *annual turnover* criteria. It aims at encouraging ease of doing business, make MSME classification norms growth oriented and align them to new indirect tax regime revolving around Goods & Services Tax (GST). The amendment also empowers Central Government to vary turnover limits. New Classification Criteria -
 1. Micro - It will be unit with annual turnover under INR 5 crores.
 2. Small - It will be unit with annual turnover Between 5 - 75 crores.
 3. Medium - It will be unit with annual turnover Between 75 - 250 crores.
12. ▶ Central Government disapproved execution Karnataka Government's *Mukhya Mantri Anila Bhagya Yojane* that promises free LPG gas connections for Below Poverty Line families.
 1. Central Govt wants State Govt to execute it through oil marketing companies (OMCs), unlikely current practice of directly going through the distributors' network.
13. ▶ Chhatrapati Shivaji International airport (Mumbai) created new world record for single-runway operations by handling 980 arrivals and take-offs in 24 hours. It has thus become world's busiest single-runway airport.
14. ▶ Department of Economic Affairs (Finance Ministry) signed loan agreement worth US \$ 375 million with World bank for Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP), JMVP for capacity augmentation of navigation on National Waterway-1(River Ganga) from Varanasi to Haldia.
 1. Total project cost is \$800 Million and is expected to be completed by March 2023. It will enable commercial navigation of vessels of capacity 1500-2,000 tons on NW-I and will lead to generation of upto 84000 jobs in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal.
15. ▶ Department of Telecom (DoT) and IIT Chennai, will jointly set up a development centre for 5G technologies. It will help provide applications like Internet of Things and Machine-to-Machine internet. A similar tie up had already been made between Ericsson and IIT Delhi.
16. ▶ First high speed electric locomotive of Indian Railways, will be launched in March 2018, capable of running at of a maximum speed of 120 kmph.
 1. It will be launched during French President Emmanuel Macron's Indian visit. It has capacity of 12000 horsepower and is produced in collaboration with French Firm Alstom. It has been assembled at Madhepura plant in Bihar.
17. ▶ Foundation of Rhodendron Park laid in Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh). Tawang has 50 plus species of Rhodendron (*a genus of 1,024 species of woody plants*). More than 30 species of rhododendrons would be planted and conserved in park.
18. ▶ General Conferences (Feb 1 - 10, 2018) -
 1. Lalit Kala Akademi organized First International Kala Mela in New Delhi.
 2. International Conference on 'Demetrios Galanos and His Legacy' held in New Delhi.
 3. 17 day Surajkund International Crafts Mela (32nd) began in Faridabad (Haryana). Uttar Pradesh is theme state and Kyrgyzstan is Partner Nation this year.
 4. 7th India Energy Congress was held in New Delhi with theme *Energy 4.0: Energy Transition Towards 2030*. It is organized by World Energy Council India (WEC India).
 5. NITI Aayog organized Conference on Jobs and Livelihood opportunities in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industries in Delhi.
 6. 2 day International conference on Unani Medicine held at New Delhi.

7. 5th South Asia Region Public Procurement Conference held in New Delhi, with theme *Public Procurement and Service Delivery*.
8. 3 day International Conference on Operations and Maintenance - *Indian Power Stations 2018* held in delhi.
9. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated 88th Mahamastakabhisheka of Lord Gomateshwara at Shravanabelagola in Hassan (Karnataka).
10. 4th meeting of Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM) held in New Delhi under chairmanship of Bibek Debroy.
11. Institute Of Directors organised 12th International Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility in Bengaluru (Karnataka).
12. National Informatics Centre (NIC) organized 3 day National Meet on Grassroot Informatics - *VIVID 2018* at India Habitat Centre in New Delhi, with Theme *Cyber Security and Innovation*.
19. ▶ Government is developing tool named *soft power matrix*, aimed at calibrating effectiveness of India's soft power outreach. It will help in dealings with neighbouring countries and serve better as operational instrument in India's broader diplomatic doctrine.
 1. Currently, articulation of India's soft power abroad is done through Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), with some 36 foreign cultural centres working to promote artistic and cultural traditions through range of activities such as Festivals of India abroad.
 2. Standing Committee on External Affairs recommended that MEA should formulate comprehensive and well-structured policy delineating India's soft power resources and their articulation abroad.
20. ▶ Government launched a ASH TRACK Web based and mobile application based Fly Ash monitoring System. It will enable better management of the ash produced by thermal power plants by providing an interface between fly ash producers (Thermal Power Plants) and potential ash users such as – road contractors, cement plants etc.
 1. ASH TRACK Mobile App will manage 200 million tonnes of fly ash by tracking coal based power plants situated within 100 km and 300 km from given location and availability of fly ash, along with prospective users within same radius.
21. ▶ Government sanctioned INR 1500 crore to promote organic farming in Uttarakhand, to be disbursed over 3 years.
22. ▶ Government sanctioned a new project to control pollution in River Sal at Navelim town (Goa), under National River Conservation Plan. It will be completed at cost of INR 61.74 crores (to be borne by Centre and State on 60:40 basis), scheduled for completion by January 2021.
23. ▶ Health Ministry approved proposal of Medical Council of India (MCI) to amend Screening Test Regulations 2002, making it mandatory to qualify National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) to pursue foreign medical course.
 1. A common National Entrance Exam, National Eligibility cum Entrance Test has been made mandatory for admission to all medical courses in the country.
 2. Indian students can also pursue medical education abroad, however, they need to qualify *Foreign Medical Graduates Exam (FMGE)* for practicing in India after obtaining MBBS overseas.
 3. Overseas Citizen of India shall have to mandatorily qualify NEET for admission to MBBS course abroad, from May 2018. Result of NEET will be treated as the Eligibility Certificate for such persons.
24. ▶ Home Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the Centre for learning Sanskrit language in Gujarat University (Ahmedabad), offering six-month course for people on how to speak Sanskrit.
25. ▶ India Health Fund (IHF) (launched by Tata Trusts) will financially support innovations and technologies designed to combat tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. IHF is not a fellowship programme to do research from scratch. It is long-term exercise aligned with country's goal of eliminating TB by 2025 and malaria by 2030.
26. ▶ India started nationwide tiger census 2018, as largest survey of wildlife anywhere in world. India will now use more technology, including mobile app *MSTrIPES*, with higher focus on northeast to determine number of tigers in India.
 1. Tiger census 2018 by National Tiger Conservation Authority will be INR 10 crores exercise, which will involve 40,000 forest guards traversing 4,00,000 sq. km. of forests.
27. ▶ India will host Its 1st (overall 8th edition) of Theatre Olympics 2018 in February - April 2018. This 51 day event will be organized by National School of Drama under Ministry of Culture, with budget of INR 51.81 crores, with theme *Flag of Friendship*.
 1. It will witness performances in 30 different Indian languages, 15 foreign languages as well as in non-verbal languages. Arists from 30 nations will participate.
28. ▶ India's First chat-based job search mobile app *Empzilla* launched, to do away with existing limitations of employers and job seekers making selection process quick and cost-effective.
29. ▶ Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and American pharmaceutical firm Pfizer signed MoU to establish a 'Centre to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance' in New Delhi, to help combat growing threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in India.

30. ▶ Madhya Pradesh government launched a mobile application *pollution metre* to spread awareness against pollution in western part of state.
31. ▶ Maharashtra Government approved Ghodazari in Chandrapur district as new wildlife sanctuary in state. Located in North East of Tadoba, it will include 159 sq km of Brahmapuri forest.
32. ▶ Maharashtra Government became first state to set up a Transgender Welfare Board, to look after education, employment, housing, and health schemes for transgenders and protect their Constitutional and human rights.
33. ▶ Maharashtra Government launched 4 schemes aimed at promoting entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied sectors among economically backward segments (Beneficiaries in 18 – 41 years age group) -
 1. 1st scheme is about extending loan along with interest subsidy
 2. 2nd is for promoting group farming.
 3. 3rd scheme is for group projects related to agro-industries and small and medium scale entrepreneurs
 4. 4th scheme relates to skill development training in agriculture under which, training will be imparted to 2.5 lakh rural youths.
 5. *Annasaheb Patil Arthik Backward Development Corporation (APABDC)* will be nodal entity for implementation of these schemes.
34. ▶ Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation developed a Sanitation Park in Delhi, named *Swatch Bharat Sanitation Park*.
35. ▶ Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) released 15th India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2017 (by Forest Survey of India (FSI)) -
 1. Total forest and tree cover in India increased over 8,021 sq km (80.20 million hectare), which is 1 % increase from 2015. Forest cover increased by 6778 sq km and tree cover increased 1243 sq km. Total forest and tree cover is 24.39% of geographical area of country.
 2. Globally, India is ranked 10th in terms of forest and tree cover.
 3. State-wise break-up -
 1. 7 States/UTs have more than 75% forest cover - Mizoram, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Manipur.
 2. 8 States/UTs have forest cover between 33% to 75% - Tripura, Goa, Sikkim, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Chhattisgarh and Assam.
 3. Top 5 States with maximum Forest cover - Madhya Pradesh (77,414 sq km) Arunachal Pradesh (66,964 sq km) and Chhattisgarh (55,547 sq km).
 4. States with highest Forest cover in terms of percentage geographical area - Lakshadweep (90.33%), Mizoram (86.27%) and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (81.73%).
 5. Mangrove cover is 4,921 sq km and has increased by 181 sq kms.
 6. Water bodies inside forests have increased by 2,647 sq kms during last decade. Maharashtra leads with 432 sq kms, followed by Gujarat (428 sq kms).
36. ▶ Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched *Green Good Deeds* campaign to sensitise people and students about climate change and global warming.
37. ▶ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs approved construction of 1.87 more affordable houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), that aims at building 2 Crore Houses for urban poor by 2022. This round has taken number of houses approved under PMAY to 39.25 lakh. Haryana has been sanctioned maximum number of houses in this round.
38. ▶ Ministry of New and Renewable Energy under *Development of Solar Cities* scheme approved 60 Cities including 13 Pilot and 5 Model Cities up to 12th Five-year Plan period.
39. ▶ Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has released India's first ever Highway Capacity Manual named Indo-HCM, to guide road engineers and policy makers about road expansion. It lays down guidelines for when and how to expand or manage different types of roads and their intersections and level of services to be put in place.
40. ▶ Ministry of Science & Technology has set up Mechanism in Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) to interact with Small-Scale Industry (SSI) for transfer of Technology from CSIR Labs. SSI sector is largest employment provider in country, next to agriculture.
41. ▶ Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs will introduce first ever ranking system for National Sports Federations (NSFs), to build healthy competition between sports bodies. Sports federations will be ranked on the basis of administrative capability, transparency, talent-spotting ability, and medal count of athletes etc.

42. ▶ Ministry of Women and Child Development will establish National Women Entrepreneurship Council (NWEC) as an umbrella organization for socio-economic gender parity, financial inclusion and economic empowerment of women in India and to promote entrepreneurship among women.
43. ▶ NITI Aayog released a comprehensive 'Healthy States, Progressive India' report in New Delhi.
1. Health Index is a weighted composite Index, which for larger States, is based on indicators in three domains - Health Outcomes (70%), Governance and Information (12%), Key Inputs and Processes (18%).
 2. Large States -
 1. Kerala, Punjab and Tamil Nadu are top 3 states in overall performance.
 2. Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, and Uttar Pradesh are top 3 ranking larger States in terms of annual incremental performance.
 3. Smaller States -
 1. Mizoram ranked first, followed by Manipur in Overall performance.
 2. Manipur and Goa are top 2 in terms of annual incremental performance.
44. ▶ National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) launched ranking system for over 300 toll plazas, on the basis of cleanliness, staff behaviour, availability of ambulance and cranes in case of any emergency on highways. Every quarter, 3 best toll plazas will be identified.
45. ▶ National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will launch pilot project *Pay as you use tolling* on Delhi Mumbai national highway.
1. It involves implementing a satellite based electronic toll collection system running on GPS/GSM technology for selected commercial vehicles on a national highway for 1 year.
 2. This tolling system will work on combination of mobile telecommunications technology (GSM) and satellite-based Global Positioning System (GPS). It will deduct money from vehicle account, credit money to concessionaire within a day and open toll gate.
46. ▶ Nine member committee constituted by Karnataka government recommended separate state flag, discounting any constitutional / legal hurdles for it.
47. ▶ Pelican Bird Festival-2018 is held for first in Atapaka Bird Sanctuary on at Kolleru lake in Andhra Pradesh. Recently, Atapaka Bird Sanctuary was recognised as one of the largest pelicanry in the world.
48. ▶ Punjab Government discontinued sale of 20 pesticides (insecticides) including Endosulfan harmful to health of humans and environment.
49. ▶ Punjab government formed 6 member Revenue Commission with an aim to bring greater efficiency and accountability in functioning of Revenue Department. It will be headed by Justice SS Saron.
50. ▶ Railways will set up of a rail coach factory in Latur district (Maharashtra), to help generate employment opportunities and bring economic development in this backward Marathwada region. Plant will manufacture Electric Multiple Units for suburban trains and coaches for metros.
51. ▶ South Central Railway (SCR) became first railway zone to complete 100% LED lighting at all 733 stations under its jurisdiction.
52. ▶ To save environment from air pollution caused by stubble burning, Punjab government made attachment of super straw management system with harvester machines mandatory for harvesting paddy (rice) crop.
53. ▶ Uttar Pradesh State Government inaugurated state's first ever butterfly park in Kanpur, as pollution-free spaces which do not have chemicals/pesticides and play an important role in conserving endangered butterfly species.
54. ▶ Uttar Pradesh government launched a mass marriage policy for poor girls, under which financial assistance worth INR 35000 will be provided. It aims to discourage practice of dowry.
55. ▶ West Bengal became first state to opt out of Central Govt's proposed NHPS (National Health Protection Scheme, informally called *Modicare*), Claiming that Bengal government had already enrolled 50 lakh people under its own Swasthya Sathi programme.

[Top](#)

Persons

1. ▶ 4th International Young Chef Olympiad (YCO) concluded in New Delhi with Lai Jia Yi from Malaysia winning top spot and Indian student chef Surya Sekhar Roy Choudhury claiming 2nd position. It is Touted as *World's biggest culinary battle of student chefs*.

2. ▶ Indo-UK 8 year old girl Sohini Roy Chowdhury entered UK's Mathletics Hall of Fame, online mathematics-based competitive tool aimed at primary school pupils.
3. ▶ NASA named seven hills on planet Mars after 7 crew members, including India-born astronaut Kalpana Chawla, of Space Shuttle Columbia who lost their lives while returning from their mission on February 1, 2003.
4. ▶ Obituaries -
 1. Francisco Nunez Olivera (France) - World's oldest man.
 2. Kalamandalam Geethanandan - Noted Ottanthullal (A dance form of Kerala) artist.
 3. Louis Zorich - Noted American Actor.
 4. Lakshmi Devi - Noted Telugu actor.
 5. Madavoor Vasudevan Nair - Noted Kathakali maestro.
 6. John Mahoney - Noted American Actor.
 7. Johann Johannsson - Noted Golden Globe awardee Icelandic musician.
 8. Asma Jahangir - Noted Pakistani human rights activist.
 9. Chandrasekhar Rath - Noted Odia author.
 10. Parbati Ghose - First female filmmaker of Odisha.
5. ▶ Pune-based swimmer Rohan More became first Asian (9th globally) to swim across Ocean Seven. He swam across the Cook Strait between North and South Islands of New Zealand in 8 hours and 37 minutes.
6. ▶ Sports Persons in Forbes India 30 Under 30 list 2018 - Jasprit Bumrah and Harmanpreet Kaur (Cricket), Savita Punia (women's hockey team goalkeeper), Heena Sidhu (Shooting).
7. ▶ Visits from India (Feb 1 - 10, 2018) -
 1. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj Visited Nepal.
 2. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited Saudi Arabia, to attend opening ceremony of 32nd Al Jana-driyah festival in Riyadh.
8. ▶ Visits to India (Feb 1 - 10, 2018) -
 1. Chief of US Air Force, General David L Goldfein Visited India. He flew a sortie in indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas and became first foreign military chief to fly Tejas aircraft.
 2. Nepal's last monarch Gyanendra Shah visited India to attend International Gau Sambardhana Mahotsav in Odisha.
 3. Sergey Beletskiy, Deputy Agriculture Minister of Russia Visited India for India-Russia Agriculture Business Summit in New Delhi.

[Top](#)

Science

1. ▶ A long-lost NASA satellite - *Imager for Magnetopause-to-Aurora Global Exploration (IMAGE)* has been spotted back.
 1. Engineers from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center used NASA's Deep Space Network which consists of a series of ground-based radio telescopes to study signals, only to discover that these signals were from IMAGE satellite.
 2. IMAGE satellite was launched in March 2000, and exceeded its initial 2 year mission by operating through 2005. NASA lost contact with it in December 2005.
2. ▶ As per new study at University of Colorado (USA) based on 25 years of satellite data, it is found that global sea level rise rate is accelerating a little every year.
 1. Sea level rate is increasing by about 0.08 millimeters per year (mm/year). It means annual rate of sea level will rise to 10 mm/year by 2100, mainly driven by rapid melting in Antarctica and Greenland.
 2. If oceans keep on to growing at this pace, sea level will rise 65cm by 2100, causing trouble for several coastal cities.
3. ▶ Health-tech startup mCURA launched *Smart OPD* as India's first integrated mobility platform that reduces waiting time in counters and provides e-prescriptions. It helps patients to escape long queues at admission and billing counters, labs, pharmacies and hospitals.
4. ▶ Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) launched world's smallest rocket with ability to put a tiny satellite into orbit. It carried a microsatellite TRICOM-1R, a three-unit CubeSat weighing about 3 kilograms.
5. ▶ Scientists from Britain and USA for first time grew human eggs in laboratory from earliest stages in ovarian tissue all way to full maturity. This is first time human eggs have been developed outside human body. It can widen scope of available fertility treatments and can help in developing regenerative medicine therapies and new infertility treatments.

6. ▶ Scientists from Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) discovered 3 new species of eel along northern Bay of Bengal coast - *Gymnothorax pseudotile*, *Gymnothorax visakhaensis* and *Enchelycore propinqua*.
 1. There are about 1,000 species of eels identified so far across the world. In India, there are around 125 species of eels identified.
7. ▶ USA space flight company SpaceX launched the world's most powerful operational rocket 'Falcon Heavy' into space, carrying a red Tesla Roadster car belonging to SpaceX and Tesla founder Elon Musk.
 1. The car was outfitted with a mannequin dressed in a spacesuit, a high-data storage unit containing Isaac Asimov's science fiction book series, Foundation Trilogy, and a plaque bearing names of 6000 SpaceX employees.

Top

Sports

1. ▶ Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) won 8th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2018 (B Division), defeating Kerala.
2. ▶ First edition of Khelo India School Games (KISG) held from 31st January to 8th February, 2018 at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.
 1. It was held across 16 disciplines in Under-17 age category, with 5000 school children participating. Total 199 gold, 199 silver and 275 bronze medals were awarded.
 2. Haryana emerged overall champions with 102 medals (38 G, 26 S and 38 B). Maharashtra 2nd with 111 medals, Delhi 3rd with 94 medals.
3. ▶ India Open International Boxing Tournament 2018 held in Delhi -
 1. India won 10 medals (Including 6 gold) at event, including one by noted Boxer Mary Kom.
4. ▶ India Open badminton 2018 (Held in New Delhi)-
 1. Men's Singles - Shi Yuqi (China)
 2. Women's Singles - Beiwen Zhang (USA), Defeating India's P V Sindhu
 3. Men's Doubles - Indonesia's Marcus Fernaldi Gideon AND Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo (Indonesia)
 4. Women's Doubles - Indonesia's Greysia Polii AND Apriyani Rahayu
 5. Mixed Doubles - Denmark's Mathias Christiansen AND Christinna Pedersen
5. ▶ India defeated Australia to win its 4th Under 19 Cricket World cup Title, held in New Zealand.
6. ▶ Indian women cricketer Jhulan Goswami became first woman in world to take 200 wickets in ODI cricket.
7. ▶ India's Saurav Ghosal jumped to No 14 to become highest ranked Indian in Professional Squash Association (PSA) rankings.
8. ▶ India's Shubhankar Sharma won Maybank Golf Championship (USA) as his 2nd victory on both Asian Tour and European Tour, after his recent win in Joburg Open. With This, Shubhankar is also named as best Indian golfer in world, grabbing 72nd position in Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR).
9. ▶ Karnataka's Kishan Gangolli won 13th National 'A' Chess Championship for blind in Mumbai, becoming champion for 5th consecutive time.
10. ▶ Sharmila Nicollet become first Indian golfer to qualify for China Ladies PGA Tour.
11. ▶ Shikhar Dhawan became first Indian cricketer to score a century in his 100th One-day International.
12. ▶ To set a Guinness World record for ice hockey on highest altitude, an international level tournament was organized at a new ice hockey rink at height of 4371 meters, at Chiba Kargyam in Ladakh (Jammu and Kashmir).

Top

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