



Current Affairs - June 2018

Month Type



- ▶ [162 Current Affairs were found in Period - June 21 - 30, 2018 for Type - All](#)

Appointments

- ▶ Anoop Kumar Pandey will be appointed as Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh.
- ▶ B V R Subrahmanyam has been appointed as chief secretary of Jammu and Kashmir. Also K Vijay Kumar has been appointed as an Advisor to Governor of Jammu & Kashmir governor (N N Vohra Currently).
- ▶ B.Sriram is appointed as MD & CEO of IDBI bank for temporary term of 03 months, replacing Mahesh Kumar Jain who was made Deputy Governor of RBI recently.
- ▶ Bharti Airtel appointed Ajay Chitkara as Director and CEO of Airtel Business to spearhead domestic and global enterprise business as one unit.
- ▶ Financial Services Firm Paytm appointed former RBI Deputy Governor Rama Subramaniam Gandhi as an advisor.
- ▶ Government appointed Anant Barua as whole-time member of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). SEBI Chairman is currently Ajay Tyagi.
- ▶ Government appointed Arijit Basu as Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI), replacing Rajnish Kumar who was elevated as chairman recently.
- ▶ ICICI Bank appointed Girish Chandra Chaturvedi as its non-executive part-time chairman.
- ▶ India Origin person Dedar Singh Gill has been appointed judicial commissioner of Singapore's Supreme Court.
- ▶ India's Abhay V. Udeshi has been selected by International Castor Oil Association (ICOA) as its President. ICOA members are involved in growing, processing, trading, marketing and consuming Castor Oil.
- ▶ Indian-American surgeon Atul Gawande named as the CEO of a new US employee health care company started by Amazon, Berkshire Hathaway and JPMorgan Chief Executives. Also, French beauty giant L'Oréal appointed Amit Jain as its new India MD, first Indian to lead its operations in India.
- ▶ Janardan Singh Gehlot has been appointed as International Kabaddi Federation (IKF) chief for 4 years.
- ▶ Portugal's Antonio Manuel de Carvalho Ferreira Vitorino (61) is elected as next Director General (DG) of International Organization for Migration (IOM), a UN Migration Agency.
- ▶ Raghav Iyengar has been appointed as CEO of Indiabulls AMC (Asset Management Company).
- ▶ Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is re-elected as President of Turkey, for his 2nd term as President.
- ▶ South Korean firm LG appointed Koo Kwang-mo as new chairman. He is fourth-generation leader of family-controlled conglomerate.
- ▶ Sunil Bharti Mittal, Founder & Chairman of Bharti Enterprises, stepped down as Chairman of International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). He will be succeeded by Paul Polman (CEO of Unilever). While, MasterCard CEO Ajay Banga appointed as First Vice-Chair of ICC.

[Top](#)

Awards

- ▶ 2017 Sports Illustrated India magazine Awards -
 1. Sportsperson of the Year - Kidambi Srikanth (Badminton)
 2. Team of the Year - Women's cricket team

3. Coach of the year - Stephen Constantine (football team coach)
 4. Outstanding contribution to Sport - Leander Paes (Tennis)
 5. Young Sportsperson of the Year - Paddler Manav Thakkar
 6. Lifetime Achievement Award - Dhanraj Pillay (Hockey)
2. ▶ Actor Kalki Koechlin has been conferred with French distinction of *Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters (Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres)* for her contribution in enhancing Indo-French ties in cinema.
 3. ▶ Indian Army contingent comprising of 7 Garhwal Rifles Infantry Battalion Group was awarded United Nations Medal for “selfless service”, as part of United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).
 4. ▶ Indian International Film Awards (IIFA) 2018 -
 1. Best Film - Tumhari Sulu
 2. Best Actor in a leading role (Female) - Sridevi (MOM)
 3. Best Actor in a leading role (Male) - Irrfan Khan (Hindi Medium)
 4. Best Actor In Supporting Role (Female) - Meher Vij (Secret Superstar)
 5. Best Actor In Supporting Role (Male) - Nawazuddin Siddiqui (MOM)
 6. Best Director - Saket Chaudhary (Hindi Medium)
 7. Best Debut Director - Konkona Sensharma (A Death in the Gunj)
 8. Outstanding Achievement by an Actor in Indian Cinema - Anupam Kher
 9. Best Story - Amit V Masurkar (Newton)
 10. Best Music Direction - Amaal Mallik, Tanishk Bagchi, Akhil Sachdeva (Badrinath Ki Dulhania)
 11. Best Playback Singer Female - Meghna Mishra (Main Kaun Hoon - Secret Superstar)
 12. Best Playback Singer Male - Arijit Singh (Hawayein - Jab Harry Met Sejal)
 5. ▶ Madhya Pradesh has been awarded by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for reducing maternal mortality under Prime Minister’s Safe Motherhood Campaign (Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan-PMSMA), from 221 in 2011-13 to just 173.
 6. ▶ Noted American director Martin Scorsese will be conferred with Lifetime Achievement Award at the Rome Film Festival 2018.
 7. ▶ Noted Bollywood actor Prem Chopra honoured with living legend prize at 25th annual Bharat Nirman awards.
 8. ▶ Noted social activist Pushpa Bhave received *Rajarshi Shahu Puraskar* in Kolhapur (Maharashtra). Rajarshi Shahu Puraskar award is given in memory of Rajarshi Shahu, a well-known social reformer. It consists of a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh.
 9. ▶ World Food Prize 2018 has been awarded to British Economist Lawrence Haddad and David Nabarro (UK) for their contribution in elevating maternal and child undernutrition within food security. They will share \$250,000 prize equally.

[Top](#)

Books

1. ▶ Actor Priyanka Chopra will come out with her memoir in 2019, with name *Unfinished*.
2. ▶ Book *Human Rights, Values and Cultural Ethos*, collection of essays and lectures by Dr. R.P. Dhokalia has been launched.
3. ▶ Hindi, Kannada, Telugu and Gujarati versions of Book *Emergency: Indian Democracy’s Darkest Hour*, written by Prasar Bharti Chairman Surya Prakash Have been released.
4. ▶ WWF-India launched its first-ever comic book named *The Great Indian Nature Trail with Uncle Billy*, written by Rohan Chakravarty and Bijal Vachharajani.

[Top](#)

Committees

1. ▶ Government has set up a committee to lay down standards for metro rail systems in country, to be headed by E Sreedharan (known as metro man of India), who is credited with creation of Konkan Railway and Delhi Metro.
2. ▶ Maharashtra government has set up a committee to study issues related to development of a 1,000-MW floating solar power plant at Ujani dam in Solapur district, headed by Satish Chavan.

[Top](#)

Days

1. ▶ Government observes anti-Emergency day on 25-26 June every year, to remind people how Emergency was clamped by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1975.

2. ▶ June 21 - World Music Day. 2018 theme is *Live the music together*.
3. ▶ 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.
4. ▶ June 21, 2018 - 4th UN International Yoga Day. 2018 theme is *Yoga for Peace*.
 1. Main Yoga Day 2018 events held in Dehradun (Uttarakhand).
 2. 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. 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.
 1. Yoga is inscribed since 2016 on UNESCO's Representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
 2. Winners -
 1. Upper Primary (Girls) – Gold won by the Sikkim team, Silver by Gujrat team and Bronze by Delhi
 2. Upper Primary (Boys) – Gold won by Gujrat team, Silver by Delhi team and Bronze by Tamil Nadu.
 3. Secondary (Girls) – Gold by Sikkim team, Silver by Manipur team and Bronze by Delhi team.
 4. Secondary (Boys) – Gold by Delhi, Silver by Haryana and Bronze by Karnataka.
 4. 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.
 5. HRD Ministry approves setting up an inter-university yoga centre at Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana in Bengaluru.
 6. Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar announced to set up a 'Yog Aayog' in state.
 7. West Bengal University Visva-Bharati received INR 5 crores central grant for setting up a 'Yoga Gram' in university campus.
 8. PM Modi inaugurated a nature center in New York City, through video conferencing called *YO1 Nature Cure Center*.
5. ▶ June 23 - World Public Service day.
6. ▶ June 23 -is observed as United Nations Public Service Day. It is also observed as International Olympics Day and UN International Widows' Day.
7. ▶ June 25 - Day of the Seafarer. 2018 theme is *Seafarers wellbeing*.
8. ▶ 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*.
9. ▶ June 27 - UN Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Day (MSME) Day. It was declared by UN General Assembly in 2017.
 1. 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.
 2. Also, under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) budgetary allocation for FY 2018-19 has been increased by 75% to 1800 crores.
 3. A Portal of Ministry of MSME called *Sampark* was also launched by President.
10. ▶ June 29 - International Day of Tropics.
11. ▶ 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*.
 1. 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.
12. ▶ June 30 - International Day of Parliamentarism. It is also observed as International Asteroid Day.

[Top](#)

Defence

1. ▶ Navies of India and Indonesia participated in Passage Exercise (PASSEX) 2018.

[Top](#)

Economy

1. ▶ 2nd tranche of Bharat-22 Exchange Traded Fund (ETF), comprising shares of 22 companies, received bids worth Rs. 15,436 crore, much higher than government's fund raising target. The second tranche was targeted to achieve fund mop up of Rs 6,000 crore with green-shoe option for another 2,400 crore.
2. ▶ Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ) acquire 97% stake Marine Infrastructure Developer Private Limited (MIDOL) for Rs 1950 crores.
3. ▶ As per World Bank report *South Asia's Hotspots: The Impact of Temperature and Precipitation Changes on Living Standards* -
 1. Climate change might cost India 2.8 % of GDP, as Average annual temperatures will increase by 1-2 % by 2050.
 2. 60 crore Indians live in areas that could become moderate or severe hotspots of climate change by 2050.
4. ▶ As per official data of Q4 of 2017-18, Government debt increased by 1.7 % to INR 76,94,940 crores (from 75,66,215 crore in previous quarter), which is 45.9 % of GDP.
5. ▶ Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) approved investment of \$200 million in India's National Investment & Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) to give greater impetus to mega infrastructure projects.
 1. AIIB is China led multilateral development bank set up in 2016. It has 83 member nations. India is second largest shareholder in AIIB (7.5 %), after China (26.06). It is headquartered in Beijing (China).
 2. NIIF was set up in December 2015 to catalyse funding into country's infrastructure sector. It has been set up as a fund of funds structure with aim to generate risk adjusted returns for its investors alongside promoting infrastructure development. It has targeted corpus of Rs 40,000 crore to be raised over the years. 49% will be funded by government.
6. ▶ Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) launched platform to make stock market listing attractive for startups in SME (small and medium enterprise) segment. For listing, A company needs to have a pre-issue paid up equity share capital of a minimum of Rs 1 crore and must be in existence for a minimum period of 3 years on the date of filing draft prospectus with BSE.
7. ▶ Government simplified process for permission of Additional Fiscal Deficit Limit over and above 3 % of Gross State Domestic Product for States (GSDP). States will be eligible for flexibility of 0.25 % over and above this for any given year for which borrowing limits are to be fixed if their debt-GSDP ratio is less than or equal to 25 % in preceding year.
 1. States will be further eligible for an additional borrowing limit of 0.25 % of GSDP for which borrowing limits are to be fixed if interest payments are less than or equal to 10 % of revenue receipts in preceding year. Flexibility in either of the 2 options or both will be available only if there is no revenue deficit in current and immediately preceding year.
 2. During 4th Meeting of Governing Council of NITI Aayog, States pointed-out that permission accorded by Department of Expenditure to eligible States were sometimes delayed due to bunching of proposals received from different States at different intervals into one consolidated approval. Government has henceforth decided to simplify process of approval of such additional borrowing limits requested by States.
8. ▶ Indian IT Firm HCL Technologies acquired German IT services provider H&D International Group, one of largest IT service providers in German automotive industry.
9. ▶ Indian rupee (INR) breached 69-level against US dollar for the first time, touching a record low of 69.09 on higher crude oil prices and concerns of a US-China trade war.
10. ▶ Indians' Money in Swiss banks rose over 50% to Swiss Francs (CHF) 1.01 billion (Rs. 7,000 crore) in 2017, reversing a three-year downward trend.
11. ▶ India's oldest public sector financial institution IFCI (Previously *Industrial Finance Corporation of India*) will raise INR 3000 crores from debt, during current fiscal. IFCI aims to sanction 6000 crore worth of loans in 2018-19.
12. ▶ Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) approved Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) to acquire a majority stake in IDBI bank, taking LIC's stake in IDBI bank to 51%, injecting 10,000-13,000 crores.
13. ▶ Kerala Government launched microfinance programme in co-operative sector, named *Muttathe Mulla*, to help ordinary people being exploited by private financiers charging exorbitant interest rates for loans. It is a joint initiative of cooperative banks and women neighbourhood network *Kudumbashree*. Under this, Cooperative banks would give micro-finance loans to 'Kudumbashree' at an interest rate of 7 %, which members of neighbourhood network can avail at an interest rate of 12 % instead of 37-72% interest that private lenders charge.
14. ▶ Ministry of Corporate Affairs released draft on cross-border insolvency in order to strengthen Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). It will help banks access overseas assets of company undergoing resolution.
 1. Existing IBC provides for two Sections related to cross border insolvency (Section 234 and 235), which are inadequate to effectively deal with default cases of domestic corporate debtor having assets and operations outside India.

2. Existing provisions only allow Central government to enter into agreement with foreign country for enforcing provisions of Code.
 3. Draft norms have been issued to plug these loopholes and have any effective resolution mechanism in place for cross-border insolvency.
15. ▶ Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) will launch credit rating model a new system to assist banks in assessing credit risk and probability of fraud using big data analysis.
 1. This will help banks, particularly rural and cooperative banks, tackle issue of rising non performing assets (NPAs). Currently, rural and cooperative banks depend on judgement of bank manager, resulting in high NPAs and frauds.
 2. It will also help in predicting different types of frauds in banking sector based on RBI guidelines. Besides, a web-enabled software is also being tested to assist banks to easily adopt models for credit rating, NPAs and fraud. Validation of these models has been done using data from several banks.
 16. ▶ Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries acquired Radisys Corporation, a US-based open telecom platform solutions provider for \$75 million (Rs 510 crores).
 17. ▶ Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Jio overtook Vodafone India to become 2nd largest carrier by revenue in India, with adjusted gross revenue (AGR) of 6,217 crore in March quarter compared to Vodafone's 4,937 crores. Bharti Airtel is at top with AGR INR 7087 crores.
 18. ▶ Power distribution company BYPL signed MoU of 3 years with Business Finland, a Finnish government agency, for collaborative activities in different areas, including energy efficiency and electric vehicles.
 19. ▶ RBL Bank raised its stake in Swadhaar Finserve Pvt. Ltd to 100% from 60.48%, buying stake from US-based non-profit Accion.
 20. ▶ Reliance Industries (RIL) and JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company (JMF ARC) submitted proposal to acquire bankrupt textile company Alok Industries, for INR 5000 Crores, of which lenders will receive 4000 Crores, out of total 29500 Crores that Aloi Industries owes to its creditors.
 21. ▶ Securities and Exchange Board (SEBI) approved amendments to buyback and takeover regulations and changed time for announcing price band of initial public offering (IPO) from 5 to 2 days, based on suggestions made by regulator's Primary Market Advisory Committee (PMAC).

Top

International

1. ▶ A public health emergency has been declared in Oceania Nation Papua New Guinea (PNG), amid recent polio outbreak (first in 18 years).
2. ▶ 9th London Indian Film Festival (LIFF) -
 1. Actors Irrfan Khan and Manoj Bajpayee were honored by special Icon Awards in the event.
 2. Outstanding Achievement Award went to Actress Richa Chadha.
 3. Satyajit Ray Short Film Award worth GBP 1,000 went to Indo-German co-production "The Peanut Seller".
 4. The LIFF will tour will tour Birmingham and Manchester in June - July 2018.
3. ▶ According to United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2018 report, number of hungry people in world has risen for first time in more than decade. There are now approximately 38 million more undernourished people in world, rising from 777 million in 2015 to 815 million in 2016.
4. ▶ According to a Mercer survey, Mumbai is most expensive city in India to live in for expatriates as compared to Washington and Melbourne. Hong Kong is ranked as world's costliest city to live in for expatriates, followed by Tokyo, Zurich, Singapore, and Seoul.
5. ▶ According to a report titled *Summer 2018 State of the Internet/ Security: Web Attack report*, by Cloud delivery network provider Akamai Technologies, India is ranked fourth in list of top 10 target countries for Web Application Attacks.
6. ▶ According to report by organization European Transport Safety Council (ETSC), Norway observes lowest rate of traffic accidents in world (20 deaths per 10 lakh inhabitants).
7. ▶ As per Future Development blog of World Bank's Brookings Institute titled as *The start of a new poverty narrative* -
 1. India is no longer a nation having world's largest poor population. Nigeria has now overtaken India with largest number of extremely poor people at 87 million in early 2018.
 2. India is moving down in global poverty ranking. From 125 million poor people in 2016, India had just 73 million people in poorest of poor index as of May 2018.
 3. Approx 44 Indians are being taken out of poverty every minute, highest rate in world.

8. ▶ Asia's first arbitration centre specialised in intellectual property, called *International Arbitration Centre in Tokyo (IACT)*, will be opened in Tokyo (Japan) in September 2018. It will have around 12 arbitrators from various parts of the world, who would try to resolve disputes within a time period of 1 year. IACT would also handle disputes between non-Japanese companies if both parties agree.
9. ▶ BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands List 2018 -
 1. HDFC Bank is only Indian brand in List, ranked 60th.
 2. Top 4 - Google (1), Apple (2), Amazon (3), Microsoft (4).
10. ▶ Canadian Parliament passed a historic bill legalizing recreational use of marijuana nationwide, becoming second country to do so.
11. ▶ Chemical weapons watchdog Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) has granted itself new powers to help identify those responsible for chemical attacks in Syria, as a proposal tabled by United Kingdom. Until now, OPCW was only able to say whether chemical weapons were used – but not who had used them.
12. ▶ China will build a railway connecting western region of Tibet with Nepal, one of several bilateral deals signed during Nepali PM Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli's visit to China. It will connect Tibetan city of Xigaze with Nepal's capital Kathmandu.
13. ▶ Financial Action Task Force (FATF) placed Pakistan in its 'grey list' for its failure to check activities of terrorists operating from and within its territory, including failure to curb Terror Financing.
 1. This may hurt Pakistan's economy as well as its international standing and make it tough for it to receive international funding.
 2. FATF is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.
14. ▶ France will reintroduce compulsory national service for all 16-year-olds. French boys and girls would do a minimum of 1 month service in first phase which would focus on voluntary teaching and working with charities among others. 2nd phase will be voluntary and focus on areas linked to defence and security.
15. ▶ Global Real Estate Transparency Index (GRETI) 2018 by realty consultant JLL -
 1. India is ranked 35th among 100 countries.
 2. Top 5 - UK (1st), Australia (2nd), United States (3rd), France (4th), Canada (5th)
 3. Bottom 5 - Venezuela (100), Libya (99), Senegal (98), Mozambique (97) and Ivory Coast (96).
 4. South Asia: Sri Lanka (66th position), Pakistan (75th).
16. ▶ India pledged \$5 million for United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) in Near East. Besides, 19 other countries also made pledges for UNRWA at Pledging Conference for UNRWA in New York (US). Sweden pledged US \$250 million over 3 years, \$ 51 million and UAE \$50 million.
 1. India also increased its grant to Global Environment Facility's (GEF) new four-year investment cycle, known as GEF-7 from \$12 million to \$15 million. It was announced at GEF Council meet at Da Nang (Vietnam), and approved \$4.1 billion replenishment of GEF-7.
17. ▶ India will make strategically important Chabahar port operational by 2019, even as US reimposed sanctions on Iran after withdrawing itself from nuclear deal.
18. ▶ International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) removed Nepal from its Significant Safety Concern (SSC) list. In 2013, ICAO enlisted Nepal in SSC category as Nepal's compliance to ICAO's standard at that time stood only at 55 % out of standard 60 %.
19. ▶ McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) for Asia-Pacific region stated that India's gender inequality is extremely high on work & politics. India's score was 0.30 in gender equality at work and 0.78 in legal protection and political voice out of 1.0 scale. India behind Asia-Pacific average in all, but ahead of Bangladesh and Pakistan.
20. ▶ Netherlands Parliament banned full-face veils such as burqa and niqab in public places. Violation will result in a fine of nearly INR 32000.
21. ▶ Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation (Rosatom)'s subsidiary Nikiret signed an agreement with Indian engineering services firm Core Energy Systems Pvt Ltd for promotion of its technical security equipment in India, to assist in India's Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) project.
22. ▶ UK's Prince William became first member of the royal family to visit Israel on an official visit. He also met Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas which will mark first UK royal visit to West Bank.
23. ▶ US State Department's *2018 Trafficking in Persons Report* categorised North Korea as *worst human trafficking nation* for 16th consecutive year, citing use of forced labour. N Korea is included in Tier 3 category, along with China, Russia and Iran.

24. ▶ United Arab Emirates (UAE) flagship carrier Emirates Airline launched a joint project with US Crop One Holdings to build world's largest vertical farming facility near Dubai's Al Maktoum International Airport, with investment of \$40 million.
1. Vertical farm facility will cover an area of 12,077 square metres with an output equivalent to 3.64 million square metres of farmland.
 2. It will harvest 2,700 kg of high-quality, herbicide and pesticide-free leafy greens daily, using 99 percent less water than outdoor fields.

[Top](#)

Meetings

1. ▶ An anti-doping sports conference named *Clean Sport=Fair Outcome?* conducted to address the issue of doping, at Oslo (Norway).
2. ▶ Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance) hosted 3rd Annual Meeting of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) in Mumbai (First in India) -
 1. Theme for this year's AIIB meet is *Mobilising Finance for Infrastructure: Innovation and Collaboration*.
 2. With total project portfolios of US\$4.4 Billion, India is largest borrower of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).
 3. Inaugural Asian Infrastructure Forum was also held launched, which will gather infrastructure practitioners in a practical and project-driven discourse, focused on matching innovative finance to critical infrastructure needs.
 4. Exhibition titled *India Infrastructure Expo 2018* was also organized on sidelines of 3rd AIIB Meet.
 5. AIIB -
 1. AIIB is China led multilateral development bank set up in 2016. It has 83 member nations. India is second largest shareholder in AIIB (7.5 %), after China (26.06). It is headquartered in Beijing (China).
 2. Jin Liqun (China) is current president of AIIB.
3. ▶ Haryana Government will host 2018 World Union of Wholesale Markets (WUWM) Conference at Gurugram in October 2018, to provide common unified structure of mandis all across world and take advantages of the improvements in mandis in the world for India's domestic requirements.

[Top](#)

National

1. ▶ Cabinet Approvals (June 27, 2018) -
 1. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs Approvals -
 1. Contribution of 1040 crores to National Export Insurance Account Trust (NEIA), to be utilised till 2019-20. Corpus would strengthen NEIA to support project exports from the country that are of strategic and national importance.
 2. Capital infusion of 2000 crores for strengthening of Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC). It would enhance insurance coverage to MSME exports and strengthen India's exports to emerging and challenging markets like Africa, CIS and Latin American countries.
 3. Hiked price of ethanol, used for doping in petrol, by almost INR 2.85 per litre to Rs 43.70 in a bid to cut India's oil import dependence as well as give higher price for sugarcane.
 2. General Approvals -
 1. Establishment of additional 6.5 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) facilities at Chandikhol in Odisha (4 MMT) and Padur in Karnataka (2.5 MMT), including construction of SPMs (Single Point Mooring) for 2 SPRs.
 1. ISPR has already constructed underground rock caverns for storage of 5.33MMT of crude oil at 2 locations - Vishakhapatnam (1.33 MMT), Mangalore (1.5 MMT) and Padur (2.5 MMT).
 3. MOUs -
 1. Singapore - Planning
 2. Denmark - Science, Technology and Innovation, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
 3. Germany - Civil Aviation
 4. France - Maritime Awareness Mission
 5. Indonesia - Technical Cooperation in Railways sector
 6. Bahrain - Healthcare

2. ▶ 3 day annual Sindhu Darshan Festival celebrations on bank of Indus River in Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir.
3. ▶ According to recently released language data of Census 2011, Hindi is most spoken in India with it being mother tongue of 43.63% Indians, followed by Bengali. Marathi replaced Telugu as 3rd most spoken language in nation. Sanskrit is least spoken in India.
4. ▶ Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu laid the foundation for icon tower in Amaravati, with 33 floors and 158-meter height. It will be in the form of letter 'A' and it represents Amaravati, to be built at around 500 Crores.
5. ▶ Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu inaugurated 6 MW Shaikangehu small hydro electric project at Gongkhar village in Arunachal Pradesh.
6. ▶ As per Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry -
 1. 19 of 25 dirtiest cities in India are from West Bengal. Jharkhand is the cleanest state in India, followed by Maharashtra and Chattisgarh.
 2. Among cities, Indore is cleanest for 2nd year in a row, followed by Bhopal and Chandigarh. While, Bhadreshwar in Gujarat is at bottom of 500 cities.
7. ▶ Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) signed pact with South Korean firm NANO Ltd for design and manufacture of SCR Catalysts for De-NOx application in coal-fired plants. It will enhance BHEL's offerings for emission control systems (De-NOx applications).
8. ▶ Centre of Excellence in Maritime & Shipbuilding (CEMS) announced setting up of 24 labs (6 in Mumbai and 18 in Vizag campus), as first of its kind of infrastructure in Asia Pacific region. CEMS aims to build competency in maritime & shipbuilding sector through skill development.
9. ▶ Delhi Government will introduce a "happiness curriculum" in Delhi's government schools from coming academic session, for students from nursery up to Class VIII.
10. ▶ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj launched new Passport Seva App, allowing people to apply for a passport from anywhere.
11. ▶ Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) recommended stringent punishment for food adulteration, with life imprisonment and penalty of up to 10 lakh. FSSAI has proposed 100 amendments in Food Safety and Standards Act 2006.
 1. It suggested creation of a 'Food Safety and Nutrition Fund' to support promotional and outreach activities among food businesses and consumers.
 2. Recommended imprisonment of not less than 6 months and up to 2 years, besides penalty of up to 5 lakh. At present, imprisonment in such cases is up to 3 months and fine is up to Rs 1 lakh.
12. ▶ French power utility EDF and American conglomerate General Electric (GE) signed strategic cooperation agreement with State-run Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL) for construction of 6 EPR (European Pressurized Reactors) type nuclear reactors of capacity 1,650 megawatt (MW) each at Jaitapur nuclear plant in Ratnagiri district (Maharashtra).
 1. Agreement is for construction of conventional island on each of 6 reactor units of Jaitapur nuclear plant. GE Power will design conventional islands for plant and EDF will supply EPR technology and will be responsible for building and coordinating industrial partners.
 2. Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant is proposed 9900 MW nuclear power project to come at Madban village of Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra. It will be built under Indo-France Civil Nuclear Deal signed in December 2010. Estimated cost of this project was around US \$15 billion (Rs. 1 Lakh Crores).
 3. World's First third generation European Pressurised Reactor (EPR) reactor recently started working in Taishan (China).
13. ▶ General Conferences (June 21 - 30, 2018) -
 1. National Seminar on Conservation of Particularly Vulnerable Tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands (*The Way Forward*) held in New Delhi.
 2. Students from KCJ College of Engineering, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, have won first prize at the Smart India Hackathon 2018 Hardware Edition under the 'Smart Communication' category conducted at the CSIR-CEERI in Pilani, Rajasthan.
 3. 2 day National Consultation on 'Making Agriculture Sustainable and Profitable' held at Pune (Maharashtra).
 4. A turmeric workshop on 'Production and export promotion of turmeric' held in Telangana. Commerce Ministry announced to set up a special cell for turmeric in Nizamabad (Telangana).
 5. 19th All India Conference of Directors of Finger Prints Bureau in Hyderabad (Telangana).
 6. 7th India Minerals and Metals forum organized in New Delhi.
 7. 4th National Review and Consultation on Swachh Iconic Places began in Hyderabad.

8. PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Vanijya Bhawan, a new office complex in New Delhi for Department of Commerce. PM also laid foundation stone for National Centre for Ageing at All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi. It will be completed by February 2020.
9. Pilot Training of Trainers (ToT) Course on Civilian Protection and the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) held at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi.
10. Ministry of Women and Child Development organized a Seminar on Technology Partnerships 'TECH-THON' for steering POSHAN Abhiyaan at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra in New Delhi.
11. Conference on Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan 'IPledgefor9' Achievers and MMR Reduction Awards held in New Delhi.
12. 500th death anniversary of noted saint Kabir observed at Maghar in Sant Kabir Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh.
13. Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) organized Renewable Energy Dialogue 2018 in New Delhi. India has set a fresh target of achieving 100 GW of solar power by 2022 (up from 20 GW earlier). India also aims to achieve 40% of its total electricity generation from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.
14. 4th National Consultation Meeting of Ministers of States & UTs, in-charge of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs held in New Delhi.
15. J P Nadda, Minister of Health and Family Welfare inaugurated NIMHANS Digital Academy (Bengaluru).
14. ▶ Goa tourism department will launch app-based taxi services in state called *GOAMILLES* in July 2018, to organize taxi services in tourism prone state. It has more than 2,800 licensed taxi drivers partnering with the app.
15. ▶ Government proposed to set up 3000 Van Dhan Kendras involving 30000 SHGs across country under Van Dhan Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
 1. Van Dhan Scheme was launched on 14th April, 2018 during celebrations of Ambedkar Jayanti at Bijapur (Chhattisgarh).
 2. Under Van Dhan Scheme, 10 Self Help Groups of 30 Tribal gatherers each have been constituted at Bijapur, Chhattisgarh. They are then trained and provided with working capital to add value to the products, which they collect from the Jungle.
 3. Van Dhan Mission targets at livelihood generation for tribals by harnessing non-timber forest produces, with estimated value of 2 Lakh Crores per year.
 4. Further it is to set-up tribal community owned Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (the Kendra) in predominantly forested tribal districts. A Kendra shall constitute of 10 tribal SHGs, each comprising of upto 30 tribal NTFP gatherers or artisans i.e. about 300 beneficiaries per Kendra.
16. ▶ Gujarat government announced wind-solar hybrid power policy 2018, aiming to make optimum utilisation of the land and grid. It provides 50% concession for cross-subsidy surcharge and additional surcharge when generated energy is sold to a third party. Gujarat currently generates over 5,500 MW of wind power and 1,600 MW of solar power.
17. ▶ Gujarat government launched Suryashakti Kisan Yojana (SKY), solar power scheme for farmers enabling them to generate electricity for their captive consumption as well as sell surplus power to grid and earn extra buck.
 1. It is first such scheme in country, where farmer will produce his power and sell surplus to State power utility.
 2. Pilot Phase with approx 137 feeders will cover as approx 12400 farmers from 33 districts. The project cost is around Rs 870 crore and it will generate 175 MW.
 3. Under it, farmers of state having existing electricity connection will be given solar panels as per their load requirements. It envisages setting up of separate feeders for agricultural solar energy consumption.
 4. Cost Sharing - State and Central governments will give 60% subsidy on cost of project. Farmer is required to take 5% cost, while 35% will be provided to him as affordable loan with interest rates of 4.5 to 6%.
 5. Duration of scheme is 25 years, split between 7 and 18 year periods. For first 7 years, farmers will get per unit rate of Rs 7 (Rs 3.5 by state power utility + Rs 3.5 by state government). For subsequent 18 years they will get rate of Rs 3.5 for each unit sold.
18. ▶ HRD Ministry approved draft Higher Education Commission of India (Repeal of University Grants Commission Act) Bill 2018 , that seeks to repeal UGC Act and set up Higher Education Commission of India. Stakeholders can give their suggestions at reformofugc@gmail.com by 07-07-2018.
 1. Principals of Draft Include Less Government and more Governance, Separation of grant functions, End of Inspection Raj, Focus on academic quality, Powers to enforce.
 2. Highlights of Bill -
 1. Improving academic standards and quality of higher education, specifying norms for learning outcomes, lay down standards of teaching/research etc.

2. Provide roadmap for mentoring of institutions found failing in maintaining the required academic standards.
 3. Shall have the power to enforce decisions, grant or revoke authorization for starting / closure of academic operations.
 4. Will encourage higher education institutions to formulate a Code of Good Practices covering promotion of teaching and learning.
 5. Provides for penal provisions (graded), which will cover withdrawal of power to grant degrees/ diplomas, or even prosecution sanction in serious willful non-compliance.
 6. There will be an Advisory Council to render advice the Commission on matters concerning coordination of standards in country.
 7. Commission will specify norms for fixing of fee chargeable by higher education institutions and advice Governments accordingly..
 8. It will monitor, through a national data base, development of emerging fields of knowledge and balanced growth of higher education in all spheres.
19. ▶ Himachal Pradesh cabinet announced increment of honorarium of ASHA workers of he health department from 1000 to Rs 1250, to benefit 7,829 ASHA workers in the state.
 20. ▶ Indian Railways eliminated all unmanned level crossings (UMLC) from its four zones - West Central, Central, Eastern and South East Central Railways, aggregating 11,545 route kilometers that are now UMLC free on broad gauge route. Railways has target of September 2018 for eliminating UMLC in 11 zones of its total 16 zones. For remaining zones, target is set before 2020.
 21. ▶ India's first robotic telescope at Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) at Hanle (Ladakh) started observing the skies. It is part of a multi-country collaborative initiative called 'Global Relay of Observatories Watching Transients Happen' (GROWTH) to observe transient events in universe. It is joint project of Indian Institute of Astrophysics Bengaluru and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB).
 22. ▶ Maharashtra Government signed MoU with Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) to launch Cotton Mission, to create value chain with final market linkages for thousands of cotton farmers in Vidarbha region. Under this, MCX will partner with state agriculture department and other agencies to work with Farmer Producer Organisations and help them connect to organised market network for building their capabilities.
 23. ▶ Maharashtra government announced *Kanya Van Samruddhi Yojana*, in which farmers families with girl child will be given saplings for plantation. A farmer family with a girl child between April 1 and March 31 will get 10 saplings free of cost from forest department. Beneficiaries will have to plant saplings between July 1 and 7. Scheme will be applicable for 2 girl childs per family.
 24. ▶ Maharashtra government made it compulsory for the Public Works Department to use plastic waste for construction and repair of asphalt roads, to sustainably use increasing amount of plastic waste collected by state civic bodies.
 25. ▶ Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu launched *ReUnite* mobile application, to track missing children. It will use *AmazonRekognition* web facial recognition service to identify missing kids.
 26. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare signed an MoU with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) to scale up short term healthcare courses through IGNOU's platform. Under this, curriculum for 10 courses especially designed for health sector, will provide more than 14 lakh trained manpower by 2025.
 1. With coming up of 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) by 2022 under National Health Protection Mission (NHPM), there will be an urgent need for such health care providers.
 2. Initially four courses will be launched, namely Home Health Aide, Geriatric Care Assistant, Phlebotomist and General Duty Assistant. Followed by remaining six skill-based curriculum as standardized by MoHFW- Diabetes Educator, Dietetic Aide, EMT-Basic, Dispensing Optician/VT and Medical Equipment Technology Assistant.
 27. ▶ Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) approved institution of Home Minister's Special Operation Medal and 3 more Medals- Antarik Suraksha Medal, Asadharan Aashuchan Padak, and Utkrisht & Ati-Utkrisht Seva Medal, to be awarded annually.
 1. HM's Special Operation Medal and Asadharan Aashuchan Padak will be awarded on Independence Day (15th August).
 2. Antarik Suraksha Medal and Utkrisht & Ati-Utkrisht Seva Medal will be announced on Republic Day (26th January).
 3. Home Minister's Special Operation Medal - Aims to promote high professional standards of Investigation of Crime in State/UT Police and Central Investigating Agencies (CIAs) in country.
 4. Asadharan Aashuchan Padak - Will be given to security and Intelligence officials for acts of exceptional courage and skill in intelligence gathering.
 5. Antarik Suraksha Medal - To be bestowed upon Police personnel for operation duty rendered by them for tenure of every 2 years in internal security in Jammu & Kashmir, Left Wing Extremism (LWE) region and North East region.

6. Utkrisht and Ati Utkrisht Seva Medal - To be awarded to permanent Police and intelligence personnel in recognition of Long Service of 15 and 25 year and good service records.
28. ▶ Ministry of Power will make 24 degrees celsius as mandatory default setting and labeling of air conditioners within few months, as part of campaign to promote energy efficiency.
1. Every one degree increase in temperature of air-conditioner results in saving of 6% of electricity consumed.
 2. Normal human body temperature is approximately 36-37 degree Celsius. Lower temperature around 18-21 degree Celsius controlled by air conditioners is not only uncomfortable but is also unhealthy.
29. ▶ Ministry of Women and Child Development launched report titled *Women in Prisons*, aiming to build an understanding of various entitlements of women in prisons and possible methods for resolution of the same. Report contains 134 recommendations for improving lives of women facing several issues.
30. ▶ Ministry of Women and Child Development partnered with NASSCOM to improv its nutrition monitoring app, Integrated Child Development Services-Common Application Software (ICDS-CAS), developed under Poshan Abhiyan (*PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment*) that aims to fight malnourishment and stunting.
31. ▶ NITI Aayog released first Delta ranking for 108 aspirational districts to measure their incremental progress across five developmental areas during April and May 2018. 49 key performance indicators were mapped across 5 developmental areas - health and nutrition, education, financial inclusion and skill development, agriculture and water resources and basic Infrastructure.
1. Districts started entering data from April 1, 2018 in *Champions of Change* dashboard.
 2. Most improved - Dahod (Gujarat, rank: 1st), West Sikkim district (Sikkim, 2nd). Ramanathapuram district (Tamil Nadu, 3rd) and Vizianagaram (Andhra Pradesh, 4th) and YSR Kadapa district (Andhra Pradesh, 5th).
 3. Least improved - Kupwara (Jammu and Kashmir), Begusarai (Bihar), Ranchi (Jharkhand), Simdega (Jharkhand) and Khagaria(Bihar).
32. ▶ NITI Aayog signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) with Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited (GNFC) to work together for implementing Proof-of-Concept (PoC) application for fertilizer subsidy management using Blockchain Technology.
33. ▶ NITI Aayog's Women Entrepreneurs Platform (WEP) signed Statement of Intent (SoIs) with *Shri Mahila Sewa Sahakari Bank, Indiabulls Housing Finance, SREI Infrastructure Finance, Srimanta Sankar Mission and Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)*, to create opportunities and support women entrepreneurs. WEP was launched on International Women's day (March 8, 2018).
34. ▶ Odisha Government signed MoU with Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) to enhance effective management of all kinds of disasters, aimed at automating risk management, advisory generation and dissemination.
35. ▶ Odisha government raised health cover from 5 lakh to 7 lakh under Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) for women. CM Naveen Patnaik also sanctioned 31.54 crore for 154 panchayats in seven blocks of 6 districts under Ama Gaon Ama Bikash Yojana.
36. ▶ PM Modi inaugurated Delhi Metro's Mundka-Bahadurgarh section, The 11.2 km elevated corridor as part of Delhi Metro's Green Line. Delhi Metro network is now expanded to 288 km with 208 stations. This is third line of connectivity to the neighbouring state of Haryana.
37. ▶ PM Narendra Modi dedicated Mohanpura Project to the Nation, to facilitate irrigation of agricultural land in Rajgarh district (Madhya Pradesh), which is among 115 Aspirational Districts identified by Government for putting special developmental focus.
1. INR 3866 crores project includes a dam and a canal system which will provide drinking water to over 400 villages.
38. ▶ PepsiCo Foundation announced a USD 4.26 million grant to an international non-profit organisation WaterAid to provide safe water access to communities in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala by December 2020. This adds to USD 17 million that Foundation has made in India to date.
39. ▶ Punjab Government launched *Paani Bachao, Paise Kamao* campaign for checking depletion of underground water. Through this, farmers will receive monetary benefit for less use of tube well. Details related to the use of power and money transferred into account of farmers will be provided to them on phone.
40. ▶ Rajasthan ranked first by NITI Aayog among all states after it registered a significant increase in groundwater level due to water conversation structures built under Chief Minister Jal Swavlamban Abhiyan. State also witnessed increase of 81% in irrigation capacity.
41. ▶ Saudi Aramco and ADNOC (Abu Dhabi National Oil Company) signed MoU today to jointly develop an integrated refinery and petrochemicals complex at Ratnagiri in Maharashtra, implemented by Ratnagiri Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd. (RRPCL).
1. Earlier, Saudi Aramco joined the project by signing an MoU with Indian consortium, during International Energy Forum Ministerial meet in April 2018 in New Delhi. RRPCL will now have Saudi Aramco & ADNOC as overseas strategic partners.

2. The project will be set up as a 50:50 joint partnership (50:50) between the consortium from India and Saudi Aramco and ADNOC.
 3. Mega refinery will be capable of processing 1.2 million barrels of crude oil per day (60 million metric tonnes per annum). It will also provide feedstock for integrated petrochemicals complex, with capacity of 18 million tonnes per annum of petrochemical products.
 4. Project cost is estimated at around Rs.3 lakh crore (USD 44 billion).
42. ▶ Tamil Nadu government announced setting up of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) facility near Madurai, at estimated of INR 1500 crores.
 43. ▶ Tamil Nadu government released its Ecotourism Policy 2017, which includes identifying ecotourism sites and will have specific ecotourism product associated with it in their uniqueness and value in terms of aesthetic, natural, cultural and landscape characteristics.
 44. ▶ Telangana Government will organize Bonalu Festival between July 15 and August 5, 2018. State government released INR 15 Crores for the same.
 45. ▶ Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) notified that use of Aadhaar biometric data for criminal investigation is not allowed under Aadhaar Act 2016. This comes after National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) asked police to be provided with limited access to Aadhaar data to aid them in catching first-time offenders and for identification of unidentified bodies.
 46. ▶ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched a campaign to clean Gomti river.
 47. ▶ Uttarakhand high court banned paragliding, and white water rafting and other water sports until the government frames a policy to regulate them.
 48. ▶ West Bengal government applied for a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Kohitur mango, which was sold for INR 1500 a piece last season. It is believed to have been cultivated by a royal breeder named Hakim Ada Mohammadi at behest of the last Nawab of Bengal Siraj-ud-Daulah. The variety was reportedly only consumed by royals.
 49. ▶ World Heritage Committee declared Victorian and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai as a World Heritage Property, inscribing it site on UNESCO's World Heritage list, as India's 37th UNESCO Heritage Site.
 1. This makes Mumbai the second city in India after Ahmedabad to be inscribed on World Heritage List.
 2. Apart from the Mumbai site, committee inscribed three other cultural sites on World Heritage List - Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars region of Iran, Hidden Christian Sites in Nagasaki Region of Japan and Sansa, Buddhist Mountain Monasteries in Korea.
 3. Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai comprises 2 architectural styles - 19th century collection of Victorian structures and the 20th century Art Deco buildings along the sea, conjoined by the historical open space of the Oval Maidan.
 4. With this, India now has 37 World Heritage Inscriptions with 29 Cultural, 07 Natural and 01 Mixed sites. India stands second in Asia Pacific (after China), in number of World Heritage properties, overall sixth in world.

Top

Persons

1. ▶ Actress Sonakshi Sinha joins UNESCO to promote safe & secure online environment for children and help empower our future digital citizens.
2. ▶ Monti Rajkhowa became first Assamese to scale Mount Kanchenjunga, 3rd highest mountain in world (8586 Metres).
3. ▶ Pallavi Durua of Koraput district in Odisha is crowned first Tribal Queen at Adi Rani Kalinga Tribal Queen competition held at Utkal Mandap, was organised by SC & ST department of Govt of Odisha.
4. ▶ Visits from India (June 21 - 30, 2018) -
 1. Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani visited Israel and created a joint working group (JWG) between Gujarat and Israel in fields of agriculture, horticulture and allied sectors
 2. 15th India-Australia Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) held in Canberra, Australia. It was attended by Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu during his visit to Australia.
 3. Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar visited Australia to attend 4th Meeting of Australia-India Education Council (AIEC).
 4. Minister of State (IC) for Tourism, K. J. Alphons attended a series of 'Incredible India road shows' in United States of America.
 5. 5th 2 plus 2 vice-ministerial level dialogue between India and Japan held in Japan. India was represented by Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale and Defence Secretary Sanjay Mitra

6. India and USA will hold 1st 2+2 Dialogue in Washington, DC in July 2018. India will be represented by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
7. Home Affairs Minister Rajnath Singh Visited India.
 1. He jointly launched construction of Mongolia's first oil refinery, a long-awaited project that is funded by India and designed to end the country's dependence on Russian fuel.
 2. The refinery, in southern Dornogovi province will be capable of processing 1.5 million tonnes of crude oil per year. It is planned for completion in late 2022, will meet all of the nation's demand for gasoline, diesel, aviation fuel and LPG.
 3. Cost of project is estimated at \$1.35 billion, and it will include a pipeline and its own power plant. Its financing is part of \$1 billion soft credit line agreement between Mongolia and Export-Import Bank of India, made during 2015 visit by PM Narendra Modi.
8. Sunil Lanba, Chief of Indian Navy will visited Bangladesh. He inaugurated first Indian Navy - Bangladesh Navy Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) which is being instituted as an annual feature between the navies of both countries.
9. Nitin Gadkari (*Minister for Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Road Transport & Highways and Shipping*) Visited Dushanbe (Tajikistan Capital). He stated that India will make Chabahar Port in Iran operational by 2019.
5. ▶ Visits to India (June 21 - 30, 2018)
 1. Singapore's Minister for Social and Family Development Desmond Lee visited India. During his visit, Andhra Pradesh Government signed MoU with Singapore to accelerate construction work of its new capital, Amravati.
 2. United States Permanent Representative to United Nations, Nikki Haley visited India. Haley, daughter of Sikh immigrants from Punjab, is the first Indian-American to serve in a Cabinet-level position in any US presidential administration.
 3. UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan visited India. He announced to set up a consulate of United Arab Emirates in Hyderabad (Telangana).
 4. Suhrob Kholmuradov, Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan visited India.
 5. Chakra Pani Khanal, Minister for Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperatives of Nepal visited India. He participated in India-Nepal "New Partnership in Agriculture" meet in New Delhi.
 6. Danny Faure, President of Seychelles Visited India -
 1. Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) extended \$10 million worth of line of credit (LOC) to Seychelles, as first tranche of the \$50 million sanctioned by Exim Bank to Seychelles.
 2. 6 MoUs signed between India and Seychelles -
 1. Indian Grant Assistance for implementation of small development projects through local bodies, educational and vocational institutions.
 2. Twinning Agreement on Establishment of and Cooperation between Panaji (Goa) and Victoria City of Seychelles
 3. Cyber Security.
 4. Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Seychelles for 2018-2022.
 5. Technical Agreement on Sharing White Shipping Information between Indian Navy and National Information Sharing and Coordination Center of Seychelles.
 6. MoU between Foreign Service Institute (FSI) of Ministry of External Affairs of India and Department of Foreign Affairs of Seychelles.
 3. Seychelles gifted pair of Giant Aldabra tortoise to India as a goodwill gesture, both aged about 20 years. Aldabra Giant Tortoise (*Aldabrachelys gigantea*) is endemic to Aldabra Atoll in Seychelles, and is one of largest species of tortoises on planet.
 4. India gifted a second Dornier aircraft to the Seychelles to help it enhance maritime reconnaissance and maintain security in that part of the Indian Ocean region.

[Top](#)

Science

1. ▶ 6 new species of minute goblin spiders discovered in forests of Sri Lanka, named after fictional characters described by English children's writer Enid Blyton. Names given are - goblins Bom, Snooky and Tumpy and the brownies Chippy, Snippy and Tiggy.
2. ▶ China launched bird-shaped drones fitted with a camera, GPS antenna, and satellite communication capability, to monitor citizens living in different parts of country, codenamed *Dove*.
3. ▶ Microsoft Co-founder Bill Gates invested \$4 million in genetically-modified mosquitoes to eradicate malaria, spread by female mosquitos. The research, conducted by UK-based Oxitec, involves releasing modified male mosquitoes to mate with female

mosquitoes. The male will pass on a self-limiting gene, which will kill female offspring before reaching maturity.

4. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare banned manufacture and sale of Oxytocin drug formulations for domestic use in private sector to prevent its misuse from 1st July 2018. Henceforth, Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd will only manufacture and supply it directly to registered hospitals.
 1. Oxytocin, often called love hormone, is released naturally in human bonding activities such as childbirth , breastfeeding and sex. It is uterine stimulant hormone, prescribed for initiation of uterine contractions and induction of labour in women as well as stimulation of contractions during labour.
5. ▶ NASA will launch world's lightest satellite in August 2018, which is developed by engineering students from Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science in Tamil Nadu. It is 4cm 'cube' satellite named 'Jaihind-1S', with a 3D printed outer casing from polylactic acid (PLA) nylon material, making it weigh just 33.39 grams.
6. ▶ Satellite named RemoveDEBRIS was successfully deployed from International Space Station (ISS), to clean up space debris orbiting Earth. It was transported to ISS via SpaceX CRS-14 launch in early April 2018. Satellite was built by consortium of space companies and research institutions led by Surrey Space Centre at University of Surrey (United Kingdom).
 1. Satellite is aimed at performing key Active Debris Removal (ADR) technology demonstrations (e.g capture, deorbiting) representative of operational scenario during low-cost mission using novel key technologies for ADR.
7. ▶ Scientists from USA's University of Michigan developed world's smallest computer, measuring just 0.3 millimeters.
8. ▶ Turtle fossil dating back to 150 million years (Jurassic period) has been discovered in Chongqing municipality of China.

Top

Sports

1. ▶ 2018 Gerry Weber Open Men's Tennis Title (Also called Halle Open (Germany)) -
 1. Singles - Borna Ćorić (Croatia), defeating Swiss tennis ace Roger Federer.
 2. Doubles - Łukasz Kubot (Poland) AND Marcelo Melo (Brazil)
2. ▶ 2018 Hyundai Archery World Cup Round 3 held in Salt Lake (USA). India won 3 medals at the event.
 1. Medals in Round 3 -
 1. Gold for Deepika Kumari in Recurve Women. She defeated Michelle Kroppen (Germany). This win ensured Deepika will represent the country at the season-ending Archery World Cup Final in Samsun, Turkey in October 2018.
 2. Silver for Abhishek Verma in COMPOUND MEN
 3. Bronze for COMPOUND MIXED TEAM
 2. Previous Rounds in 2018 Hyundai Archery World Cup
 1. Round 1 (Shanghai (China)) -
 1. Bronze for Compound Mixed Team
 2. Round 2 (Antalya (Turkey)) -
 1. Silver for Compound Women Team
 2. Bronze for Compound Mixed Team
3. ▶ England created new record for highest total in a men's ODI with 481 against Australia, beating its own previous Record.
4. ▶ ISSF Junior World Cup 2018 Round 2 (Suhl (Germany)) -
 1. Including Round 1 in Sydney (Australia) in March 2018, India won total 48 Medals in ISSF Junior World Cup 2018 (24 Gold, 7 Silver, 17 Bronze). India is at the top of table in ISSF Junior World Cup 2018.
 2. Medal Table -

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	India	24	7	17	48
2	China	15	17	14	46
3	Italy	7	6	10	23
4	Czech Republic	4	1	1	6
5	Russia	3	6	1	2

3. Gold Medals for India in ISSF Junior World Cup 2018 Round 2 (Suhl (Germany)) -
 1. Individual -
 1. Men - Hriday Hazarika (10 Metre Air Rifle), Saurabh Chaudhary (10 metre air pistol), Vijayveer Sindhu (25 meter standard pistol)

2. Women - Elavenil Valarivan(10 Metre Air Rifle), Vishwa Jignesh Dahiya (25 meter standard pistol), Manu Bhaker (10 metre air pistol)

2. Team -

1. Men - 10 metre air rifle, 50 metre pistol, 10 metre air pistol, 25 meter standard pistol, 25 meter pistol

2. Women - 50 metre pistol, 25 meter standard pistol

3. Mixd Team - 10 metre air pistol (Saurabh Chaudhary / Devanshi Rana), 100 Metre air rifle (Elavenil Valarivan / Divyansh Singh Panwar)

5. ▶ International Shooting Sport Federation ISSF World Cup 2018 Leg 3 and Leg 4 (In Fort Benning (USA) and Munich (Germany) Respectively) -

1. India Could Not win a medal in Leg 3 and Leg 4 of ISSF World Cup 2018.

2. India's Total Medal Tally in ISSF WC 2018 stands at 10 Medals, as of now. Medal Tally after Leg 4 looks like -

3.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	13	14	9	36
2	United States	5	1	3	9
3	India	4	2	4	10
4	Russia	4	2	0	6
5	Ukraine	3	0	1	4

6. ▶ Mercedes's British driver Lewis Hamilton won Formula 1 French Grand Prix 2018 -

1. 2018 Formula 1 (F1) Calendar-

1.

Serial	Grand Prix	Date	Winner
1	Australian Grand Prix	25 March	Sebastian Vettel (Germany)
2	Bahrain Grand Prix	8 April	Sebastian Vettel (Germany)
3	Chinese Grand Prix	15 April	Daniel Ricciardo (Australia)
4	Azerbaijan Grand Prix	29 April	Lewis Hamilton (UK)
5	Spanish Grand Prix	13 May	Lewis Hamilton (UK)
6	Monaco Grand Prix	27 May	Daniel Ricciardo (Australia)
7	Canadian Grand Prix	10 June	Sebastian Vettel (Germany)
8	French Grand Prix	24 June	Lewis Hamilton (UK)
9	Austrian Grand Prix	1 July	
10	British Grand Prix	8 July	
11	German Grand Prix	22 July	
12	Hungarian Grand Prix	29 July	
13	Belgian Grand Prix	26 August	
14	Italian Grand Prix	2 September	
15	Singapore Grand Prix	16 September	
16	Russian Grand Prix	30 September	
17	Japanese Grand Prix	7 October	
18	USA Grand Prix	21 October	
19	Mexican Grand Prix	28 October	
20	Brazilian Grand Prix	11 November	
21	Abu Dhabi Grand Prix	25 November	

7. ▶ Rani Rampal is named as captain of India's 18-member squad for women's hockey World Cup to be played in London in July 2018.

Read Important Ones