



Current Affairs - March 2018

Month Type



- **158** Current Affairs were found in Period - **March 1 - 10, 2018** for Type - **All**

Appointments

- ▶ Angela Merkel has been appointed as Chancellor of Germany for 4th Term. It ended 6 months long political uncertainty in Germany, longest time it has been without a govt in its post-war history.
- ▶ Anil Kumar Chaudhary has been appointed as chairman of SAIL (Steel Authority of India).
- ▶ Armen Sarkisian has been appointed as new president of European Nation Armenia.
- ▶ Biplab Kumar Deb is named as new Chief Minister of Tripura, by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) that won clear majority in recent state assembly elections. He will replace Manik Sarkar who ruled for over 20 years.
- ▶ Government appointed Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu as Minister of Civil Aviation, as additional Charge.
- ▶ Indian-origin Neil Basu became first Asian to be appointed as Counterterrorism Chief of Scotland Yard (London Police).
- ▶ Misc Govt. Appointments -
 - ▶ Surendra Nath Tripathi - Secretary in Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
 - ▶ Anil Gopishankar Mukim - Secretary in Ministry of Mines.
 - ▶ Bhupendra Singh - Chairperson in National Authority for Chemical Weapons Convention.
 - ▶ Sumanta Chaudhari - Managing Director in Small Farmers' Agri-business Consortium (SFAC).
 - ▶ Sailesh - Registrar General of India.
 - ▶ R Subramanyam - Secretary of Higher Education in Ministry of Human Resource Development.
 - ▶ RKS Shera - Air Officer-in-Charge Maintenance at Air Headquarters.
- ▶ National People's Party (NPP) President Conrad Sangma will be new chief minister of Meghalaya. There would be no deputy chief minister for the state.
- ▶ Neiphiu Rio has been appointed as new (9th) Chief Minister of Nagaland, replacing TR Zeliang.
 - ▶ In recent Assembly elections in Nagaland, Naga Peoples Front (NPF) emerged as largest party with win over 27 seats (out of 59 seats).
- ▶ Nepal's first woman president Bidya Devi Bhandari has been re-elected for second term as President.
- ▶ New Brand Ambassadors (March 2018) -
 - ▶ Cricketer Virat Kohli - Uber's first Brand Ambassador in India.
- ▶ New Indian Ambassadors -
 - ▶ Vinay Kumar - Afghanistan.
 - ▶ Sangeeta Bahadur - Belarus.
 - ▶ Ravi Thapar - Lebanon.
- ▶ Rangarajan Raghavan has been appointed as Managing Director of Mainstream IT Firm HCL Infosystems.
- ▶ Sebastian Pinera has been appointed as new president of South American Nation Chile.
- ▶ Sitanshu Kar will be next head of Government's Press Information Bureau (PIB).
- ▶ Social Media Platform Twitter appointed India's Parag Agrawal as its chief technology officer.
- ▶ Vivek R Wadekar is appointed as Special Director in Enforcement Directorate (ED) under finance ministry. ED enforces Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) in country.

Awards

1. ▶ 90th Academy Awards (known as Oscars) held at Dolby Theatre in Hollywood (California (US)).
 1. Facts -
 1. Awards were presented in 24 categories by Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS).
 2. *The Shape of Water* won most number of awards (4), after being nominated into highest 13 categories.
 2. Winners -
 1. Best Picture - *The Shape of Water*
 2. Best Actress - Frances McDormand for *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*
 3. Best Actor - Gary Oldman for *Darkest Hour*
 4. Best Director - Guillermo del Toro for *The Shape of Water*
 5. Best Supporting Actress - Allison Janney for *I, Tonya*
 6. Best Supporting Actor - Sam Rockwell for *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*
 7. Best Original Song - *Remember Me* from *Coco*.
 8. Best Foreign Language Film - Spanish Film *A Fantastic Woman* (Chile)
 9. Best Visual Effects - *Blade Runner 2049*.
 10. Best Animated Feature Film - *Coco*.
 11. Best Animated Short Film - *Dear Basketball*.
 12. Best Documentary (Feature) - *Icarus*
 13. Best Documentary (Short Subject) - *Heaven is a Traffic Jam on the 405*
 14. Best Live Action Short Film - *The Silent Child*
2. ▶ Actor Jackie Shroff's short film "Shunyata" won an award at Best of India Short Film Festival in Los Angeles (USA). Also, Filmmaker Nila Madhab Panda's *Halkaa* won Grand Prix de Montreal at the gala (Canada).
3. ▶ Architect Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi became first Indian to win the Pritzker Prize, highest award in architecture. Doshi's most noted works include a low-cost housing project in Indore which accommodates 80000 people. This award is announced by Tom Pritzker of the Chicago-based Hyatt Foundation.
4. ▶ Britain's Queen Elizabeth II recognised Srishti Bakshi from India as 26th Commonwealth Point of Light in honour of her exceptional service to empowering women in India. Srishti is founder of the CrossBow Miles movement.
5. ▶ Central Banking's 5th annual awards -
 1. Bank of Canada - Central Bank of the Year
 2. Other winners -
 1. Transparency - Central Bank of Ireland
 2. Reserve manager of the year - Bank of Korea
 3. Banknote and currency manager of the year - Norges Bank
 4. Economics in central banking - Alberto Cavallo and Roberto Rigobon – Billion Prices Project/PriceStats.
 5. Asset manager of the year - BlackRock
 6. Innovation in reserve management - HSBC
 7. Securities lending services provider of the year - Northern Trust
 8. Banknote and currency services provider of the year - Landqart
 9. Risk management services provider of the year - Openlink
6. ▶ Indian Actor-politician Shatrughan Sinha is honoured with a lifetime achievement award for his contribution to the fields of arts and politics at a ceremony in UK's Parliament complex, under annual *Political and Public Life Awards* by Britain's Asian Voice weekly newspaper.
7. ▶ Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) won 2017 Kochon Prize for building tradition of excellence in Tuberculosis (TB) research and development. It was awarded for establishing India TB Research Consortium to accelerate R&D efforts in the country.
8. ▶ Indian-American scientist Navin Vardarajan has been granted over USD 1.1 million for cancer research, for working on improving effectiveness of T-cell immunotherapy. Grant was issued by Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT).
9. ▶ Indian-origin Harry Athwal is among 11 winners of 2018's *Pride of Birmingham's Outstanding Bravery Award*, for risking his life in order to help a fatally injured young boy in 2017 Barcelona terror attack.

10. ▶ Indian-origin steel tycoon Sanjeev Gupta appointed by Britain's Prince Charles as official ambassador for Industrial Cadets programme designed to nurture manufacturing skills.

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Books

1. ▶ Book *Fulfilling Bapu's Dreams – Prime Minister Modi's Tribute to Gandhiji* has been released.
2. ▶ Book *How to be a Human* written by Manjeet Hiraniwas (wife of Filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani) has been launched.
3. ▶ Government launched *Namaste Shalom* as a magazine on India-Israel relations, edited by Tarun Vijay.

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Committees

1. ▶ Finance Ministry constituted a Steering Committee under Chairmanship of Secretary in Department of Economic Affairs (Subhash Chandra Garg), to consider issues related to development of Fintech space in India.

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Days

1. ▶ Mar 08 - International Women's Day, observed since 1908. 2018 Campaign Theme is *#PressforProgress*. On this occasion -
 1. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises(MSME) launched a portal for women entrepreneurs of India - ***www.udjamsakhi.org***. It is a network for nurturing entrepreneurship and creating business models for low cost products and services to make them self-reliant. It provides learning tools, incubation facility, training programs for fund raising, investor meets etc.
 2. Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs, Ananth kumar launched *Suvidha*, 100% Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkin, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP). It will be available for INR 2.50 per pad at over 3200 Janaushadhi Kendras across India.
 3. President Ram Nath Kovind presented Nari Shakti Puraskars 2017 to 30 eminent individuals and 9 distinguished institutions. It includes Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, Justice Gita Mittal.
 4. South District Police in Delhi launched an all women patrolling squad named *Knighthale*, formed to ensure safety and security of women at public places.
 5. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched *#YesIBleed* menstrual hygiene campaign.
 6. Madhya Pradesh Govt. announced 'Mukhyamantri Mahila Kosh' scheme. Under this, unmarried women of over 50 years age will be given pension.
 7. Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and Uttar Pradesh Government organized Swachh Shakti 2018 Women's Convention in Lucknow. In this, 8000 women sarpanches, 3000 women Swachhagrahis and women champions from across country were recognised for their outstanding contribution towards making Swachh Bharat.
 8. NITI Aayog launched Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) along with WEP's theme song *Naari Shakti* composed by Kailash Kher. It is aimed at building a vibrant ecosystem for women across India to help realise their entrepreneurial aspirations, scale-up innovative initiatives and chalk-out sustainable, long-term strategies for their businesses. Pillars on which WEP is built are Ichha Shakti, Gyaan Shakti and Karma Shakti.
 9. PM Narendra Modi launched Pan India Expansion of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) covering all 640 districts. 10 districts were also awarded - Effective community engagement(6 districts), Enforcement of PC&PNDT Act (2 districts) and Enabling education of Girl Child (2 Districts).
 10. PM Modi also launched National Nutrition Mission, as a comprehensive approach towards raising nutrition level in the country on a war footing. It will comprise mapping of various schemes contributing towards addressing malnutrition, incentivizing states/UTs for meeting targets, incentivizing Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) for using IT based tools, eliminating registers used by AWWs and introducing measurement of height of children at the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs). It has been set up with 3 year budget of Rs 9046.17 crore commencing from 2017-18.
2. ▶ Mar 3 - World Wildlife Day. It marks signing of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) on this day in 1973. 2018 Theme is *Big Cats: Predators under Threat*.
3. ▶ Mar 8 - World Kidney Day. It is celebrated annually throughout world on second Thursday of March.

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Defence

1. ▶ First-ever multi-nation naval exercise at sea *MILES-18* began at Andaman sea with 8 countries and India Participating.
2. ▶ Indian Navy concluded 2 month long War Games on both Seaboards of India, Eastern and Western. War Game on Eastern seaboard was codenamed ENCORE (Eastern Naval Command Operational Readiness Exercise) and on Western seaboard the codename was *Exercise Paschim Lehar*.
3. ▶ Ministry of Women and Child Development approved projects worth INR 2919 crores under Nirbhaya Fund for creating eight safe cities - *Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Lucknow*.
4. ▶ Samvedna 2018, first multilateral Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise of Indian Air Force (IAF) in association with South Asian Region nations held off coast of Kerala.

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Economy

1. ▶ According to Monster Salary Index (MSI) -
 1. Women in India earn 20 % lesser than men, although gender gap narrowed down by around 5 % points in 2017.
 2. In India, men earned a median gross hourly salary of Rs 231, while women earned Rs 184.8.
2. ▶ Financial Firm Paytm's subsidiary Paytm Money received approval of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to become a registered investment advisor. It will allow it to roll out investment and wealth management products to consumers across country.
3. ▶ First sale of world's first ever electoral bonds started from March 1, 2018 for period of 10 days at four SBI branches in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and New Delhi.
 1. These bonds will have a life of 15 days, buyable by any citizen / entity incorporated in India. It aims to increase transparency in political funding by rooting out anonymous cash donations made to political parties that lead to generation of black money.
 2. These electoral bonds can be bought for any value in multiples of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh or Rs 1 crore after fulfilling all existing Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and making payments from bank account. It will not carry name of payee.
4. ▶ Government has made providing passport details mandatory for taking loans of 50 crore rupees and above to ensure a SWIFT action in case of fraud and prevent fraudsters from fleeing the country.
5. ▶ Government raised import tax on crude and refined palm oil to support Indian farmers. Import tax on crude palm oil has been raised to 44 % from 30 % while for refined palm oil, it has been raised to 54 % from 40 %.
6. ▶ ICICI Bank launched instant online overdraft 'InstaOD' facility for MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) customers, enabling overdraft facility up to Rs 15 lakh in an year.
7. ▶ India attracted US \$208.99 billion foreign direct investment (FDI) during April 2014 to December 2017 period. Sectors receiving maximum FDI include services, computer software and hardware, telecommunications, construction, trading and automobile.
8. ▶ India's GDP Growth Forecasts (March 2018) -
 1. World Bank projected India's GDP growth at 7.3% in 2018 - 19 and 7.5 % in 2019-20.
9. ▶ Indian IT Firm Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is named fastest growing IT services brand in the world in an assessment done by leading brand valuation firm, Brand Finance.
10. ▶ Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and European Investment Bank (EIB) signed loan agreement for second line of credit (LoC) of Euro 150 million on non-sovereign basis for renewable energy financing in India. It has tenure of 15 years including grace period of 3 years.
11. ▶ Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) signed MoU with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for increased cooperation in effective implementation of insolvency law.
12. ▶ Mar 1 - Zero Discrimination Day.
13. ▶ RBI will conduct additional variable rate repo operations for longer tenors up to 31 days every Tuesday in March 2018 for INR 25000 crores each to provide additional liquidity support to banks, to provide 1 Lakh INR liquidity to banking system in March 2018.
14. ▶ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) allowed a limit of INR 5000 crores for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to go long in Interest Rate Futures (IRFs).

1. An agreement to buy or sell a debt instrument at a specified future date, at a price that is fixed today, is referred to as Interest Rate Futures (IRFs). IRF is a derivative instrument based on an underlying security, which can either be a Government Bond or a Treasury Bill.
2. Currently, FPI limit for Government Securities (G-Secs) is interchangeable between investments in G-Secs and investment in IRF, with long position in IRF capped at 90% of G-Sec limit. Increasing position limit will boost market development and ensure that FPIs can access IRFs in an uninterrupted way.
15. ▶ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed penalty of 3 crore on Axis Bank for violation of non-performing asset (NPA) classification norms, and 2 crore on Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) for not complying with Know Your Customer (KYC) regulations. Another penalty of 40 lakh was put on SBI for non-compliance of its directions on detection and impounding of counterfeit notes.
16. ▶ SBI raised its lending rates by 20 basis points to 8.15 %, as first lending revision by the bank since April 2016. SBI also recently hiked interest rates on deposits by upto 50 Basis Points.
17. ▶ SBI slashed charges for non-maintenance of Average Monthly Balance (AMB) in savings accounts by nearly 75 percent, to be effective from April 01, 2018. Charges for non-maintenance of AMB for customers -
 1. Metro and Urban centers - Reduced from maximum of INR 50 to 15 / month.
 2. Semi-Urban / Rural - Reduced from INR 40 to 12 / month.
18. ▶ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed MoU with CSC e-governance Services (CSCeGS) to take Udyami Mitra portal (*Udyamimitra.in*) to underserved MSMEs. *Udyami Mitra* aims to improve accessibility of credit for MSMEs.

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International

1. ▶ 11 Pacific Rim countries entered into Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership or CP TPP or TPP11 in Santiago (Chile). It is revised version of Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) proposed by US, finalized after US withdrew from it.
 1. TPP11 includes Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam.
 2. It will be world's third largest trade bloc after European Union (EU) and North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). It will come into effect 60 days after 6 of 11 member countries ratify it domestically.
2. ▶ A rare signed photo of M K Gandhi, walking alongside Madan Mohan Malaviya, was auctioned for USD 41806 in USA. It dates back to August - December 1931.
3. ▶ According to Chinese General Administration of Customs, India-China bilateral trade reached \$84.44 billion last year, a historic high with 18.63% year-on-year growth. This is well above previous high of \$71.18 billion registered in 2016.
4. ▶ According to US Treasury Department, India is now 12th largest overseas holder of US government securities, with India's exposure being US \$144.7 billion.
 1. Overall, China is largest holder of US government securities with holdings to tune of \$1.18 trillion, followed by Japan at \$1.06 trillion. Ireland third with \$326.5 billion.
5. ▶ According to global property consultancy Knight Frank's Wealth Report 2018 -
 1. Mumbai ranked 47th on *city wealth index* among 314 cities in world, while Guangzhou (China) tops the list.
6. ▶ Afghanistan offered to recognise Terror Group Taliban as a legitimate political group in order to end over 16-year-long war.
7. ▶ Airports Council International (ACI) named Mumbai (Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport) and Delhi (Indira Gandhi International Airport) for top position among airports handling over 40 million passengers annually, in its annual airport service quality (ASQ) awards. Beijing and Shanghai Pudong (China) have been ranked 2nd.
8. ▶ Andhra Pradesh ranks 51st globally in Multidimensional Poverty Index according to a household survey conducted in state, in association with University of Oxford (UK). It is first Indian state to conduct a household survey at state and district level to estimate multidimensional poverty.
9. ▶ Arms import by India increased by 24% between 2008-2012 and 2013-2017 period as per data by International Peace Research Institute.
 1. India is followed by Saudi Arabia, Egypt, UAE, China, Australia, Algeria, Iraq, Pakistan and Indonesia as world top importers.
 2. Largest arms suppliers to India are Russia (62%), US (15%) and Israel (11%).
10. ▶ As per Hurun's Global Rich List 2018 -
 1. India has 3rd highest number of Billionaires across world with 131 names (31 added this year). Mukesh Ambani remains India's richest person with net worth of \$26 billion.

2. China with 819 names and USA with 571 are at top 2 places.
11. ▶ China abolished 2 term limit on Presidency, allowing Xi Jinping to remain as country's leader for life.
12. ▶ China will build its first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Liaoning by 2025, as part of its plans to achieve weaponry and technical developments for People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy by 2025.
 1. At present, China's navy has 2 aircraft carriers running on conventional oil. French Navy's *Charles de Gaulle* is only non-US aircraft carrier powered by nuclear reactors. USA's Nimitz-class and Ford-class carrier are run by nuclear power.
13. ▶ European Nation France approved making 15 years as legal age of sexual consent.
14. ▶ For first time in nation's history, Saudi Arabia's women participated in an all-female marathon, held in al-Ahsa. Over 1500 women participated in event.
15. ▶ Forbes' billionaires List 2018 -
 1. Top 5 -
 1. Amazon founder Jeff Bezos (\$110 Billion)
 2. Microsoft founder Bill Gates (\$90 billion),
 3. Warren Buffet (\$84 billion)
 4. Bernard Arnault and family (\$72 billion)
 5. Facebook founder-CEO Mark Zuckerberg (\$71 billion)
 2. India's Mukesh Ambani (chairman of Reliance Industries) is 19th on list with worth of \$40.1 billion. Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma (aged 39 years) is youngest Indian billionaire with net worth of \$1.7 billion.
16. ▶ Global Firepower index 2017 (133 Nations) -
 1. India's military strength is ranked 4th, after USA, Russia and China. France is ranked 5th. Pakistan is ranked 13th.
17. ▶ Global cyber security provider Kaspersky stated that India ranks 33rd worldwide in facing web-borne threats.
18. ▶ India for first time started importing Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) from USA, under 20-year Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) with USA's natural gas exporter Cheniere Energy signed in December 2011. Under it, GAIL will purchase around 3.5 Million Tonne of LNG per year from Sabine Pass.
19. ▶ India will become 69th member of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). Membership process includes purchase of shares by India at an estimated cost of around 1 million euros.
20. ▶ India's BSF and Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) declared 8.3 km stretch of Indo-Bangladesh border as first 'crime-free zone', stretching Gunarmath and Kalyani Border Out Posts (BOPs) in India and Puthkhali and Daulatpur BOPs in Bangladesh. Bangladesh and India shared 4156 km long international border.
21. ▶ India, Bangladesh and Russia signed MoU for cooperation in construction of 2*1200 MWs Capacity Rooppur nuclear power plant near Dhaka (Bangladesh). It is first initiative under India-Russia nuclear deal to undertake atomic energy projects in third countries. It will India's first atomic energy venture abroad and Bangladesh's first atomic energy project.
22. ▶ India-United Kingdom (UK) Joint Team won Newton-Bhabha Fund for project on Groundwater Arsenic Research in Ganga River Basin. Project is aimed to assess problem of arsenic poisoning and to understand aggravation such situation in next 25 to 30 years and its influence on groundwater management practices and suggest water remedial technologies accordingly, conducted from 3 sites – Bijnor and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh and Nadia in West Bengal.
 1. Newton Bhabha Fund is provided by the British Council and aims to bring together UK and Indian scientific research and innovation sectors to find joint solutions to the challenges facing India in economic development and social welfare.
23. ▶ Indian Steel Association (ISA) state that USA's move to levy steep tariff on steel imports may hit India's domestic steel market. Recently, USA proposed to impose tariffs of 25% on steel imports and 10% on imported aluminium to protect domestic steel industry from cheap imports.
24. ▶ Iraq overtook Saudi Arabia as India's top crude oil supplier by supplying 38.9 million tonnes (MT) crude oil in the current financial year. India is 80% dependent on imports to meet its oil needs.
25. ▶ Mastercard Index of Women Entrepreneurs (MIWE) 2018 -
 1. India ranked 52 among 57 countries.
 2. Ghana (46.4 %) ranks first in world with highest number of women business owners, followed by Russia (34.6 %), Uganda (33.8 %), New Zealand (33 %) and Australia (32.1 %).
26. ▶ Mumbai is named 16th among top 20 costliest cities in world, according to Knight Frank Wealth Report 2018, based on 4 major indicators - wealth, investments, lifestyle and future. Top 3 Wealthiest Cities - Guangzhou (China), Hong Kong (China), New York (USA).

27. ▶ Myanmar deferred signing agreement with India to streamline free movement of people within 16 km along the open border between two countries, citing domestic compulsions and asked for more time for the agreement to be sealed.
 1. India and Myanmar share 1643 km unfenced border along Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur and Mizoram.
28. ▶ Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi's human rights award conferred by US Holocaust Memorial Museum has been taken back, which they had presented to her in 2012. It was done after ongoing violence against Rohingya Muslim minority community in Rakhine state of Myanmar.
29. ▶ NASA launched GOES-S (*Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite*), an advanced weather satellite meant to safeguard Western USA, by forecasting natural calamities such as hurricanes, wildfires, floods etc. GOES-S will not only keep a watch over West Coast of USA, Alaska and Hawaii, but also over Mexico and Central America.
30. ▶ Neighbouring Nation Sri Lanka declared a state of emergency for 10 days, to curb heightening violence targeting Muslim minority, mainly in Kandy.
31. ▶ Pacific Ocean Nation Marshall Islands will become first country to recognize cryptocurrency as its legal tender and adopt transparent crypto monetary system. Its Parliament passed law to create a digital currency called *Sovereign* (symbol *SOV*) to raise cash and boost economy. It will be implemented with Israeli fintech startup Neema.
 1. Initially, 24 million SOVs will be circulated and will be backed by Govt as a legal tender in country. SOV will be different from other cryptocurrencies because it will be officially recognized by law as legal tender and effectively backed by government.
32. ▶ Russia tested hypersonic missile named *Kinzhal*, said to travel at 10 times speed of sound and have a range of 2,000 km.
33. ▶ USA and Israeli forces held *Juniper Cobra 2018* Joint military drill.
34. ▶ United Nations children's agency (UNICEF) stated that India has seen a sharp decline in child marriages over past 10 years, with only 27 % of girls getting married before 18 years in comparison to 47 per cent a decade back.
35. ▶ Vietnam's Nguyen Huong Giang is named winner of *Miss International Queen* in Thailand at one of world's top beauty pageants for transgender women.
36. ▶ Washington become USA first state to enact its own net-neutrality requirements after U.S. regulators repealed Obama-era rules designed to keep internet an even playing field. New law also requires internet providers to disclose information about their management practices, performance and commercial terms.
37. ▶ World Economic Forum's (WEF) released Report Energy Transition Index 2018 titled *Fostering Effective Energy Transition*. It ranks countries on how well they are able to balance energy security and access with environmental sustainability
 1. India was ranked at 78th among 114 countries.
 2. Top 5 - Sweden (1st), Norway (2nd), Switzerland (3rd), Finland (4th), Denmark (5th).
 3. BRICS - Brazil (38th), Russia (70th) and China (76th).
38. ▶ World Happiness Index 2018 by UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network -
 1. In this report, Several parameters are used to generate a happiness score of country on a scale from 1 to 10.
 2. India is ranked 133rd among 156 countries, down from 122 rank last year.
 3. 2018 edition, for the first time ranked happiness of foreign-born immigrants in 117 countries.
 4. Top 5 Happiest - Finland (1st), Norway (2nd), Denmark (3rd), Iceland (4th), Switzerland (5th). USA ranked 18th and Britain 19th.
 5. Neighbours - Pakistan (75th), Nepal (101st), Bhutan (97th), Bangladesh (115th), Sri Lanka (116th).
39. ▶ World Health Organization (WHO) invited pharmaceutical companies around world to submit proposals to manufacture affordable versions of newer medicines for treatment of drug resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB). It requested drug makers to submit Expression of Interest (EoI) for Bedaquiline and Delamanid, two new-generation drugs, recommended for DR-TB.
40. ▶ World Trade Organization (WTO) will set up panel to examine whether India has complied with its 2016 ruling in case against US regarding domestic content requirements (DCR) rules for solar cells and modules.
 1. In 2016, WTO ruled against India for favouring local manufacturers in its solar power programme, on petition filed by USA.
 2. Afterwards, USA alleged that India continues to apply WTO-inconsistent measures and had approached WTO demanding action against India for non-compliance of WTO ruling in December 2017.

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Meetings

1. ▶ World Ocean Summit 2018 held in Mexico's Riviera Maya.

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National

1. ▶ Assembly Elections 2018 in North East States of Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland -
 1. Tripura -
 1. BJP (Bharatiya Janata party) emerged as largest party with win over 35 seats (out of 60 seats). Communist Party of India (Marxist), that ruled Tripura for 25 years (led by Manik Sarkar), won 16 seats. Vote percentage - BJP (43%), CPI (M) - 42.7%.
 2. Nagaland -
 1. Naga Peoples Front (NPF) emerged as largest party with win over 27 seats (out of 59 seats), followed by Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (16 Seats) and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with 12 Seats. Vote percentage - NPF (38.8%) NDPP (25.2%) BJP (15.3%).
 3. Meghalaya -
 1. Indian National Congress (INC) emerged as largest party with win over 21 seats (out of 59 seats), followed by National People's Party (19 Seats).
2. ▶ Buddhist Community of Itanagar celebrated silver jubilee of the Losar Festival in Arunachal Pradesh. This festival is termed as *New Year* according to their Buddhist calendar.
3. ▶ Cabinet Approvals -
 1. MOUS / Agreements -
 1. Approved signing of Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement between India and France. It represents major milestone in enhancing people-to -people contacts, fostering mobility of students, academics, researchers and skilled professionals and strengthening cooperation on issues related to irregular migration and human trafficking between two sides.
 2. MoU with Hellenic on Cooperation in Renewable Energy.
 3. MoU between India's Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Public Service Commission of Mauritius, for sharing expertise of both parties in area of recruitment.
 4. Agreement with France to prevent illicit consumption and reduction of illicit traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Chemical Precursors and related offences.
 2. Introduction of Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill 2018 in Parliament -
 1. It aims to encourage institutional arbitration for settlement of disputes and make India a centre of robust Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism. It will amend Act of 1996 and will improve institutional arbitration by Creation of an independent body *Arbitration Council of India (ACI)* which will grade arbitral institution and accredit arbitrators by laying down norms and take steps to promote arbitration, conciliation, mediation and other ADR Mechanism.
 3. Release additional instalment of Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) to pensioners wef 01-01-2018, representing increase of 2% over existing rate of 5% of Basic Pay/Pension, for a period of 14 months from January 2018 to February 2019).
 4. Recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Group on Stressed Assets in Telecom Sector, Including -
 1. Restructuring deferred payment liabilities of spectrum auction of telecom service providers and revising limit of the cap for spectrum holding for telecom service providers. It gives one-time opportunity to opt for higher number of instalment (max. 16 instalment) apart from currently permitted 10 instalments.
 2. Revision of limits of cap for spectrum holding Based upon the recommendations of TRAI and Telecom Commission, from current limit of 25% to 35%.
 5. Shifting Headquarters of Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) from Chennai (Tamilnadu) to Ballabgarh (Haryana).
 6. CCEA approved INR 1151 crores Central Sector Scheme for in-situ management of crop residue in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. It will promote agricultural mechanization for upto 2020 to provide cost-effective solution to farmers to deal with stubble burning.
4. ▶ Cabinet Approvals Mar 1, 2018 -
 1. Approved proposal for establishment of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA), as an independent regulator for auditing profession which is one of key changes brought in by Companies Act 2013. It is expected to improve investments, globalisation of business by meeting international practices, and assist in development of audit profession. NFRA will be 15 members body, consisting of Chairperson, three full-time Members and one Secretary.

2. Approved Introducing *Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill 2018* in Parliament, to lay down measures to deter economic offenders from evading process of Indian law by remaining outside jurisdiction of Indian courts. Cases with offences valued Over 100 crores will come under purview of this Bill.

1. It is expected to re-establish rule of law with respect to the fugitive economic offenders as they would be forced to return to India to face trial for scheduled offences.

5. ▶ Competition Commission of India (CCI) imposed penalties upon 3 Airlines for concerted action in fixing and revising Fuel Surcharge (FSC). Jet Airways (39.81 Crores), Indigo Parent InterGlobe Aviation (9.45 Crores) and Spice Jet (5.10 Crores).
6. ▶ Delhi government will establish State Sanskrit Education Council to improve formal education of Sanskrit in Delhi.
7. ▶ Department of Biotechnology constituted Field Inspection and Scientific Evaluation Committee (FISEC) to investigate matter of illegal cultivation of Herbicide Tolerant (HT) or BG-III cotton in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat and Maharashtra, after several complaints regarding illegal cultivation of HT cotton.
 1. Cultivation of HT cotton (BG-III) is not approved by country's biotech regulator, Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of Ministry of Environment. HT Cotton (Herbicide-Tolerant (HT) Cotton / BG-III cotton) takes care of weeds problem at much lower cost as compared to physical labour required for weeding. It contains Round-up Ready and Round-up Flex (RRF) gene.
 2. The herbicide-resistant gene in HT cotton can spread through pollen into biodiversity system leading to transformation of weeds into super weeds on large-scale. It will threaten growth and yields of all crops in future and also increase cultivation costs and lead to health hazards.
8. ▶ Diu become only Union Territory to be fully run on solar energy. It generates 13 megawatts (MW) of electricity from solar power generating facilities daily. 3 MW is generated by rooftop solar plants and 10 MW by its other solar power plants.
9. ▶ Endangered Asiatic lion, which only live in Gir Forest National Park of India, has seen its population rising to over 600 from just about 180 in 1960s. Asiatic lions separated from african lions approx 100000 years ago. Their territory is restricted to 1400 square kilometre Gir Sanctuary in Gujarat.
10. ▶ Expert committee headed by HN Nagamohan Das, constituted by Karnataka Government to examine demand for a separate religion tag for Lingayats, has recommended *Religious Minority* status for Lingayat community. It concluded that there is enough evidence to show that Lingayat religion is different from Hindu religion.
11. ▶ First phase of 2000 MW Capacity *Shakti Sthala* solar park inaugurated in drought-prone Pavagada region of Tumkur district (Karnataka), claimed to be world's largest solar park.
 1. It is in line with Central Government's plans to enhance solar power capacity to 100 gigawatts (GW) by 2020.
 2. First phase of this INR 16500 crores Project will generate 600MW power, while balance 1,400MW will be commissioned in 2nd phase by of 2018.
12. ▶ Forbes India released the *W-Power Trailblazers* issue 2018, featuring 25 rising women stars in business. It is 2nd edition of this report.
13. ▶ Gadchiroli book reading event created a new Guinness world record breaking Guinness world record created in Turkey in 2017. Approx 7000 people participated in book reading event conducted at Gadchiroli (Maharashtra), organised by police authorities.
14. ▶ General Conferences (Mar 1 - 10, 2018) -
 1. 27th Technological Conference of Indian Jute Industries' Research Association (IJIRA) held in Kolkata.
 2. Cultural Festival *Shigmotsav* organized in Goa, with Shigmo parades offering glimpses of Goan life depicted through folk dance and music performances by locals.
 3. 46th Know India Programme (KIP) organized by Government in New Delhi, aiming to engage and make students and young professionals of Indian Diaspora, connected with their motherland.
 4. Conference on *Indian Metros: Collaborating for Excellence* held in Nw Delhi. During this, I-METROS, an association of all Indian Metro Rail companies was launched. It will be a forum for exchange of ideas, pooling of knowledge and sharing of experience, best practices, innovations etc.
 5. Biennial event *WINGS INDIA 2018* held in Hyderabad (Telangana) with theme *India-Global Aviation Hub*. During this, International Air Transport Association (IATA) signed MoU with Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and National Aviation University (NAU) to enhance human resource availability in India's aviation industry.
 6. India International Institute for Democracy and Election Management (IIDEM) Delhi conducted a training programme on 'Capacity Development for Election Management.
 7. 29th International Yoga Festival (IYF) held at Rishikesh (Uttarakhand).
 8. Event named *Vision for Future* held in New Delhi to commemorate 70 years of Indo-Russia ties.

9. Large scale Media & Entertainment Services Market - enTTech 2018 organized in Mumbai.
10. National Legislators Conference held in New Delhi with theme *We For Development*'.
11. World ATM Congress (WATMC) 2018 held in Spain as world's largest international air traffic management (ATM) exhibition.
12. 4th India-Europe 29 Business Forum (IE29BF) held in New Delhi with theme *Synergising Economic Vision for Expanded Relations* and Czech Republic as *Focus Country*.
13. *FICCI Frames 2018* Conference held in Mumbai and released FICCI-EY Media & Entertainment Report 2018 named *Re-imagining India's M&E Sector*.
14. *End TB Summit* held in New Delhi, highlighting India's aim to be TB-Free by 2025. Member Countries of World Health Organization-Regional Office for South-East Asia (WHO-SEARO) adopted 'Delhi End TB Summit Statement of Action'.
15. Executive Committee tasked with overlooking all Nutrition related activities under POSHAN Abhiyaan (*PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment*) held its first meeting in New Delhi.
16. 2018 World Conference on Tobacco or Health held in Capetown (South Africa).
15. ▶ Government approved creating Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Police Investigation, aimed to promote high professional Investigation of Crime in State/UT Police and Central Investigating Agencies (CIAs).
 1. Officers from rank of Sub-Inspector to Superintendent of Police will be eligible for this honour.
 2. Names of awardees will be declared every year on 15th August.
 3. Based on the average crime data for last three years, total 162 medals will be awarded every year, of these, 137 will be for States/UTs and 25 for CIAs viz. National Investigation Agency (NIA), Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Narcotic Control Bureau (NCB).
16. ▶ Govt. launched *National E-Mobility Programme* aimed boosting e-mobility ecosystem including vehicle manufacturers, charging infrastructure companies, fleet operators, service providers etc, to be implemented by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL). EESL will procure electric vehicles in bulk to get economies of scale, to replace existing petrol and diesel vehicles. With 20000 Procured electric cars, India is expected to save over 5 crore litres of fuel every year, and reduction of over 5.6 lakh tonnes of annual CO2 emission.
17. ▶ Haryana's first cyber police station, equipped with a digital forensic laboratory, inaugurated in Gurugram. It will have modern equipment to deal with crimes in cyber world.
18. ▶ High-speed interceptor boat ICG C-162 has been commissioned into service by Indian Coast Guard (ICG), built by Bharati Defence and Infrastructure Ltd (BDIL).
19. ▶ India's first helicopter taxi service launched in Bengaluru to fly passengers from Kempegowda International Airport to Electronic City, to reduce time taken to cover the distance from 2 hours to 15 minutes.
20. ▶ India's first national coastal policing academy, National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) to train police forces in effectively safeguarding country's shoreline will start functioning from April 2018. It will be launched from campus of Gujarat's Fisheries Research Centre in coastal Okha town in Devbhumi Dwarka district of Gujarat.
21. ▶ India's tallest national flag with 9,600 sq.ft on a 110 m flag pole unfurled in Belagavi (Karnataka).
22. ▶ Karnataka Government accepted state flag as official flag in place of an unofficial red and yellow flag currently used in state to signify local pride. New tricolour having yellow (at top), white (in middle) and red (at bottom) color, with state's emblem Gandaberunda (a two-headed mythological bird) in centre. Karnataka is 2nd state after J&K to have its own state flag.
23. ▶ Karnataka Govt. unveiled healthcare scheme *Arogya Karnataka* aimed at benefitting about 1.43 crore households in state. It will provide quality primary, secondary and tertiary treatment to both below-poverty-line (BPL) and above-poverty-line (APL) families in state.
24. ▶ Maharashtra government partnered with Wikipedia, to spread Marathi language and enhance its online usage. It was announcement on Marathi language day (Feb 27).
25. ▶ Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF's) gave environmental clearance to India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) project to be set up in Bodi West hills in Tamil Nadu.
 1. MoEF's Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) showed there will be no impact of blasting on any habitation in vicinity, along with no scope for radioactivity and leaching of water.
 2. INO) Project aims at building a world-class underground laboratory with a rock cover of approximately 1200 meter. Its mandate is to conduct basic research on elementary particle called neutrino. Underground Observatory will provide shielding to neutrino detector from cosmic background radiation.

3. The non-accelerator based high energy and nuclear physics underground research complex will be approached by a 2-kms long tunnel. It also envisages construction of 50,000 tonne magnetised iron calorimeter detector (ICAL).
26. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched *LaQshya* Program aimed at improving quality of care in labour room and maternity Operation Theatre (OT).
 1. Under this, Quality Improvement in labour room and maternity OT will be assessed through NQAS (National Quality Assurance Standards). Facilities with 70% score on NQAS will be certified as LaQshya certified facility. Facilities scoring more than 90%, 80% and 70% will be given Platinum, Gold and Silver badge accordingly.
27. ▶ Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation constituted Mahanadi Water Dispute Tribunal for adjudication of longstanding disputes between Odisha and Chhattisgarh over sharing of Mahanadi river water. It will have 3 members with A M Khanwilkar nominated as chairman. Other members are Ravi Ranjan and Indwermeet Kaur Kochar.
28. ▶ New train between Naharlagun (Arunachal Pradesh) and Anand Vihar Terminal (Delhi) named Arunachal Express has been flagged off, as 2nd direct train for Arunachal Pradesh and overall 14th for North East to connect with Delhi. Its route is 2013 kilometres long.
29. ▶ Odisha government launched KHUSHI scheme to provide free sanitary napkins to school girls across state. Under this, govt. will provide free sanitary napkins to 17 lakh girls studying in Classes 6 to 12 in government and government-aided schools.
30. ▶ Odisha government launched programme named *Ama Gaon, Ama Vikas* to reach out to people in rural areas and involve themselves in developmental activities.
31. ▶ Rajasthan and Haryana assemblies approved death penalty for convicts involved in rape of girls below 12 years of age.
32. ▶ Road Transport & Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari launched a mobile App and Toll-free Emergency number for Highway users.
 1. Sukhad Yatra mobile application is prepared by National Highways Authority of India to allow Highway users to enter road quality-related information or report any accident or pothole on highway, and several other related info.
 2. Toll-free number 1033 will enable users to report an emergency condition, or highway-related feedback, across highway.
33. ▶ Supreme Court (SC) allowed passive euthanasia and right to give advance medical directives or 'Living Wills', stating that human beings have the right to die with dignity as part of fundamental right. Passive euthanasia is act of withdrawing medical support to dying patient who has no hope for revival or cure.
 1. Fundamental right to life and dignity under Article 21 of Constitution includes right to die with dignity. Dignity is lost if man is allowed or forced to undergo pain and suffering because of unwarranted medical support.
34. ▶ Tamil Nadu Government launched 24-hour helpline number 14417, claiming to be the first in India, to offer information and guidance on education to students.
35. ▶ Tata Boeing Aerospace Ltd (TBAL) inaugurated facility to manufacture fuselages for AH-64 Apache helicopter in Hyderabad, as only global producer of fuselages for AH-64 Apache helicopter delivered by Boeing.
36. ▶ Tech firm Microsoft inked its first renewable energy deal in India for powering its new facility in Bengaluru, to be operational in June. It will see Microsoft purchase 3 megawatts of solar-powered electricity from Atria Power for its new office building in Bengaluru, meeting 80% of projected electricity needs at facility.
37. ▶ Telangana government launched *T App Folio* mobile governance application for delivery of government to citizen (G2C) and business to citizen (B2C) services efficiently. Telangana is 2nd state to launch a mobile governance application in place for provision of G2C services, After Karnataka.
38. ▶ Telangana government launched Women Entrepreneurship Hub (WE-Hub), India's first state-led incubator for women entrepreneurs, to help women entrepreneurs establish their own enterprises by providing services including seed funding, mentoring, and business guidance.
39. ▶ Union Territory of Lakshadweep signed MoU under UDAY Scheme, to ensure operational turnaround of Lakshadweep's Electricity Department. Lakshadweep will receive an overall net benefit of around Rs. 8 crore through UDAY Scheme.

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Persons

1. ▶ 25-year old Prakriti has been inducted as first direct-entry combat officer in Indo-Tibetan Border Police. ITBP is last of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) to induct women officers in combat roles after government allowed it in 2016.
2. ▶ Former Indian pacer Venkatesh Prasad resigned as chairman of junior national selection committee.
3. ▶ Obituaries -
 1. Davide Astori - Noted Italian international footballer.
 2. Litterateur Prafulla Das -Noted Odia Litterateur.

3. Pyare Lal Wadali - Noted Sufi singer.
 4. Shammi -Noted Bollywood actress.
 5. Narendra Jha - Bollywood Actor.
 6. John Sulston - Noted British genome scientist.
 7. Stephen Hawking - Noted British theoretical physicist and cosmologist. He was well known for his work on black holes and relativity.
 8. Ken Dodd - Noted British comedian.
4. ▶ Visits from India (Mar 1 - 10, 2018) -
 1. India won *Best Exhibitor Award* at ITB- Berlin World Tourist Meet in Germany. India was represented by Minister of State (I) for Tourism K. J. Alphons.
 5. ▶ Visits to India (Mar 1 - 10, 2018) -
 1. President of Vietnam Tran Dai Quang Visited India. 3 MOUs were signed on this occasion -
 1. Economic and Trade Cooperation, Agriculture and Nuclear Energy.
 2. King of Jordan *Abdullah-II bin Al-Hussein* visited India. 12 MOUs were signed during this visit, Including -
 1. Defence, Manpower, Mass Communication, Journalism, Health and Medicine, Cultural Exchange Programme, Visa waiver for diplomatic and official passport holders, Customs.
 2. Twinning Agreement between Agra and Petra (Jordan)
 3. MoU for setting up of a Hindi Chair at University of Jordan.
 4. Long term supply of Rock Phosphate and Fertilizer/NPK
 5. Setting up of the next generation Centre of Excellence (COE) in Jordan
 6. He also attended conference titled *Islamic Heritage: Promoting Understanding and Moderation*, in New Delhi.
 3. French President Emmanuel Macron Visited India -
 1. 14 Agreements were signed on this occasion -
 1. Co-operation MOUs include - Solar Energy, Hydrography and Maritime Cartography, Nuclear Power, Space Exploration, Urban Development, Environment, Railways, Migration and Mobility, Mutual Recognition of Academic Qualifications.
 2. Signed strategic pact providing for use of each other's military facilities including opening naval bases to warships. It will facilitate reciprocal provision of logistic support, supplies and services between armed forces of India and France during authorised port visits, joint exercises.
 3. Prevention of Illicit Consumption and Reduction of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Chemical Precursors and Related Offences
 4. Letter of Intent between India and France for creation of a permanent Indo-French Railways Forum.
 5. France will Invest 100 Million Euros in Smart City Project Under smart city mission.
 2. Indian and French companies exchanged 19 contracts and agreements worth over 13 billion euros in several sectors, during Indo-French Economic Partnership (IFEP) ceremony in New Delhi.
 3. First ever Indo-French Knowledge Summit held in New Delhi.
 4. Indian PM Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron jointly inaugurated 101-megawatt solar power plant at Dadar Kala village in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh.

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Science

1. ▶ Astronomers from Arizona State University (USA) discovered signals from period when universe's earliest stars emerged, named *Cosmic Dawn*. It could provide insights into elusive 'dark matter', believed to form a fundamental part of our universe. A radio telescope called *Experiment to Detect the Global Epoch of Reionization Signature (EDGES)* based in Western Australian desert, was used in this research.
2. ▶ Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) has developed coded drug AYUSH QOL-2C for improving quality of life in cancer patients.
3. ▶ Cybersecurity agencies detected a new malware called *Saposhi* that can take over electronic devices and use them for Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks. Saposhi is capable of taking over electronic devices and turning them into bots (device taken over by malware) which can then be used for any purpose.

4. ▶ Researchers at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) Bengaluru have developed silver copper telluride (AgCuTe), a novel compound that exhibits poor thermal conductivity but shows good electrical conductivity.
 1. AgCuTe has good thermoelectric properties and is made from silver, copper, and tellurium. It exhibits poor thermal conductivity in 25-425 degree C range but shows good electrical conductivity.
 2. Due to this property, one end of 8 mm-long AgCuTe rod which is contact with waste heat remains hot while other end maintains cold temperature. This temperature difference results in generation of electrical voltage.
 3. This compound shows ideal promise as thermoelectric material for converting waste heat into electricity. Its applications are in automobile, thermal, chemical and steel power plants where large quantities of heat are wasted.
5. ▶ Vodafone Germany, Nokia and Audi are jointly working to support project to implement first mobile phone network on Moon by 2019. PTScientists, a Berlin-based company, is also working on this project.

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Sports

1. ▶ 17th IAAF World Indoor Championships held in Birmingham (United Kingdom) -
 1. 632 athletes from 144 nations participated in 26 Events.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	USA	6	10	2	18
2	Ethiopia	4	1	0	5
3	Poland	2	2	1	5
4	Great Britain & Northern Ireland	2	1	4	7
5	Authorized Neutal Atheletes (ANA)	2	1	0	3

3. India could not win a medal at the event. 1 Indian Athlete participated in event - Siddhant Thingalaya (Track and field athlete).
2. ▶ 2018 Asian Wrestling Championships held at Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan).

1. Medal Tally -

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	7	1	6	14
2	Iran	6	2	2	10
3	Uzbekistan	4	5	6	15
4	Kazakhstan	4	2	11	17
5	Japan	3	7	8	18
6	Kyrgyzstan	2	3	6	11
7	North Korea	2	1	0	3
8	Mongolia	1	5	6	12
9	India	1	1	6	8
10	South Korea	0	2	6	8
11	Qatar	0	1	0	1
12	Turkmenistan	0	0	1	1
Total		30	30	58	118

2. India at the Event -
 1. India secured 9th Rank, with 8 Medals (1 Gold, 1 Silver and 6 Bronze).
 2. Navjot Kaur won 1st ever gold medal for India in Asian Wrestling championships, after She defeated Imai Miyu of Japan in 65 kg freestyle. Vinesh Phogat claimed silver medal. She also became World No. 2 in 65 kg category as per the latest rankings by United World Wrestling.
 3. Bronze - Bajrang Punia, Vinod Kumar Omprakash, Rajender Kumar, Harpreet Singh, Sangeeta Phogat AND Sakshi Malik.
3. ▶ 99-year-old Australian swimmer smashed world record for his age group during Commonwealth Games trials in Queensland (Australia). He clocked 50 metres in 56.12 seconds.
4. ▶ Afghan Cricketer Rashid Khan (19 years age) became youngest captain in history of international cricket, after he wa chosen to lead the T20I side.
5. ▶ Archery Asia Cup 2018 (Bangkok (Thailand))-
 1. India's Muskan Kirar and Promila Daimary clinched gold medals in the women's compound and recurve events respectively.

6. ▶ Australia won 27th Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey cup 2018 for record 10th time, defeating England in Malaysia.
7. ▶ India B won 45th Deodhar Cricket Trophy 2018 by defeating Karnataka in Dharamsala (Himachal Pradesh).
8. ▶ India won First ever IBSF Snooker Team World Cup title by defeating Pakistan in Doha (Qatar). Indian team comprised of Pankaj Advani and Manan Chandra.
9. ▶ Indian chess player Viswanathan Anand won Tal Memorial rapid chess title in Moscow (Russia), defeating Boris Gelfand of Israel.
10. ▶ International Olympic Committee (IOC) restored Russia's Olympic membership following its suspension from 2018 Winter Olympics at Pyeongchang in South Korea.
11. ▶ Misc. Sports Events (Mar 2018) -
 1. Ayyasamy Dharun broke men's 400m hurdles national record and qualified for Commonwealth Games Gold Coast 2018 (Australia). He timed 49.94 Secs for this record.
 2. Tejaswin Shankar broke his own national record to claim high jump gold at 22nd Federation Cup Senior National Athletics Championships. Shankar jumped 2.28m to beat his own previous national mark of 2.26m.
 3. Maharashtra women's team won interstate national tennis championship 2018 in Chhattisgarh, organised by Chhattisgarh State Tennis Association (CSTA).
 4. Indian para-athlete Deepa Malik won gold medal in F-53/54 category javelin event at World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Dubai. She became Asian rank one in F-53 category.
 5. Bishworjit Singh and Samira Abraham won gold medals in the men's and women's categories of the senior National triathlon championship held in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
12. ▶ Para-swimmer Prasanta Karmakar has been suspended for 3 years by Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) due to code of conduct violations.

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