



Current Affairs - September 2018

Month Type



- 177 Current Affairs were found in Period - **September 11 - 20, 2018** for Type - **All**

Appointments

- Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) appointed D Shivakumar as its chairman for 3 years.
- Government appointed Chief executive officers and managing directors (CEOs and MDs) at 10 public sector banks, as part of 15 names recommended by Bank Boards Bureau for elevation. First 5 People are currently deputy MDs at SBI.
 - Padmaja Chundru - Indian Bank
 - Mrutyunjay Mahapatra - Syndicate Bank
 - Pallav Mohapatra - Central Bank of India
 - Packirisamy - Andhra Bank
 - Karnam Sekar - Dena Bank
 - SS Mallikarajuna Rao - Allahabad Bank
 - AS Rajeev - Bank of Maharashtra
 - Atul Kumar Goel - UCO Bank
 - S Harisankar - Punjab & Sind Bank.
 - Ashok Kumar Pradhan - United Bank of India.
- Government appointed Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas (Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre) as secretary in Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and chairperson in Atomic Energy Commission (AEC).
 - Also, Anindo Majumdar is Appointed as Secretary in Central Vigilance Commission.
 - A. Gitesh Sarma appointed as Secretary (West) in Ministry of External Affairs.
- Government appointed four members to local boards of RBI -
 - Rakesh Jain - Southern local board
 - Sachin Chaturvedi - Eastern local board.
 - Revathy Iyer and Raghvendra Narayan Dubey - Northern local board.
 - Revathy Iyer and Sachin Chaturvedi - Central local board.
- Moutaz Mousa Abdallah has become new Prime Minister of African Nation Sudan.
- Tajinder Mukherjee has been appointed as new Chairman and Managing Director of National Insurance Company Limited (NIC).

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Awards

- 70th Primetime Emmy Awards (USA) -

Award	Winner
Drama Series	Game of Thrones
Comedy Series	The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel
Television Movie	Black Mirror: USS Callister
Lead Actress in a Drama Series	Claire Foy, The Crown
Lead Actor in a Drama Series	Matthew Rhys, The Americans
Lead Actor in a Limited Series or Movie	Darren Criss, The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story

Lead Actress in a Limited Series or Movie	Regina King, Seven Seconds
Lead Actor in a Comedy Series	Bill Hader, Barry
Lead Actress in a Comedy Series	Rachel Brosnahan, The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel

2. ▶ All-women crew of INSV Tarini won Tenzing Norgay National Adventure award, for beating odds in water and sailing across the world for eight long months. It is highest national recognition for outstanding achievements in the field of adventure on land, sea and air.
3. ▶ Arul Chinnaiyan (Indian-American scientist at University of Michigan) researcher has been awarded an “Outstanding Investigator Award” along with a grant of \$6.5 million by the U.S. National Cancer Institute.
4. ▶ Balzan Foundation announced winners for 2018 Balzan Prizes -
 1. Peace and Fraternity among Peoples - Terre des Hommes, an international children rights charity based in Switzerland.
 2. Chemical Ecology - Eva Kondorosi (Hungary/France)
 3. Fluid Dynamics - Detlef Lohse (Deutschland)
 4. Global History - Jürgen Osterhammel (Germany)
 5. Social Anthropology - Marilyn Strathern (UK)
5. ▶ Director Vasan Bala action thriller ‘Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota’ won top award (Grosch People’s Choice Midnight Madness Award) at 43rd Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) in Canada. Its first Indian film to be screened in Toronto festivals Midnight Madness programme.
6. ▶ Hyderabad International Airport (Rajiv Gandhi International Airport) has been awarded Airports Council International Airport Service Quality World no.1 airport award in 5-15 Million Passengers Per Annum (MPPA) category, for 2nd consecutive year.
 1. Also, 6 Indian Airports winning airports are (Lucknow, Indore, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Kolkata and Pune) were awarded at Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards 2017 presented by Airports Council International (ACI). Delhi and Mumbai aerodromes shared top slot in the best airport category in Asia-Pacific region with regard to handling of over two million passengers per year.
7. ▶ India's Raghupati Singhania (JK Tyres CMD) has been awarded *Mexican order of the Aztec Eagle*, highest honour given to non-nationals by Government of Mexico.
8. ▶ Jaipur-based poet and writer Sawai Singh Shekhawat will be honoured with Meera Puruskar by Rajasthan Sahitya Academy for his contribution to Hindi literature.
9. ▶ Manoj Jhalani, Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NHM) has been conferred with UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) Award for his outstanding contribution towards prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and related Sustainable Development Goals..
 1. UNIATF on Prevention and Control of NCDs coordinates activities of relevant UN organizations and other inter-governmental organizations to support Governments to meet high-level commitments to respond to NCD epidemics worldwide.
10. ▶ National Sports Awards 2018 -
 1. Selection Committees Headed by -
 1. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award and Arjuna Awards - Justice Indermeet Kaur Kochhar
 2. Dronacharya Awards and Dhyan Chand Awards - Justice Mukul Mudgal
 3. Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar - Rahul Bhatnagar (Secretary (Sports)).
 4. MAKATrophy - Ashok Kumar (former Olympian).

2. Winners -

1. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna - (Given for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four year)

S. No.	Name	Discipline
1.		
1.	Ms. S. Mirabai Chanu	Weightlifting
2.	Virat Kohli	Cricket

2. Dronacharya Awards (for coaches for producing medal winners at prestigious International sports events)

S. No.	Name of the Coach	Discipline
1.		
1.	Subedar Chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa	Boxing
2.	Vijay Sharma	Weightlifting
3.		

	A. Srinivasa Rao	Table Tennis
4.	Sukhdev Singh Pannu	Athletics
5.	Clarence Lobo	Hockey (Life Time)
6.	Tarak Sinha	Cricket (Life Time)
7.	Jiwan Kumar Sharma	Judo (Life Time)
8.	V.R. Beedu	Athletics (Life Time)

3. Arjuna Awards 2018 (For consistency outstanding performance for four years)

1.	S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
	1.	Neeraj Chopra	Athletics
	2.	Naib Subedar Jinson Johnson	Athletics
	3.	Hima Das	Athletics
	4.	Nelakurthi Sikki Reddy	Badminton
	5.	Subedar Satish Kumar	Boxing
	6.	Smriti Mandhana	Cricket
	7.	Shubhankar Sharma	Golf
	8.	Manpreet Singh	Hockey
	9.	Ms. Savita	Hockey
	10.	Col. Ravi Rathore	Polo
	11.	Rahi Sarnobat	Shooting
	12.	Ankur Mittal	Shooting
	13.	Shreyasi Singh	Shooting
	14.	Manika Batra	Table Tennis
	15.	G. Sathiyam	Table Tennis
	16.	Rohan Bopanna	Tennis
	17.	Sumit	Wrestling
	18.	Pooja Kadian	Wushu
	19.	Ankur Dhama	Para-Athletics
	20.	Manoj Sarkar	Para-Badminton

4. Dhyan Chand Award 2018 (For life time contribution to sports development)

1.	S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
	1.	Satyadev Prasad	Archery
	2.	Bharat Kumar Chetri	Hockey
	3.	Bobby Aloysius	Athletics
	4.	Chougale Dadu Dattatray	Wrestling

5. Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar (given to the corporate entities (both in private and public sector) and individuals who have played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development)

1.	S. No.	Category	Name of the entity
	1.	Identification and Nurturing of Budding & Young Talent	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited
	2.	Encouragement to Sports through Corporate Social Responsibility	JSW Sports
	3.	Sports for Development	Isha Outreach

6. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2017-18 (Overall top performing university in inter-university tournaments) - Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar

11. ▶ Noted Chemistry Scientist C N R Rao has been awarded DSc by Presidency University (Kolkata).
12. ▶ Noted children's writer Ramendra Kumar honoured at 36th International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) Congress in Athens (Greece).

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Books

1. ▶ *Kashi: Secret of the Black Temple*, final book of Vineet Bajpai's Harappa trilogy has been released. First 2 books of series are *Harappa: Curse of the Blood River* and *Pralay: The Great Deluge*.
2. ▶ A coffee-table book titled *Narendra Modi: A Charismatic & Visionary Statesman* written by BJP president Amit Shah has been released.
3. ▶ Author Sundeep Misra will write a book on life of Indian Female Sprinter Dutee Chand, who rose from abject poverty to become one of India's biggest sprinting stars. Title of book will be titled *Story so Far*.

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Committees

1. ▶ Government has set up a group of secretaries to look into concerns being raised on some proposals of draft e-commerce policy. It will be headed by secretary in Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).
2. ▶ Justice Mukul Mudgal is named as Chairman of 11-member selection committee to pick this year's Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand awardees, given as part of National Sports Awards ceremony to be held on September 25.
3. ▶ SEBI panel headed by Former RBI Deputy Governor HR Khan proposed relaxing of rules for investment in FPIs by NRIs. NRIs will be allowed to invest as FPIs if the single holding is under 25% and group holding under 50% in a fund.

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Days

1. ▶ Sep 12 - International Day for South-South Cooperation.
2. ▶ Sep 14 - National Hindi Divas. marking adaptation of Hindi language as official language of India by Constituent Assembly of India on 14 September 1949. Under Article 343 of Constitution, Hindi written in Devanagari script was adopted as official language.
 1. On this occasion, President Ram Nath Kovind presented Rajbhasha awards for Year 2016-17 at Rashtrapati Bhawan. PNB bagged *Rajbhasha Kirti* award for outstanding performance in implementing Official Language Policy during 2017-18.
3. ▶ Sep 15 - Engineers' Day in India. IOT marks birth anniversary of Sh. Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, a world-renowned civil engineer who was a master of irrigation design.
 1. He was awarded India's highest honour, Bharat Ratna, in 1955 for his work in engineering and education. He was also awarded British knighthood King also awarded to by George V, giving him the honorific "sir".
4. ▶ Sep 15 - International Coastal Cleanup Day.
5. ▶ Sep 15 - International Day of Democracy. 2018 theme is *Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World*. Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 2007 to strengthen national programmes devoted to promotion and consolidation of democracy.
6. ▶ Sep 16 - UN International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.
 1. This designation was made on December 19 2000, in commemoration of the date, in 1987, on which nations signed the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
 2. On this occasion, Ministry of Power launched Chiller Star Labelling Program to encourage deployment of energy efficient chiller systems in India. Based on test certificate from designated agencies and after verification from Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), star label on the scale of 1 (less efficient) to 5 (most efficient) will be assigned.
 1. It will help in saving over 500 million units of electricity in 2019 along with Green House Gases reduction of 0.5 million-ton equivalent of CO₂. It will also save more than 4 billion units of electricity by 2030 with CO₂ emission reduction of 3.5 million ton.
 3. On this occasion, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) released draft India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP), making India first country in world to develop such document. It aims to provide sustainable cooling, while

protecting ozone layer.

1. It provides a 20-year perspective, with projections for cooling needs in 2037-38.
2. Goals suggested in ICAP are -
 1. Reduce refrigerant demand by 25% to 30% by year 2037-38.
 2. Reduce cooling demand across sectors by 20% to 25 % by 2037-38.
 3. Reduce cooling energy requirements by 25% to 40% by 2037-38.
 4. Train and certify 100,000 servicing sector technicians by 2022-23, in synergy with Skill India Mission.

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Defence

1. ▶ Indian Air Force (IAF) announced its plans for Andhra Pradesh to make it a 'strategic base' and strengthen its presence in the region. It Includes -
 1. Set up a major helicopter training facility at Donakonda in Prakasam district.
 2. Establishing a drone manufacturing facility in Anantapur district.
 3. A cyber security centre in Amaravati and making Rajahmundry and Vijayawada airports asset positioning bases.
2. ▶ 2nd Nepal-China joint military exercise named Mt Everest Friendship Exercise-2018 (Sagarmatha Friendship-2018) commenced in China's southwestern Sichuan province. The 12 day long joint exercise will focus on combating terror and disaster management training.
3. ▶ Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved induction of upgraded Akash short-range surface-to-air missile (SRSAM) system in Indian Army, under 'Buy (Indian)' category from Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).
 1. Indian Army already has inducted two Akash regiments, which will now increase to 4 regiments.
 2. It has range of 25 km and can engage multiple targets at time in all-weather conditions.
 3. Upgraded Akash Missile System will include seeker technology, possess 360 degree coverage and will be of compact configuration with reduced signature.
4. ▶ Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested a low-weight indigenously developed man-portable anti-tank guided missile (MPATGM).
5. ▶ Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested indigenously developed surface-to-surface tactical missile 'Prahara', with operational range under 350 KM.
6. ▶ Inaugural Military Field Training Exercise for the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technological and Economic Cooperation nations named MILEX-18 held at Aundh Military Station (Maharashtra).
 1. Nepal refused to participate in inaugural BIMSTEC military exercise, after stringent criticism from ruling and opposition parties in Nepal.
 2. Also, Nepal will take part in a 12-day-long military exercise with China later in September, called 'Sagarmatha Friendship-2'.
7. ▶ Indian Army will consider reducing 13-lakh strong Army force by at least 150000 over next few years and revamping cadre to optimise functioning at various levels. This change will now be placed at the Army's Commanders Conference in October 2018 and the modalities will be finalised and rolled out by November-December 2018.
8. ▶ Indian Naval Ship Sahyadri participated in 14th edition of Multi Nation Exercise KAKADU 2018, hosted by Australian Navy. INS Sahyadri also won multi activity competition KAKADU 18 Cup.
9. ▶ India's first 'smart fence' pilot project inaugurated along two 5-km each patches of India-Pakistan International Border in Jammu and Kashmir.
 1. This initiative has been taken up by BSF as part of comprehensive integrated border management system (CIBMS). It uses number of devices for surveillance, communication, data storage and automated surveillance technology and alarm detection systems.
 2. It will make virtually impossible for terrorists to infiltrate into Indian side of border.
10. ▶ Indo-Mongolia joint exercise Nomadic Elephant-2018 held in Ullanbaatar (Mongolia).
11. ▶ SLINEX 2018, the joint Naval Exercise of India Sri Lanka navies held in Trincomalee.

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Economy

1. ▶ Aditya Birla Retail Limited (ABRL) sold its supermarket chain *More* to Witzig Advisory Services, owned by Samara Alternative Investment Fund, for approx 4200 Crores. Amazon, in a deal with Samara, will be eventually picking up a 49% stake.
2. ▶ After recent launch of world's largest mobile phone-manufacturing factory in Noida, Samsung has now opened its biggest experience centre in Bengaluru (Karnataka).
3. ▶ Agreement signed between Heavy Water Board (HWB) and Greenstar Fertilizers Limited for routing of phosphoric acid through Solvent Extraction Plant at Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu). It enable recovery and extraction of rare material from phosphoric acid using solvent extraction process developed by HWB based on the in-house solvents produced by HWB.
4. ▶ Andhra Pradesh government launched a mobile platform, e-Rythu (e-farmer in Telugu) which will enable small-scale farmers to market their produce at reasonable prices. It has been developed by Mastercard Labs for Financial Inclusion in Nairobi, Kenya, and has been customized for India use.
5. ▶ Apollo Global Management acquired JP Morgan's real estate fund management platform in India.
6. ▶ Capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) allowed Bombay Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange, to launch commodity derivatives trading from 1 October, 2018. It is done as part of SEBI's December 2017 announcement of having unified exchange regime wherein stock exchanges will be allowed to offer trading in commodities derivatives.
 1. Universal exchanges will help in achieving integration of trading in commodity derivatives market with other segments of securities market at exchange level. It will help in providing efficient price discovery, reduction in timelines, cost effective, user-friendly, robust risk management system and wider market penetration.
 2. In long term, Indian exchanges will find it easier to compete with their global counterparts and they are present in multiple segments.
 3. SEBI also approved several proposals, including a revised framework for settlement of cases and new KYC norms for foreign portfolio investors. It allowed foreign investors to trade in commodity derivatives market, except for sensitive commodities, as well as common application form for registration of FPIs in domestic market.
7. ▶ Employee's State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) rolled out Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna for providing unemployment allowance to workers rendered jobless due to changing employment pattern, during 175th ESI Corporation meeting in New Delhi.
 1. Amid changing scenario of employment in India, from long to fixed short term engagement, there is need to provide assistance to employees in case they get unemployed for sometime and search new job.
 2. Its beneficiaries will be insured persons covered under ESI Act 1948 for 2 years continuously. Financial assistance will be given to insured persons even while they search for new engagement.
 3. Beneficiaries will be paid money, from their own contribution towards ESI scheme, in cash through bank account transfer.
 4. Under this scheme, workers will be able to draw 47% of their total contributions towards ESIC after remaining unemployed for at least 3v months.
8. ▶ End-to-end IoT service provider *Unlimit* partnered with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to offer comprehensive Internet of Things (IoT) services to enterprise customers across India.
9. ▶ Federal Bank signed MOU with Infopark Kakkanad for leasing space in their campus, after obtaining RBI approval for creation of a subsidiary company.
10. ▶ Government announced several measures to check rising Current Account Deficit (CAD) and fall in Indian Rupee. CAD had widened to 2.4% of GDP in the first quarter of 2018-19, compared to 1.9 % a quarter before. Indian Rupee is touching new Lows everyday, staying over 70 / USD. Several steps to be taken by government to curb these issues -
 1. To permit manufacturing sector entities to avail of External Commercial Borrowing (ECBs) up to \$50 million with minimum maturity of one year, instead of the earlier limit of three years.
 2. Removing restrictions with respect to FPI exposure limit of 20 % in corporate bond portfolio to a single corporate group or company or entity and 50 % of any issue of corporate bond.
 3. Removal of withholding tax on rupee-denominated bonds known as Masala bonds issued till March 2019.
11. ▶ Government approved complete electrification of Indian Railways by 2021-22, reducing dependence on imported fossil fuel and saving revenue. It will cost approx 12100 crores.
 1. CCEA's decision covers only electrifying remaining 13,675 kilometers (16,540 track kilometers). Currently, around 48% of 61,680 km broad gauge railway network is electrified. This approval does not cover 3,479 km of metre gauge and 2,209 of broad gauge network.
 2. After complete electrification, India will be having second largest electrified railway networks in the world after China, which has 87,000 km electrified network (around 68% of its network) and only large railway with 100 % electrification.

12. ▶ Government modifies operational guidelines for Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY) -

1. Provision of Penalties for States, ICs and Banks - 12% interest rate to be paid by Insurance Company to farmers for delay in settlement claims beyond 2 months of prescribed cut off date. State Govt. will pay 12% interest rate for delay in release of State share of Subsidy beyond three months of prescribed cut off date/submission of requisition by Insurance Companies.
2. Detailed Standard Operating Procedure for Performance evaluation of ICs and their de-empanelment.
3. Inclusion of Perennial horticultural crops (on pilot basis) under PMFBY.
4. Inclusion of cloud burst and natural fire in localized calamities in addition to hailstorm, landslide, and inundation. Add on coverage for crop loss due to attack of wild animals on pilot basis.
5. Mandatory capturing of Adhaar number, to avoid duplication.
6. Rationalization of methodology for calculation of TY - Moving average of best 5 out of 7 years for calculation of claim amount.
7. More time to insured farmer to intimate individual claims – 72 hours (instead of 48 hours).
8. To ensure that more non-loanee farmers are insured under scheme, insurance companies are given a target of enrolling 10% more non-loanee farmers than previous corresponding season.
9. Insurance companies will mandatorily spend 0.5% of gross premium per company per season for publicity and awareness of scheme.
10. Release of upfront premium subsidy will be made at beginning of the season based on 50% of 80% of total share of subsidy of corresponding season of previous year as GOI/State subsidy.

13. ▶ Government of India approved changes in interest rates for Small Savings Schemes for Third Quarter of the Current Financial Year 2018-19 (October - December 2018). Updated interest rates are -

Name	Rate of interest in Current Quarter (July - September 2018)	Rate of interest in Current Quarter (October - December 2018)	Compounding frequency
Savings Deposit	4.0	4.0	Annually
1 Year Time Deposit	6.6	6.9	Quarterly
2 Year Time Deposit	6.7	7.0	Quarterly
3 Year Time Deposit	6.9	7.2	Quarterly
5 Year Time Deposit	7.4	7.8	Quarterly
5 Year Recurring Deposit	6.9	7.3	Quarterly
5 Year Senior Citizen Savings Scheme	8.3	8.7	Quarterly and paid
5 Year Monthly Income Account	7.3	7.7	Monthly and paid
5 Year National Savings Certificate	7.6	8.0	Annually
Public Provident Fund Scheme	7.6	8.0	Annually
Kisan Vikas Patra	7.3 (will mature in 118 months)	7.7 (will mature in 112 months)	Annually
Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme	8.1	8.5	Annually

14. ▶ Government proposed merger of state-owned Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank in order to create India's third-largest bank. It aims to make banks stronger and sustainable as well as increase their lending ability.
15. ▶ India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and Private Life Insurer Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co Ltd (BALIC) partnered to provide life insurance solutions, especially at doorstep of every household in country. It will leverage IPPB last mile reach for building awareness about life insurance.
16. ▶ India signed Loan Agreement of US\$74 million with World Bank Group's IBRD, for Uttarakhand Workforce Development Project (UKWDP). The Project has a 5-year grace period, and a maturity of 17 years. Closing date for Project is 30th June, 2023.

17. ▶ Indian IT Firm Infosys acquired Finnish company Fluidio, a top consulting partner of Salesforce, for 65 million euros (about Rs 545 crore).
18. ▶ Indian IT Firm Infosys signed a 3-year partnership with Tennis Grand Slam Tournament Australian Open as its official digital innovation partner.
19. ▶ Indian ride-hailing company Ola launched its operations in New Zealand, beginning in Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington. Ola earlier launched its services in Australia in February and U.K. in August.
20. ▶ International Labour Organisation (ILO) predicted that India's unemployment rate in 2018 will stay at 3.5 %. China's unemployment rate will rise from 4.7 to 4.8 %. However, 77 % of employment in India would remain "vulnerable", against just 33 % in China.
21. ▶ Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Radha Mohan Singh launched Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) in New Delhi, with outlay of 10881 crores.
 1. Additional milk processing capacity of 126 lakh litre per day, milk drying capacity of 210 MT per day, milk chilling capacity of 140 lakh litre per day shall be created.
 2. Under this scheme, milk cooperatives will be provided financial assistance of Rs 8004 crore in the form of a loan at 6.5% interest, which will be reimbursed over 10 years.
 3. Other schemes for Dairy Development -
 1. World Bank-funded National Dairy Plan Phase-I scheme is being done by NDDDB through state government's cooperative milk organizations/milk federations.
 2. Implementation of the National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) is being done by state's cooperative/milk federations, for development of cooperative milk committees, incentives to increase the number of milk producers and increase processing and refrigeration capacity.
 3. Rashtriya Gokul Mission, which Aims to Conserve and Develop Indigenous Breeds.
22. ▶ Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) made it mandatory for unlisted public companies to issue new shares or transfer of all shares in dematerialised or demat (i.e. in electronic form) form, beginning October 2, 2018. With this, major benefits of dematerialisation of securities will now be available to unlisted Public companies.
 1. It is seen as measure for further enhancing transparency, investor protection and governance in the corporate sector.
 2. It will also help in elimination of risks associated with physical certificates such as loss, theft, mutilation, fraud etc.
23. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched a new web portal 'Budget Dashboard', with information on budget, expenditure and Bill Payment position. It will consist of Details of Budget and expenditure, Flagship schemes, Central sector expenditure, North East, SC/ST, Centrally Sponsored Schemes, etc.
24. ▶ Ministry of Steel recently for first time gave away Secondary Steel sector awards to 26 mini steel companies in recognition of their contribution. 12 companies were awarded Gold Certificates and 14 Silver Certificates for their performance during 2016-17.
 1. Secondary steel sector plays important role along with integrated steel players in order to achieve steel production capacity of 300 million tonne by year 2030-31. At present India has 134 MT capacity.
25. ▶ NTPC approved investment of INR 9785 crores for 1320 MW Stage-III expansion of its Talcher plant in Angul district of Odisha. Presently, plant has four units of 60 MW and two units of 110 MW and expansion will include 2×660 MW. It is part of NTPC's vision of being 130 GW company by 2032.
26. ▶ National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has approved Rs 65,634.93 crore loan so far to 93 prioritised irrigation projects under government's flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY).
 1. NABARD is mandated to provide Rs 70,000 crore loan to 99 prioritised irrigation projects under PMKSY through long term irrigation fund (LTIF), to be completed by 2019.
27. ▶ PayU India received RBI approval to operate its own non-banking financial company (NBFC), to help PayU promote inclusive growth by catering to the diverse financial needs of various segments of society.
28. ▶ RBI imposed penalty of inr 1 crores each on Union Bank of India (UBI), Bank of India and Bank of Maharashtra, due to delay in detecting and reporting frauds.
29. ▶ RBI will purchase government securities (G-secs) worth Rs 10,000 crore through Open Market Operations (OMO), on September 19, to induce liquidity in system.
30. ▶ Rajasthan Govt. announced 4% reduction in value-added tax (VAT) on petrol and diesel and Andhra Pradesh has announced Rs 2 reduction in VAT on petrol and diesel. In Rajasthan, VAT on petrol is reduced from 30% to 26% and on diesel from 22% to 18%.
31. ▶ To create a payments acceptance network for unorganized retail including small merchants and Kirana stores where consumers can make payments, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) partnered with Financial Software and Systems (FSS). FSS ensures that

micro-merchants are able to accept payments over any channel – online, unified payments interface (UPI), quick-response (QR) codes, Aadhaar and IPPB accounts.

32. ▶ US Based Networking Firm Cisco signed agreements with NITI Aayog and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to speed up its Country Digital Acceleration programme in India.
33. ▶ Yes Bank raised \$400 million through a syndicated loan facility for its IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) in Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT).

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International

1. ▶ According to review by Asia Pacific Policy Group on Money Laundering (APPG), Pakistan's recent action against terror financing, particularly on legal front were found to be "unsatisfactory". Note that Pakistan was placed on Financial Action Task Force (FATF) grey list in February 2018 for failing to curb terror funding. APPG examines cases of all countries on the grey and black lists and reports to FATF.
2. ▶ Agriculture and Environment ministries along with UN body Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) launched agriculture project that seeks to bring transformative change in farm sector through conservation of biodiversity and forest landscapes.
 1. It will be implemented in Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.
 2. It is being funded with US \$33.5 million grant from Global Environment Facility (GEF).
 3. Existing unsustainable agricultural practices have resulted in depletion of water tables, biodiversity and habitat loss for wild species and land and soil degradation which have contributed to the environmental crisis in India. To overcome it, there is need for alternative paradigm to current extractive methods of agricultural production systems.
3. ▶ Airports Authority of India (AAI) announced its project report for development of Palaly airport in northern Sri Lanka, as first project undertaken by AAI in Sri Lanka.
4. ▶ As per a UN report on 'state of food security and nutrition in the world' number of undernourished globally increased to 821 million in 2017. Africa has highest prevalence of undernourishment, affecting almost 21 % of population (more than 25 crore people). Situation is also deteriorating in South America, where PoU increased from 4.7 % in 2014 to a 5 % in 2017.
5. ▶ Asian Development Bank released its 2018 Flagship Statistical Report for Asia and the Pacific. This year's report is focusing on: Technological Innovation for Agricultural Statistics. As per the report -
 1. Asia and Pacific region continues to grow in GDP and labour force has been reduced and is shifting from agriculture towards employment in industry and services.
 2. Around 780 million people from the region moved out of extreme poverty from 2002 to 2013,
 3. The GDP has increased from 30.1% in 2000 to 42.6% in 2017 (at 2011 purchasing power parity),
 4. Use of satellite imagery and remote sensing technology has improved data accuracy.
6. ▶ Assam Govt. inaugurated Indo-Bhutan Border Centre at Darranga in Assam's Baksa district, To strengthen bilateral trade with Bhutan.
7. ▶ China is planning bullet trains from Kolkata to Kunming City of China, expected to traverse through Myanmar and Bangladesh. The service is also expected to give a thrust to trade and commerce in the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM) Economic Corridor.
 1. BCIM project is projected to run through Mandalay in Myanmar, Chittagong and Dhaka in Bangladesh, terminating in Kolkata.
8. ▶ Delhi government signed MOU with Seoul Metropolitan Government to work closely in the fields of environment, tourism, waste / solid waste management, infrastructure and public health.
9. ▶ European Union (EU) will stop twice-yearly changing of clocks from October 2019, implemented during the two World Wars and the 1970s oil crisis to save energy. EU countries are required to move forward by an hour on the last Sunday of March and back by an hour on the last Sunday of October.
10. ▶ External Affairs Ministry and Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd (TCIL) signed agreement for implementation of e-VidyaBharati and e-AarogyaBharati (e-VBAB) Network Project in Africa, seen as digital bridge of knowledge and health between India and Africa.
 1. It is technological upgrade and extension of Pan-African e-Network Project (Phase 1) which was implemented in 48 partner countries across Africa from 2009 till 2017.
 2. e-VBAB Network Project is completely funded by India for its entire duration, open for participation to all India's partner countries in Africa. Over its five-year duration, this project will provide free tele-education courses to 4000 students every

year from African countries.

11. ▶ For the first time, bus services between Bihar and Nepal have started. With 4 buses between Bodhgaya and Kathmandu and 4 buses between Patna to Janakpur.
12. ▶ German insurer Allianz Group signed up as a global Olympic sponsor for a 4-Games period of 10 years between 2021 and 2028, as IOC's 14th top sponsor.
13. ▶ India and Bangladesh jointly launched construction of India-Bangladesh Friendship Product Pipeline Project, as first such pipeline through which refined diesel will be supplied to Bangladesh from India.
 1. It involves construction of 130-kilometre long pipeline that will connect Siliguri in West Bengal and Parbatipur in Dinajpur district of Bangladesh. 6 KM stretch will be in India side and remaining 124 kilometres will in Bangladesh.
 2. Pipeline has capacity of 1 million metric tons per annum. Initially, it will supply Bangladesh 2.5 lakh tonnes of diesel every year and gradually it will be increased to 4 lakh tonnes. It will replace existing practice of sending diesel by rail covering distance of 510 kilometers.
 3. Also, Bangladesh approved allowing India to use its Chittagong and Mongla ports to transport cargo to and from its northeastern states. Indian goods can be transported through four entry points from states Tripura, Meghalaya and Assam. India will have to follow General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT) and Bangladeshi regulations, pay customs duties and buy tax equivalent bonds to transport freight.
14. ▶ India and Germany signed Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on skill development, which will provide dual vocational education and training to Indian youth. Under it, students who complete specific training courses in India will get certificate that is recognised in India and also in Germany.
15. ▶ India and Sri Lanka signed an MoU for construction of a 5000-metric ton temperature controlled warehouse in Dambulla (Sri Lanka), with Indian grant assistance of 30 crore Sri Lankan rupees.
16. ▶ India ranks third globally in terms of number of family-owned businesses with 111 companies having a total market capitalisation of \$839 billion, according to a Credit Suisse report. India followed China (159 companies) and US (121 companies).
17. ▶ India signed 2 agreements with Myanmar's Rakhine State Government to facilitate capacity building and economic development in province.
18. ▶ Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has commissioned indigenously built patrol vessel ICGS Vijaya in Chennai, as second in the series of 98 m offshore patrol vessels (OPVs) commissioned by ICG.
19. ▶ International Whaling Commission (IWC) defeated a proposal to create a whale sanctuary in South Atlantic, first introduced by Brazil in 2001.
20. ▶ Salesforce.com founder Marc Benioff and his wife Lynne acquired *Time magazine* from Meredith Corp. for \$190 million in cash. TIME magazine publisher Time Inc was sold to Meredith for \$1.8 billion in January 2018.
21. ▶ Super Typhoon Mangkhut, world's strongest storm in 2018, hit northern coast of Philippines with winds up to 200 kmph and heavy rains.
22. ▶ US President Donald Trump signed a new executive order imposing sanctions on any country or foreign individual found trying to interfere in US elections. It calls for sanctions against any entity that authorises, directs or sponsors meddling operations in the American elections.
23. ▶ USA announced closure of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission in Washington DC, after PLO leaders failed to engage with US efforts to bring about peace with Israel and attempted to prompt an investigation of Israel by International Criminal Court.
24. ▶ United Nations Development Programme Human Development Index 2018 -
 1. India ranked 130 among 189 countries.
 2. Neighbours - Bangladesh (136), Pakistan (150), Nepal (149), Sri Lanka (76)
 3. Top 5 - Norway (1), Switzerland (2), Australia (3), Ireland (4) and Germany (5)
 4. Bottom 5 - Niger (189), Central African Republic (188), South Sudan (187), Chad (186), Burundi (185).
25. ▶ United Nations will hold a Climate Summit will in September 2019, with focus on sectors that create most emissions and areas where building resilience could make great difference.

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Meetings

1. ▶ 62nd General Conference of IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) held in Vienna (Austria). On India's Behalf of Sekhar Basu, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). Note that Now, K N Vyas has been appointed as new Chairman of Atomic

Energy Commission (AEC).

1. Mr. Basu stated that India placed 4 more reactors under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards, including 2 Russian-designed Pressurised Light Water Reactors and two Pressurised Heavy Reactors being built with Indian technology.
 2. Now, total 26 Indian nuclear facilities will be now under IAEA safeguards.
 3. IAEA Safeguards are system of inspection and verification of peaceful uses of nuclear materials as part of Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).
2. ▶ 7th UNWTO Global Summit on Urban Tourism held in Seoul (South Korea) , with theme *A 2030 Vision for Urban Tourism*. The venue Next (8th) UNWTO Global Summit on Urban Tourism 2019 will be Astana, Kazakhstan.
 3. ▶ Global Climate Action Summit 2018 held at San Francisco in California (USA). During this, government functionaries of several Indian cities announced to scale up their actions to combat climate change and to protect people from hazardous climate impacts.
 1. Global Green Bond Partnership (GGBP) was launched on this occasion, to accelerate issuance of green bonds. Members of GGBP will work to scale green bond issuance primarily by sub-national entities and corporations.
 2. Anand Mahindra, Chairman of Mahindra Group announced that Mahindra & Mahindra will work towards being carbon neutral by 2040. M&M was first company in world to commit to double energy productivity by signing Climate Group's program 'EP100'. It was also first Indian company to announce its internal Carbon Price of USD 10 per ton of carbon emitted to fund investments required for carbon neutrality.
 4. ▶ World Hindu Congress (WHC-2018) was held Chicago, United States. It was organized to commemorate 125 years of Swami Vivekananda's historic Chicago address on September 11, 1893. The theme of WHC-2018 was "Sumantrite Suvikrante" – think collectively, achieve valiantly". It was second edition of World Hindu Congress and was attended by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu.

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National

1. ▶ After Supreme Court scrapped Section 377 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) that criminalised homosexuality, India became first-ever country to have a gender-neutral hostel. Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai became first campus in India to have a gender-neutral hostel.
2. ▶ Andhra Pradesh CM Minister Chandrababu Naidu flagged off 'Swachh Dhara' programme at Amravati, To provide clean drinking water across state.
3. ▶ Andhra Pradesh government started unemployment allowance as part of Yuva Nestam scheme for state's youth from October 2018, launching a website at *yuvanestham.ap.gov.in*. It is aimed for unemployed youth between 25 - 35 years. It would give candidates an allowance of INR 1000 along with free of cost skill development training.
4. ▶ Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) discovered collection of 254 Copper Coins in premises of Khirki Mosque (Delhi). The mosque was built by Khan-i-Jahan Junan Shah, Prime Minister of Firoz Shah Tughluq (1351-88) and is believed to be one of 7 mosques built by him.
5. ▶ Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu dedicated Arunachal Pradesh's first Sainik School at Niglok in East Siang district to people of Arunachal Pradesh. It started its first academic session from 27th August 2018 with 60 students.
6. ▶ Cabinet Approvals (Sep 12, 2018) -
 1. General Approvals -
 1. Approved introduction of Bill in Parliament for amendment of NID Act 2014 to include four new National Institutes of Design (NID) viz. Amaravati/Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Jorhat (Assam) and Kurukshetra (Haryana) within ambit of NID Act 2014 and declare them as Institutions of National Importance (INIs) at par with NID Ahmedabad.
 2. Approved Policy framework to promote and incentivize Enhanced Recovery (ER)/ Improved Recovery (IR)/ Unconventional Hydrocarbon (UHC) production Methods/ to improve recovery factor of existing hydrocarbons reserves for augmenting domestic production of oil and gas.
 1. It will be applicable to all contractual regimes and Nomination fields. It is expected to spur new investment, provide impetus to economic activities and generate additional employment opportunities.
 3. Cabinet approved new Umbrella Scheme *Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA)*, aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce, as announced in Budget for 2018.
 1. PM-AASHA includes mechanism of ensuring remunerative prices to farmers and is comprised of -
 - Price Support Scheme (PSS),

- Physical procurement of pulses, oilseeds and Copra will be done by Central Nodal Agencies with proactive role of State governments. In addition to NAFED, Food Cooperation of India (FCI) will take up PSS operations in states /districts.
- Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS)
 - It is proposed to cover all oilseeds for which MSP is notified. In this direct payment of difference between the MSP and selling price will be made to pre-registered farmers selling his produce in the notified market yard through a transparent auction process. All payment will be done directly into registered bank account of farmer.
 - This scheme does not involve any physical procurement of crops as farmers are paid difference between the MSP price and Sale price on disposal in notified market.
- Pilot of Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPPS).

2. Procurement Stats -

1. During 2010-14, procurement was INR 3500 crores whereas during 2014-18, it has risen to INR 34000 crores.
2. For procurement of these agri-commodities during 2010-14, Government Guarantee of 2500 crore was provided with expenditure of only 300 crores. During 2014-18, Guarantee has been increased to 29000 crores with expenditure of 1000 crores.
3. Now, Cabinet has increased government guarantee by INR 16550 crores, making it 45550 crore in total. INR 15053 crores is sanctioned for PM-AASHA implementation.

2. MOUs -

1. Brunei Darussalam - Cooperation in Space Research, Science and Applications. Operation of Telemetry Tracking and Telecommand station for satellite and launch vehicles.
2. Collaborative Research on Distributed Ledger and Block chain Technology in context of Development of digital economy by Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) with participating member banks, under BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism.
 1. Participating banks are - Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Economico e Social (BNDES, of Brazil), China Development Bank (CDB), State Corporation Bank for Development and Foreign Economic Affairs (Vnesheconombank, of Russia) and Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).
3. South Africa - exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes.
4. Egypt - Agriculture & allied sectors.
5. Malta - Tourism.

3. CCEA Approvals -

1. Approved revising price of ethanol derived from B heavy molasses / partial sugarcane juice and fix a higher price for 100% sugarcane juice based ethanol for ethanol supply year from 1st December 2018 to 30th November 2019.
 1. Fix ex-mill price of ethanol derived out of B heavy molasses / partial sugarcane juice to INR 52.43 per litre (earlier 47.13 / litre).
 2. Fix the ex-mill price of ethanol derived from 100% sugarcane juice at 59.13 per litre (earlier from prevailing price of Rs.47.13 per litre).
 3. OMCs are advised to prioritise ethanol from 100 % sugarcane juice, B heavy molasses / partial sugarcane juice, C heavy molasses and Damaged Food grains/other sources, in that order.
2. Approved continuation of Capacity Development Scheme for 2017-18 to 2019-20 with outlay of INR 2250 crores.
 1. CDS is an Ongoing Central Sector Scheme of MoSPI, aimed at augmenting infrastructural, technical as well as manpower resources for making available credible and timely Official Statistics for policy makers and public.
 2. It has 2 Sub-schemes - Economic Census and Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS).
 1. Under Economic Census -listing of all non-agricultural establishments is undertaken periodically, which forms the basis for conducting detailed socio-economic surveys.
 2. SSS Sub-scheme is to strengthen State/ Sub-State level statistical systems/ infrastructure to facilitate development of a robust national system.

7. Cabinet Approvals (Sep 16, 2018) -

1. CCEA Approvals -

1. Approved equity investment of INR 1033.54 crores (\pm 29.67%) of project cost for setting up a Coal Gasification based fertilizer project in Talcher Fertilizer Ltd. (TFL) by Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF). Revival of Talcher project will ensure huge investment in the fertilizer sector from Government through PSUs.

2. Approved enhancement of honorarium to Anganwadi Workers/Anganwadi Helpers (AWWs/AWHs) and performance linked incentive to AWHs with total cost of INR 10649 crores, till 31-03-2020.

1. Name of Functionary	Old Rates p.m.	Revised Rates p.m.
Anganwadi Worker	3000	4500
Anganwadi Worker at Mini-AWC	2250	3500
Anganwadi Helper	1500	2250

3. Approved to construct new line between Budni to Indore (Mangaliyagaon) with approximate length of 205.5 Km, with cost 3261 crores.

4. Approved ASHA Benefit Package w.e.f. October 2018, with 2 components -

1. Eligible ASHAs and ASHA facilitators to be enrolled in social security schemes - Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha BimaYojana.
2. Increase in amount of routine and recurring incentives under National Health Mission for ASHAs under NHM from Rs. 1000 to 2000 per month.
3. The package entails an expenditure (Central funding) to Rs.1224.97 crore for two years 2018-19 and 2019-20.

5. Approved Revised Cost Estimate of Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) at the revised cost of Rs 3466 crore with the financial assistance of World Bank to improve safety and operational performance of 198 Dams. CCEA also approved 2 year time extension till 30th June, 2020.

8. ▶ Cabinet cleared ordinance to make instant triple talaq penal offence, after It was signed by President Ram Nath Kovind later as per Article 123 of Constitution. Compelling reason cited by Government for promulgation of this ordinance was that practice of triple talaq continues unabated even after annulled by Supreme Court due to absence of legal framework.

9. ▶ Election Commission of India (EC) removed NOTA (None of the Above) option from ballot papers of Rajya Sabha, Legislative Council elections following directive of Supreme Court.

1. In August 2018, Supreme Court had said that NOTA will not be applicable as ballot option in Rajya Sabha polls. It will only continue to be option in direct elections such as Lok Sabha and state assemblies, quashing June 2014 notification of EC that allowed use of NOTA option in Rajya Sabha elections.

10. ▶ General Conferences (Sep 11 - 20, 2018) -

1. Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) organized National Conference of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres' at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.
2. Rajasthan government held convention on 'Revitalising India as a Heritage Destination' to focus on preserving heritage properties in Bharatpur.
3. All India Pension Adalat held in New Delhi, organised by Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare (DoP&PW). It is a large scale exercise for pensioners' welfare undertaken by Government as part of good governance practices.
4. My India WiFi India Summit & Awards 2018 organized by DigiAnalysys in New Delhi, with theme Achieving 10 million WiFi Hotspots by 2018.
5. Asean World Economic Forum held in Hanoi (Vietnam), with theme *ASEAN 4.0: Entrepreneurship and the Fourth Industrial Revolution*.
6. Minister of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Mines, Narendra Singh chaired 20th Central Employment Guarantee Council meeting in Bhopal.
7. 4th Eastern Economic Forum held in Vladivostok (Russia), with theme *The Far East: Expanding the Range of Possibilities*.
8. Inaugural Naval Flight Test Seminar held at Goa.
9. Tripura CM Biplab Kumar Deb inaugurated ISRO's Space Technology Incubation Centre(STIC) at National Institute of Technology Agartala. It was launched at the first edition of 'Spacetrionics' organised by the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA).
10. Textiles Minister Smriti Zubin Irani presented 'Shilp Guru' and National Award to Master craft persons at a function held at Raipur (capital of Chhattisgarh). 8 'Shilp guru' and 25 National awards were presented for 2016. Shilp Guru' is the highest award in the Handicraft sector in India.
11. Home Affairs Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated two Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) pilot projects along India-Pakistan border in Jammu region.

12. Jaipur Literature Festival held in Houston at Asia Society of Texas (USA). The festival is touted as world's largest free literary gathering.
11. ▶ Goa Government launched helpline 181, to help women in distress.
12. ▶ Govt. inaugurated website for 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 (www.epfindia.gov.in). The PBD 2019 will be held Jan 21-23 and will include Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth as Chief Guest. Member of Parliament of Norway Himanshu Gulati will be Special Guest. Member of Parliament of New Zealand Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi will be Guest of Honor.
13. ▶ Harvest festival of Nuakhai celebrated in western Odisha. During this, new produce Nabannis are offered to presiding deities.
14. ▶ Haryana Assembly passed State Commission for Scheduled Castes Bill 2018, for development setting up a commission for scheduled castes in the state, to safeguard interests of people belonging to SC community.
1. State Assembly also passed Bills to rename 2 Universities - YMCA University of Science and Technology Faridabad renamed as J C Bose University of Science and Technology and Haryana Vishwakarma Skill University renamed as Shri Vishwakarma Skill University.
15. ▶ Haryana Government signed MoU with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to set up ethanol plant at village Bohali village in Panipat district with an outlay of INR 900 crores, with capacity of 100 kilolitres of ethanol per day. This will motivate farmers in its 50 km radius area to manage crop residue and prevent straw burning and help to fulfill increasing demand of ethanol and also bio-fuels for consumers of petroleum product.
16. ▶ Home Minister Rajnath Singh launched 2 portals to strengthen Women Safety -
1. Cyber Crime Prevention Against Women and Children (CCPWC) ([url - cybercrime.gov.in](http://url-cybercrime.gov.in)), will receive complaints from citizens on objectionable online content related to child pornography, child sexual abuse material, sexually explicit material such as rapes. Complaints registered through this portal will be handled by police authorities of respective State/UTs.
2. 2nd portal, National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO), which is accessible only to law enforcement agencies, will assist in effectively tracking and investigating cases of sexual offences. It is a central database of "sexual offenders", to be maintained by NCRB for regular monitoring by State Police.
17. ▶ Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba launched an online 'e-Sahaj' portal here today for grant of Security Clearance, to facilitate online submission of application and keep up with the status. MHA strives to decide Security Clearance cases in 60 days, down from 90 days currently.
18. ▶ Hyderabad will soon get country's first exclusive dog park, spread over 1.3 acres. It will also have dog training and exercise equipments.
19. ▶ IT firm IBM has teamed up with IIT Bombay to 'accelerate' AI research in India through its AI Horizons Network.
20. ▶ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) inaugurated S-Band Polarimetry Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota spaceport (Andhra Pradesh). It will be used for observation of weather system up to range of 500 km and also for early warning of severe weather events.
1. DWR has been developed by Bharat Electronics Ltd Bengaluru under ToT (Training of Trainers) from ISRO, as 7th radar of such type manufactured in country under "Make in India".
21. ▶ Indian Railways launched a web portal called *Rail Sahyog*, at URL www.railsahyog.in, as a platform for the Corporates and PSUs to contribute to creation of amenities at/near Railway Stations through Corporate Social Responsibility funds. Companies desirous of contributing can show willingness on the portal by registering their requests.
22. ▶ India's first 205T Electric Drive Rear Dump Truck (Model BH205-E), developed by Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) has been launched, for use in the project of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) in Singrauli (Madhya Pradesh).
1. EBH205E is electric drive rear dump truck for large scale mining operations. It is powered by Tier II emission compliant Modular Common Rail Electronic Engine with 2300 HP capacity. It is easily manoeuvrable with power-steering and short turning radius.
23. ▶ Jharkhand government introduced electric vehicles for official use, becoming 5th state of India and first state in eastern India to procure eco-friendly vehicles for government use.
24. ▶ Kolkata topped OpenSignal's list of 4G availability with over 90.7% coverage, across all of India's 22 telecom circles for May-July 2018. It is followed by Punjab (89.8%), Bihar (89.2%), Madhya Pradesh (89.1%) and Odisha (89%). Jammu and Kashmir circle comes at last spot.
25. ▶ MSME Ministry launched its monthly e-newsletter named *MSME Insider* to disseminate information of activities undertaken by MSME Ministry and act as a communication bridge between MSME Ministry and its stakeholders.
26. ▶ Maharashtra Government will set up new Cyber University dedicated to mitigating cyber threats. It will train 3,000 professionals to fight cyber-attacks.

27. ▶ Ministry of Culture released National Museum Research Bulletin Number 10, revived after gap of 16 years. It also has released *Sindhu Ghati Sabhyata: Ek Parichay*, a Hindi version of *An Introduction To Indus Valley Civilization* which among the bestsellers at National Museum.
1. *Sindhu Ghati Sabhyata : Ek Parichay* is Hindi version of *An Introduction To Indus Valley Civilization*, co-authored by Sanjib Kumar Singhm, Gunjan Srivastava and Rajesh Kumar.
28. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issued notification for bringing Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (Prevention and Control) Act 2017 in force.
1. It aims to safeguard rights of people living with HIV and affected by HIV. It also prohibits requirement for HIV testing as pre-requisite for obtaining employment or accessing health care or education.
29. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched pilot project for transport of sputum specimen for Tuberculosis (TB) Diagnosis by utilising services of Department of Post in New Delhi.
1. Learning from this pilot project experience will be useful for adaptation of specimen transport mechanism through Postal Department across the country, as Significant proportion of TB patients in India are not tested for their symptoms because specimen does not reach laboratory due to non-availability of specimen transport mechanisms.
30. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare prohibited manufacture of 328 Fixed Dose Combinations (FDCs) for human use with immediate effect.
1. Fixed dose combinations (FDC) Drugs have 2 or more active ingredients in a single dosage. They are widely used to improve patient compliance as it is easier for them to take one drug than several. They are acceptable only when drugs so combined have a therapeutic advantage.
31. ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare signed MoUs with Tata Trusts and Dell to provide a technological platform for nationwide prevention, control, screening and management program of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs).
32. ▶ Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) signed MoU for setting up of an state-of-the-art Integrated Control Room for Emergency Response (ICR-ER) in Ministry of Home Affairs. It will increase the operational effectiveness and will be helpful in rendering timely assistance during emergency situations.
33. ▶ Ministry of Tourism inaugurated India's first tribal circuit project connecting 13 tourism sites in Chhattisgarh under Swadesh Darshan Scheme. The circuit connects Jashpur, Kunkuri, Mainpat, Kamleshpur, Maheshpur, Kurdar, Sarodadadar, Gangrel, Kondagaon, Nathiya Nawagaon, Jagdalpur, Chitrakoot, and Tirthgarh in Chhattisgarh.
1. Tribal circuit project will improve existing tourist facilities, enhance the overall tourist experience and help in getting more visitors which in return will increase job opportunities in area.
 2. Under tribal circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme, Tourism Ministry has sanctioned four projects to Nagaland, Telangana and Chhattisgarh.
 3. Chhattisgarh was considered for the first tribal circuit theme for acknowledging sovereignty of tribes and to promote rich and diverse primitive assets in state.
34. ▶ Ministry of Tourism organized first ever India Tourism Mart (ITM 2018) in New Delhi, in partnership with Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism and Hospitality (FAITH).
35. ▶ Ministry of Water Resources instituted National Water Awards, to encourage efficient management of water resources and create water consciousness in country.
1. The awards will be given for 13 categories - Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Municipal Corporation, Best research, innovation and adaptation of new technology for water conservation, Best educative and mass awareness efforts, Best TV show for promoting water conservation, Best Newspaper, Best School, Best Institution for successful campus water usage, Best Resident Welfare Association (RWA), Organizations for Best Religious and Recreational & Tourism Water Uses and Best Industry for industrial water conservation.
36. ▶ Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi launched India's first *National Scholarship Portal Mobile App* (NSP Mobile App), to ensure a smooth and hassle-free scholarship system for students from poor and weaker sections. Using it, Students will be able to apply for scholarships sitting in their home.
37. ▶ NITI Aayog recommended that Ministry of Agriculture to take up mission on shifting cultivation to ensure inter-ministerial convergence between different ministries. Highlights -
1. State governments have divergent approaches towards shifting cultivation. creating confusion among grass-roots level workers and jhum farmer.
 2. It calls for policy coherence and recognising land for shifting cultivation as agricultural land where farmers practise agro-forestry for production of food rather than as forestland.

3. Shifting Cultivation

1. It is traditional agricultural practice that involves clearing vegetative forest cover on land and slopes of hills, drying and burning it before onset of monsoon and cropping on it thereafter. After harvest, this land is left fallow and vegetative regeneration is allowed on it till plot becomes reusable for same purpose in cycle. In north east India, it is called as jhum cultivation.
 2. Shifting cultivation causes in long term causes problem of land degradation and threat to ecology of the region at large. Burning of forests provide temporary nutrients like potash to soil. Burning of forests results in emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) such as CO₂, NO₂.
38. ▶ NITI Aayog, Intel, and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) collaborated to set up a Model International Center for Transformative Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI) towards developing and deploying AI-led application-based research projects.
1. It is part of NITI Aayog's 'National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence' Discussion Paper that focuses on establishing ICTAI in country through private sector collaboration.
 2. Based in Bengaluru, Model ICTAI aims to conduct advanced research to incubate AI-led solutions in three important areas – healthcare, agriculture and smart mobility.
 3. Learnings developed through this model ICTAI will be used by NITI Aayog to set up future ICTAIs across country.
39. ▶ National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) released report HIV Estimations 2017, stating Maharashtra has highest number of people living with HIV in India, followed by Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. In 2017, India had around 21.40 lakh people living with HIV (PLHIV) with adult prevalence of 0.22%.
40. ▶ Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has launched a 'Star Rating program' for industries to support State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) regulatory efforts to reduce pollution. It will rate industries from 1 to 5 based on their compliance to pollution standards.
41. ▶ Odisha assembly approved naming newly-built Jharsuguda airport after noted freedom fighter Veer Surendra Sai. It will be the second airport in Odisha to be renamed, after Biju Patnaik International airport in Bhubaneswar.
42. ▶ PM Narendra Modi laid foundation stone of India International Convention and Expo Centre (IICC) in Dwarka (New Delhi). On completion, it will be biggest indoor exhibition space in India and also rank among the top 10 in world, with capacity to accommodate 11,000 persons, 5 exhibition halls, 1-kilometre long foyer etc. The project has estimated cost of INR 25703 crores.
1. It will be implemented by India International Convention and Exhibition Centre Ltd, a 100% government-owned company set up by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).
43. ▶ PM Narendra Modi launched fortnight-long countrywide campaign- Swachhata hi Seva 2018, to mark start of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 02, 2018.
1. On this occasion, Jammu and Kashmir state has been declared open defecation free (ODF).
 2. Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary on October 2, 2019. Key Activities Include -
 1. National Launch, School Engagement - *September 15*
 2. Swachhata Sabhas: *September 16*
 3. Seva Diwas: *September 17*
 4. Railways Swachhata Divas – *September 22*
 5. Antyodaya Divas – *September 25*
 3. Also, President Ram Nath Kovind launched logo and web portal (<http://gandhi.gov.in/>) for commemoration of 150th birth anniversary of M K Gandhi on Oct 02, 2019. Logo is --



1.

44. ▶ Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir signed an agreement for renewing work on INR 2793 crore Shahpurkandi dam project. It will be irrigating 37,173 ha of land and would provide 206MW of electricity to Punjab and J&K.

45. ▶ Rajasthan's first lion safari inaugurated at Nahargarh Biological Park, located on Delhi-Jaipur National Highway in Aravalli foothills, near Jaipur. 10 Lions in this park were brought from Junagarh, Gujarat under an exchange programme.
46. ▶ S.S. Ahluwalia, Minister of State for Electronics and IT has launched C-DAC Information Media Server (CIMS) for improving Good Governance. Its a Media Server dedicated computer appliance with specialized application software that will offer audio and video on demand.
47. ▶ Supreme Court modified its July 2017 order in dowry harassment case for preventing misuse of Section 498A of Indian Penal Code (IPC).
 1. The July 2017 decision quashed immediate arrest of accused in dowry cases, saying that complaints under Section 498A of IPC should be scrutinised by Family Welfare Committees before any legal action by police.
 2. Now, After a plea filed by NGO 'Nyayadhar', an organisation formed by women advocates of Maharashtra's Ahmednagar district, Family Welfare Committees are scrapped.
 3. SC left it to Parliament to make suitable rules to check abuse of the law.
48. ▶ Supreme Court resumed filing of claims and objections by around 40 lakh people who were left out in draft National Register of Citizens (NRC) of Assam, giving second opportunity to citizens keeping in mind the magnitude of the issue. Bench will now hear the matter on October 23, 2018.
 1. Assam government in July 2018 released 2nd and final draft of state's National Register of Citizens (NRC). The draft left out approx 40 Lakh people living in state, not marking them as legal citizens of India.
49. ▶ Tamil Nadu Govt. banned sale of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), known as e- cigarettes.
 1. It comes after recent central government notification, asking all states / UTs to ban e-cigarettes.
 2. ENDS are devices that heat solution to create aerosol, which also frequently contains flavours, usually dissolved into propylene glycolor and glycerin. e-cigarettes (electronic cigarettes) are most common prototype of ENDS.
50. ▶ To combat human trafficking, West Bengal government rolled out Swayangsiddha scheme (means self-reliance), to be executed by West Bengal Police. It aims to empower young boys and girls to make informed choices so that they are less vulnerable to trafficking and child marriage.
51. ▶ Traditional *Marbat* festival observed in Nagpur (Maharashtra).
52. ▶ Uttar Pradesh Police will soon launch first of its kind dial-FIR scheme, where a common man can register regular crimes without going to a police station. Under it, an online photographic dossier of criminals that will be provided to policemen on 22,000 new i-pads.
53. ▶ Uttarakhand Assembly passed resolution seeking status of "rashtra mata – mother of the nation" for cow, to strengthen efforts to conserve the species across country.
54. ▶ Uttarakhand ranked as best state in construction of maximum number of roads under PMGSY during 2017-2018, constructing 1839 kilometre roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana against a target of 1,500 km for 2017-18.

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Persons

1. ▶ Indian Mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta and Mousumi Khatua climbed Asia's highest volcanic peak Mount Damavand. Its highest peak in Iran and also a potentially active volcano, with elevation of 5609 metres.
2. ▶ US private space firm SpaceX signed world's first private passenger to fly around Moon aboard its Big Falcon Rocket (BFR) launch vehicle. Japanese billionaire (founder of fashion giant Zozo), Yusaku Maezawa will be the first Moon tourist on SpaceX's Lunar BFR Mission.
3. ▶ Visits from India (Sep 11 - 20, 2018) -
 1. Navy Chief Sunil Lanba visited Rhode Island (USA).
 2. India and Niger signed an MoU for implementation of Mahatma Gandhi International Convention Centre (MGICC) in Niamey (Niger). It was signed during External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj's visit to Niger (Western Africa).
 3. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited Russia for participating in 23rd meeting of India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission (IRIGC-TEC).
 4. Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu Visited Russia.
 5. Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu participated in G-20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting in Mar del Plata (Argentina).
 6. Vice President Venkaiah Naidu visited European Nations Serbia, Malta and Romania -
 1. Romania -

1. Romania agreed to take lead to re-start negotiations on India-EU-BTIA (Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement)
2. Romania will open a Consulate in Chennai
3. India Opens Ayush Information cell in Romania
2. Malta -
 1. 3 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) signed in fields of Maritime Cooperation, Tourism and Training.
3. Serbia -
 1. India and Serbia signed agreements on cooperation in plant protection and plant quarantine and on-air services. India and Serbia are observing 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between them.
4. ▶ Visits to India (Sep 11 - 20, 2018) -
 1. Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani visited India.
 2. India and Morocco signed revised Air Services Agreement, enabling greater connectivity through a modernized agreement. It was signed during Mohammed Sajid's Visit to India. He is Moroccan Minister of Tourism, Air Transport, Handicraft and Social Economy.
 1. Mr. Mohammad Sajid also inaugurated India's First ever India Tourism Mart (ITM 2018) in New Delhi, organized by Ministry of Tourism.

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Science

1. ▶ A swimming pool type research reactor *Apsara-upgraded* became operational in Trombay campus of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.
 1. *Apsara*, first research reactor in Asia became operational in Trombay campus of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in August 1956. After providing more than five decades of dedicated service to the researchers, the reactor was shut down in 2009.
 2. The Upgraded version uses plate type dispersion fuel elements made of Low Enriched Uranium (LEU). By virtue of higher neutron flux, this reactor will increase indigenous production of radio-isotopes for medical application by 50 % and would also be extensively used for research in nuclear physics, material science and radiation shielding.
2. ▶ Facebook has developed an artificial intelligence (AI) system 'Rosetta' which can detect text from over a billion images like memes and videos in real time. It detects rectangular regions in images that contain text and then uses a neural network to recognise and transcribe what's written.
3. ▶ Germany rolled out world's first hydrogen-powered passenger train, manufactured by French TGV-maker Alstom. These locomotives named *iLint trains* emit zero emissions, offering greener and quieter alternative to diesel on non-electrified railway lines.
 1. Hydrogen trains are equipped with fuel cells that produce electricity by combining hydrogen with oxygen. This conversion process only emits steam and water, thus producing zero emissions.
 2. Excess energy produced is stored in ion-lithium batteries on board train. Hydrogen fuel cells have advantages over batteries. Instead of recharging, they can easily be refueled like gas or diesel engine.
 3. These trains can run for around 1,000 km on a single tank of hydrogen, similar to the range of diesel trains.
4. ▶ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched its PSLV-C42 rocket carrying two British Earth observation satellites - NovaSAR and S1-4, intended to improve UK's disaster management capabilities.
5. ▶ India's biggest cyclotron facility named Cyclone-30 became operational at Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)'s Kolkata-based Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC).
 1. Cyclotron is used to produce radioisotopes for diagnostic and therapeutic use for cancer care. Radiations from these isotopes are used to destroy cancer cells.
 2. Cyclone-30 will produce radioisotopes vital for diagnosis and treatment of cancer. It will be only cyclotron facility in country to produce Germanium 68 radioisotopes, used in diagnosis of breast cancer.
 3. It will also produce Palladium 103 isotopes, which is used for the treatment of prostate cancer. In its future stages, it will also produce Iodine 123 isotopes, which can help detect thyroid cancer.
6. ▶ India's first underwater robotic drone – Eyerov TUNA handed over to Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL) of DRDO, as first commercial Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) / underwater drone. It would be used by NPOL for research and development activities for defence purposes.

7. ▶ Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS) developed India's first indigenous medical kit for protection against nuclear warfare or radioactive leakage. It has 25 items which include radioactive protectors which can absorb 80-90% of radiation, nerve gas agents, bandages that absorb radiation as well as tablets and ointments. Its important parts are -
 1. Prussian blue tablet - Highly effective in incorporating Radio Cesium (Cs-137) and Radio Thallium, among most feared radioisotopes in nuclear bombs that destroy human body cells.
 2. Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) injection - Traps uranium in the guts and blood of victims during a nuclear accident or warfare.
 3. Ca-EDTA Respiratory Fluid - Inhalation formula for chelation, or grabbing of heavy metals and radioactive elements deposited in lungs through inhalation at nuclear accident sites. It reduces the body burden of radioactivity by 30-40% in controlled conditions.
 4. Radioactive Blood Mopping Dressing - Special bandage that absorbs radiation to prevent spread of radiation from radioactive patients to others.
 5. Radioactive urine/biofluid collector - It can safely dispose of urine of person affected by radiation.
 6. Anti-gamma ray skin ointment - Heals radiation damage on skin.
 7. Amifostine injection - This conventional radiopharmaceutical that limits damage from gamma radiation.
 8. Indranil 150 mg tablet.
8. ▶ NASA launched its most advanced space laser, ICESat-2, a \$1-billion mission that will shoot lasers towards Earth to track changes in Earth's ice sheets, glaciers, sea ice and vegetation around the world. The preceding mission, ICESat, which lasted from 2003-2009 revealed that ice cover was disappearing from Greenland and Antarctica. The new laser will fire 10,000 times per second, whereas ICESat fired 40 times a second.
9. ▶ Scientists from University of Manchester (England), have developed a non-antibiotic drug that can treat tuberculosis (TB) in humans effectively. Results revealed that compound does not kill bacteria directly, but results in a significant reduction in bacterial burden.

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Sports

1. ▶ 52nd ISSF World Shooting Championships held in Changwon (South Korea) -
 1. This also served as first qualification for 2020 Summer Olympics.
 2. India at the Games -
 1. In Senior - India won total 7 Medals (2 Gold, 4 Silver, 1 Bronze), ranked 9th.
 2. In Junior - India won total 20 Medals (2 Gold, 4 Silver, 1 Bronze), ranked 2nd.
 3. India with 27 medals was overall (senior + junior) ranked 3, after China (43 medals) and South Korea (36 medals).
 4. Shahzar Rizvi claimed India's first medal at ISSF World Cup 2018, winning 10m air pistol silver.
 5. Indian Gold Medalists -
 1. Senior -
 1. 50 m pistol (Om Prakash Mitharwal)
 2. Double trap (Ankur Mittal)
 2. Junior -
 1. 10 m air rifle (Hriday Hazarika)
 2. 10 m air pistol (Saurabh Chaudhary)
 3. 25 m pistol (Udhayveer Sidhu)
 4. 25 m standard pistol (Vijayveer Sidhu)
 5. 50 m pistol (Arjun Singh Cheema)
 6. 25 m standard pistol team (Vijayveer Sidhu, Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu, Adarsh Singh)
 7. 25 m pistol team (Udhayveer Sidhu, Vijayveer Sidhu, Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu)
 8. 50 m pistol team (Arjun Singh Cheema, Gaurav Rana, Anmol)
 9. 10 m air rifle Women team (Elavenil Valarivan, Shreya Agrawal, Manini Kaushik)
 3. Medal table -
 1. Senior -

	Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.						

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	9	9	3	21
2	Russia	8	8	10	26
3	South Korea	7	5	8	20
4	Germany	6	6	3	15
5	Sweden	4	2	3	9
9	India	2	4	1	7

2. Junior -

1.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	11	6	5	22
2	India	9	5	6	20
3	Italy	5	1	3	9
4	South Korea	4	9	3	16
5	Norway	2	0	1	3

2. ▶ For first time in history of FIFA international football team rankings, two teams are sharing top spot after World Cup 2018 semi-finalists Belgium joined World Cup winners France Jointly at top of rankings.

3. ▶ Japan Open Badminton 2018 -

1. Men's Singles - Kento Momota (Japan)

2. Women's Singles - Carolina Marín (Spain)

3. Men's Doubles - Indonesia's Marcus Fernaldi Gideon AND Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo

4. Women's Doubles - Japan's Yuki Fukushima AND Sayaka Hirota

5. Mixed Doubles - China's Zheng Siwei AND Huang Yaqiong

4. ▶ Maldives won 2018 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Cup 2018, defeating India. It was hosted by Bangladesh.

5. ▶ Mercedes's Racer Lewis Hamilton (UK) won F1 Singapore Grand Prix -

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	Max Verstappen (Belgian-Dutch)
10	British Grand Prix	8 July	Sebastian Vettel (Germany)
11	German Grand Prix	22 July	Lewis Hamilton (UK)
12	Hungarian Grand Prix	29 July	Lewis Hamilton (UK)
13	Belgian Grand Prix	26 August	Sebastian Vettel (Germany)
14	Italian Grand Prix	2 September	Lewis Hamilton (UK)
15	Singapore Grand Prix	16 September	Lewis Hamilton (UK)
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	

6. ▶ New Kabaddi Federation of India (NKFI) launched Indo International Premier Kabaddi League which, to start on 26 January 2019.
 1. Winner will be awarded a cash prize of Rs 1.25 crore, with Over 1000 players participating.
 2. League will have 8 teams, Each team having 2 to 3 international players.
7. ▶ Triple jumper Arpinder Singh became first Indian to win a medal in IAAF Continental Cup 2018 held in Ostrava (Czech Republic), after winning bronze. He was representing the Asia-Pacific team.
 1. IAAF Continental Cup (formerly known as IAAF World Cup) is an international athletics competition. It is the only world cup contested by teams representing entire continents, rather than just those of individual countries.
 2. In 2018, first Athletics World Cup was held in London (UK). It is not related to original IAAF Continental Cup, and latter continues to be held.

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