

The Most Important Current Affairs DECEMBER 2018

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BWF World Tour 2018 Concludes: Complete List of Winners

● **BWF World Tour 2018** concluded in Guangzhou, China. It was the final tournament of the **2018 BWF World Tour**. The complete list of winners of **BWF World Tour 2018**:

Category	Winner	Runner-Up
Men's Singles	Shi Yuqi (China)	Kento Momota (Japan)
Women's Singles	P. V. Sindhu (India)	Nozomi Okuhara (Japan)
Men's Doubles	Li Junhui and Liu Yuchen (China)	Hiroyuki Endo and Yuta Watanabe (Japan)
Women's Doubles	Misaki Matsutomo & Ayaka Takahashi (Japan)	Lee So-hee and Shin Seung-chan (South Korea)
Mixed Doubles	Wang Yilü & Huang Dongping (China)	Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (China)

Belgium Beat Netherlands to Win FIH Hockey World Cup 2018

In Hockey, Belgium claimed their first ever World Cup title. They defeated the Netherlands in a dramatic shoot-out in the final of the Men's World Cup in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. This is Belgium's first ever World Cup title.

Overview of the FIH Hockey World Cup 2018:

1. Best Player- Arthur Van Doren of Belgium.
2. Goalkeeper of the tournament- Primin Blaak of Netherland.
3. Young player of the tournament- Thijs van Dam of Netherland.
4. Top goalscorer- Blake Govers of Australia and Alexander Hendrickx of Belgium.
5. Fair play award- Spain.

10 Monuments Adopted Under 'Adopt A Heritage' Project

● The 'Adopt A Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan', scheme is a collaborative effort by Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), to enhance tourism potential and cultural importance in a

planned and phased manner. No fund is given by Ministry of Tourism.

- The list of monuments/sites identified and adopted by companies under the adopt a heritage scheme are:

Sl.	Agency/ Monument Mitras	Sl.	Name of Monumen t	State
1.	Dalmia Bharat Ltd.	1.	Red Fort	Delhi
		2.	Gandikota Fort	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Adventure Tour Operators Association of India	3.	Area surrounding Gangotri Temple and Trail to Gaumukh	Uttarakhand
		4.	Mt. Stok Kangri Trek, Lakakh	Jammu and Kashmir
3.	Apeejay Park Hotels	5.	Jantar Mantar	Delhi
4.	Bliss Inns (V-Resorts)	6.	Surajkund	Haryana
5.	Yatra Online	7.	Qutub Minar	Delhi
		8.	Ajanta Caves	Maharashtra
		9.	Leh Palace, Leh	Jammu & Kashmir
		10.	Hampi (Hazara Rama Temple)	Karnataka

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Test Series

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Total Vacancies : 54953

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Lifetime achievement award	Rajya Sabha MP Sharad Pawar Murli Manohar Joshi
Best Parliamentary Award	Ghulam Nabi Azad BJP MP Nishikant Dubey
Best debut woman parliamentarian (Lok Sabha)	Hema Malini
Best woman parliamentarian	Lok Sabha MP Rama Devi
Best woman parliamentarian in the Rajya Sabha	DMK leader Kanimozhi
Best debut woman parliamentarian (Rajya Sabha)	Chhaya Verma

Star Screen Awards 2018 Announced: List of Winners

● Star Screen Awards 2018 were announced recently in Mumbai. The hosts of the night were Ayushmann Khurrana and Vicky Kaushal. Alia Bhatt won Best Actor for her performance in Raazi and Ranveer Singh was given best actor award for Padmaavat. The list of winners:

Category	Winners
Best Actor	Ranveer Singh for Padmaavat
Best Actress	Alia Bhatt for Raazi
Best Director	Sriram Raghavan for Anhadhun
Best Popular Actor (Male)	Rajkummar Rao
Best Actor (Critics)	Gajraj Rao for Badhaai Ho
Best Actress (Critics)	Neena Gupta for Badhaai Ho
Best Film	Stree
Best Film (Critics)	Mulk
Lifetime Achievement Award	Shabana Azmi
Best Music:	Amit Trivedi for Manmarziyaan

Lokmat Parliamentary Awards Announced: Complete List of Winners

● Eight parliamentarians were honoured by Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu for their contribution in strengthening parliamentary democracy.

Complete list of winners of Lokmat Parliamentary Awards 2018:

Category	Winner
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Asian Academy Creative Awards 2018 Announced: Complete List of Winners

● Asian Academy Creative Awards (AAA's) have been established to serve the creative industries as the pinnacle of their achievement in content creation and media production. The award ceremony was held in Singapore.

List of winners of Asian Academy Creative Awards 2018

	Category	Show	Winner
Indian Winners			
1.	Best entertainment host/presenter	Bigg Boss	Salman Khan
2.	Best direction (fiction)	Netflix's original series Sacred Games	Anurag Kashyap
3.	Best Editing	Sacred Games	Aarti Bajaj
4.	Best comedy program	Queens Of Comedy	Discovery Communications India
5.	Best telenovela or soap opera series	Porus	One Life Studios
6.	Best 2D animated program or series	Lamput	Cartoon Network India
9.	Best Drama	Miss Sherlock	Miss Sherlock

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11.	Inderjeet Kesar	Dogri
12.	Anees Salim	English
13.	Chitra Mudgal	Hindi
14.	Shyam Besra	Santali
15.	S Ramakrishnan	Tamil
16.	Rahman Abbas	Urdu
17.	Short-story writer, Mushtaq Ahmad Mushtaq, bagged the Award for his collection of short stories "AAKH".	

Note: Yogendra Nath Sharma awarded the Bhasha Salman for the North zone; G Venkatasubbiah for South zone; Gagendra Nath Das for the Eastern zone; and Shailaja Bapat for the Western zone.

G-20 Summit Buenos Aires 2018: Complete Highlights

The **G-20 Summit 2018** was held in **Buenos Aires, Argentina**. G-20 is a grouping of the world's 20 major economies. This year, the theme of the summit was **'Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development'**.

Following are the important agenda discussed during the summit:

1. Climate change: G20 signatories to the Paris Agreement on climate, which is all of them except the US, pledged the "full implementation" of the pact, which they called "irreversible." They also took note, without further pledges, of UN scientists' call for a more ambitious target of reducing warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

2. Trade: Bowing to the view of Trump's administration, the G20 stated that multilateral trade was "falling short of its objectives" on promoting growth and job creation.

3. IMF: Calling the International Monetary Fund crucial to the global safety net, the G20 pledged to provide adequate funding and to meet a goal of finalising new national quotas in time for the global lender's spring 2019 meetings.

4. Corruption: The G20 "committed to prevent and fight corruption and lead by example," promising action from 2019 through 2021 on cleaning up state-run enterprises.

5. Gender inequality: The G20 recommitted to a four-year-old goal of reducing the gender gap in the labor force by 25 percent by 2025.

6. Future of work: Noting that new technologies will transform the nature of labour, the G20

Sahitya Akademi Awards 2018 Announced: Complete List of Winners

- **Sahitya Akademi announced its annual Awards for 2018 in 24 languages.**
- Seven books of poetry, six novels, six short stories, three of literary criticism and two of essays have won the Sahitya Akademi Awards, 2018.

Complete list of winners of **Sahitya Akademi Awards 2018:**

	Winner	Language
For Collection of Poetry		
1.	Sananta Tanti	Assamese
2.	Paresh Narendra Kamat	Konkani
3.	S Ramesan Nair	Malayalam
4.	Dr Rama Kant Shukla	Sanskrit
5.	Dr Mohanjit	Punjabi
6.	Dr Rajesh Kumar Vyas	Rajasthani
7.	Khiman U Mulani	Sindhi
For short stories		
8.	Sanjib Chattopadhyay	Bengali
9.	Mushtaq Ahmed Mushtaq	Kashmiri
10.	Prof Bina Thakur	Maithili
For Novel		

called for “an inclusive, fair and sustainable” future of work, with retraining of workers where needed.

7. Infrastructure: Calling infrastructure a key driver of global growth, the G20 called for greater standardisation in contract-making to encourage more private capital.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted the flagship programmes like the **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna, MUDRA and Start-up India** undertaken by Indian government to modernise the economy and promote inclusive growth at the opening session of the G-20 summit in Buenos Aires.

and it will provide something like 16 Gbps data link services to the country.

About GSAT-11 in Brief:

- ✚ The satellite has 38 spot beams as well as eight sub-beams, which will cover the entire country, including the remote places.
- ✚ Launch Mass: 5854 kg.
- ✚ Mission Life: 15 Years.
- ✚ Power: 13.6 kW Ariane-5 VA-246.
- ✚ Type of Satellite: Communication.
- ✚ Manufacturer: ISRO.
- ✚ Application: Communication.
- ✚ Orbit Type: GTO.

GST Council Cuts Rates on 23 items, Rationalises 28% Slab

- In a relief to the common man, the **GST Council cut rates on 23 commonly used goods and services, including TV screens, movie tickets and power banks.**
- As per the announcement made by **Finance Minister Arun Jaitley**, the annual revenue implication of the rate cuts would be ₹ 5,500 crore.
- Now, the **28 per cent slab is restricted to only luxury and sin goods**, apart from auto parts and cement — tax rates on which could not be cut due to the high revenue implication.
- GST on movie tickets costing up to ₹ 100 was cut to 12 per cent from 18 per cent, while tickets over ₹ 100 will attract 18 per cent tax, against 28 per cent earlier. This will have a revenue implication of ₹ 900 crore.

India's Heaviest Satellite GSAT-11 Successfully Launched

- India's heaviest, largest and most powerful satellite GSAT-11 successfully launched by an Arianespace rocket from the French Guiana.
- Blasting off from the Ariane Launch Complex in Kourou, the Ariane-5 vehicle injected the GSAT-11 into the orbit in a flawless flight lasting about 33 minutes.
- The satellite will play a vital role in providing broadband services across the country and also be a platform to demonstrate new generation applications.
- As per the ISRO Chairman K Sivan, GSAT-11 is going to be the richest space asset for India

Kamal Nath, Ashok Gehlot & Bhupesh Baghel Took Oath As New CMs: Complete Info

- Congress' Ashok Gehlot sworn-in as the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, while party leader Kamal Nath took oath as the CM of Madhya Pradesh, and Bhupesh Baghel as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh.
- In Rajasthan, Governor Kalyan Singh administered the oath of the office and secrecy to Mr Gehlot and deputy CM Sachin Pilot in Jaipur. This was Mr Gehlot's third term as the Chief Minister.
- In Madhya Pradesh, Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr Kamal Nath. The 72-year-old Kamal Nath was sworn in as the 18th chief minister of Madhya Pradesh. Kamal Nath is currently Lok Sabha member from Chhindwara Lok Sabha constituency.
- In Chhattisgarh, Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr Baghel, the State Congress President, in Raipur. Bhupesh Baghel is the third chief minister of the state.

RBI Appoints Shaktikanta Das As New Governor

The government has appointed Shaktikanta Das as the new RBI governor, a day after Urjit Patel resigned as RBI Governor. He is the 25th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. A former economic affairs secretary from 2015 to 2017, Das worked closely with the central bank. He is currently a member of the Finance Commission

of India, and the government's representative at the Group of 20 summits.

Note: A day before the results of polling in the five states, Reserve Bank of India governor Urjit Patel stepped down from his post.

India Announces \$1.4 billion Package for Maldives, Agreements Signed

- India announced a \$1.4 billion package for the Maldives to meet its immediate budgetary as well as some medium-term requirements.
- PM Modi announced the package that includes soft loans after talks with visiting Maldives President Ibrahim Solih in New Delhi.
- 4 agreements that were signed during the state visit of Maldives President Ibrahim Solih:
 1. Agreement on the Facilitation of Visa Arrangements
 2. MoU on Cultural Cooperation
 3. MoU for Establishing Mutual Cooperation to Improve the Ecosystem for Agribusiness
 4. Joint Declaration of Intent on Cooperation in the field of Information & Communications Technology and Electronics.

NITI Aayog Releases 2nd Delta Ranking of Aspirational Districts

- The NITI Aayog released the **Second Delta ranking for the Aspirational Districts** which measures the incremental progress made by them between June 1, 2018 and October 31, 2018, across six developmental areas of Health and Nutrition, Education, Agriculture and Water Resources, Financial Inclusion, Skill Development, and Basic Infrastructure.

- The Second Delta Ranking was released by Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog.
- In the overall ranking, the **most improved districts** are as follows:

Rank	District	State
1	Virudhunagar	Tamil Nadu
2	Nuapada	Odisha
3	Siddharthnagar	Uttar Pradesh
4	Aurangabad	Bihar
5	Koraput	Odisha

The following districts as **Least Improved** over the period of June – October 2018:

Rank	District	State
107	Kiphire	Nagaland
108	Giridih	Jharkhand
109	Chatra	Jharkhand
110	Hailakandi	Assam
111	Pakur	Jharkhand

Schemes/ Portals/ Missions/ Apps/ Missions Launched by the Union & State Govt.

- Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched the 'Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana' which offers free travel packages for senior citizens from Delhi to five religious circuits. Under this free pilgrimage scheme, a Delhi resident above 60 years will be eligible to take free pilgrimage along with his or her spouse.
- Centre included Gangotri & Yamunotri in Uttarakhand, Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh & Parasnath in Jharkhand under a central scheme to develop pilgrimage & heritage destinations in the country. With the new additions, the number of sites under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation & Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) become 41 in 25 states.
- Jammu & Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik launched the ambitious "Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)" scheme which would benefit over 31 lakh residents in the state. He distributed golden cards among 10 eligible beneficiaries for availing the annual health cover facility, marking the launch of the scheme in the state.

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RPF CONSTABLE 2018
PHASE-I

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National Current Affairs

- The High-Level Committee (HLC) chaired by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh approved additional assistance of Rs 1,146.12 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to Tamil Nadu, which was affected by cyclone 'Gaja'.
- PM Modi unfurled 150-foot tall tricolor to mark Netaji's hoisting of the national flag 75 years ago in Port Blair. The three renamed islands of Andaman & Nicobar are: Ross renamed as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep | Neil renamed as Shaheed Dweep | Havelock renamed as Swaraj Dweep.
- Union government declared the Khalistan Liberation Force (KLF), a banned organization. Home Ministry order stated the decision was taken under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967.
- Union Cabinet approved the Gaganyaan project under which a three-member crew will be sent to space for at least seven days. The project will cost INR 10,000 crores. PM stated that the mission will be undertaken by 2022.
- PM Modi announced Rs. 4,500 crore financial assistance to Bhutan for its 12th five-year plan after holding wide-ranging talks with his Bhutanese counterpart Lotay Tshering.
- PM Modi inaugurated the Bogibeel bridge in Assam. The 4.94-kilometer long Bogibeel bridge on Brahmaputra river will connect the two northeast states of Assam & Arunachal Pradesh.

Important Facts about the Bogibeel bridge:

1. The 4.9 km-long Bogibeel Bridge on the Brahmaputra river is India's only fully welded bridge for which European codes & welding standards were adhered to for the first time in the country.

2. The bridge is constructed at an estimated cost of 5,800 crore rupees.
 3. The bridge has a two-line railway track on the lower deck & a three-lane road on the top deck.
 4. For the first time in Indian Railways, the girder has steel floor system for railway tracks & concrete for road.
 5. The bridge reduces travel time from Assam to Arunachal Pradesh to four hours & will cut out the detour of over 170 km via Tinsukia.
- National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), India's national accreditation body, secured equivalence for its accreditation programme for Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems (OHSMS) Certification Bodies in Asia-Pacific region. It has signed the Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MLA) of the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC).
 - The 20-year old Indian woman Vedangi Kulkarni becomes the fastest Asian to cycle the globe. She had completed 29,000 kilometres' distance required to qualify as bicycling across the globe.
 - Union Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change launched the "Asiatic Lion Conservation Project" to protect & conserve the population of Asiatic Lion & its associated ecosystem.
 - Lok Sabha passed the Consumer Protection Bill, 2018 that seeks to replace the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The Bill enforces consumer rights & provides a mechanism for redressal of complaints regarding deficiencies in goods & services. It seeks to establish Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions at District, State & National levels.
 - India's largest cancer institute, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) has been soft launched at Haryana's Jhajjar area. The institute was finalised at a cost of Rs 2,035 crores.
 - Lok Sabha passed the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2016 which is aimed at prohibiting commercial surrogacy & unethical practices relating to it. The Bill has provisions to constitute National Surrogacy Board, State Surrogacy Boards, & appointment of appropriate authorities for regulation of surrogacy. It permits surrogacy only for couples who cannot conceive a child. The intending couple must be Indian citizens & married for at least five years with at least one of them being infertile.
 - NITI Aayog unveiled its comprehensive national Strategy for New India titled '**Strategy for New India @75**', which defines clear objectives for 2022-23. The document was released by FM Arun Jaitley. The Strategy Document advocates

empowering & encouraging women to participate across all sectors of the economy, to build a strong & inclusive New India.

- India's first private sector unit for manufacturing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) opened at Adani Aerospace Park in Hyderabad. It is built by the Adani Group & Israel-based Elbit Systems.
- Ministry of Power launched the ECO Niwas Samhita 2018, an Energy Conservation Building Code for Residential Buildings (ECBC-R).
- To give a fillip to the medical device sector, which is a sunrise sector, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry & Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, announced setting up of a National Medical Devices Promotion Council under the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) in the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The Council will be headed by Secretary, DIPP. **Note:** 4th WHO Global Forum on Medical Devices, at Andhra Pradesh Medtech Zone, in Vishakhapatnam.
- Delhi High Court ordered a ban on the sale of online medicines by e-pharmacists across the country.
- India's first Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence established by the European Union was inaugurated at the Department of European Studies (DES) at Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal by Ambassador of the European Union (EU) to India & Bhutan, Tomasz Kozlowski.
- In a bid to make retirement income scheme more attractive for central government employees, govt. agreed to chip in a higher 14% of the basic salary of an individual as its contribution to the National Pension System (NPS). Currently, the minimum employee contribution in NPS is 10% of basic pay.
- Government sanctioned 254 projects worth over 24 thousand crore rupees under National Mission for Clean Ganga. Announcement was made at the India Water Impact Summit 2018 in New Delhi.
- South African President Cyril Ramaphosa will be the Chief Guest at the 2019 Republic Day celebrations in New Delhi.

States Current Affairs

- Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has launched the 'Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee International Schools' for students in rural areas.
- 'Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana' launched in Uttarakhand. Under the scheme, each household in the state will be able to avail medical treatment of up to 5 lakh rupees annually. The scheme will benefit 23 lakh households & cover

1,350 critical diseases. CM Trivendra Singh Rawat stated that all the households have been included under the scheme.

- Madhya Pradesh State government has declared Kuno wildlife sanctuary as a national park.
- The separate High Court for Andhra Pradesh will start functioning from January 1. Ministry of Law & Justice notified the constitution of the High Court in Amaravati. Andhra Pradesh High Court will be the 25th High Court in the country.
- In Assam, the third Dwijing Festival held on the bank of Aye river at Chirang district.
- Home Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated 19th Hornbill Festival in Nagaland on 55th Nagaland Statehood Day.
- In a move to reinforce brand Naveen & give it a national perspective after the success of the Hockey Men's World Cup, Odisha Government launched an initiative, Peoples Empowerment – Enabling Transparency & Accountability of Odisha Initiatives (PEETHA). The Scheme is aimed at creating awareness about various schemes & improving transparency in the distribution of individual & social benefits. This is part of the 3T initiative of Technology, Transparency & Team Work model.
- Maharashtra State government launched an ambitious project State of Maharashtra Agribusiness & Rural Transformation (SMART) in 10,000 villages with an objective to achieve sustainable farming within the next three years. The project SMART will be assisted by the World Bank.
- Kannur international Airport-KIAL in Kerala began its operations.
- Jammu & Kashmir has become the first state in the country to enact a law banning sexual exploitation of women "by those in positions of authority, having a fiduciary relationship or a public servant", Under Section 354E of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC).
- Assam government announced three schemes for the welfare of farmers. The schemes are the Assam Farmers' Credit Subsidy Scheme (AFCSS), Assam Farmers' Interest Relief Scheme (AFIRS) & Assam Farmers' Incentive Scheme (AFIS). State Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma stated that all three schemes will cover five lakh farmers in the first phase. **Under AFCSS**, whatever amount of loan the farmers took from banks & whatever amount they repaid, 25% of the money will be reimbursed by the state government. **On AFIRS**, the Minister Stated that currently 3% of the 7% interest against farm loan is paid by the Central government & the remaining 4% is required to be

paid by farmers. State govt. decided to pay the remaining 4% loan. **About AFIS**, the government is focusing on bringing back the defaulting farmers into the banking system.

- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik announced a Rs. 10,000 crore scheme for the overall development of farmers. Named Krushak Assistance for Livelihood & Income Augmentation (KALIA), the scheme will provide farmers with Rs. 10,000 a year at the rate of Rs. 5,000 each for Kharif & Rabi season. Additionally, crop loans of up to Rs. 50,000 will be interest-free under the scheme.
- Manipur Assembly passed a bill which recommends life imprisonment for those involved in mob violence if it results in the death of a person.





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FIRST STAGE

Total Vacancies -14,033

15 Full Length Mocks

BILINGUAL

New Appointments (National & International)

- Government has appointed Sudhir Bhargava as Chief Information Commissioner (CIC), along with four information commissioners.
- Dronacharya awardee C A Kuttappa has taken over as India's chief boxing coach at the ongoing national camp. He took over from veteran coach SR Singh.
- P V Bharathi has been appointed as managing director & chief executive officer of the Corporation Bank. She will replace Jai Kumar Garg.
- BVP Rao has been elected as the president of the Archery Association of India in the polls held under a High Court-appointed administrator.
- US President Donald Trump announced that he would replace Defence Secretary Jim Mattis with his deputy Patrick Shanahan as acting Pentagon chief. Shanahan to assume charge of Acting Secretary of Defence from 1 January.
- W V Raman has been appointed the new coach of the Indian women's cricket team.

- Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) appointed Harsh Vardhan Shringla as the new Ambassador of India to the United States of America. He would be succeeding Navtej Singh Sarna.
- Senior bureaucrat Pranab Kumar Das has been appointed as chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC), the apex policy-making body for indirect taxes. He will succeed S Ramesh.
- CBI's Joint Director M Nageswara Rao, who is currently the interim CBI Director, was promoted to the rank of Additional Director by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel has resigned amid pressure on his government over his support for the UN global compact on migration. The pressure increased after his biggest coalition partner, the right-wing N-VA party, quit the government over the issue.
- Star India's Chairman & CEO Uday Shankar has been elected Vice President of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) for 2018-19.
- Central government has appointed advocate Madhavi Divan as the Additional Solicitor General (ASG) to represent it in the Supreme Court. Divan is the third woman to be appointed as ASG in the top court.
- Government appointed Ramphal Pawar as the new Director of National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB).
- Mr. Ranil Wickremesinghe was sworn in as Prime minister of Sri Lanka by President Maithripala Sirisena thus bringing an end to the weeks-long political crisis in the country. Mr. Wickremesinghe was removed as Prime minister in October & was replaced by Mahinda Rajapaksa who resigned after failing to garner a majority in Parliament.
- In Sri Lanka, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned to pave the way for the formation of new government under ousted Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe.
- Ashok Kumar Singh, Lok Sabha Secretariat Service, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat has assumed charge as Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST).
- Producer-director Brijendra Pal Singh was appointed as the new president of the Film & Television Institute of India (FTII) & chairman of the institute's governing council. He succeeds Anupam Kher.
- Yes Bank Ltd has named one of its independent directors Brahm Dutt as the bank's part-time non-executive independent chairman.

- CAG announced that Comptroller & Auditor General Rajiv Mehrishi has become the Vice-Chair of the UN Panel of Auditors.
- In Mizoram, the new government of Mizo National Front (MNF), headed by Mr. Zoramthanga sworn & he becomes the CM.
- Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) Chief K Chandrasekhar Rao was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Telangana, for the second time.
- Flipkart-owned Myntra's CEO Ananth Narayanan has resigned from his role with his position set to be abolished. Flipkart's Amar Nagaram has been given the responsibility to head Myntra.
- Rashtriya Lok Samta Party (RLSP) Chief Upendra Kushwaha resigned as Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- Atul Sahai has been appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of the country's largest general insurance company New India Assurance.
- US President Donald Trump nominated State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert as the US Ambassador to the United Nations. Nauert will replace Nikki Haley.
- Government appointed Dr. Krishnamurthy Subramanian as the new Chief Economic Advisor. Dr. Subramanian will have a tenure of three years.
- A former senior Indian diplomat, Preeti Saran, has been elected unopposed to an Asia Pacific seat on the UN's Committee on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights (CESCR). Saran was elected to the CESCR for a four-year term beginning on the 1st of January 2019.
- Leading Investment Bank Axis Capital announced that its MD & CEO Dharmesh Mehta has stepped down. The bank has elevated Salil Pitale & Chirag Negandhi as Joint Managing Directors & Co-Chief Executive Officer.
- State Bank of India has roped in Asian Games gold medalist Swapna Barman as brand ambassador for its digital app YONO.
- The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) announced the appointment of Jon Ridgeon as its new CEO.
- Private sector lender Yes Bank Ltd appointed former IRDAI chief T.S. Vijayan as an additional director (Independent) for five years with immediate effect.
- Pawan Singh has become the first Indian to be elected one of seven member's of the Judges Committee of the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF).
- Ajay Narayan Jha, the Secretary of Department of Expenditure, appointed as new Finance Secretary to succeed Hasmukh Adhia..


- NATHEALTH announced the appointment of Siddhartha Bhattacharya as Secretary-General.
- State-owned Bank of Maharashtra announced that AS Rajeev has joined the lender as its managing director & chief executive officer.
- Leftist leader Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador has been sworn in as the new Mexican President following his landslide victory in the July 2018 presidential election.
- Raninder Singh has become the first Indian to be elected one of the four vice-presidents of the International Shooting Sport Federation. The 51-year-old Raninder also heads the National Rifle Association of India.


Sports Current Affairs

- India's stylish opener Smriti Mandhana named as the International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's Cricketer of the Year. She is also named as the ICC Women's ODI Player of the Year. The Other Awards Conferred are:
 - ✓ Smriti Mandhana has won the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Award for the ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year.
 - ✓ Australia's wicketkeeper-batter Alyssa Healy voted ICC T20I Player of the Year.
 - ✓ England's Sophie Ecclestone named ICC Emerging Player of the Year.
- The third edition of women's national boxing championships begins in Vijayanagara, Karnataka.
- Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting was formally inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.
- Spain's Real Madrid won the Club World Cup for a third consecutive year, & record fourth in total, by beating Abu Dhabi side Al Ain in the final.
- Renowned Kabaddi Player, Anup Kumar announced his retirement from Kabaddi ending a 15-year iconic career.
- 37th Senior National Rowing Championship held in the Army Rowing Node in Pune. Around 500 rowers & coaches from various rowing associations across the country are taking part in the Championship.
- PV Sindhu made history, becoming the first Indian to win the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals tournament. Sindhu defeated Nozomi Okuhara in the title clash.
- Cricket Australia (CA) & the Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA) announced to rebrand its Allan Border Medal to Australian Cricket Awards from 2019 onwards.
- Steel Authority of India's Hockey Academy beat Army XI Danapur to clinch the 115th All India Aga

Khan Gold Cup hockey tournament held at Major Dhyan Chand hockey stadium in Pune.

- Khelo India Youth Games-2019 will be held in Pune of Maharashtra in January. Under Khelo India programme, the government is providing scholarships to 1500 students from across the country.
- Team Italy won the Admiral's Cup 2018. The ninth edition of 'Admirals Cup' Sailing Regatta (2018) concluded with a glittering closing ceremony at Ettikulam Beach at Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala. Team Singapore was the Runners-Up.
- Kenyan distance runner Eliud Kipchoge & Colombian long & triple jumper Caterine Ibarguen named male & female world athletes of the year. The pair were honoured by the IAAF (The International Association of Athletics Federations) at a ceremony in Monaco.
- Gautam Gambhir has announced his retirement from all forms of Cricket. The 37-year-old announced his retirement on social media.
- Ullas Narayan became the first ever Indian individual medal winner in an international ultra-running event by clinching a bronze in the 2018 International Association of Ultra Running (IAU) 24 Hour Asia & Oceania Championships in Taipei. Narayan bagged the third position.
- Indian star wrestlers Vinesh Phogat & Sakshi Malik successfully emerged champions in the 57 kg & 62 kg title respectively in the Tata Motors Senior Women's National Championship.





RRB JR. ENGINEER 2019

COMBO

(Electronics & Allied Engineering)

22 TOTAL TESTS

- 15 Mocks for First Stage
- 7 Mocks for Second Stage

International Current Affairs

- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's alliance won Bangladesh's election with a thumping majority, the country's Election Commission announced. It gave her a third straight term. The alliance dominated by her Awami League, won 287 of the 298 seats.

- Pakistan's cabinet approved the issuance of first-ever renminbi-denominated 'Panda Bonds' to raise loans from China's capital markets, as the country moved a step forward to give the Chinese currency status at par with the US dollar.
- A 33-year-old man Colin O'Brady from the United States has become the first person to complete a solo trek across Antarctica without any assistance. He finished the 1,500km journey across the frozen continent in 54 days.
- Nepal imposed a monthly limit on the amount of Indian currency its citizen can spend in India. A spokesperson of the Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) stated that a Nepali citizen would be unable to spend more than INR 1 lakh per month.
- Turkmenistan launched its first messaging app BizBarde. It will allow the exchange of messages, files, photos & videos.
- In a landmark policy shift, Japan formally announced that it would withdraw from the International Whaling Commission (IWC) & resume commercial whaling in its territorial waters next year for the first time in more than 30 years.
- Indian firm India Ports Global Limited formally took over the operations of Chabahar's Shaheed Behesti port in Iran, which opens a trade route between India & central Asia bypassing Pakistan.
- Burundi declared the small central city of Gitega the country's new political capital, in line with a presidential promise, made a decade ago.
- UN General Assembly adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly & Regular Migration, the first-ever negotiated global framework on a common approach to international migration in all its dimensions.
- U.N. General Assembly voted nearly unanimously to adopt a framework to strengthen the international response to the global refugee crisis. The United States & Hungary were the only two nations that voted against the Global Compact on Refugees, while 181 countries voted in favor.
- UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan declared 2019 as the Year of Tolerance, an extension of the Year of Zayed which has run this year.
- Akademik Lomonosov, the world's first "floating" nuclear power plant (FNPP) for installation in remote areas, has been started & brought to 10% of its capacity, Russian state-run atomic energy corporation Rosatom announced.
- Israel became a full member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), an international body set up to combat money laundering, terrorist financing & other threats to the international financial system.

- The second-largest Ebola outbreak in history has spread to a major city in eastern Congo.
- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has launched a new framework, the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to combat the scourge of international terrorism & coordinate efforts across the peace & security, humanitarian, human rights & sustainable development sectors. It will replace the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force.
- Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has extended a credit facility of USD 500 million to Tanzania for water supply projects in the country.
- Luxembourg is set to become the first country in the world to make all public transport free, implementing the move in 2020.
- Qatar has announced its decision to leave the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) from January 2019 & focus more on the production of natural gas.
- World Bank unveiled 200 billion US Dollars in climate action investment for 2021 to 2025, adding that this amounts to a doubling of its current five-year funding. The move coincides with a UN climate summit in Katowice.
- Australia has become the first country in the world to recognise 'orphanage trafficking' as a form of modern slavery.

Defence Current Affairs

- The opening ceremony for the 7th Sino-India joint exercise Hand-in-Hand 2018, was held at Chengdu, China. Company size contingents of 11 SIKHLI from Indian Army & a regiment from Tibetan Military District of People's Liberation Army participated in the exercise.
- Indian Coast Guard conducted the Regional Level Marine Oil Pollution Response Exercise titled 'Clean Sea – 2018' at sea off Port Blair.
- Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) held a bilateral air exercise SHINYUU Maitri-18 with Indian Air Force at A F Station Agra. The theme is joint Mobility/Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) on Transport aircraft.
- The indigenously built Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile Agni-5 test-fired successfully from Abdul Kalam island under Chandipur Interim Test Range. It can carry both nuclear & traditional weapons. Having 17 meters length & 2 meters diameter the missile can hit the target from a distance of 5 thousand kilometers.
- Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) accorded approval for the acquisition of defence equipment worth nearly Rs. 3000 crore which

- includes BrahMos Missiles, & Armoured Recovery Vehicles (ARVs) for Battle Tank Arjun.
- Ex Cope India-18 is the fourth edition in the series of Bilateral Joint exercise held between IAF & USAF, which is conducted in India. This is the first time, the exercise is being planned at two Air Force bases, Kalaikunda & Panagarh (West Bengal).
- Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the Indian Navy's Information Fusion Centre (IFC) in Gurugram that aims to collaborate with partner countries & multi-national agencies to develop maritime awareness & share information on vessels.
- India successfully test-fired its nuclear-capable long-range ballistic missile Agni-IV, with a strike range of 4,000 km, as part of a user trial by the Army.

Ranks/ Indexes Released


- The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation was awarded Best Capital City in the Solid Waste Management in the Swachh Survekshan 2018 rankings.
- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh released the list of best performing police stations across the nation during the ongoing DGP conference. On the top of the rank-list stands Kalu police station of Rajasthan.
- Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh were the top three performing states under the maternity benefit programme Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).
- NITI Aayog released the Baseline Report of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) India Index, which comprehensively documents the progress made by India's States & Union Territories towards implementing the 2030 SDG targets.


Overall Findings

Particular	State	UT
SDG India Index Score Range	42-69	57-68
Top Performer/s	Himachal Pradesh & Kerala	Chandigarh
Aspirant	Uttar Pradesh	Dadra & Nagar Haveli

- US regulator Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) retained the highest aviation safety ranking for India. FAA formally confirmed that India's International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) rating remains 'Category 1'.

- Gujarat emerged as the best-performing state in the Startup Ranking 2018. The National Report on States' Startup Ranking unveiled by DIPP, Ministry of Commerce & Industry in New Delhi.
- India has been ranked 108th in World Economic Forum (WEF) gender gap index 2018, same as 2017 while recording improvement in wage equality for similar work & fully closing its tertiary education gender gap for the first time. Iceland topped the list.
- As per the UN Economic & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific (ESCAP) report, FDI inflows to South & South-West Asia decreased by 6% in 2017. India remains the largest investment destination in the sub-region.
- International Monetary Fund announced that the global debt reached an all-time high of 184 trillion US dollars with the United States, China & Japan accounting for more than half of it. As per the IMF report, the amount in nominal terms, is the equivalent of 225% of the world GDP in 2017.
- The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2019 released on the sidelines of a UN summit on global warming. As per the Index, Sweden has topped the list while India was on 11th position. Saudi Arabia came last.
- Swedish think tank Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) announced that Russia has emerged as the world's second-largest arms producer after the United States.
- India will retain its position as the world's top recipient of remittances in 2018 with its diaspora sending a whopping USD 80 billion back home, as per the World Bank report. India is followed by China.





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- The number of patents granted by India shot up by 50% in 2017, keeping up a trend of steep increases, as per UN's World Intellectual Property

- Organisation (WIPO). The patents granted by India increased from 8,248 in 2016 to 12,387 in 2017.
- The UAE now has the world's most powerful passport, achieving the top ranking in an achievement hailed as a tribute to the legacy of the Founding Father, Sheikh Zayed, & the country's diplomacy. The index, compiled by Arton Capital. India was ranked 140th in the list.
- Bollywood superstar Salman Khan is the richest Indian celebrity, as per the 2018 Forbes India Celebrity 100 list, which he has topped for the third consecutive year.
- Moody's Investors Service's annual Banking System Outlook on India estimated the country's real gross domestic product (GDP) for the current financial year & next fiscal to grow at 7.2% & 7.4%, respectively.
- Four Indian-origin technology executives have made it to the Forbes' list of America's 50 women in technology space in 2018. The list includes Neha Narkhede, chief technology officer & co-founder of streaming platform Confluent; Kamakshi Sivaramakrishnan, CEO, & founder of identity-management company Drawbridge; Padmasree Warrior, former chief technology officer (CTO) of Cisco, & Komal Mangtani, senior director at Uber.

Important Days

- Bharat Ratna & former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birthday is celebrated as Good Governance Day across the country on 25 December.
- Every Year 24th December is observed as National Consumer Day with a specific theme in India. This year the theme was "Timely Disposal of Consumer Complaints".
- National Farmers' Day (Kisan Diwas) 2018 was celebrated all over India on 23rd of December. It is celebrated in the honour of the former Prime Minister of India Chaudhary Charan Singh.
- Every year, the country celebrates National Mathematics Day on December 22 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan.
- International Human Solidarity Day is organized across the world on 20th December.
- The UN's (United Nation) International Migrants Day (IMD) is observed every year on 18th December to protect the rights of migrant workers & members of their families. The theme for this year's IMD is 'Migration with Dignity'.

- National energy conservation day is celebrated every year by the people all over India on 14th of December.
- International Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC Day) is celebrated globally on 12 December. The theme was “Unite for Universal Health Coverage: Now is the Time for Collective Action”.
- International Mountain Day is held every year on 11 December, which was established by the UN General Assembly in 2003 to encourage sustainable development in mountains. The theme was “Mountains Matter”.
- Since 1949, 07 December is observed as Armed Forces Flag Day throughout India to honour the martyrs as well as men & women in uniform, who valiantly fight on our borders to safeguard the country's honour.
- Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December. This year, Human Rights Day marks the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. #StandUp4HumanRights is the global campaign launched.
- World Soil Day is celebrated annually on the 5th of December. #StopSoilPollution is the objective of this World Soil Day.
- Navy Day is being celebrated in India on 4th December. The day is celebrated in honour of the maritime force's role during the war with Pakistan in 1971 when Indian warships attacked Karachi port & successfully hurt Pakistani operations in the western coast.
- World AIDS Day is designated on 1 December every year since 1988. The theme was “Know Your Status”.
- Since 1992, the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) has been annually observed on 3 December around the world. The theme was “Empowering persons with disabilities & ensuring inclusiveness & equality”.

Agreement Signed/ MoU Approved

- K J Alphons, Minister of State (I/C) for Tourism, handed over a MoU under the 'Adopt a Heritage' scheme to Resbird Technologies for development of a mobile Audio Guide App for five iconic sites which are Amer Fort (Rajasthan), Kaziranga (Assam), Colva Beach (Goa), Kumarakom (Kerala) & Mahabodhi Temple (Bihar).
- US President Donald Trump, Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto, & Canadian PM Justin Trudeau signed the new US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) which will replace the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

USMCA will govern over a trillion-dollars' worth of trade between the three countries.

- Centre & ADB signed an 85-million-dollar loan to improve skill development eco-system in Odisha.
- Economic Development Board (EDB), the investment promotion arm of the Kingdom of Bahrain signed an MoU with the Maharashtra Government to provide a framework for Co-operation between the two authorities to promote FinTech in their respective markets.
- India & UAE signed an agreement on Currency Swap.
- India signed an agreement with Peru for co-operation & mutual assistance in Customs Matters.
- Government of India & the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed in New Delhi a Loan Agreement for \$31 million to build-up the State Tourism Industry & boost visitor arrivals in Tamil Nadu.
- India signed an ascension pact to the 30-member Trans-Regional Maritime Network that will give it an access to the information on ships passing through the Indian Ocean Region. India already has bilateral White Shipping Agreements with 36 countries.
- ADB & GOI signed a \$60 Million Loan Agreement in New Delhi to continue financing riverbank protection works, renovation of flood embankments, & community-based flood risk management activities in critically flood-prone areas along the Brahmaputra River in Assam.
- Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) signed MoU with Maruti Suzuki India Ltd for training rural youth for skill development.
- Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) partnered with the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH), the USA, to become a member of the NIAID TB Portals program. The NIAID TB Portals Program is a multi-national collaboration for tuberculosis (TB) data sharing & analysis to advance TB research.
- India & Saudi Arabia signed the bilateral annual Haj 2019 agreement at Jeddah.
- National Film Archive of India (NFAI) & Film & Television Institute of India (FTII) signed MoU for transfer of three acres of land for the construction of storage facility for films & film material.
- India & Japan signed Exchange of Notes & Loan Agreements on Japan's Official Development Assistance Loan to India. The Notes were exchanged for three projects which are:
 - Chennai Metro Project (Phase 2) (I) for Japanese Yen (JPY) 75.519 billion,


- (ii) Program for Japan-India Cooperative Actions towards Sustainable Development Goals in India for JPY 15.000 billion,
- (iii) Project for Dairy Development for JPY 14.978 billion.


Important Cabinet Approvals | December 2018

Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the following set of approvals. The Cabinet has approved-

- ✚ Setting up of the National Commission for Homoeopathy (NCH) Bill, 2018.
- ✚ Apprised of two Bilateral MoUs between India & Cuba, & India & Korea in the area of Biotechnology.
- ✚ Setting up of the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2018.
- ✚ Amendment in the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
- ✚ Hike in MSP for Copra by more than Rs.2000 per quintal for 2019 season.
- ✚ MoU between India & France in the field of new & renewable energy.
- ✚ MoU between India & Afghanistan in the field of human resource development.
- ✚ Establishment of two new AIIMS at Tamil Nadu & Telangana under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana.
- ✚ MoU between India & Australia for Cooperation in the Disability Sector.
- ✚ MoC between India & Japan in the field of Environmental Cooperation.
- ✚ MoU between India & the USA concerning Scientific & Technical Cooperation in the Earth Sciences.
- ✚ MoU between India & France in the field of energy efficiency / energy conservation
- ✚ Amendment of the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Act, 1951.
- ✚ MoU between India & Tajikistan on Cooperation on Peaceful Uses of Space Technology for Development.
- ✚ MoU between India & Russia on Joint Activities under the Human Spaceflight Programme.
- ✚ Agreement between India & Uzbekistan on Cooperation in the exploration & uses of Outer Space for peaceful purposes.
- ✚ MoU between India & Zimbabwe for cooperation in the field of geology, mining & mineral resources.
- ✚ MoU between India & Morocco for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

- ✚ Agreement between India & Algeria on Cooperation in the field of Space Sciences, Technologies & Applications.
- ✚ MoC between India & Japan in the field of Healthcare & Wellness.
- ✚ Implementation of Shahpurkandi Dam (National Project) on river Ravi in Punjab
- ✚ National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems.


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Awards & Recognition

- Croatia captain Luka Modric was named Balkan Athlete of the Year, becoming only the second soccer player to scoop the prize after Bulgaria's former European Footballer of the Year Hristo Stoichkov in 1994.
- The Mrs. India My Identity Beauty Pageant 2018 finale was held in Delhi & Divya Patidar Joshi was crowned with the prestigious honor. She is from Madhya Pradesh's Ratlam.
- Noted sitar player Manju Mehta has been conferred with the 'Tansen Samman' for 2018 by the Madhya Pradesh government for her contribution in the field of music.
- Aadi Sai Vijaykaran created history by winning the Junior Debate Championship at the World Scholar's Cup held at Yale University, the USA. It is the first time an individual from India has won the coveted title.
- The Mohammed Rafi Award has been bestowed upon late music composer Laxmikant Shantaram Kudalkar & playback singer Usha Timothy.
- Suresh Prabhu conferred the Skoch Golden Jubilee Challenger Award at the 55th Skoch Summit in New Delhi. The Skoch Challenger Awards are the highest independently instituted civilian honours. For its inclusive banking & expansion in rural areas with the establishment of 35 easy payment units in Himalayan district of Leh

in Jammu & Kashmir, J&K Bank was conferred with SKOCH Award in 'Banking & Finance (B&F) Silver Category'. Skoch Chief Minister of the Year Award: Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banerjee. SKOCH Sprinter of the Year: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu

- Indian Railways bagged 17 awards at the 'National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) 2018' held in New Delhi. **Under 'transport' category**, Indian Railways obtained 10 awards for the subsector railway station. Vidisha railway station in Madhya Pradesh won the first prize. **Under 'building' category**, Indian Railways got three awards for subsector Railway hospitals. Railway hospitals of Izzatnagar division won the first prize.
- PM Modi announced the institution of 'Sardar Patel Award for National Integration', which would be given for "outstanding efforts to further national integration".
- The International Tennis Federation (ITF) announced that Serbia's Novak Djokovic & Romania's Simona Halep have been named the 2018 ITF World Champions. Djokovic receives the honour for the sixth time, while it is the first year Halep has been recognized.
- Actress Sonam Kapoor, a vegan, has been named People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India's Person of the Year for 2018.
- 'Period. End of Sentence' has made it to the Oscar shortlist in the Documentary Short Subject category. This is a film about women in India fighting against the deeply rooted stigma of menstruation & delving upon the work of real-life 'Pad Man' Arunachalam Muruganantham.
- Producer Ashok Amritraj was honoured with the French Knight of the National Order of Merit.
- Indian-American Shree Saini crowned Miss India Worldwide 2018 at a pageant held in the Fords City of New Jersey. India's Mandeep Kaur Sandhu, who hails from Haryana, was crowned Mrs. India Worldwide 2018.
- Jharkhand has been selected for "Krishi Karman" award in the rice category from the Union Ministry of Agriculture.
- Noted English author Amitav Ghosh has been honoured with Jnanpith Award for 2018, an award for outstanding contribution to literature. Ghosh, one of the most prominent contemporary Indian writers, is known for a series of novels such as "Shadow Lines", "The Glass Palace", "The Hungry Tide", & Ibis Trilogy — "Sea of Poppies", & "River of Smoke". He has become the first English author to be honoured with the award.

- Manika Batra won the 'Breakthrough Table Tennis Star' award at the prestigious International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Star Awards in Incheon, South Korea. India coach Massimo Costantini won Table Tennis Star Coach award.
- Sascha Bajin, coach of the world number five Naomi Osaka, become the first-ever recipient of the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Coach of the Year Award.
- Manipur Government honored AIBA World Women Boxing Gold medalist MC Mary Kom with the title "Meethoileima" (par excellent queen). He also declared that the Imphal West DC Road towards Game Village will be named as MC Mary Kom Road.
- Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who was murdered in October 2018 at his country's Istanbul consulate, has been named Time magazine's "Person of the Year" alongside several other journalists.
- Goa's Prathamesh Maulingkar created history by becoming the first Asian/Indian to win Mister Supranational title in a competition held at Krynica-Zdroj, Poland.
- Mexico's Vanessa Ponce de Leon won the coveted Miss World 2018 crown at a grand event held in the Chinese city, Sanya.
- Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, GOI conferred the Skoch Award for National Significance. The award was received by Secretary, Ministry of New Renewable Energy Shri Anand Kumar.
- Delhi Minister of Food Supplies, Environment & Forest & Elections Imran Hussain was awarded by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)-India for banning the Chinese Manjha, or the glass-coated kite strings, across Delhi.
- The city of Paris will strip Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi of her honorary freedom of the Paris award over her failure to speak out against a crackdown on Rohingya Muslims.
- India's Olympic & world champion shooter Abhinav Bindra conferred the sport's highest honour for his outstanding services as the chairman of the International Shooting Sport Federation's Athletes Committee.

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Summits/Events Held

- The 42nd Indian Social Science Congress inaugurated by Manipur governor Dr Najma Heptulla at KIIT University campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The theme of the Congress was 'Human Future in Digital Era.'
- SPJIMR hosted the 12th Annual Indian Subcontinent Decision Sciences Institute (ISDSI) Conference at SPJIMR, Mumbai. The theme was "Data-Driven Decision Making in the Digital Age".
- 41st meeting of the Central Sanctioning & Monitoring Committee held in New Delhi. In the meeting, the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs approved the construction of another 3,10,597 more affordable houses for the benefit of urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban). A total of 864 projects with a project cost of Rs 14,662 crore with central assistance of Rs 4,658 crore has been approved in the meeting.
- The first meeting of the Follow-up Committee for implementation of the Trilateral Chabahar Agreement between India, Afghanistan & Iran was held in the port city of Chabahar in Iran. India Ports Global Limited company opened its office & took over operations at Chabahar.
- 15th edition of Global SME Business Summit organised by the Ministry of MSME & Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in association with Government e-marketplace in New Delhi. The theme was 'Building Partnerships through Global Value Chains.'
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj & Foreign Affairs Minister of South Korea Kang Kyung-wha co-chaired the 9th India-ROK Joint Commission

meeting. Ms. Kyung-wha arrived in New Delhi for a visit to India.

- The UN Climate Conference 2018 held in Katowice, Poland.
- India's Minister of Defense Nirmala Sitharaman met with Russian Federation General Sergei Shoigu in New Delhi, marking the 18th meeting of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Military Technical Cooperation (IRIGC-MTC).
- 39th Gulf Cooperation Council Summit inaugurated by the King Salman of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh. It was announced at the conclusion of the summit that the 40th Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) summit will be held in the United Arab Emirates.
- PM Modi inaugurated the fourth Partners' Forum in New Delhi. The objective is to improve knowledge, alignment & accountability to accelerate action on women's, children's & adolescents health.
- The first International Conference on 'Sustainable Water Management' held at Indian School of Business (ISB) in Mohali, Punjab. The theme of the conference was 'Sustainable Water Management'.
- The second meeting of the NITI Forum for the North East is being held in Guwahati, Assam.
- The first India-ASEAN InnoTech Summit held in New Delhi. It was organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) in association with the Department of Science & Technology (DST) & Ministry of External Affairs.
- Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated India Water Impact Summit 2018, being jointly organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) & the Centre for Ganga River Basin Management & Studies (cGanga) in New Delhi.
- Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated Global Agriculture & Food Summit 2018 in Ranchi, Jharkhand. Seven countries, including China, Israel & Malaysia are participating in the Summit. The aim of the Summit is to promote Jharkhand as a key player to attract investment in the agriculture sector.
- The UN climate summits, i.e. so called COP (Conference of the Parties) are global conferences, in the course of which action for climate policy is negotiated. The Climate Change Conference 2018 was held in Katowice, Poland. This year's summit included: 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP24), 14th Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP

14) & the 1st Conference of Signatories to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1).

- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited United Arab Emirates to co-chair the 12th session of the India-UAE Joint Commission Meeting for Economic & Technical Cooperation with UAE Foreign Minister, Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi.
- Asia Pacific Summit-2018 held in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. The theme was "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, & Universal Values".
- President Kovind, inaugurated the 13th edition of CII Agro Tech India-2018 in Chandigarh.

Committees

- RBI appointed former governor Bimal Jalan as the chairman of the Economic Capital Framework (ECF) committee formed to address the issue of excess reserves with the central bank. Former RBI deputy governor Rakesh Mohan has been appointed the vice-chairman of the committee.
- Government has constituted a seven-member panel to select managing directors of public sector insurance companies. The panel would be headed by Banks Board Bureau (BBB) chairman B P Sharma.
- Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) headed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to vet the recommendations of a high-level panel on stressed power projects.

Visits

- Prime Minister of Bhutan Dr. Lotay Tshering arrived in New Delhi for an official visit to India. The visit of the Bhutanese Prime Minister is taking place during the Golden Jubilee year of the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries.
- Foreign Affairs Minister of Denmark Anders Samuelsen arrived in New Delhi for an official visit to India. Mr. Samuelsen met External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.
- PM Modi visited Varanasi & Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh. During the visit, he laid the foundation stone of medical College in Ghazipur. He also dedicated the 6th International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), South Asia Regional Center (ISARC) to the nation. Note: The One District, One Product Regional Summit was held at Deendayal Hastakala Sankul (Trade Facilitation Centre & Crafts Museum) in Varanasi.
- PM Modi launched infrastructure & housing projects worth about Rs. 41,000 crores in

Maharashtra. During his visit, he laid the foundation stone for two important metro corridors in Kalyan (Thane-Bhiwandi-Kalyan Metro & the Dahisar-Mira-Bhayander Metro). He also launched mass housing scheme worth 18,000 crore rupees which offers around 90,000 affordable homes for economically weaker sections under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

- PM Modi inaugurated several projects worth over Rs. 14,500 cr during his visit to Odisha. He also dedicated the new campus of IIT-Bhubaneswar at Aragul & launched a slew of projects related to higher education, health, road & highways, & culture. He laid the foundation of Paradip-Hyderabad Pipeline Product Project by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. & Bokaro-Angul section of Jagdishpur-Haldia & Bokaro-Dhamra Gas Pipeline Project by Gas Authority of India Limited.
- President Kovind visited Myanmar. He dedicated – India assisted project 'Advanced Centre for Agricultural Research & Education' (ACARE) – to the people of Myanmar.
- Air Force Chief Birender Singh Dhanoa visited Japan. During his visit, he met Japanese Minister of Defence Takeshi Iwaya, Chief of Staff of Japan Air Self Defence Force General Yoshinari Marumo, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano.
- President Ram Nath Kovind & first lady Savita Kovind left for a 4-day visit to Myanmar. During his stay, the President will visit capital Nay Pyi Taw & Yangon, & interact with his counterpart U Win Myint & State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi. The president will also hold a high-level delegation meeting. Myanmar is a country where India's "Act East" & "Neighbourhood First" policies intersect.

Science & Technology Current Affairs

- The GSLV F 11 carrying GSAT 7A successfully launched from the Space research Centre Sriharikota by ISRO. It is a dedicated mission for updating & increasing the capability of the Country's defence forces. GSLV F 11 carries the 2250 kilogram GSAT 7A from Sriharikota. The rocket, GSLV F 11 is the fourth generation launch vehicle with three stages.
- China launched the first-ever spacecraft, Chang'e 4, that will attempt landing on the far side of the Moon, which always shows the same face to Earth.
- German firm BigRep claims it has produced the world's first fully functioning e-motorbike NERA using a 3D printer.

- SpaceX successfully launched 64 small satellites, including India's ExseedSAT-1 in the company's largest-ever "rideshare" mission on a twice-reused Falcon 9 rocket that lifted off from a California launchpad. This is a new US record. The Falcon 9 rocket carried 15 micro-satellites & 49 CubeSats belonging to 34 different clients.

Books & Authors

- The book titled "Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors & Where We Came From" written by Tony Joseph was released.
- Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh released his book titled "Changing India".
- VP Naidu released Compilation of Selected speeches of the President, Ram Nath Kovind titled, "The Republican Ethic" in English & "Loktantra ke Swar" in Hindi at a function in Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- Admiral Sunil Lanba, Chief of the Naval Staff, released a book titled 'Blue Waters Ahoy!' – chronicling the Indian Navy's History from 2001-10. It authored by Vice Admiral Anup Singh.

Miscellaneous Current Affairs

- The Union Cabinet approved amendments to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. The changes prescribe stringent punishment, including the death penalty for aggravated penetrative sexual assault of children. Further, hefty fine would be imposed for not deleting, not destroying child pornographic material or not reporting child pornography.
- India's first locomotive-less train, known as Train 18, breached the 180 kilometres per hour speed limit during a test run at Kota-Sawai Madhopur section in Rajasthan. Train 18 is capable of touching 200 kilometres per hour.
- Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) launched a new mass media campaign calling for the elimination of industrially produced trans fat in the food supply. It is called as "Heart Attack Rewind". The first mass media campaign of its kind – will support FSSAI's global target of eliminating trans fat in India by the year 2022.
- "PAiSA – Portal for Affordable Credit & Interest Subvention Access", a centralized electronic platform for processing interest subvention on bank loans to beneficiaries under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) was launched. It has been designed & developed by Allahabad Bank which is the Nodal bank.
- Home Minister Rajnath Singh announced a pan-India single-number emergency mobile app '112

India' & stated that it will have a special women safety feature 'SHOUT' to get immediate assistance from police & volunteers. It is connected to the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS).

- Nagaland became the first state in the Northeast & second in the country, after Himachal Pradesh, to launch a pan-India single-number (112) emergency mobile application which will have a special women safety feature for immediate assistance from police & volunteers.
- Cabinet approved an export policy for agriculture, lifting all restrictions on organic & processed food, to help the government's efforts to double farmers' income by 2022. The 'Agriculture Export Policy, 2018' seeks to double farm exports to \$60 billion by 2022 from \$30 billion currently & will invest 1,400 crore to set up specialised clusters in different states for different produce to push exports.
- Kolkata-Patna is India's new Inland Water Transport (IWT) origin-destination pair for containerised cargo movement on the National Waterway-1.
- FAO Council approved India's proposal to observe an International Year of Millets in 2023. FAO Council also approved India's membership to the Executive Board of the United Nations World Food Program for 2020 & 2021.
- Home Ministry launched a Twitter account named '@CyberDost' to spread awareness about cybercrimes & normal precautions to be taken.
- Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Radha Mohan Singh launched a portal 'ENSURE'- National Livestock Mission-EDEG developed by NABARD & operated under the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries. NABARD developed an online portal "ENSURE" (ensure.nabard.org) so that the information related to beneficiary & processing of the application can be made readily available.
- Dr. Jitendra Singh launched the iGOT (Integrated Government Online Training Programme) developed by Department of Personnel & Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions. The Right to Information (RTI) Portal on Judgments/Orders of Supreme Court, High Courts & CIC developed by the Institute of Secretariat Training & Management (ISTM), New Delhi. This Portal will provide a learning environment for all stakeholders under which a repository on the landmark cases on the RTI will be available at one place.
- The indigenously developed Kaiga Atomic Power Station in Karnataka has set a new world record,

with one of its units operating uninterrupted for more than 940 days.

- Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha launched an official mobile application for Global Aviation Summit 2019. It is scheduled to be held in January 2019 in Mumbai.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi releases a 100 rupees commemorative coin in honour of former Prime Minister & Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birth anniversary, which falls on 25th December, is celebrated as 'Good Governance Day'.

Obituaries

- Norman Gimbel, the Oscar & Grammy-winning lyricist passed away at the age of 91.
- Legendary filmmaker Mrinal Sen passed away at the age of 95 in Kolkata. He was a Padma Bhushan & Dada Saheb Phalke awardee.
- Dr. Hamidi Kashmiri, the tallest literary figure in the world of Urdu language, literature & literary criticism passed away.
- Social worker & Padma Shri awardee Sulagitti Narasamma passed away in Bengaluru. She was 98 years old.
- Centrist politician Paddy Ashdown has died aged 77 after a short illness.
- Legendary Assamese singer Dipali Borthakur popularly referred to as the "Nightingale of Assam" passed away. She was 77.
- Former Prime Minister of Nepal Tulsi Giri has passed away in Kathmandu. He was 93. He twice served as the prime minister of Nepal first from 1962 to 1964 & again from 1975 to 1977.
- Senior Congress leader & former Kerala minister CN Balakrishnan passed away in Kochi due to pneumonia. He was 87.

- Professor Mushirul Hasan, a renowned historian, & former vice-chancellor Jamia Millia of Islamia, passed away at the age of 71.
- Public Relations Officer (PRO) in the prime minister's office & senior journalist Jagdish Thakkar passed away in New Delhi.
- The 41st President of the US, George HW Bush has passed away on at the age of 94.

Countries | Capital | Currencies

- Australia Capital: Canberra, Currency: Australian Dollar.
- Myanmar (Burma) Capital: Naypyidaw, Currency: Burmese kyat.
- South Africa Capitals: Pretoria (administrative), Cape Town (legislative), Bloemfontein (judicial), Currency: South African rand.
- Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli is the current Prime Minister of Nepal.
- Bidya Devi Bhandari is the current President of Nepal and commander in chief of Nepalese Army.
- The Nepalese Rupee is the currency of Nepal.
- Kathmandu is the capital city of Nepal.
- The UAE's President: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Capital: Abu Dhabi, Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham.
- Mexico Capital: Mexico City, Currency: Mexican peso.
- Bahrain Capital: Manama, Currency: Bahraini dinar.
- Peru Currency: Sol, Capital: Lima.
- Luxembourg Capital: Luxembourg City, Currency: Euro.
- Tanzania Capital: Dodoma, Currency: Tanzanian shilling.
- Israel Capital: Jerusalem, Currency: Israeli new shekel.
- Russia Capital: Moscow, Currency: Russian ruble.
- Sweden Capital: Stockholm, Currency: Swedish krona.
- Saudi Arabia Capital: Riyadh, Currency: Saudi riyal.
- Sri Lanka Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte, Currency: Sri Lankan rupee, President: Maithripala Sirisena.
- Maldives Capital: Male, Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa.
- Denmark Currency: Danish krone, Capital: Copenhagen.
- Poland Capital: Warsaw, Currency: Polish zloty.
- Belgium Capital: City of Brussels, Currency: Euro.
- South Korea Capital: Seoul, Currency: South Korean won.



- Japan Capital: Tokyo, Currency: Japanese yen, PM: Shinzo Abe.
- Thimphu is the capital city of Bhutan.
- Turkmenistan Capital: Ashgabat, Currency: Manat.

International Organizations / Companies in News

- World Bank President: Jim Yong Kim, Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States.
- Takeshi Watanabe was ADB's first President.
- Headquarters of ADB is in Manila, Philippines.
- Takehiko Nakao is a Japanese civil servant who was elected the ninth president of the Asian Development Bank in 2013.
- The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is a permanent, intergovernmental Organization, created at the Baghdad Conference on September 10–14, 1960, by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.
- HE Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo is the Secretary General of OPEC.
- OPEC headquarters in Vienna, Capital of Austria.
- International Association of Athletics Federations Headquarters in Monaco.
- 10-member ASEAN comprises of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Philippines, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Brunei and Laos.
- India is a full dialogue partner of the ASEAN.
- Myanmar is the only ASEAN member state that is both a land and maritime neighbor of India.
- Director: K. Sivan, Headquarters: Bengaluru, Established in: 1969.
- Fitch Ratings Headquarters: New York.
- United Nations Headquarters: New York.
- The ILO is a United Nations agency dealing with labour issues, particularly international labour standards, social protection, and work opportunities for all.
- ILO was established in 1919 as an agency of the League of Nations and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- India is a founder member of the ILO.
- At present ILO has 187 members.
- Antonio Guterres is the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
- The UN was established on 24th October 1945.
- The Asian Development Bank is a regional development Bank established in 1966.
- The FATF is an inter-governmental body established in 1989 to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and other related threats to the integrity of the international financial system.

- Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA) CEO: Alistair Nicholson.
- The Gulf Cooperation Council was established in 1981 in Abu Dhabi.
- The GCC comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.
- MD of International Monetary Fund- Christine Lagarde, Headquarters in- Washington DC, USA.
- Michal Kurtyka was the president of COP24.
- FICCI President: Sandip Somany, Headquarters: New Delhi.
- ISRO Director: K. Sivan, Headquarters: Bengaluru.
- The founder and Chairman of WEF- Klaus Schwab.
- WEF Headquarters in Switzerland.
- Archery Association of India came into existence in 1973.
- Honorary Life President of AAI: Prof Vijay Kumar Malhotra.
- The International Whaling Commission (IWC) was set up under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling which was signed in Washington DC on 2nd December 1946.
- The IWC has a full-time Secretariat with headquarters located in the City of Cambridge, United Kingdom.
- Dr. Rebecca Lent is the Executive Secretary of IWC.

Financial Organizations in News

- FSSAI Chairperson: Rita Teatia, Chief Executive Officer: Pawan Kumar Agarwal.
- SBM Bank is the first foreign bank to set up a wholly owned subsidiary (WOS), to provide universal banking service with a focus on wholesale banking, trade finance, capital market and retail banking.
- RBI 25th Governor: Shaktikanta Das, Headquarters: Mumbai, Founded: 1 April 1935, Kolkata.
- NITI- National Institution for Transforming India.
- NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman- Rajiv Kumar, CEO- Amitabh Kant.
- SEBI- Securities and Exchange Board of India.
- SEBI Chairman- Ajay Tyagi, Headquarters- Mumbai.
- NABARD Chairman- Harsh Kumar Bhanwala, Headquarters- Mumbai, Established on- 12 July 1982.
- Mohammad Mustafa is the present CMD of SIDBI.
- SIDBI Headquarters in Lucknow.
- SIDBI was set up on 2nd April 1990 under an Act of Indian Parliament.

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States | CMs | Governors | Capital | Ministers | Static General Awareness

- Minister for Water Resources, RD & GR: Shri Nitin Gadkari.
- Nagaland CM: Neiphiu Rio, Governor: PB Acharya.
- Birender Singh Dhanoa is the present chief of Air Staff of Indian Air Force
- Train 18, Developed by Chennai-based Integral Coach Factory in 18 months, the fully AC train is designed in such a way that passengers can see the driver's cabin.
- Tourism minister of India: Shri. K.J. Alphons, Minister of State (Independent Charge).
- Odisha CM: Naveen Patnaik, Governor: Ganeshi Lal.
- Anil Bajjal is the present Lt. Governor of Delhi.
- John Mathai was the first railway minister of independent India.
- Kerala Governor: Palanisamy Sathasivam, Capital: Thiruvananthapuram.
- Rajnath Singh is the Home Minister of India.
- Jagat Prakash Nadda is the present Minister of Health and Family Welfare.
- Raj Kumar Singh is the Minister of State (I/C) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- Jharkhand CM: Raghubar Das, Governor: Draupadi Murmu.
- Maharashtra CM: Devendra Fadnavis, Governor: C Vidyasagar Rao.
- Smt. Sushma Swaraj is the present External Affairs Minister of India.
- Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is Mr Ram Vilas Paswan.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan is the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

- Mr Suresh Prabhu is the present Minister of Commerce and Industry.
- Rengali and Tikhali Dams are situated in Odisha.
- Ram Naik is the present Governor of Uttar Pradesh.
- Ravi Shankar Prasad is the present Minister of Law and Justice in India.

Other Static General Awareness Current Affairs

- The AB-PMJAY is the world's largest healthcare scheme which aims at providing portable coverage of Rs 5 lakh per entitled family annually.
- The 19-year-old Mbappe (the youngest player to score in a World Cup final) won the Raymond Kopa Trophy awarded to the best young player.
- Ada Hegerberg became the first women to win Ballon d'Or.
- The last player to win the award outside of Ronaldo and Messi was Brazilian great Kaka in 2007.
- In 2017, Madame Tussauds opened its 23rd Wax museum in Connaught Place (CP), New Delhi.
- India ranks 4th in the world in wind energy capacity and 5th in solar & total renewable energy capacity installed in the world.
- National Pension System (NPS) is a government-sponsored pension scheme that was launched in January 2004 for government employees.
- The Partners' Forum is a global health partnership launched in September 2005 to accelerate efforts to reduce child and maternal mortality, improve adolescent, child, newborn and maternal health.
- Time awards the "Person of the Year" title annually since 1927.
- It is the first time someone has been chosen posthumously for the prestigious cover.
- US President Donald Trump was the 2016 "Person of the Year".
- The first President of India Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the first Chairman of the Jnanpith Selection Board.
- Krishna Sobti was awarded the 53rd Jnanpith award in Hindi Language.
- Amitav Ghosh has become the first English author to be honoured with the award.
- The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) was established by amending Article 338 and inserting a new Article 338A in the Constitution through the Constitution (89th Amendment) Act, 2003.
- The first National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) was constituted in March, 2004.

- Kaiga Generating Station is a nuclear power generating station situated at Kaiga, near the river Kali, in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka.
- The plant has been in operation since March 2000.
- National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) was set-up in 1986 to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals.
- FTII Chairman: Shri B.P. Singh.
- The indigenously developed sophisticated Agni-IV having 4,000 km strike range is a two-stage missile.
- It is 20 meters long with a weight of 17 tonnes.
- Telangana was carved out of the state in 2014, with Hyderabad as its capital.
- The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act 2014 provided for a separate high court for the state after division.
- The "Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan" scheme is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), and State/UTs Governments.
- Ajay Singh is the President of the Boxing Federation of India (BFI).