



Current Affairs Of The Week: 6th to 14th October

National

- In a historic day for India, Northeast and Assam Petrochemicals, a state-owned company for launched Asia's first cannisters based and India's first "Methanol Cooking Fuel Program".
- The Election Commission has announced the poll schedule for Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Telangana. While Chhattisgarh will have two-phase elections, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Telangana will have single phase election.
- The country's biggest skill competition, India Skills 2018 has concluded in New Delhi. India Skills 2018 was the second edition of the nationwide competition organized by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- The country's first India-Israel Innovation Centre (IIIC), an entrepreneurial technology hub, was launched in Bengaluru.



• Minister of State for Textiles, Ajay Tamta has stated that the Ministry will release 7.8 crore rupees for the construction of a textile tourism complex in Nongpoh, Ri-Bhoi district of Meghalaya.

- In Chhattisgarh, Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal and the state Chief Minister Raman Singh laid the foundation stone of two key railway projects. One was the construction of a new railway line connecting Katghora-Mungeli-Kawardha-Dongargarh and other flagging off of Korba-Raipur-Korba Hasdeo Express.
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) will complete commissioning of its second generation (2G) ethanol bio-refinery at Baulsingha village in Bargarh district of Odisha by 2020.

INTERNATIONAL

- Ukraine began a series of large-scale air force exercises with the United States and other NATO countries. The "Clear Sky 2018" war games are being held in western Ukraine.
- Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was in Paris on a three-day visit to France. The two sides inked a strategic pact providing for the use of each other's military facilities including opening naval bases to warships.
- In Malaysia, the cabinet decided to abolish the death penalty. Communications and multimedia Minister Gobind Singh Deo stated that the government decided to scrap capital punishment following strong domestic opposition to the practice.
- India has been elected to the United Nations' Human Rights Council with the highest vote among all candidates. It secured 188 votes in the Asia-Pacific category for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019.
- President Ram Nath Kovind was in Tajikistan on a three-day visit to Central Asian Country. He arrived in Dushanbe and was received by Deputy Prime Minister of Tajikistan Zokirzoda Mahmad Toir.

MO	Js/AGREEMENT	S

S1. No.	Name of Organization/ Country	Signed MoU / Agreement With	Purpose
1.	Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)	Russian Federation's SIRIUS Educational Foundation	To promote innovative cooperation between students of India and Russia
2.	Ministry of Railways	Ministry of Transport of Russian Federation	for development of cooperation in transport education
3.	India	Tajikistan	On political relations, strategic research, agriculture,



CURRENT AFFAIRS | October 2018



			renewable energy, traditional medicine, space technology, Culture and Disaster Management.	
4.	UNICEF	NASSCOM Foundation	To strengthen child rights through "meaningful business interventions	
5.	India	Lebanon	for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors	
6.	India	Romania	In the field of tourism	
7.	Coal India	NLC India (NLCIL)	To set up 5000 MW of power generation capacity	
8.	ISRO	Central University of Jammu	for setting up of the Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science in the University	
9.	India	Azerbaijan	to take measures to enhance bilateral trade relations	
10.	India	Sri Lanka	for construction of 1200 houses through 50 model villages	

APPOINTMENTS

S1. No.	Name of the Person	Appointed as	Name of Organization	Replaced
1.	Nikki Haley	Resigned as the US Ambassador to the United Nations		
2.	Pravin Srivastava	3rd Chief Statistician of India	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)	
3.	Tushar Mehta	Solicitor General of India		Ranjit Kumar (Resigned in October 2017)
4.	Brett Kavanaugh	114th Justice of the US Supreme Court		Chief Justice John Roberts

SCHEMES AND COMMITTEES

- The Karnataka Government has unveiled 'Unnati Scheme' to help entrepreneurs from SC/ST Communities
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched 'Nirman Kusuma' programme for providing financial assistance to the children of the construction workers for their technical education in the state.

SUMMITS, CONCLAVES AND CONFERENCES

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first Uttarakhand Investors Summit in Dehradun.

- Minister of State for Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs and Food & Public Distribution, C. R. Chaudhary led the Indian delegation to the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)- EXIM Bank, Regional Conclave on India-West Africa Project Partnership being held in Abuja, Nigeria.
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, J P Nadda inaugurated '2nd World Conference on Access to Medical Products: Achieving the SDGs 2030' in New Delhi.
- External Affairs Minister (EAM) Sushma Swaraj participated in the 17th Council of Heads of Government, CHG, meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

AWARDS

The complete list of Winners of Nobel Prize 2018-

S. No.	Field	Winner	Description
1.	Physiology or Medicine	James P Allison (USA) and Tasaku Honjo (Japan)	"for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation"
2.	Physics	Arthur Ashkin (USA), Gerard Mourou (France)and Donna Strickland (Canada)	"for groundbreaking inventions in the field of laser physics"
3.	Chemistry	(a) one half to Frances H. Arnold (USA)	(a) "for the directed evolution of enzymes"



CURRENT AFFAIRS | October 2018



		-	
		(b) other half jointly to George P. Smith	(b) "for the phage display of peptides and
		(USA) and Sir Gregory P. Winter (UK)	antibodies"
4.	Peace	Denis Mukwege (Congo) and Nadia Murad	"for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as
	Peace	(Iraq)	a weapon of war and armed conflict"
			(a) "for integrating climate change into long-run
_	5. Economic Sciences	(a) William D. Nordhaus (USA)	macroeconomic analysis"
3.		(b) Paul M. Romer (USA)	(b) "for integrating technological
			innovations intolong-run macroeconomic analysis."



- Sport Australia Hall of Fame has announced cricketing great Richie Benaud, who died in April, 2015, will become the 40th Legend of Australian Sport.
- The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has won the 'ISSA Good Practice Award' for Administrative Solution for Coverage Extension at the "Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific" held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Veena Sendre from Chhattisgarh has been chosen as India's first 'Miss Trans Queen'. Veena defeated Namita Ammu of Tamil Nadu to claim the title at the national-level beauty contest organised in Mumbai.
- Indus Towers, world's largest telecom tower company (outside China), won the Deming Prize for 2018, being the first Indian company in the service sector and the fifth in the world to achieve this.

DEFENCE

- Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) Ships Kaga, an Izumo Class Helicopter Destroyer and Inazuma – a Guided Missile Destroyer arrived at Visakhapatnam to participate in Maritime Exercise Between Japan and India 'JIMEX 18'.
- Pakistan has successfully test-fired Ghauri ballistic missile capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads up to a distance of 1,300 kilometres.

SPORTS NEWS

Youth Olympic Games 2018

- Official Mascot: Pandi
- Venue: Buenos Aires, Argentina
- The 3rd Youth Olympic Games were officially held at Buenos Aires, Argentina.

- ➤ 16-year-old Manu Bhaker led the Indian team in the opening ceremony as the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the games.
- ➤ 16 Year old Thangjam Tababi Devi became India's first judo medallist at the Olympic level, claiming a silver.
- ➤ Weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga has become India's first-ever gold medallist.
- Sixteen-year-old shooter Manu Bhaker has become the first-ever Indian woman to win gold.
- ➤ Pistol shooter Saurabh Chaudhary has bagged the Gold Medal in the 10-meter air pistol event.

Asian Para Games 2018

- Official Mascot: MOMO
- Venue: Jakarta, Indonesia
- ➤ Javelin thrower Sandeep Chaudhary clinched India's first gold of the Games in the men's category.
- Archer Harvinder Singh notched up the men's individual recurve gold.
- > Track-and-field athletes added a silver and a bronze.
- Former England batsman Nick Compton announced his retirement from cricket. South Africa-born Compton played 16 Tests for England, scoring two hundred.
- India's Keerthana Pandian has won the girls' title in the IBSF World Under-16 Snooker Championships.
- Indian under-19 cricket team has defeated Sri Lanka by 144 runs in the summit clash of the 2018 ACC Under-19 Asia Cup in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Indian batsman Yashasvi Jaiswal was named the Player of the Series.
- The International Olympics Committee (IOC) has picked its first African host of any Olympics, formally awarding the 2022 Youth Games to Senegal.
- Former Pakistan left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman, who along with teammate Saeed Ajmal famously stunned England during a 3-0 defeat in 2012, announced his retirement from international cricket.





IMPORTANT DAYS

S.	-	Celebrated	Theme
No.	Days	On	
1.	Air Force Day	8 October	
2.	World Post Day	9 October	"Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers?"
3.	World Mental Health Day	10 October	'Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World'
4.	International Day of the Girl Child	11 October	'With Her: A Skilled Girl Force'
5.	International Day for Disaster Reduction	13 October	'Reducing Disaster Economic Losses'

FESTIVALS, APPS AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

India International Science Festival 2018: Important Highlights

- ➤ The four-day long mega science expo, India International Science Festival (IISF-2018) concluded in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- ➤ IISF-2018 with its focal theme "Science for Transformation" had more than 23 special events in its 4th edition.
- IISF was inaugurated by the President Ram Nath Kovind
- On the occasion of 86th anniversary, the Indian Air Force has launched an innovative mobile health App named 'MedWatch'. 'MedWatch' is the first mobile health app in the three Armed Services and was launched by Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa.
- The Goa International Film Festival that will be held in November 2018 will have Jharkhand as a partner state.
- The Severe Cyclonic Storm 'TITLI' over the westcentral Bay of Bengal moved northwards with a speed of about 14 kmph over Westcentral Bay of Bengal near latitude 16.5°N and longitude 85.8°E, about 320 km south-southeast of Gopalpur (Odisha).
- The Union has approved the merger of the existing regulatory institutions in the skills space - National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) and the National Skill Development Agency (NSDA) into the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET).

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the 13th Annual Convention of the Central Information Commission in New Delhi. The Convention deliberated on three specific subjects - Data privacy and Right to Information, Amendment in the RTI Act and Implementation of the RTI Act.
- NITI Aayog and IBM announced a first-of-its-kind internship programme for students selected by Atal Innovation Mission (AIM).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the National Human Rights Commission's (NHRC) 25th anniversary and said that it has an important role to play in government's efforts to achieve sustainable development goals.

OBITUARIES

- Eminent Gandhian Natwar Thakkar, popularly known as Nagaland's Gandhi, died in a private hospital after a brief illness. He was 86. Mr. Thakkar is a Padma Shri awardee.
- Well-known Malayalam poet M N Paloor passed away at the age of 86-year due to age-related ailments. Paloor won the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award, the state's highest literary honour, in 1983 for his collection 'Kalikalam'.
- Legendary musician Annapurna Devi has passed away in Mumbai. She was 91. She was suffering from age-related issues.

