Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahlramani was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.

The appointment is after the elevation of Justice Indira Banerjee, as a Supreme Court judge.
Ms. Tahilramani, who was born in 1958, enrolled the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa in 1982 and was serving as a government leader and has been practising in Bombay HC.

In 2001, she was elevated as a judge of the Bombay High Court.

**STATES**

**India’s First Genetic Bank For Rare Species Inaugurated In Hyderabad**

Union Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the National Wildlife Genetic Resource Bank.

It is India’s first genetic bank for rare species.

So far, genetic resources from 23 species of Indian wild animals have been collected and preserved.

The facility aims to increase the collection of genetic resources from wildlife by collaborating with zoos across the country.
The main aim of the scheme to provide cashless healthcare facilities to beneficiaries at empanelled hospitals.

The scheme would be initially implemented on a pilot basis in one government hospital in each of the 22 districts, one ESI hospital and one medical college.

Under the scheme, families identified by the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) would be provided with coverage of Rs 5 lakh.
The Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dipak Misra inaugurated the new court complex in Hubballi, Karnataka.

During the ceremony, the CJI has suggested the government to appoint graduates from specialised disciplines, other than law, in district courts in order to ensure speedy dispensation of justice.

He said that MBA graduates can be appointed as court managers so that they could operate as facilitators of cases, plan the hearing of different cases and so on.

He also said that the courts should have the best available technology so that it can aid the public efficiently.

NATIONAL

IT Minister Releases ‘Digital North East Vision 2022’ In Guwahati
★ Union IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has released the ‘Vision Document’ for a digital North East by 2022.

★ The aim is to enhance peoples’ lives by capacity building of government staff and doubling BPO strength in the region.

★ The plan focuses on leveraging digital technologies to transform the lives of the people of the North East and enhance the ease of living.

★ A cloud hub for the North East will be created in Guwahati and capacity building for **50,000 government** staff will be taken up in using digital technologies.

★ According to the vision, **high speed broadband connectivity** in all the uncovered villages in the North Eastern region shall be provided.

◆ **Pune Ranked One, New Delhi 65th On Ease Of Living Index**

★ Pune has been ranked first in the **Ease of Living Index launched** by **Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry**. Navi Mumbai has been ranked second and while **Delhi at 65th place** in the list.
According to the ministry, Greater Mumbai has been ranked three, followed by Tripuri, Chandigarh, Thane, Raipur, Indore, Vijaywada and Bhopal.

The survey was conducted on 111 cities in the country.

Government Provides Rs.66,000-Crore Fund To Increase India’s Forest Cover

The Centre has unlocked more than 66,000-crore rupees to increase the country’s forest cover.

The fund has accumulated over the past 10 years. It is comprised of money deposited by agencies as compensation for diverting forest land for non-forest purposes.

80% of the amount has to be used for plantations, assisted natural regeneration of forests, forest fire prevention, and pest and disease control in forests, soil and moisture conservation works, and improvement of wildlife habitat.
The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has introduced a user outreach to create awareness among the people about the dos and don’ts of sharing their biometric identifier. The introduction of UIDAI is to make Aadhaar number and other personal information such as PAN (Permanent Account Number) and bank account number parallel.

Indian Railways to Stop Free Travel Insurance from September 1
Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has decided to stop free travel insurance starting September 1 and "free insurance will be optional".

The insurance provided by the IRCTC had a maximum cover of Rs. 10 lakh in case of a person's death during a train journey, Rs. 7.5 lakh if a person is disabled due to an accident, Rs. 2 lakh if injured and Rs. 10,000 for transportation of mortal remains.

Railways to Give 50 Per Cent Reservation to Women in RPF Recruitment

The announcement was made Union Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal on August 12, 2018 while inaugurating various rail projects in Patna, Bihar. The decision is a part of a major bid to increase the employment of women in Indian Railways.
The Railways has decided to provide 50 per cent reservation to women in the upcoming RPF recruitment process, which will involve recruitment of around 9500-10000 RPF jawans.

In total, about 10,000 jobs are expected to be created in the RPF. The recruitment for the same is expected to begin soon.

The recruitment process will reportedly be fully computerised, based on a computer test, to maintain transparency. The Ministry will not be conducting interviews.

Besides, the Railway Ministry has decided to install CCTV cameras at 6000 stations and important trains.

INTERNATIONAL

Israel Opened Visa Application Centre in Kolkata
Israel recently announced a reduction in visa fees to **INR 1,100 rupees** from its previous **1,700** charged from Indians.

India recorded a half-yearly growth of **82 percent** as compared to the same period in 2015 and has become one of the best-performing markets in Asia for Israel.

**Exim Bank Signs MoU With BRICS Development Banks**

**India’s Exim Bank** has signed a multilateral cooperation agreement with member development banks of **BRICS**.

The aim of the umbrella agreement is to undertake “**collaborative research**” in distributed ledger/blockchain technology.

Under the agreement, the signatories will constitute a joint research working group, which will formulate the research agenda and targeted outcome.
Macau Set To Overtake Qatar as World's Richest Place By 2020

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Macau in China would overtake oil-rich Qatar with the highest per-capita gross domestic product of any country or jurisdiction on earth, by 2020.

Macau is the only place in China where casinos are legal and its gross domestic product has more than tripled from about $34,500 per capita in 2001, the IMF data shows.

Three European countries -- Luxembourg, Ireland, and Norway -- made the top 10 places expected to be the world’s wealthiest by 2020, while the US came in at No. 12.

Nepal-India Literature Festival 2018 Commenced At Birgunj

The festival was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Province 2 Mohammad Lal Babu Raut.

The main aim of the festival is to strengthen Indo-Nepal ties.
The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is planning to celebrate Vikram Sarabhai centenary celebration starting in August 2019. This is to honour the visionary scientist and its legendary founding father Vikram Sarabhai.

As a part of its celebration, ISRO has planned to telecast a dedicated ISRO TV channel to showcase ISRO's space applications, developments and science issues.

It aims at targeting youngsters and the people in remote areas in their language.

Vikram Sarabhai, the architect of the Indian space programme, the first ISRO chief and renowned cosmic ray scientist, was born on August 12, 1919.
India to Launch Its Second Lunar Mission Chandrayaan-2 on January 3 Next Year

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is aiming to launch the mission but the window to land on the lunar surface is open till March 2019.
- The 800-crore rupees is the overall cost of lunar mission named “Chandrayaan-2”
- The 3,890-kg Chandrayaan-2, which will be launched onboard the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mk-3, will orbit around the moon.
Dutta Elected Vice President Of South West Asian Football Federation

All India Football Federation Senior Vice President Subrata Dutta has been elected as a vice president of the newly formed South West Asian Football Federation during its General Assembly in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Dutta has been elected to the post for a four-year term in the polls of the regional football body.
**ECONOMICS**

**World Bank to Issue World's First Blockchain Bond**

The World Bank has mandated the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) to issue the world’s first blockchain-based bond.

The Kangaroo bond, referring to foreign bonds issued in Australia in the local currency, has been named bond-i, an acronym standing for Blockchain Offered New Debt Instrument. (It's also a reference to Bondi Beach, an iconic spot in Sydney.)

**Bajaj Allianz General Insurance and Vijaya Bank Entered Into Bancassurance Deal**
This corporate agreement will enable distribution of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance products through the bank’s network of 2,129 branches across the country.

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance will offer personal lines of insurance products such as health, personal accident, home, motor and travel along with a commercial line of insurance products.

Axis Bank Introduced First of Its Kind Iris Authentication for Aadhaar-Based Transactions

Iris scan technology is totally contactless and provides up to 98.2 per cent authentication success rate (as per study conducted by the International Centre for Biometric Research) and offers an edge over other prevalent biometric modes.

Axis Bank presently running a pilot program for its customers at eight branches in rural segment largely covering areas of Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.
National Bowling Day is observed yearly on the second Saturday in August.

While it’s possible that bowling style games originated in ancient civilizations around the world, we likely can give credit to modern game of bowling to Germany.
International Lefthanders Day

International Lefthanders Day. International Left Handers Day is observed annually on August 13 to celebrate the uniqueness and differences of the left handers.

The day was first observed in the year 1976 by Dean R. Campbell, founder of the Lefthanders International, Inc.

OBITUARY

Former Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee Passed Away
He served as the **Speaker of the Lower House** from 2004-09 when Manmohan Singh-led UPA-1 (United Progressive Alliance).

He was **89** years old.

**Sir Vidia Passed Away**

Vidiadhar Surajprasad Naipaul, 85 years old, **passed away** on **11th August**. He is a Trinidad-born Indian-origin author.

He was awarded the **Nobel Prize** for Literature in 2001.

His **notable works** are

- A House for Mr Biswas
- In a Free State
- A Bend in the River
- The Enigma of Arrival
REMEMBERING FIDEL ALEJANDRO CASTRO RUZ
ON HIS BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

பிளேஞ்சு காஸ்ட்ரு ருச்
(August 13, 1926 – November 25, 2016)

பிளம்பை

★ 1926 ஆக்டோபர் 13 - கிம்புரானியன் பிரான்சு அம்மன் தொலைவு வீரரின் பில்ஏ அப்பதிமக்கி பிரான்சு காஸ்ட்ரு ருசேன்.
★ காஸ்ட்ரு ருசேன் தேர்வு தொலைவு காஸ்ட்ரு ருசேன் உபழந்த.
காலணி

★ காலணாவாக மு-சிற்றுப்படுத்தி எனும் எழுதிய பாடலின் காலந்துப் போல்வரை. பின்னர் காலணாவுடன் கூறுவரை பாடலின் விளக்கம் பக்திக்காண்டார்.

★ 1941 ஆம் ஆண்டில் பாலம் கலந்துவினால் விளக்கார்.

★ 1945 - ஆம் ஆண்டில் பாலம்ப மதுரையில் முழுமையான காலணாவு போகுதிக் கலந்த ஆனார்.

★ காலணாவு 1945 ஆம் ஆண்டில் பாலம் கலந்துக்குறிக்கின் தலைமை பைப்புக் கையிட்டார்.

பின்னால் ஆறனார்:

★ 1925-ஆம் ஆண்டில் புதுக்கோட்டை கலவாரியன் கல்வி, முதலியாக இந்தக் கல்விக் கொடுத்திய மாணவர் என்றாலும் அருகியிருந்த நீதிகளையும் கொண்டு கலவாரியன் கல்வி. காலணாவு கலவாரியன் கல்வியை திறக்கியதார்.

★ பதிவு அவரே பிரார்த்தனைத் தருவதும் செய்ய வேண்டும் பைப்புக் கையிட்டார்.

பிரிவு காலணாவு என்றுக்கு பதிவு:

★ சிற்றுப்படுத்தி 1959 ஆம் ஆண்டில் புதுக்கோட்டை முழுமையான பாடல்களைச் செய்து புதுக்கோட்டை பாடல் பாடல்களைச் செய்து சுருவாக்கிய பைப்பு.
நாம் காலங்கள், 1959 முதல் 1976 வரை கிறிஸ்து பிரெஞ்சுக்கல்வை, 1976 முதல் 2008 வரை தேசியக்கல்வைப் பொறுப்பு மற்றும்

★ கிறிஸ்து பிரெஞ்சுக்கல்வையின் கல்வையின் தொழில்கல்வைப் பொறுப்பு 1965 முதல் 1979 வரை கிறிஸ்து பிரெஞ்சு தொழில்கல்வையின் தொழில்கல்வைப் பொறுப்பிற்கு மாற்றம் முடிவு முடியும்.

★ 49ஆம் வளர்ச்சிக் கல்வையை அணுவாகக் காலங்கள் 19 பிப்ரவரி 24, 2008 அன்று பொறுப்பு மற்றும் கல்வை மற்றும்

★ லால்கிரி இரண்டு காலங்களுக்குத் தொடர்கள் பொறுப்பு மற்றும் தொழில்கல்வை மற்றும் காலங்கள் 1979-1983 முதல் 2006 முதல் 2008 வரை, அணுவாகக் கல்வையின் பொறுப்பு மற்றும் தொழில்கல்வை

**இடைவெளி:**

★ காலங்கள் அணுவாகக் கல்வை, 2014.