Tamil Nadu

Chennai – Presidency Girls Higher Secondary School in Egmore – Becomes The 1st Of 32 Schools In The State – Where KG Classes Will Be Started

The KG section was set up at a cost Rs 8.9 lakhs and was recently opened by K A Sengottaiyan, Min of School education on Aug 15th 2018
Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority – To Begin ‘Dry Run’ For Making ‘Full Planning Permit Process ‘ As ‘Online’

Going Digital

- The Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) has begun testing end-to-end online processing of applications for planning permissions.
- While applications can be submitted online, documents such as No Objection Certificates (NOC) and title deeds are still expected to be produced in person.
- The move would facilitate applicants to upload all the applications including NOCs and title deeds online.
- In the past month, 200 applications have been tested online, of which 90% were successful.

Chennai – All-Woman Organic Market To Open At Mother Theresa Women’s Complex In Nungambakkam
This market will function every 2nd Saturday and Sunday of the month, open from 10am to 8 pm

It will be organized by Tamil Nadu corporation for women’s development and Organic farmers market

Chemical-free organic produce including millets, vegetables, fruits, cotton garments and see will be available at the market

**STATES**

**Arunachal Pradesh – Passes Bill To Create ‘3 New Districts’ In The State**

- The 3 new districts are Pakke-Kesang, Lepa Rada and Shi Yomi
- Now, the state will have total 25 districts from earlier 22 districts

**Uttar Pradesh – The Whatapp Groups Run By Journalists In The Lalitpur District Of UP – Have To Be Compulsorily Registered With The Government’s Information Department – To Weed Out Fake News**
Min Of HRD – Launches ‘Innovation Cell’ In AICTE, New Delhi

- The purpose of new Cell is to encourage the culture of ‘Innovation’ in all Higher education institutions across the country

- It will conduct major ‘innovation’ programs such as Network of Innovation Clubs, Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements, Smart India Hackathon 2019, National Student Startup policy etc.

- It has to be recalled that India’s ranking in the Global Innovation Index improved significantly from 66 in 2016 to 57 in 2018, among a total of 127 countries
Min Of HRD – Introduces ‘Atal Ranking Of Institutions On Innovation Achievements’ To Promote ‘Innovation’ In The Educational Institutes

* It will systematically rank the institutions primarily on Innovation related indicators
* The ranking will be based on the total score of 100 in 5 broad areas
  - Idea to entrepreneurship (Weightage - 54)
  - Budget expenses and revenue generated through Innovation and entrepreneurship development (20)
  - Facilitate access to advance centres and facilities and entrepreneurial support system (10)
  - Development of innovation ecosystems supported through teaching & learning (10)
  - Best innovative solutions developed in-house for improving governance of institution (6)
Call For Code Initiative – Launched By IBM, Global IT Giant Along With The Partnership Of Indian IT Companies – To Build Global Solutions For Disaster Management

- The prominent IT companies that are expected to participate in this initiative are - Persistent Systems, Invest India, Wipro, Capgemini and NASSCOM
- The initiative strives to bring startup, academic and enterprise developers together to respond and recover from natural disasters
- For this purpose, IBM will provide access to its cloud, data, Artificial Intelligence and blockchain technologies, along with training and code to developers
- Through this initiative, IBM and David Clark Cause are joining forces to benefit their charitable partners such as United Nations Human Rights and American Red Cross
- This initiative was started in May 2018 and since then over 35 organisations are already part of it.

Asian Development Bank – To Provide $240 Million Loan – For Providing Safe, Sustainable Drinking Water In 3 Districts Of West Bengal, That Is Affected By Arsenic, Fluoride And Salinity

- The Project targets about 390,000 individual households in three districts of North 24 Parganas, Bankura and Purba Medinipur
- The project will use first-of-its-kind ‘high-technology’ based ‘Smart water management system’ to efficiently manage large scale rural water services
- West Bengal is the worst affected state with high arsenic and fluoride levels in drinking water in India

Budget of the project
- Overall cost - $349 million
- ADB to provide - $240 million
- West Bengal to provide - $106 million
- Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction financed by Government of Japan - $3 million
- Completion of the Project – June 2024
Germany – To Provide ‘Soft Loan’ Of 120 Million Euros (Rs 990 Crore Approximately) – To Strengthen Sewage Water Treatment Infrastructure In Uttarakhand In Order To Clean River Ganga Under Clean Ganga Mission

- German development agency GIZ – Had also prepared ‘Ganga Box’ - to target school-going children and inform them about the river Ganga
- The purpose of project is to reduce untreated waste water in River Ganga and, thereby to improve the water quality of the river
- Ganga Book – has been prepared like ‘Danube book’ when the cleaning of River Danube was undertaken
- The book will highlight the importance of River Ganga along with suggestions to avoid polluting it
- Ganga book project has been piloted in government schools in Uttarakhand and it will be replicated in other states

NITI Aayog – Has Initiated ‘Mobility Week’ From Aug 31 To Sep 6, 2018 – In The Run Up To ‘MOVE: The Global Mobility Summit 2018’ To Be Held On September 7-8, 2018 At Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
The summit will be inaugurated by the PM

During the ‘Mobility week’ there will be 17 events to be organized in 7 days

They will set the right contexts for meaningful dialogues at The Global Mobility Summit 2018

There will be workshops organized by various stakeholders like Indian Railways, IIT Delhi, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways etc.,

Events like the ‘Global Mobility Hackathon’ and ‘Pitch to MOVE’ will showcase the innovation potential of India’s young generation.

During the week, academic conferences, policy roundtables, and thematic workshops will be held to help unite ideas

♦ Indian Railways – Signs Mou With GAIL India – For The Use Of ‘Natural Gas’ In Railway Workshops, Depots And Production Units

The agreement will ensure the supply of CNG, LNG and PNG for both industrial and domestic purposes

It aims to replace Dissolved Acetylene, LPG, BMCG and Furnace Oil, High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil with environment friendly ‘Natural Gas’

Out of 54 workshops and production units, 23 workshops will start using Natural Gas by December 31, 2018 and the rest by June 30, 2019

All railway establishments, including base kitchens of IRCTC, all guest houses and hostels and Railway divisions will start using Natural Gas by June 30, 2019

The move will also ensure a cost saving of Rs 20 crore per annum
The mission aims to bring transparency and efficiency in public procurement and achieve cashless and paperless transaction. The State CM’s will launch the mission in their headquarters during the 6 weeks’ special drive, beginning from September 6 to October 15, 2018. The platform already has more than 1.35 lakh sellers offering 4.43 lakh products and around 26,500 organisations as buyers.

Indian Railways – To Stop ‘Free Rail Travel Insurance’ Offered To The Passengers From Sep 1, 2018

Henceforth, it will become ‘optional’ with the passengers to choose between ‘opt-in and opt-out’ options while booking their tickets.
Gold (Hindi Movie) – Becomes The 1st Bollywood Film Ever To Be Released In Saudi Arabia

- It starred Akshay kumar and directed by Reema kagti
- Earlier, Rajnikanth’s starrer ‘Kaala’ was also released in the country
- Black Panther (English) – was the first movie released after the country recently lifted the ban on Movie theaters

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

4th BIMSTEC Summit – Concludes In Kathmandu, Nepal – With The Signing And Adoption Of 18-Point ‘Kathmandu Declaration’ By All The Seven Member Countries

- Theme - ‘Towards a Peaceful Prosperous, and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region’
During the Summit, foreign ministers of BIMSTEC member countries signed a MoU on the Establishment of BIMSTEC Grid Interconnection.

The Chairmanship of the next BIMSTEC Summit has been handed over to Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena.

Hence, Sri Lanka will be conducting the 5th BIMSTEC summit.

PM Modi had earlier invited all the BIMSTEC member countries to participate as ‘Guests of Honour’ in the ‘International Buddhist Conclave 2020’ to be hosted by India in August 2020.

He also announced the establishment of the ‘Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies at Nalanda University’ for research on arts, culture, maritime laws and other subjects.

**Participated Leaders**

- Narendra Modi, Indian Prime Minister
- Maithripala Sirisena, Sri Lankan President
- U Win Myint, Myanmar President
- Dasho Tshering Wangchuk, Bhutan’s Chief Justice and Chief Advisor to the interim government
- Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh Prime Minister
- Prayut Chan-o-cha, Thailand’s Prime Minister

**PERSONALITIES**

- **Iram Habib – Becomes The 1st Kashmiri Muslim Woman To Become Pilot**

  - She will join GoAir next month
  - Earlier, Tanvi Raina became the 1st woman pilot from the Kashmir in 2016, when she joined Air India
  - Earlier, Ayesha Aziz (21 years) became the country’s youngest student pilot in April 2017
DEFENCE

**Vostok 2018 (East 2018) – Russia To Conduct Its Largest Military Exercise From Sep 11 To 15, 2018 In Central And Eastern Military Districts**

- It will involve the participation of Russian Army, Air Force and Navy with more than 300,000 troops, 36,000 tanks, armoured personnel carriers, armoured infantry vehicles, over 1,000 military aircraft, two naval fleets and all its airborne units
- China and Mongolia will also participate in Vostok 2018
- It will be the biggest war games to be conducted by Russia since Zapad-81 (West-81) exercise, conducted by erstwhile Soviet Union in 1981 in which about 100,000 to 150,000 troops had participated
- It is being conducted in response to unfriendly attitudes towards Russia by NATO and West countries

**Exercise KAKADU 2018 – To Take Place In Port Of Darwin, Australia And The Northern Australian Exercise Areas – During 29th Aug To 15th Sep, 2018**

**INS Sahyadari Reaches Australia For Exercise Kakadu 2018**
It is the premier multilateral regional maritime engagement exercise - hosted by the Royal Australian Navy and supported by the Royal Australian Air Force

India will be represented by INS Sahyadri, which entered the Port of Darwin, Australia on 29 Aug 18

This is the 14th edition of the biennial event

It derives its name from Kakadu National Park, which is a protected area in the northern territory of Australia, 171 km south-east of Darwin

The exercise will see the participation from 23 warships, one submarine, 45 aircraft, 250 marines and approx 52 foreign staff from over 25 different countries

It has to be recalled that INS Sahyadri has recently represented Indian Navy in multinational exercises MALABAR 18 at Guam and RIMPAC 18 at Hawaii

**ECONOMY**

**HDFC Bank – Has Come Forward To Adopt 30 Villages In The Flood-Hit Kerala**

This is as part of its efforts towards the relief and rehabilitation measures in the state

As part of the initiative, it will set up medical camps and rebuild affected health centres

It will also support the renovation/reconstruction of local schools and impart skills training to families to restore livelihoods
AWARDS

Vir Singh Negi Of JIPMER – Wins The Prestigious ‘B C Roy Award’ For The Year 2017 – For His Contribution In Developing Specialities In Different Branches Of Medicine

* He is the Professor and Head (clinical immunology) of Jawaharlal Institute Of Post Graduate Medical Education And Research, JIPMER

SPORTS

Asian Games, Indonesia – Day 12 Highlights
Jinson Johnson – won ‘Gold medal’ in Mens 1500m event (He earlier finished 2nd in the Mens 800m which was won by Manjit Singh of India)

Women’s relay team (Hima Das, MR Poovamma, SL Gayakwad and V Koroth) – won ‘Gold medal’ in 4x400 relay event - It was the fifth consecutive gold medal for India in the event, since 2002 Asian Games

Men's 4x400m relay (Kunhu Muhammed, Dharunn Ayyasamy, Mohd. Anas and Arockia Rajiv) – won ‘Silver medal’ in 4x400 relay event

P Chitra - won the bronze medal in the women's 1500m event

Seema Punia – won the bronze medal in the women’s Discus throw event

India’s medal tally now stands at 59 medals, which include 13 gold, 21 silver and 25 bronze (8th Position in the overall tally)

Highlights

This is the 1st time that Indian men have won both 800m and 1500m in the same Asian Games since the inaugural Asiad in 1951 (Ranjit Singh, 800m and Nikka Singh, 1500m)

India finished with a record 19 medals in athletics (7 Gold, 10 silver and 2 bronze) – with its best showing in an Asiad held outside India and 3rd best tally after 1951 (31 medals) and 1982 (20 medals)
REMEMBERING THE ENACTMENT OF STATE REORGANISATION ACT ON AUGUST 31, 1956

- Act was a major reform of the boundaries of States and Union Territories of India by organising them along linguistic lines

- **Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956** restructured the constitutional framework for the existing States of India and the requirements to pass the States Reorganisation Act, 1956

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**EVOLUTION OF STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES**

**I. INTEGRATION OF PRINCELY STATES**

- At the time of Independence, India comprised two categories of political units
  - **British Provinces** – under the direct rule of British Government
  - **Princely States** – under the rule of native Princes
Indian Independence Act, 1947 created two independent and separate dominions of India and Pakistan.

Of the 552 Princely States situated within the geographical boundaries of India, 549 joined India.

Remaining 3 – Hyderabad, Junagarh and Kashmir refused to join India.

However, in course of time, they were also integrated with India.

II. CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

In 1950, Constitution contained a 4 fold classification of States:

- **Part A States** – comprised 9 erstwhile Governor’s provinces of British India
- **Part B States** – consisted of 9 erstwhile princely states with legislatures
- **Part C States** – comprised of 10 erstwhile States of Chief Commissioner’s provinces of British India
- **Part D States** - Andaman and Nicobar Islands were kept as a solitary Part D State

In all, there were 29 States.

III. DHAR COMMISSION

There had been a consistent demand from different regions, particularly South India, for reorganisation of States on linguistic basis.

Accordingly, on June 17, 1948, the Government of India appointed the Linguistic Provinces Commission under the Chairmanship of S.K.Dhar.

Commission submitted its report on December 1948.

It recommended reorganisation of States on the basis of administrative convenience rather than linguistic factor.

IV. JVP COMMITTEE

Recommendations of the Dhar Commission created much resentment.
It led to the appointment of Linguistic Provinces Committee by the Congress in December 1948 to examine the whole question afresh.

Committee consisted of Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya, popularly called JVP Committee.

Committee submitted report in April 1949.

It formally rejected language as the basis for reorganisation of States.

**V. FORMATION OF ANDHRA STATE**

However, in October 1953, the Government of India was forced to create the first linguistic State – called Andhra State.

It was created by separating the Telugu speaking areas from the Madras State.

This followed a prolonged popular agitation and fast by Swami Sitaram in September 1951 and death of Potti Sriramulu, a Congressman after a 56–day hunger strike for the cause on December 15, 1952.

**VI. FAZL ALI COMMISSION**

Creation of Andhra State intensified the demand from other regions for the creation of States on linguistic basis.

This forced the Government of India to appoint a 3 member States Reorganisation Commission in December 1953.

It was formed under the Chairmanship of Fazl Ali to re-examine the whole question.

Other 2 members – K.M. Panikkar and H.N. Kunzru.


It broadly accepted language as the basis for the reorganisation of States.

But, it rejected the theory of One Language, One State.

Commission suggested the abolition of 4–fold classification of States.
It recommended for the creation of **16 States and 3 Centrally administered territories**

**VII. STATE REORGANISATION ACT**

- Government of India accepted the recommendations of the Commission with certain modifications
- State Reorganisation Act was enacted on **August 31, 1956** and the Act came into effect from **November 1, 1956**
- By the State Reorganisation Act and 7th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956, the distinction between Part A and Part B States were done away with and Part C States were abolished
- Some of them were merged with adjacent States and some other were designated as Union Territories
- As a result, **14 States and 6 Union Territories** were created as per the Act

**LIST OF 14 STATES**

- Andhra Pradesh
- Assam
- Bihar
- Mumbai
- Jammu Kashmir
- Kerala
- Madhya Pradesh
- Madras
- Mysore
- Orissa
- Punjab
**LIST OF 6 UNION TERRITORIES**

- Delhi
- Manipur
- Andaman and Nicobar
- Himachal Pradesh
- Tripura
- Laccadive, Minicoy Islands

**ESTIMATE**

- Even after the large scale reorganization of States in 1956, the political map of India underwent continuous changes due to the pressure of popular agitations and political conditions.
- At present, in India, there are **29 States and 7 Union Territories**.
- **Telangana** was formed as the 29th State of India on **June 2, 2014**.