TAMIL NADU

➢ Tamil Nadu – to have the Storage division of ‘Hindustan Petroleum corporation Limited’ in Dharmapuri

➢ IIT, Madras – launches the 1st indigenously developed Smart Air purifier, ‘Vistar’

✓ It was developed by the IIT-incubated Startup ‘AirOK’

✓ ‘Vistar’ can filter a variety of pollutants such as particulate matter, microbes, fungus and gaseous substances

✓ The filter would have a life of about one year, which was twice that of the air purifiers currently available in the market
**States with Most number of Exotic Plants - Tamil Nadu stands First**

- 1st Place - Tamil Nadu (332)
- 2nd Place - Kerala (290)
- Total exotic plants in India – 471
- The exotic plants – not native to India
- Study done by – an International team with Indian scholars

**STATES**

**Punjab** – The permanent campus of “National Skill Training Institute for Women” launched in Mohali

- Inaugurated by – Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
- This is the first NSTI Institute for Punjab and only one of its kind in India which is exclusively for women.
- The Minister also launched a unique, 1st of its kind in India, “Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra” (PMKK) which would admit differently abled persons as well
- He also launched India’s first in-phone guide and mobile application “Go whats That” in Chandigarh.
**Assam** – to launch the country’s 1st of its kind ‘Assam Employees ‘PRANAM’ Act’ – from Oct 2, 2018

- Legislation – The Government will deduct 10% of an employee’s pay and transfer it to the account of the relatives concerned. Another 5% would be deductible if the employee has a differently abled sibling.

- Objective – to enable the Government employees take care of their parents and siblings, who might be with physical or mental disabilities

**Punjab** – United Nation accords ‘Special consultative status’ to a non-profit organization ‘Patiala Foundation’, which works in the field of livelihood, tourism and road safety

- So far 3,974 NGO’s in the world have received this recognition

**Flash Flood Guidance system** – a new Model to be developed by India – to issue advance flood warning to other Asian countries including Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Myanmar and Thailand

- India has been designated as ‘Nodal centre’ by World Meteorological Organisation for developing this model

- Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) under Ministry of Earth Sciences will work to customize this weather model

- The model will provide forecasts by computing likelihood of rainfall and soil moisture levels to warn of possible floods

- It was originally developed by United States
✓ It will warn about the flash floods at least 6 hours in advance

✓ World Meteorological Organisation

✓ Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland

✓ It has 191 Member states and territories

➢ **A Museum for all Prime Ministers** – to be built in New Delhi’s **Teen Murti Bhavan**, which served as the official residence of India’s 1st Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, till his death in office – along with a Library

✓ Budget – Rs 270 crores

➢ **Kala azar disease outbreak in Kerala**

✓ Village affected – Kozhikode’s Sooppikkada village

✓ Kala-azar is known colloquially as black fever or Dumdum fever and is associated with high fatality

✓ Kala azar is known scientifically as visceral leishmaniasis

✓ Reason – due to the infected Sandflies

✓ Precautionary measure – insecticides were sprayed to kill the infected sandflies
CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

• **6th India-UK Science & Innovation Council Meeting** – concludes in New Delhi

  ✓ It involved the discussion about bilateral cooperation in the areas of Science & Technology

  ✓ The FutureTech festival is scheduled in New Delhi during 2018, to showcase the innovations of Technology

  ✓ Dr Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences & Environment, Forests and Climate Change, India. – represented Indian side

  ✓ Last SIC Meeting – took place in June, 2016 at London
VISITS

- Indian PM’s visit to South Africa from July 26-27, 2018

- 3 MoU’s were signed between India and South Africa in the areas of –
  - Agriculture Research and Education
  - Setting up of ‘Gandhi Mandela Centre of specialization for Artisan skills’ in South Africa
  - Exploration and uses of Outer space for Peaceful purposes

- This year also marks the 125th year of the Pietermaritzburg railway station ‘incident’ involving Mahatma Gandhi.

- Commemorating the Satyagraha movement, twin stamps of Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela was released during the meeting between the two leaders.

- Cyril Ramaphosa – President of South Africa
- South Africa Rand – Currency of South Africa
- Capetown – Capital of South Africa
INTERNATIONAL

- **Singapore** - Abdul Kalam Vision society to be set up – to advance his vision for the world

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **BAN2401** – a new drug for ‘Alzheimer Disease’ discovered by Eisai, a Japan based company along with another Cambridge based firm, Biogen
AWARDS

- Ministry of Earth Sciences – Foundation Day Awards

  ✓ On 27th July 2018, the Ministry of Earth Sciences celebrated its foundation day at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.

  ✓ Key Award Winners

    🔴 Prof K S Valdiya – Life Time Excellence Award

    🌈 Dr Kusala Rajendran – National Award for Women Scientist

- Mohammed Ayazuddin Patel (Karnataka) – conferred with Senior Fellowship Award for 2016-17
This award is instituted by the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training Centre.

Mohammed Ayazuddin Patel is a Kalaburagi-based artist

This fellowship is awarded to persons eligible to work on a particular subject in the field of art and culture for 2 years.

He received the National Lalitkala Academy award in 2014

Assamese film “Xhoihobote Dhemalite” (“Rainbow Fields”) - bagged 3 top awards at the 3rd Love International Film Festival in United States.

The awards include

- Best film
- Best actress (Dipannita Sharma)
- Best Music (Anurag Saikia)

Xhoixobote Dhemalite became the first Assamese film to be commercially released in the US.

The film portrays the issues of children of Assam growing up in violent times.

Over 150 films from 36 countries participated in the festival.
REPORTS

- **The AISHE Report 2018 (The All India Survey of Higher Education)**
  - Released by – Min of HRD
  - Occasion – National conference of vice chancellors and Directors of Higher Education institutes in India on the eve of Guru Purnima on 28th July, 2018
  - Theme – Research and innovation in Higher education
  - Chaired by – Prakash Javdekar, Min of Human Resource development
  - Venue – New Delhi
  - Other Reports released - Higher Educational Profile 2017-18 and Swachh Campus Manual.

- The AISHE Report - Higher Education Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)
  - 1st Place – Chandigarh (56.4)
  - 2nd Place – Tamil Nadu (48.6 – Last year 46.9)
  - 3rd Place – Delhi (46.3)
4th Place – Puducherry (45.4)

5th Place – Himachal Pradesh (37.9)

Female Gross Enrolment Ratio

1st Place – Chandigarh (67.7)

2nd Place – Tamil Nadu (48.2)

3rd Place – Puducherry (48.1)

**SPORTS**

Sano Cricket Curry festival – organized by ICC, International Cricket committee – in the Japanese City of Sano – to promote cricket in the nation

The festival featured an India vs Japan cricket match

It also featured cultural events and food from other Asian cricket playing nations, such as Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and India
INTERNATIONAL DAYS

❖ July 29 – International Tiger Day

✓ Objective – to create awareness about Tiger conservation

✓ As per the 2014 counting, Madhya Pradesh has 308 tigers in India

✓ India has about 70% of the tigers in the entire world

✓ Celebrated since – 2010

✓ Created at – St Petersburg Tiger Summit
TIGER POPULATION ACROSS INDIA

340
Uttarakhand

46
Rajasthan

167
Assam

117
Uttar Pradesh

308
Madhya Pradesh

190
Maharashtra

45
Chhattisgarh

408
Goa

229
AP and Telangana

136
Karnataka

28
Arunachal Pradesh

28
Bihar

3
Mizoram

3
Jharkhand

79
West Bengal

28
Odisha

TOTAL 2,226

* Figures as per 2014 Tiger Census
Challenges remain

Though their numbers are on the rise, nearly half the tiger deaths in the past five years were due to unnatural causes like poaching and electrocution. A look at the state of the big cats on Global Tiger Day

2,226
No. of tigers in India (as of 2014)

70% of the world’s tigers are in India

45% of tigers died due to unnatural causes from 2012-17

1,706
(2010)

58% rise in no. of tigers since 2006

1,411
(2006)

115
No. of tiger deaths in 2017, 6% lower than 2016

6 tigers died due to electrocution (2017)

50 Number of tiger reserves in India, constituting about 2% of the country’s geographical area

22% of tiger deaths from 2012-17 were due to poaching

Source: Parliament Question Hour

CONSERVATION SNAPSHOT: Tigress T-11 was hardly a year old when her mother died. She was collared and released into the wild in 2016. In June 2017, she gave birth to three cubs

On the prowl: Picture taken a few months ago shows tigers in Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra. – K.R. DEEPAK
REMEMBERING J R D TATA ON HIS BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

J.R.D. TATA (July 29, 1904 - November 29, 1993)

About

- Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy (29 July 1904 – 29 November 1993)
- Father of Indian Civil Aviation.
- Founder - Tata Consultancy Services, Tata Motors, Titan Industries, Tata Tea, Voltas and Air India
- Awarded India's highest civilian awards Bharat Ratna and Padma Vibhushan
- Tata Group grew from US$100 million to over US$5 billion
- Asia's first cancer hospital, the Tata Memorial Centre for Cancer, Research and Treatment.
- He also founded the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS, 1936)

THE TATA SCIONS

JAMSETJI NUSSERWANJI TATA (1887-1904)

SIR DORABJI TATA (1907 to 1932)

SIR NOWROJI SAKLATVALA (1932-1938)
FIRST 'NON-TATA' CHAIRMAN

JRD TATA (1938-1991)

RATAN TATA (1991-2012)

CYRUS MISTRY (2012-2016)

N CHANDRASEKARAN (2017 onwards)
FIRST NON-PARSİ CHAIRMAN

Interim C'man 2016-17

Nothing worthwhile is ever achieved without deep thought and hard work.
Dream to fly

JRD Tata:
➢ Passion for flying
➢ 1st Indian to pass pilot’s examination
➢ Father of civil aviation in India
➢ Founder of Air India
➢ Founder of the 1st international airline - Air India International
➢ Became president of international air transport association (IATA)