TAMIL NADU

- Mehal P Rathore from Sankara Nethrayala – won the IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard of the Year award
  - The winner will receive a certificate from IVI and a prize money of Rs 10000

STATES

- Nagaland – CM, Neiphiu Rio inaugurated the country’s 1st of its kind - GPS Mapping of all the Government schools and the Personnel location system in Kohima
  - This would help in computerization and digitization of records of all the government schools

- Chhattisgarh – Election commission to set up ‘Sangwari’ polling booths in the state
The move is aimed to encourage women voters to vote in the Assembly elections.

‘Sangwari’ means friend, in Chhattisgarhi dialect.

These women friendly booths will have all-female staff like presiding officers, supervisors and security personnel.

Totally 5 Sangwari Polling Centres will be set up for women in every assembly segments.

- **Goa – extends the ban on the import of Fish for another 6 months**
  - CM, Manohar Parrikar had earlier banned import of fish in July 2018 - after the reported usage of ‘Formalin chemical’ as a preservative in Fishes.
  - The State government intends to set up laboratories from Quality Council of India and Export Inspection Council to check the quality of Fishes.
  - Till the labs were ready, the ban will be in place.

**NATIONAL**

- **Vice President, Venkaiah Naidu – inaugurated the ‘War Memorial’ in Northern France at Villers Guislain**

  - The construction of the memorial is to pay tribute to thousands of Indian soldiers who fought selflessly and made supreme sacrifices during WWI.
  - The memorial is the first-of-its-kind built by India in France after the country's Independence.
  - The announcement to construct the memorial was made by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj during her last visit to Paris in June 2018.
  - Indian troops were on Western Front by winter of 1914 and fought at the first Battle of Ypres.
Indian Corps were withdrawn from the front line duty at the end of 1915.
The Indian Corps won 13,000 medals for gallantry including 12 Victoria Crosses
Khudadad Khan won the Corps first Victoria Cross

Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP) - has signed MoU with US-based ‘Research Institute for Fragrant Materials’ (RIFM) for improving the quality of fragrant oils
It was signed at the two-day annual conference of International Fragrance Association (IFA) in Paris, France
The MoU will standardize the fragrant material produced in India to the international level
CIMAP – Established in 1959 with its headquarters in Lucknow, UP
It has four research centers in Bangalore, Hyderabad, Pantnagar and Purara (Uttarakhand)

Supreme Court – approves a separate High court for Andhra Pradesh
It will start functioning from January 1, 2019
It will be the country’s 25th High court
Initially it will function in a makeshift building and later moved to the permanent judicial complex in Capital, Amaravati
At present, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have a common High Court at Hyderabad
It will be called the Telangana High Court from 2019

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

India – to commence the first Passenger train on broad gauge with Nepal in December
The train will run from Jayanagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Dhanusa district in Janakpur Zone of south-eastern Nepal
No visa will be required for Indian and Nepalese nationals crossing the border through this stretch

COMMITTEES

Ministry of Oil – sets up a 5 member committee – to recommend easing norms for setting up Petrol pumps
The members of the committee are –
G C Chaturvedi, Former oil secretary
M A Pathan, Former Indian Oil Corp (IOC) chairman
Ashutosh Jindal, Joint secretary in the ministry of petroleum and natural gas
Errot D’souza, IIM Ahmedabad - Director
Kirit Parikh, Economist
CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➢ 5th World Internet Conference (Wuzhen Summit) – held in Wuzhen, China

✓ The conference discussed the latest developments in the digital field
✓ Top 15 of the latest technological achievements in the global internet industry were unveiled

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➢ World’s first Artificial Intelligence (AI) News anchor – unveiled in China
✓ It can read news in Chinese and English and launched by Xinhua, China’s state-run Press agency
✓ 2 separate AI anchors were released, one for Chinese and one for English separately
✓ They have been developed by Xinhua and Chinese search engine, Sogou
✓ They were launched at the World Internet Conference in Wuzhen, China
✓ They combine the images and voices of human anchors with AI technology
✓ They have minimal facial expressions and lip movements

➢ NASA’s L' Ralph Probe – will travel with the ‘Lucy Mission’ – to Jupiter’s Trojan Asteroids by 2021
✓ It will detect the chemical fingerprints of Trojan asteroids, to help establish the emergence of life on Earth

➢ IIT, Roorkee – developed ‘Fluorescent Carbon nanobots’ – for simultaneous detection and destruction of Cancer cells
✓ They are extracted from the leaves of the rosy periwinkle plant
✓ The research team is led by P Gopinath
✓ The research is supported by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) and the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Union Ministry of Science and Technology

DEFENCE

➢ Ministry of Defence – hikes the Financial powers of 3 Vice Chiefs of the Armed forces from Rs 100 crore to Rs 500 crore
✓ This was done to carry out specific arms and ammunition procurements to ensure operation preparedness

ECONOMY

➢ Nokia – ties up with Infosys - to work in AI and machine learning driven solutions
✓ It will couple technology, products and services from Nokia with platform solutions, engineering and operations management expertise from Infosys
✓ It will assist the digital transformation in the areas of Industries, transportation, energy and manufacturing, media and entertainment, and education

APPOINTMENTS

➢ New Chief Justices appointed for the High Court’s of Allahabad, Patna, Madhya Pradesh and Tripura
Justice Govind Mathur – was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court
Justice A P Sahi - was appointed the Chief Justice of Patna HC
Justice S K Seth - was appointed as the Chief Justice of the MP High Court
Justice Sanjay Karol - was appointed as the Chief Justice of Tripura HC
Also, Justice M R Shah, who has been the Chief Justice of Patna HC has been elevated as a Supreme Court judge

AWARDS

Jawahar Lal Sarin, renowned French scholar – conferred France’s highest civilian honour ‘Chevalier de la Lgion d’Honneur’

He was awarded for enhancing Indo-French cultural cooperation and promoting French language
Jawahar Lal Sarin is president of Alliance franaise de Delhi’s governing body
He had studied French for five years at the Punjab University, Chandigarh, and later at the Sorbonne University, Paris
The award was instituted by Napolean Bonaparte in 1802
Actors Amitabh Bachchan and Shahrukh Khan were also awarded in 2007 and 2014
Other Indians who were also awarded are Amartya Sen, Ravi Shankar, Zubin Mehta, Lata Mangeshkar, JRD Tata and Ratan Tata among others

SPORTS

Bajrang Punia, Star Indian Wrestler – becomes World No 1 in 65 kg category

The 24 year old Bajrang won 5 medals this season and topped the table with 96 points
Cuban, Alejandro Enrique Vlades Tobier - is a distant second with 66 points
He was also the only Indian grappler to be given a seeding at the Budapest World Championship.
Bajrang is the lone male Indian to figure in top-10
Female wrestlers
  Pooja Dhanda, who became only the fourth Indian woman to win a World Championship medal, is now ranked sixth in the women's 57kg with 52 points
  Ritu Phogat is ranked at the tenth position in the women's 50kg, with 33 points
  Sarita Mor is ranked seventh in 59kg with 29 points
  Navjot Kaur (32) and Kiran (37) are ranked ninth in 68kg and 76kg category respectively

RANKINGS

Largest Smartphone market – Rankings by Canalys, a research firm (July-Sep 2018 quarter)
India overtakes US to become the 2nd largest Smartphone market in the world
Worldwide smartphone shipments fell by 7.2% to 348.9 million units during July-September 2018, a fourth consecutive quarter of decline.

This was also the worst third quarter performance since 2015.

Vendor Rankings

- Samsung (20.4%)
- Huawei (14.9%)
- Apple (13.4%)
- Xiaomi (9.6%)
- Oppo (8.9%)

INTERNATIONAL DAY

Armistice Day or Remembrance Day or Poppy Day – November 11

November 11
Veterans Day
Remembrance Day
Armistice Day

We remember...

In 1918, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the world rejoiced and celebrated. After four years of bitter war, an armistice was signed. The “war to end all wars” was over.
Remembrance Day is observed on 11 November to recall the end of World War I on that date in 1918

The armistice was signed at 11 am on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 in the railway carriage of Marshal Ferdinand Foch in the Forest of Compiegne, north of Paris

The First World War officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919

The year 2018 marks the centenary of the end of World War I (28 July 1914 – 11 November 1918)

India was a separate signatory to the Treaty of Versailles and a founding member of the League of Nations

Major-Gen Ganga Singh (Maharaja of Bikaner) was the sole Indian or ‘non-white’ representative at the signing of the treaty

Armistice – An agreement to stop fighting

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**REPORT**

Most congested cities in India – Report released by National bureau of economic research (NBER)

1. Bangalore
2. Mumbai
3. Delhi
4. Chennai
5. Kolkata
6. Hyderabad
7. **Pune**
8. Jaipur
9. Coimbatore
10. Ahmedabad

The report is part of the research titled ‘Mobility & Congestion in Urban India’

It is the first large-scale analysis of traffic congestion in 154 Indian cities using Google maps

Slowest cities (out of 20 cities)

1. Kolkata
2. Bangalore
3. Hyderabad
4. Mumbai
5. Varanasi
6. Pune

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Fastest cities (out of 10 cities)

1 – Ranipet
2 – Srinagar
10 - Panipat

Recently, to install their own traffic monitoring system, Pune had tied up with a Dutch-based software company called ‘TomTom NV’