TAMIL NADU

- The NCC Directorate of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andamans – won the Championship Trophy for the 2nd time in a row – in the All-India Vayu Sainik Competition – held in Jodhpur

- A total of 600 cadets from 16 directorates participated in the competition
- The Directorate had earlier won All-India Thal Sainik competition at New Delhi and finished Runner-up in Nau Sainik competition at Karwar
- Cadet R Jayanth Kumar won the Flying Gold in the boys category
- Cadet P Kousalya won the Flying Silver in the girls category
The Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) Storage and re-gasification terminal built inside Kamaraj Port Limited (Ennore) – will be ready for commissioning during the end of November 2018

- The terminal is being built by Indian Oil Corporation Limited at a cost of Rs 5151 crore
- The terminal will supply about 2 million tonne gas directly through pipelines to about 30 customers in Manali Industrial area
- IOCL will also lay 1,385 km Natural gas pipeline from Ennore terminal to Nagapattinam through Puducherry
- The terminal will fast track the City gas distribution as IOCL had already bagged rights for 7 cities, including Coimbatore and Salem
- In Chennai, Torrent Gas Pvt Ltd will supply gas to household customers

STATES

- New Delhi – launches QR-enabled ‘Fridge Magnets’ for the digital payment of bills
  - The magnets are personalised and each customer will have unique QR Code mapped to their consumer account number
  - There will be separate magnets for Electricity and Water bills
  - Consumers can stick these magnets on their refrigerators at home and use their smartphones to scan QR Code on magnet to pay their bills instantly
  - It is powered by SignCatch, an IT and services company
- Bihar – to develop Patna Medical College and Hospital - into world’s largest 5462-bed hospital

- An outlay of Rs 5540.07 crore has been allocated for the purpose
- The 1925-established Hospital would be redeveloped in 3 phases in 7 years
- The hospital currently has 1754 bed and 8 super speciality departments, which would be increased to 36
- Presently, the world’s largest hospital is in Belgrade with 3500 beds
NATIONAL

“Mere Pyaare Prime Minister” was the only Asian film that was screened at the 13th Rome Film Festival - held from 18th to 28th October 2018 in Rome

- It was directed by the filmmaker Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra
- It deals with the menace of Open defecation
- The film focuses on four children living in a slum in Mumbai, in which one kid wants to build a toilet for his single mother and makes an appeal to the Prime Minister

INTERNATIONAL

United States – unveils ‘Full’ sanctions on Iran

- The sanctions will affect about 50 banks and their subsidiaries, the National airline and 200 members of Shipping industry
- However, Iranian oil exports were not fully cut with 8 countries granted temporary waivers for Oil exports, which includes China, India, Italy, Greece, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Turkey

Palau - becomes the first country in the World - to ban sunscreen - in a move to protect its coral reefs from chemicals

- The Western Pacific nation of Palau will impose the ban from 2020
- As per the move, “reef-toxic” sunscreen, which contains one of 10 prohibited chemicals, a list that could grow later, can be confiscated from tourists when they enter the country and retailers who sell it can be fined up to $1,000
INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- India & South Korea – signs MoU for strengthening cooperation in the fields of Tourism and Sports

- The agreement was signed during the current visit of Kim Jung-sook, the First Lady of the Republic of Korea, to India
- She was the Chief Guest at the Deepotsav event organised by Uttar Pradesh and at the ceremony of the new Memorial of Queen Suriratna (Heo Hwang-ok) in Ayodhya
- Princess Suriratna of Ayodhya travelled to Korea in 48 CE and married Korean King Suro

DEFENCE

- India joins an Elite military club – with its 1st Nuclear ballistic submarine ‘INS Arihant’ completing its first ‘deterrence trial’

**INS Arihant** (Sanskrit for “Slayer of Enemies”, S-73) is the lead ship of India’s Arihant class of nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. **Arihant** is the first of three Ship Submersible Ballistic Nuclears (SSBN) being constructed under the ATV; the construction of the second one, INS Arihantran, is also almost complete now.
- The testing of 6000 tonne submarine completes ‘Nuclear triad’ of the country, i.e India can now strike from Land, Air and Sea
- All the big five nuclear nations — the US, Russia, France, China and the UK — are already full-fledged nuclear triad powers

**South Korea and the United States** - launched their battalion-level marine exercises “Korea Marine Exercise Program (KMEP)” - in Pohang, South Korea

- The exercises were suspended in May 2018 for 6 months due to the peace efforts with North Korea by South Korea and United States
- 500 troops from the South Korean Marine Corps and the US III Marine Expeditionary Force are participating

**AWARDS**

- **Dr Ramdas M Pai, Chancellor and President of Manipal Academy of Higher Education** – conferred with ‘Lifetime Achievement Award 2018’ by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), in New Delhi

- Dr Pai is also the Chairman Emeritus, Manipal Education and Medical Group
- He has been awarded for his contributions in the fields of education and healthcare
SPORTS

❖ 11th Asian Shooting Championship, Kuwait city

➢ Elavenil Valarivan (Tamil Nadu) & Divyansh Singh Panwar – won Bronze and Silver medal in 10m air rifle Junior Women’s and Men’s event respectively

INTERNATIONAL DAY

❖ World Tsunami Awareness Day – November 5

➢ The day aims to create awareness about tsunami and share innovative approaches to reduce the risk associated with the massive waves
➢ United Nations (UN) General Assembly declared November 5 as World Tsunami Awareness Day in 2015
➢ This date was chosen in memory of the Japanese story of “Inamura-no-hi”, which means the “burning of the rice sheaves"
➢ In 1854, during an earthquake, a farmer set fire to his entire harvest to warn villagers about Tsunami
OBITUARY

- **Vice Admiral (Retd) Manohar Pralhad Awati, a Veteran of 1971 Indo-Pak War (91 years)**

- He had joined the Royal Indian Navy in 1945
- He was an expert in signal communication
- He had commanded Indian naval ships: “Ranjit”, “Vendurthy”, “Betwa”, “Tir”, “Mysore”, etc
- Admiral Awati was known as the Father of Indian Navy’s Solo circumnavigation projects
- He was awarded the ‘Vir Chakra’ for his service as the commanding officer of “INS Kamorta” during the 1971 India-Pakistan war.