Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit presented the late ‘Dr. Mohan Dharia Rashtrakiran Puraskar award’ on agricultural scientist ‘M.S. Swaminathan’

- Prof. Swaminathan, a Padma Vibushan awardee, announced that the ₹1 lakh prize money associated with the award would be used to institute another award, ‘Dr. Mohan Dharia Award for Coastal Ecological Security’
- The new award will be given to a lady scholar studying at the University of Mumbai in the field of Life Science - with particular attention to the conservation of mangroves along the Maharashtra coast
- Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Devendra Phadnavis attended the event at Raj Bhavan, Chennai
- Manoj Joy, Port Chaplain, Sailors Society from Chennai – has been shortlisted among six others – for ‘Safety at Sea Awards, 2018’ under the ‘Unsung Hero’ category
- He is the only Indian shortlisted for the awards which will be given away in UK

- 45th Anna Memorial State Chess Championship – kicks off in Trichy

- Chennai’s Ashwin Datta – wins 21st JK Tyre FMSCI National Racing Championship in Coimbatore

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- Punjab Government – launches 3 Mobile apps to prevent Crop Residue burning
✓ The apps are - i-Khet Machine, e-PEHaL and e-Prevent
✓ The i-Khet Machine will help facilitate farmers to have access to the agriculture machinery or equipment for in-situ management of crop residue
✓ The e-PEHaL app will help in monitoring tree plantation.
✓ The e-Prevent will have prompt and accurate information about incidents of crop residue burning

➢ Maharashtra Government – plans to introduce ‘home-delivery’ of liquor to curb Drunken driving
➢ If implemented, Maharashtra is likely to be the first state in the country to bring in such a policy

![Booze at Your Doorstep](image)

✓ The liquor would be delivered home through online platforms similar to popular e-commerce websites
✓ The sellers would seek complete details of buyers, including the Aadhaar card, to ensure that people buying liquor ‘online’ meet the required age criteria

➢ Uttar Pradesh CM, Yogi Adityanath - announces that Allahabad will soon be renamed ‘Prayagraj’
➢ The approval for the same has been given by the Governor, Ram Naik
➢ The renaming may be done before the Kumbh Mela, scheduled to begin in Allahabad on Jan 15, 2019

NATIONAL

➢ The Silver jubilee celebrations of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) – began in New Delhi on Oct 12, 2018
Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the function
A special logo and the website was launched on the occasion
NHRC
Established on October 12, 1993 as per the statutory provisions of Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
Headquarters – New Delhi
It consists of a Chairman and 4 members, who are appointed by the President on the recommendations of a committee, under the Prime Minister

Supreme Court Collegium - has recommended the appointment of five Chief Justices to the High Courts of Bombay, Calcutta, Uttarakhand, Gauhati and Sikkim
The collegium consists of Chief justice, Ranjan Gogoi along with Justices Madan B Lokur and Kurian Joseph
Recommendations
Justice NH Patil - Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court (Present Acting Justice of the Bombay High court)
Justice DK Gupta - Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court (Present Acting Justice of the Calcutta High Court)
Justice Ramesh Ranganathan - Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court (Present Senior-most judge of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana)
Justice AS Bopanna - Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court (Present senior judge from the Karnataka High Court)
✓ Justice Vijai Kumar Bist - Chief Justice of the Sikkim High Court (Present senior-most judge of the Uttarakhand High Court)

- National Mission for Clean Ganga – specifies the ‘Minimum river flow’ limits for Ganga for the very first time
✓ This would enable the hydropower projects to modify their operations along the river stretches - to prevent the river Ganga going ‘dry’
✓ New Limits
✓ During Dry Season (presenting ten-days between November and March) – 20% of the monthly average flow
✓ During the ‘lean season’ of October, April and May – 25% of the monthly average flow
✓ During the monsoon months of June-September – 30% of the monthly average flow
✓ The government also announced the draft ‘Ganga Act’ that was framed by a committee in 2016 under Justice (retired) Giridhar Malviya

- New Driving Licences (DL) and vehicle registration certificates (RCs) - to be issued after July 1, 2019 will be uniform in look, colour and design
✓ The new ‘smart’ DLs and RCs will be embedded with microchips with QR codes

### FEATURES OF NEW DLs & RCs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEATURES OF NEW DRIVING LICENCES</th>
<th>FEATURES OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name: Indian Union Driving Licence</td>
<td>Name: Indian Union Vehicle Registration Certificate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logos of national &amp; state govs, name of issuing authority</td>
<td>Logos of national &amp; state govs, name of issuing authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issue date and validity till (dates)</td>
<td>Issue date and validity till (dates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name, blood group, declaration for organ donation</td>
<td>Vehicle type: Commercial or non-commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency No., QR code &amp; vehicle category</td>
<td>Chassis &amp; engine numbers, fuel &amp; emission norms (BS-IV/ BS-VI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly (approx) 9.6 lakh licences are issued or renewed</td>
<td>Monthly (approx) 13 lakh RCs are issued or renewed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECURITY FEATURES (IN BOTH DL &amp; RC)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guilloche printing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro-printed text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro-line</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ultraviolet fluorescent colour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hologram</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watermark</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

✓ These cards will be enabled with the ‘Nearfield communication’ (NFC) feature which would be readable by hand-held devices
Besides the ‘details’ of holders, the driving licence will also mention the driver’s pledge of ‘organ donation’

All the old driving licences will be replaced with the new 'smart' ones during the renewals

The extra features will cost Rs 15-20 per smart card

**INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES**

- **India & Australia** – held their 2nd ‘2+2’ Secretary level dialogue in Canberra, Australia
- The Indian side was represented by - Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale and Defence Secretary Sanjay Mitra
- The inaugural ‘2+2’ dialogue between India and Australia was held in New Delhi in December 2017

- **India & Liechtenstein** – signs agreement for ‘Automatic exchange of Financial Account information’
- After Switzerland, India has signed the agreement with Liechtenstein to access information related to black money deposited in the Banks

**CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

- **32nd World conference of World Union of Wholesale Markets (WUWM)** – concluded in Gurugram, Haryana

  Haryana Chief Minister, Mr. Manohar Lal addressing the gathering at the concluding ceremony of World Union of Wholesale Market (WUWM) conference at Gurugram on October 12, 2018.

This is for the first time a WUWM conference is being organized in India

**Theme** - ‘The Wholesale Markets in the Digital Era: Challenges and Opportunities’
Hosted by - The Haryana State Agricultural Marketing Board (HSAMB), Panchkula, The National Council of State Agricultural Marketing Boards (COSAMB), New Delhi, World Union of Wholesale Markets (WUWM), Hague, Netherlands

Participants – Indian and international delegates of 18 countries from 5 continents

Keynote speaker - Prof Nilesh Dattani, London School of Economics, London

Delegates visited the Fruit and Vegetable Market, Azadpur, Delhi, which is the biggest Fruit and Vegetable market in Asia

**DEFENCE**

- Indian Navy – inducts its first ‘Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel’ (DSRV) at its base in Mumbai

![First DSRV For Submarine](image)

- The second DSRV would be added to its base in Vishakhapatnam by 2019
- The DSRV can be deployed at short notice for providing assistance to submarines in distress
- It is capable of rescuing 24 people at depths of up to 600m
- The countries that currently have DSRVs in their naval fleet include Singapore, United States, China, Russia, Japan, South Korea, UK, Sweden and Australia

**ECONOMY**

- Germany & UK – with the support of World Bank – creates a new fund ‘Global Risk Financing Facility’

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✓ It will support vulnerable countries to climate and disaster shocks
✓ This fund will consist of an initial corpus of $150 million

**SPORTS**

- Para Asian Games, Jakarta

✓ **Pramod Bhagat** – won Gold in men’s singles SL3 class badminton event
✓ **Tarun** – won Gold in men’s singles SL4 class badminton event

✓ **Closing Ceremony**

✓ India ends the Campaign with the best-ever haul of 72 medals with 15 gold, 24 silver and 33 bronze medals
✓ India finished 9th in the overall tally
✓ China finished on top with 172 gold, 88 silver and 59 bronze for a whopping total of 319 medals.
✓ South Korea (53, 45, 47) and Iran (51, 42, 43) were second and third respectively.
✓ This was India's best ever performance, bettering the last edition (2014) tally of 33 medals (3 gold, 14 silver, 16 bronze)
✓ Para-athletics gave India half of the medals (36) with 7 gold, 13 silver and 16 bronze
✓ Badminton and chess contributed 9 medals each while para-swimming gave 8 medals

➢ Youth Olympics, Buenos aires
✓ India's Lakshya Sen, Badminton player – wins Silver after losing the Final

![Image of Lakshya Sen with medals]

✓ The former Junior World No 1 now joins HS Prannoy as the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Indian to win a silver at the Youth Olympics

➢ Indian Junior Mens Hockey team – settles for the Silver medal after losing Final to Britain at the 8\textsuperscript{th} Sultan of Johor Cup 2018, Malaysia

![Image of Indian Junior Mens Hockey team]
✓ India lost the game 2-3 in a fiercely fought final game

➢ Former cricketer, Anil Kumble’s Startup ‘Spektacom Technologies’ – launches Microsoft Artificial Intelligence enabled ‘Power Bat’
✓ The Bat has been powered by Microsoft’s Azure Cloud platform
✓ It will provide real-time data on a player’s performance based on parameters like speed of the ball on impact, twist on impact and quality of the shot
✓ A light weight sticker is stuck on the shoulder of the bat
✓ In a live match, when the batsman hits the ball, data is captured in a new unit of measurement called ‘Power Speks’

➢ Indian Wrestler, Bajrang Punia – becomes the 1st Indian to get ‘seeded’ at the World wrestling championship – to be held in Budapest, Hungary from Oct 20 to 28, 2018

![Bajrang Punia Becomes First Indian To Get World Championship Seeding](image_url)

✓ In the 65kg category of men’s freestyle event, Bajrang Punia has been seeded third with 45 points in the ranking list released by United World Wrestling
✓ United World Wrestling has launched the seeding system for the first time in the World Championship
✓ Bajrang Punia has won gold medals in Commonwealth Games and Asian Games in 2018.
✓ He had also won a bronze medal at the 2013 World Championship

➢ Turtle ‘Olly’ – declared official mascot for the Odisha Men’s Hockey World Cup
✓ The world cup will be held at the Kalinga Stadium in Odisha from November 28 to December 16, 2018
✓ ‘Olly’ represents the endangered Olive Ridley sea turtles - that travel thousands of miles and arrive in millions on Rushikulya and Gahirmatha beaches of Odisha every year for their annual nesting
✓ ‘Olly’ was also the mascot for Asian Athletics Championships held at the Kalinga Stadium in Odisha in 2017

➢ Virat Kohli – achieves the record for the most runs scored by an Asian captain in Test cricket

✓ He achieved the feat on the second day of the second Test match against West Indies at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium in Hyderabad
✓ He overtakes Pakistan’s Misbah ul Haq who had scored 4214 runs in 56 matches, and had 8 centuries to his name as the skipper of Pakistan
✓ Virat Kohli has surpassed the feat in only 42 matches with 17 centuries under his name, which is also a record
INTERNATIONAL DAY

- World Migratory Bird Day – October 13

✓ The day aims to create awareness on the need for conservation of migratory birds and their habitats
✓ In 2017, International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) and World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) were merged
✓ From 2018, World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated twice a year, on the second Saturday in May and in October
✓ In 2018, it was celebrated on 12th May and now on 13th October
✓ Theme 2018 - “Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation”
✓ Also 2018 is observed as the “Year of the Bird”