Memorial for Ramasamy Padayachiyar, freedom fighter – to come up in Cuddalore district – at an estimated budget of Rs 2.15 crore

The foundation stone for the same has been laid by the Hon’ble CM of Tamil Nadu through Video conferencing

Shri Vari Foundation and America Tamil Sangam, New York – adopts two Chennai Corporation Schools in Mylapore, Chennai
 STATES

◆ Rajasthan – Rajasthan’s 1st Lion safari inaugurated at Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur

✓ The park was inaugurated by Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje in June 2016
✓ Visitors will be able to see around 10 lions in their natural habitat in the park, enclosed by a fence

◆ Uttarakhand – ranked at the 1st place for constructing maximum roads under Prime Minister’s Gram Sadak Yojana scheme for 2017-18
✓ The state constructed a maximum of 1,839 kilometre roads under the scheme against a target of 1,500 km set for the year 2017-18
✓ The state has also been ranked second for connecting 207 habitations with roads against a target of 172 under the scheme

◆ Odisha – Nuakhai, the festival of harvest was celebrated in Western Odisha on Sep 14th

✓ After harvest of new paddy of this season, rice was processed and offered to Goddess Samaleswari in Sambalpur
EyeROV TUNA – India’s 1\textsuperscript{st} underwater robotic drone – handed over to Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL) of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for Research activities

- It is a smart micro-ROV (Remotely operated vehicle) developed by IROV Technologies Pvt Ltd (EyeROV), Kochi
- It can perform visual inspection and surveys of submerged structures like ship hulls, undersea cables, dams, port structure and bridge foundations up to a depth of 100 metres
- It also has a camera to provide live video feeds and can be controlled by using a laptop or joystick

Ministry of Power – to launch ‘Chiller Star Labeling Program’ to promote energy efficient chiller systems on the eve of World Ozone Day on Sep 16\textsuperscript{th}, 2018

- The program was formulated by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- It will be applicable for central HVAC systems (Heating, Ventilation and Air conditioning systems) and industrial process cooling applications
- It will help to save more than 500 million units of electricity in 2019 along with Green House Gases reduction of 0.5 million-ton equivalent of CO\textsubscript{2}

Prime Minister – launches the countrywide campaign ‘Swachhata hi Seva’ on Sep 15\textsuperscript{th}, 2018

- The campaign will culminate with the ‘Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention’ from Sep 29\textsuperscript{th} to Oct 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2018, which also marks the start of the 150th birth year celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi
The key objective of the campaign is to mobilise people and create the public movement for sanitation to contribute to Mahatma Gandhi’s dream of a ‘Clean India’

Events in the campaign
- Sep 15 – National Launch and School Engagement
- Sep 16 – Swachhata Sabhas
- Sep 17 – Seva Diwas
- Sep 22 – Railways Swachchata Divas
- Sep 25 – Antyodaya Divas
- There will also be a special focus on the 30 Swachh Iconic Places for cleanliness activities

INTERNATIONAL

- Saudi Arabia – to recruit Women co-pilots and flight attendants for the first time in its aviation history
- The Riyadh based Airlines, Flynas will be recruiting them soon

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- G-20, Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting, Mar del Plata, Argentina (Sep 14th and 15th, 2018)
- India’s Representation – Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation
- The meeting discusses current developments in international trade and its implications for the global economy
World Heritage Cuisine Summit & World chefs’ congress – to be held in Amritsar between Oct 12th and 14th, 2018
- Organised by - The World Cultural Culinary Heritage Committee, under the World Association of Chefs' Societies
- The summit will celebrate traditional cuisine with live demonstrations, presentations, panel discussions, master classes by chefs from around the world

India – to hold 1st ever Global Tourism Mart in New Delhi from Sep 16th to 18th, 2018
- It will be modeled on the ITB, Berlin, which is the World’s largest tourism trade fair

4th Eastern Economic Forum – held in Vladivostok, Russia on Sep 11th to 13th, 2018
- Theme - ‘The Far East: Expanding the Range of Possibilities’
- Organised by – Roscongress Foundation
- It was attended by 6,002 delegates and 1,357 media representatives from 60 foreign countries
- Totally, 220 agreements worth 3.108 billion roubles were signed at the Forum

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

Siddhi – a new App that brings over 40000 farmers and dealers together under one roof – developed by DestaGlobal, a Mumbai-based agri startup e-commerce company
- The app provides the commonplace for sharing information between the farmers for selling and buying the raw materials at a discounted rate apart from sharing the latest farming techniques
ICGS Vijaya – India’s indigenously built, 2nd Offshore Patrol vessel commissioned by the Indian Coast Guard in Chennai, Tamil Nadu

- The 98-metre long ship was designed and built by L&T
- It will be based at Paradip, Odisha and will be exclusively deployed for the surveillance of Exclusive Economic zone apart from the regular ‘search and rescue’, law enforcement and maritime patrol operations

**AWARDS**

- Airports council International’s Airport Service Quality Awards, 2018

- The awards were given at the inaugural ACI Customer Excellence Global Summit, in Halifax, Canada on Sep 12th, 2018
- The awards honour the achievements of airports in 2017 and include 15 first-time winner airports
Six airports of the Airports Authority of India have bagged seven international awards
The winning airports are Lucknow, Indore, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Kolkata and Pune
Awards won by Indian Airports

- **Best Airport by Region (over 2 million passengers per year)** - Asia Pacific – First place – Delhi and Mumbai International Airports (tied)
- **Best Airport by Region (under 2 million passengers per year)** - Asia-Pacific - Indore International Airport
- **Best Airport by Size**
  - 2-5 million passengers per year – First place – Lucknow International Airport
  - 5-15 million passengers per year – First place – Hyderabad International Airport
  - 5-15 million passengers per year – Third place – Cochin, Kolkata and Pune International Airports (tied)
  - 15–25 million passengers per year - Second place - Bangalore International Airport
  - 15–25 million passengers per year - Third place - Chennai International Airport
  - Over 40 million passengers per year - First place (tied) - Delhi and Mumbai International Airport
- **Best Airport by Size and Region- Asia-Pacific**
  - 2–5 million passengers per year - Lucknow International Airport
  - 5–15 million passengers per year - Hyderabad International Airport
  - Over 40 million passengers per year - Mumbai International Airport
- **Most Improved Airport by Region - Asia-Pacific** - Ahmedabad International Airport
Ramendra Kumar, Popular children’s writer – honoured at the 36th International Board on Books for Young People Congress in Athens, Greece

- It was held from 30th August to 1st September 2018
- It is considered the biggest biennial global event for children’s literature, with the participation of 450 delegates from over 70 countries
- Ramendra Kumar was the only Indian writer to receive this honour
- He chaired 2 sessions at the Congress and presented a paper on ‘The Brave New World of Indian Childrens Literature’
- He has written 33 books and his works have been translated into 28 languages
- He has won 31 awards by the Children’s Book Trust

SPORTS

ISSF World Shooting championship, Changwon, South Korea

- Vijayveer Sidhu (16 year old) – won Gold in 25m standard pistol event for junior Men

- Vijayveer Sidhu, Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu and Adarsh Singh – won Gold in 25m Standard pistol Team event
- Gurpreet Singh - clinched a silver in the senior men’s standard pistol event
- India finished third in the overall medals tally with 11 gold, nine silver and seven bronze medals for a total of 27, marking their best ever performance
The day provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world

Theme – ‘Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World’

The International Day of Democracy 2018 coincides with this year’s 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly through a resolution in 2007 and was observed for the first time in 2008
**Human Development Index 2017 – Released by UN Development Programme**

- India ranked at 130th Place among 189 countries, an improvement of one place from the 131st rank in 2016 (with a HDI value of 0.624)
- India's HDI value for 2017 is 0.640, which puts the country in the medium human development category in the HDI's measurement of national achievements in health, education and income
- Between 1990 and 2017, India's HDI value increased from 0.427 to 0.640, an increase of nearly 50 per cent, indicating the country's remarkable achievement in eradicating poverty
- India's gross national income per capita increased by a staggering 266.6 per cent between 1990 and 2017
- Between 1990 and 2017, India's life expectancy at birth increased by nearly 11 years
- Out of the 189 countries for which the HDI is calculated, 59 countries are today in the very high human development group and only 38 countries fall in the low HDI group
- Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Ireland and Germany leads the ranking
- Niger, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Chad and Burundi have the lowest scores
C-Flows or Chennai Flood Warning System – a new Artificial-Intelligence based flooding forecast system to be put into test

- It can predict flooding five days to a week in advance
- It was developed by scientists from National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR)