Tamil Nadu

- Chennai airport – to establish camera-enabled ‘e-gates’, which use Biometric and facial recognition technology to verify passengers’ identity – from the end of next year onwards

- The initiatives are done as part of the centre’s ‘DigiYatra’ scheme for paperless boarding of passengers from entry gates to the boarding gates

- The scheme will be introduced in two phases, with the pilot phase to be tested at Pune, Varanasi, Kolkata and Vijayawada

- Bengaluru will be the first airport to have it in the first quarter of next year, while Chennai will get the system in the second phase
Chennai corporation – to supply the ‘Manure’ it produces to Tamil Nadu Horticulture Agency
- The 131 ‘compost yards’ run by the corporation produces more than 8,800 kg of manure every day, which were used in corporation run parks but still a majority remains unused

Madras high court – declared ‘Nilgiris forest’ a no-go zone for General public, except for officials to discharge their official duty only
- The directive is aimed at stopping rampant poaching and to conserve wild life, habitat and natural resources in the forest area

Coimbatore – A new 300MW wind energy park to come up in Coimbatore district
- It will be set up by Mytrah Energy, based at Hyderabad within a period of 18 months, as per the agreement
- Wind power tariff in the state is remaining at the lowest of Rs 2.52 in the entire country

ICGS 221 – A patrolling vessel of Indian Navy retires from Indian coast Guard
- It was stationed in Chennai for the last 25 years after its induct in 1991
- It left to Kannur port in Kerala after its dismantling, as it was bought by a private individual through an auction

Tamil Nadu PWD – sources sand from Malaysia through a Telangana based private company, InRhythm Energy Private Limited
- The 56,750 metric ton of sand is sourced from Beacon Harbour of the Bahang State in Malaysia in the ship MV Avralia

SCHEMES

Employee’s State Insurance (ESI) – launches ‘Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna’ - for providing unemployment allowance to workers rendered jobless due to changing employment pattern
- The current scenario of employment in India has been transformed from long employment to fixed short term work in the form of contracts
- Its beneficiaries will be the insured persons covered under ‘Employees’ State Insurance Act, 1948’ for a period of two years continuously
- Under this scheme, workers will be able to draw 47% of their total contributions towards ESIC after remaining unemployed for at least three months from date of leaving their previous jobs
- It will be applicable to all establishments employing at least 10 workers
ESI was established in 1952 with its headquarters in New Delhi

Maharashtra – launches ‘Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Credit Society Deposit Protection Scheme’
- The scheme to be launched on Sep 25th by the CM, Devendra Fadnavis will offer to protect deposits upto Rs 1 lakh in cooperative credit societies
- Under the scheme, if a society faces financial crisis, depositors will still get their money back (upto Rs 1 lakh)

STATES

Haryana – to construct ‘Kishau’ dam on Tons river, a tributary of Yamuna
- The dam will provide additional 709 cusecs of water for drinking and irrigation purposes to the state, out of the total capacity of 1,324 million cubic metre (MCM) as per the MoU signed by 6 riparian states in the year 1994

New Delhi Municipal council – to set up a separate ‘Ayush’ department – to provide treatment through ayurveda, yoga and naturopathy, unani, siddha and homoeopathy
- Currently, the Health department of the council provide these services

Odisha – launches the country’s 1st ‘Star Rating program’ to monitor the emissions from the industries in real time – to reduce the pollutions in the state
✓ It has been developed by State Pollution Control Board and Energy Policy Institute of the University of Chicago
✓ It will rate industries from 1 to 5 based on their compliance to pollution standards as set by the State Pollution Control Board
✓ Also, a website was launched to provide more information regarding this to the citizens

➢ Tripura – CM, Biplab kumar Deb inaugurates ‘Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Technology Incubation Centre’ in Agartala, through video-conferencing from Bengaluru

✓ The centre is functioning from the campus of National Institute of Technology (NIT), Agartala
✓ It was launched at the 1st edition of ‘SPACETRONICS’ organised by the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA)
NATIONAL

- Cabinet Committee on Economic affairs – approves the revised cost estimate of ‘Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project’ (DRIP)
  - The revised cost has been increased to Rs 3,466 crore from the earlier Rs 1,968 crore
  - The committee has also approved the extension of the project upto June 2020 from the earlier July 2018
  - Out of the allocated Rs 3,466 crore, World Bank will fund Rs 2,628 crore, Rs.747 crore will be funded by DRIP States or Implementing Agencies (IAs) and the balance Rs.91 crore will be funded by Central Water Commission
  - The project aims to improve safety and operational performance of 198 Dams (69 dams from Tamil Nadu) from 7 states, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand

- Min of Health – launches ‘Nikshay Version 2.0’, the web based application of Revised ‘National Tuberculosis Control Program’
  - It has also launched pilot project for transport of sputum specimen for Tuberculosis (TB) Diagnosis by Department of Post in Karawal Nagar, New Delhi
  - Apart from these, it has also launched the mobile application for all major functions on Nikshay
  - Nikshay was developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) in association with Central TB Division (CTD), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
  - TB is caused by the bacteria “Mycobacterium tuberculosis” that affects the lungs
  - It is the second biggest killer disease worldwide next only to HIV/AIDS
  - India has almost one quarter of TB patients in the entire world
  - Government had set an aim for the elimination of TB in India by 2025, in March 2017

- Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) – launches its monthly e-newsletter ‘MSME Insider’
✓ The newsletter will carry the details of activities undertaken by MSME, acting as a bridge between the industries and ministry
✓ It will be available on website of MSME ministry, www.msme.gov.in as well as on websites of its attached organizations

➢ India – becomes 9th country in the world to release ‘National Registry of Sexual Offenders’ on September 20, 2018
✓ The database would contain key details of the convicted sexual offenders such as their names, photographs, residential address, DNA samples, fingerprints, Aadhaar numbers and Personal Account Numbers (PANs)
✓ The compilation has been done on the basis of information from prisons across the country
✓ It will be maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Union Home Ministry
✓ The database will, however, be only available to the law enforcement agencies for investigation and employee verification
✓ The other nations to maintain such a database include the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, South Africa and Trinidad and Tobago
✓ Out of the 9 countries, only in US, the database can be accessed by the General public and in other countries, it can be accessed only by the law enforcement agencies

➢ India Post payments bank – signs a 5 year ‘corporate agency agreement’ with Bajaj Allianz Life insurance co Ltd., - to offer life insurance products to its customers through postmen and ‘Crameen Dak sevaks’

✓ Bajaj Allianz is the first life insurer to tie up with IPPB since its launch on 1st September 2018
Hindustan Machine Tools Limited – plans to launch ‘HMT Watches Museum and Cultural Centre’ in Jalahalli, Bengaluru

- The PSU, HMT was set up in the year 1953 due to the efforts of the then PM, Jawaharlal Nehru
- With the tie-up of Japan’s M/S Citizen Watch Company, it started to produce Watches from the year 1961
- The first batch of Hand Wound Wrist Watches manufactured here was released by the then Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru
- It manufactured the country’s 1st Quartz analog watch, Braille watch, Ladies watch, Transparent watch and Mechanical automatic watch
- In September 2014, the Government of India decided to shut down HMT operations in a phased manner.

INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- India & Sri Lanka – signs MoU for the construction of 5000-metric ton ‘Temperature controlled warehouse’ in Dambulla

- India is contributing 30 crore Srilankan rupees for this warehouse to store fruits and vegetables
➢ India & Morocco – signs revised ‘Air services agreement’ – enabling greater air connectivity

✓ Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu signed the agreement for the Indian side.
✓ The agreement provides scope for more direct flights between the two countries leading to better economic and cultural ties

➢ India & Niger – signs MoU for the establishment of ‘Mahatma Gandhi International Convention Centre’ in Niamey, Niger – with grant assistance from the Indian Government

✓ The centre will host the ‘African union summit’ that will take place next year in Niger
✓ India has offered already to establish Mahatma Gandhi convention centres in more than 20 countries in Africa, of which the project are being taken up in the immediate phase in nine countries
DEFENCE

- Aviaindra 18 – Joint Air exercise between India and Russia commences in Lipetsk, Russia from Sep 17th to 28th, 2018
- After its conclusion, the 2nd session of the exercise will be conducted in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from Dec 10th to Dec 22nd, 2018
- It was started in 2014 and since then it is conducted twice a year in both the countries

- Defence Acquisition council – approves the procurement of 2 upgraded ‘Akash’ short-range surface-to-air missile system from Bharat Dynamics Limited
  - Indian Army has already inducted two Akash regiments and with this approval, the count increases to four
  - Akash missile was indigenously developed by DRDO as part of ‘Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme’ initiated in 1984
  - It has a range of 25 km and can attack multiple targets in all-weather conditions
  - The upgraded version includes ‘Seeker’ technology, 360 degrees coverage and compact configuration

APPOINTMENTS

- Government – appoints new ‘CEO & Managing Director’s to 10 Public sector banks
  - New Appointees
    - Padmaja Chundru - Indian Bank
    - Mrutyunjay Mahapatra - Syndicate Bank
    - Pallav Mohapatra - Central Bank of India
    - Packirisamy - Andhra Bank
    - Karmam Sekar - Dena Bank
  - All of the above appointees are currently deputy MDs at SBI
    - SS Mallikarajuna Rao - Allahabad Bank - He is currently the Executive Director of Syndicate Bank
    - AS Rajeev - Bank of Maharashtra - He is currently the Executive Director of Indian Bank
    - Atul Kumar Goel - UCO Bank - He is currently the Executive Director at Union Bank of India
    - S Harisankar - Punjab & Sind Bank. He is currently the Executive Director of Allahabad Bank
    - Ashok Kumar Pradhan - United Bank of India - He is currently the Executive Director of United Bank of India
AWARDS

- National Sports Awards 2018 – announced by the Min of Youth affairs and sports on Sep 20th, 2018

**Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the Sportsperson</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Ms. S. Mirabai Chanu</td>
<td>Weightlifting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Shri Virat Kohli</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dronacharya Award 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the Coach</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Subedar Chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa</td>
<td>Boxing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Shri Vijay Sharma</td>
<td>Weightlifting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Shri A. Srinivasa Rao</td>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Shri Sukhdev Singh Pannu</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Shri Clarence Lobo</td>
<td>Hockey (Life Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Shri Tarak Sinha</td>
<td>Cricket (Life Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Shri Jiwan Kumar Sharma</td>
<td>Judo (Life Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Shri V.R. Beedu</td>
<td>Athletics (Life Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. No.</td>
<td>Name of the Sportsperson</td>
<td>Discipline</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Shri Neeraj Chopra</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Naib Subedar Jinson Johnson</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Ms. Hima Das</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Subedar Satish Kumar</td>
<td>Boxing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Ms. Smriti Mandhana</td>
<td>Cricket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Shri Shubhankar Sharma</td>
<td>Golf</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Shri Manpreet Singh</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Ms. Savita</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Col. Ravi Rathore</td>
<td>Polo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Ms. Rahi Sarnobat</td>
<td>Shooting</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Shri Ankur Mittal</td>
<td>Shooting</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Ms. Shreyasi Singh</td>
<td>Shooting</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Ms. Manika Batra</td>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Shri G. Sathiyan</td>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Shri Rohan Bopanna</td>
<td>Tennis</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Shri Sumit</td>
<td>Wrestling</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Ms. Pooja Kadian</td>
<td>Wushu</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Shri Ankur Dhama</td>
<td>Para-Athletics</td>
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<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Shri Manoj Sarkar</td>
<td>Para-Badminton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Dhyan Chand Award 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Shri Satyadev Prasad</td>
<td>Archery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Shri Bharat Kumar Chetri</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Ms. Bobby Aloysius</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Shri Chougale Dadu Dattatray</td>
<td>Wrestling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2018 (For sports development)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Name of the entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Identification and Nurturing of Budding &amp; Young Talent</td>
<td>Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Encouragement to Sports through Corporate Social Responsibility</td>
<td>JSW Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Sports for Development</td>
<td>Isha Outreach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2017-18 (Top performing university)**

- Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar

- The awardees will receive the award on Sep 25th, 2018 from the President of India
- Apart from a medal and a citation, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awardee will receive a cash prize of Rs. 7.5 lakh
- Arjuna, Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand awardees will receive statuettes, certificates and a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh each
Head of the selection Committee

- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award and Arjuna Awards - Justice Indermeet Kaur Kochhar (Former Judge of High Court of Delhi High Court)
- Dronacharya Awards and Dhyan Chand Awards - Justice Mukul Mudgal (Former Chief Justice of High Court of Punjab and Haryana)
- Rashtriya Khel ProtSAHAN Puruskar - Rahul Bhatnagar, Secretary (Sports)
- MAKA Trophy - Ashok Kumar, former Olympian

All-women crew of ‘INSV Tarini’ – to be conferred with Tenzing Norgay National Adventure award – for its revolutionary sailing across the world in 8 months

The award is the highest national recognition for outstanding achievements in the field of adventure on land, sea and air
The women Navy officers had spent as many as 194 days at sea as part of ‘Navika Sagar Parikrama project’ that began in September 2017
The crew was earlier bestowed with ‘Nav Sena Medal’ on the occasion of 72nd Independence Day

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Books Released on the eve of 68th Birthday of the PM, Narendra Modi

- The foreword of the book was penned by international writers and jurists, Adish C Aggarwala and Sarah J Marchington
- The 672 page book offers insight into the daily routine of India’s 14th PM, peppered with rare photographs of the leader
Prakash Javadekar and Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Union Ministers - released the book 'The Making Of A Legend' on the 68th birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in New Delhi.
SPORTS

- 72nd National senior swimming championships, Thiruvananthapuram

- Sajan prakash – sets 2 national records in 200m Freestyle and 200m Medley

- Junior World Wrestling Championship, Trnava, Slovakia

- Sajan Bhanwal and Vijay kumar (Both Haryana) – wins medals

- Sajan Bhanwal bagged silver in the 77kg Greco-Roman category and became the first Indian to win back-to-back medals at the junior Worlds

- Last year, he had bagged a bronze in the same category in Tampere, Finland

- In the Asian Junior Championship held in July in New Delhi, Bhanwal had won a gold medal in the same category
Vijay kumar won a bronze medal in the 55kg Greco-Roman category

- **Indian Olympic Association – to hand out ‘Cash’ awards for the First time in its history to the medal winners of Jakarta Asian Games 2018**
- It will give Rs 5 lakhs cheque to Gold medalists, Rs 3 lakhs to silver medalists and Rs 2 lakhs to Bronze medalists at a ceremony in New Delhi on Sep 23rd, 2018
- It has to be recalled that Sports ministry offered recently a cash award of Rs 40 lakhs to Gold winners, Rs 20 lakhs and Rs 10 lakhs for Silver and Bronze winners respectively

- **North & South Korea – to jointly bid for 2032 Olympics**

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**OBITUARY**

- **Air Marshal Randhir Singh (97 years)**

Randhir Singh took part in the first ‘Flypast’ in Independent India over Red fort on Aug 15th, 1947

- The team was led by Group Captain Arjan Singh, who went on to become Marshal of the Air Force and Randhir Singh was the flight commander

- He was commissioned in the UK’s Royal Air Force in 1942 and retired as Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Training Command, in 1978

He was awarded the newly-independent India’s third highest gallantry award – Vir Chakra.

Air Marshal Singh was also decorated with the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal.