Tamil Nadu – submitted the final draft ‘Coastal zone management plan’ to the Union ministry of Environment, Forests and climate change

- The plan divides 1,076km long coastline into 6 categories (6 CRZs) to preserve its marine ecology, covering 13 TN coastal districts and 28 islands
- They are named as CRZ IA, CRZ IB, CRZ II, CRZ III, CRZ IVA and CRZ IVB
- The state has 1 Marine National Park, Gulf of Mannar

- Chennai corporation – has provided ‘Stainless steel’ Water bottles to 1000 students – in association with Indian Oil Corporation – as part of its campaign to raise awareness to end plastic pollution
The students belong to St. Theresa Girls Higher secondary school and Chennai Middle school in Tondiarpet and Royapuram

Tamil Nadu – Government offers Rs 30 lakhs ‘Incentive’ to 3 Squash players, Dipika Pallikal, Joshana Chinappa and Sunayna Kuruvilla – who had earlier won Silver medal in Squash Women’s team event

Also, the Government announced Rs 20 lakhs to 2 Tamil Nadu players in Mens Hockey team, Srijesh and Rupinder Pal Singh, who have won Bronze medal
Kerala – appoints ‘KPMG’ as ‘Project consultant Partner’ for rebuilding the state after the recent floods

- It had roped in ‘Tata projects limited’ for reconstructing the roads, bridges and buildings in Pamba, the foothills of famous Lord Ayyappa shrine in Sabarimala
- KPMG will provide its services to the state ‘free-of-cost’
- KPMG is one of the 4 ‘acclaimed’ global auditing firm, apart from Deloitte, Ernst & Young, and PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Central Government had earlier declared the floods as “calamity of a severe nature” or Level 3 Calamity
- The floods were the worst to hit the state in the last century, after 1924’s massive floods, affecting all the 14 districts and 1/6th of the population directly

Gujarat – to partner with a top India-centric American Advocacy group ‘USISPF’ – for the 9th edition of ‘Vibrant Gujarat’, annual industry summit
The summit will be held in Gandhinagar from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019
John Chambers, Chairman of ‘US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum’ (USISPF) will lead a high-level CEO delegation to Vibrant Gujarat 2019
Prior to the summit, USISPF will conduct roadshows in 5 US cities, San Francisco, Houston, Chicago, New York and Washington DC
Vibrant Gujarat summit - was conceptualized by PM, Narendra Modi in 2003 to develop ‘Gujarat’ as a preferred investment destination in India.

**NATIONAL**

- **MOVE Cyclathon – a cycle rally was organized by NITI Aayog** – as run up to ‘MOVE: Global Mobility Summit’ - to be held on September 7&8 in New Delhi

- The purpose of the rally is to spread message of clean mobility to the Indian public and to promote cleaner and accessible modes of transport
- It was organized as part of ‘Mobility Week’ which will host 17 events in 7 days from 31st August to 6th September, 2018
- It promotes ‘cycling’ for healthier life and less pollution and to spread message of shared and zero-emission mobility

- **Census 2021 – to collect data on ‘Other Backward castes’ (OBCs) for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in the country**
The current reservation of 27% for OBC’s was proposed by Mandal commission, based on the 1931 census data.

The findings of Census 2021 becomes very significant for the sub-categorisation of OBC’s.

Earlier Backward Class commissions

1st – Kaka Kelkar commission – constituted in 1953 under Article 340 - was rejected as it failed to apply more objective criteria such as income and literacy

2nd – B P Mandal Commission – constituted in Jan 1979 - by Janata Party, under Morarji Desai as PM - used 11 social, economic, and educational indicators to determine the backwardness

* It had estimated OBC population at 52% and classified 1,257 communities as backward and arrived at 27% reservation for OBC’s in addition to the 22.5% reservation already existing for SC/STs

* These reservation recommendations of Mandal commission was implemented by V.P.Singh government in 1990

Later the data of ‘Socio Economic and Caste Census’ taken in 2011 by the Manmohan Singh government was not made ‘Public’ due to certain errors identified by Registrar General of India

Rajnath Singh, Min of Home affairs – chaired 1st Review meeting of ‘Department of Official language’ of Min of Home affairs

It discussed the functioning and issues related to implementation of Hindi language in day to day official work and among the general public

The Ministry has developed a computer software called “Kanthasth” for translating the all kinds of official files from English to Hindi and vice versa - to make the translation work simpler and quicker
PRESIDENT’S VISIT TO CYPRUS

- Indian President, Ram Nath Kovind met his Cypriot counterpart Nicos Anastasiades in Nicosia, Capital of Cyprus

- The president is on a 3 nation visit to Europe (Cyprus, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic), making his 1st overseas state visit in the 2nd year of his presidency
- India and Cyprus signed 2 agreements - on combating ‘Money laundering’ and cooperation in the field of the ‘Environment’
- Former Indian President, VV Giri was the 1st President to visit Cyprus in July 1972

INTERNATIONAL

- China-Maldives Friendship Bridge – was recently unveiled in Maldives – becoming the 1st first cross-sea bridge in the Island
✓ It was built with the assistance of China and a step towards the development of China’s ambitious project, Maritime Silk Road
✓ It connects Maldives capital city, Male and neighbouring Hulhule island which has the country’s main international airport
✓ It is 2.2 km long and built with a Chinese grant of $116 million

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➢ 1st ‘ICT & IoT Startup Tech Expo’ – held in ITI Campus, Bengaluru, Karnataka

It is a 2 day event organized by ITI Limited, to provide effective platform for startups to convert their innovative ideas into marketable products and services
ITI Limited (Indian Telephone Industries Limited) with its headquarters in Bengaluru is a public sector telecom equipment manufacturer
It had signed MoU’s with 58 start-up companies and original equipment manufacturers – in the areas of information and communication technology (ICT), Internet of Things (IoT) and defence technology, to encourage entrepreneurship
It had also entered into agreement with Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC), New Delhi to establish state-of-the-art telecom testing labs at its Bengaluru plant
The MoUs cover manufacturing of civil and military advanced radar systems, advanced edge router systems, data storage and networking solutions, next generation 5G technology products, digital security solutions, advanced metering solutions and Wi-fi products and solutions
APPOINTMENTS

- Justice Tahira Safdar – sworn in as 1st Woman Chief Justice in Pakistan’s Balochistan High court

- Thus, she becomes the 1st woman ever to take the position of a Chief justice in a Pakistan high court
- Earlier in 1982, She became the 1st woman civil judge in Balochistan
- Currently, she is a member of 3-judge special court conducting the trial of former President, Pervez Musharraf

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- “Moving On, Moving Forward – A Year in Office” - written by Vice President, Venkaiah Naidu, to mark the completion of his first year in office

- The book was released by the PM, Narendra Modi and presented the first copy to Venkaiah Naidu
SPORTS

18th Asian Games, Indonesia – Concluded on Sep 2, 2018 in Jakarta

- China topped the medal tally with 132 gold medals (for a record 10th time since 1982 Games), followed by Japan at the second place with 75 gold medals and Korea by 49 Gold medals.
- Overall 465 gold medals were won by the athletes of 28 countries.
- 37 out of 45 participating nations have won medals at the Asian Games 2018.
- Japanese swimmer Rikako Ikee (18 years) – became the 1st woman to win six gold medals at a single Games - was named as the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Games.

She won 6 Golds in 50m and 100m freestyle, 50m and 100m butterfly as well as the 4x100m freestyle and medley relays apart from 2 Silver medals.
She is the first female winner of the award, which has been presented at every Games since the 1998 edition in Bangkok.
✓ Youngest medallist - Indonesian skateboarder, Bunga Nyimas (12 years) won bronze medal in the street event
✓ Oldest medallist - Michael Bambang Hartono (78 years), one of Indonesia’s richest men, won bronze medal in the card game bridge.
✓ India finished at 8th position with an all-time high medals tally of 69 medals, including 15 gold, 24 silver and 30 bronze, surpassing the previous best of 65 medals at 2010 edition in Guangzhou, China where they had finished 6th with 14 gold, 17 silver and 34 bronze
✓ India had maximum Golds (7) and Medals (19) from Athletics
✓ Indian women’s hockey team captain, Rani Rampal was India’s flag-bearer for the closing ceremony
✓ China’s ancient city of Hangzhou, famous for its scenic lake and temples, will host the 19th edition of 2022 Asian Games
✓ During the Closing ceremony, Indonesian president Joko Widodo has announced the country’s bid to host the 2032 Olympics.

Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah – Current President of the Olympic Council of Asia

✓ Thomas Bach – Current President of International Olympic Committee

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<th>Silver</th>
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Italian Formula 1 Grand prix, Monza

- Winner – Lewis Hamilton (Great Britain, Mercedes)
- Runner – Kimi Raikkonen (Finland, Ferrari)
- With this win, Lewis Hamilton leads the Driver’s standings with 256 points followed by Sebastian Vettel with 226 points

52nd ISSF World Shooting Championship, Changwon, South Korea

- Arjun singh Cheema – Gold – Junior Men’s 50m Pistol
- Arjun singh cheema, Gaurav rana and Anmol Jain – Gold – Junior team event
- Manisha Keer (19 year old) – won Silver in Junior Women’s Trap event after equalling Junior World Record
INTERNATIONAL DAY

- World Coconut Day – September 2

- It was observed since 2009 to commemorate the formation day of Asian Pacific Coconut Community (APCC)
- In India, ‘Coconut Development Board’ celebrated the ‘World Coconut Day 2018’ along with the ‘Department of Horticulture’, Government of Chhattisgarh with the theme ‘Coconut for Good Health, Wealth & Wellness’ in Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- The celebration was inaugurated by Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmer’s Welfare

REPORT

- RBI Annual Report 2017-18 – Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow

- 1st – Mauritius ($13.41 billion)
- 2nd – Singapore ($9.27 billion)
- 3rd – Netherlands ($2.67 billion)
✓ Total FDI - $37.36 billion ($36.31 billion in FY 2016-17)
✓ Sector wise FDI
✓ 1<sup>st</sup> – Communication ($8.8 billion)
✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> – Manufacturing ($7.06 billion)
✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> – Retail and wholesale trade ($4.47 billion)
✓ 4<sup>th</sup> – Financial services ($4.07 billion)

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gazette

✓ UN World Tourism Organisation 2017 – Report

✓ International tourism hits a record high of 1,323 million international tourist arrivals across the globe in 2017.
✓ Overall, international tourist arrivals grew 6.8% in 2017, the highest increase since the 2009
✓ India leads the chart of growth in the South Asian region with a total of 15.54 million in 2017 (14.57 million in 2016)
✓ Europe and Africa leads the race with a growth of 8% and 9% respectively
✓ Top 7 destinations - China, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.