Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu – to get a Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal at Ennore & an integrated common hazardous waste treatment storage and disposal facility in Gummidipoondi

- Tamil Nadu – to launch ‘online’ registration of Weddings, Chits and Societies – From August 2018
  - Star 2.0 – The ‘online’ property registration portal of Tamil Nadu – designed by TCS

- 43rd Kabilar Festival at Thirukovilur, Villupuram

  - Kovai Sivaprakasa Swamigal – conferred with ‘Kabilar’ Award
- **Kumbakonam Municipality** – becomes 1st in the state to use ‘**Robots**’ for clearing Manhole sewage blocks

- **Poet Magudeswaran** – conferred with ‘**Chirpi Literary**’ Award of Chirpi Foundation

- **Tamil Nadu** – Government to erect statue for ‘**Tholkappiar**’ in Marina beach – as per Thiru K Pandiyarajan, Min of Education, Tamil Nadu
  
  ✓ He also stated that the Tamil Research chair has started functioning in Harvard university and 4 more Research chairs will start functioning within this year at Oxford, Johannesburg, Jaffna and Malay Universities
STATES

- **Uttar Pradesh** – signs MoU with ‘Power Grid Corporation of India’ for Energy Efficiency and agriculture power management
  - Power Grid Corporation of India – It is a Navaratna Public sector enterprise
  - It Manages the power transmission facilities in India
  - Headquarters – Gurugram, Haryana

- **Himachal Pradesh** – launches ‘Market Intervention Scheme’ (MIS) for the procurement of Apples
  - MIS – This scheme intends to purchase 2,29,136 metric tonnes of Apple at a fixed price of Rs 7.50 per kg by the Government

**Market intervention scheme**

- The Market intervention scheme (MIS) is an ad-hoc scheme under which are included horticultural commodities and other agricultural commodities which are perishable in nature and which are not covered under the minimum price support scheme
- Government implements M.I.S. for a particular commodity on the request of a state Government concerned
- Losses suffered are shared on 50:50 basis between Central Government and the State govt.
West Bengal – joins Ayushman Bharat – NHPM under a Joint banner ‘Ayushman Bharat – Swasthya Sathi’

✓ It became the 26th State to join the Centre’s ambitious health insurance scheme of providing a cover of Rs 5 lakhs per person for over 11 million families.

Odisha – to host India’s 1st ‘Private sector Triennial’ called as ‘Odisha Triennial of International Art’ in Dec-Jan 2019 at 3 places, Bhubaneshwar, Puri and Konark

✓ It will see the convergence of National and International Artists at one place to showcase their talents.

Maharashtra - Volkswagen – to set up a Design centre in Chakan near Pune

✓ Volkswagen is a German car maker with its headquarters at Wolfsburg, Germany.

Rajasthan – awards the 1st Death sentence to a youth - for the rape of a minor of below 12 years.
NATIONAL

- **28th GST Council Meeting**
  - Chennai – to have the Council’s Regional Bench
  - GST Reduction from 28% to 18% - for Washing Machines, Fridge, Airconditioners, Water heaters, Vacuum cleaners, Grinder, Mixie, Televisions upto 68 cms
  - Council also approved the Quarterly return filing for Tax filers with an annual turnover of less than Rs 5 crore
  - Next Meeting scheduled – Aug 4th, 2018
NABARD – Launches South East Asia’s 1st ‘Centre for Climate change’ in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

- NABARD - National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- It is the agriculture development financial institution in India
- Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Established – 1982 on the recommendations of Shivaraman Committee to implement National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981

INDIA & NEIGHBOURS

- Sri Lanka – Indian Prime Minister launches 88 India-Assisted ‘Emergency Ambulance Services’ expansion in Jaffna, Sri Lanka
  - Project Cost - $23 million
  - Initial launch – 2016 in Sri Lanka’s Western and Southern provinces
INTERNATIONAL

- **Walking Action Plan** – launched by the London Mayor, Mr Sadiq Khan – to make it as World’s Most walkable city

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **SAFAR – System of Air quality and weather Forecasting And Research** – New Advanced weather forecasting system – launched in Chandni Chowk, New Delhi – by Mr Harsh Vardhan, Min for Science and Technology

  - SAFAR – has an in-built LED display to provide real time air quality index with 72 hour advance forecasting facility
  - It can track UV-index, PM1, Mercury and Black carbon levels in real time
SPORTS

➢ **Beatrice Chepkoech (Kenya)** – breaks **Steeplechase** World Record – in 10th IAAF Diamond League, Monaco – by clocking 8 min 44.32 sec

![Beatrice Chepkoech](image)

➢ **Rakesh Gond (Uttar Pradesh)** – breaks the U-18 boys **National Pole vault** record and Won Gold in 15th National Youth Athletics Championships, Vadodara

  • Rakesh jumped 4.90m, a massive 15 cm over the current National record of 4.75m

![Rakesh Gond](image)
Keshav Maharaj (South Africa) – has achieved a bowling figure of 9/129 in an innings – to register the best ever bowling figure for his country in an away test – surpassing 8/64 recorded by Lance Klusener (Kolkata, 1996)

He achieved this landmark in 2nd test against Sri Lanka at Colombo