Tamil Nadu – sets up 24-hour helpline – to investigate the issues faced by Intercaste couples and to offer them necessary protection and assistance.

West Bengal – to organize a ‘World class Exhibition’ on 4 Eminent personalities of Bengal – at National Library in Kolkata:

- Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore
- Netaji Subha Chandra Bose
- Rishi Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
- Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee
- **Punjab** – to develop ‘**Virasat-e-Khalsa**’, a museum of Sikhs – at Anandpur Sahib, Punjab – as per Mr Navjot Singh Sidhu, Min of Tourism and cultural affairs, Punjab

- **Uttar Pradesh** – launches the concept of ‘**Digital volunteers**’ in Police stations to check rumours and fake news

- **Tripura** – observes 7-day long ‘**Kharchi Puja**’, a traditional tribal’s festivity

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- **Kerala - Cochin Port** – to develop the new state-of-the-art ‘**Cruise Terminal**’ at Ernakulam Wharf by Feb 2020

  ✓ This terminal is designed to handle upto 5000 tourists at a cost of Rs 25.72 crores.
Maharashtra – Top Beverage companies including PepsiCo, Coca-Cola, Bisleri to initiate a **buy-back programme** for all Pet bottles sold in the State

- The cost of buy-back set by the companies is Rs 15 per kg for PET bottles
- The companies are working with ‘Gem Enviro’ for setting up of the Reverse vending machines and collection centres for the buy-back programme

- Maharashtra – enforced single use plastic ban in March 2018
- India – to eliminate all forms of single use plastic by 2022

**SCHEMES**

- **Bharatmala Scheme**
  - India – is planning to build **1,911 kms** of International Roads by 2022 – as per Mr Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Min of State for Road Transport and Highways
    - * Target – 83,677 kms of Road highways at Rs 5.35 lakh crores budget

- **Student Police cadet programme** – launched nationally by Mr Rajnath Singh, Union Home minister
  - The programme aims to build relationship between the police and the people through the school students, who will be trained in ‘ethics and values’ & ‘Crime prevention and control’
  - The programme targets the school students in the classes 8 and 9, without affecting the regular studies
The programme has a budget of Rs 67 crores from the Centre

NATIONAL

- Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani of Bombay High court – to be the new Chief justice of Madras high court

- Present Chief Justice of Madras High court, Indira Banerjee - is set to be one among the 3 new judges for Supreme court

- Others 2 judges recommended
Justice Vineer Saran, Present chief justice of Orissa high court

Justice K M Joseph, Present chief justice of Uttarakhand high court

27th No Confidence Motion

✔ Moved by – Telugu Desam party

✔ Overall time taken – 12 hours

✔ Strength – Only 451 MP’s out of 534 present in the floor ( Majority Mark – 226)

✔ Final verdict – 325-126 in favour of NDA

✔ Parties that didn’t participate in the NCM – Shiv sena and BJD; TRS didn’t vote but participated

SUPREME COURT VERDICT

Supreme court verdict

✔ No New vehicle to be sold from September 1 – without the Mandatory Third party insurance cover – for a 3 year and 5 year premium for Four wheel and Two wheel vehicles respectively

• Background – The verdict is based on the recommendations of the Justice K S Radha Krishnan committee on Road Safety

• The committee noted that only 6 crore vehicles out of 18 crore has the third party insurance, thereby making it ‘Mandatory’ for the accident victims to claim compensation
**INDIA & NEIGHBOURS**

- Austin Fernando – named as new Srilankan High commissioner to India
  - He replaces Chitrangani Wagiswara

**CONFERENCES/SUMMITS**

- 28th Meeting of GST Council, New Delhi
  - Chaired by – Mr Piyush Goyal, Min of Finance, Railways and Coal
  - **Key points approved**
    - Exemption of Sanitary napkins from GST from the earlier 12% levy of tax
    - Reduction of Slab for Lithium-ion batteries used in Electronic items from 28% to 18%
  - GST was rolled out on July 1, 2017
➢ **4th BIMSTEC summit** – to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal – from 30th to 31st Aug, 2018

✓ BIMSTEC - Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi-Sectoral, Technical and Economic Cooperation.

✓ Formed - 1997

✓ Countries - Bangladesh, Bhutan India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand.

✓ Current chair of BIMSTEC – Nepal

➢ **8th BRICS Health Ministers’ Meeting** - at Durban, South Africa

✓ India – to eliminate TB by 2025 – as per Mr J P Nadda, Union Health Minister

**COMMITTEE**

➢ **Prof R C Deka Committee** – Constituted by UGC – to regulate fee for Medical courses in Deemed Universities
Meghalayan Age – The Newest Phase in the History of Earth is named after the discovery of the Stalagmite in a cave of Meghalaya

- Other 2 New phases in the Earth’s History are named as
  - Middle Holocene Northgrippian Age
  - Early Holocene Greenlandian Age

- The Meghalayan Age – begins around 4200 years ago
- Middle Holocene Northgrippian Age – began around 8,300 years ago
- Early Holocene Greenlandian Age – began around 11,700 years

- All these 3 ages belongs to a part of longer period known as Holocene Epoch – which began around 11,700 years ago

NASA – launches ‘Remote sensing Toolkit’ to promote Commercial use of Satellite data

- NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Headquarters – Washington DC, United states
- Founded – 29 July 2958
- Founded by – Dwight D Eisenhower

Athena – The new satellite to be launched by Facebook in 2019

- Objective – to provide broadband connections to rural areas
2-Wheeler Mode of Google Maps – Launched in India in 2017 – now expands to other Asian countries, Indonesia, Singapore, Phillipines, Taiwan, Hongkong, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam

ECONOMY

FICCI – projects India’s GDP growth at steady 7.5% in the current FY

FICCI - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry

* It is the association of Business establishments in India

* Headquarters – New Delhi

* Established – 1927

‘Shopper Audience Network’ – a New ‘Video advertisement platform’ started jointly by Flipkart and Hotstar

Objective – to provide personalized video advertisements in Hotstar targeting potential customers of Flipkart
APPOINTMENTS

- **Arman Ali** – appointed as Executive Director of ‘National Centre for promotion of employment of Disabled people’ (NCPEDP)
  - He succeeds Javed Abidi from Oct 2018
  - NCPEDP – Headquarters – New Delhi

AWARDS & HONOURS

- **Vivek Srivastava** - Co-Founder & CEO, Healthcare at HOME (HCAH) - Awarded "Entrepreneur of the year" Award - for healthcare services - at 8th Annual Entrepreneur India awards, New Delhi
### 26th Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Awards 2018 (ESPY), Los Angeles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy V Award for Perseverance</td>
<td>Jim Kelly, Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Male Athlete</td>
<td>Alexander Ovechkin, Washington Capitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Female Athlete</td>
<td>Chloe Kim, Snowboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best International Men’s Soccer Player</td>
<td>Cristiano Ronaldo, Real Madrid/Portuguese National Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best International Women’s Soccer Player</td>
<td>Sam Kerr, Chicago Red Stars/Australian National Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Male Tennis Player</td>
<td>Roger Federer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Female Tennis Player</td>
<td>Sloane Stephens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SPORTS

- **14th Women’s World Cup Hockey Tournament** – starts in London – from July 21 to Aug 5, 2018
  - India – Last appeared in World Cup Hockey in 2010, Argentina and finished 9th
  - India – grouped in Pool B, along with England, Ireland and USA
  - India – currently ranked at 10th place in the overall rankings of the countries
  - Netherlands – Current World Champion

- **Alison Becker (Brazil)** – becomes the world’s most expensive Goalkeeper in Football’s history– after his record transfer amount of 56 million Pounds to Liverpool (England) from Roma (Italy)
Shubhankar Sharma (India) – becomes the youngest Indian Golfer to ‘make the Cut’ in any Major Golf tournament at 147th Open championship, Scotland

Making the cut – Golf – means ‘When the players exceed or match a certain score to remain in the final 2 rounds of a 4 round tournament’

IOC – adds 7 new medal events to 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics

1 - Women’s mono bob
2 & 3 - Big Air freestyle skiing (For men and women)
4 - Mixed team events in short track speed skating,
✓ 5 - Ski jumping,
✓ 6 - Ski aerials
✓ 7 – Snowboard cross

**IOC – International Olympic committee**

* Headquarters – Lausanne, Switzerland
* Founded – 1894 in Paris
* 2020 Summer Olympics – Tokyo, Japan
* 2024 Summer Olympics – Paris, France

**28th Shooting Hopes junior International Championship**, Pilsen, Czech Republic

✓ **Indian Shooters gets 11 Gold medals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manu Bhaker</td>
<td>10 m Pistol Junior Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manu Bhaker, Devanshi Rana,</td>
<td>10 m Pistol Junior Female team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shreya Agrawal,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manu Bhaker, Anmol Jain</td>
<td>10 m air pistol mixed team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manu Bhaker, Gaur, Muskan</td>
<td>25 m Pistol Junior female team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elavenil Valarivan</td>
<td>10 m Rifle ISSF Junior Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu</td>
<td>25 m Pistol Junior Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu, Vijayveer Sidhu, Udhayveer Sidhu</td>
<td>25 m Pistol Junior Male (team)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saurabh Chaudhary</td>
<td>10 m Pistol Junior male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arjun Singh Cheema</td>
<td>50 m Pistol Junior male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arjun Singh Cheema, Anmol Jain, Rana</td>
<td>50 m Pistol Junior male team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elavenil Valarivan, Divyanish Singh Panwar</td>
<td>10 m rifle ISSF Mixed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

✓ **India’s Manu Bhaker** won a record 9\textsuperscript{th} International Gold medal in the span of One Year.
The joint UN Agency on AIDS (UNAIDS) Report -
'Miles to go - closing gaps, breaking barriers, righting injustices'
**India – 2010 to 2017**

* New HIV infections - dropped from 1, 20,000 in 2010 to 88,000 in 2017
* AIDS-related deaths - reduced from 1, 60,000 to 69,000 in the same time period
* People living with HIV - decreased from 23,00,000 to 21,00,000 in the same time period.

**Asia**

* HIV infections – Increases in Pakistan and Phillipines
* HIV infections - decreased in India, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam

**Global**

* New HIV infections – shows a decrease of 18% - from 2.2 million in 2010 to 1.8 million in 2017.

**UN Global Target** – Less than 5,00,000 by 2020
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
- **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

PM Modi addresses programme to mark expansion of Emergency Ambulance Service at Jaffna, Sri Lanka
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

- **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
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 2\textsuperscript{nd} test against Srilanka at Colombo
Everyday current affairs – July 23, 2018

Tamil Nadu

Keeladi, Korkai and Adhichanallur – to get ‘Onsite’ Museums – to display ancient artefacts excavated from the places of Archaeological importance – as per Thiru K Pandiarajan, Min for Tamil language and culture, Tamil Nadu

Nagercoil Temple Jewellery with Peculiar Gems and Stones – gets GI tag – from Geographical Indications registry of Government of India

TANGEDCO – Purchases a record 10.41 crore Units of Electricity from Wind Mills – on July 18, 2018 (Average purchase – 4600 MW from Wind mills)

➢ Earlier record was set in Aug 2017 – when TANGEDCO purchased 10.26 crore units of Electricity on a single day

➢ Tamilnadu – has 11,800 wind mills producing 7,800 MW of electricity
**STATES**

- **Odisha** – launches a Police drive to identify ‘Pangolin’ smuggling racket within the state
  - Pangolin – is the only scaly mammal in the world.
  - Types – 8 out of which only 2 are available in India, Indian pangolin and Chinese pangolin, both are listed as ‘Endangered’ species by UN.

- **Bihar** – to provide **Reservation in Promotions** – to SC/ST personnel in its Services

**NATIONAL**

- **Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana** – The Government has reduced the minimum yearly deposit to Rs 250 from the earlier Rs 1000 - for opening up the account
Medini Puraskar Yojna – a scheme to award Indian authors for their work in ‘Hindi’ on Environment, Pollution and Climate changes – Reintroduced by the Min of Environment

1st Mizo Hnahthlak International Cultural Festival – organized in Aizawl, Mizoram

NCERT – to introduce QR codes in its textbooks
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

♦ **TreadWill** – an online tool developed by IIT, Kanpur – to help people deal with Mental health issues

DEFENCE & MILITARY

♦ **Army** – to get 2 types of Artillery guns in Sep 2018

- **K-9 Vajra-T** from South Korea – 155mm, 52 calibre, 40km range self-propelled artillery gun
- **M777** ultralight howitzer from United States – 155mm, 39 calibre, 24 km range towed artillery gun
ECONOMY

Top 3 States with Surplus GST collections

1 Manipur
2 Mizoram
3 Arunachal Pradesh

AWARDS & HONOURS

All India Football Federation Awards 2017

- Sunil Chhetri – Player of the Year
- Kamala Devi – Woman Player of the Year
- C R Srikrishna (Tamil Nadu- Coimbatore) – Best Referee (3rd Award)
- Kerala Football Association – Best Grassroots Development Programme
- Anirudh Thapa – Emerging player of the year
- E Panthoi – Emerging Woman Footballer of the year
APPOINTMENTS

◆ Amit Anand Apte – appointed as President of ‘The Institute of Cost Accounts of India’

BOOKS & AUTHORS

The Dravidian Years
Politics and Welfare in Tamil Nadu
S. Narayanan
Mohammad Anas Yahiya (India) – sets a new National record of 45.24 seconds in 400m race – at the Cena Noveho Mesta nad Metuji Meet in Prague, Czech Republic

Fakhar Zaman (Pakistan) – becomes the fastest player to reach 1000 runs in ODI’s in 18 innings – during the ongoing ODI series against Zimbabwe

➢ He broke the record of Sir Viv Richards, West Indian cricketer (21 innings)
➢ He scored 210 runs in 4th match against Zimbabwe to register the 1st double century by a Pakistan cricketer in ODI’s
Sports Authority of India (SAI) – shortlists 734 young players – for KHELO INDIA Talent identification development scheme, a scholarship program for school students

Tokyo 2020 Olympics – Mascots unveiled
- Olympic Mascot – Miraitowa – Blue checked
- Para Olympic Mascot – Someity – Red checked
➢ Tokyo 2020 Olympics - to be held between July 24 and Aug 9
➢ Tokyo 2020 Para Olympics – to be held between Aug 25 to Sep 6

❖ **Lakshya Sen (India-Uttarakhand)** – clinches **Asia Junior Badminton** title at Jakarta, Indonesia – becoming 3rd Indian shuttler to win Gold in Asian Junior Championships

➢ He defeated current World junior champion, Kunlavut Vitidsarn (Thailand)
➢ Other Indians to win Asian Junior Championships
➢ Late Gautam Thakkar (1965)
➢ P V Sindhu (2012)

❖ **Junior Asian Wrestling Championship, New Delhi**

➢ India wins 8 medals – 2 Gold, 3 Silver and 3 Bronze – and finished 2nd (1st – Iran)

❖ **Gold medal winners**

✓ Sachin Rathi – 74 kgs
✓ Deepak Punia – 86 kgs
2019 FIFA Women’s World cup Football – to be held in France – between 7th June to 7th July 2019

- United States – Current World champion
- Chile – to take part for the 1st time
- No of teams – 24 (6 groups)
- Official Slogan – Dare to shine
- Official Mascot – Ettie
Mohit Kumar (Haryana) – sets new U-18 decathlon National record with 6707 points - in 15th National youth athletics championships, Vadodara, Gujarat

Manu Attri and Sumeeth Reddy (India) – retains Mens doubles title – at Lagos International Badminton tournament in Nigeria

Lewis Hamilton (Britain - Mercedes) – wins the German Grand Prix Formula 1 championship
INDICES

Public Affairs Index 2018

Best Governed States – Top 5 (Large States)

1. Kerala (Topping the index for the 3rd time)
2. Tamil Nadu
3. Telangana
4. Karnataka
5. Gujarat

Small States – Top 5 (With population less than 2 crores)

1. Himachal Pradesh
2. Goa
3. Mizoram
4. Sikkim
5. Tripura

States Providing better living conditions for Kids – Top 3

1. Kerala
2. Himachal Pradesh
3. Mizoram
Index Released by – Public Affairs Centre (Bengaluru)

Since – 2016

Objective – to improve governance in the States

Global Slavery Index –Released by Walk Free foundation

40.3 million people subjected to ‘Modern slavery’ in 2016

- North Korea – tops the list with 1 in 10 people in this condition

OBITUARY

Jonathan Gold, a food critic – Won ‘Pulitzer prize’ for criticism in 2007

He worked for Los Angeles Times as a ‘Restaurant critic’
REMEMBERING BALAGANGADHAR TILAK AND CHANDRA SEKARA AZAD ON THEIR BIRTH ANNIVERSARY
ROLE OF TILAK

Father of Extremist Movement

Bala Gangadhar Tilak (1856–1920) was the Father of the Extremist Movement in India. He embodied the spirit of radical Indian nationalism. Though a law graduate of Bombay University, Tilak was not enamoured of the Government service. Instead he dedicated himself to the service of his country. He helped in the establishment of the Poona New English School, the Deccan Education Society and the Ferguson College. These educational institutions were started with a view to imbue the Indian youth with the ideals of services and sacrifice. Similarly, he started the Marathi weekly, the Kesari, and the English newspaper, the Mahratta, with a view to propagate his nationalistic views.

Social Reformer

Tilak firmly believed that political freedom should precede social reform. On that score he basically differed from Gokhale and Agarkar, who believed that social reform should march hand in hand with political reform. However, Tilak’s zeal for social reform was no less important. He strongly supported women’s education and raising the age of marriage for boys and girls. He protested against the Age of Consent Bill (1890), not because he disagreed with its principle but because he considered it outside legislative interference in Indian social customs. He used it a convenient handle to attack the British. The Age of Consent Bill agitation brought Tilak name and fame.

Activator of Religious Festivals

In order to activise nationalism Tilak utilized religious festivals. He believed that better results could be achieved through these festivals than through public meetings. With this end in view, he inaugurated the Ganapathi Festival in 1893. The festival lasted for several days, when giant images of God Ganapathi were carried through the streets, Hindu Youths marched in formation singing religious songs and lectures were given on Hindu tenets. The festival appealed to all sections of people. By 1896 it spread to almost all towns in Maharashtra. In 1895 he started Festivals in honour of Chatrapathi Shivaji. Tilak also encouraged the formation of anti-cow killing societies, lathi clubs and akharas. Through such festivals, celebrations and clubs Tilak surreptitiously introduced political activities in the villages and among the masses.
Promoter of Melas

The Ganapathi and Sivaji festivals gave rise to militant secret societies in the form of Melas. They were revolutionary societies. They mostly centered round Poona and its suburbs. The Hindu youth who had come under the spell of Tilak joined the Melas in strength. They swore allegiance to defend their tradition through all means and personal sacrifice. The mela members underwent physical training including the use of fire arms. They supplied firearms to the marchers during the Ganapathi and Sivaji festivals. Natu Brothers-Balwant Ramachandra Natu and Hari Ramachandra Natu- played a prominent role in the Mela movement. Tilak considered them as his allies in a common struggle against the foreigners. Thus, by skillfully combining religion, tradition and politics Tilak had by the mid-nineties of the 19th century emerged as the most powerful politician in Maharashtra and demi-God to the Maharashtrians.

An Activist

Tilak attracted Government’s attention by his activities during the outbreak of bubonic plague in Poona in 1897. He called for massive public relief to alleviate the suffering of the victims. He deployed agents to the countryside to collect information and to organize no-tax campaign. He wrote stirring articles in the Kesari and the Mahratta. After the assassination of W.C. Rand, the Plague Commissioner and his assistant Lt. Ayerest, the Government accused Tilak of having incited sedition and violence. Tilak was tried, found guilty and sentenced to 18 months rigorous imprisonment! His incarceration earned him the well-deserved title Lokmanya.

Aggressive Politician

When Tilak was set free he involved himself in political activities with redoubled vigour and energy. He extended his whole-hearted support to the anti-Partition agitation in Bengal (1905). He urged the country to rally round the Bengalis in their hour of trial. He enthusiastically welcomed the Swadeshi Movement, particularly the boycott programme. For Tilak boycott was more than an economic weapon; it was a weapon of political warfare, a substitute for the bullet. Since Indians could not go to war as the Boers did in South Africa, the next best thing for them was of refuse to buy British goods or cooperate with the British rulers. He called upon fellow Maharashtrians to extend all help to the struggling Bengalis. He himself organized a bonfire of British cloth in October 1905. Several Swadeshi institutions were founded to promote the sale of Swadeshi goods. Tilak visited Bengal and urged the Bengalis to discard the methods of protests, prayers and pleadings and follow radical methods. “Look to the examples of Ireland, Japan and Russia and follow their methods.”
Father of Unrest

Tilak's aggressive politics alienated him from other Congress Moderates. The Extremists demonstrated their strength at the annual Congress session held at Benaras in 1905. To avoid a split Dadabhai Naoroji had to be brought from England to preside over the 1906 Calcutta Congress. The irreconcilable conflict between the Extremists headed by Tilak and the Moderates led by Gokhale resulted in the inevitable split in the Congress in December 1907 at Surat. Taking advantage of the Split the Government cracked down on the Extremists. Tilak was again charged with sedition in 1908, tried, found guilty and sentenced to six years rigorous imprisonment. He was sent to Mandalay prison in Burma. His imprisonment provoked serious unrest in the country. He came to be called the Father of the Indian Unrest. It was in the Mandalay prison Tilak wrote his Gita Bahasya and The Arctic Home of the Vedas.

Hard Headed Realist

Tilak was a hard headed realist. When he returned to India after his release from the Mandalay prison on 30th August 1914 he appealed to his countrymen to help Britain in all possible ways. But the Government did not reciprocate this gesture of Tilak. Disappointed Tilak changed his stand and in 1916 he formed a League to fight for Home Rule. His attempt was ably supported by Annie Beasant, S.Subramania Iyer and C.R.Das. The same year Tilak and the Extremists rejoined the Congress and approved of the Congress-League Pact of 1916. Tilak was prosecuted for delivering seditious speeches. He was asked to furnish a personal bond of Rs.20,000. He was ordered not to enter Delhi and the Punjab.

Born Fighter

Tilak participated in the War Conference held at Delhi in April 1918 as a provincial leader. But when the Governor cut short his speech Tilak walked out of the meeting. On 16th June he organized a mammoth procession and demonstration and observed Home Rule Day. In September he left for England and carried on a whirlwind campaign in support of Home Rule. On 27th November E.S.Montague met Tilak and sought his support for his Reform proposals. He was in favour of giving the Montford Reforms a trial. Tilak even formed the Congress Democratic Party in order to contest the elections under the Reforms Act. Tilak was to become the President of the special Calcutta session in September 1920 but he passed away on August 1920. The mantle of Tilak fell on Gandhi.
Tilak was a born and sworn fighter all throughout his life. He fought against social injustice. He fought against the British Government. He fought against the diehard Congress Moderates. He fought against Sir Valentine Chirol who had defamed him. He fought against sedition cases. He fought with his pen, through the press, and from the platform. He fought for the freedom of the country and in the process he Indianised the struggle and brought in the masses. Tilak was truly a Lokmanya Tilak who proclaimed “Swaraj is our birth right and we shall have it” was indeed a hero prophet of India’s struggle for freedom.

INDIAN REVOLUTIONARY CHANDRA SEKARA AZAD

"FOR WHAT IS THE FLUSH OF YOUTH, IF IT IS NOT OF SERVICE TO THE MOTHERLAND."

EARLY LIFE

Azad was born as Chandrashekhar Tiwari on 23 July 1906 in Bhavra village, in the present-day Alirajpur district of Madhya Pradesh.

His mother wanted her son to be a great Sanskrit scholar and persuaded his father to send him to Kashi Vidyapeeth, Banaras, to study.
AZAD

In December 1921, when Mohandas K. Gandhi launched the Non-Cooperation Movement, Chandra Shekhar, then a 15-year-old student, joined. As a result, he was arrested. On being produced before a magistrate, he gave his name as "Azad" (The Free), his father's name as "Swatantrata" (Independence) and his residence as "Jail". From that day he came to be known as Chandra Shekhar Azad among the people.

REVOLUTIONARY LIFE

After suspension of the non-cooperation movement in 1922 by Gandhi, Azad became more aggressive. He met a young revolutionary, Manmathnath Gupta, who introduced him to Ram Prasad Bismil who had formed the Hindustan Republican Association (HRA), a revolutionary organisation.

KAKORI ROBBERY 1925

Bismil was impressed by Azad, when Azad reportedly put his hand over a lamp and did not remove it until his skin burnt. He then became an active member of the HRA and started to collect funds for HRA.

Most of the fund collection was through robberies of government property. He also wanted to build a new India based on socialist principles. He was involved in the Kakori Train Robbery of 1925, in the attempt to blow up the Viceroy of India's train in 1926, and at last the shooting of J. P. Saunders at Lahore in 1928 to avenge the killing of Lala Lajpat Rai.

Despite being a member of Congress, Motilal Nehru regularly gave money in support of Azad.
BAGAT SINGH & HSRA

The Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) was formed by Bismil, Chatterji, Sachindra Nath Sanyal and Shachindra Nath Bakshi in 1924. In the aftermath of the Kakori train robbery in 1925, the British clamped down on revolutionary activities. Prasad, Ashfaqulla Khan, Thakur Roshan Singh and Rajendra Nath Lahiri were sentenced to death for their participation. Azad, Keshab Chakravarthy and Murari Sharma evaded capture. Chandra Shekhar Azad later reorganised the HRA with the help of revolutionaries like Sheo Verma and Mahaveer Singh.

Azad and Bhagat Singh secretly reorganised the HRA as the HSRA in September 1928, so as to achieve their primary aim of an independent India based on socialist principle.

MARTYRDOM OF AZAD

Azad died at Alfred Park in Allahabad on 27 February 1931. The police surrounded him in the park after an unknown informant told them he was there. He was wounded in the process of defending himself and Sukhdev Raj and killed three policemen and wounded some others. His actions made it possible for Sukhdev Raj to escape. After a long shootout, holding true to his pledge to never be captured alive, he shot himself dead with his last bullet.
Increase in Property Tax – by Chennai Corporation

Taxing times
The State government has cleared the proposal for a hike in property tax in all urban local bodies

- The increase in tax for residential buildings will not be more than **50%**
- The increase in the case of non-residential buildings will not be more than **100%**
- The hike in tax for rented residential buildings will not be more than **100%**
- The increase is with retrospective effect from April 2018

- Assessee who have already paid their property tax for the April-September period will have to pay the difference
- Assessee will have to file property tax returns, mentioning the usage of the buildings and their extent

- Last Increase by Chennai Corporation – 1998
- Last Increase by Other Local bodies – 2008
- **Mettur Stanley Reservoir** – brims with its Full capacity after 4 years on 23rd July, 2018
  - Aug 4, 2013 – was the Last time it was to its fullest capacity
  - This was the 39th time in 85 years
  - Built by – Col W M Ellis
  - Year - 1934
  - Total Height – 120 feet
  - Total water capacity – 93.47 tmc ft

- **Tamil Nadu Disaster Management Vision plan (2018-2030)** – approved by the Tamil Nadu Government
SCHEMES

- **Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat Scheme** – Launched by Min of HRD under ‘Samagra Shiksha’ umbrella

  ✓ Objective – to provide annual Library grant to Schools at Primary and Secondary levels

  ✓ Budget – Between Rs 5000 to Rs 20000

STATES

- **Odisha** – launches the country’s 1st **ever Tribal Atlas** – providing information about the Tribal population in the state

  ✓ Odisha – has the 2nd most tribal population in the country after Madhya Pradesh (as per 2011 census)
- **Uttar Pradesh** – Regional Rail Training Institute inaugurated in Ghazipur
  
  ✓ Objective – to provide modern training facilities to the employees of North Eastern Railways

- **Haryana** – to set up a ‘Cultural Center’ in Gurugram – at a budget of Rs 184 crores
  
  ✓ Gurugram – is the new Name of the city ‘Gurgaon’ since 2016
NATIONAL

❖ Lok sabha – passes National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment) Bill, 2017

✓ Objective – to provide recognition to the educational institutions which are approved and funded either by the Centre or State.

✓ It also provides permission to start new academic or Teacher training courses by these institutions

❖ Lok sabha – passes Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Bill, 2017

✓ Objective – to address cheque dishonor cases pending in Courts

✓ It envisages interim compensation or a deposit payable to the aggrieved party

✓ Negotiable Instrument – refers to any legal documents such as Cheque, Promissory note, bill of exchange etc.,

❖ NITI Aayog & Lupin Foundation – signs SoI (Statement of Intent) – to work jointly in the Government’s Aspirational Districts Development Programme

✓ States of Collaboration – Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan

✓ Areas of Collaboration – Social development, Economic empowerment and Infrastructure development

✓ Aspirational Districts Programme – Launched in Jan 2018 – to transform the underdeveloped districts in the country

❖ Indian Walk Heritage Festival – wins PATA Gold Awards 2018

✓ The Walk festival is conducted by Sahapedia and YES Arts & Culture
Central Government to Supreme Court

- Constitutional related judicial proceedings handled by Chief Justice of India can be video recorded and live streamed – on a trial basis for a period of one to three months

MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) – Government has identified 75 National Resource Centres – to prepare ‘Online’ Training material

- MOOC’s – have been launched under ‘Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching’

Deepika Padukone & Shahid Kapoor – to get their Wax Statue – at Madame Tussauds in London and New Delhi
- India’s O P Jindal University (Sonipat, Haryana) – signs MoU with Harvard University – for Annual Study-abroad programme

- UGC – prescribes a Fixed Tenure of 5 years term for the appointment of ‘Principal’ in Colleges – which may be extendable for another 5 years

  - It also revises the qualification as ‘Professors’ from ‘Associate Professors’ with PhD degree as ‘Mandatory’ with minimum 15 years of teaching/research in institutions of higher education.

- India & UK – signs MoU – to improve ‘Public Transport System’ in the country

India- UK agree on MoU in urban Transport sector
Mizoram’s Sainik School – admits Girls on Pilot Basis

✓ Sainik School, considered as a springboard for students aspiring to join the military, remained largely as a Male domain so far

India’s Top Oil suppliers in the 1st quarter 2018-19 (Upto June 2018)

1 Iraq – 7.2 MMT
2 Iran – 5.6 MMT
3 Saudi Arabia – 5.2 MMT

PM’s Visit to Rwanda
✓ **India & Rwanda – sign 8 agreements** in the fields of Defence, Agriculture, Trade, Leather and Dairy

✓ India – also extended $200 million Lines of Credit to Rwanda

✓ India – to open its Mission in Rwanda

✓ India – to gift 200 cows for ‘Girinka’ programme, which is, ‘one cow for every poor family’ scheme – launched in 2006

✓ Indian PM, Mr Narendra Modi – 1st Indian PM to visit Rwanda

✓ Rwanda – is the current chair of African Union

✓ President of Rwanda – Mr Paul Kagame

✓ Capital of Rwanda – Kigali

✓ Currency of Rwanda – Rwandan Franc

**COMMITTEES**

❖ **Rajiv Gauba Committee** – constituted to make recommendations for checking ‘Mob Lynching’

✓ **Group of Ministers** (GoM) – was also constituted to consider the recommendations of the High level committee under the Chairmanship of **Mr Rajnath Singh**, Union Home minister

  ➢ **Members**

    ➢ Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister

    ➢ Nitin Gadkari, Road Transport Minister
- Ravi Shankar Prasad, Law Minister
- Thawar Chand Gehlot, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister
- Mr Rajiv Gauba – Union Home Secretary

**INTERNATIONAL**

- **Iran & Pakistan** – to jointly produce *Defense equipment*
2018 World Santa Claus Congress – concluded in Copenhagen, Denmark

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

NASA – to launch the robotic spacecraft, ‘Parker Solar Probe’ to touch the Sun’s Corona – by Aug 2018 – on the United Launch Alliance Delta IV Heavy - from Cape Canaveral in Florida

- Mission Duration – 7 year
- Features of the Mission – TPS (Thermal Protection System) Heat-Shield system, Solar array cooling system and a fault management system
- **Taxibots** – to be used in **Indian Airports** – to reduce Carbon Emissions

  ✓ Taxibots – Pilot controlled semi Robots

  ✓ Manufacturer – Israel Aerospace Industries

  ✓ Launched by – KSU Aviation (Gurugram)
24 Banks and Financial institutions – Sign Agreement – to speed up Resolution of Bad loans

This is part of the Project SASHAKT – the Report submitted by Sunil Mehta Committee on Stressed Assets Recovery

What is ICA and how will it work?

The pact: ICA is an agreement among banks that have dues from a borrower in stress. The pact mandates the lead bank to formulate a resolution plan that will be executed in a time-bound manner.

Applicability: All corporate loans above ₹50 crore

Binding condition: If 66%, or two-third, of the lenders in terms of aggregate exposure approve, then the pact is binding on all the lenders.

Exit option: Dissenting lenders will have an exit route, either selling their exposure at a discount or buying exposure of the other lenders at a premium.

Who Is In? 24 banks, including SBI, Bank of India and Corporation Bank have already signed up. A majority of the lenders are expected to follow suit by the end of the week. Some NBFCs may also come on board.

Target date: The framework is expected to be operational by the end of this month.

Bank of Baroda – sets up ‘War Room Lawyer team’ – to recover bad loans
AWARDS & HONOURS

- UK’s Top University, University of East Anglia’s Honorary Doctorate
  - Mr Asoke Mukerji, India’s former Ambassador to UN – Conferred the Honorary Doctorate - for his decade-long contribution to Diplomacy
  - He becomes 2nd Indian to be bestowed this honour since M S Swaminathan, Eminent Agriculture scientist – who was conferred the Honorary doctorate by the University in 2012

APPOINTMENTS

- Paramesh sivamani – takes over as Commander of ‘Indian Coast Guard’s Eastern Region’ at Coast Guard Air Station, Chennai
  - He replaces Rajan Bargotra, who’s been transferred as North East Coast Guard region’s Commander
- **Justice Tahira Safdar** – appointed as Pakistan’s 1st ever Woman Chief justice of High Court
  - She was appointed as Chief justice of Balochistan High court
  - She became the country’s 1st Woman civil judge in 1982 in Balochistan
SPORTS

- **ATP World Rankings (Tennis)** – Released on 23rd July 2018

- India’s Ramkumar Ramanathan – who reached the final of ‘Hall of Open’ Tennis Tournament in Newport - has finished at 115th rank (with a jump of 46 places) in the latest ATP Rankings
**International Army Games 2018**

- Organised by – Russia
- Duration – July 28 to August 11, 2018
- No of Competitions – 28
- Venue Countries – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Iran, Kazakhstan and Russia
- No of Countries to participate – 32, including India
- 1st Time participating countries – Algeria, Vietnam, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sudan & Phillipines
- Indian Army to Participate in -
  - 2 Team competitions – the Tank Biathlon & Elbrus Ring – to be held in Russia
  - 3 competition as Observers – Suvorov, Seaborne assault & Safe route – to be held in China
Pensions to Meritorious Retired Sportspersons – Revised norms – as per Mr Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Min of Sports

✓ Olympic and Para Olympic medalists – Rs 20,000 per month

✓ Gold medalists at World Cups and World Championships in Olympic and Asian Games - Rs 16,000 per month.

✓ Silver and bronze medallists at World Cups in Olympic and Asian Games - Rs 14,000 per month

✓ Gold medallists of the Asian Games, Commonwealth Games and Para Asian Games – Rs 14000 per month

✓ Silver and bronze medallists of the Asian Games, Commonwealth Games and Para Asian Games - Rs 12,000 per month.

Danushka Gunathilaka (Sri Lankan cricketer) – suspended from all International Cricket by Sri Lankan Cricket Association – after the violations of ‘Code of Conduct’ by the player
● **Mesut Ozil (Germany)** – quits German National football team – citing Racism

  - Mesut Ozil – has dual citizenship with Turkey as his ancestors were from Turkey, even though he was born in Germany and plays football for Germany

● **World Junior Squash Championships 2018** – concludes in Chennai

  - Men’s winner – Mostafa Asal (Egypt)

  - Women’s winner – Rowan Reda Araby (Egypt)
15th National Youth Athletics Championship, Vadodara – Concludes

✓ 1st Position – Haryana (165 points)
✓ 2nd Position – Kerala (150 points)
✓ Best Male athlete – Dhanvir Singh (Punjab – Shotput)
✓ Best Women athlete – Aparna Roy (Kerala – 100 m Sprint hurdler)

➢ New National Records created on the Last day

1. Dhanvir Singh (Punjab) – Shotput
2. Vishnu Priya (Kerala) – 400m hurdles

➢ Asian Judo Championships, Macau – Concludes

- India – wins 15 medals with 4 Golds, 2 Silvers and 9 bronze
**RANKINGS**

- Tamil Nadu Tops the entire country as Best Foreign Tourist destination – for 3rd Successive Year
AT Kearney’s FDI Confidence Index 2018 - India slips out of Top 10

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Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu Forest Policy 2018

WHAT'S IN STORE

- Conservation of biodiversity, wildlife and genetic resources
- Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded forests
- Coastal ecosystem conservation and management
- Mitigating climate change by enhancing tree cover inside and outside forests
- Will promote suitable tree species on roads, avenues and tree parks along with urban bodies and NGOs
- Ecotourism for supporting conservation of forests
- Water augmentation through integrated watershed and wetland management

✓ Released by – Hon’ble CM, Tamil Nadu
✓ Received by – Dindugal C Srinivasan, Forest Minister, Tamil Nadu
Keypoints

✓ The state to enforce strictly the norms stipulated by Forest (conservation) Act, 1980

✓ To increase forest and tree cover to 33% by 2030, as per the Nation Forest Policy, 1988, from the present 21.76%

✓ To enhance Women participation in village forest communities

✓ To remove the encroachments inside the reserve forests

✓ To provide all the required facilities to Forest protection staff

✓ To train special teams for anti-poaching operations

✓ To seek the help of local villagers for re-afforestation

✓ To develop Mangroves as ‘Bio shield’ along the coast

✓ To progressively increase the budget allocation for Forest department every year to fulfill these goals of the Policy

Tamil Nadu - has about 30.92% of the forest declared as 'protected areas' and has

✓ 15 wildlife sanctuaries,

✓ 5 National parks,

✓ 15 bird sanctuaries,

✓ 3 biosphere reserves and

✓ 4 project tiger areas
➢ **Tamil Nadu** - Vandalur Zoological Park (Chennai) – A new 6 month old Lion cub named as ‘**Jaya**’ by the CM

✓ He also announced a new Rhinoceros from Patna Zoological park to be brought to Vandalur Park

➢ **India’s largest lithium-ion battery factory to come up in Krishnagiri**

✓ The Raasi Group, in partnership with the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI), Karaikudi, is planning to set up a 1 GW lithium-ion battery manufacturing plant in Krishnagiri at an outlay of Rs. 1,000 crore. The company is co-developing lithium-ion cells with the two institutes under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

➢ **Bihar** – passes Bihar Prohibition and Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2018 – diluting some of the stringent provisions in the earlier Act

➢ **Bihar** – launches ‘online’ direct transfer of Diesel subsidy to the farmer’s bank accounts

➢ **Uttar Pradesh** – submits its 1st draft of ‘**Vision Document**’ on Tajmahal

**Key points**

✓ The entire zone to be declared ‘plastic-free’

✓ All polluting industries in the region to be closed

✓ More tourism hubs to be created

✓ No construction on Yamuna floodplains and river banks
✓ To formulate a comprehensive traffic management plan for pedestrian movement

➢ **Odisha** – launches ‘**Green Mahanadhi Mission**’

✓ Inaugurated by – Mr Naveen Patnaik, CM of Odisha

✓ **Objective** – a plantation drive to plant 2 crore saplings along the river Mahanadi and its tributaries – to stop the soil erosion and groundwater recharge
- **Maharashtra** - Tata Technologies & Vidarbha Defence Industries Association – signs MoU for setting up an aerospace and defence centre in Nagpur

- **Rajasthan** – launches ‘Bijli Mitra’ App – for replacement of defunct Transformers within 6 hours of the complaint registration

  ✓ Launched from Jhalwara district on a pilot basis by the CM, Vasundhara Raje

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### NATIONAL

- **Parliament** – passes *Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2018*

#### Bribery

**What is new**
- Giving a bribe is now an offence, punishable by a 7-year prison term
- Except when one is forced to give a bribe. But it should be reported within seven days
- Bribe is termed ‘undue advantage’, defined as ‘gratification other than legal remuneration’

**What it was**
- No specific provision, except as abetment

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#### Pre-investigation approval

**What is new**
- Police officer cannot begin probe without prior approval of relevant authority or govt (except when caught red-handed)

**What it was**
- No such provision in the Act, but a rule similar to it was struck down by Supreme Court

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#### Sanction for prosecution

**What is new**
- Sanction needed for prosecuting former officials for offences done while in office
- Centre may notify guidelines for sanction
- Decision on request for sanction within 3 months, which may be extended by a month

**What it was**
- Sanction was required under PCA for serving officers only

---

#### Criminal misconduct

**What is new**
- Only be two forms of criminal misconduct.
- Misappropriation of property entrusted to public servant
- Intentionally enriching oneself illicitly

**What it was**
- There were five kinds: omitted ones are taking bribe habitually, getting anything free or at a concession, obtaining pecuniary advantage for oneself or for another without public interest

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#### Forfeiture of property

**What is new**
- Section introduced for Special Court under this Act to attach and confiscate property

**What it was**
- This was not done under the Prevention of Corruption Act, but under a 1944 ordinance through civil courts

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*It could empower the public to refuse to give a bribe but seven-day limit may not be enough. As to what happens if citizen’s report of coercion is not registered by the police is unclear.*

*Protection formerly available to officials of rank of joint secretary and above (before SC struck it down) is extended to all public servants.*

*Sanction for IPC offences covered both serving and retired officers. Guidelines and time-limit may help make sanction process easier.*

*This is to protect public servants from being wrongly prosecuted for official decisions. Earlier it was a crime to “obtain advantage to a private party without public interest”.*

*This helps avoid a fresh procedure to confiscate property obtained through corruption, enables court conducting trial to do so itself.*
‘Childline 1098’ - India’s first 24-hour, toll-free, emergency phone service for children in need of aid and assistance

Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 - launched in UP, Jharkhand and Maharashtra

✓ Ministry in-charge – Min of Drinking water and sanitation
✓ Launch – July 13th 2018

17 Iconic Tourist sites – to be developed by Min of Tourism

✓ Uttar Pradesh- Taj Mahal & Fatehpur Sikri
✓ Maharashtra- Ajanta & Ellora
✓ Delhi- Humayun’s Tomb, Red Fort & Qutub Minar
✓ Goa- Colva beach
✓ Rajasthan- Amer Fort
✓ Gujarat- Somnath & Dholavira
✓ Madhya Pradesh- Khajuraho
✓ Karnataka- Hampi
✓ Tamil Nadu- Mahabalipuram
✓ Assam- Kaziranga
✓ Kerala- Kumarakom
✓ Bihar- Mahabodhi

➢ Reduction in Maternal mortality and Infant mortality in India (for one lakh births)

✓ Time period – 2011-2013 to 2014-16
✓ Maternal mortality – 167 to 130
✓ Infant mortality – 160 to 130
✓ By 2025, MMR to come down to 70 per one lakh births
PM’s Visit to Uganda

- India & Uganda – sign 4 Agreements – in the areas of Defence cooperation, visa exemption for official and diplomatic passport holders, cultural exchange programme and material testing laboratory

- India announced two Lines of Credit worth nearly US $200 million to Uganda

- India will also render vehicles, ambulances and cancer therapy machine to Uganda. PM Modi also offered to build a commemoration centre in Kampala in memory of Mahatma Gandhi.

- PM Modi – becomes the 1st Indian PM to make keynote address at Ugandan Parliament

  - Capital of Uganda – Kampala
  - President of Uganda – Yoweri Museveni
  - Currency of Uganda – Ugandan Shilling
MEETINGS & SUMMITS

➢ 10th edition of BRICS summit – begins in Johannesburg, South Africa on July 25, 2018

➢ Theme - BRICS in Africa: Collaboration for inclusive growth and shared prosperity in the 4th Industrial Revolution

➢ BRICS – acronym for the constituent countries, Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa

➢ Term BRIC coined by – Jim O’ Neill, Global economist at Goldman Sachs in 2001

➢ 1st BRIC Summit – 2009 – Russia

➢ South Africa – admitted into BRIC from 2010

➢ All the BRICS countries are members of G20
As per IMF, the BRICS countries generated 22.53 per cent of the world GDP in 2015 and contributed more than 50 per cent of world economic growth during the last 10 years.

2nd Meeting of ‘National council on India’s Nutrition challenges’ under POSHAN Abhiyan - held in New Delhi

- Chairman – Rajiv kumar, Vice chairman of NITI Aayog
- National Nutrition Month – to be celebrated every year in September
- Poshan Abhiyan – launched by the PM on 8th Mar 2018 from Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan
INTERNATIONAL

- Myanmar – to host ASEAN Education Minister’s Meeting – in Oct 2018
  - ASEAN partners - India, China, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Russia, the US and Australia.

- Ireland – to hold International conference of Female parliamentarians – in Sep 2018 at Dublin

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- Telstar 19 Vantage, a Communication satellite of Canada’s ‘Telesat’ – becomes the heaviest payload satellite ever launched by Falcon 9 rocket of SpaceX
  - It weighs over 7000 kg
DEFENCE EXERCISE

- **Pitch Black – 18 (PB-18)** – Indian Air Force participates for the 1st time in the Multinational exercise in Australia – hosted by Royal Australian Air Force

- PB-18 – 1st PB exercise took place in 1981

- This is IAF’s 3rd Multilateral Air combat exercise in the last 3 years, after Red flag (US-2016) and Blue flag (Israel-2017) exercises

- IAF contingent Composition - 145 air-warriors, including four Sukhoi Su-30 MKIs, an Ilyushin tanker, an Ilyushin Il-78 tanker, a Lockheed Martin C-130J-30 Super Hercules, and a Boeing C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft.

- Participating countries – 12 (Australia, Canada, India, Germany, Indonesia, France (New Caledonia), Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and United States)
PERSONALITIES

- **Andrzej Bargiel (Poland)** – becomes 1\textsuperscript{st} person to ‘Ski’ down K2, World’s 2\textsuperscript{nd} highest Mountain, in Pakistan

  ✓ K2 (of height 8,611 m) – is also called as ‘Savage Mountain’ and is considered more challenging to climb than Mount Everest (of height 8,848 m)

RANKINGS

- **SPIN Portal Report of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**

  ✓ Rooftop solar installations in India have crossed 1 Giga Watt (at 1095.41 MW)

  ✓ **Top 3 states**

    - 1 Maharashtra (145.09 MW)
    - 2 Gujarat (136.21 MW)
    - 3 Tamil Nadu (123.91 MW)
Target by 2022 – 40 GW of grid connected rooftop solar capacity

**SPORTS**

- **15th National Junior Athletics Championships, Vadodara**
  
  - **Medal Winners from Tamil Nadu**
    
    - Gold – K Gokul (Triple jump)
    
    - Silver – Thabita (100m race)
19th Kargil Vijay Diwas – celebrated for 3 days from 24th July to 26th July at Drass War Memorial in Jammu and Kashmir

✔ Kargil War

- Period – May to July 1999 (2 months)
- Named as – Operation Vijay

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Ramachandra Guha

GANDHI
the years that changed the world
1914-1948
HISTORY OF LOK PAL

A long-drawn debate
A short history of the Lokpal Bill from the 1960s to the present

1963: The idea of an Ombudsman first came up in Parliament during a discussion on budget allocation for the Law Ministry

1966: The First Administrative Reforms Commission recommended two independent authorities — one at the Centre and one at the

1968: Lokpal Bill introduced in Parliament, but was not passed. Eight attempts were made till 2011 to pass the Bill, but all in vain

2002: The Constitution review commission headed by M.N. Venkatachaliah recommended appointment of the Lokpal and the Lokayuktas. It also recommended that the Prime Minister be kept out of the Lokpal’s ambit

2005: The second ARC recommended that a Lokpal be established without delay

2013: Lokpal Act, 2013, passed in Parliament

2016: Lok Sabha agreed to amend the 2013 Act

2017: The SC on April 27 clarified that the Lokpal appointment process need not be stalled merely due to the absence of the Leader of the Opposition, who is a member of the Lokpal selection committee as per the 2013 Act
DIP IN LEFT WING VIOLENCE

LWE VIOLENCE
There has been a significant drop in violence related to Left-Wing Extremism over the past four years, according to the latest Home Ministry data.

- 2015: 1089 incidents, 171 civilian deaths, 1668 deaths of security personnel
- 2016: 1048 incidents, 213 civilian deaths, 1840 deaths of security personnel
- 2017: 908 incidents, 166 civilian deaths, 1888 deaths of security personnel
- 2018: 476 incidents, 90 civilian deaths, 1034 deaths of security personnel

45.5% dip in Left-Wing Extremism violence
52.1% decrease in incidents of civilian casualty
37.3% fall in deaths of security personnel
36% reduction in attacks on public property

RECENT FIRE IN EUROPE

REIGN OF FIRE IN EUROPE
Dozens of wildfires have hit countries across northern Europe and Greece as a heatwave continues to hold across much of the continent. Here’s a round up.

GREECE
Greece’s deadliest blazes in more than a decade have left 74 dead after wildfires ravaged the seaside areas around Athens.

The bodies of 26 people, including children, were discovered in the courtyard of a villa at the seaside resort of Mati — the devastation blamed on winds of more than 100 kilometres per hour forcing the flames through the village.

More than 160 people have been wounded, including several children, the government said.

SWEDEN
Sweden’s emergency services said Tuesday there are 21 active wildfires across the country as much of Scandinavia baked in a heatwave.

Some 62,000 acres of land has already gone up in smoke or continues to burn — an area twice the size of the city of Paris.

FINLAND
In Finland’s northernmost Lapland province — which calls itself the “official home” of Santa Claus — fires have ravaged woods and grassland close to the border with Russia.

NORWAY
Norway, which experienced its hottest May temperatures on record, has experienced several small fires.

One firefighter was killed on July 15 trying to contain a blaze.

LATVIA
Fires have raged for almost a week in Latvia, destroying more than 800 hectares in the Baltic state’s western regions.

GERMANY
The German Meteorological Service DWD has warned of a significant risk of fires in fields and forests due to a prolonged heatwave.

UNITED KINGDOM
Parts of the UK continue to experience a prolonged heatwave.

The government has issued a “heat-health watch” alert for much of east and south-east England.

THE NETHERLANDS
The Dutch National Institute for Public Health has issued a heat warning for the whole week, warning air quality was likely to be “bad” for much of the country.

Twelve bridges in Amsterdam have been closed as the extreme heat could buckle the metal, the NOS public broadcaster reported.

Plants in my garden caught fire. I ran out of my house like a crazy person, got to the beach and put my head in the water. Then the patrol boats came.

Athanasis Oikopoulos, resident of Attica, Greece
SCALE AND REACH OF FARM LOAN WAIVERS

Here is a look at how much of the loans of debt-ridden farmer households have been waived off across the country:

- Punjab
  - 0
  - 0
  - 308.49
  - 1372.39

- Jammu & Kashmir
  - 12.71
  - 54.29
  - 0.75
  - 0

- Uttar Pradesh
  - 63.9
  - 0
  - 8457.68
  - 496.12

- Maharashtra
  - 0
  - 0
  - 6339.82
  - 467.2

- Karnataka
  - 0
  - 0
  - 8,165
  - 0

- Tamil Nadu
  - 5318.75
  - 0
  - 0
  - 0

- Chhattisgarh
  - 129.77
  - 5.37
  - 0
  - 0

- Telangana
  - 1482.99
  - 1478.65
  - 1479.46
  - 0

- Andhra Pradesh
  - 84.043
  - 763.496
  - 675.52
  - 23.64

Tamil Nadu

- Government Maternity Hospital, Egmore inaugurates 175th year of service celebrations

- On the occasion, C Vijayabaskar, Health Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the RFIT service (Radio frequency identification tag) to prevent the newborns from stolen or lost within the hospital campus

- The hospital was built in 1844 and was relocated to the present Egmore in 1882

- The first Indian doctor to join the hospital was Sir Arcot Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar in 1942

- The hospital performs more than 14,000 deliveries on an average in a year
Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana – All villages adopted by MP’s under the scheme – to be provided Free Wi-Fi services across India by the Government – under ‘Bharat Net Project’, which aims to provide 2.5 lakh gram Panchayats the high speed internet services by March 2019

✔ Launched :: 11 October 2014 (On the birth anniversary of Jayaprakash Narayan)

✔ Launched by - Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi

✔ List of important adoptions under the scheme :-

✔ Narendra Modi - adopted Jayapur village in his constituency Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

✔ Sonia Gandhi - adopted Udwa village in her constituency Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh.

✔ Rahul Gandhi - adopted Deeh village in his constituency Amethi in Uttar Pradesh.
✓ Sachin Tendulkar - adopted Puttamraju vari Kandriga(P.R.Kandriga), a village near Gudur in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh & Donja village in Osmanabad district of Marathwada, Maharastra.

**STATES**

- Kerala – to launch Country’s 1st State-run All woman hotel in Thiruvananthapuram
  - Hostess – Name of the Hotel

- Delhi – launches a new scheme ‘Mukhyamantri Kissan Aaye Badhotri Solar Yojna’ – to increase the farmer’s income by 3 to 5 times
  - Key point – It is a scheme under which the farmers will be able to lease out a part of their agricultural land for setting up of solar panels in order to get additional income
Assam – to set up separate directorate for ‘Divyangs’

✔ Under the insistence of PM Modi, the word ‘Divyangs’ is used instead of ‘Physically Handicapped’
West Bengal – passes Resolution in the State Assembly – to change the name of the State to ‘Bangla’ in all the languages

✓ Now the proposal will be sent to Home Ministry, whose approval is needed for the change

✓ On August 29, 2016, the state Assembly had passed a resolution to change the name of West Bengal to ‘Bengal’ in English, ‘Bangla’ in Bengali and ‘Bangal’ in Hindi, which was Rejected by the Home Ministry, as a state cannot have 3 different names in 3 different languages

Karnataka – to work with ‘WIPRO’ – for fighting the Air pollution in the state – as part of the company’s Corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative

✓ As per the Karnataka’s CM, Mr H D Kumaraswamy, WIPRO also intends to promote Zero budget farming in the State, just like in Andhra Pradesh.
Parliament – passes **Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, 2018** – on 25th July 2018

- Objective – To prevent evading criminal prosecution by the economic offenders (with Assets of over Rs 100 Crores) fleeing from the country in order to remain outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts

Business France & Invest India – signs MoU – to promote investment and cooperation between Indian and French startups
**INDIA & NEIGHBOURS**

- **India** – to control ‘Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport’ in Hambantota, Srilanka

- Mattala International Airport – is called as ‘World’s Emptiest Airport’ – due to lack of flights

- It may be recalled that Hambantota Port has been earlier leased to China

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**VISITS**

- **PM’s Visit to Uganda**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni - unveiled a bust of India's first home minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at an Indian community event in Kampala.

- PM – Referred Uganda as ‘**Pearl of Africa**’ in his speech
CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Global Disability Summit 2018** – held in London, United Kingdom
  - Indian Representation – Mr Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Min for Social justice & Empowerment

- **2nd Conference of Young Superintendent of Police**, New Delhi.
  - Inaugurated by – Mr Rajnath Singh, Union Home Minister

COMMITTEES

- **P J Joseph Committee** – constituted by IRDAI, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
  - Members - 16
  - Objective - to examine motor third party insurance pricing aspects and make recommendations on the premium rates for 2019-20
  - This is the 1st such committee framed by IRDAI

- **Sashi Bhusan Behera Committee** – Constituted by the Odisha Government - to draft policies for development of Odia film industry
INTERNATIONAL

- **Venezuela** – to remove 5 Zeros from its Currency (Bolivar) – due to hyperinflation – as per its President, Nicolas Maduro
  
  - Capital of Venezuela – Caracas
  
  - Innovate India Platform – launched by NITI Aayog, Atal Innovation Mission & MyGov platform
  
  - It will serve as the common point for all the innovation happening across the nation.

- **New Zealand** demands Australia to change its Flag – as both looks similar
  
  - 1902 – Newzealand Flag adopted
  
  - 1954 – Australian Flag adopted

![Australian Flag](image1.png) ![New Zealand Flag](image2.png)

©DW
**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **Water body identified in Mars** – by the scientists from National Institute for Astrophysics, Italy

**APPOINTMENTS**

- **St Xavier’s College, Mumbai** - appoints 1st Non-Christian Principal in its 150-year history
  - **Dr Rajendra D Shinde**, Current HoD-Botany – will take charge as 24th Principal on Sep 1, 2018, the day when the college turns 150 years
He replaces Dr Baptist Angnteelo Menezes, the 1st Non-Jesuit principal of the College

St Xavier’s Established – 1869 by Roman Catholics called as ‘Jesuits’

Other Topline Christian colleges in India

- St Stephen’s College, Delhi
- St Xavier’s College, Kolkata
- Madras Christian College, Chennai

Awards & Authors

Ram Sehgal - to be awarded Lifetime Achievement Award - of Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI) – for his contribution to Advertising industry
**RANKINGS**

- **Fortune’s ’40 Under 40’ Rankings**

  
  ✓ Top 2 ‘Green’ States in the Country (Till Mar 2018)
  
  🌊 1 Karnataka (12.3 GW)
  
  🌊 2 Tamil Nadu (11.2 GW)
  
  ✓ It may be recalled that Shakti Sthala, World’s largest Solar park is planned at an investment of Rs 16,500 crore at Tumakuru district
INTERNATIONAL DAYS

- **National Sports Day** – Postponed to **Sep 25** from Aug 29 – after the completion of Asian Games so that the outstanding performers could be considered for National Sports Awards

- **2018 Earth Overshoot Day** – to fall on Aug 1, 2018

  ✓ It is the date when humanity’s annual demand on nature exceeds what Earth can regenerate over the entire year

  ✓ Every day after August 1 will now be considered as strain on Earth’s natural resources.

  ✓ In 2018, nature’s budget for entire year has already been used up in just span of 8 months only

  ✓ It means humanity is currently using nature 1.7 times faster than Earth’s ecosystems can regenerate
SPORTS

- **Pawan Shah (Indian cricketer - Pune)** – becomes the World’s 2nd highest individual scorer in U-19 Internationals by smashing 282 runs – against Sri Lanka on the 2nd day of the Final ‘Youth Test’ on 25th July 2018
  
  - The Record remains India’s Highest individual score in U-19 internationals
  
  - World Record held by – Clinton Peake (Australia) – 304 not out against India in 1995 at Melbourne

- 2nd Edition of BRICS Games at Johannesburg, South Africa
  
  - **Volleyball**
    
    - Indian Mens – wins Bronze (Russia wins the Gold)
    
    - Indian Womens – wins Silver for the very first time (China wins the Gold)
FIFA World Cup 2018

- France’s Benjamin Pavard’s Goal – has been judged as the ‘Goal of the Tournament’
- Scored in – France vs Argentina Match
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Goal – Juan Quintero (Columbia) against Japan
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Goal – Luka Modric (Croatia) against Argentina
- Pavard becomes the first European player to win the Goal of the Tournament award since its creation in 2006
- The tournament saw 169 goals scored in 64 matches

Previous Winners

- 2006 – Maxi Rodriguez (Argentina)
- 2010 – Diego Forlan (Uruguay)
- 2014 - James Rodriguez (Columbia)
Junior Asian Wrestling Championships 2018 – Concluded in New Delhi

- Conducted by – United World Wrestling, Lausanne, Switzerland
- Countries participated – 18
- Freestyle Events
  - India won 8 Medals (2 Gold, 3 Silver and 3 Bronze) and Finished 2nd (1st – Iran)
- Greco-Roman Events
  - India won 5 Medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze) and Finished 4th (1st – Iran)
- Women’s Wrestling
  - India won 5 Medals (2 Silver and 3 Bronze) and Finished 3rd (1st – Japan)
  - Indian Gold Medal Winners
- Freestyle
  - Sachin Rathi – 74 kg
  - Deepak Punia – 86 kg
- Greco-Roman
  - Sajan – 77 kg
Proud Moment
Indian wrestler Sachin Rathi wins Gold, beating Bat-Erdene of Mongolia in 74 kg category final of freestyle wrestling at Junior Asian Championships.

Congratulations Deepak Punia
On winning Gold at Asian Junior Wrestling Championship in Freestyle 86 Kg category.
Tamil Nadu Property Tax again revised on 26th July 2018

- Tamil Nadu Government has again reduced the property tax for Rented residential buildings from 100% to ‘not more than 50%’ in Urban local bodies - after the request from the public.

- However, the 50% hike in property tax rates for other residential buildings and the 100% increase for non-residential buildings remains unchanged.

- The new rates will be effective from the half-year period of April-September 2018.

- The new tax rate structure applicable to
  - The Greater Chennai corporation
  - 11 other Municipal corporation
  - 124 municipalities and
  - 528 town panchayats

- 1998 – The last time in Chennai when the property tax was revised

- 2008 – The last time for all other urban local bodies, except Chennai, has seen the revision in property tax
➢ Tamil Sangamam Conference – launched in Tamil University, Thanjavur

✓ Time period – July 27th to July 29th 2018

✓ Significance – Tamil Scholars from various Indian Tamil Sangam’s to converge and share the developments

❖ Keypoint

✓ Soils from 25 Indian states to be mixed and 25 Tree saplings to be planted

✓ Moreover, soils from these 25 Indian states to be mixed in a pit and in that a banyan tree sapling to be planted and called as a ‘National Tree’

➢ TNCTD-GST – A new Mobile App launched by Commercial Taxes Department, Tamil Nadu

✓ Objective – to obtain the information regarding GST and also to calculate the Tax interest rates
New Tertiary Treatment Reverse Osmosis Sewage Treatment plant – to come up in Kodungaiyur and Koyambedu - by June 2019

- Capacity – 45 million litre of sewage per day

**SCHEMES**

- **Arunachal Pradesh** – to launch a new health insurance scheme, ‘Chief Minister’s Arogya Arunachal Yojana’
  - Objective – to enable the citizens avail cashless health services in empanelled hospitals across the state
  - Insurance Cover – Rs 5 lakhs per family per year

- **Mahila Shakti Kendra scheme** – a new Scheme approved by the Union Government
  - Objective – To empower Rural women
  - Time period – From 2017-18 upto 2019-20
 STATES

- Karnataka – passes an order not to allow Media personnel inside the Vidhana Soudha, state’s Assembly building
  - This is the first time that such a move has been initiated in Karnataka state assembly.

- Odisha – CM Naveen Patnaik inaugurates Rukura Medium Irrigation Dam project in Sundargarh district
  - Budget – Rs 300 crores

  - Budget – Rs 60 crores
  - The Andhra Pradesh government has planned to develop Amaravati, Vizag and Tirupati as sports cities
Chandrababu Naidu also launched ‘Project Gandiva’.

Objective - Government will choose students aged between 10-16 years and offer them international level facilities and coaching with an aim to secure medals in Olympic Games in a period of 10 years.

- **Uttar Pradesh** – sets up a committee under **Dinesh Sharma**, Deputy CM
  
  Objective – to look into the demands of ‘Shiksha mitras’ or Contract Teachers under the State Government

- **Haryana** – constitutes an ‘inter-district’ council – under the **CM, Manohar Lal Khattar**
  
  Objective – to identify the developmental priorities of the state.

  The inter-district council will prepare district specific action plans, assessment of development needs, and delegate powers to panchayati raj institutions and urban local bodies.

- **West Bengal** – passes the **West Bengal Lokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 2018** under The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013
➢ **Lok Sabha** – passes the **Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018**

**Objective** - It provides for the prevention, rescue, and rehabilitation of trafficked persons and also to establish National Anti-Trafficking Bureau to investigate trafficking cases

- It has also allocated Rs 10 crores for Relief and Rehabilitation committee and Rehabilitation fund

- Bill introduced by – Maneka Gandhi, Min for Women and child development

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**Minimum 7 Years in Jail**

- Bill proposes rigorous imprisonment of at least 7 years, extendable to 10 years, for those engaging in ‘buying or selling’ a person. They will also be fined over ₹1 lakh
- Anybody who distributes or sells or stores, in any electronic or printed form, incidents of sexual assault
- Apart from national anti-trafficking bureau, bill also proposes state-level anti-trafficking officers
- Bill spells out measures for relief & rehabilitation of victims of trafficking, and seeks formation of a committee
➢ **Chalo Jeete Hain** – a Short film on **PM Modi’s** childhood was screened in Rashtrapati Bhavan and Parliament

 ✓ The film would have its world premiere on July 29, 2018 on Star Network.

 ✓ The film runs for about half an hour

![Chalo Jeete Hain](image.png)

➢ **Government** – approves the **merger of Vodafone and Idea Cellular**.

 ✓ It will create the country’s largest mobile operator with 35% market share and around 430 million subscribers

➢ **Government** – has extended deadline for filing tax returns till **August 31, 2018**

 ✓ Current deadline – July 31, 2018

➢ **Institutes of Eminence (IoE) - Update**

 ✓ Government – has clarified that ‘Jio Institute’ has been granted only the ‘Letter of Intent’ not the IoE status

 ✓ It has also said that ‘Jio Institute’ was included under ‘Greenfield’ category, a category for institutes yet to come into existence

 ✓ The institute is expected to come into existence in Karjat, Navi Mumbai

 ✓ It has projected an income of Rs. 100 crores in its first year from 1,000 students
India & Neighbours

- India to help Bangladesh in building Warships
  - Garden Reach Ship Builders (GRSE) of Kolkata, a Defence public sector undertaking, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Khulna Shipyard Limited (KSY) of Bangladesh – for the design and construction of warships

Conferences & Summits

- 10th BRICS Summit – concludes in Johannesburg, South Africa on 27th July 2018
  - The BRICS Leaders adopted the ‘Johannesburg declaration’ by consensus at the Summit, covering the various areas, Sustainable development by 2030, Climate change, Energy, Agriculture, Environment, Population, Terrorism, International peace and security, Trade and Economy and Corruption
Festivals

- **18th International Children’s Film Festival** - inaugurated in West Bengal
  - Time period - August 9 – September 30th, 2018
  - Inaugurated by – K N Tripathi, Governor of West Bengal
  - To screen 36 films from 17 countries
  - The Governor also called for screening of one children’s film in every cinema hall of the state every month.
  - The festival was being organised by Cine Central in collaboration with the UNICEF.
  - The inaugural film is Moana from the USA.
2\textsuperscript{nd} Chennai Photo Biennale, the International Festival of Photography – to be held in Chennai from Feb 22 to Mar 24, 2019

3\textsuperscript{rd} Edition of Kabira Festival 2018 –to be held in Varanasi – on Nov 16, 2018

- It celebrates the spirit of 15\textsuperscript{th} century mystic poet, Kabir
- It will feature a 2-day program of Music, literature, talks and city explorations

\textbf{COMMITTEES}

- National Green Tribunal – forms a Monitoring committee to Clean up Yamuna
  - B S Sajwan and former Delhi chief secretary Shailaja Chandra has been appointed as members of the committee.
  - The committee to submit the report by December 31, 2018
  - The committee was formed by a bench headed by National Green Tribunal (NGT) Chairperson A K Goel
**INTERNATIONAL**

- **United States** – grants waiver for India to buy **Russian military equipment** – under Countering America’s Adversaries through Sanctions Act (CAATSA)
  - Indonesia and Vietnam - Other countries covered under the waiver
  - CAATSA seeks to deter countries from buying weapons or oil from Russia, Iran and North Korea.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **Google Cloud Next ’18 conference** – starts in San Francisco, United States

  - **2 New Artificial Intelligence Products Launched**
    - **Edge TPU** – a new tiny hardware chip for On-device Machine Learning in IoT devices.
    - Edge TPU is Google’s purpose-built application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) designed to run AI at the edge.
    - This is the part of machine learning where an algorithm actually carries out the task it was trained to do, like recognizing an object in a picture.
    - This can automate enterprise jobs in factories like automating quality control checks in factories.
    - (TPU – Tensor Processing Units - specialized AI-based chips that live in the company’s data centers)
The other product announced was ‘Cloud IoT Edge,’ a software stack that extends Google Cloud’s powerful AI capability to gateways and connected devices.

- **Detection of a Massive underground Lake in Mars**

  - Detected by – Italian Researchers
  - Space craft – European Space Agency’s “Mars Express Orbiter” launched in 2003
  - Tool used – MARSIS (Mars Advanced Radar for Subsurface and Ionosphere Sounding)
  - Details – The lake is 20 km wide, the largest body of liquid water found in the Red planet, and at 1.5 km beneath the icy surface. It is not drinkable.
**APPOINTMENTS**

- **Vice President, Venkaiah Naidu** – appointed as the chancellor of **Pondicherry university** – by the President
  
  ✓ Term of the chancellor – 5 years

- **Mahesh Kumar Malani** (Pakistan People’s Party) – becomes 1st **Hindu to win the National Assembly seat** – from Tharparkar in southern Sindh province.
  
  ✓ He was a member of parliament from 2003-08 on a reserved seat, nominated by the PPP.
AWARDS & AUTHORS

2018 Ramon Magsaysay Award -

✓ This award is considered as an ‘Asian version of the Nobel Prize’

✓ Established – 1957

✓ It is awarded annually to individuals or organizations from Asia region for their altruistic and philanthropic service
✓ It celebrates the memory and leadership example of the third Philippine president after whom the award is named.

✓ It was given by the trustees of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, based in New York City, with the concurrence of the Philippine government.

✓ Vinobha Bhave - The 1st Indian to win this award in 1958

❖ **Key note on Indian Winners**

✓ **Bharat Vatwani** - He is a psychiatrist who works for mentally-ill people living on the streets in Mumbai

✓ **Sonam Wangchuk** - He is educational reformer from Ladakh. In 1988, he had founded Students’ Education and Cultural Movement of Ladakh to coach poor Ladakhi students. He is widely regarded as inspiration for Aamir Khan’s character, Phunsuk Wangdu in the film ‘3 Idiots’.

❖ **Cochin International Airport Limited** – selected for ‘Champion of Earth Prize-2018’, the highest environmental honour instituted by the United Nations

✓ Cochin International Airport – has recently became the world's first fully solar powered airport

✓ The airport stands fourth in the country in terms of international traffic and seventh in total traffic handled in 2017-18

✓ The Award to be presented on the sidelines of UN General Assembly in New York in Sep 26, 2018

✓ The Champion of Earth prize – Established in 2005
BOOKS & AUTHORS

Bharat Sundaresan

THE DHONI TOUCH
Unravelling the Enigma That Is Mahendra Singh Dhoni

Foreword by Ravi Shastri
SPORTS

- **Indian women’s Compound Archery team** – creates History by becoming World No 1 in the category

- Recently, It has reached the final of 2018 Archery world cup in Berlin by defeating the champions Chinese Taipei

INDICES

- **Global optimism index – 2**nd **Quarter of 2018**
- 1st – Indonesia
- 2nd – Netherlands
- 3rd – Austria
- 4th – Philippines
- 5th – China
- 6th – India

- Released by – Grant Thornton’s International Business report
- Total countries – 32

**RANKINGS**

- **India’s largest IT industries**
  - HCL Technologies surpassed Wipro Ltd – to become India’s 3rd biggest software services firm
  - 1st – Tata consultancy services
  - 2nd – Infosys

**OBITUARY**

- **Swapan Sarkar** – Veteran Sports Journalist
  - He covered 1982 Asian Games, 2010 Commonwealth Games along with the regular coverage of other National events such as Durand cup, Nehru Cup etc.,
PAKISTAN ELECTIONS 2018

- Imran Khan’s Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) party emerges as Single Largest in 9th General Elections 2018 held on July 25th 2018

**PAKISTAN ELECTION IN NUMBERS**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, 4 PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES**

- Total Seats: 849
- Total Candidates: 11,855
- Political Parties in Fray: 107
- Total Voters: 105.96 MN
- Male: 59.22 MN
- Female: 46.73 MN

**NEW VOTERS IN 2018:** 19.77 MN

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: 342 SEATS**

- 272 seats directly elected
- Majority: 172
- 60 seats reserved for women
- 10 seats open to religious minorities

**3,459 candidates** contesting for the National Assembly
Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, headed by Shahbaz Sharif, claimed the second place.

Pakistan Peoples party (PPP), led by Bilawal Bhutto, the son of assassinated two-time Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, in third place.

However, Pakistan’s election commission has not yet released official final results due to a technical issue with the Results Transmission System.

This is only the 2nd instance of democracy transition from one elected Government to another.
Key notes about Imran Khan, the leader of PTI

- Born in Lahore, Punjab
- Graduated from Oxford university with a Bachelor’s degree in philosophy, politics and economics
- As an international cricket star, Khan led Pakistan to a World Cup victory in 1992.
- He has then launched Pakistan's first specialised cancer centre ‘Shaukat Khanum’.
- Imran Khan first entered politics in 1996 by launching his own political party named Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)
- His party garnered a provincial victory at the 2013 general elections and governed the northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province for five years.
- Imran Khan also authored various books including ‘Pakistan: A Personal History’.


NEWS IN PICTURES

JARE, A 5 YEAR OLD GIRL FROM NIGERIA,

HAILED AS “MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL” IN THE WORLD
REMEMBERING ABDUL KALAM ON HIS DEATH ANNIVERSARY

❖ Abdul Kalam, the missiles scientist and aerospace engineer, was born on October 15, 1931, and passed away on July 27, 2015. His contributions to missile technology and space were immense. Born on November 11, 1931, Abdul Kalam was a scientist, teacher, and a dynamic personality. He was the first missile scientist of the nation, a pioneer in the field of space exploration, and a visionary leader. His legacy continues to inspire generations.

❖ During his lifetime, Abdul Kalam worked for the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). He was a driving force behind India’s space program, which achieved significant milestones. He was the first civilian head of ISRO, and his contributions towards national development were immense. His vision for a self-reliant India and a world-class nation inspired millions.

❖ In recognition of his contributions, Abdul Kalam was awarded the highest civilian award, the Padma Bhushan, in 1974. He was also awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 1998. In 2002, he was awarded the Rajiv Gandhi National Award for his突出 contributions to the nation. His legacy continues to inspire generations.

❖ On the 25th anniversary of his death in 2007, the nation celebrated his contributions to the nation. His efforts in the field of space exploration and missile technology continue to inspire and motivate future generations.
வருடம் 27, 2015-இல் திருத்தியக்குரள் வெளியாக்கப் பாதுகாக்குமுறை அதிகாரிகளின் முறையியல் தொடர்பான கட்டுரை தொடர்பில் வாங்கப்பட்டது. (மாலை 6.30 மணியளவில்) வெளியியல் தினசரியான ஜூலை 27, 2015-ல் பதிப்பிட்டன. தினசரியின் முறையில் அவர்களின் கலாச்சாரம்.

கலா சார்பிய பற்பலமண்டலம்:

1. Turning Points; A journey through challenges 2012.
3. திருத்திய 2020: அறிச்சாவிட்டு கலனும் காலாட்சியான அருங்காட்சியான பாதுகாக்கும் தொடர் காலம் தினசாட்டுப் பதிப்பிட்டுக்
5. The Luminous Sparks (தொலைக்குழு திமினிப்பல்) ; 2004.
6. Mission India (மிஶன் திருத்திய) ; கூறி அறிந்து கவிதை, மாலை கருப்பு சுருக்கம் மறுசீரம்; 2005.
9. Guiding Souls கூறிய அறிக்கை காலாட்சியான தொடர் தினசாட்டு அறிக்கை திமினிப்பல் தினசாட்டுப் பதிப்பிட்டு.
REMEMBERING KAVIMANI DESIGA VİNAYAGAM PİLLAI ON
HIS BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

கவிமானி துதிக் விழாவத்தில் பிளவு

ஆக்சரிக்கத் தக்காச்ச:-

* தா& - கால்திலவாசல் மாயாவை கொள்ள சரண்ய (1876)

* புராணத்தா - கிருத்தகவம், குர்லூவுக்கு மணந்தூர்

* நூற்றாண்டிலியோர் - 2 காலம் பெரும் (1901)

* ஆண்டாண்டா - பாண்டிரைத் தெய்வ சுற்று

* காலம் - (27.07.1876 - 26.09.1954)
குறிப்பிட்டியது:
* தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலைக்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.
* குறிப்பிட்டியது தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலைக்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.
* குறிப்பிட்டியது தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலைக்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.
* குறிப்பிட்டியது தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலைக்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.

அல்லது பாராட்டி:
* குறிப்பிட்டியது தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலைக்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.
* குறிப்பிட்டியது தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலைக்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.

சிற்றியல் குறிப்பிட்டியது:
* குறிப்பிட்டியது தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலைக்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.
* குறிப்பிட்டியது தொட்டில் மாநில தொலைத் தலை�்கொள்வார் அரசியல் பணிவிழா னூருக்கைப்பாட்டு.

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* மலளூர் மாந்தைப்பு
* அதிர்வெண்ணை
* ஹம்ம கம்பர் பாலன்கள
* உசாநிர் தேவீ மலைதலாண்மை மாந்தைப்பு (துரத்தநகராடுதை)
* குரங்கு பந்தைக் கால
* குரங்கு பந்தைக் கால
* கிராண்டாரை வில்லனைப்பு
* மானவத்தல் சர்த்தைநிகள்
* வீராங்கம்பவள் சிளைநகர
* தொன்மேன் பரந்தை

க்கிருஷ்ணன் வில்லனைப்பு முதலும்

* தொடரும் கிருஷ்ணன் கிருஷ்ணன் முதலும் வில்லனைப்பு முதலில் புராண பால் பாலன்களா, விதைக் கூறியுறுத்து வில்லனைப்பு பதினைக் கால.

பாரசீகம்பாட்டுகள்:-

* வாரின் பாரசீ முதல் பாரசீ (Light of Asia) முதல் செயல் அறித்தவரை குரங்கு பந்தைக் கால பாரசீ புராணிப்பு குறிப்பிட்டான்.
* பாரசீ கூறு ஹம்ம கம்பர் பாலன்கள் தம்பில் குரங்கு பந்தைக் கால பாரசீ புராணிப்பு குறிப்பிட்டான்.

க்கிருஷ்ணன் பால்நகர் தமிழ் புராண கிருஷ்ணன் முதலும்:-

* கோபநிராச்சரி
* முரண்டை
* குரங்கு
* கோபநிராச்சரி
* கோபநிராச்சரி பாத்தையா
* தொன்மேன் புராணிப்பு
சம்பவகாலம்:-

* "தான் நிறைவு முப்பு வேலாண்டான் பத – அரசின்
  குடும்ப விருது வழித்து வந்து
  அம்மா நான்கு வேலாண்டான் பத"*

* "தவிரமும் பதை, தவிரக்கும் பதை,
  தாக்கி வந்து விடுமை பதை”*

* "ஒல்லத்துக்கான கீழன் – தின்பாரத் வேலாண்டான்
  தான் நாண் உட்புற தீர்வு – அலகை
  தீற்று வழிபட்டு கீழன்”*

* "பாத்தராகத் பிள்ளை வழிபட்டு தந்த பாதம் வேலாண்டான் அம்மா”*

* "தவிரமும் நிறுவந்த வேலாண்டான் ஹிறாண்டு தோல்வி சந்த
  தி வேலாண்டான் கீழன் பாதம் நுழைவு”*

முனைய:-

* நாகரசாராசிரியர் நாகர் அதிகார பதிவு மாதங்கள் ஆணாக தாக்கி எதப்புக் 78-
  பதர் குரல் 1954ஆம் மாதம் நிறைந்து பிரித்தான்.

* நிற்று பிள்ளை ஆணாக விளைவு விளைவு அமர்க்கியப் பிரித்தான்.

* நிற்று ஆனா நிற்று விளைவாக அக்டோபர் 2005ஆம் நவம்பர் நடந்த
  போரின்பிரித்தான்.
Tamil Nadu

- **E. Mariappan** – assumes charge as the new Additional Director General of the Press Information Bureau in Chennai

- **Train Captain scheme** – launched in 2 express trains in Chennai-Madurai route (**Vaigai Express and Pandiyan Express**)
  
  ✓ Train Captain - Senior most ticket collector would be given the responsibility of ‘Captain’ of the train to help the passengers relating to various issues such as Air conditioners, water crisis, cleanliness, power etc.
**Diabetic-friendly ‘Kovai Kavuni’ rice** – The clinical trials to begin by the end of 2019

**1st International Breastfeeding Conference** – inaugurated in Chennai on 28th July

✓ This is conducted as part of World Breastfeeding Week (Aug 1 to Aug 7)

**Schemes**

**Samagra Shiksha** - An Integrated Scheme for school education (with effect from 2018-19) - Launched by the Union Government

✓ It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII

✓ It aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education.

✓ It is an integration of 3 subsumed earlier schemes - Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan – which took care of the school education at primary and secondary levels – and Teacher Training

**‘Mission Satyanishtha’** - launched by Indian Railways - to wipe out corruption and bring about ‘Integrity’ among its 13 lakh employees
**STATES**

🌟 Gujarat – announces ‘Urban sanitation policy’ – for better solid and liquid waste management in the cities

- It aims at the complete abolition of Manual scavenging
- It also focuses on the recycling of draining water, in line with the National Urban sanitation policy

🌟 Odisha – signs MoU with UK-based, Sightsavers, a Global organisation – for strengthening education of Blind students
★ Haryana – to launch special campaign against ‘Drug menace’ on its border areas with Punjab

✓ Campaign includes -
✓ Prevention of sale of drugs
✓ Treatment of drug addicts
✓ Creating awareness among people about the adverse effects of drugs on their health

★ Andhra Pradesh - Walmart, a US Retail Giant – funds $ 2 million – for a 2 year Agriculture project in Andhra Pradesh

✓ The project covers 6000 farmers in the state for getting better Market access to sell their produce

★ West Bengal - India, Bangladesh Coast Guards conducting exercise on maritime pollution – in Kolkata
NATIONAL

🌟 Lok Sabha – Government introduces a bill to establish the country’s 1st ‘National Sports University’ in Manipur

✓ Introduced by - Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Sports and Youth Affairs Minister

✓ Objective - to promote education in the areas of sports sciences, sports technology, sports management and sports coaching.

🌟 Air India – to sell it’s non-core assets and the following Subsidiaries,

✓ Air India Engineering Services Limited

✓ Air India Air Transport Services Limited

✓ Airline Allied Services Limited

🌟 Prime Minister’s Research Fellows (PMRF) Scheme

✓ Government – has announced that this fellowship scheme is now open to all potential researchers from 2019 – and not only from IISc, IITs, NITs etc

✓ This move comes after the offering of only 135 fellowships this year against the possible1000 positions
**Income Tax Return filing – Last Date extended to Aug 31 from July 31, 2018**

- The categories for which the extension is applicable are
  - Corporate-assessee
  - Non-corporate assessees (whose books of account are required to be audited)
  - Working partner of a firm whose accounts are required to be audited
  - An assessees who is required to furnish a report under section 92E.
- For all other categories, the last date remains July 31, 2018
- From this year onwards, an individual would have to pay a fine, up to Rs 10,000, for filing income tax return after the due date.

**CONFERENCES & SUMMITS**

**2nd Young Young Superintendent of Police Conference** - held in New Delhi on July 26, 2018

- Duration – 2 days
- Inaugurated by - Rajnath Singh, Union Home Minister
- Organised by – Bureau of Police Research & Development (Established – 1970 in New Delhi)
- Theme - “Predictive Policing and Contemporary Challenges for Indian Police Forces”
Attended by – Over 100 Superintendents of Police & Senior officers from the various states

Objective – to create knowledge and awareness among young Police officers about the latest technologies in various areas, such as artificial intelligence (AI), predictive policing, crime analytics, dig data analytics, geospatial technology, cybercrime, surveillance tracking & UAVs, CCTV equipment etc., for effective delivery of various police services to citizens

COMMITTEES

✶ Justice B N Sri Krishna Committee – submits its report on ‘Data Protection’ – to Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister for Electronics and IT, Law and Justice

✓ It envisages the draft of ‘Personal Data Protection Bill 2018’

✓ It has suggested amendments to various laws including the Aadhaar Act to provide for imposition of penalties and criminal proceedings for violations of the data protection law

✓ The report has also proposed setting up of a data authority
INTERNATIONAL

★ **Japan** – *Paytm and Softbank* partners to launch Cashless payment services in Japan

★ **World Abu Dhabi** – $1 billion Indoor Theme park of ‘Warner Bros’ – has been inaugurated and opened for Public in Abu Dhabi

✓ The Warner Bros. has teamed up with Miral Asset Management to build the theme park in Abu Dhabi.
**Blood Moon 2018** – Longest Lunar Eclipse of the Century witnessed on July 27-28, 2018

- It is the total lunar eclipse that lasted 103 minutes
- It was clearly seen in the Eastern Hemisphere including Central Asia and Eastern Africa.
- The best view of the entire eclipse was also visible across the Eastern Europe, Central and East Africa and South East Asia.
- Total Lunar Eclipse - It occurs when the Earth comes between the Sun and the Moon and covers the Moon with its shadow called Umbra. During this time, the Moon turns red, thus, called as ‘Blood Moon’
- Incidentally, July 27 also marked the day of ‘Lunar Apogee Fall’ which coincided with the ‘Full Moon’ day.
- The Lunar Apogee - Moon’s farthest orbital point from the Earth - making it appear particularly small and distant.
**Google** – ties up with Accenture – to form “**Accenture Google Cloud Business Group**”

✓ Objective – to help enterprises adopt Cloud technology
✓ This announcement was made at the Google Next 2018 conference, in San Francisco, United States.
✓ Recently, Accenture was named 2017 Google Cloud Platform Partner of the Year.

![Accenture Google Cloud Business Group Logo]

**Bombali** – New strain of ‘**Ebola**’ virus in Bats - discovered in Sierra Leone

✓ It is named after the district where it was found
✓ It is the 6th type of Ebola virus.
✓ Other 5 types are - Zaire, Sudan, Tai Forest, Bundibugyo and Reston
✓ Of the above types, Zaire strain is the most deadly.
✓ Ebola virus - is a highly fatal haemorrhagic fever which spread s through contact with bodily fluids of the infected persons and animals which include non-human primates, bats and forest antelope
✓ **Last outbreak of Ebola in West Africa**
✓ Occurred in 2014-16
✓ It began in Guinea in Dec 2013 and spread to Liberia and Sierra Leone.
✓ It was caused by the Zaire strain of virus
**DEFENCE**

- **Defence Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman releases ‘Made-in-India’ Multi fuel War tank Engines to Indian Army**

  ✓ The first engine with 1,000 HP, named V92S2, powers T-90 Bhisma Tank
  ✓ The second engine named V-46-6, powers T-72 Ajeya Tank and its variants.
  ✓ Both these engines are manufactured based on Russian design with Indian collaboration for Subassemblies
  ✓ The indigenisation has brought a savings of Rs 3.3 million for each T-90 engine and Rs 975,000 for each T-72 engine

**ECONOMY**

- **Hotel chain OYO** - has signed a MoU with the **State Bank of India and Bank of Baroda** - for extending its support to budget hotels and creating jobs across levels.
**APPOINTMENTS**

- **India U-20 coach Floyd Pinto** - Named head coach of Indian Arrows in I-League (football)

- Indian Arrows side will mostly comprise of India U-20 players

- Floyd Pinto replaces Portuguese Luis Norton de Matos, who resigned due to personal reasons

- Floyd Pinto will guide the Indian U-20 national team in the COTIF International tournament that begins on 29th July 2018 in Spain.

- **Subhash Ghai**, the famous film producer and director - Appointed as the Chairman of the Media Council in the Media and Entertainment Skill Council (MESC) of Delhi.
Majiziya Bhanu (India – Kerala) – becomes the 1st Hizab-wearing Body builder from India

✓ She has recently won the Mr Kerala (Female) bodybuilding championship at Kochi

✓ She has also won the Gold medal in National Arm wrestling championship at Lucknow in May

✓ She has participated in the Bench press championship in Alappuzha and crowned the title of ‘The best lifter of kerala’

✓ She won Silver medal in the Asian Power lifting championships, 2017 in Indonesia

✓ She is going represent India in the World Arm wrestling championship in Turkey in October, 2018
**Shivangi Pathak (India, Haryana)** – scales **Mt Kilimanjaro**, Africa’s highest peak in 3 days

- Shivangi became the youngest Indian woman to reach the peak of Mount Everest
- Tanzania’s Mount Kilimanjaro measures 5,895 meters in height.
**AWARDS**

✿ **Deshna Jain (India – Madhya Pradesh) – crowned Miss Asia (Deaf) 2018**

- She was the 3rd runner-up in the 2018 Miss International (Deaf) contest - held in Taipei, Taiwan, from July 8-July 16, 2018
- At 20, she was the youngest contestant to take part in the Miss International event.
- Earlier, Deshna became the Miss India (Deaf) 2018 in Jaipur, Rajasthan

✿ **Virat Kohli** - was awarded the International Cricket of the Year for 2017 and 2018 by England’s Barmy Army

- Barmy Army is a popular group of English cricket fans.
- Recently, he became the fastest to score 3000 one-day international runs as captain

✿ **Poet Ramakanta Rath** - conferred with Odisha’s highest literary award - Atibadi Jagannath Das Samman for 2018

- The award is named after 15th century Odia poet Atibadi Jagannath Das.
**Bollywood Actress Sharmila Tagore** - Conferred with the D Litt (Honoris Causa) by West Bengal Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi - at a special convocation of Kazi Nazrul University

**BOOKS & AUTHORS**

*WHEN COAL TURNED GOLD*

Foreword by Pranab Mukherjee

**PARtha Sarathi BHATTACHARYya**
**SPORTS**

★ Jehan Daruvala (India, Mumbai) – claims his 1st **Formula 3 win** of this season with his ‘Pole to Flag’ win in FIA Formula 3 European Championship in Belgium.

- Jehan drives for Carlin Racing
- He is the Force India Junior driver
- This is Jehan’s fourth podium win of 2018 in the FIA F3 series

★ சிறிய அந்தியோ திலகமைக்கிறார் வெள்ள லீஸ் பிளிக்கு 4 மாதங்கூற்றம் புராணத் துணை

![Image of Jehan Daruvala](image_url)

![Image of chess game](image_url)
**INTERNATIONAL DAYS**

**July 28 – World Hepatitis Day**

![World Hepatitis Day](image-url)
✓ **Objective** - to encourage diagnosis, prevention and treatment of Hepatitis apart from creating an awareness about it

✓ **Theme** - “Test. Treat. Hepatitis”

✓ Observed since – 2010

✓ Organised by – World Health Organisation, Geneva, Switzerland (Estd – 1948)

✓ Significance – The day, 28 July was chosen to mark the birth anniversary of Professor Baruch Blumberg, who discovered the hepatitis B virus. He was awarded with the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in the year 1976 for this discovery

✓ **Hepatitis**

✓ It refers to the inflammation of Liver cells

✓ It is derived from the Greek word, ‘Hepar’ meaning Liver and ‘itis’ meaning inflammation

✓ There are 5 types of hepatitis namely, A, B, C, D and E and each type is caused by a different hepatitis virus

✓ Viral hepatitis B and C are the major health challenges, affecting 325 million people globally, as they do not show symptoms for a long period

✓ They are also the cause for at least 60% of Liver cancer, affecting 1.34 million people every year


✓ **Indian event**

✓ A National Viral Hepatitis control programme - aimed at eliminating the deadly condition by 2030 - was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with the World Health Organisation.
Miyako, born on 02nd May 1901, became the world's oldest person in April after Nabi Tajima from the Kikai island in southern Japan died recently at the age of 117.
NEWS IN PICTURES

*INDIA CLOSER TO CHINA IN SMARTPHONE SALES*

But just 25% of Indians use the internet
Adults who use the internet at least occasionally or report owning a smartphone

Source: Pew Research Center; digitalindia.gov.in
About a fifth of India owns a smartphone...

Adults reporting owning a smartphone by percentage of population
# Hyperinflation-Hit Countries from the Past

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Days Required</th>
<th>Highest Monthly Inflation Rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>15 Hours (Aug 1945 to Jul 1946)</td>
<td>41,900 trillion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>24.7 Hours (Mar 2007 to Mid-Nov 2008)</td>
<td>79.6 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>3.7 Days (Aug 1922 to Dec 1923)</td>
<td>29,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>5.34 Days (Aug 1947 to Mid-May 1949)</td>
<td>5,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>15.1 Days (May 1795 to Nov 1796)</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>17 Days (Jan 1992 to Jan 1992)</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>At its Peak 17.9 Days (Start from Nov 2016)</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>19.4 Days (May 1989 to May 1990)</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>33.5 Days (Oct 1973 to Oct 1973)</td>
<td>87.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>35.1 Days (Dec 1989 to Mar 1990)</td>
<td>82.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: [The Hanke-Krus World Hyperinflation Table (2013, amended 2016)](https://www.kutob.net/hyperinflation/); Research: Atul Thakur
Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu – to have the Storage division of ‘Hindustan Petroleum corporation Limited’ in Dharmapuri

- IIT, Madras – launches the 1\textsuperscript{st} indigenously developed Smart Air purifier, ‘Vistar’

  ✓ It was developed by the IIT-incubated Startup ‘AirOK’

  ✓ ‘Vistar’ can filter a variety of pollutants such as particulate matter, microbes, fungus and gaseous substances

  ✓ The filter would have a life of about one year, which was twice that of the air purifiers currently available in the market
States with Most number of Exotic Plants - Tamil Nadu stands First

- 1st Place - Tamil Nadu (332)
- 2nd Place - Kerala (290)
- Total exotic plants in India – 471
- The exotic plants – not native to India
- Study done by – an International team with Indian scholars

STATES

Punjab – The permanent campus of “National Skill Training Institute for Women” launched in Mohali

- Inaugurated by – Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
- This is the first NSTI Institute for Punjab and only one of its kind in India which is exclusively for women.
- The Minister also launched a unique, 1st of its kind in India, “Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra” (PMKK) which would admit differently abled persons as well
- He also launched India’s first in-phone guide and mobile application “Go whats That” in Chandigarh.
- **Assam** – to launch the country’s 1st of its kind ‘Assam Employees ‘PRANAM’ Act’ – from Oct 2, 2018
  
  ✔ Legislation – The Government will deduct 10% of an employee’s pay and transfer it to the account of the relatives concerned. Another 5% would be deductible if the employee has a differently abled sibling.

  ✔ Objective – to enable the Government employees take care of their parents and siblings, who might be with physical or mental disabilities

- **Punjab** – United Nation accords ‘Special consultative status’ to a non-profit organization ‘Patiala Foundation’, which works in the field of livelihood, tourism and road safety

  ✔ So far 3,974 NGO’s in the world have received this recognition

- **Flash Flood Guidance system** – a new Model to be developed by India – to issue advance flood warning to other Asian countries including Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Myanmar and Thailand

  ✔ India has been designated as ‘Nodal centre’ by World Meteorological Organisation for developing this model

  ✔ Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) under Ministry of Earth Sciences will work to customize this weather model

  ✔ The model will provide forecasts by computing likelihood of rainfall and soil moisture levels to warn of possible floods

  ✔ It was originally developed by United States
✓ It will warn about the flash floods at least 6 hours in advance

✓ **World Meteorological Organisation**

✓ Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland

✓ It has 191 Member states and territories

➢ **A Museum for all Prime Ministers** – to be built in New Delhi’s **Teen Murti Bhavan**, which served as the official residence of India’s 1st Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, till his death in office – along with a Library

✓ Budget – Rs 270 crores

[Image of museum]

➢ **Kala azar disease outbreak in Kerala**

✓ Village affected – Kozhikode’s Soopikkada village

✓ Kala-azar is known colloquially as black fever or Dumdum fever and is associated with high fatality

✓ Kala azar is known scientifically as visceral leishmaniasis

✓ Reason – due to the infected Sandflies

✓ Precautionary measure – insecticides were sprayed to kill the infected sandflies
CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **6th India-UK Science & Innovation Council Meeting** – concludes in New Delhi

  ✓ It involved the discussion about bilateral cooperation in the areas of Science & Technology

  ✓ The FutureTech festival is scheduled in New Delhi during 2018, to showcase the innovations of Technology

  ✓ Dr Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences & Environment, Forests and Climate Change, India. – represented Indian side

  ✓ Last SIC Meeting – took place in June, 2016 at London
VISITS

- Indian PM’s visit to South Africa from July 26-27, 2018

- 3 MoU’s were signed between India and South Africa in the areas of –
  - Agriculture Research and Education
  - Setting up of ‘Gandhi Mandela Centre of specialization for Artisan skills’ in South Africa
  - Exploration and uses of Outer space for Peaceful purposes

- This year also marks the 125th year of the Pietermaritzburg railway station ‘incident’ involving Mahatma Gandhi.

- Commemorating the Satyagraha movement, twin stamps of Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela was released during the meeting between the two leaders.

  - Cyril Ramaphosa – President of South Africa
  - South Africa Rand – Currency of South Africa
  - Capetown – Capital of South Africa
INTERNATIONAL

➢ **Singapore** - Abdul Kalam Vision society to be set up – to advance his vision for the world

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➢ **BAN2401** – a new drug for ‘**Alzheimer Disease**’ discovered by Eisai, a Japan based company along with another Cambridge based firm, Biogen
AWARDS

- Ministry of Earth Sciences – Foundation Day Awards

  ✓ On 27\textsuperscript{th} July 2018, the Ministry of Earth Sciences celebrated its foundation day at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.

  ✓ Key Award Winners

  - Prof K S Valdiya – Life Time Excellence Award
  - Dr Kusala Rajendran – National Award for Women Scientist

- Mohammed Ayazuddin Patel (Karnataka) – conferred with Senior Fellowship Award for 2016-17
This award is instituted by the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training Centre.

Mohammed Ayazuddin Patel is a Kalaburagi-based artist

This fellowship is awarded to persons eligible to work on a particular subject in the field of art and culture for 2 years.

He received the National Lalitkala Academy award in 2014

Assamese film “Xhoihobote Dhemalite” (“Rainbow Fields”) - bagged 3 top awards at the 3rd Love International Film Festival in United States.

The awards include

Best film

Best actress (Dipannita Sharma)

Best Music (Anurag Saikia)

Xhoixobote Dhemalite became the first Assamese film to be commercially released in the US.

The film portrays the issues of children of Assam growing up in violent times.

Over 150 films from 36 countries participated in the festival.
REPORTS

- **The AISHE Report 2018 (The All India Survey of Higher Education)**

  - Released by – Min of HRD
  - Occasion – National conference of vice chancellors and Directors of Higher Education institutes in India on the eve of Guru Purnima on 28th July, 2018
  - Theme – Research and innovation in Higher education
  - Chaired by – Prakash Javdekar, Min of Human Resource development
  - Venue – New Delhi

  - Other Reports released - Higher Educational Profile 2017-18 and Swachh Campus Manual.

- **The AISHE Report - Higher Education Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)**

  - 1st Place – Chandigarh (56.4)
  - 2nd Place – Tamil Nadu (48.6 – Last year 46.9)
  - 3rd Place – Delhi (46.3)
4th Place – Puducherry (45.4)

5th Place – Himachal Pradesh (37.9)

Female Gross Enrolment Ratio

1st Place – Chandigarh (67.7)

2nd Place – Tamil Nadu (48.2)

3rd Place – Puducherry (48.1)

**SPORTS**

- **Sano Cricket Curry festival** – organized by ICC, International Cricket committee – in the Japanese City of Sano – to promote cricket in the nation
  
  - The festival featured an India vs Japan cricket match
  
  - It also featured cultural events and food from other Asian cricket playing nations, such as Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and India
INTERNATIONAL DAYS

❖ July 29 – International Tiger Day

- Objective – to create awareness about Tiger conservation
- As per the 2014 counting, Madhya Pradesh has 308 tigers in India
- India has about 70% of the tigers in the entire world
- Celebrated since – 2010
- Created at – St Petersburg Tiger Summit
TIGER POPULATION ACROSS INDIA

- **Uttarakhand**: 340
- **Rajasthan**: 46
- **Madhya Pradesh**: 167
- **Uttar Pradesh**: 117
- **Goa**: 7
- **Chhattisgarh**: 45
- **AP and Telangana**: 229
- **Tamil Nadu**: 190
- **Karnataka**: 408
- **Kerala**: 136
- **Arunachal Pradesh**: 28
- **Bihar**: 28
- **West Bengal**: 79
- **Odisha**: 28
- **Mizoram**: 3
- **Jharkhand**: 3

**TOTAL**: 2,226

*Figures as per 2014 Tiger Census*
Challenges remain

Though their numbers are on the rise, nearly half the tiger deaths in the past five years were due to unnatural causes like poaching and electrocution. A look at the state of the big cats on Global Tiger Day

2,226
No. of tigers in India (as of 2014)

70% of the world's tigers are in India

2,326
(2014)

1,706
(2010)

1,411
(2006)

45% of tigers died due to unnatural causes from 2012-17

58% rise in no. of tigers since 2006

No. of tiger deaths in 2017, 6% lower than 2016

115

6 tigers died due to electrocution (2017)

50 Number of tiger reserves in India, constituting about 2% of the country's geographical area

22% of tiger deaths from 2012-17 were due to poaching

Source: Parliament Question Hour

CONSERVATION SNAPSHOT: Tigress T-11 was hardly a year old when her mother died. She was collared and released into the wild in 2015. In June 2017, she gave birth to three cubs

On the prowl: Picture taken a few months ago shows tigers in Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra. = K.R. DEEPAK
REMEMBERING J R D TATA ON HIS BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

About

- Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy (29 July 1904 – 29 November 1993)
- Father of Indian Civil Aviation.
- Founder - Tata Consultancy Services, Tata Motors, Titan Industries, Tata Tea, Voltas and Air India
- Awarded India’s highest civilian awards Bharat Ratna and Padma Vibhushan
- Tata Group grew from US$100 million to over US$5 billion
- Asia’s first cancer hospital, the Tata Memorial Centre for Cancer, Research and Treatment.
- He also founded the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS, 1936)

Nothing worthwhile is ever achieved without deep thought and hard work.
Dream to fly

JRD Tata:
➢ Passion for flying
➢ 1st Indian to pass pilot’s examination
➢ Father of civil aviation in India
➢ Founder of Air India
➢ Founder of the 1st International Airline- Air India international
➢ Became president of International Air Transport Association (IATA)
Tamil Nadu

- Kodai Kurinji Festival – to be conducted by the Dindigul Administration in the month of August

- The Kurinji flower blossoms once in 12 years in Kodaikanal, Yercaud and Nilgiris

- Tamil Nadu – 12,040 Village panchayats are already declared as Open defecation free (ODF) and 484 villages to be declared by July 31, 2018 – as per Thiru S P Velumani, Minister of Municipal Administration
SCHEMES

- **Meghalaya Milk Mission** – launched by Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in Shillong

  ✓ **Objective** – to achieve the Centre’s goal of doubling farmer’s income by 2022 through promotion of milk business in the state.

  ✓ **Budget** – Rs 215 crores

  ✓ **Purpose** – to be used for the activities in dairy farm, chilling centre and the purchase of milch animal.

- **Digi Yatra** – a facility to be introduced by the Government – to enhance the experience of Air passengers

  ✓ **Coordinator** – Min of Civil Aviation

  ✓ **Objective** - to reduce the queues at airports and bring efficiency to the boarding process

  ✓ **Process** - To access this facility one needs to enrol into DigiYatra program through AirSewa app
In this facility, the image of the passenger will be captured as he/she enters the airport, and then the passenger will be able to go through the full lifecycle of the travel in a hassle-free manner.

The DigiYatra programme will be launched at airports in Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Varanasi and Vijayawada.

STATES

- **Assam** – Assam Government releases 2\textsuperscript{nd} and Final draft of ‘National Register of Citizens’ (NRC) on July 30\textsuperscript{th}, 2018

- It incorporates names of 2.89 crore people out of 3.29 crore applicants, with 40.07 lakh people left out, whose claims will be taken up till Sep 28, 2018

- The first draft of NRC was published on December 31, 2017 and it incorporated the names of 1.9 crore people

- National Register of Citizens - is a list that contains names of Indian citizens of Assam.

- It was last prepared after Census in 1951
✓ It is being compiled in Assam under the orders of the Supreme Court in order to identify illegal foreigners residing in the state.

✓ The people who entered Assam after March 24, 1971 were viewed as illegal immigrants

✓ **D-voter** – It is the short form for ‘Doubtful’ voters who are disenfranchised during Electoral roll revision for lack of proper credentials

➢ **Manipur** – hosts 11th Pine apple festival

✓ **Inaugurated by** – Mrs Najma Heptulla, Governor of Manipur

✓ In this festival, sellers and buyers meet to promote pineapple as a viable cash crop

✓ It was held in Thambalnu Market Complex under Andro constituency in Thoubal district of Manipur

✓ The festival is celebrated since 2008

✓ The festival helps the farmers to become economically stable and enhance their livelihood
➢ **Odisha** – to implement its own ‘**Food Security Act**’ – from Oct 2, 2018

✓ It would cover nearly 34.44 lakhs people who were left out of National Food Security Act

✓ This was announced in ‘Ama Mukhyamantri, Ama Katha’ (Our Chief Minister, Our Issues) program.

➢ **Uttarakhand** – to develop a **Skill eco-framework** in the state within the next 2 months

✓ Objective - to enhance the employability and self-employment potential of about 40 lakh citizens in the 15-59 years age group

**NATIONAL**

➢ **India & UAE** – signs MoU on Artificial Intelligence

✓ The MoU will facilitate the setting up of a **UAE-India AI Working Committee** between the UAE Ministry for Artificial Intelligence, Invest India and Startup India.

✓ The Collaboration focuses on 3 Areas – Open Engagement, Foster innovative ecosystems & Looking to the future
The MoU was signed in the presence of Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu

- **Essel Infraprojects Ltd** - has launched Electric Vehicle charging and battery swapping infrastructure initiative in **Lucknow** - under Essel Green Mobility Limited

- Under the project, EIL has initiated 250 charging stations, 1,000 battery swapping stations in 20 cities of Uttar Pradesh

- It will also invest in the deployment of 25,000 e-rickshaws

- **Bombay House** – the Global headquarters of the Tata Group – has been reopened in Mumbai after refurbishment and restoration – marking the 114<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of its former chairman, J R D Tata

  - Inaugurated by – Ratan N Tata, Chairman Emeritus, Tata Sons
  - Built in – 1924
  - N Chandrasekaran – Present chairman, Tata Sons
COMMITTEES

- Pradeep Kumar Sinha High level Committee – constituted by the Government – to address the issues of Stressed Thermal Power Plants
  - Pradeep Kumar Sinha – Cabinet Secretary
  - Representatives - Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Power and Ministry of Coal

INTERNATIONAL

- Pakistan’s General Elections 2018 – PTI emerges as Single Largest Party

  ✔ Party-wise Final Result – Top 3

  ✔ Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) – 116 seats
  ✔ Pakistan Muslim League - Nawaz (PML-N) – 64 seats
  ✔ Pakistan People’s Party Parliamentarians (PPP) – 43 seats
Pakistan's lower house of Parliament

- Total - 342 members, of which 272 are directly elected.
- Simple majority required to form the Government - 172 seats

Party Leaders

- PTI – Imran Khan, the legendary cricketer
- PML-N – Shahbaz Sharif, brother of former PM, Nawaz Sharif
- PPP – Bilawal Bhutto, son of assassinated former PM, Benazir Bhutto

49th International Physics Olympiad, Lisbon, Portugal

5 Students from India bagged Gold medal

- Bhaskar Gupta (Mumbai)
- Lay Jain (Kota)
- Nishanth Abhangi (Rajkot)
- Pawan Goyal (Jaipur)
- Siddharth Tiwari (Kolkata)
This is the 1st time in 21 years that all the 5 students in the team have won Top honours

China – was the only other country to win highest number of Golds apart from India

India was won maximum of only 4 Golds in the previous years of Olympiad

Jongdari – new Tropical cyclone lashes Japanese Coast
Mumbai Weather Live – a New mobile App launched by Ministry of Earth Sciences

- **Objective** – to provide information on extreme weather events in Mumbai.

- It can provide alerts regarding the various weather events such as
  - Heat waves, thunderstorms, heavy rains etc.,

- Other important initiatives of MoES

- The launch of forecasts for Char Dham and Amarnath pilgrims

- An air-pollution emergency prediction system, ready for launch in October 2018.

- To launch ‘push SMS alerts’ for mobile users across the country, which has been already approved in Andhra Pradesh and Uttarakhand
➢ **P null or pp** – a new rare blood group identified by a team of Doctors from Blood bank of Kasturba Medical college, Mangalore

✓ This is the first time that the P blood group null phenotype has been detected in India.

➢ **Deep Ocean Mission** – the blueprint of the Mission to be undertaken by the Ministry of Earth sciences unveiled

✓ It is a 5 year, Rs 8000 crore plan to explore the Deep recesses of the ocean

✓ The Mission involves the development of an offshore desalination plant, which will work with Tidal energy

✓ It would also develop a submersible vehicle that can go up to 6,000 metre depth with 3 people on-board
**DEFENCE**

- **NASAMS-II** – India is planning to procure the Advanced Air defence system from United States
  
  - **NASAMS-II** - National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System-II
  
  - **Cost** – $ 1 billion
  
  - **Objective** – to protect National Capital Region (NCR) from Aerial attacks

![Diagram of NASAMS-II](image)

- **Ashok Leyland** – to supply high mobility, 10x10 Heavy vehicles to Indian Army
✓ Contract – Rs 100 crores
✓ Number of vehicles – 81
✓ This is for the first time an Indian vehicle manufacturer will deliver heavy duty vehicles for the launchers
✓ These will replace Indian Army’s ageing Russian-built “Smerch” Multi-Barrel Rocket launchers
✓ They will be designed to carry strategic missiles developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
✓ These vehicles will be powered by Ashok Leyland’s 360HP Neptune engine
✓ They can carry maximum load of 27 tonnes at a maximum speed of 60 kmph
✓ Ashok Leyland - has also got a tender from DRDO to develop 34-tonne capacity, 12×12 vehicles to mount long range strategic missiles

PERSONALITIES

➢ Prabhat Kohli (19 years) – becomes the 1st Asian Teen to swim UK-France channel
✓ He crossed the English channel when he was 16 years old

✓ He covered 25km in 6 hours and 54 minutes

➢ **Tanishq Abraham** (15 years old) – has become the latest **Child prodigy in United States** – after completing his Engineering in Bio Medical discipline and doing his Doctorate

**AWARDS**

➢ **Amul** – bagged the ’**Marketer of the year’** Award from IAAI, International Advertising Association of India
✓ Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd – Marketer of the brand ‘Amul’

✓ Amul – is a popular brand of Milk and dairy products

✓ It is worth Rs 41,000 crore and is known for its unique marketing and advertising strategies

➢ Mohun Bagan ‘Ratna’ Award – Conferred to former India international Pradip Chowdhury

✓ He was also the India team manager and former Mohun Bagan captain.

✓ He is the 18th recipient of Mohun Bagan ‘Ratna’ award.

✓ This award was first given to Sailen Manna in 2001

✓ In 2017, former India defender Subrata Bhattacharya won this award.

✓ Other awardees are:

  ✓ Goalkeeper Shilton Paul– Best Footballer for the year 2017-18

  ✓ Sudip Chatterjee– Best Cricketer

  ✓ Sourav Das– Best Youth Footballer Player
✓ Special award to – Rahim Ali for his performance in the U-17 World Cup

➢ **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)** - was awarded the INFRA Icon Award in the ‘Global Energy’ category - at the Mid-day INFRA Icons Awards 2018, in Mumbai

✓ This award honors the remarkable performance in the corporate world and in various sectors.

✓ It aims to bring a change with trendsetters related to the infrastructure of India.

✓ The theme of the event was: ‘Smart cities envisages to take infrastructure development to a next level’.

### SPORTS

➢ **World Junior Squash World Cup , Chennai**

✓ **Team Events**

✓ Egypt beat England to claim the 6th Mens Team title

✓ The Bronze medal is won by USA and Czech Republic

✓ India placed at 11th Place overall
Smriti Mandana – smashes the **Fastest 50 off just 18 balls** in Kia Women’s super league, equaling the World T20 record set by Sophie Devine (New Zealand)

- Earlier, she became the 1st Indian player to play in Kia Super League

- **Russian Open Badminton Championship**, Vladivostok, Russia

- India’s Sourabh Verma won his first title since 2016 by defeating Japan’s Koki Watanabe

- Sourabh had won the Chinese Taipei Masters in 2016
✓ The 2nd seeded Indian Mixed doubles pair of Rohan Kapoor and Kuhoo Garg finished Runner-up in their category

- **Hungarian Formula 1 Grand Prix**

  ✓ *Lewis Hamilton* (Britain – Mercedes) – won the title for the 6th time in his career
  
  ✓ 2nd Place – Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari)
  
  ✓ 3rd place – Kimi Raikkonen (Ferrari)

- **Yasar Dogu International in Istanbul, Turkey** (Wrestling)
✔ **Gold Medal Winners**

✔ Bajrang Punia – Mens – 70 kg

✔ Pinki – Womens - 55 kg

✔ **Silver Medal Winner**

✔ Sandeep Tomar – Mens – 61 kg

✔ Seema – Womens - 53 kg

✔ Pooja Dhanda – Womens – 57 kg

✔ Rajni - Womens - 72 kg

✔ Bajrang Punia has won a gold in 65 kg category at the Tbilisi Grand Prix in Georgia early this month

➢ **2018 Jordan Junior and Cadet Open, Amman**

✔ India - won 15 medals including two gold, three silver and ten bronze (table tennis)

✔ **Gold Medal Winners**

✔ Suhana Saini – Mini-cadet Girl’s singles

✔ Deepit Patel and Dev Shroff – Cadet Boy’s doubles

➢ **Kathleen Baker** - sets a world record of 58.00 sec to win the 100m backstroke at the US swimming championships
Kenya – has been chosen to host **2020 World Under-20 Athletics** championships – as per The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)

Australia’s Wendy Tuck - became the **first female skipper** to win a round-the-world yacht race- in the Clipper 2017-18 event.

World Badminton championship **2018** – starts in Nanjing, China

- It has to be noted that no Indian player has won the Gold, so far, in the World championships

- Prakash Padukone – was the 1st Medal recipient, Bronze Medal, in 1983

- P V Sindhu – was the most medal winner with 2 bronze (2013,14) and 1 silver (2017)

- Saina nehwal – won bronze in 2017 and silver in 2015

- Jwala Gutta and Ashwini ponnapa – won the only medal, bronze, in women’s doubles (2011)
Neeraj Chopra – Ace Indian javelin thrower won a Gold in the Savo Games in Finland

- Neeraj, the reigning Commonwealth Gold medalist, threw 85.69m

Tour de France 2018 (Cycling)

- Geraint Thomas (Britain) – sealed his maiden Tour de France win on 29th July 2018

Veteran Indian cricketer, Kapildev - to represent India in the Asia Pacific Senior Golf championships 2018 in Japan from Oct 17 to 19, 2018

- This tournament is for the Golfers above ‘55 years’ of age

- Kapildev has been picked up along with Rishi Narain and Amit Luthra
INTERNATIONAL DAYS

➢ 30th July – World Day against Trafficking in Persons

✓ Organised by – United Nations

✓ Objective – to combat human trafficking

✓ Theme - ‘Responding to the trafficking of children and young people’

✓ Celebrated since – 2014

✓ UNO

❖ Secretary General – Antonio Guterres

❖ Headquarters – New York

❖ Established – 1945
REMEMBERING DR. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY ON HER BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

“Laws and legislation are there only for sanction. It is up to us women to energize these and implement them into action.” DR. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY

Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy was an eminent medical practitioner, a social reformer, a legislator, and the founder of ‘Adyar Cancer Institute’. Dr. Muthulakshmi was born on 30th July 1886 in Pudhukottai, a princely town in Tamil Nadu.

Path Breaking
She rebelled against her mother’s desire to marry her off after puberty and convinced her that education was vital for girls. After passing her matriculation examinations she applied to the Maharaja’s college, she was admitted there as its first female student by
the Maharaja of Pudhukottai himself, against severe resistance which included the college’s principal.

She did her higher studies in England, but she gave up her practice of medicine to take up a request from the ‘Women’s Indian Association’, and entered the Madras Legislative Council. After being appointed by the Madras Legislative Council as the deputy president in 1927, Muthulakshmi started working towards the upliftment of women, her goal was to erase gender inequality. She also stood for the cause of liberating India from the British rule. She married a doctor called Sundara Reddy in 1914 under conditions that, he should always treat her as an equal, and he should never stop her from pursuing her dreams.

**First of First**

- She was the first female student to be admitted into a men’s college,
- First woman House Surgeon in the Government Maternity and Ophthalmic Hospital
- First woman legislator in British India,
- First Chairperson of the State Social Welfare Advisory Board,
- First woman Deputy President of the Legislative Council,
- First Alderwoman of the Madras Corporation.

Muthulakshmi then enrolled in Madras Medical College for MBBS where she received gold medals for her academic excellence.

**Social Reforms**

- Established the minimum age for marriage to 21 for boys and 16 for girls.
- Passed a bill to prevent immoral trafficking of women and children in brothels.
Abolished the Devadasi system in Tamil Nadu.

Opened hostels for Muslim girls.

Gave out scholarships for Harijan girls.

Was involved in setting up toilets for men and women.

Muthulakshmi started a home called Avvai, for destitute women.

Rallied against the social abuses faced by women.

Was an active participant in the freedom struggle she gave up her position as a legislator in the British government, during the quit India movement.

Started the Cancer Relief Fund, which is now an all India institute for cancer research and treatment.

Service for Women and Children

Muthulakshmi Reddy was the pioneer and the fighter for women and children, one of the founders of the Madras Vigilance Association and the initiator of the social and moral Hygiene legislation.

She is also the founder of the All India Women’s Associations.

She was the president of the 5th AIWA conference which was held at Lahore in 1931.

In 1926 the Madras Children’s Aid Society was organised through the effort of lady Stafford, a theosophist from South Africa. The main purpose of this children’s society was to carry out the provisions of the Madras Children’s Act of the year 1920. Stafford requested to Muthulakshmi Reddi to serve on that committee.
She took a leading part in the legislative programme of the council and saw the enactment of two acts for the **abolition of the Devadasi** and for laws to remove brothels and protect minor girls.

She was also an active campaigner for the Sarda Act which was passed by the central legislature.

She interested herself in beggar problems, child education and child welfare.

She was the Editor of Stri Dharma and the President of the Women’s Indian Association (WIA) and the All India Women’s Conference

Reddy became the first woman member of the Madras Legislative council 1926-1930.

She is the founder of Avvai home, Seva Sadan, and the Sarada Vidyalaya in Adayar. These institutions were especially created for women.

**Adayar Cancer Institute**

Adyar cancer institute is a premier hospital in Chennai, it was created out of her desire to start a hospital for cancer patients. With the support of like-minded people, the foundation stone was laid in 1952. The hospital started functioning on 18 June 1954.

In 1956, she was conferred a Padma Bhushan in recognition of her services by the Government of India.

**SCHEME IN THE NAME OF DR. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY**

Dr. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDY NINAIVU INTER-CASTE MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME
இறைவன் குறைவற்ற நோய்வார்கள் பெயர் புனித மத்திரமும், சுமார் பயன்பாடும், தன்மை அற்றவர் செய்த பங்களித்துப் புனித நோயின் நோயர் (Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy) பிறந்த திக்கு விளக்கம் (நடைவு 30). அவள் புனித அதிவு புதுக்கால புத்தாக்கினார்.

புதுக்காலத்தில் மக்களின் சிட்டிகருவான பல நோய்கள் பிரியந்து (1886), குற்றநிலை போட்டுகளாக உருவானது. எனவே, பிறந்த பாசு. புதுக்காலத்தில் பொழுது போன்றே சிறந்த எதிர்வுகள் பத்தி போராட்டங்கள் பாதிக்கும் எதிர்வுகளை மற்றும் பல்வகைப் பார்வைகளை நோய்கள் பாதிக்கும் பல்வைப் பதிக்கும். அவளுக்கு இறைவனின் 2 குறைவான தொடர்புடைய விளக்கம் போருக்கான நோய்களைப் போராட்டங்கள் செய்வது எதிர்க்கும் பல்வை பாதிக்கும் போராட்டங்கள்.

ஒவ்வொரு கழுத்தூறும் தம் புதுக்காலத்து மக்கள் கிராம அரச பேசினியங்களை செய்து எதிர்வுகளை நோய்களின் பக்கமும், கொண்டாட்டங்கள் எதிர்வுகளை எதிர்வுகள் போராட்டங்கள் பாதிக்கும் என்றும், காரணிகளை எதிர்வுகளை பாதிக்கும் பக்கமும் தமிழ் சொல்லாக பாதிக்கும்.

செயல்காரர் மேலும் செயல்காரருடன் உருவான செயல்காரர்களுடன் பசி பண்டைக் காலப்பக்கான நோய்களின் பக்கமும். இந்தை அறிவிக்கிறது அதிகமான அளவில், பன்னாட்டுத் திக்க அளிப்பான நோய்களை எதிர்வுகளை பாதிக்கிறது போராட்டங்களை செய்து எதிர்வுகளை பாதிக்கிறது. அவள் பிறந்திருந்தது அலந்தவாறு,

போராட்டத்தை கூறும் நுழைவுச் செயல்களில், பேச்சிய போராட்டங்கள் பாதிக்கும், பல்வகைப் போராட்டங்கள், தொடர்பான அறிவியலியர் விளக்கம் சுழி கூட்டுத்தொடர்கள்.

தொடரும் போராட்டங்கள் அடிப்படையில் நோய்வார்கள் நோய்வார்களைச் செய்யும் காலப்பக்கான எதிர்வுகளை பாதிக்குவது. எனவே, பொழுது எதிர்வுகளை எதிர்வுகளை பாதிக்கும் போராட்டங்கள். செயல்காரர் மேலும் செயல்காரர்களை உருவான எதிர்வுகளை எதிர்வுகளை பாதிக்கிறது.
மாநாண் பகுதிகளில் சேர்த்து விளங்குவதற்காக மூலம் சல்லையுள்ள மக்கள் பல்லக்காரன் பார்க்கும் பயின்றன. 1925-ம் ஆண்டு கல்வியில் தொன்வாகமும் பாண்டையில் சேர்த்து விளங்குவதற்காக அமைத்து விளங்கிய மக்களுக்கு செழிப்பை செய்ய வைத்தது. பல்லக்காரன் பதியும் செய்தது, பார்க்க விரும்பியது காக்க வைத்தது, ஆண்டுக்கு முந்தம் செழித்தது. தன்னால் உயர்ந்த பதிருந்தையும்.

அத்தமிழ் உரைக்கவை அமைத்து அனைவரிடம் விளங்குகின்றன. பாண்டைய கால குரோமகா விளங்கிக் கொள்ளும் மழைத்தான். கேரளாவில் பதியும் செழித்தது. பால்லக் காரன் காக்க விளங்கியது முழும்விளங்கும் புகழும் தின விளங்கும் மரக்கதையும்.

இரும்பு மூழ்கியிருந்து காக்கும் காலம், 1925-ம் ஆண்டு பல்லக்காரன் வளங்கும் நாளம். பாக்கியம் முதல்கருவிப் பென்று, செய்து விட்டு ஆண்டுக்கிடையே, பால்லக் காரன் முதல்கருவிப் பெரும் பக்துடன் விட்டு காக்க விளங்கிக் கொள்ளினார். பெரும் கிளையார் பிரிய நாள், பக்துடன் பதிய விளங்கிய முதல்கருவியும் ஆண்டுக்கிடையே பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார் பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார்.

கேரளாவில் பதியும் புகழும் கிளையார் பிரிய நாள் காக்கினாது. பால்லக் காரன் பதியும் முதல்கருவியும் ஆண்டு பக்துடன் விட்டு காக்க விளங்கினார். பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார். 1936 ஆண்டு புரோ நாள் முதல்கருவியும் விளங்கினார் பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார். பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார் பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார்.

சுருக்கத்திற்குச் செல்லிய புகழும் முதல்கருவியும் காக்க விளங்கினாது. முதல்கருவியும் பதியும் முதல்கருவியும் பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார் பந்திருந்து விளங்கினார். 1968-ம் ஆண்டு முதல் பந்திருந்த பந்திருந்த பந்திருந்த பந்திருந்த பந்திருந்த பந்திருந்த
# Municipal Solid Waste Management

## Bottom 10 states

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Daily waste generated (MT)</th>
<th>Waste Processed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arunachal</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D &amp; N Haveli</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J &amp; K</td>
<td>1,374</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>2,327</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>1,318</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puducherry</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mizoram</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>7,700</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>4,514</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Top 10 states

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Daily waste generated (MT)</th>
<th>Waste Processed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>1,680</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>7,371</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikkim</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>10,500</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>1,463</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>22,570</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## All states

- Daily waste generated (MT): 1,43,558
- Waste Processed: 24.8%
INDIA’S 2 BEST BANKS – INDIAN BANK AND VIJAYA BANK

Black or Red
Net profit/loss of 19 nationalised banks in 2017-18 (₹ cr)

- PUNJAB & SIND BANK: -744
- BANK OF MAHARASHTRA: -1.146
- UNITED BANK OF INDIA: -1.454
- DENA BANK: -1.923
- BANK OF BARODA: -2.432
- SYNDICATE BANK: -3.223
- ANDHRA BANK: -3.413
- CORPORATION BANK: -4.054
- CANARA BANK: -4.222
- UCO BANK: -4.436
- ALLAHABAD BANK: -4.676
- CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA: -5.105
- UNION BANK OF INDIA: -5.247
- ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE: -5.872
- BANK OF INDIA: -6.044
- INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK: -6.299
- PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK: -12,283

INDIAN BANK - 1,259
VIJAYA BANK - 727
FINAL NRC LIST TO BE OUT TODAY

FATE OF LAKHS OF PEOPLE IN ASSAM HANGS IN BALANCE AS THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF CITIZENS COMES OUT TODAY.

HISTORY

- The National Registry of Citizens was first prepared in 1951.

- The latest updation of the list in Assam will have names of descendants of those who were in the 1951 list, or those who were in electoral rolls till March 24, 1971.

- 1.9 crore out of the 3.29 crore applicants in Assam have been confirmed Indian citizenship in the first round of lists on January 1 this year.

- 1.5 lakh people from the list will be dropped, said authorities in July due to discrepancies in paperwork.

- Names of around 50,000 rural women will also be dropped as officials had asked them to submit documents such as marriage and school TC certificates, which they do not have.

OPPOSITION

- Sections of Assam were not happy with the NRC as they claim it would make illegal migrants from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan eligible for citizenship after six years of stay in India.

- The Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016 was one of the election promises made by Narendra Modi ahead of the 2014 general elections.

TIGHT SECURITY

- 220 companies of the Central forces have been deployed in Assam and neighbouring states.

- Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal held a high level meeting recently on the NRC draft release and directed officers to remain alert.

- The chief minister has also directed the officials not to refer any case to the Foreigners Tribunal based on the NRC draft list.

- The draft will be published at noon across the state which will contain the applicant’s name, address and photographs, NRC state coordinator Prateek Hajela said.

BANGLADESHIS SENT BACK
Altogether 52 Bangladeshi nationals who were in detention camps in Assam were handed over to the Bangladesh authorities on Sunday at the international border.
Tamil Nadu

🌟 Tamil Nadu – 272 Temple Strong Rooms to be built by Dec 2019 – as per the State Government

✔ These will be constructed as part of 3087 total strong rooms to be built by 2021
 **Chennai Metro Rail** – Plans To Turn Shenoy Nagar Metro Station In To An All Women – Run Station

 **Actor Aarav, the Winner of ‘Bigg Boss’** – named as the Brand ambassador of ‘**Entrepreneurship Development Innovation Institute**’ of the State government

 **Objective** – to promote the schemes and innovative programmes of the government among the youths to encourage them to be entrepreneurs

 **Madurai Bench of Madras High Court** – has passed an order accepting an instant submission through ‘**WhatsApp**’ to a query raised by the Court

 This is a first such instance for a court to embrace the latest technology of WhatsApp in the court proceedings

 **12 Years after Tamil Nadu Government Order, HR&CE Temple**

**Gets First Non Brahmin Priest**

 A priest belonging to a Most Backward Caste (MBC) community has been appointed archaka in an HR & CE-controlled Ayyappan temple at Tallakulam, Madurai.

 The priest was one among 206 non-Brahmins who made up the first batch to undergo archaka training provided by the State government in 2007-08. He is reportedly the first among them to be appointed at a HR&CE temple so far.
**STATES**

★ Uttar Pradesh – PM lays the foundation stone of India’s 1st Mobile Open Exchange (MOX) zone in Noida

- MOX - to be a dedicated ecosystem for mobile industry, providing integrated platform to mobile manufacturers, research and development (R&D) and allied industries.

★ Rajasthan – Transport department has issued driving licence bearing an argon donor logo, in a bid to promote argon donation.

★ Telangana – India’s 1st ever International Block chain congress – to be held on Aug 3 and 4 in Hyderabad

- Collaboration – NITI Aayog, Telangana and Goa Governments
Meghalaya – The foundation stone of 2nd Phase of Construction for North East Institute of Ayurveda & Homeopathy at Shillong was laid by Shripad Yesso Naik, Union Min of State (Independent) for AYUSH

Rajasthan – signs MoU for 1st Cow Sanctuary in the State at Bikaner’s ‘Napasar’ village
- The MoU is signed with a Private Trust, Sohanlalji Buladeviji Ojha Gaushala Samiti
- The proposed Cow Sanctuary will provide shelter for 10000 cows

India’s First Cow Sanctuary
- Set up - September 2017
- Place - Madhya Pradesh’s Agar Malwa district
- Name - ‘Kamdhenu Gau Abhyaranya’
- Total – 6000 cows
🌟 Uttar Pradesh - Ram Statue (108m) – to come up on Saryu Bank in Uttar Pradesh – under Navya Ayodhya Project

🌟 Chhattisgarh – launches a Smartphone distribution scheme called ‘Mobile Tihar’ under ‘Sanchar Kranti Yojana’

- It aims at the distribution of smartphones to 45 lakh women and 5 lakh children, and setting up of 556 new mobile towers.
- Actress Kangana Ranaut launched the event along with Chhattisgarh CM, Raman Singh
NATIONAL

✈ Lok Sabha – Passes Homeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2018

✦ Objective – to regulate homeopathic education and practice

✦ Key Features Of The Bill

✓ It amends Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973
✓ It provides for the replacing and reconstituting of Central Council of Homoeopathy
✓ It appoints a ‘board of Governors’ with upto 7 eminent members in the Homeopathic field
✓ It also provides the permission for any new homeopathy colleges to be started in future

✈ Lok Sabha – passes Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018

✓ Objective – It proposes to enhance the punishment for the rape of a Child
✓ Key Points of the Bill
✓ It amends the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860

✓ Repeat offenders to be punished with life imprisonment or death

✓ National Crime Records Bureau to maintain a national database and profile of sexual offenders.

🌟 Parliament – passes the ‘State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017’ to merge the five subsidiary banks with SBI

❖ It was earlier introduced in the Lok sabha by Arun Jaitley, Min of finance on July 21, 2017

❖ **The Merged Banks**

✓ State Bank of Bikaner

✓ State Bank of Mysore

✓ State Bank of Patiala

✓ State Bank of Travancore

✓ State Bank of Hyderabad

❖ With this merger, SBI will join the league of top 50 banks globally in terms of assets

❖ **State Bank of India**

❖ Headquarters – Mumbai

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E V O L U T I O N  O F  S T A T E  B A N K  O F  I N D I A

In 1921, these three banks were amalgamated to form the Imperial Bank of India.

Imperial Bank of India converted into State Bank of India on 1 July 1955
A Parliamentary Panel—was constituted to look into the Indo-UK relations, including the Visa regime of Britain

✓ This panel will also review the other bilateral trade issues and cooperation on Regional security, Technology, Counterterrorism and Innovation

✓ Thomas Tugendhat – was the Chairman of this Foreign affairs committee

3rd BRICS Film Festival – concludes in Durban, South Africa

❖ The Last day of the Festival was celebrated as ‘India Country Day’

❖ Awards won by Indian Films

✓ Best Actress: Bhanita Das, Village Rockstars
✓ Best Film: Newton by Amit Masurkar
✓ Special Jury Award: Village Rockstars by Rima Das
**INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES**

🌟 **2nd Meeting of Tourism Joint Working Group – India and Nepal** – held in Kathmandu

- India-Nepal Tourism Forum to set up
- To recognize 2 circuits, Ramayana Circuit and Buddhist circuit for Joint promotions

🌟 **United States** – Elevates India’s status to “STA-1” (Strategic Trade Authorisation -1)

- Benefit – to ease export controls for high-technology product sales to India
- Australia, Japan and South Korea – are the other NATO allies of United states that enjoys this privilege now
- Earlier, US identified India as a major defence partner in 2016
- This will allow India to buy more advanced and sensitive technologies from the United States, at par with its other allies
- The STA-1 list has 36 countries, at present
- India – is the only South Asian country in the list
- India – was in the list of STA-2 countries, so far
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

🌟 **Scutoid** – a New Shape invented by American and Spanish scientists

- This shape is present in the moulding tissues of Skin, cavity linings and the body’s building blocks
- It has five sides on one end and six on the other with a triangular surface on one of its longer edges.
- It is referred as ‘Twisted Prism’ kind of shape
- It is especially found in ‘Epithelial’ tissue, consisting of epithelial cells packed together in a particular formation as per this new shape


- **Objective** – It aims at providing pure drinking water using air and sunlight
- **Cost** – Rs 2 lakh/panel
- **Capacity** – 5 litres of water / day
AllIMS, Delhi – has developed a diagnostic test with High sensitivity for TB meningitis patients

On July 31, Mars will be its closest to Earth in 15 years

✓ It makes people super easy to see from the night sky.
✓ On July 31 at 3:50 am US eastern time, Mars will come within about 35.8 million miles (about 57.6 million kilometers) of our planet.
✓ Celestially, this is relatively very close; on average, Mars is about 50.2 million miles away from Earth. This event, called a “close approach,” happens rarely.
✓ The last time the red planet was so near to our neck of the galactic woods was in 2003.

ECONOMY

India’s Most Valued Company

✓ 1st Place – Reliance Industries Limited (Rs 7.44 trillion Market Cap)
✓ 2nd Place – Tata Consultancy Services (Rs 7.39 trillion Market Cap)

ICICI Bank – reports a loss of Rs 120 crores for the 1st time ever – in its June quarter report

APPOINTMENTS

Seema Nanda – becomes the 1st Indian-American to be appointed as the CEO of the Opposition, Democratic National Committee

✓ In fact, she’s the 1st Indian-American to be appointed as the CEO of either the Republican National Committee or Democratic National Committee
Surendra Roshan – Hongkong And Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Appointed Him As Chief Executive Officer (CEO) For HSBC India BY Replacing Jayant Rikhye.

AWARDS

HDFC – HDFC awarded as ‘Best performing lending institution’ in CLSS-Credit Linked subsidy schemes for the Economically weaker section and Low income Group category

✓ Award given by – PM Narendra Modi
✓ CLSS – Commenced under Pradhan Mantri Awaz yojana (PMD) in June 2015
✓ PMAY – to provide home loans to the customers
SPORTS

★ International Army Games 2018 – starts in Moscow, Russia

- **Duration** – July 28 to Aug 11, 2018
- **Games Partner countries** - Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Iran, Kazakhstan, China and Russia
- This is the first time that Armenia and Iran are co-hosting events of the Army Games.
- India – to take part in 2 major competitions – Tank Biathlon event & Elbrus Ring competition

★ 1000TH TEST MATCH [India vs England]

- England's first Test against India that starts on August 1, 2018 at Edgbaston, Birmingham will be also be their 1000th match
- England’s first ever Test match was played when a team arranged and led by James Lillywhite played Australia between March 15 and March 19, 1877.
- England have won 357 Tests and lost 297 Tests with 345 ending in draws.
**INDICES**

*United Nations E-Government Survey 2018*

- India – ranked at 96th and breaks into Top 100

- 1st – Denmark
- 2nd – Australia
- 3rd – Republic of Korea
- 4th – United Kingdom
- 5th – Sweden

- India had earlier Occupied 118th place in 2014
- It is Released by the United Nations once in every 2 years
INTERNATIONAL DAYS

🌟 July 30 – International Day of Friendship

✓ Organised by – United Nations
✓ Since – 2011
✓ Objective – to recognize the importance of friendship between people, countries and cultures in bringing Peace

OBITUARY

🌟 Ramapada Chowdhury – Renowned Bengali Writer

✓ His story ‘Abhimanyu’ was made into an award winning Hindi movie named ‘Ek doctor ki maut’ in 1990. It was based on the life of Dr Subhas Mukhopadhyay who developed India’s first and the world’s second test-tube baby in 1978.

✓ He was awarded the Sahitya Academy award for ‘Bari badle jay’ in 1988

✓ He had also received the Rabindra Puraskar, Ananda Puraskar and Rabindranath Tagore Memorial International Prize.

✓ His last book, 'Harano Khata' was published in 2015.
NEWS IN PICTURES

* Draft E-commerce Policy of the Centre – unveiled

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**Checks & Balances**

**Draft plan for ecommerce**

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THE POLICY PROPOSALS

- A sunset clause defining maximum duration of differential pricing strategies by e-commerce firms to be framed
- A law/regulation to govern unsolicited commercial e-mails would be framed
- Tax sops for incentivizing domestic data storage in India
- Data generated by users in India from various sources including e-commerce, to be stored exclusively in India
- Government would have access to data stored in India for national security and public policy objectives
What is National Register of Citizens (NRC)?
During the Census of 1951, a national citizen register was created that contained the details of every person by village. The data included name, age, father's/husband’s name, houses or holdings belonging to them, means of livelihood and so on. These registers covered every person enumerated during the Census of 1951 and were kept in the offices of deputy commissioners and sub-divisional officers as per the Centre’s instructions issued in 1951. In the early 1960s these registers were transferred to the police.

Why was there a demand to update Assam’s NRC?
Since Independence till 1971, when Bangladesh was created, Assam witnessed large-scale migration from East Pakistan that became Bangladesh after the war. Soon after the war on March 19, 1972, a treaty for friendship, co-operation and peace was signed between India and Bangladesh. The migration of Bangladeshis into Assam continued. To bring this regular influx of immigrants to the notice of then prime minister, the All Assam Students Union submitted a memorandum to Indira Gandhi in 1980 seeking her “urgent attention” to the matter. Subsequently, Parliament enacted the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Act, 1983. This Act, made applicable only to Assam, was expected to identify and deport illegal migrants in the state.

What spurred the Assam agitation? What was the outcome?
The people were not satisfied with the government's measures and a massive statelevel student agitation started, spearheaded by All Assam Students Union (AASU) and the All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad (AAGSP). This movement resulted in the 'Assam Accord' signed on August 15, 1985, between AASU, AAGSP and the central and state governments.

Who are included in the NRC?

Persons whose names appear in NRC 1951 or in any of the electoral rolls up to March 24, 1971, and their dependents are to be included in the current NRC. Persons who came to Assam on or after January 1, 1966, but before March 25, 1971, and registered themselves in keeping with the Centre's rules for foreigners registration, and who have not been declared as illegal migrants or foreigners by the competent authority, could register. Foreigners who came to Assam on or after March 25, 1971, are to be thereafter detected and expelled as per the law. Apart from this, all Indian citizens including their children and descendants who moved to Assam post March 24, 1971, were eligible for inclusion in the updated NRC. But 'satisfactory' proof of residence in any part of the country (outside Assam) as on March 24, 1971, would have to be provided.

What happen to those whose name are not in the NRC 2018?

The July 30, 2018, NRC list is a draft and not the final one. People whose names are missing can still apply. The period to file such claims is from August 30 to September 28. Applicants can call toll-free numbers to enquire with their application receipt number.
SC orders an exercise to update the National Register of Citizens (NRC) of 1951

Publication of legacy data, distribution of application forms and submission

Verification process begins

First part of draft of NRC is published

Family tree verification process kicks off

Special verification process

Complete NRC draft publication

Receipt of claims and objections for inclusion in updated NRC

Disposal of claims & objections, to be followed by publication of final NRC
REMEMBERING THE DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF

UDHAM SINGH

_death_anniversary_
இருதுறை கிருஷ்ணன் காங்கர்:

1919-ஆம் ஆண்டில் வருடம் 13- அது வருடம் காங்கர் புலிகாலிக்க டக்கில் அன்று ஆண்டுக்கட்டக்கலன் மக்கள் கட்டுப்பாட்டு செய்வதற்கு மூச்சுத் தயாரிப்பான தக்கவடம் புரிகியத்தால் காங்கர் மன்னர் விருத்திக்கு லங்கம் கிளை, ஆசிய வானிலை கிண்டி, தாரிசியின் சாலைப்பாடு புரிக்குமாறு நோய்ப்பு பாசர்க விளங்குப்பட்டதுடன் கூட்ட விளையாடலார்.

குழாய் (புரப்பூ) கல்வி கிருஷ்ணகால் காங்கர் கிளை விழாவில் தினம் 1927ம் பத்து சூத்திக்காக குருகத்திகளின் சத்ரான்டுகளை பார்க்கவுல்லனர் காங்கர் வருமானார். அது அருளின் உண்மையான அவர் காங்கர் விளையாடலார்.

குழாய் கல்வி பூங்கா பாண்டை வருடக்காலாய் காங்கர் பிரிவில் உருசியக்கிப்பாசிரியரின் விளக்கம் போரட்டு வெப்பத்தக் கலைப்படையிட்டது அதிகிறவர். திட்டமத் தில்லைக்கு அப்புரோக் நோய்ப்புகள் கிளை துணைலவன விளையாடலார்.

அவர் கிருஷ்ணாய் கிருஷ்ணா காங்கர் (1931) பத்து சூத்திக்காக பருவால், பருவக்கு, காங்கர் விழாவில் வருமானார்.

1931ம் பத்தில் கிளை நிர்வாக போராட்டம் அவர் பாண்டை வானிலை கிண்டி குறுக்கு போராட்டாக செய்யார் (மக்கள் கிளை கலை பார்க்கின்றார்கள்).

பிரிவில் கிரு.ா. அவர் முதல் விளையாட்டு கணக்காலகின்றோ வேறுப்பட்டு விளையாடலார்.
1933ஆம் ஆண்டு பதிக்தம் முடிவு அடைக்கும் பின்னர் செம்பனியின் கல்வித்துறைச் சான்றனும் துறைமுகங்கள் அமைந்தது என்று குறிப்பிட்டு 1934ஆம் ஆண்டில் முதுக்குநராக நாட்டுக்குநராக.

சப்தம் நிதியம்மன்:-

1940-ஆம் ஆண்டு பதிக்தம் 13 ஆண்டு சுகாதாரத்தில் புதிதாகும் முறையில் முடிக்கும் 21 ஆண்டுகள் முடிந்து ஆட்டு நிறுவனம் நிறுத்தி விட்டது. அந்தக் காலத்தில் நாட்டு நிதியம்மன் கூட்டக் கால்பனக் குழு மற்றும் கூட்டக் குழுக்களைச் சேர்ந்தார்

சத்தகரத் தலம் செய்த பார்வார்கள். கிழக்கு சுழற்சியில் பிரார்த்தனை மருந்து அதுக்காக விளையாடப்படுகின்றது கட்டுப்பாட்டு முறையுடன் தலம் தொடங்கும் முந்தைய நிறுவனம் புதிதற்கு தலைமையிட்டான். தலம் தொடங்கும் முந்தைய நிறுவனம்

சத்தகரத் தலம் கட்டமைப் பிள்ளைய விளையாடுவதற்கு தொடங்கும் புதிதற்கு

“இரும் ஐக்கு நல் அடைந்து” கட்டமைப்பிட்டான்.

இரும் பெயர் பதை:-

இரும் கோட்டையில் பெயர் திருக்கிய மகிழ்சினலால் பெயர் மகிழ்சினலால் விளையாடும் செய்திகளுக்கு அளிக்கல் விளையாடும் கட்டுப்பாட்டு முறையுடன் செய்திகளைச் சேர்ந்து பெயர் மகிழ்சினலால் பெயர் மகிழ்சினலால் செய்திகளைச் சேர்ந்து கட்டமைப்பிட்டான். “அவர்களின் உடலேய பெயர்” கட்டமைப்பிட்டு காண்நிகழ்வாக காண்நிகழ்வாக.
1962 ஆம் ஆண்டு பிங்களம் குழுவத்தின் நிறுவனத்துடன் உள்ளது.

செய்திகள். இரு வருடங்களுக்கு முன்னர் R.C. ஆர்வசின் தலைநிலையில் "CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF INDIA AND NATIONAL MOVEMENT" என்ற தலைப்பில் இருந்து செய்தியின் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கும் பதிவானது ஆதரவு நகர நூல் பதிப்புத்தகங்கள்.

செய்தியின் அருகேய்க்கின்ற சிற்றின் வழிபாடு அங்கு தகுதியின் வகையில் மக்களுக்கு பித்தியாத நேரறிவியல் அதிகாரரைள நூற்றாண்டுகளுடன்.

செய்தியின் அடுத்த பகுதியில் செய்தியின் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கும் பதிவானது நான்கு வருடங்கள் அகல்பந்து நேரறிவியல் பாதுகாப்பு (BERGERET) என்ற பகுதிக்காக இருந்து வலம் தீர்வு பாதுகாப்பு.

பாதுகாப்பான பகுதிக்காக உருவான சிற்றின் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கும் பதிவானது நூற்றாண்டுகள் சுமுகவுடன்.

சான்றுகள் தினமலரகு:-

சுருக்கம் அரங்கில் 31, 1940 ஆண்டு அவர் மன்னர்மத்தினர் நிறுவனத்தின் துணைக்குறியாளர் பாதுகாப்பு.
REMEMBERING DR. MYLSAMY ANNADURAI ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM ‘ISRO’

மேலாண்ட அண்டாண்டாரணை

மின்னணி அண்டாண்டாரணை

1974-ம் ஆண்டில் மாடார் சாலாம் கோட்டம் நடைபெற்று வந்த வேலூராகவ்கி கல்வியை அடுத்து சார்க்காளாரான் பிரித்தல் அருகில் கிலோமீட் கோட்டையில் அமையும் கல்வி கோட்டையில் துறந்த விளைப்பட்டது.

இருக்கின்ற கீழ்கிளையான பார்வையில் வேலூராகவ்கி விளையாட்டுக் கல்வியை மேசிமேரியன் பொருந்து கிளையாளர் கல்வியை கிளையாளரின் குறள் வழிபாட்டுப்பட்டது.

மேலாண்டந் கல்வி அண்டாண்டாரணை அற்றையும் அண்டாண்டாரணை விளையாட்டுக் கல்வியை பொருந்து மேலாண்டந் அண்டாண்டாரணை விளை

பொருந்தியும் பின்னணி ஆண்டாரணை (அல்லது ஆண்டாரணை 31, 2018).

044-24339436. 044-42867555. 9840226187
பிறப்பு கலந்துரை:

தமிழ்நாட்டு கோட்டுத் தமிழியல் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் மையங்காலத்தில் அமைந்துள்ள ஒரு அமைப்பு செயலால் பல்கலைக்கழகம் மாநாட்டு, காலநிலைப்போன்ற காவல் பகுதியில் 1958 ஆம் ஆண்டு பதினைந்த 2-ஆம் பிரிவில். பதிவுக்காக வட்டம் வழக்கு அரசு பாண்டிகைத் தமிழியல்பினை புற்றுக்கொண்டது.

இன்று தமிழ்ப்பினை ஆர்வித் தமிழியல் கலந்துரையானது பச்சைமாசத்தின் குழுவானது பார்வோ காரணமாக காணப்படுகிறது. இணையம் பற்றிய பாதுகாப்பாளர் விவகாரத்தின் பாதுகாப்பு கருத்துடன் செயல்பட்டது பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் புற்றுக்கொண்டது.

இரண்டாம் பகுதி:

இன்று சம. பி. முதல் பத்தாம் புத்தோலிங்க கல்லூரியாளர் 'அருணகிரி' ஒன்றியமாக, நல்க பொறுத்துக் கல்லூரியின் காலநிலை சுருக்கமாக நிருபிக்கிறார். அவரால் ஆர்வித் தமிழியல் செயலாளராகக் கருதப்படும் பணிக்கு உதிரிதிட்டு புநர்மீனாகவே நடைமுறை ஆண்டவர்களுடன் புற்றுக்கொண்டது. 1982 ஆம் ஆண்டு இந்திய விளையாட்டு ஆர்வித் தமிழியல் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் முதலில் ஒரு தினசரியாக ஆண்டவர்கள் துணைத் தொடர்புச் செயல்பட்டது.

கல்விக் கட்டடம் செய்துள்ள கிளக்குளில் 2003 க்கு முந்திக்கட்டுரையிடம். பின்னர் 2004வது முறையிலும் பதின் முறையானது கிளக்குளில் திசைக்கட்டுரையிடம் மறுமுக்கியாக இறுக்கத்தைத் தாங்கச்செய்தது.

கல்விக் கட்டடம் பந்தடி மிதவானின் பதிலிங்கலித மறியானது அமர்த்து 2005-ம் ஆண்டு கல்விக் கட்டடத்தில் பெரும்பான்மைக் கல்லாலைகள் மறுமுக்கியாக இறுக்கத்தைத் தாங்கச்செய்தது.

தனிக் காண்டத்தன்:

- கல்விக் கிளக்கு
- மிதவான் பந்தடி
- அதிவிளை சங்கக் கிளக்கு

தொடர்ந்து தில்லியா, கல்வி மறுவத்து கிளக்குகளின் முதல் அதிவாக்கம் மிதவான் “கல்விக் கிளக்கு” என்று புதுக்குறியம், “அதிவா பந்தடி பந்தடி அதிவாக்கம் பந்தடி” என்று திருப்பது குறியீட்டும், முதலாம் பந்தடி பந்தடிக் குறியீட்டும் அதிவா பந்தடிக் குறியீட்டும்.

பொருள் கிளக்குப்பாக்கம்:

தொடரானது அதிவிளையான பந்தடியை முதல் கூடாது குறித்துக்காட்டிக்கும் முன்னர். கிளக்கு பந்தடிக் கிளக்கு அதிவிளை முதல் முன்னர் பந்தடிக் குறியீட்டும்
புத்தாண்டை. நாட்டில் ஆறு நூற்றாண்டு 2016 ஆண்டு அன்றி பூம்புரை நிதி அறிக்கை மகாராஜகாளாண்டு.

தமிழ்முறையில் பெருந்தோடு முதல் காம்பாஸ்து திறனமான விவசாயக்குழுக்கள் மீது பாராட்டும் விளக்கம். இவ்விளக்கம் பாரம்பரிகள் பெரும்வாக்கில் குறிப்பிட்டு புதிய பண்டைய மாநிலத்தில் கூறும்.