TAMIL NADU

- Tamil Nadu’s first Sensory Park for Special children – to come up in Santhome, Chennai from November 14
  - It will provide a sensory experience to the Blind, complete with 3D art
  - It was developed as part of Smart city mission for the city, at a budget of Rs 1.37 crore

- Government Kasturba Gandhi Hospital, Triplicane, Chennai – gets radio frequency identification (RFID) tagging system – to prevent baby thefts
  - The hospital becomes the 2nd hospital in the city after the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore to get the facility
  - Health Minister C Vijaya Bhaskar inaugurated the RFID facility along with other facilities — Fertility Research Centre, Breast Milk Bank and Antenatal Wellness Centre
  - The Hospital will also start the Intrauterine Insemination (IUI), an expensive fertility treatment for the people from deprived economic background
**STATES**

- **Bihar Cabinet** – has approved the proposal to pay Rs 25000 to every girl graduating in 2018 and onwards
  - The one-time payment will be made to every girl graduating on or after April 25, 2018, irrespective of their community, Pass division or region
  - An outlay of Rs 300 crore has been allocated for the proposal
  - The scheme is part of the overall plan of the state Government to provide Rs 54000 to every girl, from the birth till the graduation

- **Odisha Government** – constitutes a 3 member Ministerial committee – to address the issues of the Farmers
  - The committee will be headed by its Finance Minister, Shashi bhusan behera

- **Meghalaya** – announces an investment of Rs 378 crore in Aqua Mission 2.0 starting from April 2019
  - Mission 2.0 aims to address the 15,000 Metric Tonne shortfall of fish production in the state within the next 5 years from April 2019
  - The Centre already sanctioned Rs 51 crore under the Blue Revolution Scheme
  - The Meghalaya State Aqua Mission 1.0 has increased production of fish from 0.9 million in 2012 to 9.69 million in 2017 to meet the demand

**NATIONAL**

- **Women and Child Development Ministry** – had launched “Mahila-E-Haat”, an online marketing portal - for promoting the Organic products of women farmers and entrepreneurs
  - It was launched during the 5th edition of “Women of India National Organic Festival, 2018” held in New Delhi
India – signs a deal with 4 Global agencies to tackle Air pollution in 102 worst affected cities in the country

- The agencies are – World Bank, German Development Agency (GIZ), Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Bloomberg Philanthropies
- The tie-up is part of the Government’s plan to finalize the country’s National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) for the 102 cities, which do not meet the national ambient air quality standards
- The cities include Mumbai, Pune, Kolkata, Varanasi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Allahabad, Patna, Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Jaipur and Hyderabad among others

**CABINET APPROVALS**

- Union Cabinet – approves the leasing out of 6 airports under Public-Private partnership (PPP) mode
  - The airports in Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Mangaluru and Thiruvananthapuram – will be operated, maintained and developed under the PPP Mode
  - Currently, the airports being managed under the PPP model include Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Cochin
  - The PPP airport model has brought world-class infrastructure at airports with the delivery of efficient and timely services to the passengers
  - The examples of these are the Greenfield Airports at Hyderabad and Bengaluru
  - The PPP airports in the country were ranked among the top 5 in their respective categories by the Airports Council International (ACI) in terms of Airport Service Quality (ASQ)

- Union Cabinet – approves the setting up of ‘Central Tribal University’ in Andhra Pradesh
  - The proposed university will come up after necessary amendment in the Central Universities Act, 2009
  - It will be set up in Relli village of Vizianagaram District of Andhra Pradesh
  - A budget approval of Rs 420 crore was done for the setting up of Phase I of the University

- Cabinet – approves the MoU between India and Morocco – on cooperation in Mutual Legal Assistance in Civil and Commercial Matters
  - It will also enhance co-operation in the service of summons, judicial documents, letters of request and the execution of judgments decrees and arbitration
  - The cabinet has also approved signing and ratifying Extradition Agreement between India and Morocco
Union Cabinet – informed about India’s joining as member of ‘Advanced Motor Fuels Technology Collaboration Programme’ under International Energy Agency (IEA) on May 9, 2018
✓ The primary aim of joining the programme is to introduce advanced motor fuels and alternate fuels to the market - to bring down emissions and achieve higher fuel efficiency in the transport sector

Union Cabinet - has approved the MoU between India and Italy - for training and education in the fields of Labour and Employment

INTERNATIONAL

Bangladesh – to use Electronic voting machines for the very first time – in its General elections on December 23
✓ The machines will be used on a limited scale to improve the quality of voting process

COMMITTEES

Bombay High Court – sets up an ad-hoc (temporary) committee – to look into the day-to-day functioning of Mumbai Cricket Association
✓ The committee members are - Umesh Khanwilkar, Navin Shetty, Shahalam Shaikh, Ganesh Iyer and CS Naik

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

China – unveils ‘UAV-CH7’ – the most Advanced Drone developed so far by the country
It was unveiled at the Air Show China 2018 in Zhuhai, China
With this, China becomes the 2nd country after US to develop advanced, high-altitude, long-endurance combat UAVs
It can launch weapons, missiles or anti-ship missiles and long-distance precision-guided bombs

China – unveils the replica of its first permanently crewed space station - which will replace the International Space Station (ISS)

The replica was displayed at the Air Show China 2018 held in Zhuhai, China
The station will have 3 astronauts and will conduct experiments
The assembly of the station will be completed by 2022 and it has a lifespan of nearly 10 years
It would be open to all countries to conduct science experiments
ISS is a collaboration between the United States, Russia, Canada, Europe and Japan
It has been functioning since 1998 and will retire in 2024

ECONOMY

India – plans to export ‘Raw sugar’ to China from 2019 – after nearly a decade
Indian Sugar Mills Association and COFCO, a public sector company of China have entered into an agreement - for exporting 15 thousand tonnes of raw sugar
India is the largest producer of sugar in the world
Raw sugar is the second product after non-basmati rice that India will export to China
PayTM – partners with 2 Government departments in Karnataka – for smoother payment experience to the customers
✓ The Partnered departments are The Directorate of Electronic Delivery of Citizen Services and Department of Personnel and Administrative Service

Moody investor service – had predicted a growth of 7.3% in 2019 for India – in its ‘Global Macro Outlook 2019-20’ report
✓ India is poised to grow at 7.4% in 2018 but will slow down to 7.3% in 2019, as per the report
✓ The drop is attributed to the sharp rupee depreciation and rising global oil prices

APPOINTMENTS

Robyn Denholm - was named as the new Board Director and Chairman of Tesla, Electric car maker – to replace Elon Musk
✓ Currently, She is the chief financial officer with Telstra
✓ She has been an independent director of Tesla since 2014 and heads its audit committee
✓ Elon Musk resigned as the Chairman of Tesla in September following fraud charges

AWARDS

Anand Kumar, Founder of Super 30 and a Mathematician – conferred with ‘Global Education Award’ by the Malabar Group, a leading Indian business conglomerate
He was honoured for his “pioneering” contributions to the field of education
He was selected from a list of 100 names by a 12-member jury

**SPORTS**

- **8th Asian Shotgun Championship held in Kuwait**
  - **Angad Vir Singh Bajwa** - won gold medal by setting world record score in men’s skeet final

  - With the win, he becomes the first Indian skeet shooter to win any continental or world level event

- **Asian Airgun championships, Kuwait**
  - **India’s pair of Elavenil Valarivan and Hriday Hazarika** won gold medal in 10m Air rifle shooting Mixed event

  - In the final of the event, they scored 502.1, setting world and Asian Junior record
  - India’s another pair, Mehuli Ghosh and Arjun Babuta won bronze in the same event with a score of 436.9

- **Saurabh Chaudhary** – won Gold in 10m air pistol junior men’s event
This is his 4th individual gold medal after his Golds in Asian Games, World Shooting championships and the Youth Olympics Games
The 16 year old Saurabh had earlier combined with Arjun singh cheema and Anmol jain to win the team gold

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- National Legal services Day – November 9
  - The day marks the enforcement of Legal services authority act on November 9, 1995
  - The aim of celebrating the Legal Services Day is to offer the free of charge legal services to the people of weaker sections of society

- International Day of Radiology – November 8
✓ The day marks the date of discovery of X-rays by Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen in 1895
✓ The day is observed since 2012
✓ It is the joint initiative of European Society of Radiology, Radiological Society of North America and American College of Radiology
✓ Theme 2018 – Cardiac imaging
✓ Also, November 8 is observed as ‘World Radiography Day’ by the ‘International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists’