



The Most Important Current Affairs March 2018	2
All about the French President Emmanuel Macron 4-day visit to India	2
Presidential Elections held in Germany, Russia, China & Nepal	3
New Chief Ministers Elected in TRIPURA, NAGALAND & MEGHALAYA	3
And the 2018 Oscars goes to: Complete List of Winners	4
All about the Indian Wells Masters 2018	4
THE HINDU REVIEW CURRENT AFFAIRS MARCH 2018	5
Banking, Economy & Business Related Current Affairs	5
Static Awareness Related to Banking, Economy & Business Related Current Affairs	7
Schemes/Portals/Missions Launched	8
Static Takeaways from Schemes/Portals/Missions Launched	10
National & State Related Current Affairs	11
Static Takeaways from National & State Related Current Affairs	12
New Appointments (National & International)	13
Static Takeaways from New Appointments	14
Sports Current Affairs	14
Static Takeaways from Sports Current Affairs	16
International Current Affairs	16
Static Takeaways from International Current Affairs	17
Defence Current Affairs	17
Static Takeaways related to Defence	18
Ranks/ Indexes Released	18
Static Takeaways Related to Rank & Reports	19
Important Days	19
Static Takeaways from Important Days	19
Agreement Signed	19
Awards & Recognition	21
Summits/Events Held	21
Miscellaneous includes the Visits, Science & Tech, Indian Railways & Other topics.	23
Static Takeaways related to Miscellaneous Summits Awards Agreements based Current Affairs	24
Obituaries	25
Cabinet Approvals in March 2018	25

The Most Important Current Affairs March 2018

All about the French President Emmanuel Macron 4-day visit to India

French President Emmanuel Macron arrived in New Delhi for a 4-day visit to India. He was received at the airport by PM Modi. Mr. Macron was accompanied by his wife Brigitte Marie-Claude Macron, besides senior

- ministers from his Cabinet.
 - The visit aimed at strengthening the bilateral economic, political and strategic dimension of engagement between the two countries.
 - The biggest agenda of the visit was the first Summit of the International Solar Alliance which was jointly launched by the French President and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi.
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron jointly inaugurated Uttar Pradesh's largest 75-megawatt solar power plant in the Mirzapur district. They also visited Deen Dayal Hastkala Sankul - a trade facilitation centre in Varanasi.
 - From the Manduadih railway station, both of them flagged off the Varanasi-Patna intercity train.
 - During the visit, Mr Macron announced an additional investment of 700 million euros for global solar energy generation by 2022 to reduce the use of fossil fuel and help combat climate change.
 - The President took part in a Knowledge Summit in Delhi which was attended by more than 200 academicians from both sides.
 - During Macron's visit, a total of 14 Agreements were signed between India & France which are given below:
1. Agreement between India and France on the Prevention of Illicit Consumption and Reduction of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Chemical Precursors and Related Offences.
 2. India-France Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement.
 3. Agreement between India and France to facilitate Mutual Recognition of Academic Qualifications.
 4. Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Railways and SNCF Motilities, France on technical cooperation in the field of Railways.

5. Letter of Intent between India and France for creation of a permanent Indo-French Railways Forum.
6. Agreement between India and France regarding the provision of reciprocal logistics support between their Armed Forces.
7. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and France on cooperation in the field of Environment
8. Agreement between India and France on cooperation in the field of Sustainable Urban Development
9. Agreement between India and France regarding the exchange and reciprocal protection of classified or protected information
10. Implementing Arrangement between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Central National D'Etudes Spatiales (CNES) for pre-formulation studies of a Maritime Awareness Mission
11. Industrial Way Forward Agreement between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd, and EDF, France
12. Bilateral Arrangement between India and France on cooperation in the matter of Hydrography and Maritime Cartography
13. Credit Facility Agreement between India and France of Euros 100 million for funding of the Smart City Projects through a Challenge Process.
14. Memorandum of Understanding between National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Ministry of New & Renewable Energy and the National Solar Energy Institute (INES), France



Important Points about the UP's largest solar plant

- The plant has been built at a cost of around Rs. 500 crores by French firm ENGIE.
- The 100 MW solar plant has come up at Dadar Kalan village on the hilly terrain of the Vindhyas range
- The solar plant will generate 15.6 crore units of electricity annually, which is about 1.30 crore units per month.

Presidential Elections held in Germany, Russia, China & Nepal

Angela Merkel Elected To 4th Term as German Chancellor



Germany's Parliament elected Angela Merkel for her fourth term as chancellor, putting an

end to nearly six months of political drift in Europe's biggest economy.

Lawmakers voted 364-315 to re-elect Merkel, Germany's leader since 2005, who ran unopposed.

Vladimir Putin Wins Historic 4th Term as Russian President



Russian President Vladimir Putin stormed to victory in presidential election, giving him another six years in power. Putin, who has ruled Russia for almost two decades, won more than 75% of the vote according to preliminary results.

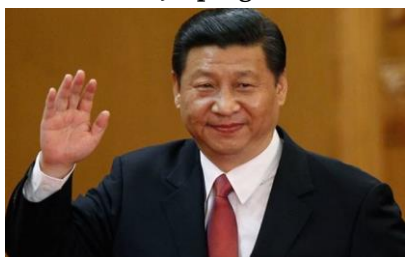
Bidya Devi Bhandari Re-Elected as Nepal President



Nepal's first woman President Bidya Devi Bhandari was re-elected for a second term in office with an overwhelming majority.

Incumbent President Bhandari, the Left alliance's candidate, was elected with more than a two-thirds majority as she defeated her Nepali Congress (NC) rival Kumari Laxmi Rai in the presidential election.

President Xi Jinping Becomes China's Leader for Life



President Xi Jinping Becomes China's Leader for Life As Parliament Abolishes Presidential Term-Limit

China's

Parliament has abolished the decades-old two-term limit for the President, allowing Xi Jinping to remain as the country's leader for life.

The constitutional changes were passed in Beijing by the annual sitting of the National People's Congress - the country's legislature - with the two-thirds majority. Of the 2,964 delegates, only two voted against the change, while three abstained.

New Chief Ministers Elected in TRIPURA, NAGALAND & MEGHALAYA

Biplab Deb Takes Oath as Tripura Chief Minister

- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) alliance ended the 25-year uninterrupted rule of the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPM)-led Left Front in Tripura.
- The BJP and IPFT together bagged 43 seats. The elections in 59 seats in the 60-member assembly were held on 18 February.
- BJP with a tally of 35 seats secured majority on its own while its alliance partner, the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) captured eight seats, according to Election Commission (EC).
- Biplab Kumar Deb was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Tripura's first Bharatiya Janata Party government in Agartala. He has replaced Manik Sarkar. Jishnu Deb Burman took oath as the Deputy CM of the State.

Neiphiu Rio appointed as Nagaland CM

- Neiphiu Rio, chief of Nationalist Democratic People's Party (NDPP), took oath as the Chief Minister of Nagaland at its capital Kohima. He became the first Nagaland leader to take oath outside Raj Bhavan.
- The BJP's Y Patton also took oath as the state's deputy chief minister.
- Before the Nagaland assembly elections, the NDPP and the BJP had entered into an alliance. They together won 30 seats in this election and formed the government with the support of one JD(U) legislator and an Independent.
- Their alliance will be called "People's Democratic Alliance". This will be Neiphiu Rio's fourth time as the Chief Minister of Nagaland.

Conrad Sangma Takes Oath As New CM Of Meghalaya

- National People's Party President Conrad Sangma takes oath as the Chief Minister of Meghalaya.
- Mr Sangma was invited by Governor Ganga Prasad to form the government after he staked the claim with the support of 34 MLAs in 60-member Assembly.
- A number of regional parties with the support of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) outsmarted the Congress, which had emerged as the single largest party in recently concluded polls in the race for government formation in Meghalaya.

And the 2018 Oscars goes to: Complete List of Winners

The 90th Annual Academy Awards (also known as Oscar Awards) were held at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, the USA.

- **The Shape of Water** won the top prize of the night - **Best Picture**.
- **Jimmy Kimmel** hosted the ceremony for the second year in a row. He has become the first host since Billy Crystal to do so.



The full list of winners is below-

Category	Winner
Best Picture	The Shape Of Water
Best Director	Guillermo del Toro, The Shape Of Water
Best Actress	Frances McDormand, Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri
Best Actor	Gary Oldman, Darkest Hour
Best Supporting Actress	Allison Janney, I, Tonya
Best Supporting Actor	Sam Rockwell, Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri
Best Original Screenplay	Get Out
Best Adapted Screenplay	Call Me By Your Name
Best Animated Feature Film	Coco
Best Foreign Language Film	A Fantastic Woman, Chile
Best Original Score	The Shape Of Water
Best Original Song	Remember Me, Coco
Best Documentary Feature	Icarus
Best Documentary Short	Heaven Is A Traffic Jam On The 405
Best Live Action Short	The Silent Child
Best Animation Short	Dear Basketball

Best Sound Editing	Dunkirk
Best Sound Mixing	Dunkirk
Best Production Design	The Shape Of Water
Best Cinematography	Blade Runner
Best Makeup And Hair	Darkest Hour
Best Costume Design	Phantom Thread
Best Film Editing	Dunkirk
Best Visual Effects	Blade Runner

All about the Indian Wells Masters 2018



- The Indian Wells Masters, also known as BNP Paribas Open and the WTA Indian Wells Open, is an annual tennis tournament held in March at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, California, United States.
- Former US Open champion Juan Martin Del Potro stunned top-ranked Roger Federer to win his first Indian Wells title and second consecutive ATP crown.
- Unseeded Naomi Osaka became the first Japanese player to win the Indian Wells final, routing Russian Daria Kasatkina for her first WTA Tour title.

Category	Winner	Runner Up
Men's Singles	Juan Martin Del Potro (Argentina)	Roger Federer (Switzerland)
Women's Singles	Naomi Osaka (Japan)	Daria Kasatkina (Russia)
Men's Doubles	John Isner (United States) & Jack Sock (US)	Bob Bryan (US) & Mike Bryan (US)
Women's Doubles	Hsieh Su-wei (Chinese Taipei) & Barbora Strycova (Czech Republic)	Ekaterina Makarova (Russia) & Elena Vesnina (Russia)

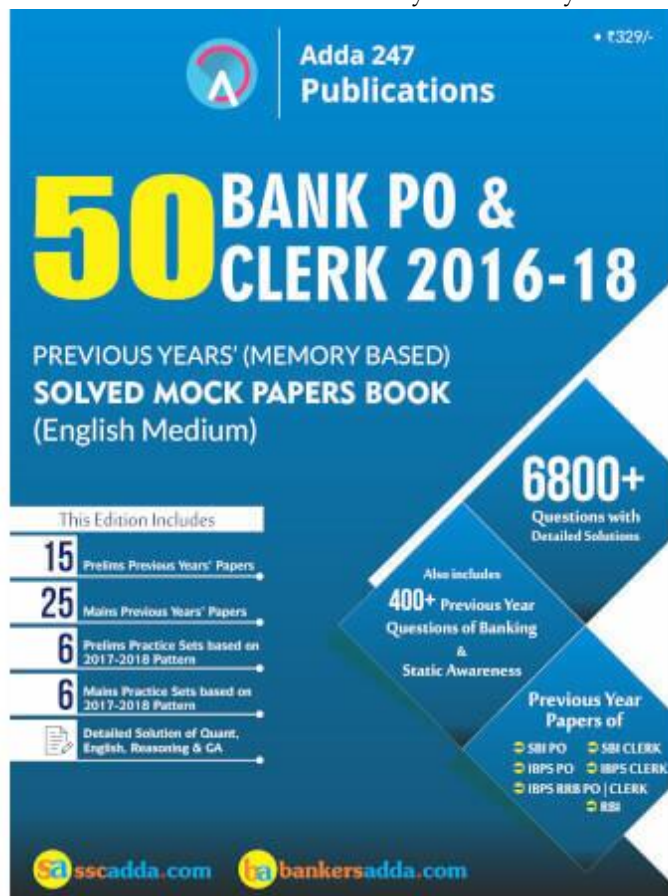
Banking, Economy & Business Related Current Affairs

- Moody's Investors Service estimated that India will grow 7.6% in the calendar year 2018 & 7.5% in 2019.
- Indian economy grew at a five-quarter high of 7.2% in the October-December period reflecting overall recovery due to good show by agriculture, manufacturing, construction & certain services. It is expected to grow at 6.6% in the current fiscal ending March 31, as per Central Statistics Office (CSO).
- IndusInd Bank announced its partnership with Ripple (the enterprise blockchain solution for Global Payments) to facilitate payments into & out of India. With this, RippleNet can now provide instant access in emerging markets such as India, Brazil & China.
- PNB & ICICI Bank hiked the MCLR rates for loan borrowers. ICICI Bank raised the one-year MCLR from 8.2% to 8.3%. PNB increased one-year MCLR to 8.3%.
- SBI raised its lending rates by 20 basis points to 8.15%, with immediate effect.
- RBI decided to do away with the per borrower loan limits to Micro/Small & Medium Enterprises (Services) for classification under priority sector lending. So far, loans to Micro/Small & Medium Enterprises (Services) up to Rs. 5 crore & Rs10 crore, respectively, were classified as PSL. Now all bank loans to MSMEs engaged in providing or rendering services as defined in terms of investment in equipment under the MSMED Act, 2006, will qualify under priority sector without any credit cap.
- A Steering Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Finance under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Shri Subhash Chandra Garg, to consider various issues relating to the development of Fintech space in India.
- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs. 3 crore on private sector Axis Bank for violation of non-performing asset (NPA) classification norms, & Rs 2 crore on state-run Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) for not complying with the Know Your Customer (KYC) regulations.
- RBI will conduct additional variable rate repo operations for longer tenors up to 31 days every Tuesday in the month of March 2018 for Rs 25,000 crore each to provide additional liquidity support to banks. What this means is that the central bank is ready to provide liquidity aggregating Rs 1 lakh crore to the banking system in the current month.
- Iraq become India's biggest crude oil supplier by overtaking Saudi Arabia with a wide margin in this current financial year. Iraq supplied 38.9 million tonnes (MT) of oil.
- SIDBI signed an MoU with CSC e-governance Services (CSCeGS) to take Udyami Mitra portal to the unserved & the underserved MSMEs. Udyamimitra.in is a portal to improve the accessibility of credit for the MSMEs. CSCeGS is a special purpose vehicle (SPV) set up by the ministry of electronics & IT (MeitY) which acts as connect point for various digitally aligned services to villages in the country.
- RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 40 lakh on State Bank of India for non-compliance of its directions on detection & impounding of counterfeit notes.
- ICICI Bank launched instant overdraft 'InstaOD' facility for MSME customers in a completely online & paperless manner. Customers can get overdraft facility up to Rs 15 lakh for a year anytime, anywhere.
- SBI slashed charges for non-maintenance of Average Monthly Balance (AMB) in savings accounts by nearly 75%. It will be effective from April 01, 2018 & will benefit over 25 crore customers. The charges for non-maintenance of AMB for customers in Metro & Urban centers reduced from a maximum of Rs 50 per month to Rs 15 per month. Similarly, for Semi-Urban & Rural centers, the charges reduced from Rs 40 every month to Rs 12 & Rs 10. GST charges will be applicable over & above the rates specified above.
- World Bank projected India's GDP growth at 7.3% for 2018-19 & accelerates further to 7.5% in 2019-20. It expects the economy to clock a growth rate of 6.7% in the current fiscal ending March 31.
- India's exports grew by 4.5% in February-2018 to 25.8 billion dollars. It was 24.7 billion dollar during the same period in February-2017.
- As per the World Bank Report, GST is one of the most complex with the second highest tax rate in the world among a sample of 115 countries which have a similar indirect tax system.
- NITI Aayog released comprehensive roadmaps & detailed timelines for its initiative 'Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital in Education' (SATH-E)' project. These roadmaps, which operate between 2018 to 2020, lay out detailed interventions which will be taken by the three participating States- Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh & Odisha - aiming to become 'Role Model States' in school education.
- SBI & India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation (IMGC) signed a pact to offer mortgage guarantee scheme for prospective non-salaried & self-employed home loan customers.
- Axis Bank opened a representative office in Sharjah, to better serve its customers in the emirate & to expand its retail offerings to customers.

21. With an aim to providing first-and-last-mile connectivity, railway PSU IRCTC announced a partnership with cab aggregator Ola, giving commuters an option book taxi on its app.
22. General Insurance Corporation is going to start operations at the Lloyd's London office in April 2018 thereby increasing its share of international business. This will help GIC Re increase its share of international reinsurance business.
23. Online Food ordering & delivery platform Swiggy partnered with ICICI Bank to roll out two digital solutions to facilitate the transfer of funds for its delivery partners.
24. As per the officials of Allahabad Bank, Ministry of Corporate Affairs allowed the amalgamation of its wholly own subsidiary - All Bank Finance Ltd (ABFL)- with the lender.
25. Equitas Small Finance Bank launched a new 'Yellow Army Savings Account' to increase its customer base through its association with the Chennai Super Kings (CSK). The yellow army savings account will offer an interest rate of 6% per annum for balance below Rs10 lakh & 6.5% per annum for balance above Rs10 lakh. The average quarterly balance requirement will be Rs10,000 per account.
26. SWIFT announces the extension of its GPI Tracker to cover all payment instructions sent across the network, enabling GPI banks to track all their SWIFT payment instructions at all times, & giving them full visibility over all their payments activity.
27. Exim Bank announced that it will provide a USD 500 million credit facility to Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to fund various development projects in western-south Africa. The LoC of USD 500 million is an umbrella limit for financing developmental projects in 15-member countries.
28. EPFO launched the pensioner's portal through which all EPFO pensioners may get the details of pension-related information. The pensioner's portal is a launched service where details like pension payment order number, payment order details, passbook information & other related information are available.
29. RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs. 58.9 crore on ICICI Bank Limited for non-compliance with the directions issued by the RBI on direct sale of securities from its Held To Maturity (HTM) portfolio & specified disclosure in this regard.
30. SEBI has allowed physical settlement of both stock options & stock futures. At present only cash settlement of derivatives is allowed.
31. Rivigo, a homegrown logistics start-up that owns as well as acts as an aggregator of trucks, is tying up with YES Bank, IDFC, & 10 other financial institutions to make cheaper funds available to truck owners & operators on its platform. The funds will be available at an interest rate of 1-2 percent per month, lower than the usual industry standard of 2-3 percent.
32. Tech giant Microsoft inked its first renewable energy deal in India for powering its new facility in Bengaluru. It will see Microsoft purchase 3 megawatts of solar-powered electricity from Atria Power.
33. International Solar Alliance (ISA) & the African Development Bank (AfDb), ADB, AIIB, the Green climate fund (GCF), & the New Development Bank (NDB) signed Joint financial partnership Declarations in New Delhi. International Energy Agency (IEA) also signed a Joint partnership Declaration with the ISA. The objective is to deepen their cooperation in support of Renewable Energy.
34. Paytm announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Paytm Money, received approval of SEBI to become a registered investment advisor.
35. The government made providing passport details mandatory for taking loans of 50 crore rupees & above to ensure a SWIFT action in case of fraud & prevent fraudsters from fleeing the country. As per the Financial Services Secretary, all existing loans of over 50 crore rupees, banks have been asked to collect passport details of borrowers within 45 days.
36. For intra-State movement, the e-way bill will be rolled out in a phased manner beginning April 15 & will cover all the States by June 1. Businesses will continue to file summary sales return GSTR-3B until June as the GST (Goods & Services Tax) Council has extended the present system of return-filing by three months. Electronic way or e-way bill for movement of goods between States would be implemented from April 1.
37. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has secured significant orders worth Rs. 736 crores, after competitive bidding, for supplying Steam Generators for the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL). The generators will be manufactured at the Tiruchirappalli plant of BHEL & will be installed at the Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR), Gorakhpur, Haryana.
38. Amazon.com Inc launched its first-ever debit card in Mexico, part of a push to encourage shoppers without bank accounts to buy online.
39. SEBI raised the exposure limit under exchange-traded currency derivatives trading for residents & FPIs to USD 100 million across all currency pairs involving the Indian rupee.
40. BHEL has commissioned 1st unit of 110 MW of the Kishanganga hydroelectric project (HEP) of NHPC in Jammu & Kashmir.
41. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has launched home-delivery of diesel on a pilot basis in Pune & plans to expand doorstep delivery of the fuel to other parts of the country in near future. This is the first company to

have started doorstep delivery after receiving clearance from the Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO).

42. BHEL entered into a technology collaboration agreement (TCA) with HLB Power, Republic of Korea.
43. Mukesh Ambani-helmed Reliance Industries Ltd announced an integration with leading music app Saavn for its digital music service JioMusic.
44. HDFC Bank signed agreement with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) under which the bank will facilitate a host of services to the public procurement portal for Central & state government organisations.
45. Ministry of Finance approved a proposal to provide government guarantee of **Rs. 5,000 crores** in the current financial year for **Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) bonds** to be subscribed by Life Insurance Corporation (LIC). The guarantee fee for the amount has also been waived by the Ministry.



46. Gujarat's Surat district become the first district in the country to have **100% solar powered** Primary Health Centers (PHC). All the **52 PHCs** in the district & all of them are now powered by solar system.
47. ADB & Government of India signed **\$80 million loan agreement to help modernize technical & vocational education & training (TVET) institutions & improve the skills ecosystem in the State of Himachal Pradesh.**
48. Google acquired US-based Tenor, a GIF platform for Android, iOS, & desktop.

49. Govt. allowed export of two million tonnes of sugar until the end of the 2017-18 marketing year, in order to clear surplus stocks & improve cash flow to millers for making payment to sugarcane farmers.
50. Several Budget proposals, including the reintroduction of the tax on **long-term capital gains** (LTCG) exceeding Rs 1 lakh from the sale of shares, will kick in from 01st April 2018, the beginning of the 2018-19 financial year. Besides, other tax proposals like the reduced corporate tax of **25 percent** on businesses on a turnover of up to **Rs 250 crore** & a standard **deduction of Rs 40,000 in lieu** of transport allowance & medical reimbursement, will come into effect from 01st April 2018.

Static Awareness Related to Banking, Economy & Business Related Current Affairs

- Arun Jaitley is the Present Finance Minister of India.
- IndusInd Bank Chairman- R. Seshasayee, Headquarter- Mumbai, Owner- Hinduja Group.
- MCLR- Marginal Cost of funds based Lending Rate.
- **A small enterprise is an enterprise where the investment in equipment is more than Rs.10 lakh but does not exceed Rs. 2 crore.**
- Axis Bank CEO- Shikha Sharma, HQ: Mumbai.
- MD & CEO, IOB- R. Subramaniakumar, HQ- Chennai.
- Dr Urjit Patel is the **24th** Governor of RBI. RBI HQ in Mumbai.
- Iraq Capital- Baghdad, Currency- Iraqi dinar
- Microsoft Corporation is an America Based technology company. CEO- Satya Nadella, HQ- Washington DC.
- SIDBI CEO- Dr Kshatrapati Shivaji, Founded- 2 April 1990, Headquarter- Lucknow.
- SBI Chairman- Rajnish Kumar, HQ- Mumbai, Established on- 01st July 1955.
- International Solar Alliance (ISA) was launched at the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris.
- **Akinwumi Adesina is the 8th President of the African Development Bank (AfDb).**
- President of ADB- Takehiko Nakao, ADB HQ- Philippines.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank President- **Liquin Jin.**
- New Development Bank President- K. V. Kamath, HQ- Shanghai, China.
- Vijay Shekhar Sharma is the founder of One97 Communications.
- SWIFT stands for **Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication.** SWIFT provides a network that enables financial institutions worldwide to send & receive information about financial transactions in a secure, standardized & reliable environment.
- HQ of SWIFT- La Hulpe, Belgium.

- ❶ An overdraft allows the individual to continue withdrawing money even if the account has no funds in it or not enough to cover the withdrawal. ICICI Bank stands for **Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India**.
- ❷ Jim Yong Kim is 12th President of the World Bank Group. World Bank HQ in Washington DC, USA.
- ❸ NITI- National Institution for Transforming India. NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman- Rajiv Kumar, CEO- Amitabh Kant.
- ❹ SEBI- Securities & Exchange Board of India. SEBI Chairman- Ajay Tyagi, HQ- Mumbai.
- ❺ Atul Sobti is the CMD of BHEL. BHEL Stands for Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
- ❻ IMGC is a joint venture between National Housing Bank, Genworth Inc International Finance Corporation & Asian Development Bank.
- ❼ Axis Bank CEO & MD- Shikha Sharma, Head Office- Mumbai.
- ❽ Headquarter of **Ola** is in **Bangalore, Karnataka**. CEO of Ola is Bhavish Aggarwal.
- ❾ **Alice G Vaidyan** is the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of GIC. Its HQ in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❿ Sanjiv Singh is the Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation.
- ⓫ Chanda Kochhar is the MD & CEO of ICICI Bank. ICICI Bank HQ in Mumbai.
- ⓬ Allahabad Bank MD & CEO- Usha Ananthasubramanian, HQ- Kolkata.
- ⓭ Part-time Chairman of Equitas Small Finance Bank- Arun Ramanathan, HQ in- Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- ⓮ Gujarat CM- Vijay Rupani, Governor- Om Prakash Kohli.
- ⓯ Established by the Government of India, EXIM Bank commenced operations in **1982** under the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981. Head Office of EXIM Bank is in Mumbai.
- ⓰ **David Rasquinha** is MD of **EXIM bank**.
- ⓱ Google CEO- Sundar Pichai, Parent organization- Alphabet Inc., HQ- the USA.
- ⓲ President of ADB- Takehiko Nakao, ADB HQ- Manila, Philippines, Opened on- 19th December 1966.
- ⓳ In EPFO, CEO is known as Central Provident Fund Commissioner. **Dr. VP Joy** is present Central Provident Fund Commissioner. The Head Office of EPFO is in New Delhi.
- ⓴ ICICI Bank stands for Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India. Chanda Kochhar is the MD & CEO of ICICI Bank. HQ of ICICI Bank: Mumbai.
- ⓵ **SEBI: established on 12th April 1992**. The Head office of SEBI is in Mumbai. Ajay Tyagi is Chairman of SEBI.

Schemes/Portals/Missions Launched

1. **Odisha** govt. launched a programme **Ama Gaon, Ama Vikas (Our Village, our development)** to reach out to the people in rural areas & involve themselves in the developmental activities. CM Patnaik flagged off mobile video vans for 'Ama Gaon Ama Vikas' programme that will move across State to highlight various welfare schemes at villages in the state.
2. Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah unveiled a healthcare scheme named **'Arogya Karnataka'** (Healthy Karnataka) aimed at benefitting about 1.43 crore households in the state. It will provide quality primary, secondary & tertiary treatment to both BPL & above-poverty-line (APL) families in the state.
3. Odisha government launched **KHUSHI scheme** to provide free sanitary napkins to school girls across the state. It will be implemented by the health & family welfare department of the state at a cost of 70 crore per year. Under this, state will provide free sanitary napkins to 17 lakh girls studying in Classes 6 to 12 in government & government-aided schools.
4. Union Minister of State (I/C) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Dr **Jitendra Singh**, launched the social media of **"Namaste Shalom"**, a magazine on India-Israel relations. It is edited by Tarun Vijay, former MP.
5. A total amount of Rs. **5638.87** crore was sanctioned with the release of Rs. 2148.17 crore since 2014-15 till date under the **Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism**. Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, **thirteen thematic circuits** have been identified for development. Meanwhile, under the **PRASHAD** scheme, **23** projects have been sanctioned to 15 States for a total amount of Rs. **687.92** crore with the release of Rs. 241.28 crore since 2015-16 till date. The objective of the **'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation & Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)** is of holistic development of identified pilgrimage & heritage destination.
6. **Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari** announced that soon there will be no human interface in granting driving licences to heavy vehicle drivers in the country. He has launched the scheme for District Driving Training Centres in New Delhi. The process will be made fully computerised. He also launched **Sukhad Yatra mobile App** & Toll-free Emergency number **(1033) for highway users**.
7. On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Ministry of MSME launched a portal for women entrepreneurs of India: www.udyamsakhi.org. It was unveiled by Minister of State (I/C) of MSME, Giriraj Singh in New Delhi. The portal is a network for nurturing entrepreneurship & creating business models for low-cost products & services in order to

- empower women & make them self-reliant & self-sufficient.
8. NITI Aayog launched the **Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)**, on the occasion of International Women's Day. The initiative is aimed at building an ecosystem for women across India to realize their entrepreneurial aspirations, scale-up innovative initiatives & chalk-out sustainable, long-term strategies for their businesses. The WEP theme song "**Naari Shakti**" composed & sung by Shri Kailash Kher was released on this occasion.
 9. On the occasion of International Women's Day, PM Narendra Modi launched the **National Nutrition Mission (NNM) & Pan India Expansion of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)** covering all 640 districts of the Country at a mega event held at Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan. NNM has been set up with a three year budget of **Rs.9046.17** crore commencing from 2017-18. It is a comprehensive approach towards raising nutrition level in the country on a war footing.
 10. The government launched a biodegradable sanitary pad '**Suvidha**' to mark International Women's Day. The oxo-biodegradable sanitary pads priced at Rs. 2.50 per pad will be available at Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi centres. The pad will ensure 'Swachhta, Swasthya & Suvidha' for the underprivileged women.
 11. Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan on International Women's day announced '**Mukhyamantri Mahila Kosh**' scheme. Under this scheme, the women who aren't married & are above the age of 50 will be given pension.
 12. According to Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Radha Mohan Singh, Milk production in the country increased by 20 percent from 137.7 million tonnes to 165.4 million tonnes between 2014 & 2017. Also, the per capita availability of milk has risen by 15.6 percent from 307 gms a day to 355 gms per day between 2013-14 & 2016-17. With a corpus of Rs 2,450 crore, the government has set up an AHIDF for financing infrastructure requirement of animal husbandry sector.
 13. The Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill 2018 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha. The Bill will help in laying down measures to deter economic offenders from evading the process of law by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts. The cases where the total value involved in such offenses is Rs. 100 crore or more, will come under the purview of the Bill. Minister of State for Finance, Shiv Pratap Shukla introduced the Bill. The Minister also introduced the Chit Funds (Amendment) Bill-2018. The amendment is aimed at facilitating the orderly growth of the chit funds sector & remove bottlenecks being faced by the industry & enabling greater financial access of people to other financial products.
 14. PM Narendra Modi has launched a campaign to eradicate tuberculosis (TB) from India by 2025, five years ahead of the globally-set deadline. After inaugurating the Delhi End-TB Summit Modi launched the **TB-free India Campaign** to take the activities under the National Strategic Plan for TB Elimination forward in a mission mode for ending the epidemic by **2025**.
 15. CCEA approved the proposal of Department of Fertilizers to continue Urea Subsidy Scheme upto 2019-20 at a total estimated cost of **Rs. 1,64,935 crore** & for disbursement of fertilizer subsidy. This decision implies that there will be no increase in price of urea, till 2020.
 16. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) launched a mobile app called '**Citizen Services**' on the occasion of its 33rd Inception Day. It will offer various essential police related services to the citizens.
 17. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare launched '**LaQshya program**' aimed at improving quality of maternity care in labour room & maternity Operation Theatre (OT). 'LaQshya' will reduce maternal & newborn morbidity & mortality, improve quality of care during delivery. The Program aims at implementing 'fast-track' interventions for achieving tangible results within 18 months.
 18. Indian government is in process of formulating '**Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM) scheme**' to harness **solar power for rural India**. The scheme will allow to setup grid-connected solar plants in rural areas. KUSUM will build 10,000 MW solar plant & provide 1.75 million off-grid agricultural solar pumps. The program aims to boost farmers' income as they can sell their additional power to the main grid produced by solar plants located on their lands.
 19. Union Cabinet has approved the launch of '**Ayushman Bharat**' **National Health Protection mission**. The Scheme has the benefit cover of 5 lakh rupees per family per year. The target beneficiaries under the scheme will be over 10 crore poor & vulnerable families. **The scheme will subsume the ongoing centrally sponsored schemes- Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) & senior citizen health insurance scheme (SCHIS).**
 20. **Kerala** CM Pinarayi Vijayan launched M-Kerala, a unified app for all government services at **#FUTURE 2018**. It is a first-of-its-kind digital tech summit in the state. Kerala also becomes the state with the largest public Wi-Fi deployment in the country.
 21. Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu launched the Naipunya Ratham, a multi-utility vehicle. Also known as '**World on Wheels (WoW)**', Naipunya Ratham is aimed at taking technology & innovation to the remote corners of the State. The State Government has allotted Rs 300 crore for the project.

22. CCEA approved Integrated Scheme for Development of Silk Industry for the next three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20. It will lead to the formation of a first-ever inter-ministerial panel to boost R&D & technology transfer in the silk sector with a 1,000 crore rupee fund. The scheme will help to increase productive employment from 85 lakhs to 1 crore persons by 2020. The scheme aims to achieve self-sufficiency in silk production by 2022.
23. Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs has approved the construction of 3,21,567 more affordable houses for the benefit of urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) with an investment of Rs18,203 crore with central assistance of Rs4,752 crore. Haryana gets maximum (70,671) Houses while Goa got the least (60). With the participation of Goa in the 32nd CSMC, all 35 States/UTs, having urban statutory towns & cities are now covered under the PMAY(U) Mission.
24. Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, Jual Oram launched 'e-Tribes: Tribes India'. It is an initiative for digital commerce at Tribes India Outlet in New Delhi. It included launch of e-commerce portal of TRIFED, www.tribesindia.com, & M-commerce, the android app 'Tribes India'. The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) came into existence in 1987. It is a national-level apex organization functioning under the administrative control of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India. TRIFED has its registered & Head Office located in New Delhi.
25. Ministry of Power partnered with Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship to train the manpower in six states (Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha & Uttar Pradesh) for speedy implementation of its SAUBHAGYA scheme. SAUBHAGYA (Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojna) aims to achieve universal household electrification in all parts of the country in a time-bound manner.
26. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the continuation of the Credit Guarantee Fund for Education Loans Scheme & continuation & modification of Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme with a financial outlay of 6,600 crore rupees from 2017-18 to 2019-20. The scheme will cover loans for pursuing professional & technical courses to promote quality education.
27. Cabinet approved Schemes of North Eastern Council (NEC) including the continuation of existing Schemes. It will boost the development projects in North-East. Four thousand five hundred crore rupees have been approved for the scheme for three years up to March 2020.

28. National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) awarded 150 road projects of 7,400 km worth Rs. 1,22,000 crore in the Financial Year 2017-18.

Static Takeaways from Schemes/Portals/Missions Launched

- Karnataka Capital- Bengaluru, Governor- Vajubhai Vala.
- Odisha Capital- Bhubaneswar, Governor- S C Jamir.
- K. J. Alphons is the Union Minister of State (I/C) for Tourism.
- International Women's Day is celebrated on 8th March.
- NITI- National Institution for Transforming India.
- NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman- Rajiv Kumar, CEO- Amitabh Kant.
- Union Minister for Women & Child Development is Maneka Sanjay Gandhi
- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme was launch by PM Modi on January 22nd, 2015.
- MP Capital- Bhopal, Governor- Anandiben Patel.
- AHIDF stands for Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund.
- 16th Convocation of the ICAR-NDRI (Deemed University), Karnal (Haryana) was held on 10th March 2018.
- Radha Mohan Singh represents Purvi Champaran constituency in Bihar state.
- Ananthkumar is the Union Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers.
- JP Nadda is the present Union Health & Family Welfare Minister of India.
- JP Nadda is the present Health & Family Welfare Minister of India.
- Palaniswamy Sathasivam is the present Governor of Kerala.
- Nagarjunsagar-Srisaillam Tiger Reserve is situated in Andhra Pradesh.
- Smriti Irani is the Union Textiles Minister of India.
- The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Housing For All (Urban) will be implemented during 2015-2022 & will provide central assistance to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).
- Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas & Minister for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship- Dharmendra Pradhan. Union Minister of State (IC) for Power & New & Renewable Energy- R.K. Singh.
- Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region is a Government of India ministry, established in September 2001. Jitendra Singh is the Minister of State (MoS)(Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region. North-East India comprises eight states: Arunachal Pradesh,

Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, & Tripura.

- Nitin Gadkari is the present Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping & Water Resources.

National & State Related Current Affairs

1. Women & Child Development Ministry approved projects worth over **Rs 2,900 crore** under the **Nirbhaya fund** for eight major cities to make them safer for women. These cities are **Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad & Lucknow**.
2. Union Cabinet approved the establishment of **National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)**. NFRA will act as an independent regulator for the auditing profession which was one of the key changes brought in by the Companies Act 2013. The Cabinet also gave nod to the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill - 2018 to deal with those escaping overseas to avoid getting caught.
3. French President Emmanuel Macron arrived in New Delhi on a four-day visit to India. The visit aims at strengthening the bilateral economic, political & strategic dimension of engagement between the two countries. During the visit, India & France will sign agreements in different fields tomorrow. PM Narendra Modi & Emmanuel Macron will co-chair the Founding Conference of the International Solar Alliance.
4. India & the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a **\$120 million** loan agreement for completion of works for double-tracking & electrification of **railways tracks** along high-density corridors to improve the operational efficiency of Indian railways.
5. **India & the European Union (EU)** have signed an agreement that will enable them to share earth observation data from each other's satellites. The pact was inked in Bengaluru.
6. **India & Hong Kong** signed a **double taxation** avoidance agreement (DTAA) that seeks to improve transparency in tax matters & help curb tax evasion & avoidance.
7. Ministry of Communications launched the Cool EMS Service between **India & Japan**. Cool EMS service is **one-way service from Japan** to India which allows customers in India to import Japanese food items for personal use which is allowed under Indian regulations.
8. India received its first LNG cargo from US under a long-term supply deal when a ship carrying super-cooled natural gas arrived at Dabhol in Maharashtra. GAIL India has contracted 3.5 million tonnes per annum of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from US energy firm Cheniere Energy's Sabine Pass liquefaction facility in Louisiana.

9. The meeting of Permanent **Indus Commission** (PIC) between India & Pakistan held in New Delhi. PIC is mandated to establish & maintain cooperative arrangements for implementation of the treaty & to promote cooperation between the two sides in developing the Indus water systems.
10. The first Mega Food Park in the state of **Maharashtra** Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. at Village **Degaon**, District Satara was inaugurated by Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries. This is the 10th Mega Food Park being operationalized in the country.
11. **Karnataka** a govt. inaugurated the first phase of a 2,000 megawatts (MW) solar park in the drought-prone **district, Tumkur**. The first phase of the Rs. 16,500 crores park called **"Shakti Sthala"** will generate 600MW, while the balance 1,400MW is expected to be commissioned by the end of 2018. The solar project is the largest in the world, is spread over 13,000 acres & five villages. It is part of the "Karnataka Solar Policy 2014-2021".
12. **Haryana's** first **cyber police station**, equipped with a digital forensic laboratory, was inaugurated in Gurugram. It will have a dedicated team of 35 specially trained cops, including two inspectors.
13. **Diu** become the first Union Territory in India to run **100** percent on solar power generated energy. Diu has managed to generate surplus solar power for its residents, reducing their electricity costs, in a span of just three years.
14. **The government of Telangana** launched **Women Entrepreneurship Hub (WE-Hub)**, India's first state-led incubator for women entrepreneurs. Deepthi Ravula is heading the incubator as its Chief Executive Officer.
15. **Telangana** IT & Industries Minister K T Rama Rao inaugurated the biennial event on Civil Aviation & Aerospace titled **'Wings India 2018'** at the **Begumpet Airport**.
16. Karnataka government unveiled the State flag (nada dhwaja) for the state. If approved by the Centre, Karnataka will be the second State to have a flag after Jammu & Kashmir. The yellow-white-red flag has the State emblem at the centre.
17. Rajasthan assembly has passed an amendment bill awarding death penalty for convicts involved in the rape of girls below 12 years of age. State Home Minister Gulab Chand Kataria introduced 'The Criminal Laws (Rajasthan Amendment) Bill, 2018' in the assembly, which was passed in the House by a voice vote following a debate. The new amendment added sections 376-AA & 376-DD to the Indian Penal Code, 1860.
18. Lok Sabha has passed gratuity amendment bill. The Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill, 2017 aims at

increasing the upper ceiling of the gratuity from the present 10 lakh rupees to 20 lakh rupees for employees in the private sector & in Public Sector Undertakings at par with Central Government employees.

19. The Institute of Bio-resources & Sustainable Laboratory (IBSD), Imphal, set up a floating laboratory in northeast India's largest freshwater lake, Loktak to constantly monitor its water quality & eventually improve it.
20. PM Narendra Modi has launched a number of schemes for the poor in Varanasi & emphasized on harnessing solar energy for cooking. PM Modi laid the foundation stone of various development projects worth over Rs. 800 crores in Varanasi.
21. Telangana government is setting up an Rs. 100-crore Apparel Super Hub in Sircilla. It signed a memorandum of understanding with Kay Ventures to roll out the project.
22. PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Navi Mumbai International Airport site in Panvel, nearly 21 years after it was mooted. The first phase the Rs 16,700-crore project is expected to be completed by 2019. This is the country's largest greenfield airport.
23. Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers & Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Ananthkumar announced that the Government of India has approved the setting up of a Plastic Park in Deoghar District, Jharkhand.
24. Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Shipping & Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation Nitin Gadkari inaugurated Mormugao Port Trust & Drishti Marine's ambitious inland ferry services in Goa.
25. Punjab government decided to impose a permanent ban on hookah bars in the state instead of issuing temporary orders against them every two months.
26. Chandigarh has become the 1st city in North India to install Automatic Speed Gun Cameras with digital displays for traffic management.
27. The North-eastern state Meghalaya, is home to the longest sandstone cave in the world at 24,583m, with dinosaur fossils from 66-76 million years ago. The sandstone cave named Krem Puri was first discovered in 2016. It is 6,000m longer than the current listed sandstone cave in the world, Cueva El Samán, (18,200m) in Venezuela.
28. A Rs. 5 crores insect museum with the state-of-the-art amenities was unveiled by Tamil Nadu CM K Palaniswamy at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. The museum, established at a 6,691 sqft area, is fully dedicated to insects & is first of its kind in the country.
29. In Rajasthan, Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated the first mega food park of the state at Roopangarh village near Ajmer.

30. Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of 55770 fully covered tribal habitations with the safe drinking water in the country followed by Odisha & Jharkhand. Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation informed that under the Scheme 'National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP)', 10% of the total allocation of funds is earmarked to be used for the supply of drinking water to Scheduled Tribe (ST) dominated habitations.

Static Takeaways from National & State Related Current Affairs

- Maharashtra CM- Devendra Fadnavis, Governor- CV Rao.
- Nirbhaya Fund was set up in the aftermath of the gruesome gangrape & murder of a paramedical student in Delhi in 2012, & aims at improving safety for women. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi is the Union Cabinet Minister for Women & Child Development.
- Karnataka CM- Siddaramaiah, Governor- Vajubhai Vala.
- Haryana CM- Manohar Lal Khattar, Governor- Kaptan Singh Solanki.
- Governor of Daman & Diu- Praful Khoda Patel.
- France Capital- Paris, Currency- Euro.
- Telangana CM- K Chandrashekhara Rao, Governor- ESL Narasimhan.
- Capital of Rajasthan- Jaipur | CM of Rajasthan- Vasundhara Raje | Governor of Rajasthan- Kalyan Singh
- Ayushman Bharat Programme/Scheme will generate lakhs of jobs, particularly for women. Varanasi Lok Sabha constituency is the constituency of PM Narendra Modi.
- President of ADB- Takehiko Nakao, ADB HQ- Manila, Philippines, Opened on- 19th December 1966.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport is situated in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The European Union is a unique economic & political union between 28 European countries. The European Economic Community (EEC), created in 1958, & initially increasing economic cooperation between six countries: Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg & the Netherlands.
- Jharkhand CM- Raghubar Das, Governor- Droupadi Murmu.
- Goa CM- Manohar Parrikar, Governor- Mridula Sinha.
- VP Singh Badnor is the present Governor of Punjab.
- Tamil Nadu CM- Edappadi K Palaniswami, Governor- Banwarilal Purohit.
- Japan Capital- Tokyo, Currency- Japanese Yen, PM- Shinzo Abe.
- Harsimrat Kaur Badal is MP from Bathinda, Punjab. Kalyan Singh is the Governor of Rajasthan.

- PK Saxena- India's Indus Water Commissioner. The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in 1960 & involves six rivers - the Beas, Ravi, Sutlej, Indus, Chenab & Jhelum. The PIC had last met in March 2017 in Islamabad, Pakistan.




NABARD

ASSISTANT MANAGER 2018

GRADE 'A'

30 TOTAL TESTS

- 5 Full Length Mocks (PHASE-I)
- 25 Practice Sets

New Appointments (National & International)

- National People's Party President Conrad Sangma takes oath as the CM of Meghalaya. Meghalaya threw up a fractured mandate recently. The Congress, which has been in power in the state for the last 10 years, has won 21 seats.
- BJP named the party's State president Biplab Kumar Deb as the CMial candidate for Tripura. He will replace Manik Sarkar. Jishnu Devvarma has been named for Deputy CM.
- Nagaland Governor PB Acharya has appointed Neiphiu Rio as the new CM of the state. Mr Rio will replace TR Zeliang.
- IRS officer Vivek R Wadekar was appointed as the new Special Director in the Enforcement Directorate (ED) by the government. He has been appointed for the tenure of five years.
- In another first for women, 25-year-old Prakriti has been inducted as the first direct-entry combat officer in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police. ITBP is the last of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) to induct women officers in combat roles after the government first allowed it to enrol them in 2016.
- Indian-origin steel tycoon Sanjeev Gupta appointed by Britain's Prince Charles as an official ambassador for the Industrial Cadets programme designed to nurture manufacturing skills.
- Biplab Kumar Deb was sworn in as the CM of Tripura's first Bharatiya Janata Party government in Agartala. He has replaced Manik Sarkar. Jishnu Deb Burman took oath as the Deputy CM of the State.

- Indian cricket team captain Virat Kohli has been named cab-hailing startup Uber's first Brand Ambassador in India.
- Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju & Minister of State for Science & Technology Y S Chowdary have submitted their resignations to PM Narendra Modi. The ministers have resigned but will continue to be a part of NDA. Commerce minister Suresh Prabhu gets additional charge of aviation ministry.
- Commerce & Industries minister Suresh Prabhu was given additional charge of the Civil Aviation Ministry, a day after the resignation of TDP's Ashok Gajapathi Raju was accepted by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- Nepal's first woman President Bidya Devi Bhandari was re-elected for a second term in office with an overwhelming majority.
- Gina Haspel, the newly nominated first-ever female director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), is a career intelligence officer with more than 30 years' experience.
- Germany's Parliament elected Angela Merkel for her fourth term as chancellor, putting an end to nearly six months of political drift in Europe's biggest economy.
- Sangeeta Bahadur has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Belarus. She is an IFS officer of 1987 batch.
- President Donald Trump named Larry Kudlow as the next head of the White House National Economic Council. He has replaced Gary Cohn.
- Slovak PM Robert Fico & his government resigned as a way out of the political crisis triggered by the slayings of an investigative journalist & his fiancée.
- Xi Jinping was re-elected as President for a second five-year tenure by China's rubber-stamp parliament. The Parliament has recently allowed Xi to have a life-long tenure. Wang Qishan has been elected as the new Vice President of China.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin stormed to victory in presidential election, giving him another six years in power.
- Mauritius President Ameenah Gurib-Fakim has resigned after being embroiled in a scandal over the use of a credit card to buy luxury personal items.
- Atul M. Gotsurve has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
- US-educated economist Yi Gang has been named the next governor of China's central bank, the People's Bank of China (PBOC). Mr Yi has been deputy governor of the bank since 2008.
- Bihar Governor Satya Pal Malik will discharge the functions of Odisha Governor in addition to his own duties till regular arrangements are made. Odisha Governor SC Jamir completed his tenure.

23. **Nanda Bahadur Pun** has been re-elected as the Vice-President of Nepal for the second term unopposed.
24. Myanmar's President & Aung San Suu Kyi's right-hand man Htin Kyaw stepped down after two years in the position.
25. The 45th President of USA Donald Trump has announced that the former **U.N. Ambassador John Bolton** will be the New US National Security Adviser. He would replace present National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster.
26. **Vodafone Group Plc's Indian unit & Idea Cellular**, which are in the process of merging their operations to create the country's biggest telecoms carrier, named Vodafone veteran **Balesh Sharma** as the new chief executive for the combined venture. Sharma is currently the chief operating officer at Vodafone India.
27. **Martin Vizcarra** has been sworn in as the country's new president of **Peru**. Before the appointment, he was Peru's first vice president & ambassador to Canada. He has replaced Pedro Pablo Kuczynski who has resigned from the post recently.
28. The Government of India has decided to nominate Prof. **J S Rajput**, former Director NCERT, as India's representative to the Executive Board (EXB) of UNESCO. The EXB has a four-year term of office & 58 seats.
29. **Krishnaswamy Vijay Raghavan** was appointed the principal scientific adviser to the government of India. Vijay Raghavan will succeed physicist Rajagopala Chidambaram who has been in the position for more than 16 years.
30. **Indu Bhushan** was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Union Government's ambitious Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission (ABNHPM). She has been appointed to the post for a period of two years.
31. Myanmar's Parliament elected **Win Myint** as the country's new President. This comes after Myanmar's first democratically elected President Htin Kyaw resigned from the position due to health issues.
32. Supreme Court appointed Justice Jawad Rahim, a former judge of the Karnataka High Court, as acting chairman of the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
33. Veteran director **Shekhar Kapur** has been appointed the chairman of the central panel of the **65th National Film Awards**. Film writer Imtiaz Hussain, known for his works in films like Astitva (2000) & Parinda (1989) will be the regional chairperson of South India panel.

Static Takeaways from New Appointments

- Conrad Sangma is currently Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha from Tura Parliamentary constituency.
- Meghalaya Capital- Shillong, Governor- Ganga Prasad.

- Tripura Capital- Agartala, Governor- Tathagata Roy.
- Neiphiu Rio is currently Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha from Northern Angami-II Parliamentary constituency.
- Nagaland Capital- Kohima, Governor- PB Acharya.
- Karnal Singh is the present Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED).
- UBER is the US-based company. Dara Khosrowshahi is the CEO of Uber.
- PM of Nepal- Khadga Prasad Oli
- Currency of Nepal- Nepalese rupee
- Kathmandu is the capital city of Nepal
- Germany Capital- Berlin, Currency- Euro.
- Belarus Capital- Minsk, Currency- Belarusian ruble.
- Slovakia Capital- Bratislava, Currency- Euro.
- China Capital- Beijing, Currency- Renminbi.
- Russia Capital- Moscow, Currency- Russian ruble, President- Vladimir Putin.
- The capital city of Mauritius: Port Louis. The currency of Mauritius: Mauritian rupee. Pravind Jugnauth is PM of Mauritius.
- China Capital- Beijing, Currency- Renminbi, President- Xi Jinping.
- Republic of Korea Capital: Pyongyang, Supreme leader: Kim Jong-un, Currency: North Korean won.
- Nepal Capital- Kathmandu, Currency- Nepalese rupee, President- Bidhya Devi Bhandari, PM- Khadga Prasad Oli.
- Myanmar State Counsellor- Aung San Suu Kyi, Capital- Naypyidaw.
- Peru Capital- Lima, Currency- Sol.
- UNESCO- United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization. France's Audrey Azoulay- 11th DG of UNESCO, HQ- Paris, France.
- The Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission has the benefit cover of Rs 5 lakh per family per year.
- Myanmar State Counsellor- Aung San Suu Kyi, Capital- Naypyidaw.

Sports Current Affairs

1. **Tokyo** unveiled its long-awaited mascot for the 2020 **Olympic Games**: a futuristic blue-checked, doe-eyed character with pointy ears & "special powers" that was picked by schoolchildren across mascot-mad Japan. One has an athletic figure & a strong sense of justice. The other is a cherry blossom-inspired superhero.
2. Navjot Kaur clinched the 1st gold medal for India in the Asian Wrestling championship in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. She defeated Imai Miyu of Japan in the final of women's 65 kg freestyle. With 1 gold, 2 silver & 1 bronze medal, India was at the second spot in the medals tally. Vinesh Phogat & Pinki of Indian

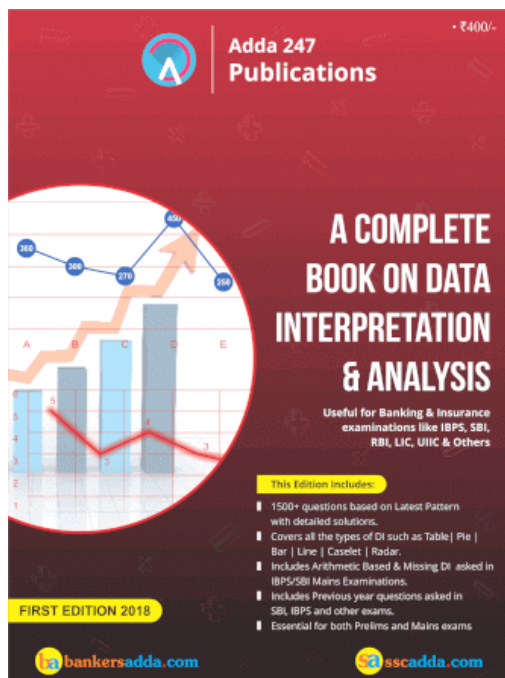
Railways claimed silver medals while Sakshi Malik won a bronze in the 62-kilogram category. China was leading the table with 4 gold & 1 bronze medal while Japan was at the third place with 1 gold, 1 silver & 2 bronze medals.

3. The 27th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup Hockey tournament begins in the Malaysian city of Ipoh. Six nations – India, hosts Malaysia, defending champions England, Australia, Argentina & Ireland – are taking part in the tournament.
4. International Olympic Committee (IOC) has restored Russia's Olympic membership with immediate effect following its suspension from the Winter Olympics at Pyeongchang in South Korea. Russia was banned from February's Games by the IOC over state-sponsored doping.
5. World rapid champion Viswanathan Anand annexed the Tal Memorial rapid chess title in Moscow, Russia after an easy final round draw against Boris Gelfand of Israel.
6. India won the inaugural IBSF Snooker Team World Cup in Doha, Qatar. India beat Pakistan in the best-of-five final.
7. The leg-spinner from Afghanistan, Rashid Khan (19-year-old) has become the youngest captain in international cricket history. He now holds the ICC No. 1 rank for bowlers in both the ODIs & T20Is & also became the youngest player ever to hold the top spot for any form of ICC men's ranking.
8. On the opening day of the ISSF World Cup at Guadalajara in Mexico, India had won four medals which include two gold & two bronze. Shahzar Rizvi clinched the gold medal with a world record score in his maiden ISSF World Cup appearance. Rizvi won gold medal in the 10-metre air pistol event men. Manu Bhaker won the gold medal in 10 metre Air Pistol Women. Pistol ace Jitu Rai won the bronze in the event, as three Indians made it to the finals of the season's first World Cup. Mehuli Ghosh won bronze in the women's 10-metre air rifle event.
9. Mahendra Singh Dhoni has become a brand ambassador of gaming platform Dream11.
10. Indian shooter Anjum Moudgil clinched a silver medal in the women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions event at the ongoing ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara, Mexico. It was Anjum's first World Cup medal.
11. Delhi youngster Tejaswin Shankar smashed his own national record to claim the high jump gold as three athletes booked their Commonwealth Games berths on the third & penultimate day of the 22nd Federation Cup Senior National Athletics Championships.
12. World champions Australia have lifted the coveted Sultan Azlan Shah Hockey title. In the final at Ipoh, Malaysia, they beat defending champions England by a narrow 2-1 margin. Australia has now won the

prestigious tournament for the 10th time. For the 3rd place, Argentina finished third after beating Malaysia 3-2.

13. Indian para-athlete Deepa Malik won a gold medal in the F-53/54 category javelin event at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Dubai.
14. After Afghanistan's rapid rise to prominence in limited-overs cricket, Nepal took a massive step forward after achieving One-day International status, after their victory over Papua New Guinea.
15. Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) paid tribute to former BCCI president Jagmohan Dalmiya with a book titled, 'A Tribute to Jagu'.
16. Kevin Pietersen, 37 years old, has officially announced his retirement from the International cricket.
17. Indian Wells Masters, also known as BNP Paribas Open & the WTA Indian Wells Open, is an annual tennis tournament held in California, United States. Former US Open champion Juan Martin Del Potro stunned top-ranked Roger Federer to win his first Indian Wells title & second consecutive ATP crown. Unseeded Naomi Osaka became the first Japanese player to win the Indian Wells final, routing Russian Daria Kasatkina for her first WTA Tour title.
18. India's Purva Barve has won the Women's Singles (Under-19) title at the Israel Junior 2018 Badminton tournament held in Rishon LeZion, Israel.
19. Indian shooter Elavenil Valarivan shattered the qualification world record in 10-meter women's air rifle event of the season's first junior ISSF World Cup in Sydney, Australia. Arjun Babuta bagged his second junior world cup medal, claiming a bronze in men's 10-meter air rifle event.
20. Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton set a blistering time in his final lap of qualifying to take pole position at the season-opening Australian Grand Prix for a record seventh time, outpacing his nearest rival Kimi Raikkonen by a sizable 0.664 seconds. It's the 73rd pole of Hamilton's career.
21. Shooter Manu Bhaker secured India's second individual gold after prevailing over Thailand's Kanyakorn Hirunphoem in a thrilling final of the women's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Sydney, Australia.
22. Indian Olympic Association (IOA) chooses PV Sindhu as the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the opening ceremony of the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. The opening ceremony will be held on April 4.
23. India's 15-year-old shooter Anish Bhanwala won a gold medal at the ISSF Junior World Cup in the 25 meter rapid fire pistol event in Sydney, Australia. It was India's third gold at the event.
24. Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) won a dramatic Australian Grand Prix after leapfrogging Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) during a safety car period.

25. Pankaj Advani defended his Asian Billiards Championships title by demolishing his practice partner B Bhaskar 6-1 in the summit clash in Yangon, Myanmar. With this win, Advani remains the reigning Indian, Asian & world champion in billiards for 2017-18. India's Ameet Kamani won the Asian Women's Snooker title by defeating her Thai opponent Siripaporn Nuanthakhamjan.
26. The India U-16 team emerged champions in the Jockey Cup International Youth Invitational Football Tournament with a victory over Hong Kong U-17 in the final in Hong Kong.
27. The duo of Manu Bhaker & Anmol secured India's seventh gold medal in the ISSF Junior World Cup in Sydney, Australia. The pair won the mixed 10-meter air pistol event with a qualification world record.
28. Indian shooter Muskan Bhanwala clinched the gold medal in women's 25m pistol event at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Sydney, Australia. The 16-year-old Muskan beaten China's Qin Sihang & Thailand's Kanyakorn Hirunphoem. India thus upstaged China with 22 medals, including nine gold. India has also five silver & eight bronze medals.
29. Indian women's cricket team captain Mithali Raj adjudged 'Sportsperson of the Year' while ace shuttlers Kidambi Srikanth & P V Sindhu bagged the best senior male & female athletes at the Telangana Sports Journalists Association annual awards for 2017 in Hyderabad. Former Indian cricketer VVS Laxman presented 'best coach of the year' award to Pullela Gopichand, who received this award for the second time in a row. Triple Olympian & former national Hockey player N Mukesh Kumar was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement award at the event.



Static Takeaways from Sports Current Affairs

- Kyrgyzstan Capital- Bishkek, Currency- Kyrgyzstani som.
- Malaysia Capital- Kuala Lumpur, Currency- Malaysian ringgit.
- IBSF stands for International Billiards & Snooker Federation.
- HQ- Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) President- Raninder Singh.
- Mexican peso is the Currency of Mexico.
- ISSF stands for International Shooting Sports Federation.
- National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) President- Raninder Singh.
- PM of Nepal- Khadga Prasad Oli. Currency of Nepal- Nepalese rupee. Kathmandu is the capital city of Nepal.
- Israel Capital- Jerusalem, PM- Benjamin Netanyahu, Currency- Israeli new shekel, President- Reuven Rivlin.
- Australia Capital- Canberra, Currency- Australian Dollar, PM- Malcolm Turnbull.
- Myanmar State Counsellor- Aung San Suu Kyi, Capital- Naypyidaw.

International Current Affairs

1. Indian companies can now participate in construction & installation works in the "non-critical" category for the Rooppur nuclear power plant in Bangladesh, as per the Russian atomic energy agency Rosatom. The Rooppur project is the first initiative under an Indo-Russian deal to undertake atomic energy projects in third countries. India, Bangladesh & Russia signed an agreement in this regard in Moscow, Russia.
2. Armenian lawmakers elected Armen Sarkisian as the new president of Armenia. He will succeed Serzh Sarkisian. Armen Sarkisian was the ambassador to the United Kingdom.
3. Marshall Islands is creating its own digital currency in a bid to raise money. In doing so it becomes the first country in the world to recognize a cryptocurrency as legal tender. The small Pacific Island nation passed the Sovereign Currency Act to create the 'sovereign', or SOV.
4. Washington become the first state to enact its own net-neutrality requirements after U.S. regulators repealed Obama-era rules designed to keep the internet an even playing field.
5. India is all set to become the 69th member of the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development (EBRD) after shareholders of the international financial institution gave their nod to the country's candidature. The formal membership process will now

get underway, which includes the purchase of shares by India at an estimated cost of around 1 million euros.

6. China's Parliament has abolished the decades-old two-term limit for the President, allowing Xi Jinping to remain as the country's leader for life. The constitutional changes were passed in Beijing by the annual sitting of the National People's Congress - the country's legislature - with the two-thirds majority.
7. The Maldives Parliament has approved the anti-defection bill with retrospective effect amidst the boycott by opposition MPs. According to the bill, MPs elected on political party tickets will lose their seat if they leave their party, get expelled, or switch parties.
8. Saudi Arabia's Cabinet has approved the national policy of its atomic energy programme, as the kingdom prepares to award contracts for its first nuclear power plants.
9. Member-countries of the World Health Organisation (WHO) South-East Asia Region, including India, committed to intensifying efforts to eradicate tuberculosis by 2030.
10. **Oklahoma plans** to start using **nitrogen gas** for executions, in what would be the first such method of capital punishment in the United States.
11. United Nations issued an appeal for 951 million Dollars to meet the needs of nearly 900,000 Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. Over the months since the most recent Rohingya influx began, it has become the world's fastest-growing refugee crisis with tens of thousands fleeing by land & sea daily from Myanmar's northern Rakhine state at the peak of the emergency.
12. Donald Trump administration banned all use by Americans of Venezuelan cryptocurrency (Petro), saying that its introduction is intended to skirt U.S. sanctions. The prohibition applies to all people & companies subject to U.S. jurisdiction. In February 2018, cash-strapped Venezuela became the first country to launch its own version of bitcoin, the petro.
13. The first G20 meeting of finance ministers & central bank governors began in **Buenos Aires, Argentina** with the presence of 57 delegations from countries & institutions.
14. NASA is all set to send the first-ever mission dedicated to exploring the deep interior of **Mars**. Scheduled to launch on 5 May, **InSight**—a stationary lander—will also be the first Nasa mission since the Apollo moon landings to place a seismometer, a device that measures quakes, on the soil of another planet.

Static Takeaways from International Current Affairs

- Armenia Capital- Yerevan, Currency- Armenian dram.

- Capital of Marshall Island- Majuro, Currency- United States Dollar.
- Suma Chakrabarti is the President of the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development.
- EBRD HQ in- London, UK, Established in- 1991.
- Capital of **Maldives- Male**
- Currency of Maldives- Maldivian Rufiyaa
- Abdulla Yameen is President of Maldives.
- Donald Trump is the 45th President of the USA. Washington, D.C. is the capital city of the USA.
- **UN High Commissioner for Refugees is Filippo Grandi. The United Nations is an international organization founded in 24th of October 1945. It is currently made up of 193 Member States. The HQ of UN: New York, USA.**
- **Venezuela Capital- Caracas, Currency- Venezuelan bolívar, Venezuelan President- Nicolas Maduro. The petro is backed by Venezuela's crude oil reserves which is the largest in the world.**
- The second meeting of G20 finance ministers & central bank governors will be held in Washington, the USA. Argentina Capital- Buenos Aires, Currency- Argentine peso.
- NASA stands for National Aeronautics & Space Administration. NASA is an independent agency of the executive branch of the United States.

Defence Current Affairs

1. The apex anti-terror body National Investigation Agency (NIA) will be the nodal authority for probing cases of human trafficking after the government approved a proposal in this regard. The Cabinet approved the draft Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection & Rehabilitation) Bill, which also proposes a punishment of life imprisonment for repeat offenders. The draft Bill divides various offences into "trafficking" & "aggravated trafficking".
2. The first-ever multi-nation naval exercise at sea, MILES-18, began at the Andaman sea. 11 naval ships of 8 countries & nine Indian ships are participating in the three-day exercise.
3. Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba visited USA. It aims to consolidate relations between the Armed Forces of both the nations & to explore new avenues of defence co-operation.
4. Indian Navy & the French Navy have conducted bilateral maritime exercises since May 1993. Since 2001, the exercises have been named VARUNA & there have been fifteen editions of the same till date. This year too VARUNA-18 would be conducted in three sea areas, namely, the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal & South Western Indian Ocean.
5. General Bipin Rawat, Chief of the Army Staff released a book on Paramveer Chakra Awardees - '**Paramveer**

Parwane. It is written by Dr **Prabhakaran Jain** & is published by **Medha Books**.

6. INS Ganga, an indigenously built frigate of the Indian Navy, was decommissioned in Mumbai after over three decades of service. Commissioned in December 1985, the ship represented a big step forward in the nation's warship building capability.
7. **The world's biggest cruise-liner, Symphony of the Seas**, has left the shipyard of Saint-Nazaire in France to embark on its maiden voyage in the Mediterranean. French shipbuilder STX handed over to U.S. giant Royal Caribbean International. The ship, which weighs 228,000 tonnes, is 362 metres long just 20 metres shy of the length of the Empire State Building.

Static Takeaways related to Defence

- **Yogesh Chander Modi** is the Director General of NIA.
- Sunil Lanba the 23rd Chief of the Naval Staff of the Indian Navy.
- Somnath Sharma (from 4 Kumaon Unit) was the first recipient of Paramveer Chakra.

Ranks/ Indexes Released

1. Out of 133 countries, India is ranked fourth on a global index for its military strength, only the United States, Russia & China are ranked above India on the list, according to the latest report of the Global Firepower index 2017. Neighbouring Pakistan is ranked 13th.
2. With a fortune worth \$110 billion, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos is the world's richest man & tops a 2018 Forbes Magazine list of billionaires. Indian industry titan Mukesh Ambani, the chairman of Reliance Industries Limited, is 19th on the list. He's valued at \$40.1 billion.
3. Mumbai ranks 16th among the top 20 costliest cities in the world, according to the **Knight Frank Wealth Report 2018**. The rise in Indian financial capital's ranking on this count is supported by the rapid wealth creation in the country. The top 3 Wealthiest Cities in the Report are- 1. Guangzhou | 2. Hong Kong | 3. New York.
4. Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) & Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport have beaten 1,952 other airports from 176 countries to tie at number one for world's best airports, as per **Airports Council International (ACI) ASQ 2017** rankings.
5. Pune came on top in the fifth edition of the Annual Survey of India's City-Systems (ASICS), edging out Thiruvananthapuram which had topped the previous two editions of the survey. Bengaluru was ranked at the bottom.
6. The World Happiness Report 2018, ranks 156 countries by their happiness levels, & **117** countries by

the happiness of their immigrants. Burundi in East Africa is the unhappiest place in the world. The list is topped by Finland.

7. Andhra Pradesh stands at equivalent to 51st rank globally in Multidimensional Poverty Index (2017) according to a recent household survey conducted in the state. Andhra Pradesh becomes the first Indian state to conduct an exclusive household survey at state & district level to estimate the multidimensional poverty of the state.
8. India has been ranked at **78th among 114** countries on the World Economic Forum's (WEF) energy transition index. The list was topped by **Sweden**. The Top 3 Countries in the List are- Sweden, Norway & Switzerland.
9. Singapore remains the most expensive city in the world, according to **The Economist Intelligence Unit's** Worldwide Cost of Living report 2018. The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) published the Worldwide Cost of Living index 2018 for 133 cities across the world. Damascus, the capital of war-ravaged Syria, is the cheapest city for living in the world, followed by Venezuela's capital Caracas.
10. **Austria's** capital city Vienna has been rated the world's most **liveable city** for the ninth consecutive year by Mercer in its annual Quality of Living survey. It was followed by Switzerland's Zurich, while New Zealand's Auckland & Germany's Munich tied for third place. Hyderabad & Pune rated India's most liveable cities as they have tied for the 142nd place in Mercer's global Quality of Living survey. Iraq's capital city Baghdad has been rated the least liveable city for **the tenth consecutive year**.
11. **Singapore Changi Airport has been named the world's best airport** for the sixth consecutive year by consultancy firm Skytrax. The Incheon International Airport in South Korea & Haneda Airport in Japan were placed second & third respectively. While the Mumbai airport (Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport Mumbai) has been ranked 63rd, the airports in Bangalore (Kempegowda International Airport) & Delhi (Indira Gandhi International Airport) are at 64th & 66th place.
12. India has become the **3rd largest electricity producer** in the world as its electricity production grew 34% over seven years to 2017. The country now produces more energy than Japan & Russia, which had 27% & 8.77% more electricity generation capacity installed, respectively. Electricity production stood at 1,003.525 Billion Unit between April 2017-January 2018, according to a February 2018 **report by India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF)**, a trust established by the **commerce ministry**. The top 3 Producers of Electricity in the world are- 1. China, 2. The USA & 3. India.

13. India has overtaken Germany to become the fourth largest **automobile market in the world**. According to the latest global data. Automobile sales, including passenger & commercial vehicles, in Asia's third-largest economy, grew 9.5%. The top 5 countries on the list are- 1. China 2. USA 3. Japan.
14. The government of India has come out with the total number of beggars in the country. As per the data, based on 2011 census released by Union ministry of Social Justice, there are around 4 lakh beggars in total. The highest number of beggars, 81,000, are in West Bengal. Lakshadweep, a union territory, has only two people (Least) begging for their livelihood. West Bengal is followed by Uttar Pradesh & Bihar at number two & three respectively.
15. NITI Aayog launched the baseline ranking for 115 aspirational districts based on **49 indicators** across five sectors that include **health & nutrition, education, agriculture & water resources, financial inclusion & skill development, & basic infrastructure**.
16. Bollywood actress-producer Anushka Sharma & Badminton Ace P V Sindhu had featured in the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2018 list. Anushka, one of Indian film industry's highest paid actresses, is all of 29. Pakistani singer Momina Mustehsan too found a mention.

Static Takeaways Related to Rank & Reports

- Forbes- American Business Magazine, Founded in- 1917.
- HQ- New York City, USA.
- Andra Pradesh Governor- ESL Narasimhan. Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem Tiger reserve is situated in Andhra Pradesh.
- Singapore Currency- Singapore dollar, President- Halimah Yacob.

Important Days

1. World Wildlife Day (WWD) is celebrated across the world on 3 March. It is celebrated to raise awareness of the world's wild fauna & flora. The theme for WWD 2018 is "**Big cats: predators under threat**".
2. International Women's Day is a worldwide event that celebrates the achievements of women everywhere. There have also been global campaigns in the form of #MeToo & #TimesUp - bringing sexual harassment & equal pay to the forefront of the agenda. International Women's Day 2018 campaign theme is **#PressforProgress**.
3. World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated globally on 15th March. It is an awareness day & theme for this year's WCRD 2018 is **'Making Digital Marketplaces Fairer'**.

4. Since 2013, the United Nations has celebrated the **International Day of Happiness** (on 20th March) as a way to recognise the importance of happiness in the lives of people around the world. The theme for IDH 2018 is "**Share Happiness**".
5. World Sparrow Day is observed on **20 March** every year globally to create awareness about the protection of sparrows. The theme for this year's WSD is 'I Love Sparrows'.
6. The World Water Day is observed on 22 March every year, to raise awareness about the importance of water. The theme this year is, **'Nature for Water'** - exploring nature-based solutions to the water challenges the world faces in the 21st century.
7. Each year we commemorate **World Tuberculosis Day** on **March 24** to raise public awareness about the devastating health, social & economic consequences of tuberculosis (TB) & to step up efforts to end the global TB epidemic. The theme of World TB Day 2018 - "Wanted: Leaders for a TB-free world".
8. The **World Theatre Day** has been celebrated annually on the 27th March by ITI Centres & the international theatre community.

Static Takeaways from Important Days

- Consumer Affairs Minister of India is Ram Vilas Paswan. In India, the National Consumer Day is observed on 24th December.
- TB is a disease which in humans is usually caused by bacteria called Mycobacterium tuberculosis (M. tuberculosis). Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is the WHO's Director General. WHO HQ in Geneva, Switzerland.



Agreement Signed

1. India & Jordan renewed their support to the Palestinian cause as the two sides signed 12 agreements, including one on defence cooperation, following a bilateral meeting between PM Narendra Modi & King of Jordan Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein. These include agreement on Defence Co-operation, Visa waiver of Diplomatic & Official Passport holders, Cultural Exchange Programme, Manpower Co-operation agreement, Co-operation in field of Health

- & Medicine. Setting up of Next Generation Centre of Excellence. MoU for long term supply of Rock Phosphate & Fertilizer/NPK, Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement.
2. India & Vietnam inked three agreements in the areas of trade, agriculture & atomic energy. The countries signed an MoU on economic & trade cooperation to establish a framework for enhancing economic & trade promotion. Another MoU signed on Cooperation between the Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership, India (GCNEP) & the Vietnam Atomic Energy Institute (VINATOM) to strengthen the technical cooperation in the field of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.
3. India & Vietnam unequivocally condemned terrorism in all its forms & manifestations, including cross-border terrorism. Both the countries called upon all nations to adopt a comprehensive approach in combating terrorism, include countering radicalisation, recruitment, training & movement of foreign terrorist fighters & blocking sources of financing terrorism.
4. GOI signed an MoU with Israel to enhance cooperation on 'National Campaign for Water Conservation in India'. As per this, both sides would work to enhance cooperation at the national, regional & international level to design, implement & monitor a professionally designed National Water Conservation Campaign in India to put water conservation on to the national agenda.
5. Asian Development Bank (ADB) & the International Solar Alliance (ISA) has signed a cooperation arrangement to promote solar energy deployment in Asia & the Pacific.
6. India has announced a new Line of Credit of USD 100 million for defense procurement by Mauritius as the two sides signed many agreements on the second day of President Ram Nath Kovind's visit.
7. International Air Transport Association (IATA) has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Civil Aviation & the National Aviation University to enhance human resource availability in India's aviation industry.
8. India & Madagascar have signed an umbrella agreement in the field of defence. Under the agreement, both the countries will explore various ways of co-operation in the field of defence.
9. Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) signed an MoU with the RBI (RBI). for the effective implementation of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016 & its allied rules & regulations.
10. Muthoot Finance, the flagship company of Muthoot Group has tied up with Global IME Bank to expand its money remittance services between Indo Nepal Corridor. Muthoot Finance is the only NBFC to extend the money transfer services from India to Nepal.
11. NITI Aayog & Piramal Foundation have inked Statement of Intent (SoI) to work closely with District Collectors & key officers of 'Aspirational Districts' to support their transformation in terms of healthcare, education & nutrition.
12. ISRO has entered into a Technology Transfer Agreement (TTA) with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), to transfer the technology for the manufacture of space grade Li-Ion cells. The TTA was signed at ISRO HQ, Bengaluru.
13. The 7th India-Egypt Joint Commission Meeting led by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj & Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry was held in New Delhi.
14. Union Agriculture Minister, Radha Mohan Singh had addressed the 5th India Maize Summit in New Delhi. The aim of the summit was to harness the potential of maize, technological innovations, promoting producer aggregation & linkages that are required.
15. The International Solar Alliance (ISA) & the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), signed the Host Country Agreement. The Agreement will give ISA a juridical personality & gives it power to contract, to acquire & dispose off movable & immovable properties, to institute & defend legal proceedings.
16. Airport Authority of India (AAI) signed an MoU with Assam government under its Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) initiative for the sustainable development of human settlements at villages in Kamrup district.
17. NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission announced the signing of a Statement of Intent (SOI) with SAP to promote a culture of innovation & entrepreneurship. As part of the SOI, SAP in 2018 will adopt 100 Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL) for five years to nurture the science, technology, engineering & mathematics (STEM) learning among secondary school children across India.
18. GIFT City has signed an MoU with Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP (DTTILLP), which renders consultancy services, for mutual cooperation in areas related to international financial services. GIFT City is a global business district offering a platform for business opportunities in international & domestic business operations.
19. Union Cabinet approved the signing of MoU between India & the United Kingdom & Northern Ireland regarding cooperation & Exchange of Information for the Purposes of Combating International Criminality & Tackling Serious Organised Crime.
20. Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi given its ex-post approval for MoU between India & Canada. MoU was signed to establish bilateral cooperation activities in the field of Intellectual Property (IP).

Awards & Recognition

21. 90th Annual Academy Awards (also known as Oscar Awards) were held at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, the USA. The Shape Of Water won the top prize of the night - Best Picture. Jimmy Kimmel hosted the ceremony for the second year in a row.
22. Actor-politician **Shatrughan Sinha** has been honoured with the lifetime achievement award for his contribution to the fields of arts & politics in the United Kingdom.
23. Architect **Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi** has become the first Indian to win the **Pritzker Prize**, the highest award in architecture.
24. **The Bank of Canada, this year's Central Bank of the Year**, emerged as a beacon of best practice for much of the community. The list of the important Winners-
 1. Transparency: Central Bank of Ireland.
 2. Reserve manager of the year: Bank of Korea.
 3. Banknote & currency manager of the year: Norges Bank.
25. India has won the **"Best Exhibitor Award"** at ITB - Berlin. 'ITB- Berlin World Tourist Meet' was convened at Berlin, Germany. India was represented by the Minister of State (Independent charge) for Tourism Mr. K. J. Alphons along with a couple of Tourism Ministry officials. India's Incredible India (Ministry of Tourism) presented a short film named "Yogi of the Racetrack" in the meet. The said the short film has got 3.2 million hits in 60 hours.
26. The government has decided to institute an award for carrying out best investigation of crime for promoting high professional standards among police forces. The award - Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Police Investigation - will be given to the best investigators of police forces of States, Union Territories & central investigating agencies. Based on the average crime data for the last three years, a total of 162 medals will be awarded every year.
27. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was awarded the International Kochon Prize 2017 for encouraging research & development (R&D) efforts towards tuberculosis treatment.
28. Actor Jackie Shroff's short film **'Shunyata'** has won an award at Best of India Short Film Festival in Los Angeles, US.
29. Indian filmmaker Nila Madhab Panda's **"Halkaa"**, which had its world premiere at the 21st Festival **International du Film Pour Enfants de Montreal** Film (FIFEM), has bagged the Grand Prix de Montreal at the gala.
30. **Canadian mathematician Robert Langlands** won the prestigious Abel Prize for developing a programme connecting representation theory to number theory. The programme has enlisted hundreds of the world's best mathematicians over the last 50 years.

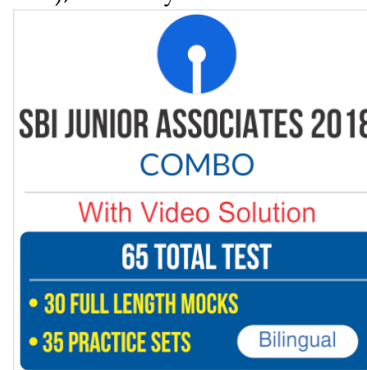
31. The NHAI (National Highways Authority of India) pavilion at **105th Indian Science Congress** has been adjudged as Best Design Pavilion. The award was conferred by Dr. Najma Heptulla, Governor of Manipur.
32. Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has received the 'Most Informative Pavilion' Award in Pride of India Expo organized as part of the **105th Indian Science Congress** at **Manipur University, Imphal**.
33. Former PM Manmohan Singh presented the G.K. Reddy Memorial National Award for journalism to senior journalist & television presenter Karan Thapar.
34. South Asian Cinema Foundation (SACF), a London based organisation has received the Frederick Pincott Award for 2017 from the Indian High Commissioner, Y K Sinha for promoting Hindi cinema in Britain for the last 18 years.



Summits/Events Held

1. Union Textile Minister Smriti Irani attended the 27th Technological Conference of Indian Jute Industries' Research Association (IJIRA) on Shaping the Future of Jute in Kolkata.
2. **Shigmotsav** organized enthusiastically in **Goa**. Shigmotsav or Shigmo is one of the several cultural festivals of the coastal state & is celebrated through colours, costumes, music, dance & parades.
3. Uttarakhand CM Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated the week-long 29th annual, world-famous International Yoga Festival (IYF) in Rishikesh's Parmarth Niketan.
4. The fourth **India-Europe 29 Business Forum** (IE29BF) took place in New Delhi. The theme of IE29BF 2018 was 'Synergising Economic Vision for Expanded

- Relations'. For IE29BF 2018, **Czech Republic** was the 'Focus Country'.
5. An event named **'Vision for Future'** was held in New Delhi to commemorate 70 years of the **Indo-Russia** ties. The event sought to expose the youth to the dynamic opportunities of cooperation between the two countries.
 6. Buddhist Community of **Itanagar** celebrated the silver jubilee of the **Losar Festival** in Arunachal Pradesh. The festival was organized by Itanagar Buddhist Cultural Society (IBCS) was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm & traditional zeal.
 7. Airports Authority of India (AAI) is participating in World ATM Congress (WATMC) 2018 being held in Spain. Now entering its sixth year, World ATM Congress is the world's largest international air traffic management (ATM) exhibition & conference attracting thousands of delegates each year.
 8. PM Modi inaugurated **National Legislators Conference on the theme 'We For Development'** in New Delhi. The motive of the conference is to bring MPs & MLAs on a single platform where ideas & plans for development can be exchanged.
 9. India's biggest **Media & Entertainment Services Market - enTTech 2018** inaugurated in Mumbai. The event was organized by Service Export Promotion Council (SEPC) in association with MEAI (Media & Entertainment Association of India) & supported by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.
 10. Home Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the two-day Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in New Delhi. The theme of the conference is "Challenges to Policing in 2020 - How is Cyber Space shaping our approach to Cybercrime & Terrorism, how do we perform within it & take advantage of it".
 11. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated World Hindi Secretariat in **Mauritius capital, Port Louis**.
 12. PM Modi inaugurated the 105th Indian Science Congress in Imphal, Manipur. The theme for ISC 2018 is **'reaching the unreachable through science & technology'**.
 13. The three-day annual Krishi Unnati Mela held in New Delhi with a focus on doubling farmers' income. The objective of the event is to create awareness among farmers about the latest agriculture-related technological developments.
 14. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Festival of Innovation & Entrepreneurship & present Gandhian Young Technological Innovation awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi.
 15. Representatives from 50 countries gathered in New Delhi for informal World Trade Organisation (WTO) ministerial meeting. This will provide an opportunity to engage in free & frank discussions with the hope that it will lead to political guidance on some major issues.
 16. Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, Dr Rajiv Kumar inaugurated the First India-Japan Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction in New Delhi. It is being jointly organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) & Government of Japan.
 17. **Women Science Congress, 2018** was inaugurated in the backdrop of the ongoing 105th Indian Science Congress on its 3rd day being held at **Manipur University, Imphal**.
 18. The first National workshop on **POSHAN Abhiyan** involving all the states & union territories was held at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra, New Delhi.
 19. General President-elect of **Indian Science Congress** Manoj Kumar Chakrabarti announced that the 106th edition of the Indian Science Congress will be held in January 2019 at **Barkatullah University Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**. The theme for 2019 ISC will be "Future India: Science & Technology".
 20. **Ministry of Mines** organized the 3rd National Conclave on Mines & Minerals in New Delhi. The event was inaugurated by the Minister of Mines, Narendra Singh Tomar. A portal on **Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojna (PMKKKY)** scheme was also launched on the occasion.
 21. Minister of State for Home Affairs, Hansraj Gangaram Ahir inaugurated the two-day first National Conference on Drug Law Enforcement in Delhi. The conference is being organised by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Ministry of Home Affairs.



22. The country's National Academy of Art, the Lalit Kala Akademi hosted the first-ever International Print Biennale in the country with a record number of 17 countries taking part in it. The first-ever International Exhibition of Graphic Prints 'Print Biennale India 2018' opened, at the Rabindra Bhavan Galleries of the Lalit Kala Akademi in New Delhi.
23. SARAS Aajeevika Mela 2018 has been organized in New Delhi under **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)**. It

is one of the flagship programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development to alleviate rural poverty.

24. The eleventh session of the China-India joint-group on Economic Relations, Trade, Science & Technology was held in New Delhi.
25. HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar inaugurated the Smart India Hackathon Grand Finale 2018 -Software edition in New Delhi. It aims to build Digital India & to engage the youth directly in nation-building.
26. With an aim to provide a comprehensive synthesis of research, service provision, & clinical practice in addressing psychological trauma & subsequent mental illnesses in Indian children & adolescents, first, ever National conclave was held in New Delhi.



ALL SHIFTS PAPERS OF 2017



SSC CPO
TIER-I/PRELIMS

14 TIER-I
LAST YEAR PAPERS

Bilingual

Miscellaneous includes the Visits, Science & Tech, Indian Railways & Other topics.

1. Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang arrived in India. He is scheduled to hold delegation level talks with PM Narendra Modi in New Delhi. Strengthening cooperation in the key areas of defence & trade will be high on the agenda.
2. German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier will arrive in New Delhi on a five-day visit to India. This will be his first visit to India as the President of Germany. He will visit Varanasi. Germany is India's largest trading partner in Europe & the 6th largest trading partner in the world.
3. President Ram Nath Kovind visited Varanasi on a one-day visit to Uttar Pradesh. During his temple city visit, Mr Kovind laid the foundation stone of five projects of the National Highway Authority of India.
4. ISRO successfully launched the GSLV-F08 carrying the GSAT-6A communication satellite from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. GSLV Mk II (F08) carrying GSAT-6A took off from the second launch pad in Sriharikota.
5. Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting & Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani inaugurated FICCI Frames 2018, in Mumbai. She also released the FICCI-EY Media & Entertainment Report 2018 named 'Re-imagining India's M&E Sector'.
6. India's first helicopter taxi service was launched in Bengaluru to fly passengers from Kempegowda International Airport to Electronic City. The service is expected to reduce the time taken to cover the distance from 2 hours to 15 minutes.
7. The HQ of Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has been shifted from Chennai to Haryana's Ballabhgarh for "better coordination" between the environment ministry & the board.
8. The Union Housing Ministry has launched 'I-Metros', an association of all-India metro rail companies, which will act as a forum of exchange of ideas & innovations.
9. The Centre has constituted a three-member Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal to adjudicate the dispute between Odisha & Chhattisgarh over sharing the river's water. Supreme Court Judge AM Khanwilkar will be the Chairman of the tribunal, with Justice Ravi Ranjan of the Patna High Court & Justice Indermeet Kaur Kochhar of the Delhi High Court being the other two members.
10. India's tallest national flag was unfurled in Belagavi (also known as Belgaum) in Karnataka. Belagavi District Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi unfurled the 9,600 sq ft wide flag on a 110-metre-tall flagpole.
11. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of WHO met J.P. Nadda, Union Health & Family Welfare Minister in New Delhi. They discussed perspectives on national, regional & global public health program.
12. Lok Sabha passed (without a debate) a bill that will exempt political parties from the scrutiny of funds they have received from abroad since 1976. One of them was an amendment to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 that bans overseas corporations from funding political parties.
13. President Ram Nath Kovind released coins in denominations of Rs 10 & Rs 1,000 commemorating Lord Jagannath's Nabakalebara festival observed in July 2015. He unveiled the coins at the centenary celebration of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan in Puri, Odisha.
14. Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) has been certified as the world's first Trusted Digital Repository as per ISO standard.
15. Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has introduced billing through Point of Sale (POS) hand-held machines in trains to check overcharging by vendors.
16. Jackfruit attained a respected status with the state government declaring it as the official fruit of Kerala. Kerala has been producing around 30 to 60 crore jackfruits every year.
17. The Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) under the Department of Biotechnology celebrated its sixth foundation day in

- New Delhi with the launching of a partnership with PerkinElmer (the US-based multinational corporation).
18. The First Indian Sign Language Dictionary of 3000 words was launched by Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment at a function. The dictionary has been developed by Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLR&TC) under Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD).
 19. At the function in New Delhi, the Health Secretary **Smt. Preeti Sudan**, released the TB INDIA 2018 Report & National Drug Resistance Survey Report. She also launched the **'NikshayAushadi Portal'** & shorter regimen for Drug Resistant TB. She further stated that the global target to end TB is 2030 but India will end it by 2025.
 20. Eighty-six years after the city got electricity, overhead power cables in world's oldest city 'Varanasi' is being dismantled after a project to lay underground lines over 16 sq-km has been finally completed.
 21. Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden was opened for visitors in Srinagar, **Jammu & Kashmir**. It is recognized as **Asia's largest tulip garden**.
 22. Six years after it applied for the Geographical Indications (GI) tag for Kadaknath, a chicken breed whose black meat is in demand in some quarters, Madhya Pradesh has got the coveted label.

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**Static Takeaways related to
Miscellaneous | Summits | Awards | Agreements
based Current Affairs**

- Vietnam Capital- Hanoi, Currency- Vietnamese dong, President- Tran Dai Quang.
- Goa CM- Manohar Parrikar, Governor- Mridula Sinha.
- The capital of Israel- Jerusalem, Currency- Israeli new shekel.
- FICCI stands for Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry.
- President of FICCI- Rashesh Shah.
- Russia Capital- Moscow, Currency- Russian ruble, President- Vladimir Putin.

- Arunachal Pradesh Capital- Itanagar, CM- Pema Khandu, Governor- Brigadier BD Mishra.
- S.P.Gupta is the Chairman of Animal Welfare Board of India.
- Spain Capital- Madrid, Currency- Euro.
- Chairman of SEPC- Vivek Nair, Director General- Sangeeta Godbole.
- ISA is an alliance of more than 121 countries, most of them being sunshine countries. HQ of ISA: Gurugram, Haryana.
- Manila, Philippines was the head office of ADB, which opened on 19th December 1966.
- President of Mauritius- Ameenah Gurib-Fakim
- The currency of Mauritius- Mauritian rupee
- The capital city of Mauritian- Port Louis
- WHO HQ in Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Madagascar Capital- Antananarivo**, Currency- Malagasy ariary, President- Hery Rajaonarimampianina.
- Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India Chairman- Dr. M S Sahoo. It was set up on 1st October 2016 under the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code).
- George Alexander Muthoot is the Managing Director Muthoot Finance.
- Suresh Prabhu is the Minister of Commerce & Industry.
- Odisha Capital- Bhubaneswar, CM- Naveen Patnaik, Governor- S C Jamir.
- **POSHAN** Abhiyan was launched in **March 2018** by the PM Modi in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. It has been set up with a **three year budget of Rs.9046.17** crore commencing from 2017-18.
- PM Modi inaugurated the 105th Indian Science Congress in **Imphal, Manipur**. The theme for ISC 2018 was **'Reaching the unreachable through science & technology'**.
- Germany Capital- Berlin, Currency- Euro, Chancellor- Angela Merkel.
- M. P. Mall is the Chairman & Managing Director of IRCTC.
- Kerala CM- Pinarayi Vijayan, Governor- Palaniswamy Sathasivam.
- Abel Prize has been named after the 19th-century Norwegian mathematician Niels Henrik Abel. The prize was established by the Norwegian government in 2002.
- Nitin Gadkari is the present Minister for Road Transport & Highways, Shipping & Water Resources.
- Abhay is the present Director General of Narcotics Control Bureau.
- BIRAC was founded on 21st March 2012.
- ISRO was established in 1969. Founder & 1st Chairman of ISRO- Vikram Ambalal Sarabhai, HQ in- Bengaluru, Karnataka.

- ❶ Dr K. Sivan is the Chairman of ISRO. Atul Sobti is the Chairman & Managing Director of BHEL.
- ❷ Cairo is the capital of Egypt. Egyptian pound is the currency of Egypt.
- ❸ Dr Mahesh Sharma is the Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Culture.
- ❹ The International Solar Alliance is an initiative jointly launched by the PM Modi & President of France on 30th November 2015 in Paris, France. The ISA became the first international intergovernmental treaty-based organization to be headquartered in India.
- ❺ Lalit Mohan Joshi is the Director of SACF. The SACF was set up in London in January 2000.
- ❻ Jammu & Kashmir CM- Mehbooba Mufti Sayeed, Governor- N. N. Vohra.
- ❼ Assam CM- Sarbanand Sonowal, Governor- Jagdish Mukhi. The Chairman of Airports Authority of India is Guruprasad Mohapatra.
- ❽ Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) was launched in 2011.
- ❾ Ajay Pandey Managing Director & Group CEO of GIFT City. GIFT City- Gujarat International Finance Tec-City.
- ❿ Dr. K Sivan is Chairman of ISRO. ISRO stands for Indian Space Research Organization. HQ of ISRO- Bengaluru.

Obituaries

1. Veteran Literateur Prafulla Das passed away. He was 91. He worked in Odia language. He was a recipient of the prestigious "Sarala Award" for his achievement in the literary field.
2. Veteran Bollywood actor, who was fondly called 'Shammi aunty' by many in the film fraternity passed away at the age of 89. Born as Nargis Rabadi she has appeared in over 100 films.
3. Ustad Pyarelal Wadali, younger brother of Ustad Puran Chand Wadali passed away in Amritsar, Punjab. He was 75. He was one of the singers of popularly known 'Wadali Brothers'.
4. Stephen Hawking, the brightest star in the firmament of science, whose insights shaped modern cosmology & inspired global audiences in the millions, has died at the age of 76.
5. Hindi film actor Narendra Jha, seen in films like Haider & Raees, died due to a heart attack. He was 55.
6. Renowned Hindi poet & critic Kedarnath Singh passed away at the age of 83.
7. Les Payne, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist & columnist for Newsday who fiercely championed racial equality has passed away.
8. Tamil film director C.V. Rajendran, who was part of late C.V. Sridhar's unit died aged 81.

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Cabinet Approvals in March 2018

Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi approved-

1. An apprised of an MoU between India & Fiji on Cooperation in Renewable Energy.
2. MoU between India & Macedonia on cooperation in the field of Health.
3. Signing of MoU between India & Jordan on Cooperation in Health Sector.
4. Signing of MoU between India & Jordan on Cooperation in the Field of Manpower.
5. Agreement between India & Jordan on Cooperation & Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters.
6. Amendments to Housing & Telephone Facilities Rules, Constituency Allowance Rules & Office Expense Allowance Rules for MPs.
7. The Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection & Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018.
8. MoU between India & Jordan for mining & beneficiation of Rock Phosphate & MOP & setting up the production facility in Jordan for Phosphoric Acid/DAP/NPKFertilizers.
9. MoU between India & Vietnam on Economic & Trade Cooperation.
10. Doubling of Government guarantee from Rs 9,500 crore to Rs.19,000 crore for procurements of pulses & oilseeds at MSP under Price Support Scheme by NAFED.
11. Continuation of PM's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) beyond 12th Plan for three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20.
12. Opening of Missions in Africa to implement commitments of India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS-III).
13. Ayushman Bharat - National Health Protection Mission, Benefit cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year, More than 10 crore families to be covered.
14. Revision of the Agreement between India & Qatar for the avoidance of double taxation & for the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

15. Cabinet apprised of an MoU between India & Guyana on cooperation in Renewable Energy.
16. Closure of India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians.
17. Formation of 100% owned C Corporation of Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. (TCIL) in USA.
18. Continuation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) - National Higher Education Mission.
19. Central Sector "Integrated Scheme for Development of Silk Industry" for sericulture sector.
20. North-East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS) 2017.

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