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### IMPORTANT DAYS

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<th>Observed Day</th>
<th>Theme/Purpose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>International Workers’ Day (or) Labour Day or Workers’ Day (or) May Day</td>
<td>“Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement”</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Tuesday of May</td>
<td>World Asthma Day</td>
<td>“Never too early, never too late. It's always the right time to address airways disease”</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
<td>World Tuna Day</td>
<td></td>
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<td>May 3</td>
<td>World Press Freedom Day</td>
<td>“Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law”</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
<td>International Firefighters' Day</td>
<td></td>
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<td>May 5</td>
<td>International Day of the Midwife</td>
<td>“Midwives leading the way with quality care”</td>
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<td>World Cartoonists’ Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>International No Diet Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Sunday of May</td>
<td>World Laughter Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(May 6, 2018)</td>
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<td>May 8</td>
<td>World Red Cross Day</td>
<td>“Memorable smiles from around the world”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>World Thalassaemia Day</td>
<td>“Thalassaemia past, present and future: Documenting progress and patients’ needs worldwide”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Theme</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>National Technology Day (in India)</td>
<td>“Science and Technology for a sustainable future”</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Celebrated on the Friday before Mother's Day in USA (May 11, 2018)</td>
<td>Military Spouse Day (or) Military Spouse Appreciation Day</td>
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<td>May 12</td>
<td>International Nurses Day</td>
<td>“Nurses A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human right”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Second Saturday of May (May 12, 2018)</td>
<td>World Migratory Bird Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Second Sunday of May (May 13, 2018)</td>
<td>Mother’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>International Day of Families</td>
<td>“Families and inclusive societies”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>World Telecommunication and Information Society Day</td>
<td>“Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>World Hypertension Day</td>
<td>“Know Your Numbers with a goal of increasing high blood pressure (BP) awareness in all populations around the world”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia</td>
<td>“Alliances for Solidarity”</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>World AIDS Vaccine Day (or) HIV Vaccine Awareness Day</td>
<td>&quot;Hyper connected museums: New approaches, new publics&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>International Museum Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>World Metrology Day</td>
<td>“Constant evolution of the International System of Units”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Anti Terrorism Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>International Day for Biological Diversity</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>World Turtle Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>Commonwealth Day (in India)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International Missing Children’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Towel Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>International Day of Action for Women’s Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“70 Years of Service and Sacrifice”</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>World No Tobacco Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Tobacco and heart disease”</td>
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**IMPORTANT BANKING NEWS**

May 21
- Anti Terrorism Day

May 22
- International Day for Biological Diversity
- "Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity"

May 23
- World Turtle Day

May 24
- Commonwealth Day (in India)

May 25
- International Missing Children’s Day
- Towel Day

May 28
- International Day of Action for Women’s Health

May 29
- International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers
- “70 Years of Service and Sacrifice”

May 31
- World No Tobacco Day
- “Tobacco and heart disease”
RBI

**RBI allows FPIs to buy T-bills:**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to invest in treasury bills issued by the central government.

**RBI announced Rs.10,000 crore bond purchases:**

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that, it will buy Rs 10,000 crore of government bonds through open market operation (OMO).

**RBI tweaks norms for setting up of IFSC Banking Units:**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) modified norms for setting up International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) Banking Units (IBUs) by banks in IFSCs. The parent bank will be required to provide and maintain at all times a minimum capital of USD 20 million or equivalent in any foreign currency to its IBU.

**RBI has directed private sector lender Dhanlaxmi Bank to keep the appointment of a non-independent director:**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed private sector lender Dhanlaxmi Bank to keep the appointment of a non-independent director in abeyance till further orders. “It is hereby informed that Reserve Bank of India vide letter dated May 16, 2018, has advised the bank that the proposal for the appointment of Arun Rao M. G. as a non-independent director

SBI

**GAIL signs Rs 2,000-cr loan agreement with SBI:**

- GAIL (India) Limited and State Bank of India have signed a Rupee Term Loan Agreement of Rs 2,000 crores for a door to door tenure of 15 years. A statement from the company said that the purpose of the loan is for general capital expenditure of GAIL, mainly in the gas pipeline projects, in the forthcoming years.

**SBI consolidates advertising account with Rediffusion-Y&R:**

- State Bank of India has consolidated its advertising account for the first time, with the entire business going to WPP’s Rediffusion-Y&R.

YES BANK

**YES Bank to launch water-security programme:**

- YES Bank is all set to roll out a capacity building project with farmers in Haryana and Rajasthan under its ‘Livelihood and Water Security’ CSR initiative.

**YES Bank launches Agenda 25x25 to for budding women entrepreneurs:**

- YES Bank and YES Global Institute have announced the launch of Agenda 25x25 which pledges to create a synergetic startup environment for budding women entrepreneurs in India, ensuring that by 2025 at least 25 per cent of all Entrepreneurs in India are Women.

**Yes Bank empanelled as 'Settlement Bank' for NSE:**
• Yes Bank has received approval from National Stock Exchange to be empanelled as 'Settlement Bank' for National Securities Clearing Corporation (NSCCL), a wholly owned subsidiary of NSE.

WORLD BANK

Government enters agreement with World Bank on biotech:

• The government has entered into a legal agreement with the World Bank for a flexible financing arrangement to accelerate research towards early development for biopharmaceuticals.
• A Statement issued by the government said the mission has been approved at a cost of 250 million dollars for five years with 50 per cent funding through the World Bank Loan.

India inks $200 mn loan from WB for nutrition mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan):

• India on Monday signed an agreement with the World Bank for a $200 million loan for implementing the National Nutrition Mission across (POSHAN Abhiyaan) 315 districts of the country.
• Approved by the Union Cabinet last year, the mission aims at reaching 10 crore beneficiaries, mainly children up to the age of six years, pregnant women and lactating mothers and adolescent girls.

PAYMENT BANK

Paytm Bank to fan out 1 lakh ‘mobile bankers’ across India in a year:

• The Paytm Payments Bank, India’s first bank providing zero balance accounts and zero charges on digital transactions, plans to train and fan out one lakh banking business correspondents, including women, in a year across India’s Tier-I and II towns, villages and remote areas.

OTHER BANKING NEWS

Uday Kotak redesignated as MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank:

• The board of directors of Kotak Mahindra Bank has redesignated Uday Kotak as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer with effect from 1st May 2018.
• Kotak Mahindra Bank also informed that Shankar Acharya, part-time Chairman, will retire on 19th July 2018.
• Prakash Apte has been appointed as part-time Chairman of the Bank in place of Shankar Acharya.

ICICI Bank names Radhakrishnan Nair as Independent Director:

• ICICI Bank board has appointed Radhakrishnan Nair as an additional (independent) director of the bank for five years.
• The appointment is subject to the approval of shareholders, the private sector lender stated in a regulatory filing.

Bandhan Bank CEO takes CII (ER) office:

• Chandra Sekhar Ghosh, Managing Director and CEO of Bandhan Bank, has taken over as the Deputy Chairman of CII Eastern Region (ER).
• This was announced at the CII Eastern Regional Council Meeting on May 1.
• Ghosh has already chaired the CII Economic Affairs, Finance and Taxation Committee, apart from being in several other committees.

**RBI bars Dena Bank from lending, hiring:**

• The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has barred State-run lender Dena Bank from extending fresh credit in view of deteriorating financial health due to mounting non-performing assets (NPAs). In addition, the lender has also been barred from recruiting staff.
• This initiative is aimed at improving farmers’ access to finance, ensuring effective use of digital banking resources, and imparting good agricultural practices.

**Vijaya Bank tags Reliance Naval as NPA:**

• State-run Vijaya Bank has classified the Anil Ambani group-led Reliance Naval and Engineering, whose auditors had recently expressed doubts about the company’s ability to continue as a “going concern”, as non-performing asset from the March quarter.

**RBI bars Allahabad Bank from giving fresh loans:**

• The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has barred state-run Allahabad Bank from extending fresh loans, under it’s prompt corrective action (PCA) framework, after the lender fell short of minimum capital adequacy ratio (CAR) requirement.
• The bank’s CAR was 8.69% as on March 31, 2018 against the regulatory minimum requirement of 9%.

**Fino Payments Bank Launched Digital Suite:**

• Fino Payments Bank launched a suite of digital products that can be accessed online and through mobile phones with the focus to build the transaction platform. Fino had launched its mobile banking app BPay in 2017.

**Allahabad Bank CEO divested of powers:**

• State-run lender Allahabad Bank has decided to relieve its managing director and chief executive officer Usha Ananthasubramanian of her powers after she was named in the first information report filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation in the Rs.13,800-crore Nirav Modi scam that defrauded Punjab National Bank (PNB).

**ICICI Bank sets aside Rs 100 Crore for investing in startups:**

• ICICI Bank is taking the digital route for growth, by partnering and investing in financial technology companies, as well as, setting up an innovation lab and a team to conceive digital solutions.

**CSC, SIDBI ink pact for financial support to village level entrepreneurs:**

• Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) will provide financial support to village level entrepreneurs who operate the Common Service Centres (CSC) that act as access points for delivery of electronic services.

**Bank unions threaten 2-day nation-wide strike from May 30:**
Employees of public sector banks have threatened to go on two-day nation-wide strike from May 30 against "a meagre" 2 per cent hike offered by the management body, Indian Banks' Association (IBA).

**4 NBFCs surrender their Certificate of Registration to RBI:**

- The following NBFCs have surrendered the Certificate of Registration granted to them by the Reserve Bank of India. The Reserve Bank of India, in exercise of powers conferred on it under Section 45-IA (6) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, has therefore cancelled their Certificate of Registration.
- M/s Silver Trading and Services Limited, M/s Lotus Udyog Limited, M/s Kothari Safe Deposits Limited and M/s Angel Finvest Private Limited are the 4 NBFCs

**Important Financial & Economy Affairs**

**SEBI extends trade timing for derivatives:**

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has allowed stock exchanges to extend the trading session for futures and options (F&O) segment from the current 3.30 p.m. to 11.55 in the night beginning October 1.

**Government mulls 100% FDI in insurance intermediaries:**

- The government is considering allowing 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) in insurance intermediaries with a view to give a boost to the sector and attracting more funds.
- The FDI policy, at present, allows 49 per cent foreign investment in the insurance sector, which includes insurance intermediaries.

**Walmart buys 77% stake in Flipkart for $16 billion:**

- Walmart Inc buying 77 per cent stake in Flipkart for about USD 16 billion (Rs 1.05 lakh crore), its biggest deal which will give the US retailer access to Indian e-commerce market that is estimated to grow to USD 200 billion within a decade.

**Finance Minister clears 3 FDI proposals worth Rs 3,250 crore:**

- The finance ministry today said it cleared three foreign direct investment (FDI) proposals worth Rs 3,250 crore in April.
- The proposals included that of Hindustan Infralog Pvt Ltd which sought approval for foreign investment from DP World Global Investment BV, Netherlands amounting to 65 per cent of paid-up share capital.

**Infosys sets up blockchain-based trade finance network with seven banks:**

- Infosys Ltd. has formed a blockchain-based trade finance network with seven private-sector banks, to increase security and efficiency in the banking sector while also broadening its product offering.

**BSE becomes first Indian stock exchange to get US SEC’s DOSM recognition**

- BSE Ltd (earlier known as Bombay Stock Exchange) has become the first Indian exchange to be designated as Designated Offshore Securities Market (DOSM). DOSM status has been given by United States Securities and Exchange Commission (US-SEC).
India To Achieve 9% Growth Rate By 2022: NITI Aayog:

- NITI Aayog vice-chairman Rajiv Kumar exuded confidence that Indian economy will achieve 9% growth rate on sustained basis by 2022 on the back of reforms like GST, demonetisation and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

MCX launches India’s first copper options contracts:

- India’s largest commodities exchange platform, Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX) has launched the country’s first copper options contracts

Finance Ministry Ties Up With 40 Companies Under Mudra Scheme:

- The Union Finance Ministry has tied up with 40 entities including Flipkart, Swiggy, Patanjali and Amul for extending loans to small entrepreneurs under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY).

MCX launches India’s first copper options contracts:

- India’s largest commodities exchange platform, Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited (MCX) has launched the country’s first copper options contracts. The option contract will provide physical market participants additional instrument to hedge their price risk.

Finance Ministry Ties Up With 40 Companies Under Mudra Scheme:

- The Union Finance Ministry has tied up with 40 entities including Flipkart, Swiggy, Patanjali and Amul for extending loans to small entrepreneurs under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY).

EPFO notifies 8.55% interest for 2017-18:

- The Central Board of Trustees of the Employment Provident Fund Organisation has notified its field offices to credit an 8.55% rate of interest on the holdings of subscribers for 2017-18. It is the lowest rate since the financial year 2012-13. There are around five crore subscribers.

Govt reconstitutes FSDC

- The Union Govt reconstituted Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) to include secretaries from revenue department as well as Ministry of Information Technology (MeitY). It will include Chairman of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).

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<th>ORGANISATION</th>
<th>GDP RATE</th>
<th>GDP RATE</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>2019-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMF</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitch</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>7.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP)</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOODY</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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**IMPORTANT BUSINESS NEWS**

**Tata wins NCLT nod to buy Bhushan Steel:**
- Tata Steel, whose bid for debt-ridden Bhushan Steel was approved by the NCLT, would implement the resolution plan through its step-down subsidiary Bamnipal Steel Ltd.

**Walmart seeks CCI nod for Flipkart buy:**
- Global retail giant Walmart has approached fair trade regulator Competition Commission of India (CCI) for approval of its proposed acquisition of a majority stake in e-commerce major Flipkart, saying the deal doesn’t raise any competition concerns.

**Flipkart introduces ‘certified’ furniture:**
- Flipkart said it has introduced ‘FurniSure,’ a certification that assures customers ‘quality and durability’ of furniture available on the e-tailer's website.

**Ola to expand in Australia:**
- Indian cab-hailing firm Ola on Tuesday said it had expanded its services in Australia to three more cities — Brisbane, Gold Coast and Canberra.

**Ekki-HOMA to make pumps from 2020**
- German waste water pump maker HOMA Pumpenfabrik GmbH plans to spend Rs.150 crore on expanding business worldwide, including in India, in about four years, a top official said.

**India receives first crude oil cargo from UAE:**
- India has received the first consignment of 2 million barrels of crude oil from United Arab Emirates (UAE) for its strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru (on west coast), Karnataka.

**Microsoft Is Now Third Most Valuable Firm Globally**
- Microsoft has surpassed Alphabet, the parent company of Google, in the market capitalisation for the first time in three years, becoming the third most valuable firm after Apple and Amazon globally.

### Important State Wise National News

**Andhra Pradesh**

**Capital – Amaravati; CM – Chandrababu Naidu; Governor - ESL Narasimhan**

**UNDP to set up skill development centre in Hyderabad**
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will soon set up a skill development centre at 'Bharosa,' an integrated support centre for distressed women and children in Hyderabad.

**TTD fixes retirement age for priests at 65:**
The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Trust Board, in its maiden meeting on Wednesday, resolved to fix retirement age for priests working in various TTD temples at 65 years.

**Approves setting up of Central University in Andhra Pradesh**

- The Union Cabinet has given its in-principle approval for establishing Central University by name of Central University of Andhra Pradesh in Janthaluru village of Ananthapur District of Andhra Pradesh.

**Arunachal Pradesh**

**Capital – Itanagar; CM – PremaKhandu; Governor - B D Mishra**

**CM Pema Khandu inaugurates Arunachal’s biggest solar plant:**

- Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Thursday inaugurated the State’s biggest solar power plant at the Energy Awareness Park here in the presence of Power Minister Tamiyo Taga.

**Arunachal enters India’s commercial aviation map:**

- A wartime airstrip laid 66 years ago helped Arunachal Pradesh create history on Monday by becoming the last of the eight northeastern States to be on India’s commercial flight service map.

**Assam**

**Capital – Dispur; CM – Sarbananda Sonowal; Governor - Prof. Jagdish Mukhi**

**Guwahati now has India's first solar powered railway station**

- Guwahati now has India's first railway station run by solar power. The project of installing solar panels was commissioned last year in April 2017.

**Bihar**

**Capital – Patna; CM – Nitish Kumar; Governor – Satya Pal Malik**

1 lakh incentive to SC, ST students in Bihar:

- The Bihar Cabinet on Tuesday announced a Rs1 lakh encouragement incentive for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students who clear the UPSC preliminary test.
- The Cabinet also decided to provide Rs1,000 to each SC/ST student as hostel incentive and free supply of 15 kg foodgrain to the hostels.

**Gujarat**

**Capital: Gandhinagar; CM: Vijay Rupani; Governor: Om Prakash Kohli**

**Surat railway station to be 3rd in country to have ‘airport like’ facilities:**

- “Airport-like” amenities will be installed at Surat Railway Station under Union Railway Ministry’s ‘Rs 1 lakh crore station redevelopment’ programme. Estimated cost for redevelopment of Surat Railway Station is Rs 5000 crore. It is expected to be ready by 2020.
- India’s two world-class Railway stations — Habibganj (in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh) and Gandhinagar (in Gujarat) — will be ready by the beginning of 2019.

**Gujarat Government Launches 'Reuse Of Treated Waste Water Policy':**

- The Gujarat government unveiled its ‘Reuse of Treated Waste Water Policy’ which aims to reduce the state’s dependence on freshwater sources like the Narmada river.
Haryana

Capital – Chandigarh; CM - Manohar Lal Khattar; Governor - Kaptan Singh Solanki

Haryana to start 31 government colleges for girls:

- Haryana Government has decided to start 31 government colleges for girls with effect from ensuing academic session 2018-19.

Israel invited to set up units at Hisar aviation hub, Haryana:

- Haryana has invited the Israeli aerospace industry to set up ancillary units at an aviation hub, which is being set up at Hisar.

Haryana Govt to launch ‘Chatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana’:

- The Haryana Government is planning to launch the ‘Chatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana’ to ensure safety of girl students. For facilitating women, the state govt has opened women police stations in districts. Besides, women help desks have also been set up.

Himachal Pradesh

Capital – Shimla; CM – Jai Ram Thakur; Governor - Acharya Dev Vrat

Himachal Pradesh University to be 'disabled friendly'

- Himachal Pradesh University (HPU) will soon become the first 'disabled friendly' varsity in the northern region. The university was spending Rs 40 lakh on various facilities for the disabled students.

HP govt sanctions Rs 25 cr for renovating Bantony Castle:

- The Himachal Pradesh govt will spend Rs 25 crore on renovating and developing the historic British Raj ‘Bantony Castle Estate’ as a major tourist attraction.

Himachal Pradesh launches three welfare schemes

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur has launched three welfare schemes to mark completion of four years of the Narendra Modi government at the Centre.
  1. "Jan Manch" for redressal of public grievances.
  2. "Mukhya Mantri Swavlamban Yojana" aimed at providing assistance to the unemployed youth.
  3. "Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojana" for offering gas cylinder security and gas stoves to those not covered under the Ujjwala Yojana.

Jammu & Kashmir

Capital – Jammu (Winter) Srinagar (Summer); CM - Mehbooba Mufti Sayeed; Governor - Narinder Nath Vohra

Kavinder Gupta sworn in as Deputy CM Jammu and Kashmir:

- Nirmal Singh resigned as Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and Kavinder Gupta (Gandhinagar MLA) took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurates Kishanganga Hydroelectric project:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated 300 MW Kishanganga Hydroelectric Project in Bandipora District of Jammu & Kashmir.
- He also laid foundation stone of 1000 MW capacity Pakal Dul Power Project.

**NHAI in race to get crucial J&K tunnel ready ahead of avalanches:**

- Excavation work inside the 8.5-km Banihal-Qazigund tunnel along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was completed on Sunday with its twin tubes likely to be operational by next year, a senior official of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) said.

  **Jharkhand**

**Capital – Ranchi; CM - Raghubar Das; Governor - Draupadi Murmu**

**Approves setting up of new AIIMS in Deoghar, Jharkhand**

- The Union Cabinet approved setting up of a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Deoghar, Jharkhand under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY).

**PM Modi lays foundation stone in Patratu Super Thermal Power Project Jharkhand**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid foundation stone for first phase (2400MW) of NTPC’s coal based Patratu Super Thermal Power Project in Jharkhand. This project is 74: 26 Joint Venture between Govt of Jharkhand (GoJ) and Patratu Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. (PVUN), a subsidiary company of NTPC.

  **Maharashtra**

**Capital – Mumbai; CM – Devendra Fadnavis; Governor – Vidyasagar Rao**

**The North Maharashtra University is to be renamed as ‘Kaviyatri Bahinabai Chaudhari North Maharashtra University’:**

- The Maharashtra government decided to recommend the decaclaration of an ordinance to rename the Jalgaon-based North Maharashtra University after poetess Bahinabai Chaudhari.

**Maharashtra first to issue land document online:**

- Maharashtra has become the first state to issue a crucial land ownership document online and accept a digital signature on it as valid. The state government’s plan of digitizing the 7/12 extract is thus complete.

**Maharashtra Govt to Give Rs 3-Per-Litre Subsidy to Milk Producers:**

- Maharashtra State Cabinet decided to provide Rs 3 subsidy for every litre of milk to the co-operative and private producers to manufacture milk powder. This decision is aimed at encouraging production of milk powder from surplus milk, Maharashtra will get Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Rs 27 per litre.

**Mumbai-Pune e-way: motorists will have to pay toll till 2045:**

- Motorists using the Mumbai-Pune Expressway will now have to pay the toll till 2045. The earlier deadline for toll collection was 2030.

**Maharashtra Govt introduces new scheme to help the landless labourers**

- The Maharashtra Govt introduced a new scheme to help the landless labourers among the Scheduled Castes (SCs) to acquire agricultural land.

**Mumbai-Pune e-way: motorists will have to pay toll till 2045:**

- Motorists using the Mumbai-Pune Expressway will now have to pay the toll till 2045. The earlier deadline for toll collection was 2030.

  **Madhya Pradesh**
First Integrated Smart Cities Control Centre Launched In MP:

- Madhya Pradesh State Government launched India’s first Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC) for all seven smart cities of the state in Bhopal.

Approves establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation at Bhopal:

- The Union Cabinet approved establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Madhya Pradesh Launches 'My MP Rojgar Portal'  

- The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched 'My MP Rojgar Portal' to provide jobs to youths as per their educational qualification, skills and interest and ensure availability of able candidates to employers as per the need of their business.

Manipur  

Capital – Imphal; CM – Biren Singh; Governor – Najma A Heptulla (Jagthesh Muki Interim)

Manipur Govt launches ‘Go to Village’ mission:

- The Government of Manipur has launched ‘Go to Village’ mission across the State from Konuma ground of Komlakhong gram panchayat in Imphal West district. The mission was launched simultaneously in 60 villages in all 60 constituencies.

Manipur to get air dispensary on May 15:

- Air dispensary services will be launched on May 15, said chief minister Nongthombam Biren Singh today speaking at the annual state level tribal cultural festival at TRI, Chingmeirong.

India’s first National Sports University in Manipur

- The Union Cabinet approved an ordinance to set up the country’s first national sports university in in Imphal (west), Manipur. The ordinance is on the lines of National Sports University Bill, 2017 which is pending in Parliament (introduced in Lok Sabha in August, 2017).

Manipur Becomes First State in Northeast to Have Solar Toilet:

- Manipur has become the first state in the Northeast and the third state in India to have solar toilets. The solar panel, connected to the toilets, absorb the heat to generate power and are also efficient to transform waste material.

Meghalaya  

Capital – Shillong; CM – Conrad Sangma; Governor – Ganga Prasad.

‘Gaj Yatra’ Flagged Off In Meghalaya:

- The Gaj Yatra campaign was flagged off by the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) Brand Ambassador Ms Dia Mirza at an event organised in Meghalaya. WTI and the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, formally launched the unique campaign. ‘Gaj Yatra’; a “journey celebrating India’s national heritage animal”, aims at securing 100 elephant corridors across India.

New Delhi  

Capital – New Delhi ; CM - Arvind Kejriwal; Governor – Anil Bijal

Full Delhi Metro Magenta Line to open for public from May 29: 

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Follow us: Telegram, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, G+
The portion of Delhi Metro’s Magenta Line which will connect Kalkaji Mandir to Janakpuri West will be open for public from May 29, it was announced today. This section, comprising of 16 stations, will be the longest opened so far in Delhi Metros Phase 3.

Robot called RADA going to introduce in Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport from July 5:

A Tata-Singapore joint venture airline, Vistara, announced on Tuesday that it had created a robot called RADA, using Artificial Intelligence technology, that will be placed at its signature lounge at Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport from July 5.

Orissa

Capital – Bhubaneswar; CM – Naveen Patnaik; Governor – Satya Pal Malik

World’s second oldest rock is from Odisha:

Rock sample recovered nearly eight years ago from Champua in Odisha’s Kendujhar district has put India at the forefront of geological research in the world.

Odisha makes loan provisions for landless farmers:

- The Odisha government today said it has decided to extend agricultural loan to landless farmers on the lines of credit given to self help groups (SHGs), Cooperation Minister S N Patro said.
- The loans would be disbursed by cooperative societies to joint liability groups. Each such group will have five farmer members who will collectively be provided with a term loan of Rs 50,000 with one per cent interest. The loan will be extended without any collaterals.

Odisha CM Naveen to inaugurate Gurupriya bridge next month:

- Chief minister Naveen Patnaik will inaugurate the much-touted Gurupriya bridge on the river Gurupriya in Malkangiri district next month

‘One Bar, One Vote’ rule in Odisha:

- Even as a writ petition seeking introduction of ‘One Bar, One Vote’ rule for all lawyers litigating in different Bars of Odisha is pending disposal in the Orissa High Court for over a year now, the Odisha State Bar Council on Wednesday announced that the ‘rule’ as pronounced by the Supreme Court will be implemented in all the 167 Bars of the State, including that of the High Court.

Mobile app to be launched for advance lightning warning:

- The Odisha government has decided to introduce a special mobile application to provide advance information on lightning which has claimed at least 61 lives between April and May 22 this year

Odisha govt. to set up mineral police stations

- The Odisha government will soon establish mineral police stations in the State in order to curb rampant theft of minor minerals from different districts.

NIC sets up cloud-enabled National Data Centre in Bhubaneswar:

- IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad is all set to inaugurate, on May 28, a cloud-enabled National Data Centre at Bhubaneswar, which will offer round-the-clock operations with secure hosting for e-governance applications of ministries and departments.

Punjab

Capital – Chandigarh; CM – Amarinder Singh; Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore
First all-woman Post Office Passport Seva Kendra starts operations in Phagwara, Punjab:

- In a first, a Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK) run by an all-woman team has started operations in Phagwara, Punjab.

   Rajasthan

   Capital – Jaipur; CM – Vasundhara Raje Scindia; Governor - Kalyan Singh

Rajasthan institute comes up with new sheep insemination technique:

- Scientists at the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute (CSWRI), Avikanagar, have come up with a new laparoscope-assisted insemination technique for sheep, which has resolved the difficulties involved in freezing of semen and inability to transit the tortuous reproductive tract of the ruminant mammals kept as livestock.

Rajasthan govt invites Gurjar leader for talks ahead of quota stir:

- The Rajasthan government has invited Gurjar leader Kirori Singh Bainsla for talks tomorrow, after he threatened to revive the agitation for reservation to the community.
- Bainsla has announced a sit-in on Tuesday to press for their demand of five-per-cent reservation within the Other Backward Class (OBC) quota. A faction of the community, opposed to Bainsla, is also planning to hold a separate meeting in Bharatpur district on the same day.

Rajasthan launches ‘Nidaan’ software for disease monitoring:

- New software, ‘Nidaan’, has been launched in Rajasthan for presumptive diagnosis and monitoring of seasonal and non-communicable diseases as well as the trends of ailments found in specific areas.

Tamil Nadu CM launched portal for MSMEs:

- Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Saturday opened a portal – https://easybusiness.tn.gov.in/msme – for single window clearance to the MSME sector.

Milk in midday meals in Rajasthan

- The students of the government primary and upper primary schools in Rajasthan will get milk in the midday meals thrice in a week under a new scheme for improving nutritional status of children.

   Tamilnadu

   Capital – Chennai; CM – Edapadi Palanisamy; Governor – Banwarilal probhit.
The Chief Minister also launched a portal – http://msmeonline.tn.gov.in/uyegp – to enable unemployed youth to apply for loans under the Unemployed Youth Employment Generation Programme (UYEGP) scheme and http://www.msmeonline.tn.gov.in/needs to help people apply for loans under the New Entrepreneur Cum Enterprise Development Scheme (Needs).

Telangana

Capital – Hyderabad; CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao; Governor – ESL Narasimhan

Telangana govt launches investment support scheme for farmers:

- Telangana govt launched an investment support scheme, Rythu Bandhu (friend of farmers) Scheme to support livelihood of farmers.

Telangana govt announces unique life insurance scheme for farmers:

- Telangana government has announced a unique life insurance scheme for farmers. Under the scheme, the government will provide life insurance facility of five lakh rupees to the nominee, after the death of the insured farmer.

Uttar Pradesh

Capital – Lucknow; CM – Yogi Adityanath; Governor – Ram Naik

Yogi Adityanath lays foundation of college, stadium in Gorakhpur:

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath today laid the foundation of a degree college and a stadium named after his spiritual guru, Mahant Avaidyanath, in Jungle Kaudia area in Gorakhpur.

Ministry of WCD signs an MoU with Government of Uttar Pradesh:

- The Ministry of Women and Child and Development, Government of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh, for management of Home of Widows at Sunrakh Bangar, Vrindavan.

Karnataka

Capital – Bengaluru; CM – Siddaramaiah; Governor - Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala

Pink Booths to third generation EVMs, several firsts in Karnataka:

- From all-women managed 'Pink Booths' to the use of third generation Electronic Voting Machines, the assembly elections in Karnataka are marked by several firsts. In a women-oriented step, 450 "pink booths" called 'Sakhi' have been set up.

Parameshwara to be Karnataka Deputy CM:

- After eight days of political upheaval in Karnataka, Janata Dal (Secular) Legislature Party leader H.D. Kumaraswamy will be sworn in as Chief Minister on Wednesday, pending formation of a full-fledged Ministry and allocation of portfolios.

Kerala

Capital – Tiruvanandapuram; CM – Pinarai Vijayan; Governor – P. Sadasivam

‘ART deTOUR’ to protect freedom of expression:

- Any movement of youth to protect freedom of expression is a cause for celebration at a time when Fascists are trying to stifle free speech and expression, Kerala Tourism Minister Kadakampally Surendran has said.
**Kerala government to give home, Rs5 lakh to Maoists who surrender:**

- The Kerala government has announced that it will provide a home and Rs5 lakh among other benefits to Maoists who surrender and seek to reintegrate into the mainstream.

**Free internet connection to 20 lakh poor families in Kerala:**

- Moving ahead with its ambitious programme to provide free internet to over 20 lakh poor families, the Kerala government today decided to set up a Joint Venture company to launch its new optic fibre pathway.
- A cabinet meeting, chaired by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, accorded sanction to set up the Kerala Fibre Optic Network Limited, the Joint Venture, to implement the Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project.

**West Bengal**

**Capital – Kolkata; CM – Mamta Benerjee; Governor - Keshari Nath Tripath**

**Bangladesh Bhavan inaugurates in Santiniketan:**

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina have inaugurated Bangladesh Bhawan at Vishwa Bharti University in Santiniketan will house museum and library in West Bengal.

**Other National News**

**Antyodaya train between Jalandhar-Darbhanga from May 20:**

- The Northern Railways authorities have announced a new weekly Antyodaya Express train between Jalandhar City and Darbhanga to cope with the rush of passengers between various destinations in Punjab and UP/Bihar.

**Railways to install ‘panic button’ in trains for women safety:**

- With a view to strengthen security of women passengers in trains, the North Eastern Railway (NER) plans to deploy women police personnel on trains during night hours as well as install ‘panic buttons’ in coaches.

**Aadhaar not mandatory for getting pension:**

- Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh said that the Aadhaar card is not mandatory for central government employees to get their pension.

**Class X certificates for ‘gurukul’ students:**

- Students who have studied at ‘gurukuls’ and ‘veda pathshalas’ will soon be eligible for Class 10 and Class 12 certificates, making them eligible to apply for jobs that have a Class 12 qualification.

**Air India could pay up $8.8 mn to passengers:**

- State-run carrier Air India may have to pay a penalty of $8.8 million to 323 passengers of its May 9 Delhi-Chicago flight, which was delayed as a fallout of withdrawal of relaxations given on flight duty time limitation (FDTL) of the crew.

**Haryana hikes incentive for inter-caste marriage:**

- The Haryana government has doubled the incentive amount for intercaste marriages under the Mukhyamantri Samajik Samrasta Antarjatiya Vivah Shagun Yojna with immediate effect, an official said. Under the scheme, an incentive of Rs.2.5 lakh would be provided in the form of fixed deposit jointly in the name of the couple.
Bid to connect popular tourist spots by air:

- The Ministries of Civil Aviation and Tourism will jointly develop a strategy to improve air connectivity to popular tourist destinations, like the temples of Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh and cave monuments of Ajanta and Ellora in Maharashtra.

University and college teachers across the country will soon be able to connect in online:

- University and college teachers across the country will soon be able to connect with experts in their fields of study and also pose queries on academic questions that they wish resolved through suggestions offered by these experts or other teachers of their discipline.

IISER develops device to detect and remove arsenic from water:

- The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in collaboration with private company developed a new device—Arsenic Sensor and Removal Media to detect and remove arsenic content from water and make it safe and usable by households.

Railways plan ‘Gandhian menu’ on October 2:

- If a proposal from the Railways is approved, October 2 will not only be celebrated as Rashtriya Swachhta Diwas but also as ‘Vegetarian Day’ as a mark of respect to Mahatma Gandhi.

IIT Kanpur sets up India’s first advisory Centre for Energy Regulation (CER):

- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kanpur set up India’s first Centre for Energy Regulation (CER) with the help of Govt of United Kingdom.

CSTT adopts AYUSH word:

- AYUSH word has become popular as acronym for five traditional and complementary systems of medicine, namely Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy.
- CSTT approved ‘ayush’ word with meaning “Traditional and Non-Conventional Systems of Health Care and Healing which include Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa, Homoeopathy etc”.

Habitat loss may have triggered Nipah outbreak:

- According to a report by the World Health Organization, there is “strong evidence” that the emergence of bat-related viral infections can be attributed to the loss of the animal’s natural habitats.

UGC allows online degrees, certificates and diplomas:

- With the University Grants Commission approving the UGC (Online Courses) Regulations, 2018, in its meeting on Thursday, higher educational institutions can now offer certificate, diploma and degree programmes in full-fledged online mode in line with their regular programmes.

India To Be Host Country For Celebrations Of World Environment Day 2018:

- India will be the host country for celebrations of World Environment Day 2018. The announcement in this regard was made by the Environment Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan. The theme for this year is 'Beat Plastic Pollution'. The government has launched green deeds campaign to raise awareness about protection of the environment. The World Environment Day will be celebrated on 5th of June.

Supreme Court refuses to interfere with NGT fiat on PVC pipes:

- The Supreme Court on Friday refused to intervene with an order of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to freeze its own directive to publish a warning about hazardous lead content in Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipes.

Actor Sushant Singh Rajput to promote Centre's 'Women Entrepreneurship Platform':
• Actor Sushant Singh Rajput is collaborating with NITI Aayog for the promotion of Women Entrepreneurship Platform launched by the government. An agreement in this effect was signed today by the actor with NITI Aayog in New Delhi.

**Dr Jitendra Singh announces Rs 28 crore for 'Brahmaputra Study Centre' at Gauhati University**

• The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh has said the Government has approved setting up of an exclusive “Brahmaputra Study Centre” at Gauhati University, Guwahati, for which a fund of about Rs. 28 crore will be provided by the Ministry of DoNER.

**New User Interface Of Next Generation E-Ticketing System Launched**

• Railway’s Online Travel Portal, www.irctc.co.in has now launched beta version of its new User Interface. The new link has more user friendly features for easier navigation.

**Ministry of Railways organizes a one day workshop ‘Mission Raftar’**

• Ministry of Railways conducted a one day workshop “Mission Raftaar” aimed at raising the average speed of freight trains and coaching trains in New Delhi. The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Rajen Gohain, Minister of State for Railways & Shri Ashwani Lohani, Chairman, Railway Board.

**IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Disney announced that it was launching a free video appOh My Disney with original content aimed at millennials:

• Disney announced Tuesday it was launching a free video app with original content aimed at millennials, who are targeted by advertisers.
• The app -- called "Oh My Disney" -- will be a variation of the site of the same name, which publishes editorial content and short videos on the world of Disney, Mickey and Marvel superheroes.

Islamabad’s new airport inaugurated:

• The Islamabad International Airport became operational when its first commercial flight, Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) PK-300, landed from Karachi.

Putin becomes President for 4th time:

• Vladimir Putin took the oath of office for his fourth term as Russian President on Monday, promising to pursue an economic agenda that would boost living standards across the country.

Australia pledges US$34-million to help save the koala:

• Australia on Monday unveiled a US$34-million plan to help bring its koala population back from the brink, following a rapid decline in the furry marsupial’s fortunes.

China launches communication satellite:

• China has successfully launched ‘APSTAR-6C’, a new communication satellite into orbit. It was launched onboard of Long March-3B carrier rocket from Xichang Satellite Launch Center.
Saudi women to start driving from June 24:

- Saudi women will be allowed to start driving in the kingdom from June 24, the General Department of Traffic Director General Mohammed Bassami.

Uber reveals its first electric flying car prototype:

- Uber has unveiled its first electric ‘flying car’ concept aircraft featuring rotors which can reposition to help it fly after a vertical takeoff.
- The aircraft can accommodate four passengers and travel 2,000 feet above the traffic at 241-321 kmph.

Ninety-two-year-old Mahathir Mohamad was sworn in as Malaysia’s Prime Minister:

- Ninety-two-year-old Mahathir Mohamad was on Thursday sworn in as the world’s oldest elected leader after a stunning election win that swept Malaysia’s establishment from power after more than six decades.

NASA, Uber team up to get flying taxis off the ground:

- NASA and Uber have signed an agreement to explore putting flying taxis in the skies over U.S. cities.
- NASA said that it will begin simulations for so-called “urban air mobility” vehicles that also include delivery drones. The simulations are planned at its research facility at Dallas Fort Worth.

‘Ramayan Circuit’ gets a new bus service:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepalese counterpart K.P. Sharma Oli jointly inaugurated a direct bus service between Janakpur and Ayodhya, the two sacred cities for Hindus, as part of a “Ramayan Circuit” to promote religious tourism in Nepal and India.

China seeks to reset ties with Japan:

- After engaging with India in Wuhan, China is rebooting ties with Japan, as part of a larger pan-Asian initiative that appears to counter growing protectionism in the U.S.

China approves $1 bn loan for Sri Lanka expressway:

- China has approved a USD 1 billion loan to revive a long-delayed expressway in central Sri Lanka, the island’s government said today.

IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia unveils world’s first floating nuclear power plant:

- Russia unveiled world’s first floating nuclear power station at port city of Murmansk. Akademik Lomonosov was constructed by Russian state nuclear power firm Rosatom.

Nepal becomes first country in south-east Asia to eliminate trachoma:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) validated Nepal for having eliminated trachoma, a contagious bacterial infection of the eye

Ola to expand in Australia:
Indian cab-hailing firm Ola on Tuesday said it had expanded its services in Australia to three more cities — Brisbane, Gold Coast and Canberra.

**Ireland over turns abortion ban in landslide vote:**

The pro-choice campaign won Friday's referendum with 66% of the 2.1 million votes cast. Ireland voted by an overwhelming majority to overturn a constitutional ban on abortion in a historic referendum in this traditionally Catholic country.

**Mia Amor Mottley becomes first female PM of Caribbean island of Barbados**

Mia Amor Mottley become the first female Prime Minister (PM) of the Caribbean island of Barbados. The win makes Mottley just the 8th PM to lead Barbados since the island gained independence from Great Britain in 1966.

**Columbia formally joins NATO**

One year after reaching partnership deal through a peace agreement with South America, Columbia has formally joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

**Netherlands joins Solar Alliance**

The Netherlands has become the 64th signatory member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA). The joint statement issued hailed the Netherlands as India's “Gateway to Europe”.

**India launches 2nd IT corridor in China**

India has launched its second IT corridor in China to cash in on the burgeoning Chinese software market. The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) has established one more Digital Collaborative Opportunities Plaza (SIDCOP) platform in China in an effort to provide market access to Indian IT firms in the huge Chinese market.

**India Releases Rs33.10 Cr To Nepal For 2 Road Projects**

India has released 33.10 Crore rupees to Nepal towards the cost of two road packages of Birgunj-Thori Road being implemented under Postal Highway Projects in Nepal with Government of India's grant assistance.

**APPOINTMENTS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Person</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.</td>
<td>Kavinder Gupta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD &amp; CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank</td>
<td>Uday Kotak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Marketing Officer of Intex Technologies</td>
<td>Rajiv Bakshi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director General of Press Information Bureau in New Delhi.</td>
<td>Sitanshu Ranjan Kar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chairman of IRDAI</td>
<td>Subhash Chandra Khuntia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tata Power MD and CEO</td>
<td>Anil Sardana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time member of 15th Finance Commission</td>
<td>Ashok Lahiri</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governor of Manipur</td>
<td>Jagdish Mukhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent director Adani Capital</td>
<td>R.M. Malla</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prime Minister of Armenia</td>
<td>Nikol Pashinyan</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Head For Google Cloud India</th>
<th>Nitin Bawankule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pawan Kumar Agarwal</td>
<td>CEO of FSSAI</td>
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<td>Malaysia’s Prime Minister</td>
<td>Mahathir Mohamad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green Ambassador of Sikkim</td>
<td>Mohit Chauhan</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEO of FSSAI</td>
<td>Pawan Kumar Agarwal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brand Ambassador of Online pharmacy Netmeds</td>
<td>MS Dhoni</td>
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| The U.S India Business Council Head      | Ambika Sharma          |
| “Eminent Jurist” in Lokpal selection committee | Mukul Rohatgi |
| 'Shri Jayadev Rastriya Yuva Pratibha Puraskar 2018 | Kathak dancer Anindita Anaam |
| Non-Independent Director of Dhanalakshmi Bank | Arun Rao M. G          |
| Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi           | Uttam Pacharne         |
| Coal India Ltd. CMD                      | Anil Kumar Jha         |
| New Chancellor of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) | Firoz Bakht Ahmed |
| Karnatakà Deputy CM                      | Parameshwara           |
| Airtel Payments Bank’s MD & CEO         | Anubrata Biswas        |
| Governor of Orissa                       | Ganeshi Lal            |
| Governor of Mizoram                      | Kummanam Rajasekharan  |
| Deputy National Security Advisor         | Pankaj Saran           |
| Next NCDRC President                     | R K Agrawal            |

### International Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Person</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First female Bishop of London</td>
<td>Sarah Mullally</td>
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<td>Malaysia’s 93 year old Prime Minister</td>
<td>Mahathir Mohamad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian President</td>
<td>Vladimir Putin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st South Asian To Be Elected In Oregon</td>
<td>Susheela Jayapal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chairman of the International Cricket Council for another two years.</td>
<td>Shashank Manohar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-President of Badminton Asia Confederation (BAC)</td>
<td>Himanta Biswa Sarma</td>
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<td>Venezuela’s President</td>
<td>Nicolas Maduro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lebanon’s New PM</td>
<td>Saad Hariri</td>
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<tr>
<td>First woman president of Paraguay</td>
<td>Alicia Pucheta</td>
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### AWARDS AND HONOURS

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<td>Saraswathi Samman 2017</td>
<td>Sitanshu Yashaschandra</td>
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<td>PC Chandra Puraskar</td>
<td>Asha Bhosle</td>
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<tr>
<td>WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award.</td>
<td>Neeraj Goyat</td>
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<td>Most trusted FMCG brand in India</td>
<td>Patanjali</td>
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<td>ONV Literary Prize</td>
<td>M.T Vasudevan Nair</td>
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<td>Billboard Awards</td>
<td>Janet Jackson</td>
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<td>KISS Humanitarian Award 2018</td>
<td>Muhammad Yunus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lata Mangeshkar</td>
<td>Swara Mauli title</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nikkei Asia Prize</td>
<td>Bindeshwar Pathak</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**DRDO Lifetime Achievement Award — 2017.**
Dr V K Saraswat

**TITAN Reginald F Lewis Film Icon Award at the ongoing 71st Cannes Film Festival.**
Sridevi

**European Union honoured for strengthening Europe-India cultural ties.**
Amitabh Bachchan

**T.K. Ramanathan Award**
Prajnesh Gunneswaran

**Man Booker International Prize**
Olga Tokarczuk for her novel 'Flights'

**India Biodiversity Award 2018**
Arunachal Pradesh-based NGO Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve (SBVCR)

**First Indian to receive Linnean Medal**
Kamaljit Bawa

**'Most Inspiring Icon of the year for Social Welfare" award by the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF)**
Yuvraj Singh

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**'Raaya' becomes India's official entry for Cannes:**
- A short film, 'Raaya', about an autistic girl has been chosen as India's official entry into the Cannes Film Festival 2018

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**Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Awards (2018):**
Popular celebrities participated in the Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Awards which was held at Andrews Auditorium, Mumbai. Individuals who put their immense contribution in Indian films and Television are honored with this great award.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Best actor (male)</td>
<td>Shahid Kapoor</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Best actor people's choice award</td>
<td>Ranveer Singh</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Entertainer of the year</td>
<td>Kartik Aryan</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Best actress (critics)</td>
<td>Aditi Rao Hydari</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Lifetime achievement award</td>
<td>Simi Garewal</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Pride of Indian cinema</td>
<td>Sanjay Dutt</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Path breaking producer of the year</td>
<td>Anushka Sharma, Karnesh Sharma</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Best director</td>
<td>Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Outstanding performance (male)</td>
<td>Raj Kumar Rao, Rana Daggubati</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Outstanding performance (female)</td>
<td>Tamannahh Bhatia, Kriti Sanon</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Promising face of the year</td>
<td>Aahana Kumra</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Best actor (male) Marathi</td>
<td>Vaibhav Tatwawaadi</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Best actor (female) Marathi</td>
<td>Pooja Sawant</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Socially conscious performance of the year</td>
<td>Rani Mukherjee</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>Best comic role</td>
<td>Tusshar Kapoor</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Best lyricist</td>
<td>Manoj Muntashir</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>Best performance in a short film</td>
<td>Divya Khosla Kumar</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Iconic contribution towards music</td>
<td>Hans Raj Hans</td>
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<td>19.</td>
<td>Versatile Singer</td>
<td>Rani Hazari</td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>Entertaining performance in reality show Bigg Boss</td>
<td>Hina Khan</td>
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<td>21.</td>
<td>Best actress drama</td>
<td>Jennifer Winget</td>
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<td>22.</td>
<td>Best actor(male) Television</td>
<td>Karan Patel</td>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>Best reality show judge</td>
<td>Shilpa Shetty</td>
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<td>24.</td>
<td>Best talk show host</td>
<td>Karan Johar</td>
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</table>
Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation Awards (2018):

Bollywood actors Akshay Kumar, Sonam Kapoor and Bhumi Pednekar bagged the best actor and actress awards in the same way at the Dadasaheb Phalke awards, presented by Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation, held in Mumbai.

Rakesh Roshan, who is a legendary Film Director, won an award of Lifetime Achievement for his contribution to the Film Industry.

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<td>1.</td>
<td>Best Actor</td>
<td>Akshay Kumar</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Best Actress</td>
<td>Bhumi Pednekar</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Most Versatile Actress</td>
<td>Manisha Koirala</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Lifetime Achievement</td>
<td>Rakesh Roshan</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Best Actress in a Leading Role (Padman)</td>
<td>Sonam Kapoor</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Best Actor in a Character Role</td>
<td>Rajesh Sharma</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Best Playback Singer (Female)</td>
<td>Neeti Mohan</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Best Playback Singer (Male)</td>
<td>Armaan Malik</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Best TV Anchor</td>
<td>Aditya Narayan Jha</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Best Entertainer (TV)</td>
<td>Manish Paul</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Best Playback Singer (Jury)</td>
<td>Bhumi Trivedi</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Best Stage Anchor</td>
<td>Siddharth Kannan</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Best Producer (Short Films)</td>
<td>Sandip Marwah</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Most Entertaining Film (Sonu ki Titu ki Sweety)</td>
<td>Luv Ranjan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Saraswatibai Dadasaheb Phalke Best Actress (Lifetime)</td>
<td>Farida Jalal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Best Debut Director</td>
<td>Konkona Sensharma</td>
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Resignation

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<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent director of Infosys</td>
<td>Ravi Venkatesan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulitzer Board Chair</td>
<td>Junot Diaz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important MoU and Agreements

MoU signed between PHDCCI, Indian Yoga Association to promote yoga:

- PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) and Indian Yoga Association (IYA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to jointly promote yoga, health and spiritual tourism in the Krishna Circuit in Uttar Pradesh.

Bilateral trade between India and China resumes through Nathu La border:

- The bilateral trade between India and China through Nathu La border has resumed. General Secretary of the Indo-China Border Traders' Welfare Association, Tenzing Tsepel, said, trading through Nathu La was possible only for two weeks last year due to the Doklam standoff which resulted into losses. He expressed hope of a better transaction this year.
India, China to set up hotline between military HQs:

- The militaries of India and China have reportedly agreed to set up a hotline between their headquarters after an informal summit between Indian PM Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping.
- The hotline would enable the militaries to intensify communication in order to avoid confrontations like the 73-day Doklam standoff at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

NITI Aayog and Google sign SoI to help grow AI ecosystem in India:

- NITI Aayog and Google signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to enhance growth in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) ecosystem in India.
- The Statement of Intent (SoI) was signed by Ms. Anna Roy, Advisor, NITI Aayog and Rajan Anandan, Vice President, India and South East Asia, Google.

India, Panama sign two agreements:

- India and Panama have signed two agreements on exemption of Visas for holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports and in the field of Agriculture.
- These agreements were signed in the presence of Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and President of Panama Juan Carlos Varela Rodrigues and Vice President and Foreign Minister Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado in Panama city.

India, Guatemala ink MoU:

- India and Guatemala inked a pact for strengthening diplomatic cooperation through Respective Foreign Service Institutes in educational field.
- The agreement was signed after meeting between Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and his Guatemala counterpart, Jafeth Cabrera Franco in Guatemala City.
- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu visit Guatemala as part of his first official foreign visit to three countries Guatemala, Panama and Peru to strengthen India’s relations with them.
- Both countries agreed to support each other’s candidature for Non-Permanent Membership in United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Venkaiah Naidu 3-Nation Visit: India & Peru Signs Agreement:

- India and Peru signed an agreement in the field of Renewable Energy at Lima. The pact was signed in the presence of Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and the Prime Minister Cesar Villanueva Arevalo. This is the final leg of the 3-Nation visit to central America of Indian Vice-President.

Aadhaar not mandatory for getting pension:

- Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh said that the Aadhaar card is not mandatory for central government employees to get their pension.

India Released Grant Of NRs 18.07 Crore To Nepal For River Training:

- India has released grant of Nepalese Rupees (NRs) 18.07 crore for river training and construction of embankments along Lalbakeya, Bagmati and Kamla rivers in Nepal. Indian Ambassador to Nepal Manjeev Singh Puri handed over a cheque of the grant to Dr Sanjay Sharma.

IMPORTANT SUMMIT & CONFERENCE

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 to be held in Varanasi:
The next Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in the holy city of Varanasi in January with the Indian diaspora having an option to participate in Kumbha Snan and attend the Republic Day parade in New Delhi, an official in the Indian Embassy in Washington has said.

**Second World Hindu Congress (WHC) is scheduled to be held in Chicago in September:**

- Theme: “Sumantrite Suvikrante” – “think collectively, achieve valiantly”.

**Naval Commanders’ Conference held New Delhi:**

- The first edition of 2018 bi-annual Naval Commanders’ Conference held in New Delhi.
- It discussed aspects concerning country’s maritime security, analyse mission-based deployments and larger issues of geo-strategic Indian Ocean Region (IOR), a region witnessing increasing Chinese presence.

**International Buddhist Conference held in Lumbini, Nepal:**

- International Buddhist Conference 2018 was held in Lumbini, Nepal on 28th and 29th April, 2018. The conference was organised as part of 2562nd Buddha Jayanti celebrations. Objective of the conference was to disseminate teachings of Gautam Buddha and spread the messages of brotherhood, nonviolence, co-existence, love and peace to the international community.
- Theme: ‘Lumbini Nepal: The birthplace of Lord Buddha and the fountain of Buddhism and world peace’.

**9th India-Japan Energy Dialogue held in New Delhi:**

- The 9th India Japan Energy Dialogue was held in New Delhi. Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri R.K Singh, and Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) Mr. Hiroshige Seko signed a Joint Statement at the conclusion of the meeting.

‘**Vibrant North East 2018’ from May 3:**

- The 'Vibrant North East 2018', an event in which people would be made aware of central government’s schemes and programmes will be held in Guwahati. Players from the agriculture, food processing, consumer affairs, civil supply, drinking water and sanitation sectors will participate in the three-day event.

**51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank:**

- An Indian delegation headed by Shri Subhash Chandra Garg, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance is currently on a tour to Manila to attend the 51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank. Shri Garg held bilateral meeting with the Premier of Niue, Sir Toke Talagi on the sidelines of the 51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila.

**ISABS – 2018 held in Johannesburg:**

- The first-ever India-South Africa Business Summit (ISABS 2018) has been held at the Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- The tag line of the Summit was “United by Legacy, Unified for Prosperity” and was attended by the Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu.

**12th informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers held in Manila:**
The twelfth informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers was held in Manila, the capital of Philippines on the sidelines of the 51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The meeting was attended by the Finance Ministers/Heads of Delegations from the SAARC member states.

### Narendra Singh Tomar addresses Kaushal Vikas Melas:

- Aajeevika and Kaushal Vikas Melas were held in various parts of India as part of Gram Swaraj Abhiyan.
- Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, addressed the gathering at the main event held at Ranchi, Jharkhand.

### Delhi to host six-day Festival of Bharat:

- National capital Delhi will host a six-day-long Festival of Bharat between May 9 and May 14 as a 21st century tribute to the majesty and depth of India's civilization.

### India to host 15th Asia Media Summit:

- India will host 15th Asia Media Summit (AMS-2018) in New Delhi from May 10-12, 2018. It is being organised by Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) in collaboration with its partners and international organisations.
- Theme: “Telling our Stories- Asia and More”.

### 3rd edition of UNPCAP held in New Delhi:

- 3rd edition of the United Nations Peacekeeping Course for African Partners (UNPCAP) was inaugurated in New Delhi on May 7, 2018. The course is geared to build and enhance the capacity of the African Troop Contributing Countries to the UN.
- It is being conducted by the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping in India (CUNPK) in partnership with the US.

### Union Minister for Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu inaugurates 6th US-India Aviation Summit:

- The 6th US-India Aviation Summit was formally inaugurated by Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu in Mumbai. The biennial Summit is jointly organised by Ministry of Civil Aviation and US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA).

### Suresh Prabhu inaugurates 6th US-India Aviation Summit in Mumbai:

- Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu inaugurated the 6th US-India Aviation Summit. This three-day Summit is being jointly organised by Union Ministry of Civil Aviation and US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA).

### Customs And Postal Department Hold 1st Ever Joint Conference

- Indian Customs and Department of India Posts held a first-ever Joint Conference in Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi to deliberate on streamlining of imports and exports by post.
• Imports and exports by post are the 6th highest cited citizen grievances under Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMs). Customs and Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) have worked together since a year to liberalise, reform and align laws relating to imports by Post.

6th US-India Aviation Summit held in Mumbai:
• The 6th United States-India Aviation Summit, formally inaugurated by Union Minister for Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu, has been held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
• The biennial Summit was jointly organised by Ministry of Civil Aviation and US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA).

BIMSTEC Working Group on Customs Cooperation held in New Delhi:
• The first meeting of the BIMSTEC Working Group on Customs Cooperation held in New Delhi, India. Delegates from all the BIMSTEC Member States, i.e., Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand attended the meeting.

Nepal to host 2018 BIMSTEC summit:
• Nepal will host the 2018 Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit. It was announced by Nepal’s Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli during his meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Kathmandu (capital city).
• BIMSTEC countries are India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka from South Asia and Myanmar, Thailand from South East Asia.

President Kovind Inaugurates Global Exhibition On Services- 2018:
• President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the 4th edition of Global Exhibition on services in Mumbai. He has also released the logo for Services and launched the portal.

4th meeting of SAWEN held in Kolkata, India:
• The fourth meeting of South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN), an inter-governmental wildlife law enforcement agency was in Kolkata, West Bengal (India).

First International Rail Coach Expo held in Chennai
• The first-ever International Rail Coach Expo (IRCE) held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu to focus on Rail Coaches and train sets.

Physical and Social Infrastructure for Regional Development’ Conference held in Guwahati:
• The two days regional conference on ‘Physical and Social Infrastructure for Regional Development’ has been held in Guwahati, Assam.

2018 BRICS Ministerial on Environment at Durban, South Africa:
• The 2018 BRICS Ministerial on Environment has been held at Durban, South Africa. The meeting has agreed to include Indian societal movement “Green Good Deeds” in its official agenda in the next Ministerial in Brazil and another meeting in Russia.

Venture Capital Symposium 2018 held in New Delhi:
• The Venture Capital Symposium 2018 has been organized by NITI Aayog in association with Vision India Foundation in New Delhi.

Emergency Summit of OIC held in Istanbul:
• The 57-members Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has held extraordinary summit in Istanbul, Turkey to discuss recent Israeli violence against Palestinian protesters in Gaza Strip.

71st World Health Assembly Held In Geneva, Switzerland
• The 71st World Health Assembly was held in Geneva, Switzerland. The Indian Delegation was led by Union Health Minister of India, Mr J P Nadda at World Health Assembly. Mr Nadda also inaugurated ‘Walk the Talk’ event and gave a call ‘Health for all, Yoga for all’.

India to attend SCO meets in Pakistan:
• An Indian delegation will be among those attending an anti-terrorism conference being held here under the banner of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
• Experts from the eight SCO member states - China, Kazakhstan, India, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan.

Regional Conference on “Clean and Renewable Energy” held in Bhopal:
• The Minister of New and Renewable Energy, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh (MP), Shri Narayan Singh Kushwah inaugurated the one day Regional Conference on the theme of “New and Renewable Energy” in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

India-CLMV Business Conclave held at Phnom Penh, Cambodia
• The 5th India-CLMV (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam) Business Conclave held at Phnom Penh, Cambodia. It was jointly organised by Ministry of Commerce & Industry along with Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia

ASEAN India Film Festival held in New Delhi
• ASEAN India Film Festival, organised by Ministry of External Affairs (ASEAN Multilateral Division), held in New Delhi. It was organised as part of the series of events to commemorate 25 years of ASEAN and India relations. The film festival was non-competitive and its tagline was ‘Friendship through Films’.

9th edition of ‘Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav’ inaugurated in Tehri, Uttarakhand
• Ministry of Culture has organised 3 day long diversified cultural festival ‘Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav’ festival which was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat Near Tehri Lake, Uttarakhand.

3rd Meeting of India – U.K. Home Affairs’ Dialogue:
• The Third Home Affairs’ Dialogue between India and U.K. was held in Mumbai on May 30. The Government of India Delegation was led by Shri Rajiv Gauba, Union Home Secretary and the Delegation from Home Office of the U.K. was led by its Second Permanent Secretary, Ms. Patsy Wilkinson.

Paytm Introduces 'Tap Card' Offline Payments Solution:
**One97 Communications Limited**, the owner of digital payment major, Paytm, announced the launch of its offline payments solution - the Paytm Tap Card, in line with the company's vision to provide seamless payments solutions for non-internet customers.

**Dhadkan mobile app was launched to monitor health of heart patients:**

- Students at IIT Roorkee have developed a mobile application -- 'Dhadkan' -- for monitoring the health of people suffering from heart ailments and provide them with medical assistance in case of emergency.

**Now pensioners can view passbook using Umang app:**

- EPFO announced that now Pensioners can view their pension passbook on mobile phones using Umang app. Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has introduced this facility as a part of its plan to go paperless by August 2018 and offer all services online. Umang app was launched by government in 2017.

**Infibeam to buy arm of Snapdeal:**

- Ahmadabad-based Infibeam said it will acquire Snapdeal’s subsidiary Unicommerce, which offers e-commerce enablement software, in a deal worth up to Rs120 crore.

**Andhra CM launches NCBN app to implement effective governance:**

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu launched the official ‘NCBN’ (Nara Chandrababu Naidu) App in the Collector’s conference held at Amravati.
- The ‘NCBN’ (Nara Chandrababu Naidu) App has been launched to implement effective governance in Andhra Pradesh.
- The app will notify people in real-time with news updates. It will be a direct platform for the common people to interact with the government.

**China's Alibaba Buys Pakistan E-Commerce Firm Daraz**

- Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba had purchased leading Pakistani online retailer 'Daraz', continuing its overseas expansion by gaining a foothold in the growing South Asian consumer market.

**Paytm Introduces Automatic Recurring Payments**

- Paytm introduced automatic recurring payments, a new feature that lets users configure the payments app to pay for periodic recurring expenses automatically. Similar to standing instructions for bank accounts, the ‘My Payments’ feature can be used for high-value payments for a variety of cases.
- The company expects the feature to significantly boost bank-to-bank transactions on Paytm, which it sees crossing Rs60,000 crore a month by December 2018. Currently, Paytm processes about 1 billion transactions every quarter.

**Suresh Prabhu launches IP mascot – IP Nani**

Election Commission to launch app to help voters share malpractice proof:

- The Election Commission will launch a multi-lingual mobile application empowering people across the country to share evidence of malpractice by political parties, their candidates and activists ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, directly with the electoral body.

Mobile app to be launched for advance lightning warning:

- The Odisha government has decided to introduce a special mobile application to provide advance information on lightning which has claimed at least 61 lives between April and May 22 this year.

Election Commission to launch app to help voters share malpractice proof:

- The Election Commission will launch a multi-lingual mobile application empowering people across the country to share evidence of malpractice by political parties, their candidates and activists ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, directly with the electoral body.

Mobikwik launches UPI on platform

- Leading digital financial services platform, MobiKwik has announced the launch of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) on its platform via its own Virtual payment address (VPA) handle @ikwik. MobiKwik’s users can, by default, use their mobile number as their own VPA which will be ‘@ikwik’.

UNICEF launches data visualisation app:

- The UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund) has launched Data Visualisation App to provide user-friendly visual representation of complex analytics of education scenario in India.

PRAAPTI App launched by Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Shri R.K. Singh

- A Web portal and an App namely PRAAPTI (Payment Ratification And Analysis in Power procurement for bringing Transparency in Invoicing of generators), www.praapti.in, has been officially launched by Hon’ble Minister of State (I/C) for Power, Shri R.K. Singh.

IRCTC website gets user-friendly features

- Now you need not log in to the IRCTC website if you just want to check the availability of seats in trains or to get information on trains between two stations.

Patanjali Launches New Messaging App 'Kimbho':

- Yoga guru Baba Ramdev's Patanjali launched a new swadeshi messaging application called 'Kimbho' to compete with WhatsApp. Kimbho caters to private and group chats with free phone and video calling.

Important Defence News

India, Pakistan to participate in SCO counter-terror exercise Peace Mission 2018:

- For the first time, India and Pakistan will be part of a multi-nation counter-terror exercise, schedule to be held in Russia in September 2018. This multi nation exercise will be conducted under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).
- The exercise has been named ‘Peace Mission 2018’ and almost all SCO member countries including China will be a part of this exercise. Objective of conducting ‘Peace Mission 2018’ is to enhance counter-terror cooperation among the eight SCO member countries.

South Western Command’s Exercise Vijay Prahar:
• South Western Command is carrying out Exercise VIJAY PRAHAR employing more than 20000 troops in the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges close to Suratgarh in Rajasthan.

**India emerges as fifth largest military spenders in 2017:**

• According to recently released report of Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India emerged as fifth largest military spender in 2017.
• India had spent $63.9 billion on defence in 2017, an increase of 5.5% compared with 2016, when it was in the sixth spot overall.

**China launches communication satellite:**

• China has successfully launched ‘APSTAR-6C’, a new communication satellite into orbit. It was launched onboard of Long March-3B carrier rocket from Xichang Satellite Launch Center.
• This was overall 273rd mission of Long March rocket series.

**SpaceX Launches Most Powerful Falcon 9 Rocket:**

• The California-based aerospace company, SpaceX has blasted off its most powerful Falcon 9 rocket, which is certified to carry humans to space later this year.

**ISRO making green propellant:**

• Scientists at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have reported progress in the development of an environment-friendly propellant to power satellites and spacecraft.
• The effort is to replace the conventional hydrazine rocket fuel, a highly toxic and carcinogenic chemical, with a greener propellant for future missions. Initial tests by a research team at the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) here have shown promising results in the formulation and associated tests of a propellant blend based on hydroxyl ammonium nitrate (HAN).

**Army finalises ammunition project:**

• After years of deliberations, the Army has finalised a mega Rs.15,000-crore project under which a range of ammunition for its critical weapons and tanks will be produced indigenously to overcome long delays in imports and address the problem of a dwindling stockpile.

**Indian Army flags of Women Officers’ Mountaineering Expedition:**

• Indian Army flagged off Women Officers’ Mountaineering Expedition to Mt. Bhagirathi-II to explore maximum potential of women officers in the field of adventure sports. Mt. Bhagirathi-II (6512 metres) is located in the Garhwal Himalayas in Gangotri National Park.

**Integrated Centre for Crisis Management for CBRN emergencies at BARC:**

• President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the Integrated Centre for Crisis Management (ICCM) at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

**India gears up for AI-driven wars:**

• In an ambitious defence project, the government has started work on incorporating artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance the operational preparedness of the armed forces in a significant way, which would include equipping them with unmanned tanks, vessels, aerial vehicles and robotic weaponry.
All-women Indian Navy crew returns to Goa after historic circumnavigation:
- An all-woman crew commanding the INSV Tarini on Monday returned to Goa after successfully circumnavigating the globe in a 55-foot sail boat in more than eight months, the first-ever Indian expedition steered by women sailors.

India successfully test-fires BrahMos supersonic cruise missile:
- India successfully test-fired the Indo-Russian joint venture BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from a test range along the Odisha coast to validate some new features. The missile was test-fired from a mobile launcher stationed at Launch pad 3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur.

China launches relay satellite
- China has launched relay satellite named Queqiao (Magpie Bridge) to establish communication link between earth and its planned Chang’e-4 lunar probe (rover) that will explore the dark side of moon.

Chetak Corps of South Western Command conduct military exercise:
- Chetak corps of South Western Command of Indian Army has conducted military exercise Gandiv Vijay in Mahajan field firing ranges of Rajasthan.

India-Nepal joint battalion level exercise:
- The thirteenth edition of India-Nepal joint military exercise, Surya Kiran-XIII will be conducted at Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand from May 30 to Jun 12, 2018.

Military Exercise of Indian Army ‘Gandiv Vijay’ concludes
- The two-month long military exercise of India Army ‘Gandiv Vijay’ concluded in Mahajan field firing ranges near Suratgarh in Rajasthan on May 23, 2018.

Rustom-2 drone to be delivered by 2020
- Indigenously developed Rustom-II Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) will be delivered to armed forces by 2020 as per the contract. It has been developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Exercise RIMPAC
- As many as 26 countries, including India, will participate in the biennial Rim of the Pacific, RIMPAC military exercise from June 27 to August 2, in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California. The announcement was made by the Pentagon.

IMPORTANT SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS

Swachh Bharat Mission Launches GOBAR-DHAN To Promote Wealth And Energy From Waste:
- Union Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation, Uma Bharti launched the GOBAR (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources) – DHAN scheme at the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) in Karnal, Haryana. Ms. Bharti launched this scheme in presence of Haryana Chief Minister, Manohar Lal Khattar.
- Under this scheme, bio-gas plants will be set up at individual or community level and also at the level of Self Help Groups and NGOs like Gaushalas.

The Union Cabinet has approved increasing the investment limit from Rs. 7.5 lakh to Rs. 15 lakh under the PMVVY:
- The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved increasing the investment limit from Rs. 7.5 lakh to Rs. 15 lakh under the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY), aimed at senior citizens.
• It also extended the time limit for subscription from May 4, 2018 to March 31, 2020.
• According to the government, 2.23 lakh senior citizens are availing of benefits under the PMVVY as of March 2018.

**China to organise film festival in Kolkata in July**

• China will organise a film festival at Kolkata’s Nandan in July this year. "A week-long film festival will be organised at Nandan, the film and cultural centre in Kolkata, in which seven Chinese films will be screened".

**WHO Launches 'REPLACE' To Eliminate Trans Fat In Foods By 2023:**

• The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a comprehensive plan to eliminate industrially-produced artificial trans fats from the global food supply by 2023. WHO calls on governments to use the 'REPLACE' action package to eliminate industrially-produced trans-fatty acids from the food supply.
• Elimination of trans fats is key to protecting the health and saving lives. The global health body estimates that every year, trans fat intake leads to over 5,00,000 deaths worldwide from cardiovascular diseases.

**IMPORTANT SCHEMES AND PROGRAMS**

**IIM-Ahmedabad Launches Bharat Inclusive Initiative:**

• IIM-Ahmedabad’s Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) has launched a Bharat Inclusion Initiative to build knowledge and foster innovation and entrepreneurial activity across areas such as financial inclusion, livelihood, education and health.

**Government launches full-fledged Green Skill Development Programme:**

• The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched full-fledged Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP). It aims to train over 5.5 lakh workers in environment and forest sectors in the country through 30 courses by 2021 for sustainable conservation and management of natural resources.

**Atal Pension Yojana’s subscriber base crosses 1 cr mark:**

• The subscriber base of Atal Pension Yojana (APY) crossed 1 crore subscribers mark since its launch in May 2015. It has been reported by Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).

**EESL distributes over 30 crore LED bulbs across the country:**

• The state run Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) distributed over 30 crore light emitting diode (LED) bulbs across country under zero-subsidy Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) scheme.

**‘Clean Air India Initiative’ launched:**

• Prime Minister of Netherlands Mark Rutte, who is in India on a two-day visit, launched the ‘Clean Air India Initiative’ in the national capital.

**Jual Oram launches ‘the Pankha’ (Hand-Fans) through TRIFED and TRIBES India**

• Union Tribal Affairs Minister, Shri Jual Oram launched an exhibition cum sale event, ‘the PANKHA’ (Hand-fans), created by TRIFED through its artisans from all over the country at its showroom Tribes India, 9 Mahadevan Road, New Delhi.
IMPORTANT RANKING AND INDEXES

India is 2nd fastest growing nation for passenger traffic:

- India has been projected as the second fastest growing country in the world for passenger traffic based on traffic forecasts during 2017-40 by the Airports Council International (ACI).
- Vietnam has topped the list with a 8.5 per cent growth rate. It is followed by India at 7.5 per cent and Iran at 7.3 per cent.

Google is the most trusted Internet brand in India:

- According to TRA’s Brand Trust Report 2018, Google is the most trusted Internet brand in India. Facebook has attained the second position on the list. Amazon has ranked third. It is followed by e-Bay in the fourth position. Flipkart has secured 6th position.

India had 14 out of world’s 20 most polluted cities in terms of PM2.5 levels in 2016:

- Delhi and Varanasi are among the 14 Indian cities that figure in a list of 20 most polluted cities in the world in terms of PM2.5 levels in 2016, data released by the WHO shows.
- And nine out of 10 people in the world breathe air containing high levels of pollutants.

India has surpassed France to become world’s fifth largest military spenders, SIPRI stated in a report:

- India spent $63.9 billion on its military in 2017, an increase of 5.5% compared with 2016, the report stated.
- The other countries in top five include the US, China, Saudi Arabia, and Russia.

Justin Langer Appointed Head Coach Of Australian Cricket Team:

- Cricket Australia appointed Justin Langer as the new coach of the Australian national cricket team.
- Justin Langer – Head Coach Of Australian Cricket Team

Mukesh Ambani only Indian businessman on Forbes most powerful people list:

- Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani is the only Indian businessman who made it to the Forbes latest ranking of “The world’s most powerful people”.

India 3rd largest solar market in world: Mercom:
India emerged as the third largest solar market in the world in 2017 behind China and the US, Mercom Communications India said in a report.

**Indore, India’s Cleanest City In Swachh Survekshan-2018**

- As per the Swachh Survekshan-2018 results, Indore has once again emerged as the cleanliest city in India. Bhopal has been ranked 2nd and Chandigarh 3rd in the survey at the national level.

**Aditya Puri in Barron’s list of top 30 CEOs:**

- HDFC Bank MD Aditya Puri has been named in Barron’s list of top 30 Global CEOs, for the fourth consecutive year. Jeff Bezos of Amazon, Warren Buffett of Berkshire Hathaway, Jamie Dimon of JP Morgan Chase, Satya Nadella of Microsoft and Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook figure in the list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cleanest State Capital</th>
<th>Greater Mumbai</th>
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<tr>
<td>Best city in Innovation and Best practices</td>
<td>Nagpur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best city in Solid Waste Management</td>
<td>Navi Mumbai</td>
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<tr>
<td>India’s Cleanest City Zone-Wise</td>
<td>North: Bhalso, Punjab.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>East: Bundu, Jharkhand.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>North-East: Kakching, Manipur.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>South: Siddipet, Telangana.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>West: Panchgani, Maharashtra.</td>
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**India is sixth wealthiest country in the world**

- According to AfrAsia Bank Global Wealth Migration Review, India is the sixth wealthiest country in the world with total wealth of $8,230 billion.

**INDEXES**

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**IMPORTANT BOOKS AND AUTHORS**

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**IMPORTANT SPORTS NEWS**

**CRICKET**

**Sachin Tendulkar, Anurag Thakur launch ‘Khel Mahakumbh’**

- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Anurag Thakur and cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar launched ‘Star Khel Mahakumbh’ in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, in the presence of 1500 athletes.

**Arun Bhardwaj will head the Centre of Excellence for Cricket:**
• Noted coach and umpire Arun Bhardwaj will head the Centre of Excellence. Known for his sound knowledge of the game, Bhardwaj, who calls himself a “student” of the game, is a retired employee of the Sports Authority of India.

**Tim Paine confirmed as Australia’s one-day captain as ODI, T20 squads announced:**

• Tim Paine and Aaron Finch have been appointed as Australia’s new ODI and T20 captains respectively.
• Tim Paine will lead the ODI side in the UK in the absence of banned former captain Steve Smith. Aaron Finch has been appointed as his one-day deputy captain for the five-match series.

**Women’s T20 squads for the women’s T20 challenge at Wankhede Stadium on May 22:**

• The BCCI has named the IPL Supernovas and Trailblazers teams, to be led by Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana respectively, for the women’s T20 challenge at Wankhede Stadium on May 22.

**Gopal Subramaniam calls for five-member selection committees:**

• Amicus Curiae Gopal Subramaniam, guiding the Supreme Court in the matter of the implementation of the Justice Lodha Committee Reforms in Cricket by the BCCI and its full members, has urged the apex court to issue directions to increase the composition of the selection committees (senior men, junior and women) from three to five members.

**ICC bans smart watches from field, dressing rooms:**

• The ICC has prohibited players and officials from using communication devices, especially smart watches, on the field of play as well as the dressing room, taking another step at curbing corruption in the sport.

**Chennai Super Kings won its third IPL title**

• Shane Watson put up an exhibition of power-hitting in front of a packed Wankhede crowd as he struck a memorable unbeaten century to power Chennai Super Kings to their third Indian Premier League title.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Winner (Team)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Man of the Match (Final)</td>
<td>Shane Watson (CSK)</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Orange Cap (Most Runs)</td>
<td>Kane Williamson (SRH)</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Purple Cap (Most Wickets)</td>
<td>Andrew Tye (KXIP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Emerging Player</td>
<td>Rishabh Pant (DD)</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Stylish Player</td>
<td>Rishabh Pant (DD)</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Perfect Catch</td>
<td>Trent Boult (DD)</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Super Striker</td>
<td>Sunil Narine (KKR)</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Valuable Player</td>
<td>Sunil Narine (KKR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Fairplay Award</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Toss will not be tossed away, says ICC Cricket Committee:**

• The toss that brings in an element of intrigue at the start of a Test match will remain in force although former captains and players had wanted it to be tossed away as pitches were being tinkered with to favour home teams.
Dehradun International Cricket Stadium unveiled ahead of International debut:

- The Dehradun International Cricket Stadium was opened on Saturday, 26th May by the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat, after a senior delegation comprising experts from the International Cricket Council assessed the facility last week.

Tennis

Wimbledon increases prize money:

- Wimbledon announced it was hiking its total prize pot for the 2018 tennis championships to £34 million, up 7.6%.
- Organisers also issued a warning that players who compete while knowingly carrying an injury, and quit mid-match, face being docked all their first-round prize money.

Taro Daniel beats Malek Jaziri, wins maiden ATP title:

- Japan’s Taro Daniel grabbed his first ATP title after beating Tunisian Malek Jaziri 7-6(4), 6-4 in the Istanbul Open final on Sunday.

Nadal wins eighth Italian Open title:

- Rafael Nadal came out on top in a matchup of this year’s top two clay-court players, beating defending champion Alexander Zverev 6-1, 1-6, 6-3 on Sunday to win a record-extending eighth Italian Open title.

Barcelona Clinch its 25th La Liga Title Without Losing a Single Game:

- Barcelona has clinched their 25th La Liga title thanks to a 4-2 win over Deportivo La Coruna on Sunday night - inspired by a Lionel Messi hat-trick.

Mohamed Salah named writers’ Footballer of the Year:

- Mohamed Salah of Liverpool football team has been named the Football Writers’ Association Footballer of the Year for 2017/18.

Juventus Win Italian Cup:

- AC Milan goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma gifted two goals and Nikola Kalinic added an own-goal in a nightmare 4-0 defeat for the Rossoneri as Juventus claimed a record fourth straight Italian Cup title.

Neymar named France’s player of the year:

- Neymar was named as France’s player of the year at an awards ceremony in Paris on Sunday, despite the Paris Saint-Germain superstar missing the last three months of the season due to injury.

Neymar has been confirmed in a Brazil:

- Neymar has been confirmed in a Brazil 23-man World Cup Football squad of few surprises.

Iraq to host first international football tournament:

- Iraq is to host a West Asia Football Federation championship in the southern city of Basra in November, the first international tournament to be staged in the country since the 1990s.
India's Neeraj Goyat is WBC Asia Boxer of the Year:

- Indian pugilist Neeraj Goyat has been conferred with the WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award. Neeraj is the current WBC Asia champion in welter weight category.

Hockey India names Harendra Singh as men's coach:

- Hockey India today named Women's hockey coach Harendra Singh as chief coach of the Indian men's team. Incumbent men's in-charge Sjoerd Marijne was re-appointed as Indian women's hockey coach.

ISSF brings you ‘Athletes Handbook’:

- Quality guidance at a young age is the key to healthy growth in any sport. Keeping this in mind, the Athletes Committee of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF), with the former World and Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra as the chairman, has brought out a comprehensive Athletes Handbook, for the benefit of shooters around the world.

Talent search camp in Bengaluru:

- About 120 players are set to be trained in three batches at the Padukone-Dravid Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, in three batches, as part of the drive by the Badminton Association of India (BAI) to identify fresh talent.
- The camp in June-July will be under the guidance of Prakash Padukone with assistance from Vimal Kumar, and junior national coach Sanjay Mishra.

India finishes on top with 20 gold medals at 3rd South Asian Junior Athletics Championships:

- India finished on top with 20 gold, 22 silver and 8 bronze medals, at the 3rd South Asian Junior Athletics Championships (SAJAC) at Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Host Sri Lanka won 12 gold medals 10 silver and 19 bronze medals and occupied 2nd place. Pakistan won 1 silver and 1 bronze medal and secured the third place.

NBA and FIBA to host BWB Asia:

- The National Basketball Association (NBA) and the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) will host the Basketball Without Borders (BWB) Asia event, open to the best boys and girls in the under-17 age group of the Asia Pacific region, at the NBA Academy in the National Capital Region from May 30 to June 2.

Lewis Hamilton cruises to victory in Spanish Grand Prix:

- Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton easily won the Spanish Grand Prix on Sunday for his second straight Formula One victory, increasing his championship lead over Ferrari’s Sebastian Vettel.

Heena takes gold in air pistol:
Former World record-holder Heena Sidhu announced her readiness for the next World Cup in Munich with a gold medal in air pistol at the international shooting championship here.

P. Shri Nivetha, who topped qualification with an impressive 582, settled for bronze after missing a better medal by 0.3 point.

**Lewis Hamilton Wins Spanish Grand Prix:**


**First Para-National Games to be held in Bengaluru:**

- The inaugural National Para Games, on the lines of National Games for able-bodied athletes, will held under the Khelo India Scheme from Jun 28 to Jul 07 in Bengaluru.

**Shivangi Pathak becomes India’s youngest women to scale Mt Everest:**

- At the age of 16, Shivangi Pathak has become the India’s youngest women to scale Mt Everest from Nepal side. Shivangi climbed Mt Everest to spread the message that women could overcome any obstacle to achieve their goals.

**Mridul Banerjee Named Delhi Dynamos Assistant Coach:**

- Indian Super League (ISL) outfit Delhi Dynamos appointed Mridul Banerjee as the new assistant coach of the club. The 59-year-old will take over from Shakti Chauhan who left the side earlier this month.

**Bala Prasath Wins Formula Junior Racing Series 2018 Championship**

- Coimbatore racer Bala Prasath has won the Formula Junior Racing Series 2018 Championship in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- Bala, who was trailing in second place after Round 1 with 91 points, was in his element in Round 2 at the Kari Motor Speedway.

**South Korea Wins Asian Champions Trophy 2018**

- The Indian women’s Hockey team failed to defend its crown at the fifth Asian Champions Trophy, as it lost to hosts South Korea, 0-1 in the summit clash at Donghae City, South Korea. A goal by Youngsil Lee clinched the Korean team as the winner of Champions Trophy.

**Japanese women’s badminton team clinches the Uber Cup**

- Japanese women’s badminton team clinched the Uber Cup for the first time since 1981 when they defeated hosts Thailand 3-0 at the IMPACT Stadium. The Uber Cup is also known as the Women’s World Badminton Championship.

**Vikas Gowda decided to quit sports:**

- One of only three Commonwealth Games gold medallists for India in athletics, Vikas Gowda on Wednesday decided to quit sports.

### Important Obituaries

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<td>Lester James Peiris</td>
<td>Sri Lankan filmmaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashok Mitra</td>
<td>Eminent Economist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kottayam Pushpanath</td>
<td>Malayalam detective novelist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ravinder Sharma</td>
<td>Renowned artist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshal Idris Hassan Latif</td>
<td>Former Air Chief</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arun Date</td>
<td>Renowned Marathi singer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Profession/Role</td>
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<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. N. Vijay Kumar</td>
<td>MLA from Jayanagar in Karnataka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balkavi Bairagi</td>
<td>Noted Hindi lyricist, poet, politician</td>
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<td>Ramesh Hassan,</td>
<td>The South African Indian community is mourning the demise of musician and singer</td>
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<td>Balakumaran</td>
<td>Popular Tamil novelist</td>
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<td>Ennackal Chandy George Sudarshan</td>
<td>Eminent Physicist</td>
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<td>Govind Lal Vora</td>
<td>Veteran Journalist from Chhattisgarh</td>
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<td>Yamunabai Waikar</td>
<td>Lavani singer</td>
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<td>Yaddanapudi Sulochana</td>
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