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Current Affairs

NATIONAL NEWS

➢ **Health Ministry releases draft rules for e-pharmacies to regulate online sale of medicines**

- The Union Health Ministry has come out with draft rules on sale of drugs by e-pharmacies with an aim to regulate online sale of medicines across India and provide patients accessibility to genuine drugs from authentic online portals.
- The draft rules on "sale of drugs by e-pharmacy" state that no person will distribute or sell, stock, exhibit or offer for sale of drugs through e-pharmacy portal unless registered.
- The draft notification says the application of registration of e-pharmacy will have to be accompanied by a sum of Rs 50,000 while asserting that an e-pharmacy registration holder will have to comply with provisions of Information Technology Act, 2000

➢ **One-Nation-One-Card For Public Transport Soon, Says NITI Aayog CEO**

- India will shortly unveil a one-nation-one-card policy for public transport that will bring seamless connectivity between various modes of transport, NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said.
- A robust transportation sector was the backbone for the development of any economy, especially for a densely populated developing country like India, and the focus of the nation's mobility strategy was on sustainable modes of public transport, transport-oriented planning and digitisation.
- "The objective of the strategy is to plan for the citizens first, rather than focusing on vehicles alone, by providing sustainable mobility and accessibility by switching to cleaner mode of transportation.

➢ **Minister of State for HRD, Dr. Satya Pal Singh successfully attended G20 Education Ministers' and Joint Ministerial Meeting at Mendoza, Argentina**

- The Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Dr. Satya Pal Singh lead a high level delegation to the G-20 Education Ministers' Meeting as well as Joint Ministerial Meeting held at Mendoza, Argentina on 5th & 6th September, 2018. It was the first ever meeting of Education Ministers in the history of G-20.
- The two meetings included Ministers of Education and Ministers for Labour and Employment from member countries as well as representatives of International Organizations like the World Bank, UNESCO.
- During G20 Summit of Education Ministers, Dr Satya Pal Singh successfully held bilateral talks with education minister of 9 countries.

➢ **Delhi CM Kejriwal launches doorstep delivery of services**

- The Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) rolled out doorstep delivery of public services for Delhiites
- In the first phase of the Delhi government's scheme, 40 services will be provided for a nominal charge of Rs 50.
- VFS Global, one of the biggest visa and passport service providers in the world, has been given the contract to run the project for three years.

➤ **Shri Piyush Goyal launches a web portal "Rail Sahyog"**
- The "Rail Sahyog" portal is an example of changing times & speedy execution of projects in Railways. Salient feature of this portal is its simplicity & transparency.
- This portal will provide an opportunity for Industry/ Companies/ Associations to collaborate with Railways.
- This portal will not only be beneficial for passengers but also for neighbourhood of Railway vicinity."
- Indian Railways, with its vast network and presence across the length and breadth of the country, has always been at the forefront to serve the society. Inspired by the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister for a New India by 2022

➤ **Union Agriculture Minister releases a profile booklet titled 'NCDC- Assisting Cooperative. Always!'**
- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh released a booklet titled 'NCDC-Assisting Cooperatives. Always!' highlighting the role and activities assisted by National Cooperative Development Corporation in Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
- Shri Singh recalled that NCDC nurtures cooperatives which represent by and large small and marginal farmers.
- NCDC is the most preferred financial institution in the world of cooperatives and aligning itself with the Mission of New India 2022, NCDC has embarked on Sahakar 22, a Mission for Doubling Farmers' Income by 2022.

➤ **Tamil Naidu bans e-cigarettes, prohibits online sale too**
- The Tamil Nadu government has issued a government order banning its manufacture, sale and possession with immediate effect in the state.
- The government prohibits the manufacture, sale (including online sale), of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), knows as E-Cigarettes or by any other name or component with immediate effect in Tamil Nadu
- Listing the ill-effects of using e-cigarettes, the government order said it is a myth that it is less harmful than beedis and cigarettes.

➤ **In a first in Asia, Bengaluru airport set to use face recognition as 'boarding pass' next year**
- Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru is set to become the first airport in Asia next year to use face recognition as the boarding procedure for passengers to board flights and move across different sections of the airport.
- Hari Marar, CEO of Bengaluru International Airport Ltd. (BIAL), which operates KIA, and Miguel Leitmann, CEO of Vision Box, a Portuguese software firm, signed an agreement to this effect in Lisbon on September 5 to introduce face recognition technology at the airport from 2019.

➤ **'E-Sahaj' portal for grant of Security Clearance Launched by Union Home Secretary**
- The Union Home Secretary Shri Rajiv Gauba launched an online 'e-sehaj' portal for grant of Security Clearance. The portal will facilitate an applicant to submit application online and also to view the status of his application from time to time.
- Ministry of Home Affairs(MHA) has cleared about 1,100 cases of security clearance on the past one year. Although the given timeline is 90days, MHA strives to decide Security Clearance cases in 60 days(average time per case in 2018 is 53 days) which is being reduced further

➤ **48. Union Cabinet Approves Ordinance to Criminalise Triple Talaq**
- The Union cabinet on Wednesday approved an ordinance making triple talaq a punishable offence, including a jail term of up to three years and a fine.
- Announcing the decision after the cabinet meeting, union law minister Ravi Shankar Prasad told the media the practice of triple talaq has continued despite the Supreme Court striking it down.
- The Bill, brought by the Narendra Modi government aiming to criminalise instant divorce or talaq-e-biddat by men by uttering "talaq" thrice in quick succession, is currently stalled in the parliament.

➢ **Supreme Court declares Centre's Aadhaar scheme as constitutionally valid**
- The Supreme Court on declared the Centre's flagship Aadhaar scheme as Constitutionally valid.
- The apex court's five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra said Aadhaar is meant to help benefits reach the marginalised sections of the society and takes into account the dignity of people not only from personal but also from community point of view.
- Justice Sikri said unique identification proof also empowers and gives identity to marginalised sections of society.

➢ **PM Modi gets UN's highest environmental honour**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is amongst the six winners of the United Nation's highest environmental honour, the 'Champions of the Earth Awards' for his "unprecedented pledge to eliminate all single-use plastic in India by 2022.
- Modi along with French President Emmanuel Macron were recognised in the 'Policy Leadership Category' for their "pioneering work in championing" the International Solar Alliance and "new areas of levels of cooperation on environmental action.
- The other winners include environmental and indigenous rights defender Joan Carling and the 'Beyond Meat and Impossible Food' in the Science and Innovation category for their popular, plant-based alternative to beef and "their efforts to educate consumers about environmentally conscious alternatives"

➢ **Adultery not a crime, Supreme Court strikes down Section 497**
- The court declared that Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code-the adultery law-was unconstitutional.The Supreme Courtunanimously struck down a 158-year-old law that considers adultery to be an offence committed by one man against another, and has been criticised for treating women as possessions rather than human beings.
- Misra, who wrote a judgment for himself and Justice AM Khanwilkar, said the unequal treatment of women invites the wrath of the Constitution, and that any provision treating women unequally isn't constitutional.
- The other judges on the bench were Justice RF Nariman, Justice DY Chandrachud, and Justice Indu Malhotra.

➢ **8. PM inaugurates first assembly of the International Solar Alliance**
- The Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, inaugurated the first Assembly of the International Solar Alliance at Vigyan Bhawan.
- The same event also marked the inauguration of the second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting, and the 2nd Global RE-Invest (Renewable Energy Investors' Meet and Expo).
- This is a great forum to work towards ensuring climate justice. The International Solar Alliance could replace OPEC as the key global energy supplier in the future.

➢ **Project Utkrisht launched by Indian Railways**
- Railways has plans to develop 640 Utkrisht rakes as part of upgradation of its mail/express trains in the next two years at a cost of Rs 4 billion.
- The first lot of Utkrisht rakes rolled out as Kalka Mail from Howrah station andwill reach Delhi
- The unique feature of this Utkrisht Rake is the provision of Swachh Rail Toilet (SRT), which is a hybrid design of bio-toilet system.

➢ **National Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018: Haryana Ranked Best State, While Satara Named Best District**
- The awards by Prime Minister were given at the concluding session of Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre.
- Haryana was ranked as the best state while Satara district of Maharashtra was ranked as the best district as per the ranking was undertaken by Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018.
- Swachh Sarvekshan Gramin 2018: Satara District of Maharashtra Bags Top Spot of Being Cleanest Among Rural Areas.

➢ **EAM Sushma Swaraj launches India for Humanity initiative in New Delhi**
  • External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj launched India for Humanity initiative in New Delhi as part of 150th Birth Anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi being held over the next one year.
  • With its focus on Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of compassion, caring and service to humanity, 'India for Humanity' features a year-long series of artificial limb fitment camps in a number of ountries spanning the globe.
  • The camps will be initially held in 12 countries identified through the Missions with financial support of Indian government.

➢ **Cabinet approves Productivity Linked Bonus for Railway Employees**
  • The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the payment of Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for the financial year 2017-18 for all eligible non-gazetted Railway employees.
  • The financial implication of payment of 78 days' PLB to railway employees has been estimated to be Rs.2044.31 crore.
  • The Productivity Linked Bonus on Railway covers all non-gazetted railway employees (excluding RPF/RPSF personnel) who are spread over the entire country.

➢ **UNICEF, WHO Say India Remains Polio-Free, Vaccine Safe**
  • The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO)reiterated India's status as a polio-free country.
  • The two global agencies held that risk of children getting vaccine derived poliovirus was minimal in India because of high routine immunisation coverage in the country.
  • As advised by the India Expert Advisory Group, the country continues to conduct mass vaccination campaigns against polio, using bivalent oral polio vaccine (bOPV), to maintain high immunity.

➢ **Union Minister Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurates PMKK Patiala**
  • The Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) Patiala where 1000 students will get free training in skill Development every year in the multiple courses like Hair Stylist, Manual Arc Welding, Plumber, Field Technician – Other Home Appliances and Mobile Phone Hardware Repair Technician.
  • PMKK is the flagship scheme of Union Ministry of Skill Development and Enterpreurship under Government of India is setting up 600 PMKK's in identified districts. From these 480 have been set up and operational.
  • In Punjab there are 25 sanctioned PMKK's, out of which 16 are operational.

➢ **Microsoft, Niti Aayog to bring in I tools for agriculture and healthcare**
  • Microsoft India has signed an agreement with Niti Aayog to deploy artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to address challenges in agriculture and healthcare, and promote adoption of local language computing, among others.
  • Microsoft India will support NITI Aayog by combining the cloud, AI, research and its vertical expertise for new initiatives and solutions across several core areas.
  • Microsoft will also accelerate the use of AI for the development and adoption of local language computing, in addition to building capacity for AI among the workforce through education.

➢ **India Elected To UN Human Rights Council**
  • India was elected to the United Nations' top human rights body for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019, getting 188 votes in the Asia-Pacific category, the highest number of votes among all candidates.
  • The 193-member UN General Assembly held elections for new members to the UN Human Rights Council.

- The 18 new members were elected by absolute majority through a secret ballot. Countries needed a minimum of 97 votes to get elected to the Council. India was vying for a seat in the Asia Pacific category.

➢ **IRCTC launched its E-ticketing Chatbot 'Ask Disha' on its website**

- 'Ask Disha' chatbot was launched on its e-ticketing website, irctc.co.in and is a first of its kind initiative for any government website.
- It will provide 24*7 customer query service. It is jointly developed by IRCTC and CoRover Private Limited, a Bangalore-based company.
- It can be used by Indian Railways passengers to get their questions answered through the chat bot.

➢ **Union Minister Mahesh Sharma & Hardeep Singh Puri lay foundation stone for Museum on Prime Ministers of India in New Delhi**

- Mahesh Sharma and Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri laid the foundation stone for Museum on Prime Ministers of India at Teen Murti Estate in New Delhi.
- The museum will depict modern India through collections relating to Prime Ministers of India, their lives, works and significant contributions made towards nation building. It will bring India's democratic experience alive to the visitors.
- The proposed museum will include an orientation space, souvenir shop, space for organising talks, seminar halls and auditorium.

➢ **#MeToo: NCW Launches E-mail ID For Sexual Harassment At Workplace Cases**

- The National Commission for Women (NCW) has come out with a dedicated e-mail address to report instances of sexual harassment at workplace after several such complaints were made to the body by women under the #Metoo movement on social media.
- The NCW said it has received formal written complaints from various women about instances of sexual harassment at their workplace.
- The Commission urges women who have come forward on social media and other platforms about their alleged harassers to send their formal written complaints to ncw.metoo@gmail.com.
- The NCW will take forward complaints of sexual harassment at workplace received on the mail so that appropriate action may be taken.

➢ **North Central Railways launches apps for its employees, passengers**

- The North Central Railways (NCR) launched two mobile apps, 'NCR RASTA' and 'Yatri RASTA', for its employees and passengers, respectively, for locating assets and stations.
- "NCR RASTA (Railway assets Summerised Tracking Application) and Yatri RASTA (Railway Approach to Station Tracking Application) were launched by NCR General Manager Rajiv Chaudhry.

➢ **PM Modi hoists Tricolour at Red Fort on 75th anniversary of Azad Hind government**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoisted the national flag at the Red Fort in New Delhi to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Azad Hind government formed by freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- The Azad Hind government was raised by Netaji during the freedom movement.
- The decision to hoist the national flag at the Red Fort has reportedly been taken because it was the same place where soldiers of the Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj) faced trials by the British.

➢ **India's First Engineless Train To Make Debut On Tracks**
- India's first engineless, self-propelled train, the Train-18 trainset, makes its debut on the tracks.
- The "Make in India" train has been manufactured by the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai at the cost of Rs. 100 crore.

➢ **'Delhi's Eiffel Tower': Signature Bridge inaugurated, opens to public**
- Delhi's iconic Signature Bridge was inaugurated by chief minister Arvind Kejriwal.
- The 675-metre Signature Bridge, which will be opened to public tomorrow, is an eight-lane carriageway that will reduce the travel time between north and northeast Delhi and share the burden of the Wazirabad Bridge.
- The bridge, boasts of 127 strands of back-stay cables, spherical bearings of 17,300 tonne vertical capacity, pendulum bearing to resist uplift of 6,300 tonnes, and transportation and handling of 460 tonne pylon base segment and is being projected as India's first asymmetrical cable-stayed bridge.

➢ **WCD launches online portal to promote women farmers and entrepreneurs "Mahila-E-Haat"**
- The Women and Child Development Ministry has set up an online marketing portal for unique organic products of the women farmers and entrepreneurs from across the country.
- Named "Mahila-E-Haat", the portal was launched ahead of the "Women of India National Organic Festival, 2018" which was organised by the ministry to promote women entrepreneurs.
- The 5th edition of the 10-day festival, which ended November 4, saw the participation of women farmers and entrepreneurs from across the country.

➢ **Govt to issue Rs 75 coin to mark 75th anniversary of Tricolour hoisting by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose**
- The government will release a Rs 75 coin to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose hoisting the Tricolour for the first time at Port Blair.
- The Ministry of Finance has issued a notification regarding the release of the Rs 75 coin along with its specifications.
- A numeral 75th along with inscription "anniversary" will be depicted below the portrait. The coin will carry an inscription saying 'First Flag Hoisting Day' in both Devnagari s

➢ **PM Modi opens Kundli-Manesar-Palwal expressway**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the much-delayed Kundli-Manesar-Palwal Expressway in Haryana's Gurgaon district – a project that will divert heavy polluting vehicles from Delhi.
- The project was divided into Eastern Peripheral Expressway, inaugurated earlier this year and Western Peripheral Expressway.
- The Western Peripheral Expressway project has been developed at a cost of Rs 6,400 crore out of which Rs 2,788 crore was spent to acquire 3,846 acres of land.

➢ **Nitish Kumar Unveils Lord Buddha's 70-Feet Statue In Bihar's Rajgir**
- Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today unveiled a 70-feet tall statue of Lord Buddha at Rajgir in Nalanda district.
- The statue has been installed above a 16 metre radius pedestal in the middle of the lake Ghora Katora and has been made from 45,000 cubic foot pink sand stone.
- Mr Kumar unveiled the statue of Lord Buddha, the second tallest statue of Buddha in the country, in the presence of Mahabodhi temple's chief monk Bhante Chalinda amid the chanting of hymns.

➢ **Kartarpur Corridor: India lays foundation stone for Sikh pilgrimage route**

- Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Dera Baba Nanak-Karatarpur Sahib road corridor in the presence of the Punjab chief minister and Union ministers.
- The decision to build the corridor from Dera Baba Nanak to the International Border was taken on November 22 by India's Union Cabinet.
- The corridor will help lakhs of pilgrims from India to visit Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur on the banks of river Ravi in Pakistan where Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism, is believed to have spent his last 18 years.

STATE NEWS

➢ **ACI ranks Hyderabad airport No. 1 in 5 to 15 million category**

- GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) said its Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) here has ranked no. 1 in the Airports Council International's service quality in the category of 5 to 15 million passengers per annum.
- GHIAL's CEO S G K Kishore yesterday received the trophy from ACI's Director General Angela Gittens and CEO of Airports Company South Africa, Bongani Maseko, during the 27th ACI Africa/world annual general assembly, conference and exhibition at Port Louis in Mauritius.
- The trophy was formally handed over for the year 2016, ranking RGIA as the 'world's number one airport' in the category.

➢ **Rajasthan minister inaugurates Stats'a First Lion safari**

- Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar launched the lion safari at Nahargarh Biological Park.
- The tourist attraction will be thrown open for visitors from next month, an official of the forest department said.
- The park is located on the Delhi-Jaipur National Highway, nearly 12 kilometers from Jaipur.
- Lions in this park were brought from Junagarh, Gujarat under an exchange programme. Total of 10 lions will be released in the park in a phased manner.

➢ **PM inaugurates key development projects in Varanasi**

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for several important development projects, at a public gathering in Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
- Among the projects inaugurated are the Integrated Power Development Scheme(IPDS) for Puraani Kashi; and an Atal Incubation Centre at Banaras Hindu University
- The cumulative value of all projects which were inaugurated is over Rs.550 crore.
- The Prime Minister said that the efforts to bring about change in Varanasi, are also attempting to preserve the city's rich heritage.

➢ **Odisha CM launches star-rating system for industries to reduce air pollution**

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched a 'Star Rating program' for industries to strengthen State Pollution Control Board's (SPCB) regulatory efforts to reduce pollution.
- It is a first-of-its-kind transparency initiative to categorise industries from one to five stars compliant to pollution standards.
- The Star- Rating Program is an excellent example of the 3T framework Teamwork, Transparency and Technology. This programme will help the public to find out whether industries in their vicinity are fair in their environmental compliance and empower them to strengthen regulations through public participation.

➤ **PM inaugurates Jharsuguda Airport and flags off UDAN flight between Jharsuguda-Raipur sector**

- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated a new airport in Jharsuguda - also known as the powerhouse of Odisha.
- Jharsuguda is the second airport of Odisha after Bhubaneswar to become operational and the first one to provide necessary connectivity to Bhubaneswar, Raipur and Ranchi under RCS UDAN.
- In Odisha, other than Jharsuguda, three more airports, namely, Jeypore in Koraput District, Rourkela in Sundargarh District and Utkela in Kalahandi District are being developed to provide connectivity to remote and far flung areas of the coastal state.

➤ **PM inaugurates Pakyong Airport, as air connectivity reaches Sikkim**

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today inaugurated the Pakyong Airport in Sikkim. This is the first airport in the Himalayan State, and the 100th airport in the country.
- The Prime Minister said that Pakyong Airport would greatly ease connectivity to Sikkim. He said that in order to ensure that it is useful to the common man, this airport is part of the UDAN scheme.
- The Prime Minister said that out of 100 airports in the country today, 35 have been operationalized in the last four years.

➤ **Delhi Gets First WAYU Air Pollution Control Device**

- Union Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan has inaugurated air pollution control device WAYU (Wind Augmentation Purifying Unit) in delhi.
- The device can purify air in a area of 500 meter square. Around 54 more such device are to be installed by October 15 in Delhi.
- The device installed at Income Tax Office (ITO) intersection and Mukarba Chowk, generates wind in order to dilute the air pollutants and removes the active pollutants like carbon (charcoal) with the help of one fan and filter.

➤ **Hyderabad Metro Rail expands operations to become country's second-largest after Delhi**

- Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Governor ESL Narasimhanflagged off a metro train on Hyderabad Metro Rail's (HMR) much-awaited 16-km stretch between Ameerpet and LB Nagar.
- The opening of this stretch completes the entire 29-km Corridor One of the HMR project, now India's second-largest metro network after Delhi.
- It is also the world's largest metro project under the public-private-partnership (PPP) model with a total estimated cost of over Rs 20,000 crore courtesy time.

➤ **India's First cryptocurrency ATM launched in Bengaluru**

- Despite the government and Reserve Bank of India's crackdown on cryptocurrency in india, virtual currency exchange unocoin has installed a currency deposit and dispensing ATM at kemp Fort Mall in bengaluru.
- First of its kind in India, this ATM circumvents the RBI regulation against bitcoins transaction.
- RBI has ruled earlier this year that financial institutions associated with RBI are not permitted to deal with cryptocurrencies.

➤ **PM inaugurates Mahatma Gandhi Museum at Rajkot**

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi,inaugurated the Mahatma Gandhi Museum in Rajkot.
- The Museum has been set up at the Alfred High School, which was an important part of the formative years of Mahatma Gandhi. It will help spread awareness about Gandhian culture, values and philosophy.
- The Prime Minister also unveiled a plaque to mark the inauguration of a public housing project of 624 houses. He witnessed the e-Gruh Pravesh of 240 beneficiary families.

➢ **Assam govt to launch Wage Compensation scheme for Pregnant Women in tea gardens of state**

- Assam government will launch Wage Compensation scheme for Pregnant Women in tea gardens of the state.
- The scheme will provide better health and nutrition supplements to the pregnant women.
- An amount of 12 thousand rupees will be given to the pregnant woman so that she could take care of herself and unborn baby without compromising the livelihood of her family.
- The compensation of wages to pregnant women will be given in 4 installments. The scheme is likely to reduce and maternal and neonatal mortality in the tea areas.

➢ **UN Food & Agriculture Organisation awards Sikkim for becoming world's first totally organic agriculture state**

- Sikkim has won this year's UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's Future Policy for Gold Award for its achievement in becoming the world's first totally organic agriculture state.
- Sikkim was considered for the award for its policies on Agroecology and Sustainable food systems. It won the gold by beating 51 nominated policies from 25 countries. Brazil, Denmark and Equador won Silver for their policies.
- The small Himalayan state of Sikkim was declared fully organic state in 2016 after phasing out chemical fertilisers and pesticides and substituting them with sustainable alternatives.

➢ **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Inaugurates three Day Kalahandi Dialogue in Bhawanipatna**

- The three day Kalahandi Dialogue, a global conclave on development has been launched here by Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik.
- This aims to involve youth in development activities.
- After launching a slew of development projects, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik thanked the people of Kalahandi for the incredible spirit and indomitable energy.

➢ **President gives assent to India's first good samaritan bill of Karnataka**

- President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to a bill providing legal protection to the good samaritans in Karnataka, who help accident victims with emergency medical care within the golden hour.
- The bill - Karnataka Good Samaritan and Medical Professional (Protection and Regulation during Emergency Situations) Bill, 2016 -- received the President's assent.
- Karnataka has become the first state in the country to give legal protection to good samaritans.

➢ **Maharashtra govt launches website, application to analyse drought situation**

- The Maharashtra government launched a website and a mobile application which will use modern technology to analyse the drought situation in the state by collecting data on rainfall
- The state relief and rehabilitation ministry created the website called Maha Madat with the help of the Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC).
- Rehabilitation and Relief Minister Chandrakant Patil said the platform will help in accurately analysing drought-like situations in villages across the state.

➢ **Karnataka govt unveils 'Unnati' scheme to help entrepreneurs from SC/ST communities**
- Karnataka Social Welfare Minister Priyank Kharge launches unnati scheme, under the Unnati scheme, will invest up to Rs 20 crore to create end-to-end support infrastructure for startups and entrepreneurs from a marginalised background.
- The government, under the scheme, will identify the problems dogging society and solve them by identifying companies, working on products and solutions for related problems.
- The Social Welfare department will invest up to Rs 20 crore to create end-to-end support infrastructure for startups and entrepreneurs from a marginalised background. This will be done under Unnati scheme.

➢ **Rajasthan to provide free electricity to farmers to increase their income**
- The Rajasthan government has launched a scheme to provide free electricity to farmers having general category connections.
- The Scheme would help increase the income of farmers.
- The project will provide water for drinking and irrigation purposes to 13 districts in eastern Rajasthan.

➢ **PM Modi inaugurates Investors Summit in Dehradun**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Uttarakhand Investors Summit in Dehradun.Uttarakhand Investors Summit 2018 explores investment opportunities in the state.
- A large number of leading business firms and industrial houses are likely to participate in the two-day event in the state.
- In the last two years, Centre and state governments have taken more than 10,000 steps which have helped India gain more than 42 points in Ease of Business.

➢ **Central University of Jammu signs MoU with ISRO to set up Space Applications Center**
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed an MoU with the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) in Jammu for setting up of the Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science in the University in the presence of the Union Minister.
- Another MoU was signed between CUJ and the Central Scientific Instruments Organization (CSIR-CSIO) to create awareness about space research and to motivate young minds to take up research related to space.
- This is the first of its kind institute coming up in Jammu and Kashmir and the building is proposed in an area of about 1,150 sq. m.

➢ **Haryana's first autism research centre opens in Gurugram**
- Haryana, National Autism Intervention Research Centre was launched at Fortis Memorial Research Institute by state's Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, R.R. Jowel.
- The centre, dedicated to people suffering from Autism, has been started in association with Behaviour Momentum India.
- Nearly one crore children across India are estimated to be affected by autism.

➢ **Punjab CM lays foundation stones for 5 projects in Amritsar**
- Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh laid the foundation stones for five infrastructural projects, worth Rs 127.86 crore, in Amritsar.
- He also announced an additional Rs 50 crore for tubewells to ensure seamless supply of clean water in the holy city, pending the completion of the canal water supply network.
- The projects for which the foundation stones were laid included ROBs at Vallah Phatak on Amritsar-Delhi Railway line and on Amritsar-Attari section at Khajana Gate, RUB at Jaura Phatak on Amritsar-Delhi section and Amritsar-Pathankot section.

➢ **West Bengal Govt Launches 'Khadya Sathi', Extends Food Security to 8.5 Crore People**
- West Bengal government has ensured food security to over 8.5 crore people of the state under the 'Khadya Sathi' scheme.
- Special assistance is also being given to the people of Jangalmahal and Hill areas besides Aila-affected areas and farmers of Singur, tea garden workers as well as the Toto.
- World Food Day is celebrated worldwide on 16th October to celebrate founding of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations in 1945.

➢ **Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approves renaming of Allahabad to Prayagraj**
- The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet adopted a proposal to rename the historic city of Allahabad as Prayagraj, a move opposed by the opposition parties in the state.
- Allahabad has been renamed Prayagraj by the government. Five hundred years ago the name of the place was Prayagraj as it is at the `Triveni Sangam' (a confluence of three rivers).
- The new name derives from a place in the city called Prayag, where three rivers flowing across the state meet.

➢ **India's longest bridge to be built across Brahmaputra : Assam**
- India's longest river bridge will be built across the Brahmaputra, connecting Dhubri in Assam to Phulbari in Meghalaya.
- Currently, the longest river bridge in India, at 9.15 km, is the Dhola-Sadiya Bridge which was opened last year.
- This bridge will have total length will be 19.3 kilometers and will be four-lane. Its construction will be completed by 2026-27 and will be public-funded work.

➢ **Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurates Gujarat's first Mega Food Park in Surat**
- Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated the first Mega Food Park in Gujarat.
- The Gujarat Agro Mega Food Park will benefit the people of Surat District and the people of nearby Districts of Navsari, Tapi, Narmada & Bharuch.
- Under the Scheme, Government of India provides financial assistance upto Rs. 50.00 Crore per Mega Food Park project..

➢ **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh lays foundation stone of 'Technology Facility Center' at Jorhat**
- The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region Dr Jitendra Singh laid the foundation stone of new Science Centre, the "Technology Facility Centre" (TFC) in the premises of the CSIR-North East Institute of Science & Technology (NEIST) in Jorhat, Assam.
- For setting up the new Science Centre, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) had allocated Rs.40 crore for its construction.
- This will work as a Center of Excellence for all the eight States of Northeast for promoting research as well as job creation.

➢ **President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates 'Vishwa Shanti Ahimsa Sammelan' in Maharashtra**
- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurate the three-day 'Vishwa Shanti Ahimsa Sammelan' at Mangi Tungi in Satana taluka
- At the function, the president will present the first international 'Bhagwan Rishabhdev Award' to Teerthanker Mahaveer University, based in Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh.
- The award consisted of a cash prize of Rs. 11 lakh, a memento and a citation. It was received by chancellor of Teerthanker Mahaveer University Suresh Jain.

➢ **PM Modi inaugurates 36th Indian Carpets Expo at Varanasi**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 36th Indian Carpets Expo at Varanasi.
- Addressing a gathering via a video conference, Prime Minister Modi said that Varanasi, Bhadohi and Mirzapur– cities in Uttar Pradesh– were important centres of the carpet industry while also underlining the efforts being made to encourage handicrafts and small and medium industries.
- This is also a part of the 'Made in India' initiative. India is today the biggest producer ofcarpets, and has about 35 per cent of the global market share.

➢ **Cabinet clears renaming Jharsuguda aerodrome as Veer Surendra Sai airport**
- The Cabinet approved renaming Jharsuguda aerodrome in Odisha as 'Veer Surendra Sai Airport'. Veer Surendra Sai is a well-known freedom fighter of Odisha.
- The renaming of the airport as 'Veer Surendra Sai Airport, Jharsuguda' was cleared by the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The airport has been developed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in collaboration with Odisha government at an estimated cost of Rs 210 crore, with Rs 75 crore contribution from the state.

➢ **Cabinet approves setting up of Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh**
- The Union cabinet on Thursday approved setting up of 'Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh'. It will be established in Relli village of Vizianagaram District.
- The proposed university will come up after necessary amendment in the Central Universities Act.
- The 'Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh' will be set up in Relli village of Vizianagaram District as provided under the Thirteenth Schedule to the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

➢ **Lucknow's Ekana Cricket Stadium Renamed After Atal Bihari Vajpayee**
- The Uttar Pradesh (UP) government changed the name of the Ekana International Cricket Stadium to "Bharat Ratan Atal Bihari Vajpayee International Cricket Stadium"
- UP Governor Ram Naik was the one who approved the government proposal to this effect. Orders for the same were issued by Principal Secretary (Housing) Nitin Ramesh Gokaran.
- The state government used the powers vested in it as per this clause, on the eve of the high-decibel match, and changed its name in the memory of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who passed away in August this year.

➢ **Kerala government scheme to provide free education to Ockhi-hit kids**
- The Kerala Government has initiated a scheme to provide free education and vocational training to the children of those fishermen who died or went missing in the 2017 Ockhi cyclonic storm.
- A total of 194 students, which includes children at all levels, from lower primary to professional colleges, have been identified as beneficiaries.
- The scheme envisages a package of Rs 10,000 per year for children in classes from LKG to Class V, Rs 25,000 for children in classes 6 to 10, Rs 30,000 for higher secondary students and up to Rs 1,00,000 for students doing graduation.

➢ **Manipur government signs MoU to implement Smart City project**
- The Manipur government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with IL&FS Township and Urban Assets Limited and Pricewaterhouse Coopers Private Limited for implementing the smart city project.
- The covers key infrastructure development like upgrading the sewerage system, Nambul and Imphal river rejuvenation, developmet of kangla fort, better transport service, pollution control and beautification activities in the capital.
- The chief minister has asked the company to prepare a detail.

➤ **Tamil Nadu gets SEBI approval to launch State Shelter Fund**

- Tamil Nadu has received the nod from the market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch its State Shelter Fund for attracting investments in the affordable housing segment.
- The fund is a social impact fund to provide investors with profit besides getting social and environmental benefits.
- This was announced at an event called 'Innovative and Alternative Finance for Business and Infrastructure Development in India.

➤ **Goa Bans Import Of Fish For 6 Months**

- The Goa government announced a ban on import of fish into the state for six months.
- The move comes against the backdrop of a scare in the coastal state that formalin, a potential cancer-causing chemical, was being used to preserved fish.
- The state government is banning fish imports for the second time this year, the earlier one, for fifteen days, having been announced by Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar in July.

➤ **UP cabinet approves renaming of Faizabad as Ayodhya**

- The Uttar Pradesh government approved renaming of Faizabad and Allahabad divisions as Ayodhya and Prayagraj respectively.
- Prayagraj division will comprise Prayagraj, Kaushambi, Fatehpur and Pratapgarh districts, while Ayoghya , Ambedkarnagar, Sultanpur, Amethi and Barabaki districts, Khanna.
- The decision came a day after the Allahabad high court asked the Centre and the state goverment to file counter affidavits with a week on a petition challenging the decision to rename Allahabad as Prayagraj.

➤ **Uttarakhand cabinet ratifies renaming Jolly Grant airport after Vajpayee**

- The Uttarakhand cabinet has ratified a proposal to rename the Jolly Grant airport in the state capital after late prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- A senior official said that Vajpayee was instrumental in the creation of Uttarakhand and hence renaming the airport after him would be a homage to him.
- The proposal will now be sent to the Aiprorts Authority of India and the Union Civil Aviation Ministry for approval.

➤ **J-K Governor inaugurates 'Jhiri Mela'**

- Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik inaugurated a week long 'Jhiri Mela' at village Jhiri in Jammu district.
- The annual fair is commemorated in the memory of the martyrdom of 'Baba Jittoo', a farmer who gave up his life about 500 years ago in protest against the oppressive demands of a land lord.
- A cultural programme comprising folk songs and a Dogridance was presented by the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of ArtCulture and Languages on the occasion.

➤ **Andhra govt reveals Amaravati art-inspired state emblem**

- The Andhra Pradesh government has finalised its new emblem for official use, five years after the state's bifurcation in 2014.
- The state emblem, inspired by the Amaravati School of Art, consists of "Dhamma Chakka" - "the Wheel of Law" embellished with a ring of Triratnas alternating with pinnate leaves and precious stones.
- The National Emblem is placed at the bottom of the emblem, which should never be reduced to a size of less than 24 mm in height, according to an official release.

➢ **India's first elephant hospital opens in Mathura**

- India's first specialized hospital for elephants was opened by Agra Divisional Commissioner Anil Kumar at Farah block's Churmura village, Mathura.

- The facility, armed with facilities such as wireless digital X-Ray, thermal imaging, ultrasonography, tranquilization devices and quarantine facilities, has not only come as a respite to the elephants but is also attracting local and foreign tourists.

- India's elephant population fell to 27,312 in 2017 from 29,391-30,711 in 2012, government data shows.

➢ **Odisha govt announces new Biotechnology Policy**

- Odisha government announced a new Biotechnology Policy 2018 to attract investments in the sector at the concluding day of the Make in Odisha Conclave.

- The development of the biotech sector in Odisha will be based on three key pillars - innovation, entrepreneurship and investment.

- As per the policy, all biotechnology units shall be allotted land at a concessional rate as per the Industrial Policy Resolution of the state government.

➢ **Kerala Introduces New 'KOOL' Open Online Learning Programme**

- The Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) has rolled out-- KOOL, its Online Open Learning training platform.

- The platform can be used to train teachers, students and the general public.

- KOOL has been designed in a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) model, which is becoming popular worldwide.

- KOOL is a major step by the State of Kerala to become India's first complete digital state in Education", said Prof C Raveendranath, state Education minister.

➢ **Hookah bars permanently banned in Punjab as President Ram Nath Kovind okays Bill**

- Hookah bars have been permanently banned in Punjab as President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to a Bill from the state to check use of tobacco.

- The Punjab assembly had passed the Bill in March. The objective of bringing the law is to check the use of tobacco in various forms and prevent diseases caused by the use of the tobacco products.

- Punjab is the third state in the country after Gujarat and Maharashtra where hookah bars or lounges were banned through law.

➢ **Himachal Pradesh Becomes First State To Launch Single Emergency Number**

- Himachal Pradesh became the first Indian state to launch a single emergency number "112" which will connect to police, fire, health and other helplines through an Emergency Response Centre (ERC) in the state.

- Under the project, one ERC has been established in Shimla along with 12 District Command Centres covering the entire state.

- The ERC has been integrated with police (100), fire (101), health (108) and women helpline (1090) services to provide emergency services via single emergency number 112," said a Union Home Ministry statement.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- ➢ **International tourism arrivals hit record high in 2017, India leads growth in South Asia**
  - The number of people travelling abroad hit record levels in 2017 with a total of 1,323 million international tourist arrivals recorded in destinations around the world, with India leading the growth in the South Asian region, according to data from the UN's tourism organisation
  - Europe and Africa led the regions with increases in arrivals, with growth of eight per cent and nine per cent, respectively.
  - The UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO, a specialized agency of the United Nations, added that tourism is the world's third largest export category, earning USD 1.3 trillion in receipts in 2017: an increase of five per cent.
- ➢ **Tsunami mock drill 'IOWave18' begins: India along with 23 countries participates in exercise**
  - Indian Ocean Wave Exercise 2018 (IOWave18) began on September 4, 2018 in the Indian Ocean.
  - India along with 23 other nations is participating in this major Indian ocean-wide tsunami mock drill which involves evacuation of thousands of people from coastal areas in over half a dozen coastal states.
  - Exercise IOWave18 will simulate Indian Ocean countries being put in a tsunami warning situation and require the respective National Tsunami Warning Centres and the Disaster Management Offices in each country to implement their Standard Operating Procedures.
- ➢ **Vice President embarks on three-nation visit to Serbia, Malta and Romania**
  - The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu embarked three-nation visit to Serbia, Malta and Romania on a weeklong trip from September 14 -21
  - The Vice President's visit is expected to strengthen India's bilateral relations with these three countries. This visit will help the countries to exchange expertise and share knowledge in the fields of economy, environment, trade and culture.
  - In Romania, the Vice President will hold delegation level talks with the President of the Senate of Romania, Mr. Calin Popescu-Tariceanu and witness signing of MOUs.
- ➢ **Nepal and China Conducts 2nd JME 'Sagarmatha Friendship-2018**
  - The Nepal Army on began its second wargame with the Chinese military at Chengdu.
  - The "Sagarmatha Friendship-2" military exercise in China's Sichuan province will last 10 days. Both sides have fielded a platoon for the drill that will focus on counter-terrorism and disaster management.
  - Nepal Capital- Kathmandu,President: Bidya Devi Bnadari
- ➢ **Hangzhou confirmed as host of 2022 Asian Para Games**
  - Hangzhou has been confirmed as the host of the 2022 Asian Para Games.The Chinese city was already confirmed as the host of the Olympic Council of Asia-run Asian Games in four year's time.
  - The APC delegation was taken to sports facilities and were talked through plans to "fully integrate" Hangzhou's disabled population into the community by 2020.
  - Nearly, 5.5 % of the total population of 9.5 million people in Hangzhou city are said to have an impairment.
- ➢ **First General Assembly Of International Solar Alliance On October 2**
  - The inaugural General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) will take place on October 2
  - The Founding Conference of the ISA was jointly hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron in March this year.
  - The ISA, formation of which was initiated by India and France, aims to bring all countries together for cooperation on solar energy.

➢ **Nepal to be world's first country to double its tiger population**
- Nepal is likely to be the first country in the world to double its tiger population.
- On the occasion of National Conservation Day today, Nepal announced that there are now an estimated 235 wild tigers in the country, nearly doubling the baseline of around 121 tigers in 2009.

➢ **UN declares Nelson Mandela decade of peace**
- President Uhuru Kenyatta on affirmed Kenya's support for a historic UN Political Declaration of 2019-2028 as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace.
- Speaking during the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, on the sidelines of the 73rd United Nations General Assembly in New York, Uhuru said Kenya is committed to Mandela's values that defined his legacy.

➢ **UN Announces Global Media Compact to raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals**
- The United Nations announcedthe launch of the SDG Media Compact, an initiative marking a new drive to advance awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that were unanimously adopted by all world leaders at the United Nations in 2015.
- The Compact seeks to inspire media and entertainment companies around the world to leverage their resources and creative talent to advance the Goals.

➢ **Famous 'Indra Jatra' festival being celebrated in Kathmandu**
- In Nepal, the famous Indra Jatra festival is being celebrated in Kathmandu with gaiety and religious fervor.
- The eight day long annual festival is observed to worship Indra, the lord of rain and good harvest.
- Nepal's living Goddess Trishna Shakya made her first public appearance after she was appointed in September last year.

➢ **Indian Govt Signs Loan Agreement With japan For Bullet Train Funds**
- The Indian Government signed an agreement with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) which has agreed to provide an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of around Rs 5,500 crore as Tranche 1 for the the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project.
- In September last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe had launched the ambitious project entailing a total cost of around Rs 1.10 lakh crore.
- Its objective is to develop mass and high frequent transportation system by constructing high speed rail between Mumbai and Ahmedabad with use of Japan.

➢ **Vice President leaves for Belgium to attend 12th ASEM Summit**
- The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu today left for Belgium to attend the two-day 12th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in Brussels.
- The theme of the ASEM Summit is 'Global Partners for Global Challenges'.
- The bi-annual event is considered the highest platform for dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe in the areas of trade, investment, security and tourism.

➢ **India and Japan set to hold the first ever joint military exercise**
- India and Japan are all set to hold the first ever joint military exercise 'Dharma Guardian -2018' with the Indian Army.
- The Indian contingent will be represented by 6/1 Gorkha Rifles while the Japanese contingent will be represented by 32 Infantry Regiment of the Japanese Ground Self Defence Force.

➢ **India 9th most valuable nation brand in the world; US, China lead the list**

- Brand Finance's annual Nation Brands report measures nations' brands based on the country's image and the economy as a whole.
- India was ranked 8th in last year's report but slipped by a spot to the 9th rank. Despite its brand value rising 5% from last year, India has slipped one rank for the second consecutive year.

➢ **Amazon is overtaken by Microsoft as world's second most-valuable company**

- Amazon's shares took an unexpected down-turn, this week - seeing them overtaken by rival Microsoft as the world's second most-valuable company.
- Apple Inc (AAPL.O) tops the list at over $1 trillion after crossing that threshold in September. Microsoft's market capitalization was Wall Street's highest in late 1998 through early 2000 before the dot-com bubble burst.

➢ **Paytm teams up with Softbank, Yahoo to launch QR-based service in Japan**

- Paytm, India's largest digital financial services provider teams up with Softbank, Yahoo to launch QR based service "PayPay" in Japan.
- PayPay Corporation is the joint venture set up by Japanese conglomerate SoftBank Corp. and Yahoo Japan Corporation in June this year that aims to tap the country's ongoing digital drive.

➢ **27th fusion energy conference begins in Gandhinagar**

- The 27th Fusion Energy Conference (FEC 2018) was held recently in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, It was organised by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and hosted by Department of Atomic Energy and Gandhinagar-based Institute of Plasma Research.
- The 27th IAEA Fusion Energy Conference (FEC 2018) aims to provide a forum for the discussion of key physics and technology issues as well as innovative concepts of direct relevance to the use of nuclear fusion as a source of energy.

➢ **India re-elected as member of ITU council till 2022**

- India has been elected as a member of the International Telecommunications Union Council (ITU) for another 4-year term - from 2019 to 2022,
- The elections to the council were held during the ongoing ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 at Dubai, UAE.

➢ **India, UK sign pact to collaborate on cancer research**

- India and the UK signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration in cancer research, the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- The pact between the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Cancer Research UK (CRUK) for the India-UK Cancer Research Initiative was signed here for collaboration for the next five years.
- The India-UK Cancer Research Initiative will identify a core set of research challenges that address issues of affordability, prevention and care of cancer patients.

➢ **Morocco beats South Africa, to unveil Africa's first ever high speed train line**

- French President Emmanuel Macron and Morocco's King Mohammed VI are inaugurating Morocco's first high-speed rail line, the first ever such line in Africa.
- The $2 billion project was launched in September 2011 by the king and Nicolas Sarkozy, the former president of France, which jointly funded the line with several Arab states.
- Known as the LGV - French for "high speed line" - it will connect the economic hubs of Tangier and Casablanca in 2 hours 10 minutes at a speed of 320 km/h (199m/h) instead of almost 5 hours on a regular train.

➤ **BlackBerry to buy security firm Cylance for $1.4 billion**

- BlackBerry Ltd, the former mobile phone giant that's now focused on producing software, is acquiring cybersecurity company Cylance Inc. for $1.4 billion.
- Waterloo, Ontario-based BlackBerry said the acquisition of Cylance would enable it to add artificial intelligence capabilities to its existing software products.
- The purchase is BlackBerry's largest acquisition in seven years, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

➤ **The 49th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will begin Panaji in Goa.**

- The 9-day event will showcase 212 films from 68 countries. While TheAspern Papers is the opening film, Sealed Lips will be the closing movie.
- Veteran Israeli filmmaker Dan Wolman will be given the Lifetime Achievement Award this year. Movies in the Jharkhand Package include Death in the Gunj, Ranchi Diaries and Begum Jaan.

➤ **First-ever India Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue being held in Russia**

- The first-ever India Russia Strategic Economic Dialogue is being held at St. Petersburg in Russia.
- The Indian side is being led by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar, with the Russian delegation headed by Economic Development Minister Maxim Oreshkin.
- The participants will discuss the development of bilateral ties in trade, investment, technology and industry.

➤ **PM Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping to meet on sidelines of G20 summit in Argentina**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping will meet on the sidelines of the tenth upcoming G20 meeting in Argentina on November 30.
- Modi and Xi have met twice after their informal summit in Wuhan this year — at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit held in June in China's Qingdao, and the BRICS Summit in South Africa's Johannesburg in July.
- The meeting is being held amid the ongoing trade war between the US and China.

➤ **India recorded highest average real wage growth in South Asia**

- India recorded the highest average real wage growth in South Asia, according to a report by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
- Reflecting more rapid economic growth than in other regions, workers in Asia and the Pacific have enjoyed the highest real wage growth among all regions over the period 2006–17, with countries such as China, India, Thailand and Viet Nam leading the way.
- Russia suffered a significant drop in wage growth in 2015, again owing to the decline in oil prices, but has since then bounced back with moderate though positive wage growth.

➤ **Nepal govt launches Social Security Scheme**

- Nepal government has launched a Social Security Scheme for formal sector workers of the country.
- Unveiling the scheme in Kathmandu, Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli said, a new era of social security has begun in Nepal.
- The new social security scheme is contribution based and it will cover health and medical facilities, safe motherhood, accident and physical incapacity security, security to dependent family members and security at old age.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

➢ **Union Agriculture Minister launches NCDC's new scheme to promote young entrepreneurs in cooperatives**

- To cater to the needs and aspirations of the youth, the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has come up with a youth-friendly scheme 'Yuva Sahakar-Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme" for attracting them to cooperative business ventures.

- NCDC has created a dedicated fund with liberal features enabling youth to avail the scheme.

- The Central Government has been encouraging 'Start-Ups' for ease of doing business, non-conventional opportunities are emerging and are being encouraged.

➢ **Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Central tourism Ministry inaugurated in Arunachal Pradesh**

- Two important projects under Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism, Government of India were inaugurated at PTSO Lake in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh.

- These projects are "Development of North East Circuits: Bhalukpong- Bomdila - Tawang Project & Nafra- Seppa- Pappu, Pasa, Pakke Valleys- Sangdupota- New Sagalee- Ziro- Yomcha Project ".

- The Ministry of Tourism has also set up Hotel Managements and Food Craft Institutes for creating skilled manpower in tourism and hospitality sector in the North Eastern Region.

➢ **Govt makes Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana open-ended scheme**

- The government decided to make the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) an open-ended scheme and added more incentives to encourage people to open bank accounts.

- The flagship financial inclusion scheme was launched in August 2014 for a period of four years.

- The free accident insurance cover for those opening Jan Dhan accounts after August 28 too has been doubled to Rs 2 lakh.

- The age limit for availing overdraft facility under this revised to 18 to 65 years from the earlier 18 to 60 years.

➢ **Cabinet approves New Umbrella Scheme Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan**

- The Union Cabinetapproved new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan, PM-AASHA

- The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018.

- This step aims at protecting the farmers' income which is expected to go a long way towards the welfare of farmers.

- It is expected that the increase in MSP will be translated to farmer's income by way of robust procurement mechanism in coordination with the State Governments.

➢ **Cabinet approves continuation of Capacity Development Scheme for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20**

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved continuation of the Capacity Development Scheme for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 with an outlay of Rs 2,250 crore.

- The overall objective of the scheme is to augment infrastructural, technical as well as manpower resources for making available credible and timely Official Statistics for policy makers and public at large.

- The Capacity Development Scheme has two Sub-schemes, Economic Census and Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS).

➢ **ESIC approves new scheme, Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna for cash relief to unemployed insured persons**

- The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has approved a new scheme- Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna for Insured Persons covered under the Employees' State Insurance Act.

- The Employees'This scheme is a relief payable in cash directly to their Bank Account in case of unemployment and while they search for new engagement. The decision was taken at the ESIC board meeting chaired by the Labour Minister Santosh Gangwar in New Delhi.

- According to an official release, the eligibility for availing Super Specialty treatment for dependents of Insured Person has now been relaxed to insurable employment of one year with 156 days of contributions.

➢ **PM launches world's largest state-funded Ayushman Bharat health Scheme**

- PM Narendra Modi launched the world'slargest state-funded health insurance scheme, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, which aims to prov ide free secondary andtertiary care to 50 crore people across the country.

- Calling the scheme a "game changer", Mobi said the plan will Change the healthcare scenario in India and will form a model for other countries to follow and replicate.

- More than 50 crore people will get insurance up to Rs lakh. This is the world's first such scheme.

➢ **Shri RK Singh launches award scheme under 'Saubhagya'**

- Shri RK Singh, Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy announced an award scheme under Saubhagya.

- Awards would be provided for achieving 100 per cent household electrification at DISCOM/Power Department level of the States.

- Eight States which have already achieved more than 99 per cent household electrification prior to launch of Saubhagya (Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab and Tamil Nadu), are ineligible for participation under the award scheme.

➢ **Raksha Mantri Launches 'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti'**

- Raksha Mantri Smt Nirmala Sitharaman has formally launched 'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti'.The event showcased salient inventions and innovations achieved by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

- A panel discussion was held with participation of Chairman and Managing Directors of all DPSUs to formulate a strategy for the future in this regard.

- It aimed to provide a boost to IPR culture in indigenous defence industry. The main objective of this programme was to inculcate IP culture in Indian defence manufacturing ecosystem.

STATE GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

- ➢ **Odisha Government launches 'Saura Jalnidhi' scheme**
  - Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the 'Saura Jalnidhi' scheme. The objective of this scheme is to encourage the use of solar energy in irrigation by farmers.
  - The state government has decided to increase the use of solar photovoltaic pump sets in those areas so that the irrigation facilities can be provided where the power system is bad.
  - Under this scheme, farmers will be given 90 per cent subsidy and 5,000 solar pumps. This will provide irrigation benefits in 2,500 acres of the state.
- ➢ **Kerala Govt launches Gau Samridhi scheme for dairy farmers**
  - Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched the 'cow samridhi Plus Scheme to provide insurance coverage to dairy farmers in the state
  - The government subsidized scheme, as Proposed will give insurance coverage to dairy farmers at low premium rates.
  - "Gau Samridhi plus scheme, which gives insurance coverage to dairy farmers.

BANKING NEWS

- ➢ **SBI, ICICI banks hike benchmark lending rate by up to 0.2%**
  - On September 1, 2018, ICICI increased its lending rates or MCLR by 0.15 percent
  - The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) has increased the lending rate by 20 basis points across all tenors up to three years.
  - Both the banks had last revised their MCLR in June, just before the second bi-monthly monetary policy review.
  - It comes after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) hiked benchmark lending rate called repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.5 percent.
- ➢ **PayU Receives Nod From RBI To Operate Its Own NBFC**
  - PayU has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate its own non-bank financial company (NBFC), which is subject to certain pending RBI compliance
  - The company had applied for NBFC license earlier in February 2018, in line with its aegis PayUMoney, a secure payment solution that can be used by anyone who wants to collect payments in India.
  - PayU India was founded in 2011 by Nitin Gupta and Shailaz Nag. It has two business verticals – PayUBiz & PayUmoney.
- ➢ **Govt proposes to merge Dena Bank, Vijaya Bank and Bank of Baroda**
  - The Centre proposed the amalgamation of state-owned Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank to create India's third largest bank as parts of reforms in the public sector banking segment.
  - The decision was taken at the meeting of a ministerial panel headed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley which oversees merger proposals of state-owned banks.
  - The Alternative Mechanism took the view that aspirations of the fastest growing economy have to be supported by stronger and globally competitive banks with increased choices to the stakeholders. Accordingly, it was decided to consolidate the three banks.

➢ **India Post Payments Bank formalises agreement with Bajaj Allianz to sell life-insurance**
- India Post Payments Bank signed a five-year Corporate Agency Agreement with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co. Ltd. to provide life insurance products to its consumers.
- "It will be a simple term-product with accidental cover; very easy-to-understand," said Tarun Chugh, MD and CEO, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance.
- Postmen and 'Grameen Dak Sevaks' will be involved in selling insurance solutions. These products will be initially available in 3250 access points in IPPB's network. Later it will be extended to 155,000 post offices throughout India.

➢ **Yes Bank partners with RupeeBoss.com**
- Private sector lender Yes Bank has partnered with online financial services company RupeeBoss.com for the integration of the bank's chat bot based platform to support instant loan eligibilities for its several loan products.
- By authorising RupeeBoss's expansive agents network, Yes Bank will be able to provide its loan applicants with instant information without needing to know all the details about the customer, thereby speeding up the pace of sourcing customers.
- It can be accessed across platforms like the online portal RupeeBoss.com for the customers, Magic Finmart , RupeeBoss Business Associate app etc.

➢ **SBI reduced ATM withdrawal limit to Rs 20,000**
- The announcement by the largest lender in the country comes just weeks before the festivals and will be effective days before Diwali.
- SBI also aims to boost digital transactions by reducing this limit.
- SBI halved the withdrawal limit from Rs 40,000 to Rs 20,000.The limit has been reduced to curb increasing instances of ATM frauds

➢ **HDFC Bank appoints Vinay Razdan as Chief Human Resources Officer**
- HDFC Bank has appointed Vinay Razdan as its chief human resources officer (CHRO), responsible for the entire human resource function in the Bank.
- Razdan joins the bank from Idea Cellular, where he was the CHRO. He had joined Idea in 2006 and spearheaded several transformational initiatives there.
- Razdan is an alumnus of Delhi University and holds a postgraduate degree/diploma in personnel management and industrial relations from XLRI, Jamshedpur.

➢ **RBI issues guidelines to allow payments among mobile wallets**
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released guidelines to facilitate payments among different mobile wallets, a move aimed at promoting digital transactions.
- As per the road-map laid down in 2017, interoperability of all KYC-compliant Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) was to be enabled in three phases.

➢ **SBI launches 'SBI Wealth Hub' in port City of Karnataka**
- State Bank of India Chairman Rajnish Kumar launched Bank's Wealth Business Services by launching 'SBI Wealth Hub' in the Port City.
- SBI is targeting to take its Wealth Business footprint to 50 centres by 2020 from the Present 20.
- Introducing Wealth Business has been one of the top strategic business priorities of the Bank as we have numerous HNI Clinets whose banking needs require highly specialized services.

➢ **SBI to issue and encash electoral bonds from Oct 1 to 10**

- The finance ministry said that State Bank of India, the country's largest lender, was authorised to issue and encash electoral bonds with effect from October 1 to 10.
- According to the provisions of the Electoral Bond scheme notified in January this year, these bonds could be purchased by a person who is a citizen of India or an entity incorporated or established in India.
- An individual can buy electoral bonds either singly or jointly with other individuals.

➢ **RBI to inject Rs 40,000 cr into banking system via OMO**

- The Reserve Bank of India will inject Rs 40,000 crore in the banking system next month
- This move will help ease cash shortage in the system and stabilise debt market rates. Open market operation (OMO) is an RBI mechanism to infuse or suck liquidity from the system.
- RBI's currency intervention is one of the factors that has contributed to the tightening in banking system liquidity with the central bank's dollar sales infusing more rupees into the system.

➢ **RBI clears re-appointment of Aditya Puri as HDFC Bank CEO for 2 years**

- HDFC Bank said the RBI had approved the re-appointment of Aditya Puri as managing director of the bank for another two years.
- Reserve Bank of India, vide its letter dated October 22, 2018, has accorded its approval to HDFC Bank Ltd. for re-appointment of Aditya Puri, as MD & CEO of the bank, from November 1, 2018 to October 26, 2020
- Puri has been with HDFC Bank since 1994, making him the longest-serving head of any private bank in the country.

➢ **World Bank inks $172 million project agreement with AP**

- The Central and Andhra Pradesh governments and the World Bank have signed the loan agreement for a $172.20 million project to enhance agricultural productivity, profitability, and climate resilience of poor and marginalised farmers in Andhra Pradesh.
- The projects seeks to ensure that farming continues to remain a financially viable activity.
- The Andhra Pradesh Integrated Irrigation and Agriculture Transformation Project (APIIATP) will be implemented in rural areas largely dependent upon rain-fed agriculture.

➢ **Centre to infuse Rs 3,054 cr as capital in Allahabad Bank**

- The Centre will infuse Rs 3054 crore as capital into state-run Allahabad Bank.
- According to a notification to the National Stock Exchange, the bank says that it has received a communication from Finance Ministry regarding a fresh capital infusion of Rs 3054 crore.
- The infusion will be made through the preferential allotment of equity shares (Special Securities/Bonds) of the Bank during the financial year 2018-19.

➢ **RBI cancels registration of 31 NBFCs**

- The RBI cancelled the certificate of registrations of as many as 31 NBFCs for unspecified reasons.
- Bengal is followed by Uttar Pradesh, which has seen four NBFC license cancellation.
- A majority of voluntary application for license cancellation are also from Bengal.
- The list includes Ramky Finance & Investments, which is based in Hyderabad. It also has city-based Propycon Trading & investment.

➢ **IndusInd Bank launches India's first interactive credit card with buttons**
- IndusInd Bank has announced the launch of IndusInd Bank Nexxt Credit Card, which empowers customers with a choice of payment options such as EMI, Reward Points or Credit at the push of a button, on the card, at the point of sale (POS).
- The bank claims it to be the nation's first interactive credit card with buttons.
- This card provides customers with the flexibility of 3 payment options at a POS terminal — Credit, Converting Transactions into EMIs with 4 tenure options (6, 12, 18 & 24 months) or using accumulated Reward Points.

➢ **Paytm partners with LIC for insurance premium payments**
- Paytm (One 97 Communications Limtied) and arch rival Mobikwik, have simultaneously announced entry into online insurance payments and purchase of digital insurance on their platforms
- Paytm has partnered with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to offer online insurance premium payments on its platform.
- Paytm, on the other hand, aims to achieve a run rate of 30-40 million policies by end of the year.

➢ **Sebi issues norms for interoperability among clearing corporations**
- With an aim to reduce trading costs, regulator Sebi Tuesday came out with a framework for interoperability among clearing corporations (CCPs), which will be operationalised by June 1, 2019.
- The framework comes after the Sebi board in September approved a proposal to enable interoperability among CCPs.
- Interoperability among clearing corporations means linking of multiple clearing corporations in order to allow market participants to effectively consolidate their clearing and settlement functions at the single clearing corporation.

➢ **SBI raises deposit rates by up to 10 bps**
- The country's largest lender State Bank of India increased the fixed deposit rates by up to 10 basis points or 0.10 percent to 6.80 percent on select maturities.
- The new rates ranging from 5 to 10 bps are applicable for deposits below Rs 1 crore and are effective immediately. One basis point is one hundredth of a per cent.
- Senior citizens will get a rate of 7.30 per cent as againt 7.25 percent on deposits with tenor of two to less than three years.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS, SUMMITS AND CONFERENCE

➢ **India and Morocco agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of defence and security**
- Minister Delegate to the Head of Government in charge of the National Defence Administration, Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, Mr Abdeltif Loudyi is on a two day official visit to India.
- This is the first ever visit of a Moroccan Defence Minister to India.
- During the meeting, both Ministers agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of defence and security.

➢ **PM Narendra Modi to inaugurate first Global Mobility Summit**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first Global Mobility Summit called MOVE, which will deliberate on steps to promote electric vehicles and shared mobility.
- The summit will deliberate on five themes including comprehensive: electrification and alternative fuels, reinventing public transport, goods transport and logistics and data analytics and mobility.
- The two day summit is being organized by the government think-tank NITI Aayog.
- NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said that the main aim through the summit is to revolutionise the way people travel in India, along with making more connected, shared and seamless.

➢ **Opening Ceremony: Indo-Kazakhstan Joint Exercise KAZIND 2018**
- Exercise KAZIND-2018, a joint military exercise between Indian and Kazakhstan Armies, commenced in Otar Military Area, Kazakhstan.
- This is the third edition of joint military training exercise between Indian Army and Kazakhstan Army. The 14 day long joint exercise is being conducted from 10 Sep to 23 Sep 2018.
- The joint training aims to build & promote army to army relations and exchange skills & experiences between Indian Army and the Kazakhstan Army.

➢ **Indo-Mongolia joint exercise kicks off in Ulaanbaatar**
- Indo-Mongolia joint exercise Nomadic Elephant-2018, commenced today at Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) Five Hills Training Area, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia with a brief but impressive opening ceremony.
- The 12 days long joint exercise will be conducted from 10 Sep to 21 Sep 2018.
- Exercise Nomadic Elephant is an annual, bilateral exercise since 2006 which is designed to strengthen the partnership between the Indian Army and Mongolian Armed Forces.

➢ **Singapore-India Bilateral Naval Exercise SIMBEX-18 Kicks off**
- The 25th edition of the SIMBEX – Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise 2018 marking the Silver Jubilee of maritime combat drills between the two countries kicked off at Port Blair in Andaman Nicobar Islands.
- It may be noted here that there are only a few militaries that can boast of continuity and cooperation in the field of maritime combat drills like the navies of Singapore and India .
- The exercise has graduated to complex maritime combat drills including missile and torpedo firings and shore based intensive professional exchanges.

➢ **INS Rana to take part in 'Samudra Shakti', a bilateral exercise between India and Indonesia**
- INS Rana of the Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam under the Eastern Naval Command is on deployment to South East Asia and arrived at the port of Surabaya to participate in the inaugural edition of Indian Navy - Indonesian Navy Bilateral Exercise 'Samudra Shakti' scheduled from November 12 to 18.
- The aim of the exercise is to strengthen bilateral relations, expand maritime co-operation, enhance interoperability and exchange best practices.
- The exercise would start with a Harbour Phase scheduled from November 12 to 15 encompassing planning and briefing on various activities, professional interactions, cross deck visits, sports fixtures and social interactions.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND HEALTH

➢ **Pune to host first joint military exercise with BIMSTEC countries**
- The first joint military exercise of the seven member countries of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), with a focus on counter-terrorism in semi-urban areas, is set to commence in Pune on September 10.
- The week-long field training exercise, named MILEX-18, is to be held between September 10 and 16 at the city's Aundh Military Station.
- The exercise will include training in search-and-cordon operations and handling and neutralisation of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) among other things.

➢ **Successful test flight lands at Sindhudurg Airport**
- A familiarization flight from Mumbai to Sindhudurg landed at Parule Chipi Greenfield airport in Sindhudurg district of the Konkan region of Maharashtra.
- With this successful test flight access to the Konkan coast of Maharashtra will become easier and some of Maharashtra's top tourist attractions will become accessible to visitors from all over India.
- The airport is located between Malvan and Vengurla, the Tarkarli beach and Sindhudurg fort are 20 kms away.

➢ **BSNL, Unlimit ink partnership for IoT/M2M services in India**
- Unlimit, end-to-end IoT service provider in India announced its partnership with State-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to offer comprehensive Internet of Things (IoT) solutions and services to the enterprise customers across India.
- The partnership between Unlimit and BSNL will leverage seamless wireless network footprint pan India to provide its solutions and services across industries.

➢ **PSLV-C42 launches 2 foreign satellites**
- The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C42) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched two satellites -- NovaSAR and S1-4-- from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota.
- The PSLV-C42 lifted off from the First Launch Pad of SHAR at 10.08 pm (IST). Both satellites were injected into the Sun Synchronous Orbit, about 17 minutes later, at an altitude of 583 km.
- The satellites belong to UK-based Surrey Satellite Technology Limited (SSTL), which has a contract with Antrix Corporation Ltd, the commercial arm of ISRO. NovaSAR carries S-band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) and an Automatic Identification Receiver payloads.

➢ **DRDO successfully tests anti-tank missile**
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested a low-weight indigenously developed man-portable anti-tank guided missile (MPATGM) at its Ahmednagar range
- The two flight-tests were for different ranges, including maximum range capability," a Defence Ministry statement said. "All the mission objectives have been met."
- MPATGM is third-generation anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) indigenously developed by DRDO.

➢ **NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) discovers two new Earth-like planets: "super-Earth" and "hot Earth"**
- A planet-hunting orbital telescope designed to detect worlds beyond our solar system discovered two distant planets this week five months after its launch from Cape Canaveral, Florida
- NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite, better known as TESS, made an early discovery of "super-Earth" and "hot Earth" planets in solar systems at least 49 light-years away, marking the satellite's first discovery since its April launch.

➢ **Google's new Privacy Chief officer proposes a new framework for Security Regulation**
- Google announced a new Chief Privacy Officer as Keith Enright,who has served a decade at leading Google's Privacy Legal team.
- Enright has always been heavily involved in speaking out regarding Google's Privacy and Security.

➢ **Successful Flight Test of Astra BVR Air-to-Air Missile**
- Astra, the indigenously developed Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM), was successfully test fired by the Indian Air Force from Su-30 aircraft, from Air Force Station, Kalaikunda.
- The missile successfully engaged a manoeuvring target with high precision meeting the mission objectives.
- In the series of trials held to date, Astra has been launched in the complete Su-30 flight envelope.

➢ **Vietnam Coast Guard ship arrives on maiden visit to Chennai**
- A Vietnamese Coast Guard ship arrived on a maiden visit, as part of enhancing cooperation between the Indian and Vietnamese maritime forces and addressing maritime security threats facing both the countries.
- The vessel has sailed a distance of 3,575 nautical miles from Hanoi, Vietnam.
- The visit offers an opportunity to strengthen the cooperation and address maritime security threats such as human-trafficking, drugs and firearms, piracy and illegal fishing.

➢ **Mobile Health app for citizens of India Launched by IAF on Air Force Day**
  - On the occasion of 86th anniversary, the Indian Air Force has launched an innovative mobile health App named 'MedWatch' in keeping with the Prime Minister's vision of 'Digital India, Ayushman Bharat and Mission Indradhanush'.
  - The app is conceived by the doctors of IAF and developed in house by Directorate of Information Technology (DIT) with ZERO financial outlay.
  - 'MedWatch' will provide correct, Scientific and authentic health information to airwarriors and all citizens of India.

➢ **Google to shut down Google+ after failing to disclose user data breach**
  - Google discovered a skeleton in its own closet: a bug in the API for Google+ had been allowing third-party app developers to access the data not just of users who had granted permission, but of their friends.
  - Google also announced a series of reforms to its privacy policies designed to give users more control on the amount of data they share with third-party app developers.
  - Google announced that it will shut down consumer access to Google+ and improve privacy protections for third-party applications.

➢ **China successfully launches two remote sensing satellites**
  - China successfully launched two remote sensing satellites to conduct electromagnetic environmental probes.
  - The satellites, both belonging to the Yaogan-32 family, were launched by a Long March-2C rocket with an upper stage on its top, at 10:43 am.
  - The remote sensing satellites were successfully sent into space from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China.

➢ **Website for 'Aero India' launched**
  - A website for the 12th edition of 'Aero India', a major trade exhibition of the aerospace and defence industries with public air shows, was launched.
  - The five-day event, starting from February 20 next year at the air force station in bengluru.
  - The portal facilitates payment of registration fee online and booking of space/stall of their choice at the venue.

➢ **India imposes anti-dumping duty on certain steel products from China**
  - India has imposed anti-dumping duties of up to 185.51 US dollars per tonne for five years on certain varieties of Chinese steel to protect the interest of the domestic players.
  - The revenue department has imposed the duty based on the recommendations of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR).
  - This followed a joint application by domestic steel industries including JSW Steel Ltd, Sunflag Iron & Steel Co, Usha Martin, Gerdau Steel India, Vardhman Special Steels and Jayaswal Neco Industries.

➢ **India, Japan, U.S. plan joint air exercise**
  - India, Japan and the U.S. are set to elevate the bilateral 'Cope India' air exercise to a trilateral format. The three countries already conduct naval war games under the expanded Malabar naval exercise.

- The next edition is scheduled to be held in December for which the Final Planning Conference to finalise the modalities of the exercise is scheduled next week in Kalaikunda [West Bengal].
- At the annual Defence Ministerial Meeting in August between Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and her Japanese counterpart Itsunori Onodera, it was agreed that Japan will send observers for the next round of Cope India exercises between India and U.S.

➢ **First cruise service launched between Mumbai and Goa**
- As a part of the government's plan to develop Cruise Tourism in the country, the first cruise service has been launched between Mumbai and Goa.
- Union Shipping, Ports and Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari launched the service in Mumbai.
- The rates for the luxury Mumbai-Goa ride begin from Rs 7,000 dorm room per person and goes up to Rs 11,000 family suite per person.

➢ **IBM to acquire software company Red Hat for $34 billion**
- IBM Corp had agreed to acquire U.S. software company Red Hat Inc for $34 billion, including debt, as it seeks to diversify its technology hardware and consulting business into higher-margin products and services.
- The transaction is by far IBM's biggest acquisition. Founded in 1993, Red Hat specializes in Linux operating systems, the most popular type of open-source software, which was developed as an alternative to proprietary software made by Microsoft Corp.

➢ **Russian forces arrive in Pakistan for third joint-military drill**
- A Russian Army contingent arrived to take part in the third edition of a joint bilateral military training exercise.
- The two armies will be holding joint military drills in the mountains of northwestern Pakistan which will continue till November 4
- This will be the third joint military drill between Pakistan and Russia under the bilateral training cooperation agreement.

➢ **India conducts successful night trial of nuclear-capable Agni-I missile**
- India successfully conducted the night trial of the indigenously developed nuclear capable Agni-I ballistic missile off the Odisha coast.
- The surface-to-surface missile test was test-fired as part of a user-trial from the Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast.
- The night trial of the ballistic missile with a strike range of 700 km was first conducted in April 2014.

➢ **IIT-Madras creates India's first indigenous microprocessor called 'Shakti'**
- Lead researcher and Professor Kamakoti Veezhinathan said that 'Shakti' is India's first and indigenous microprocessor that has been developed by Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) at an outlay of about Rs 11 crore, which will not be outdated anytime soon
- The Indian Institute of Technology Madras has designed and booted up 'Shakti', which can be used for wireless and networking systems, as well as mobile computing.

➢ **India's nuclear submarine INS Arihant completes first 'deterrence patrol'**
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India's first indigenous nuclear submarine INS Arihant has successfully completed its "first deterrence patrol".
- The development signifies that the underwater warship has completed its maiden long-range mission with "live" nuclear-tipped missiles.
- Following the successful completion of its "deterrence patrol", INS Arihant can now be considered a fully functional underwater ballistic missile delivery platform.

➢ **World's largest brain-like supercomputer switched on for first time**

- The world's largest supercomputer designed to work in the same way as the human brain has been switched on for the first time.

- Researchers eventually aim to model up to a billion biological neurons in real time and are now a step closer.

- To reach this point it has taken 15 million in funding, 20 years in conception and over 10 years in construction, with the initial build starting way back in 2006.

➢ **India, Indonesia launch their maiden naval exercise**

- The first bilateral naval exercise named "Samudra Shakti" between the Indian and the Indonesian Navies was inauguratedin Surabaya, Indonesia giving further momentum to bilateral strategic partnership.

- These bilateral naval exercises will be conducted in Java Sea and would last until 18 November.

- The exercise would be held in two phases: the harbour phase and followed by the sea phase.

➢ **India GSLV MkIII-D2 successfully launches GSAT-29**

- India's GSAT-29 communication satellite was successfully launched by the second developmental flight of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle MarkIII (GSLV MkIII-D2) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR

- GSLV MkIII-D2 lifted off from the Second Launch Pad of SDSC SHAR at 17:08 hours (IST), carrying the 3423-kg GSAT-29 satellite. About 17 minutes later, the vehicle injected the satellite into the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO)

➢ **IIT Researchers Make Smartphone-Based System To Detect Milk Adulteration**

- Researchers at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, have develop smartphone-based system to detect adulteration in milk.

- The detector system measures acidity in milk using an indicator paper that changes colour according to acidity. They have also developed algorithms that can be incorporated on to a smartphone to accurately detect the colour change.

➢ **Morocco launches second earth observation satellite 'Mohammed VI-B'**

- Morocco launched its second earth observation satellite, Mohammed VI-B, from French Guiana early onthe second in a year.

- Its first satellite, Mohammed VI-A, was launched on November 8, 2017, by the Vega rocket from the same Kourou space centre.

- The Mohammed VI-B was the second satellite of Morocco's ambitious space program -- the first in Africa -- that was launched in 2013 by King Mohammed VI, after whom the satellites are named.

➢ **ISRO launches earth observation satellite HysIS along with 30 others**

- Isro has launched India's earth observation satellite HysIS along with 30 other foreign satellites, including 23 from the US. The satellites were carried by the workhorse rocket PSLV-C43.

- The 45th flight of PSLV was launched from the First Launch Pad (FLP) of Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota on Thursday at 9.58 am (IST).

- Primary purpose of HysIS satellite is to observe earth's surface in infrared region.

DEFENCE

- **Ukraine launches joint military drills with NATO members**
  - Ukraine launched joint military exercises with the United States and a string of other NATO countries as tensions with Russia remain high over the Kremlin-backed insurgency in the country's east.
  - The annual Rapid Trident military exercises, taking place in the western Ukrainian village of Starychi until September 15, involve some 2,200 soldiers from 14 countries.
  - Its main goal is to practice countering armed aggression in conditions of the hybrid war.

- **BEL gets contract for surface-to-air missiles**
  - A Rs 9,200 crore order for supply of seven long range surface-to-air missile (LRSAM) systems has pushed the order book of state-run Bharat Electronics Ltd beyond Rs 50,000 crore for the first time in a single financial year.
  - The company has entered into contracts worth about Rs 9,200 crore with Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) to supply LRSAM systems.
  - BEL is state-owned leading defence electronics company. It is one of nine PSUs under the Union Ministry of Defence of India.

- **Indian Navy Beats 22 Other Teams To Win KAKADU-18 Cup**
  - The Indian Navy left its mark in Australia as it participated in a multilateral maritime exercise involving 27 navies.
  - Exercise KAKADU, which started in 1993, is a premier multilateral regional maritime engagement hosted by the Royal Australian Navy and supported by Royal Australian Air Force.
  - KAKADU 2018 is a biannual joint exercise taking place both ashore and at sea off the coast of Darwin.
  - The exercise KAKADU derives its name Kakadu National Park which is a protected area in the northern territory of Australia, 171 km south-east of Darwin.

- **Indian Air Force successfully carries first-ever mid-air refuelling of fighter aircraft Tejas**
  - A dry run of mid-air refuelling of Tejas fighter jet by an Indian Air Force aircraft was successfully conducted.
  - The test conducted involved a dry linkup, meaning no fuel was actually transferred between Indian Air Force Il-78 tanker and Tejas fighter jet through its air-to-air refuelling probe.
  - For this test, Russian-built IL-78 MKI tanker was launched from IAF's base in Agra while LCA Tejas fighter was launched from Gwalior.

- **Indian Air Force successfully carries first-ever mid-air refuelling of fighter aircraft Tejas**
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- **Nepal refuses to participate in first BIMSTEC joint military exercise**
  - The Nepal Army will not participate in the first ever joint military exercise of BIMSTEC nations in India next week
  - The proposal for the joint military drill was first forwarded by the Indian Army in June, followed by an initial meeting of BIMSTEC senior army officials in New Delhi.
  - The first BIMSTEC field training exercise will be conducted at Foreign Training Node at Aundh in Pune, Maharashtra from September 10 and 16, 2018.

➢ **INDO-US joint military exercise Yudh Abhyas 2018**
- As part of the ongoing Indo-US defence cooperation, a joint military training Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2018 is scheduled to be conducted in the foothills of Himalayas at Chaubattia in Uttarakhand from 16 September to 29 September 2018.
- This will be the 14th edition of the joint military exercise hosted alternately by both countries.
- The joint exercise Yudh Abhyas 2018 will simulate a scenario where both nations will work together in counter insurgency and counter terrorism environment in mountainous terrain under United Nation charter.

➢ **Vostok 2018 war games will be Russia's largest since 1981**
- Russia is set to hold its largest military drills in almost four decades
- Dubbed Vostok 2018, the massive exercise will involve nearly 300,000 troops, more than 1,000 planes, helicopters and drones, and up to 36,000 tanks, armored personnel carriers and other vehicles, as well as up to 80 ships and other vessels
- Vostok 2018 will taking place at a time of heightened tensions between the West and Russia, which is concerned about the build-up of the NATO military alliance on its western flank.

➢ **Coast Guard commissions patrol vessel Vijaya Commissioned by Defense Secretary**
- Indian Coast Guard Ship Vijaya, the second in the series of 98 m offshore patrol vessels (OPVs), was commissioned by Defense Secretary Sanjay Mitra in the presence of Rajendra Singh, Director-General, Indian Coast Guard, in Chennai
- Designed and built indigenously by Larsen & Toubro, the OPV is fitted with advanced technology navigation and communication equipment and sensors.
- It is fitted with a 30 mm gun and will be fitted with a 12.7 mm gun with fire control system.

➢ **PSLV-C42 launches 2 foreign satellites**
- The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C42) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched two satellites -- NovaSAR and S1-4-- from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR, Sriharikota.
- The PSLV-C42 lifted off from the First Launch Pad of SHAR at 10.08 pm (IST). Both satellites were injected into the Sun Synchronous Orbit, about 17 minutes later, at an altitude of 583 km.

➢ **Defence Acquisition Council approves procurement of upgraded Akash missile system**
- The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) chaired by Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman o accorded approval for the procurement of defence equipment worth Rs 9,100 crore, including the latest version of the Akash missile.
- The DAC approved the procurement of two regiments of the Akash missile system under the 'Buy Indian' category from the state-owned Bharat Dynamics Limited.
- "The missile to be procured is an upgraded version of the previously inducted Akash missiles and will include seeker technology, possess 360 degree coverage and will be of compact configuration with reduced signature

➢ **India successfully test fires Prahaar missile**
- India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed surface-to-surface short-range tactical ballistic missile 'Prahaar' from the Odisha coast
- Prahar', developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), is capable of filling the gap between the multi-barrel rocket system 'Pinaka' and medium-range ballistic missile 'Prithvi'.
- The test launch was successful as the missile travelled a range of 200 km before zeroing in on the target, achieving all mission objectives, the sources said.

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> **Russian forces arrive in Pakistan for third joint-military drill**
> - A Russian Army contingent arrived to take part in the third edition of a joint bilateral military training exercise.
> - The two armies will be holding joint military drills in the mountains of northwestern Pakistan which will continue till November 4
> - This will be the third joint military drill between Pakistan and Russia under the bilateral training cooperation agreement.

> **India-Japan military exercise begins in Mizoram**
> - Armies of India and Japan began their first ever joint military exercise at a jungle warfare school in Mizoram's Vairengte with a focus on strengthening counter-terror cooperation
> - The focus of the two-week-long exercise 'Dharma Guardian-2018″ will be to enhance tactical skills against global terrorism and increase inter-operability between the two forces.
> - The objective of the exercise is to build and promote Army to Army relation in addition to exchange skills and experiences of both the armies.

> **Indo-Russian military exercises**
> - India and Russia will hold joint military exercises in Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh from November 18
> - Exercise Indra 2018" will begin at the Babina Field Firing Ranges. This forms part of a drill to combat insurgency under the UN aegis.
> - The aim of the exercise is to practice joint planning and conduct enhance interoperability of the two Armies in peace keeping and enforcement environment under UN aegis.

> **Indo-US joint military exercise 'Vajra Prahar' commences in Jaipur**
> - The 12-day long joint military exercise between India and the United States known as 'Vajra Prahar' commenced in Jaipur.
> - A contingent of the United States Pacific Commander arrived at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges on November 18 for undertaking Joint training with the Indian Special Forces.
> - The US contingent comprises of one officer and 10 other ranks from the Special Forces Group, informed Rajasthan Defence PRO Lt Col Sombhit Ghosh.

➢ **Air forces of the US and India to hold joint exercise 'Cope India 2019'**
- Air forces of the United States and India are scheduled to participate in a 12-day joint exercise 'Cope India 2019' at two air force stations in West Bengal
- The exercise will be held from December 3 to 14 at Air Station Kalaikunda and Air Station Arjan Singh (Panagarh).
- The exercise will be held from December 3 to 14 at The Cope India exercise is being held after a gap of eight years, with the last one having taken place in 2010.

IMPORTANT INDEX

➢ **India ranked 12 globally in web-borne threats: Kaspersky Lab**
- Globally, India ranks 12th when it comes to the dangers associated with surfing the web, according to a new report from Russia-based global cybersecurity firm Kaspersky Lab.
- Among other methods, the attackers exploited vulnerabilities in browsers and their plugins (drive-by download).
- The share of malicious incidents caused by malware hosted in India was 0.68 per cent -- that is 6,450,023 incidents in the period July-September 2018, the research showed.

➢ **World malaria report by WHO; Malaria cases declined by 24% in India**
- The World Health Organisation (WHO) in a report stated that India is the only country to have recorded a substantial decline in malaria cases in 2017 out of the 11 highest burden countries worldwide.
- India accounted for 4 percent of global malaria cases in 2017 and has made significant progress in bringing down its malaria burden since.

➢ **'Pune' Best City to live in , is also the 7th most congested city in India**
- Pune city which was recently named as the number one city to live in India has now got a thing which no Punekar will be proud.
- The city which is an educational hub, IT industry and cultural capital is also the 7th most congested city in India.
- Pune is the seventh most congested city in India, according to a recent research published under the US-based organisation.

➢ **Shri Arun Jaitley launches the Financial Inclusion Index**
- The Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Shri Arun Jaitleylaunched the Financial Inclusion Index after his Annual Performance Review Meeting with CEOs of the Public Sector Banks.
- The index will have three measurement dimensions; (i) Access to financial services (ii) Usage of financial services and (3) Quality.
- The various components of the index will also help to measure financial services for use of internal policy making. Financial Inclusion Index can be used directly as a composite measure in development indicators.

➢ **Gujarat tops in implementing Ayushman Bharat**
- Two months after the launch of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Gujarat has emerged as the top performer of the Centre's ambitious health financing scheme.
- AB-PMJAY, which was launched on September 23, promises health coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family to over 10 crore poor families.
- Claims of Rs 400 crore have been raised under this scheme so far, of which Rs 350 crore has already been given out by the Centre and states, requesting anonymity.

➢ **Union Commerce Minister revealed logo and brochure of 3-day Logix India 2019 which will be held in New Delhi in 2019**
  • Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, launched the logo and brochure of Logix India 2019 in New Delhi.
  • A 3-day Logix India 2019 is scheduled to take place in New Delhi from 31st January to 2nd February 2019.
  • It will be organized by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) to improve logistics cost effectiveness and operational efficiencies for India's global trade.

➢ **Mauritius tops India's FDI charts again in FY18**
  • Mauritius remained the top source of foreign direct investment into India in 2017-18 followed by Singapore.
  • FDI from Mauritius totalled USD 13.41 billion as against USD 13.38 billion in the previous year, inflows from Singapore rose to USD 9.27 billion from USD 6.52 billion.
  • The provisional data for the financial year ended March revealed that foreign direct investment (FDI) into the manufacturing sector witnessed a substantial decline to USD 7.06 billion, as against USD 11.97 billion in the year-ago period.

➢ **India ranked third globally in terms of number of family-owned businesses with 111 companies: Credit Suisse report**
  • India ranks third globally in terms of number of family-owned businesses with 111 companies of $839 billion total market capitalisation, followed closely after China with 159 firms and the United States with 121 firms
  • According to the 'Credit Suisse Family 1000 in 2018' report, published by the Credit Suisse Research Institute (CSRI), in terms of a number of family-owned businesses, within the non-Japan Asian region, China, India and Hong Kong dominate the list.
  • Korea came in fourth place, with 43 companies ($434.1 billion market capitalisation), followed by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, each with 26 companies.

➢ **India ranks 96th on Economic Freedom Index; HK, Singapore retain top spot**
  • India's rank improved by a couple of notches, but it was still placed 96th among 162 countries in this year's report on Economic Freedom in the World
  • In overall ranking, India was evenly placed among BRICS nations. While Russia and South Africa are ahead of India at 87th and 94th, China and Brazil are behind at 108th and 144th positions.
  • Hong Kong and Singapore again topped the index, continuing their streak as the first and the second country, respectively.

➢ **India and Kazakhstan agree to boost Defence and Military Technical Cooperation**
  • Raksha Mantri Smt Nirmala Sitharaman was on a three-day visit to Astana, Kazakhstan from October 02, 2018 at the invitation of Minister of Defence of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
  • They discussed a wide range of issues relating to defence and military technical cooperation and took stock of the progress that this bilateral relationship has made since the renewal of the MoU on defence cooperation.
  • Smt Nirmala Sitharaman also discussed issues relating to defence production with the Minister for Defence and Aerospace Industry.

➢ **IMF predicts 7.3 % growth rate for India in current fiscal year**
  • The International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicted a growth rate of 7.3 per cent for India in the current year and 7.4 per cent in 2019. In 2017, India had recorded a 6.7 per cent growth rate.
  • The latest World Economic Outlook Report has predicted a slightly lower growth rate than it made projections in the April 2018 World Economic Outlook for 2019.
  • The prediction is lower due to recent increase in oil prices and the tightening of global financial conditions.

➢ **India moves up to 28th rank in govt e-payment adoption**
- India's overall ranking on the government's adoption of e-payments has moved up to 28th in 2018, from 36th in 2011.
- The country is taking "rapid strides" in advancing government e-payments capabilities and is one of the top-performing countries in terms of citizen-to-government (C2G), business-to-government (B2G) and government-to-business (G2B) transactions.
- The country holds the top ranking on B2G and G2B, and comes third on C2G jointly with Argentina.

➢ **World Bank's Human Capital Index released Singapore tops**
- The World Bank released a Human Capital Index (HCI) as part of the World Development Report 2019. Singapore Tops, India Ranks 115th in index
- Broader theme of the World Development Report (WDR) this year is "The Changing Nature of Work".
- The HCP programme is claimed to be a program of advocacy, measurement, and analytical work to raise awareness and increase demand for interventions to build human capital.
- The HCI index values are contended to convey the productivity of the next generation of workers, compared to a benchmark of complete standard education and full health.

➢ **India ranks bottom of Oxfam world inequality index**
- India has been ranked among the bottom 10 countries in a new worldwide index released on the commitment of different nations to reduce inequalities in their populations.
- UK-based charity Oxfam International's 'Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index' ranks India 147th among 157 countries
- The second edition of the annual index finds that countries such as South Korea, Namibia and Uruguay are taking strong steps to reduce inequality.

MOUS AND AGREEMENTS

➢ **India and Cyprus sign 2 MoUs**
- India and Cyprus signed two agreements on combating money laundering and cooperation in the field of environment.
- President Kovind is in Cyprus on the first leg of his three-nation visit to Europe to continue India's high-level engagements with European countries. Kovind and Anastasiades exchanged views on economic cooperation during their talks.
- The MoU on combating money laundering was signed between Financial Intelligence Unit, India, and Unit for Combating Money Laundering of Cyprus.

➢ **India, Czech Republic sign five agreements**
- President Ram Nath Kovind, who is Czech Republic on the last leg of 3-nation Europe tour, met Prime Minister Andrej Babis of Czech Republic.
- The two leaders discussed closer defence and business relations and the scope for Czech manufacturing companies to partner with India.
- These agreements are Cooperation between Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, India, and the Czech Academy of Sciences.

➢ **TCIL, MEA sign MOU for pan Africa e-Network project**
- Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. (TCIL) signed an agreement with Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) for the implementation of e-VBAB (e-VidyaBharati and e-AarogyaBharati) Network Project for a total value of Rs. 865 Crores.
- TCIL had already successfully executed Phase-1 of PAeNP from 2008 to 2017.
- The project is seen as digital bridge of knowledge and health between India and Africa.
- The e-VBAB Project is fully funded by MEA, GoI and is envisaged to be implemented in 9 months followed by 5 years of operations and maintenance

➢ **India, Germany sign skill development agreement**
- India and Germany signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on skill development, which will provide dual vocational training to Indian youth.
- Explaining the concept to the media here at the signing ceremony, German Ambassador to India, Martin Ney, said that the dual vocational training programme has been existing in Germany for a long time now.
- A joint body called German Indian Institute of Vocational Education and Training (GIIVET) that has been set up will look after the programme.

➢ **British Council, Arunachal Pradesh Sign MoU On Educational Collaboration**
- The British Council and Arunachal Pradesh Government have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation, to support the knowledge ambitions and economic growth of Arunachal Pradesh.
- The overarching MoU celebrates the British Council's 70th anniversary in India and seeks to strengthen the relationship for the next 70 years.
- The MoU will also work towards improving English communication of Arunachal Pradesh'scivil servants, developing capacity-building initiatives in the state, supporting improvements in the teaching of Mathematics and Science.

➢ **India, Croatia sign two agreements**
- India and Croatia signed two agreements to strengthen cultural and diplomatic cooperation between the two countries.
- Both leaders discussed ways to step up cooperation in trade and investment, health, science and technology, education, tourism and culture.
- Both sides affirmed a commitment to fight the scourge of terrorism, its financing and safe havens.

➢ **Cabinet approves MoU between India and Korea in the field of tourism**
- The cabinet on approved the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between India and Korea for strengthening cooperation in the field of tourism
- The main objectives of the MoU are to expand bilateral cooperation in tourism, including cooperation in data related to tourism, between tourism stakeholders.
- "India and Korea have enjoyed a strong diplomatic and long economic relationship. The two parties are now desiring to strengthen and further develop the established relationship for strengthening cooperation in the field of tourism.

➢ **Cabinet approves MoU between India and Italy for continuing training and education in the fields of Labour and Employment**

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Italy for training and education in the fields of Labour and Employment.
- The MoU will facilitate expansion of the training and education activities to promote decent work in the world of work, through:conducting joint training programmes on training methodologies and techniques;developing new training modules for different social partners;
- The major impact of the MoU would be up-gradation of technical capacities of both the institutions in responding to the challenges emanating from transformations in the world of work.

➢ **India, Morocco sign pacts to combat global terror including ISIS**

- India and Morocco, Africa's second biggest economy, have concluded extradition and mutual legal assistance treaties and also affirmed that they will jointly fight threats from ISIS under their counter-terror partnership.
- The agreements were inked this week during Moroccan Justice Minister Mohamed Auajjar's visit to Delhi.
- Morocco has a well-established school of counter-terrorism, which is globally recognised

IMPORTANT DAYS

➢ **Teachers Day 2018 celebrated on 5 September**

- In India, 5th September is celebrated as Teachers' Day as a mark of tribute to the contribution made by teachers to the society.
- 5th September is the birth anniversary of a great teacher Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who was a staunch believer of education, and was a well-known diplomat, scholar, the President of India and above all, a teacher.
- Even according to our Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi "Teaching is not a profession, a way of life". Further he added that teaching is not a profession but "Jeevan Dharm" (a way of life) and asked teachers to understand changes happening across the world to prepare the new generation accordingly.

➢ **International Literacy Day 2018 observed on 8 September**

- Each year September 8th marks UNESCO's International Literacy day, raising awareness globally on the issues surrounding adult and child literacy.
- International Literacy day highlights the changes and improvements being made worldwide in literacy development.
- UNESCO has been central to improving global literacy since 1946 and promotes International Literacy day in partnership with governments, charities, local communities and experts in the field worldwide.
- This year's theme is Literacy and skills development.

➢ **National Hindi Divas 2018 observed across India on September 14, 2018**

- National Hindi Divas (Hindi Day) was observed across India on September 14, 2018 to promote Hindi as Matra Bhasha (mother tongue) of India.
- The day marks the adaptation of Hindi language as the official language of India by the Constituent Assembly of India on September 14, 1949.
- The day was marked by literary festivals, Hindi poetry sessions, Hindi essay writing competitions, Hindi speech contests and other events.

➢ **International Day of Democracy and Engineers Day observed on September 15**
- This year's International Day of democracy is an opportunity to look for ways to invigorate democracy and seek answers to the systemic challenges it Faces.
- 2018 Theme of democracy day is Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World
- The Engineering Community across India celebrates Engineers Day on 15 September every year as a tribute to the greatest Indian Engineer Bharat Ratna Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya.
- "Role of Engineers in a developing India" is the theme of Engineers Day 2017.

➢ **September 16: International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer**
- September 16 was designated by the United Nations General Assembly as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
- This designation had been made on December 19, 2000, in commemoration of the date, in 1987, on which nations signed the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
- This year, the theme for the Day is 'Keep Cool and Carry On: The Montreal Protocol'

➢ **International Day of Peace 21 September**
- Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.
- The theme celebrates the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a milestone document in the history of human rights.

➢ **International Day of Sign Languages: 23 September**
- International Day of Sign Languages is celebrated on 23 September every year along with International Week of the Deaf.
- This day aims to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf.
- According to the World Federation of the Deaf, there are approximately 72 million deaf people worldwide. More than 80% of them live in developing countries. Collectively, they use more than 300 different sign languages.

➢ **World Tourism Day 2018 Appreciates Digital Transformation for Sustainable Development**
- World tourism Day is celebrated on27th September at Budapest, Hungary as well as across the globe.
- The theme for World Tourism Day 2018 hovers around Digital Transformation and Innovation that Advanced Technologies can bring to the tourism sector to make it a crucial contributor for all round sustainable development of the world.
- In this digital era innovations like Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Platforms can play a remarkable role in ensuring sustainable growth by making tourism a more responsible sector and connecting tourism at the global level.

➢ **World Teachers' Day 2018 on 5 October**
- World Teachers' Day, also known as International Teachers' Day, is observed on October 5 every year.
- World Teachers' Day focuses on "appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world" and to provide an opportunity to address issues related to teachers and teaching.
- This year's World Teachers' Day theme is : "The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher.

➢ **World Postal Day is observed on 9 October**

- Postal services are something that people all over the world often take for granted, but the day to celebrate them and recognize their contributions to modern society and the global economy is almost here.

- The event was first declared at the 1969 United Postal Congress in Tokyo, Japan and is celebrated annually on October 9.

- The theme for World Post Day 2018 will reportedly be: 'Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers'

➢ **World Mental Health Day observed on 10 October**

- World Mental Health Day (10 October) is a day for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma.

- It was first celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health, a global mental health organization with members and contacts in more than 150 countries.

- The theme of World Mental Health Day 2018 is "Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World".

➢ **World Food Day observed on 16 October**

- World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world on 16 October in honor of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945.

- The day is celebrated widely by many other organizations concerned with food security, including the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

- These events promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure food security and nutritious diets for all.

➢ **United nation Day observed on 24 October**

- United Nations Day is devoted to making known to people of the world the aims and achievements of the United Nations Organization. United Nations Day is part of United Nations Week, which runs from 20 to 26 October.

- In 1948, the United Nations General Assembly declared 24 October, the anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations, as which "shall be devoted to making known to the people of the world the aims and achievements of the United Nations and to gaining their support for" its work

- Antonio Guterres is the secretary general of the United Nations.

➢ **Ayurveda Day to be celebrated throughout the Country on 5th November**

- This year Ayurveda Day is being observed on 5th November 2018.

- Ministry is organising a "National Seminar on Entrepreneurship and Business Development in Ayurveda" in association with NITI Aayog on 4th & 5th November 2018 at Dr. Ambedkar International centre, Janapth, New Delhi.

- The aim isto encourage entrepreneurs and Ayurveda stakeholders towards businesses opportunities in the sector.

➢ **National cancer awareness day 7 November**

- National Cancer Awareness Day will be observed across the country on November 7 every year.

- Two-thirds of cancer cases are diagnosed at an advanced stage, reducing patients' chances of survival.

- Indian society of oncology had partnered with four states including Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Himachal Pradesh to launch the'Pendharkar model'.

- Under this, government staff at district hospitals will be trained in handling cancer care and providing chemotherapy.

➢ **Legal Services Day 9 November**
- Legal Services Day is celebrated every year on 9th of November in all the states Authorities.
- At this day variety of legal literacy camps and functions are organized at many places in the capital city of the country.
- The 9th of November is selected as the Legal Services Day which was first started by the Supreme Court in the year 1995 all across the India.
- The aim of celebrating the Legal Services Day is to offer the free of charge, proficient and legal services to the people of weaker sections of society.

➢ **National Education Day is celebrated on November 11**
- The nation celebrates the National Education Day on November 11 as a mark of respect to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- The latter was a freedom fighter and independent India's first Education Minister (served from 1947 to 1958).
- The ex-minister was a renowned scholar and poet and was well-versed in many languages.

➢ **26 November observed as constitution day**
- Constitution Day (National Law Day), also known as Samvidhan Divas, is celebrated in India on 26 November every year to commemorate the adoption of Constitution of India.
- On 26 November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, and it came into effect on 26 January 1950.
- The Government of India declared 26 November as Constitution Day on 19 November 2015 by a gazette notification.

➢ **People's participation, awareness key for encouraging organ donation ; Organ Donation Day 27 November**
- On the 9th Indian Organ Donation Day, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar said people's participation and people's awareness is the key for encouraging organ donation.
- Organised by the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation here,he also administered the Pledge to the participation to donate organs.
- National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO)Headquarters: New Delhi

➢ **National Flag day 30 November**
- National Flag day is observed on 30 November.
- The Flag Day initiative aims to inculcate the culture of respecting the national flag as a symbol of the country's sovereignty, unity and a sense of belonging.
- The Flag Day initiative targets students in around 800 schools and universities nationwide, including both Emiratis and expatriate students, as well as their parents and guardians.

➢ **World Aids Day ; 1 December**
- On 1 December 2018, WHO will join global partners to commemorate World AIDS Day under the theme "Know Your Status".
- This will also be an occasion to celebrate the 30th anniversary of World AIDS Day – a pioneering global health campaign first initiated by WHO in 1988.
- Urge policy-makers to promote a "health for all" agenda for HIV and related health services, such as tuberculosis (TB), hepatitis and noncommunicable diseases.

SPORTS

- **Gold 15, Silver 24, Bronze 30 equals India's best Asian Game**
  - The 2018 Asian Games turned out to be India's best ever outing at the quadrennial sports extravaganza, matching the country's best gold medal count while registering the biggest haul in terms of total medals won.
  - India end the Games with a total of 69 medals and 15 golds and are likely to finish in the eighth spot in the medal's tally.
  - China topped the medals table for the 10th Games in succession, a streak stretching back to New Delhi 1982, with a runaway 132 golds.
  - The 2018 Asian Games (Indonesian: Pesta Olahraga Asia 2018, Asian Games 2018), officially known as the 18th Asian Games and also known as Jakarta-Palembang 2018, was a pan-Asian multi-sport event being held from 18 August to 2 September 2018 in the Indonesian cities of Jakarta and Palembang.

- **Asian Games 2018: Japan's Rikako Ikee Named Most Valuable Player**
  - Rikako, 18, who grabbed a record six gold medals in Jakarta, said she hoped she had put Japanese swimming on the map ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.
  - Teenage swimming sensation Rikako Ikee said she would celebrate with barbecued beef and sushi as she was named the best athlete at the Asian Games
  - Rikako is the first woman to win six golds at a single Games, and she finished with eight medals in total -- equalling the record set by North Korean shooter So Gin Man in 1982.

- **Saurabh Chaudhary sets new shooting record in junior ISSF World Championship**
  - India's Saurabh Chaudhary beat his own world record in the men's junior 10m Air Pistol event at the ISSF World Championship in Changwon.
  - Saurabh not just set a new world record but also climbed to the top of the podium with Lim Hojin of Korea and India's Arjun Singh Cheema finishing third and fourth respectively.
  - Saurabh shot a total of 245.5 to break his own world record he had set in June.

- **Hriday Hazarika, Indian Women's 10m Air Rifle Team Win Gold Medals At ISSF World Championships**
  - India's Hriday Hazarika won gold in men's 10m air rifle at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championships.
  - Hazarika, the only Indian to qualify for the men's final with a total score of 627.3, was tied on 250.1 with Iran's Mohammed Amir Nekounam in the final
  - Mohammed Amir clinched the silver medal, Russia's Grigorii Shamakov took home the bronze medal.

- **India Blue trounces India Red to win Duleep Trophy**
  - India Blue thrashed defending champion India Red by an innings and 187 runs in the final to win the Duleep Trophy at NPR College ground.
  - Spinners Deepak Jagbir Hooda (5 for 56) and Saurabh Kumar (5 for 51) needed just 10.5 overs on the fourth day to bundle out India Red for 172 in the second innings.
  - Himachal Pradesh batsman Nikhil Gangta was named the Man of the Match.

- **US Open 2018: Novak Djokovic beats Juan Martin del Potro to win title**
  - Novak Djokovic produced an impeccable performance to beat Juan Martin del Potro in the US Open final and win his 14th Grand Slam title.
  - Djokovic, who won Wimbledon in July, will climb to third in the world after back-to-back Grand Slam victories.
  - Argentine third seed Del Potro, 29, was playing his first Grand Slam final since winning the 2009 US Open, having almost quit the game in 2015 because of multiple wrist injures.

➢ **Hima Das appointed as Sports Ambassador of Assam**

• Chief Minister Sarbanadnda Sonowal felicitated Hima Das, the outstanding athlete of Assam for her recent achievements in the Asian Games 2018 and IAAF World U-20 Championship 2018 at a function held at Srimanta Sankardev International Auditorium here.

• Sonowal also handed over a cheque worth Rs. 1.60 crore to Hima Das.

• He also handed over an offer letter to Hima to make her the Sports Ambassador of Assam. Sonowal also offered her a job in the senior category of Sports and Youth Welfare Department and requested Hima to consider the offer.

➢ **Triple jumper Arpinder Singh becomes first Indian to win medal in IAAF Continental Cup**

• Triple jumper Arpinder Singh created history by becoming the first Indian to win a medal in the IAAF Continental Cup as he clinched a bronze with a modest effort of 16.59m

• Arpinder, who had won a gold in the Asian Games in Jakarta, cleared 16.59m in the first of his three jumps to be in the four-man semifinals.

• Nonetheless, he collected a bronze. The 25-year-old Arpinder was representing the Asia-Pacific team in the meet, held once every four years.

➢ **Former India captain Sardar Singh announces retirement from international hockey**

• Former India Hockey captain Sardar Singh on Wednesday announced his retirement from international hockey after an illustrious career spanning 12 years.

• Singh's decision came on the same day his name was excluded from the 25-strong core group of national campers announced by the Hockey India.

• He was awarded Arjuna Award in 2012 and Padma Shri award in 2015. He was the youngest player to captain the Indian team when he led the team at the 2008 Sultan Azlan Shah Cup.

➢ **Former England captain Paul Collingwood announced retirement**

• Former England captain Paul Collingwood will retire from professional cricket at the end of the current season.

• Collingwood, 42, became the first England captain to win a trophy at a global tournament when he guided them to the ICC world T20 in 2010. He was part of three Ashes series wins over Australia before retiring from international cricket in 2011.

• He made 4259 runs in 68 tests and will play his final game against Middlesex starting on September 24.

➢ **India beat Bangladesh by three wickets to win seventh Asia Cup title**

• India ended the tournament as the only unbeaten side while Rohit maintained a 100% captaincy record in the tournament.

• Stand-in Indian skipper Rohit Sharma has drawn many plaudits for his performance in the Asia Cup, both as a batsman and as a captain.

• Bangladesh did everything to be holders of a multi-nation trophy, having failed to cross the line in the same tournament trophy, having failed to cross the line in the same tournament twice before in the last six years.

➢ **Lewis Hamilton wins Singapore Grand Prix to extend lead in F1 title race**

• Lewis Hamilton won the Singapore Grand Prix at Marina Bay Street Circuit, in Singapore.

• He was followed by Red Bull's Max Verstappen in the 2nd spot. Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel finished in the 3rd place.

• Lewis Hamilton extended his drivers' championship lead over Sebastian Vettel to 40 points with a straightforward victory in Singapore.

➢ **Delhi to host Women's World Boxing C'ship**
- The marquee tournament was last held in India in 2006 and remains the best for the country in terms of performance. India had topped the medal tally with four Gold, three Silver and one Bronze medal.
- The World Women's Boxing Championships, to be hosted by India after more than a decade, will be held from November 15 in the national capital
- The celebrated M C Mary Kom, who has been nicknamed 'Magnificent Mary' by the AIBA, will be gunning for a sixth world title at the event which would conclude with the finals on November 24.

➢ **18. Olympian PV Sindhu only sportsperson in Forbes India's maiden 22 'tycoons of tomorrow' list**
- Badminton player and Olympian PV Sindhu is the only sportsperson featuring in the Forbes India's maiden 'tycoons of tomorrow' list of 22 young achievers in the fields of business, acting and sports.
- It clarified that the 'tycoons of tomorrow' is not a ranking but a qualitative selection based on a long-list compiled by the Forbes India team, and suggestions made by a six-member jury.
- The magazine, known for its annual rich list, said this is an India-specific property adding the ranking is not based on their networth alone.

➢ **Yuvraj Wadhwani clinches Asian Junior Squash title**
- India's Yuvraj Wadhwani has clinched Asian Junior Squash Championship title after defeating Anas Ali Shah of Pakistan in the final of the boys' U-13 individual event.
- Wadhwani thrashed his Pakistani counterpart 13-11, 11-5, 6-11, 12-10 in the final to become the second Indian to lift the prestigious trophy.
- In 2014, it was Indian squash player Veer Chotrani, who had won the title in Iran.
- Overall, Indian squash players managed to win a total of six medals in the tournament including one gold, one silver and four bronze.

➢ **Lewis Hamilton wins in Russian Grand Prix**
- Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton won the Russian Grand Prix in Russia.
- This was Lewis Hamilton's 70th career win.
- Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas finished in second position. He was followed by Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel in third place.

➢ **Manu Bhaker named India's flag-bearer at Youth Olympic Games**
- Teenage shooting star Manu Bhaker was on Monday named as the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the 3rd Youth Olympic Games to be held in Buenos Aires from October 6-18.
- A contingent of 68 members, including 46 athletes, will leave for Argentina on Tuesday to compete in 13 sports.
- Goa Olympic Association Secretary Gurudutta D Bhakta will be the Chef-de-Mission of the contingent.

➢ **36th National Games in March-April next year in Goa**
- The much-delayed 36th National Games in Goa will be held from March 30 to April 14 next year. The Games were earlier scheduled to be held next month.
- Prabhudesai said at a media conference that Opening and Closing ceremonies will be held at PJN Stadium, Fatorda.
- The Opening ceremony will be on March 30 and closing ceremony will be on April 14.
- Five sports -- Rugby, Wushu, Modern Penthatlon, Lawn Bowl, and Billiards and Snooker -- will be added in the Games programme.

➢ **Under-19 Asia Cup: India beat Sri Lanka by 144 runs to clinch title**
- India's U-19 team followed the footsteps of their seniors to win the U-19 Asia Cup title with a crushing 144-run win against Sri Lanka in the final.
- India outplayed Sri Lanka in all departments by first scoring an imposing 304 for three at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Mirpur after skipper Prabh Simran Singh won the toss and elected to bat.
- For his consistency (318 runs in the tournament), Jaiswal was adjudged man-of-the-tournament.

➢ **Youth Olympics Games 2018: Manu Bhaker wins gold in the women's 10 metre Air Pistol**
- Manu Bhaker claimed India's first ever gold medal in shooting at the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos.
- The 16-year-old Bhaker shot 236.5 to finish on top of the podium in the women's 10m air pistol event, making up for the heartbreak at the Asian Games in Indonesia.
- Russia's Iana Enina won the silver with 235.9, while Nino Khutsiberidze bagged the bronze medal.

➢ **Asian Para Games 2018: Harvinder Singh wins gold in archery**
- Archer Harvinder Singh notched up the men's individual recurve gold at the Asian Para-Games in Jakarta.
- Harvinder defeated China's Zhao Lixue 6-0 in the W2/ST category final to claim the top honours and take India's gold tally to seven.
- The W2 category of impairment covers athletes with paraplegia, diplegia or double leg amputation below the knee, requiring wheelchair.

➢ **Saurabh Chaudhary bags gold in Youth Olympics 2018**
- Shooting gave India another champion as Saurabh Chaudhary claim the 10m air pistol gold at the Youth Olympics.
- The 16-year-old Chaudhary dominated the final, shooting 244.2 to finish on top of the podium ahead of South Korea's Sung Yunho.
- Switzerland's Solari Jason bagged the bronze with 215.6

➢ **Pakistan left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman retires from international cricket**
- Former Pakistan left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman announced his retirement from international cricket.
- The 38-year-old took 19 wickets and Ajmal finished with 24 when Pakistan whitewashed the world number one Test team in United Arab Emirates six years ago in one of the finest performances of his career.
- A wily spinner Rehman finished his 22-Test career just one short of a deserved hundred wicket mark, while he took 30 in 31 one-dayers and eight wickets in 11 Twenty20 internationals.

➢ **Leander Paes wins Santo Domingo Open trophy**
- Leander Paes is still going great guns as the veteran tennis star won his second Challenger level title of the season, lifting the Santo Domingo Open trophy with partner Miguel Angel Reyyes-Varela.
- The second seeded Indo-Mexican pair, playing its second consecutive final.
- The Capital of Dominican Republic Santo Domingo, Currency Dominican Peso.

➢ **Youth Olympics: Suraj Panwar wins silver medal in 5,000m race walk**
- Suraj Panwar won India's first medal in athletics at the third Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Panwar finished second in the first stage and crossed the line in the same position in the second stage as well.
- In a new format, there are no finals in track and field (with the exception of 4km cross-country) in the Youth Olympics and each event is held twice, with results from both rounds counting towards the final standings.

➢ **Asian Champions Trophy Hockey Final India and Pakistan declared joint winners**
- India and Pakistan will share the trophy. Both teams have won the tournament twice each in the past.
- The start of the final match was delayed due to heavy rain. As the turf was completely waterlogged the teams couldn't play.
- Both India and Pakistan were declared joint winners of the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy.
- India had won the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy in 2011 and 2016.

➢ **Sourav Kothari wins World Billiards Championship title**
- India's Sourav Kothari defeated Peter Gilchrist of Singapore 1134-944 of to clinch the 2018 WBL World Billiards Championship title
- The former national and Asian Billiards champion was pipped at the post for the coveted World Billiards crown on two occasions in the last two years, including a loss to Gilchrist in the 2016 final in Bengaluru.
- Earlier in the semis, Kothari steered his way to a dramatic victory in the dying minutes of the game over 6-time World and defending champion David Causier of England by 1317-1246.

➢ **Azhar Ali announces retirement from ODIs**
- Senior Pakistan batsman Azhar Ali announced his retirement from limited overs cricket in order to concentrate fully on Test cricket.
- Azhar, who had to step down as captain of the ODI team last year, however felt that he could have done more in 50-over cricket.
- Azhar has been one of Pakistan's most prolific run-scorers in Test cricket as he scored a triple century and a double hundred in Tests in the UAE and Australia in 2016 and 2017 respectively.

➢ **Mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta scales Mt Giluwe in Papua New Guinea**
- Indian mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta became the first Indian to climb Mt Giluwe – the second highest mountain in Papua New Guinea.
- Satyarup reached the summit of the mountain which is at an elevation of 4,367 metres on November 11.
- In September this year, Satyarup Siddhanta and Mousumi Khatua created history by climbing Asia's highest volcanic peak Mount Damavand and became the first Bengalis to do so.

➢ **F1: Lewis Hamilton Wins Brazilian Grand Prix**
- Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton, who scored his 10th victory of the Formula 1 season, won Brazilian Grand Prix
- Hamilton lead through the first half of the race before he was passed by Max Verstrappen who then looked all set to take the podium.
- Team Mercedes also lifted the Constructors title for the fifth consecutive time.

➢ **Australia's John Hastings Retires From International Cricket Due To Lung Disease**
- Australia all-rounder John Hastings announced retirement from all forms of cricket due to a lung disease.
- Hastings had already retired from ODI and Test cricket last year but continued to play T20 cricket.
- In an 11-year-long cricket career, Hastings played for Victoria and Melbourne Stars at home and Durham in English county.

➢ **Bajrang Punia becomes number one in world in 65kg**
- Star Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia touched a new high in his career by achieving the number one rank in the world in the 65kg category.
- It has turned out to be a remarkable season for Bajrang, who was also the only Indian grappler to be given a seeding at the Budapest World Championship.
- The 24-year-old Bajrang, who has won five medals this season, including CWG and Asian Games gold and a silver at the World Championship, was placed atop the ranking table with 96 points in the UWW list.

➢ **India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani wins third straight IBSF billiards crown**
- India's ace cueist Pankaj Advani won his third straight IBSF billiards crown in the 150-up format, taking his overall tally of world titles to a staggering 20.
- The 33-year-old from Bengaluru overcame Nay Thway Oo of Myanmar in a high-quality final.
- It was also a proud moment for Myanmar which saw its own player in the title round for the first time.

➢ **Lakshya Sen gets boys singles bronze at World Junior Badminton Championships**
- Lakshya Sen is the only Indian medallist in this year's BWF World Junior Championships
- Lakshya's bronze medal is India's fifth in the Championships in boys singles
- Saina Nehwal is India's sole gold medallist at the BWF World Junior Championships
- This was India's fifth boys singles bronze medal at the BWF World Junior Championships and the only medal India got at this year's Championships.

➢ **India Win Two Bronze Medals in Acrobatic Gymnastics World Cup**
- Indian gymnasts won two bronze medals in the men's and women's group events of the FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics World Cup in Baku.
- Germany's Kudryashov, Aleksandr Sorokin, Valeriy Tukashvili and Kirill Zadorin were ranked first with a score of 28.336, while Pavel Gubskiy, Kirill Lukyanov, Vladimir Petrov and Denis Solun finished second after scoring 28.005.
- Teams from Belarus, Israel, Kazakhstan, India, Russia and Ukraine participated in the competitions.

➢ **Mary Kom clinches record 6th World Championship gold**
- M C Mary Kom became the most successful boxer in the history of Women's World Championships by winning her sixth gold medal with an unanimous 5-0 result over Ukraine's Hanna Okhota here.
- The 35-year-old Mary Kom beat her opponent in the 48kg category without breaking a sweat. She now has an incredible six gold and one silver in the tournament.
- With this gold, 'Magnificent Mary' also matched Cuban men's legend Felix Savon as the joint most successful pugilist (men and women) in the World Championships history.

➢ **Women's World T20 final: Australia beat England to claim fourth crown**
- Australia have wrapped up their fourth World Cup T20 crown, cruising past England in the final at Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Ground in Antigua.
- Ellyse Perry became the second woman to reach an incredible 100 wickets milestone in T20 internationals as Australia dismantled England's batting line-up.
- It's the third time Australia have got the better of England in the final, previously lifting the trophy in 2012 and 2014.

➢ **Lewis Hamilton wins Abu Dhabi Grand Prix: F1**
- Lewis Hamilton rounds off a stunning season with victory in Abu Dhabi.
- The world champion took victory after starting on pole at Yas Marina, with Vettel taking second ahead of Verstappen.
- The title is his 11th win of this year's campaign and overall 73rd career win and is now 18 wins away from Michael Schumacher's all-time record.

➢ **National Shooting Championships: 13-Year-Old Esha Singh Wins Three Gold Medals**
- Esha Singh, who is the daughter of a national level rally driver, won medals in the youth, junior and senior categories.
- 13-year-old Esha Singh, who hails from Telangana, took the National Shooting Championships by storm after winning three gold medals, leaving behind experienced shooters such as Heena Sidhu and Manu Bhaker.
- Shooting 241.0 in the women's final, the teenager beat Manu Bhaker, who finished second with a score of 238.9. And experienced shooter Heena Sidhu trailed behind at sixth with a disappointing score of 154.9.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

➢ **Aishwarya Rai Bachchan Collects Meryl Streep Award**

- Aishwarya Rai Bachchan received Meryl Streep Award for Excellence at the first edition of Women In Film and Television (WIFT) India Award along with her daughter Aaradhya.

- At the ceremony -- established to honour the best female talent in Bollywood and Hollywood -- the actor was bestowed with the inaugural Meryl Streep Award for Excellence.

- The 44-year-old later took to Instagram to celebrate her win and shared pictures with the trophy in her hand and Aaradhya by her side.

➢ **Secondary Steel Sector Awarded for contribution to National Economy**

- Ministry of Steel gave away Secondary Steel sector awards, for the first time, to 26 mini steel companies in recognition of their contribution to the national economy.

- The secondary steel sector is a critical and important segment of the market spanning from construction, machine tools, cold rolled products, pipes, stainless steel, galvanized and color coated steel as well as exports.

- Steel is one of the core sectors of the Indian economy and India is the 3rd largest steel producer in the world. Steel contributes to over 2% to India's GDP and creates a virtuous cycle of employment generation throughout the economy.

➢ **Mirabai Chanu and Virat Kohli to get Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna**

- National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award is given for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four year.

- Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli and weightlifter Saikhom Mirabai Chanu will receive the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award- India's highest sports honour.

- Kohli will become the third Indian cricketer after legendary Sachin Tendulkar (1997) and the talismanic former captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni (2007) once the sports ministry officially accepts the committee's recommendation.

➢ **AP, Odisha & Madhya Pradesh Bag Award of Three Best Performing States in Ease of Living Index**

- Andhra Pradesh has topped the charts among States in terms of "Ease of Living Index" rankings launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)

- It was followed by Odisha and Madhya Pradesh.The three States were awardedbest performing Statesat the National Dissemination Workshop on Ease of Living Index, 2018

- The Ease of Living Index is a transformative initiative of the Ministry to help the cities assess their liveability vis-à-vis national and global benchmarks.

➢ **Best Fifa Football Awards 2018: Luka Modric named men's player of the year**

- Luka Modric was named Best Fifa Footballer of the Year in a London ceremony noted as much for the the players in absentia as the awards.

- The Croatian beat Mohamed Salah and Cristiano Ronaldo to become the first player other than Ronaldo and Lionel Messi to win since Kaka in 2007.

- The award was decided by national team coaches and captains, select members of the media and online voting.

➢ **Scientists From U.S, Canada, France Split Nobel Prize In Physics For Laser Work**
- This year's Nobel Prize in Physics has been "split" with one half going to Arthur Ashkin, an American who won for his work with optical tweezers, while Gérard Mourou of France and Donna Strickland of Canada share the other half for work in generating high-intensity ultrashort optical pulses.
- Their achievements mark groundbreaking achievements in the field of laser physics.
- Strickland is the third-ever woman to win the prize, first awarded in 1901.
- The three winners announced Tuesday bring to 210 laureates who have won the physics prize since it was first awarded.

➢ **James Allison, Tasuku Honjo win Nobel Prize in Medicine for cancer research**
- The 2018 Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine was awarded to American and Japanese immunologist James P Allison and Tasuku Honzo for their discovery of "cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation".
- The foundation said "Immune checkpoint therapy" has revolutionized cancer treatment and has fundamentally changed the way we view how cancer can be managed.
- The prizes for achievements in science, literature and peace were created in accordance with the will of dynamite inventor and businessman Alfred Nobel and have been awarded since 1901.

➢ **Frances H Arnold, George P Smith and Gregory P Winter win Nobel prize in chemistry**
- Three scientists have won the Nobel prize in chemistry for their work in harnessing evolution to produce new enzymes and antibodies.
- British scientist Sir Gregory P Winter and Americans Frances H Arnold and George P Smith will share the 9m Swedish kronor (£770,000) prize, awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.
- The winners' work has led to the development of new fuels and pharmaceuticals by making use of nature's evolutionary processes themselves, leading to medical and environmental advances.

➢ **Nobel peace prize 2018 won by Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad**
- The Congolese gynaecologist, Denis Mukwege, who has treated thousands of rape victims, and Nadia Murad, the Iraqi Yazidi, who was sold into sex slavery by Isis, have been jointly awarded the 2018 Nobel peace prize.
- They have both put their own personal security at risk by courageously combatting war crimes and securing justice for victims.
- The joint award comes a decade since the UN security council adopted Resolution 1820 (2008), which determined that the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war.

➢ **2018 Nobel in Economics Is Awarded to William Nordhaus and Paul Romer**
- Two American economists at the forefront of work on climate change and the role of governments in boosting growth have been jointly awarded the prestigious Nobel Memorial prize for economics.
- The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said William Nordhaus and Paul Romer were being honoured for their research into two of the most "basic and pressing" economic issues of the age.

➢ **Prema Gopalan wins social entrepreneurship award**
- Prema Gopalan, founder of Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), was awarded the 8th Social Entrepreneur of the Year award, 2018, for her work in promoting women's entrepreneurship.
- After working for years with issues of urban communities, Gopalan got a closer view of rural realities and women's woes after the devastating Latur earthquake in 1993.
- Social Entrepreneur of the year awards was founded by Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation.

➢ **10-year-old Indian Arshdeep Singh wins 2018 Wildlife Photographer of the Year award**
- Arshdeep Singh, 10, is among the winners of the 2018 Wildlife Photographer of the Year award in the 10-years-and-under category for his photograph 'Pipe Owls', which is of two spotted owlets nested inside a pipe.
- Arshdeep started taking photographs at the age of six. The young photographer often travels with his father Randeep Singh who is also a well-known photographer.
- Among the junior winners, there were three categories 10 years and under, 11-14 years and 15-17 years.

➢ **Prime Minister announces an Award in Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name for police personnel for their exemplary service**
- The Prime Minister announced an annual award in the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for police and paramilitary forces for commendable contributions in disaster relief operations.
- Prime Minister Mr. Modi announced this while dedicating the National Police Memorial to the nation in New Delhi this morning on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day.
- Mr Modi said, the police forces have foiled the designs of those who were trying to disturb the nation and were hatching conspiracy to create an atmosphere of fear and insecurity.

➢ **Pakistani lawyer Asma Jahangir wins UN Human Rights Prize posthumously**
- Pakistan's iconic human rights activist and lawyer Asma Jahangir was posthumously awarded the 2018 UN Human Rights Prize.
- She was one of the four winners of the award which was announced by the United Nations.
- The "United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights" is an honorary award given for outstanding achievement in human rights.

➢ **Prof. MS Swaminathan receives 1st World Agriculture Prize**
- Renowned agricultural scientist and the chief architect of the green revolution in India, Prof. MS Swaminathan was awarded the very 1st World Agriculture Prize for his immense contributions to Indian agriculture by Indian Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu.
- Naidu called the eminent agricultural scientist as a Vishwaguru in Agriculture, a teacher and a scholar who continues to leave his inspirational, ideational thoughts and prints on the world.
- Concerned over the decrease in number of people engaged in agriculture, the Vice President called for concerted, coordinated action to address a number of issues that impact the growth of agriculture sector.

➢ **Veteran Journalist N. Ram to Receive Press Council's Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award**
- Veteran journalist and Hindu publishing group chairman N. Ram has been chosen for the prestigious Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award, presented by the Press Council of India, for his outstanding contribution towards journalism.
- The award will be presented on November 16 on the occasion of the National Press Day.

➢ **Ustad Amjad Ali Khan presented lifetime achievement award in Delhi**
- Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, was presented the 'Sumitra Charat Ram Award for Lifetime Achievement' at the Kamani Auditorium, for his "immense contribution to the enrichment and promotion of the Indian classical music".
- The award was presented to him by former diplomat Lalit Mansingh.
- Best known for his clear and fast 'ekhara taans', Khan was born in 1945 in Gwalior. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan (2001), and is among the tallest Indian classical musicians.

➢ **Dr. Saroj Suman Gulati conferred with Global Education Leaders Award 2018**
- Dr. Saroj Suman Gulati, Director, Blue Bells Group of Schools has been conferred with the coveted Global Education Leaders Award 2018
- An educationist par excellence, Dr. Gulati was among the nine eminent education leaders from India who were awarded for their exemplary contribution in various spheres of education.

APPOINTMENTS & PERSON IN NEWS

➢ **Pakistan Gets First Woman Chief Justice of High Court**
  • Justice Tahira Safdar was sworn in on Saturday as the first woman chief justice of a Pakistani high court.
  • Justice Safdar was sworn in as the chief justice of Balochistan High Court at a ceremony held at the Governor House in Balochistan.
  • She made history in 1982 when she became the first woman civil judge in Balochistan.
  • She is currently a member of the three-judge special court conducting the trial of former President Pervez Musharraf.

➢ **PTI's Dr Arif Alvi elected 13th President of Pakistan**
  • Dr Arif Alvi, a member of Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's PTI, secured 212 votes out of 432 votes cast by the electoral college.
  • Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leader Dr Arif Alvi has been elected as the 13th President of Pakistan.
  • The opposition candidate in the Pakistan presidential elections, Maulana Fazlur Rehman, got merely 131 votes. Aitzaz Ahsan, a member of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), got just 81 votes, said the report in The Express Tribune.
  • Dr. Alvi had started his political career about five decades ago when he was student of de'Montmonrency College of Dentistry in Lahore.

➢ **The next CJI Justice Gogoi will take over as the 46th Chief Justice of India**
  • The Chief Justice of India, Dipak Misra, due to retire in October, has named the senior-most judge of the Supreme court after him as his successor.
  • Justice Gogoi will take over as the 46th Chief Justice of India on October3, a day after CJI Misra retires.
  • Justice Ranjan Gagoi is a Judge of the Supreme Court of India since April, 2012. Prior to his present post, he was the Chief Justice ,Punjab and Haryana High Court.
  • His father Keshab Chandra Gogoi was a Chief minister under the Indian National Congress regime in the state of Assam in the year in the year 1982.

➢ **BSNL Ropes in Boxer Mary Kom on Board as Brand Ambassador for 2 Years**
  • BSNL hits a double whammy as it brings in decorated boxer Mary Kom as its brand ambassador for two years and also signed a MoU with the Indian Army for providing them with telecom services for the next three years, all across India.
  • According to Aruna Sundararajan, Secretary, Telecom, in the competitive telecom sector, associating with Mary Kom will help BSNL in improving its brand image and attract more customers.
  • The two-year contract will see boxer Mary Kom endorsing as well as engaging in various promotional events organized by BSNL for its different telecom services.

➢ **Poonam Khetrapal Singh re-elected in World Health Organisation**
  • Poonam Khetrapal Singh was elected as Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia for a second five-year term, World Health Organisation.
  • Singh's candidature was unopposed, as the 11 member countries of WHO South-East Asia Region met at the ongoing Regional Committee session to elect the next Regional Director.
  • She had served as civil servant in India as member of Indian Administrative Services for over two decades. She was the Health Secretary of Punjab.

➢ **Anshula Kant Appointed Managing Director Of SBI**
- Anshula Kant was appointed as the Managing Director of State Bank of India (SBI)
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of Kant as the Managing Director (MD), SBI till the date of her superannuation i.e. September 30, 2020.
- The post of MD, SBI fell vacant after the resignation of B Sriram, who took over as the MD and CEO of IDBI Bank.
- SBI chairman- Rajnish Kumar, Headquarters- Mumbai

➢ **Amitabh Chaudhry of HDFC Life appointed CEO & MD of Axis Bank**
- Amitabh Chaudhry has been appointed managing director and chief executive of Axis Bank for a three-year term. He will take charge on January 1, 2019.
- Chaudhry, 54, will succeed the current MD & CEO Shikha Sharma, whose term ends on December 31.
- The board of private sector lender Axis Bank on Saturday vetted Chaudhry's appointment after getting approval from the Reserve Bank of India.

➢ **Om Prakash Mishra set to become Nepal's new Chief Justice**
- Om Prakash Mishra, who studied law in India, is set to become Nepal's new Chief Justice after the Parliamentary Hearing Committee unanimously endorsed his name for the top judicial post.
- Mishra, the senior-most justice after Justice Deepak Raj Joshee, will assume charge as the Chief Justice after President Bidya Devi Bhandari officially appoints him.
- Khadga Prasad Shrma Oli is the current Prime Minister of Nepal.

➢ **HDFC LIFE appoints Vibha Padalkar as MD & CEO for 3 years**
- The board of HDFC Standard Life appointed Vibha Padalkar, the executive director and Chief financial officer of HDFC Standard Life, as the Managing director and CEO.
- After the exit of Amitabh Chaudhary, who joined Axis Bank on September 8, Padalkar, a board member of HDFC Life, was the front runner for the top job.
- Before joining HDFC Life, she was associated with WNS Global Services, Colgate-Palmoliv (India) and Price water house coopers.
- Padalkar is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

➢ **Prashant Kumar takes charge as SBI Chief Financial officer(CFO)**
- Prashant Kumar has taken charge as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the SBI Bank.
- Before Kumar, Anshula Kant, who has been promoted as Managing Director of SBI, was the CFO.
- Prior to this appointment, Kumar was designated as Deputy Managing Director (HR) & Corporate Development Officer of India's largest bank.
- Kumar has earlier worked as DMD and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Bank.

➢ **Mary Kom named brand ambassador of Tribes India**
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs launched the "Punch Tantra" collection to promote tribal artefacts and named world boxing champion Mary Kom as the brand ambassador of "Tribes India" -- an initiative to promote tribal artefacts.
- The Punch Tantra range of tribal artefacts promoted by the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) includes handlooms and handicrafts which will be promoted by Kom, as per a release.
- Such initiatives would bring great change in the lives of the tribal people, socially and economically.

➢ **Chanda Kochhar quits ICICI Bank**
- Chanda Kochhar, the first woman to head India's second-biggest private sector lender by assets, Quits even as a probe continues into alleged irregularities in granting of some loans during her nineyear chief executive tenure.
- The bank's board accepted her plea for early retirement Thursday, elevating COO Sandeep Bakhshi to the CEO role for five years.
- The enquiry instituted by the board will remain unaffected by this and certain benefits will be subject to the outcome of the enquiry.

➢ **Mukesh Ambani is the richest Indian for 11th consecutive year with $47.3 billion: Forbes**
- Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani has emerged as the richest Indian for the 11th consecutive year with a net worth of $47.3 billion, according to Forbes magazine.
- As per the 'Forbes India Rich List 2018', Wipro Chairman Azim Premji has retained the second spot, adding $2 billion to his wealth at $21 billion; while ArcelorMittal Chairman and CEO Lakshmi Mittal moved a place ahead to the third slot with a net worth of $18.3 billion, increasing his wealth by $1.8 billion.
- Ambani is also the year's biggest gainer, adding $9.3 billion to his wealth amid the continuing success of his Reliance Jio broadband telco service.

➢ **Ramon Laguarta succeeds Pepsico's Indian-origin CEO Indra Nooyi**
- Ramon Laguarta assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer of global beverage giant PepsiCo Wednesday, succeeding India-born Indra Nooyi who had helmed the American company for 12 years.
- She was appointed as CEO in 2006, becoming PepsiCo's fifth chief executive in its 41-year history, and the first woman
- Laguarta will become the sixth CEO in PepsiCo's 53-year history. All have been appointed from within the organization, a testament to PepsiCo's strong bench of talent and succession planning.

➢ **Brett Kavanaugh sworn in as USA Supreme Court justice**
- Brett Kavanaughswone as the 114th Supreme Court justice by one of the narrowest margins in history amid mass protests, ending a vitriolic battle over his nomination and solidifying a conservative majority on the court.
- He was officialy sworn by outgoing chief justice john roberts.
- Kavanaugh, 53, is a veteran of the George W. Bush White House who has served on the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals for a dozen years.

➢ **Suchitra Durai appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand**
- Ms Suchitra Durai (IFS:1988), High Commissioner of India to Kenya, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand.
- Suchitra Durai is an Indian Foreign Service Officer (IFS) of 1988 batch.
- She is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

➢ **Nokia appoints Alia Bhatt as brand ambassador in India**
- Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt as the 'face of Nokia phones' in India.
- As part of the partnership, a print campaign with Bhatt has been initiated already to mark the festive season.
- Earlier this year, the mobile brand, which was considered as the peoples' brand in India about 15 years ago, had appointed Parineeti Chopra as the face of its mobile phones.

➢ **BankBazaar appoints former RBI Deputy Governor S S Mundra as advisor**
- Online financial services marketplace BankBazaar appointed former RBI Deputy Governor (DG) S S Mundra as an advisor to the company.
- Mundra's expertise will help in driving 100 per cent paperless and presence-less financing by the company in India.
- BankBazaar Co-Founder & CEO Adhil Shetty said as digital mode is increasingly becoming the preferred way to transact, there is a greater need for collaboration between fin-tech, regulators, and financial institutions.

➢ **Mary Kom named brand ambassador of 2018 Women's World Boxing Championships**
- Olympic bronze medalist MC Mary Kom was named as the brand ambassador of the 10th edition of the Women's World Championship in New Delhi.
- The World Championships will see close to 300 pugilists from 70 countries across 10 weight categories, the tournament's highest-ever participation, including Olympic medalists, World and European Champions.
- BFI President Ajay Singh said that India will definitely do well at home, who also unveiled the logo and anthem of the championships.

➢ **Atul Goel takes over as MD, CEO of UCO Bank**
- Atul Kumar Goel on assumed charge as Managing Director and CEO of UCO Bank. Prior to this assignment, he was executive director of Union Bank of India.
- Goel takes over from R K Takkar who completed his three-year tenure on November 1, 2018.
- He started his carrier as Chartered Accountant in Allahabad Bank in 1992 and worked various segments including corporate credit, foreign exchange and treasury.

➢ **Justice Ramesh Ranganathan sworn in as Uttarakhand HC chief justice**
- Justice Ramesh Ranganathan was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court. He was administered the oath of office by Governor Baby Rani Maurya at the Raj Bhawan in Dehradun. Justice Ranganathan, a qualified Chartered Accountant and a Company Secretary, has a Law Degree from Bangalore University.
- He enrolled as an advocate in the Andhra Pradesh High Court in 1985. In 2005, he was appointed as an Additional Judge of the High Court, and in 2006, he was appointed a permanent judge of the Andhra Pradesh High Court.
- In July 2016, he was appointed the acting chief justice of the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

➢ **Myntra, Jabong to merge; Ananth Narayanan to continue as CEO**
- Online fashion retailer Myntra integrate its sister company Jabong, which will continue to operate as a separate brand.
- Myntra chief executive officer Ananth Narayanan will lead the Myntra-Jabong team.
- Flipkart had acquired online fashion portal Myntra in 2014 and Myntra had acquired Jabong in 2016.

➢ **Yes Bank Director R. Chandrashekhar quits**
- An independent director at Yes Bank LtdNSE a lender that's been ordered by India's central bank to replace its chief executive officer, resigned saying he was concerned about recent events at the company.
- The Mumbai-based lender has seen a spate of resignations in the past week as it continues its search for a new CEO to replace the incumbent, Rana Kapoor.
- Yes Bank Chandrashekhar has resigned for personal reasons. It said the bank will look for a replacement in the field of information technology and cyber security.

➢ **Centre clears appointment of Chief Justices of 4 High Courts**
  • The Central government cleared the appointment of Chief Justices of High Courts of Allahabad, Patna, Madhya Pradesh and Tripura.
  • Justice Govind Mathur, the most senior judge of the Rajasthan High Court has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court. Justice Mathur is functioning at present, on transfer, in Allahabad HC.
  • Justice A P Sahi, the most senior judge of the Allahabad HC, has been appointed the Chief Justice of Patna HC. He will succeed Justice M R Shah, who has been elevated as a Supreme Court judge.

➢ **Vinod Dasari, CEO and MD of Ashok Leyland, steps down**
  • Vinod Dasari announced his decision to resign from the company citing personal reasons. Dasari will continue to work in the current position until 31 March 2019.
  • The announcement was made during the company's Q2 results, for the quarter ended September where it reported a profit was Rs. 459.7 crore compared to Rs. 334 crore in the same period last year.
  • The Board has meanwhile called upon Dheeraj Hinduja to step in as executive chairman (EC) with immediate effect.

➢ **Ashok Chawla resigns as Yes Bank's non-executive chairman**
  • Ashok Chawla, Yes Bank's non-executive chairman, stepped down with immediate effect.
  • The bank said Chawla has tendered his resignation as he felt the private lender would need a chairman who could devote more time and attention while chief executive Rana Kapoor is on his way out.
  • Chawla is also the chairman of National Stock Exchange since 2016. People has questioned the possibility of a conflict of interest in his dual role.

➢ **Justice Govind Mathur takes oath as Allahabad High Court Chief Justice**
  • Justice Govind Mathur took oath as the chief justice of the Allahabad High Court.
  • The oath was administered by Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik in a simple ceremony in the court room of chief justice.
  • Justice Mathur was initially appointed as a judge in the Rajasthan High Court in September 2004, from where he was transferred to the Allahabad High Court in November 2017.

➢ **Sunil Arora Is Next Election Panel Chief, Takes Charge On Dec 02**
  • Sunil Arora has been appointed the new Chief Election Commissioner by President Ram Nath Kovind.He will take over from OP Rawat on December 02.
  • A 1980 batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre, Mr Arora has worked in ministries and departments such as Finance, Textiles and Planning Commission.
  • He also served as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation during 1999-2002 and CMD, Indian Airlines for five years (two years as additional charge and three years as full charge.

➢ **25. Shri Arvind Saxena appointed as Chairman, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**
  • The President has appointed Shri Arvind Saxena as Chairman, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
  • The term of his appointment will be till 07.08.2020 when he attains the age of 65 years or till further orders whichever is earlier.
  • Shri Arvind Saxena joined UPSC as a Member on May 8, 2015, and has been performing duties of the post of Chairman, UPSCsince June 20, 2018.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

➢ **PM addresses book release event to mark one year in office of Vice President Venkaiah Naidu**

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, released the book "Moving On, Moving Forward – A Year in Office" to mark one year in office of Vice President Venkaiah Naidu.

- The Prime Minister recalled that when former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee wanted to include Shri Venkaiah Naidu in his Cabinet, then Venkaiahji had requested for the Rural Development portfolio.

- The Prime Minister said that the Pradhan Mantri Gram SadakYojana came into being due to the efforts of Shri Venkaiah Naidu.

➢ **Vice Prez releases biography of Anumolu Ramakrishna**

- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released a biography of late Anumolu Ramakrishna, a pioneer in the application of innovative systems and construction techniques in the Indian constuction sector.

- The biography titled 'Building a Legacy' is authored by city-based Chartered Accountant V Pattabhi Ram.

- Ramakrishna, former president and Managing Director at Larsen and Toubro, was posthumously awarded Padma Bhushan in 2014.

➢ **Northern Irish Author Anna Burns Wins 2018's Man Booker Prize for her novel Milkman**

- Milkman" by writer Anna Burns scooped the 2018 Man Booker Prize , with the Northern Irish writer winning the literary award for her third full-length novel.

- Set in an unnamed city during the bloody "Troubles" of Northern Ireland, the "Milkman" tells the coming-of-age story of a young girl's affair with an older man.

- As winner, the 56-year-old writer, who was born in Belfast, received the award from Prince Charles' wife Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, as well as 50,000 pounds ($65,900).

➢ **Stephen Hawking's final book offers "brief answers to big questions"**

- Stephen Hawking's final work, which tackles issues from the existence of God to the potential for time travel, was launched   by his children, who helped complete the book after the British astrophysics giant's death.

- Hawking was forever being asked the same things and started work on "Brief Answers to the Big Questions" last year -- but did not finish it before he died in March, aged 76.

- It has been completed by the theoretical physicist's family and academic colleagues, with material drawn from his vast personal archive.

➢ **AR Rahman launches biography 'Notes of a Dream'**

- Oscar-winning musician AR Rahman released his biography, Notes of a Dream: The Authorized Biography of AR Rahman.

- Written by author Krishna Trilok, the book is in association with Landmark and Penguin Random House.

- Notes of a Dream has been a journey for me that took me to those corners of my life which have remained candid for a long time. The insightful conversations with Krishna Trilok have unravelled parts of my creative and personal life which are not known to many," Rahman said.

➢ **Mansi Gulati's book 'Yoga And Mindfulness' launched by VP Venkaiah Naidu**

- Famous yoga exponent and author, Mansi Gulati launched her book, "Yoga and Mindfulness".

- The book was launched by the Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu.

- It helps in understanding the philosophy behind yoga and also explains how various asanas are performed, with the help of pictures. It also lists the benefits of every asana.

➢ **Dr Jitendra Singh releases book 'Radio Kashmir – In Times of Peace & War'**

- The Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (I/C), Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh released a book titled 'Radio Kashmir – In Times of Peace & War' written by Dr Rajesh Bhat

- Dr Jitendra Singh congratulated the author of the book and appreciated his efforts for writing a book on Jammu and Kashmir after extensive and in-depth research.

- The book titled 'Radio Kashmir – In Times of Peace & War' has emanated from an extensive and intensive research by the author on the significant role played by the media in safeguarding the strategic interest of the Government.

OBITUARIES

➢ **Padma Bhushan economist VS Vyas passes away**

- Padma Bhushan awardee and noted agricultural economist Vijay Shankar Vyas passed away after a brief illness

- The economist was the director of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Jaipur.

- He was also a senior advisor in the World Bank's agriculture and rural development department. Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje and former chief minister Ashok Gehlot condoled Vyas's demise.

➢ **Former Odisha minister Dolagobinda Pradhan passes away**

- Veteran freedom fighter and former Odisha Minister Dolagobinda Pradhan died at his residence in Bhubaneswar on Monday after a brief illness

- Pradhan, who was elected to the state Assembly twice from Cuttack Sadar constituency in 1980 and 1990, was a minister from 1989 to 1990.

- Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's ideals, he had left school in 1942 and joined the Quit India movement. He was also jailed during the freedom movement.

- He was 93 and is survived by wife, four sons and three daughters.

➢ **Former BCCI president Biswanath Dutt passes away**

- Former BCCI president Biswanath Dutt, best known in Indian cricket fraternity as Jagmohan Dalmiya's mentor, passed away Monday after suffering from acute lung infection.

- Dutt was the BCCI president in 1989 after a six-year stint as the vice-president of the parent body from 1982-88.

- He was 92. He is survived by his daughter and son Subrata Dutta, who is the senior vice-president of All India Football Federation.

➢ **Renowned harmonium exponent Pandit Tulsidas Passed away**

- Legendary harmonium exponent Pandit Tulsidas Borkar passed away after a brief illness He was 83.He was suffering from chest infection and had difficulties in breathing.

- He was honoured with the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademic Award, 2005, among many other national and international honours.

- He also conducted extensive research to improve the tonal quality, tuning and other technical aspects of the instrument, which gave different visual and sound dimensions to the harmonium.

➢ **Microsoft co-founder, philanthropist Paul Allen dies at 65**

- Paul G. Allen, who co-founded Microsoft who invested in conservation, space travel, arts and culture and professional sports, died. He was 65.

- He died in Seattle from complications of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, his company Vulcan Inc. announced.

- Gates and Allen became billionaires when Microsoft was thrust onto the throne of technology.

➢ **Former Uttarakhand chief minister ND Tiwari dies on his 93rd birthday**

- Former Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand chief minister Narayan Dutt Tiwari died of a cardiac arrest in Delhi. He was 93.
- He is the only politician to have served as chief minister of two states.
- Tiwari was Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh from 1976-77, 1984-85, and then from 1988-89. and later became the chief minister of Uttarakhand when Congress came to power in the hill state carved out of Uttar Pradesh.
- This time, Tiwari was able to complete his five-year-term from 2002. He continues to hold the distinction of having been the only Uttarakhand CM who has done so.

➢ **Former Delhi chief minister and BJP leader Madan Lal Khurana passes away**

- Former Delhi chief minister Madan Lal Khurana passed away here after a prolonged illness.
- A veteran of the BJP, Khurana was the chief minister of Delhi from 1993 to 1996 and was appointed the governor of Rajasthan in 2004.
- Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari expressed grief over Khurana's death, saying his contribution to the development of Delhi would be remembered.

➢ **Senior composer & lyricist Yashwant Dev passes away in Mumbai**

- Senior composer and lyricist Yashwant Dev passed away in Mumbai early this morning. He was 92.
- He had composed and written many popular Marathi songs. He had also served in Music section of All India Radio, Mumbai.
- He was honored with many awards including Gan-samradni Lata Mangeshkar Award and Gadima puraskar.

➢ **Former SC Judge Justice S N Phukan Passes Away**

- Former Supreme Court judge Justice S N Phukan passed away at Jorhat, Assam. He was aged 81 years
- He was a judge at the Supreme Court from January 28, 1999 to April 1, 2002.
- He joined the Meghalaya government in July, 1970 and worked in the Law Department. He was also appointed as the Law Secretary and Legal Remembrancer in January, 1976.

➢ **1971 war hero Kuldip Singh Chandpuri, who inspired Border movie, dies**

- Kuldip Singh Chandpuri was suffering from cancer and died at a Punjab hospital
- Chandpuri was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra for his leadership during the Battle of Longewala
- Chandpuri reitred as a brigadier in the Indian Army.
- Kuldip Singh Chandpuri was a major in the Indian Army during the war of 1971. The war, which saw India defeat Pakistan, led to the liberation of Bangladesh.

➢ **Oscar-winning screenwriter William Goldman dies at 87**

- The Oscar-winning screenwriter and best-selling author William Goldman, known for "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and "All The President's Men", died. He was 87.
- According to The Washington Post, Goldman, who also wrote the novels and then the screenplays for Marathon Man (1976), Magic (1978) and the much-loved.
- The cause of death was complications from colon cancer and pneumonia, his daughter, Jenny Goldman, told the newspaper.

COUNTRIES | CAPITAL | CURRENCY

S.No	Countries	Capital	Currency
1	Japan	Tokyo	Japanese Yen
2	Sweden	Stokholm	Swedish Krona
3	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Sri Lankan Rupee
4	Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka
5	Somalia	Mogadishu	Shilling
6	Iran	Tehran	Iranian Rial
7	Norway	Oslo	Norwegian Krone
8	South Korea	Seoul	South Korean Won
9	Germany	Berlin	Euro
10	Russia	Moscow	Ruble
11	China	Beijing	Renminbi
12	Indonesia	Jakarta	Indonesian Rupiah
13	Pakistan	Islamabad	Pakistani Rupee
14	Myanmar	Naypyidaw	Burmese kyat
15	Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Saudi Riyal
16	Kenya	Nairobi	Kenyan shilling
17	Kazakhstan	Astana	Kazakhstani tenge
18	Uzbekistan	Tashkent	Uzbekistani so'm
19	Australia	Canberra	Australian Dollar
20	Peru	Lima	Sol
21	Iceland	Reykjavik	Icelandic króna
22	Philippines	Manila	Philippine peso
23	Vietnam	Hanoi	Vietnamese dong
24	Indonesia	Jakarta	Indonesian Rupiah
25	Belarus	Minsk	Belarusian ruble
26	Iraq	Baghdad	Iraqi dinar

STATE | CAPITAL | CHIEF MINISTER | GOVERNOR

State	Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad (*de jure*) Amaravati (*de facto*)	N.Chandrababu Naidu	E.S Lakshmi Narasimhan
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	Brigadier Dr BD Mishra
Assam	Dispur	Sarbananda Sonowal	Jagdish Mukhi
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Satya Pal Malik
Chattisgarh	Raipur	Dr. Raman Singh	Balram Dass Tandon
Goa	Panaji	Manohar Parrikar	Mridula Sinha
Gujarat	Gandhinagar	Vijay Rupani	Om Prakash Kohli
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	Kaptan Singh Solanki
Himachal Pradesh	Simla, Dharamsala (Second Capital in Winter)	Virbhadra Singh	Acharya Dev Vrat
Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar (Summer) Jammu (Winter)	Mehbooba Mufti	Narinder Nath Vohra
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Raghubar Das	Draupadi Murmu
Karnataka	Bangalore	Siddaramaiah	Vajubhai Vala
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	P. Sathasivam
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chouhan	Om Prakash Kohli
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Devendra Fadnavis	Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao
Manipur	Imphal	N. Biren Singh	Najma Heptulla
Meghalaya	Shillong	Dr. Mukul Sangma	Ganga Prasad
Mizoram	Aizawl	Lal Thanhawla	Nirbhay Sharma
Nagaland	Kohima	T. R. Zeliang	Padmanabha Balkrishna Acharya
Odisha	Bhubaneswar	Naveen Patnaik	S.C. Jamir
Punjab	Chandigarh	Amarinder Singh	V. P. Singh Badnore
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Vasundhara Raje	Kalyan Singh
Sikkim	Gangtok	Pawan Kumar Chamling	Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Edappadi K. Palaniswami	Banwarilal Purohit
Telangana	Hyderabad	K Chandrasekhar Rao	E.S Lakshmi Narasimhan
Tripura	Agartala	Manik Sarkar	Tathagata Roy
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Yogi Adityanath	Ram Naik
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Trivendra Singh Rawat	Krishan Kant Paul
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamta Benerjee	Keshari Nath Tripathi

Now let's have a look at the Union Territories. It is important to note that UT have a different governing structure. They are under direct control of the central government and the President of India appoints an Administrator or Lieutenant-Governor for each UT. Delhi and Puducherry are somewhat different as they get to choose their own elected legislative assemblies and the executive councils of ministers with partially state-like function. (Arvind Kejriwal and V. Narayanaswamy are the current Chief Ministers of Delhi and Puducherry respectively)

Union Territories	Capital	Head	Position
Andaman and Nicobar Island	Port Blair	Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi	Lieutenant Governor
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	V. P. Singh Badnore	Administrator
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	Praful Khoda Patel	Administrator
Daman and Diu	Daman	Praful Khoda Patel	Administrator
Delhi	Delhi	Anil Baijal	Lieutenant Governor
Lakshadweep	Kavaratti	Farooq Khan	Administrator
Puducherry	Puducherry	Kiran Bedi	Lieutenant Governor

AWARDS

1. Bharat Ratna – It is the highest civilian award of the India. The award was given for outstanding achievements in the **arts, literature, science and public services** but the government expanded the criteria to include **"any field of human endeavour"**. The number of annual awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.

2. Padma Awards – **Padma Vibhushan**, **Padma Bhushan** and **Padma Shri** awards are for **exceptional and distinguished service in any field** including service rendered by Government servants.

3. Gallantry Awards – **Param Vir Chakra (PVC), Ashok Chakra, Shaurya Chakra** are given for appreciating the **brave and gallant**.

4. Nobel Prize – The Nobel Prize is widely regarded as the most prestigious award available in the fields of **literature, medicine, physics, chemistry, peace,** and**economic**s.

5. Booker Prize – **Literature** It is an annual award for the best original novel, written in the English language, and published in the UK literary award.

6. Vyas Samman – **Literature** Vyas Samman is awarded annually by the K.K. Birla Foundation in recognition of the Hindi literary work published in past 10 years.

7. Moorti Devi Award – **Literature** The Moortidevi Award is an annual literary award in India presented by the Bharatiya Jnanpith organization for a work which emphasizes Indian philosophy and culture.

8. Saraswati Samman – **Literature** The award was instituted in 1991 by the K. K. Birla Foundation. It is an annual award given for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any 22 Indian languages.

9. Jnanpith award – **Literature** The award was instituted in 1961 and it is It is presented by the Bharatiya Jnanpith, a trust founded by the Sahu Jain family, the publishers of the newspaper The Times of India. It is an annual award given for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any 22 Indian languages.

10. Bihari Puraskar – **Literature** Bihari Puraskar is a literary award instituted by K. K. Birla Foundation. The award is named after the famous Hindi poet Bihari and is awarded to an outstanding work published in Hindi or Rajasthani by a Rajasthani writer.

11. The Oscar/Academy Awards – **Films** This is an annual American awards ceremony honoring cinematic achievements in the film industry.

12. Dadasaheb Phalke Award – **Cinema/Films** The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest award in cinema. It is presented annually at the National Film Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals, an organisation set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

13. Arjuna Award – Outstanding performance from the sports persons in **sports and games**. The Government has modified the format of Arjuna Award very recently and as per the revised schematic guidelines a sports person must have very good consistent performances for the previous 3 years at the international level to be considered as eligible for the Award.

14. Dronacharya Award – **Eminent coaches of any particular sport** The award is named after the very famous archery coach, mentioned in the epic of India known as the Mahabharata. This very award is not related with the sports persons who are still playing in the field; instead this is related to those eminent coaches of any particular sport.

15. Dhyan Chand Award – The award that is given to the veteran sports persons of India for their lifetime achievement in their respective field of sport is named as the Dhyan Chand Award for Life Time Achievement in **Sports and Games**.

16. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award – The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna is the highest honour bestowed to a sports person for his/her achievements in India.

17. Stirling Prize – **Architecture** The Royal Institute of British Architects Stirling Prize is a British prize for excellence in architecture.

18. Aga Khan Award – **Architecture** The Aga Khan Award for Architecture (AKAA) is an architectural prize established by Aga Khan IV in 1977. It aims to identify and reward architectural concepts that successfully address the needs and aspirations of Islamic societies in the fields of contemporary design, social housing, community development and improvement.

19. Pritzker Prize – **Architecture** The Pritzker Architecture Prize is awarded annually "to honor a living architect.

20. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize – **Science & Technology** The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology (SSB) is a science award in India given annually by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for notable and outstanding research, applied or fundamental, in biology, chemistry, environmental science, engineering, mathematics, medicine and Physics.

21. Kalinga Prize – **Science** The Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science is an award given by UNESCO for exceptional skill in presenting scientific ideas to lay people.

22. Grammy Award – **Music** A Grammy Award, or Grammy, is an accolade by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences of the United States to recognize outstanding achievement in the music industry.

23. Abel Prize – **Mathematics** The Abel Prize is an international prize awarded annually by the Government of Norway to one or more outstanding mathematicians.

24. International Gandhi Peace Prize – This award is given to individuals and institutions for their contributions towards **social, economic and political revolution through non-violence and Gandhian philosophy**. The award carries Rs. 10 million in cash.

25. Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award – This is for Excellence in **Public Administration, Academics and Management.**

26. Green Star Awards – The Green Star Awards recognize those who have made extraordinary efforts to respond to **environmental disasters** around the world.

27. Magsaysay Award – **Public Service, Leadership, Journalism, Literature, creative arts** and **international understanding.**

28. Pulitzer Prize – The Pulitzer Prize is an award for achievements in **newspaper** and **online journalism, literature,** and **musical composition** in the United States.

29. Sahitya Akademi Award – **Books in Indian Languages and English.**

30. Manthan Award – It is an initiative in India to recognize the best practices in **e-Content and Creativity.**

31. FiFi Awards – The FiFi Awards honor the fragrance **industry's creative achievements.**

32. Sangeet-Natak Akademi Award – **Music, dance** and **Drama.**

33. BAFTA Awards – **Television, Films, Video Games** and **Animation.**

INDIAN RAILWAYS/ METRO IN INDIA

➢ As per circular issued by the **railway board,** the passengers **in the reserved coaches can only sleep between 10 pm & 6 am** to allow others to sit in the seats for the rest of the time.
➢ **India** received its **first High Horsepower Locomotive** with the bodyshell of **12000 HP loco from Alstom France at Kolkata port.**
➢ **DMRC** declared as the world's first green metro after it added a green certification for all its major buildings & installations.
➢ Indian Railways achieves major landmark in the field of Eco friendly fuel technologies at **Indian Railways**
➢ **Organization for Alternate Fuel (IROAF)** has beenawarded the **coveted National level "Golden Peacock**
➢ **Award for the Year 2017 for Eco-Innovation" for substitution of fossil fuels (Diesel)** by environmentfriendly CNG in DEMU passenger train services.
➢ **Indian Railways** launched its **first 1,600 HP solar powered Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) train** with a unique facility of Battery Bank from Safdarjung station, New Delhi.
➢ **Indian Railways launched** an integrated **mobileapplication** to cater to various passenger requirements over & above ticket booking. **The app is called Rail SAARTHI & was launched by Railway Minister.**
➢ **Central Railway taken** a step towards **womenempowerment by appointing an all-female work**staff at the suburban Matunga station. Matunga station has now become the first such ladies special station.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1.	11th July	World Population Day	Family Planning- Empowering People, Developing Nations.
2.	15th July	World Youth Skills Day	Skills for All
3.	28th July	World Hepatitis Day	Eliminate Hepatitis
4.	29th July	International Tiger Day	Fresh Ecology for Tiger's Protection
5.	30th July	World Day against Trafficking in Persons	Act to Protect and Assist Trafficked Persons
6.	7th August	National Handloom Day	
7.	10th August	International Biodiesel Day	
8.	12th August	International Youth Day	Youth Building Peace
9.	19th August	World Humanitarian Day	#Not a Target
10.	29th August	International Day Against Nuclear Tests	
11.	29th August	National Sports Day	
12.	5th September	National Teacher's day	
13.	14th September	National Hindi Divas	
14.	16th September	International Day for the Preservation of Ozone Layer	Caring for all life under the sun
15.	21st September	International Day of Peace	Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All
16.	27th September	World Tourism Day	Sustainable Tourism- A Tool for Development
17.	28th September	World Rabies Day	Rabies: Zero by 30
18.	28th September	World Maritime Day	Connecting Ships, Ports and People
19.	30th September	International Translation Day	
20.	1st October	International Day of Older Persons	Stepping into the Future: Tapping the Talents, Contributions and Participation of Older Persons in the Society
21.	11th October	International Day of the Girl Child	Empower Girls: Before, during and after the Conflict

22.	13th October	International Day for Disaster Reduction	Home Safe Home: Reducing Exposure, Reducing Displacement
23.	15th October	International Day of Rural Women	Challenges and Opportunities in climate-resilient agriculture for gender equality and empowerment of rural women and girls.
24.	16th October	World Food Day	Change the future of migration. Invest in food security and rural development.
25.	17th October	International day for Eradication of Poverty	Answering the call of October 17 to end poverty.
26.	21st October	Police Commemoration Day	
27.	24th October	World Development Information Day	
28.	24th October	56th Raising Day of ITBP	
29.	24th October	United Nations Day	
30.	24th October	World Polio Day	
31.	27th October	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	Discover, remember and share
32.	31st October	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas	
33.	27th October	Infantry Day	

INDEX/REPORTS

S.No	Report/Index	Organisation
1	World Economic Outlook	IMF (International Monetary Fund)
2	World Happiness Report	Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
3	Ease of Doing Business	IBRD (World Bank)
4	Global Hunger Index report	IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute)
5	Global Innovation Index	Cornell University INSEAD & the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
6	World Intellectual Property Report (WIPR	WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)
7	Global Competitiveness Report (GCR)	WEF (World Economic Forum)
8	Global Environment Outlook	UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)
9	Global Corruption Report (GCR)	Transparency International
10	World Employment & Social Outlook	ILO (International Labour Organization)
11	World Development Report	IBRD (World Bank)
12	Asian Development Outlook	ADB (Asian Development bank)
13	Global education monitoring Report	UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization)
14	World Cities Report	UN-Habitat
15	World Energy Outlook (WEO)	International Energy Agency (IEA)

IMPORTANT NATIONAL PARKS IN INDIA

State	National Parks
Assam	Rajiv Gandhi Orange National Park
	Dibru-Saikhowa National Park
	Kaziranga National Park
	Manas National Park
	Nameri National Park
Arunachal Pradesh	Mouling National Park
	Namdapha National Park
Andhra Pradesh	Sri venkateshwar National Park
Bihar	Valmiki National Park
Chattisgarh	Guru Ghasi Das National Park
	Indravati National Park
	Kanger Valley National Park
Gujarat	Bansda National Park
	Blackbuck National Park
	Gir Forest National Park
	Marine National Park
Goa	Bhagwan Mahavir National Park
Himachal Pradesh	Pin Valley National Park
	Great Himalayan National Park
	Inderkilla National Park
	Khirganga National Park
	Simbalbara National Park
Haryana	Sultanpur National Park
	Kalesar National Park
Jammu & Kashmir	Hemis National Park
	Kishtwar National Park
	Salim Ali National Park
	Dachigam National Park
Jharkhand	Betta National Park
Karnataka	Anshi National Park
	Bandipur National Park
	Bannerghatta National Park
	Kudremukh National Park
	Nagarhole National Park
Kerala	Eravikulam National Park
	Anamudi Shola National Park
	Mathikettan National Park
	Pampaclum National Park
	Periyar National Park
	Silent Valley National Park

Meghalaya	Balphakram National Park
	Nokrek National Park
Maharashtra	Chandoli National Park
	Navegaon National Park
	Tadoba National Park
	Gugamal national park
Madhya Pradesh	Kanha National Park
	Madhav National Park
	Mandla Plant Fossils National Park
	Panna National Park
	Pench National Park
Mizoram	Mountain National Park
	Murlen National Park
	Phawngpui Blue National Park
Manipur	Keibul Lamjao National Park
Nagaland	Intanki National Park
Odisha	Bhitarkanika National Park
	Simlipal National Park
Rajasthan	Sariska National Park
	Ranthambore National Park
	Darrah National Park
	Desert National Park
	Keoladeo National Park
Sikkim	Khangchendzonga National Park
Tamil Nadu	Guindy National Park
	Indira Gandhi National Park
	Mukurthi National Park
	Mudumalai National Park
	Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park
Telangana	Mrugavani National Park
Tripura	Bison (Rajbari) National Park
	Clouded Leopard National Park
Uttar Pradesh	Dudhwa National Park
Uttarakhand	Gangotri National Park
	Jim Corbett National Park
	Valley of Flowers National Park
West Bengal	Neora Valley National Park
	Singalila National Park
	Buxa National Park
	Sundarbans National Park

IMPORTANT POWER PLANTS IN INDIA

States	Power Plants
Assam	Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station
Andhra Pradesh	Sri Damodram Sanjeevaian Thermal Power Station
	Simhadri Solar Power Plant Station
Bihar	Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Station
	Barauni Thermal Power Station
Chattisgarh	Sipat Thermal Power Plant
	Hasdeo Thermal Power Station
	Bhilai Expansion Power Plan
Gujarat	Akrimota Thermal Power Station
	Mundra Thermal Power Station
	Ukai Thermal Power Station
Himachal Pradesh	Girinagar Hydel Project
	Binwa Hydel Project
	Rangtong Hydel Project
	Baner & Neugal Project
Haryana	Rajiv Gandhi Thermal Power Station
	Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Station
	Gorakhpur Atomic Power Station
Jharkhand	Chandrapura Thermal Power Station
	Koderma Thermal Power Station
	Bokaro Thermal Power Station
Kerala	Brahmapuram Power Station
	Kayamkulam Power Station
Karnataka	Kakrapar Nuclear Power Plant
	Raichur Thermal Power Station
	Udupi Thermal Power Plant
	Bellary Thermal Power Station
Maharashtra	Tarapur Atomic Power Station
	Tirora Thermal Power Station
	Amravati Thermal Power Plant
Madhya Pradesh	Soran Ultra Mega Power project
	Amarkantak Thermal Power Station
	Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station
	Sant Singaji Thermal Power Plant
	Satpura Thermal Power Station
Nagaland	Dikhu Hydro Electric Power Plant
Odisha	Talcher Thermal Power Station
Punjab	Guru Gobind Singh Super Thermal Power Plant
Rajasthan	Chhabra Thermal Power Station
	Suratgarh Power Station
Sikkim	Ranjit Hydro electric Power Project
Tripura	Palatane Thermal Power Plant

Tamil Nadu	Kundakulam Nuclear Power Plant
	Neyveli Thermal Plant
	Tuticorin Thermal Plant
Uttarakhand	Chibro Power Plant
	Khodri Power Plant
	Chilla Power Plant
Uttar Pradesh	Narora Atomic Power Station
	Rihand Thermal Power Station
	Anpara Thermal Power Station
West Bengal	Mejia Thermal Power Station
	Farakka Super Thermal Power Station
	Kolaghat Thermal Power Station
	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station
	Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station

CLASSICAL DANCES OF INDIA

Dance	State
Bharatnatyam	Tamil Nadu & Karnataka
Kathak	North India
Kuchipudi	Andhra Pradesh
Kathakali	Kerala
Odissi	Orissa
Manipuri	Manipur
Ghoomer	Rajasthan
Gaudiya Nritya	West Bengal
Sallriya	Assam

FOLK DANCES OF INDIA

Dance	State
Chhau	Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal
Bihu	Assam
Dandiya	Gujarat
Garba	Gujarat
Gatka	Punjab
Changu	Odisha and Andhra Pradesh
Gaur	Madhya Pradesh
Karagam	Tamil Nadu
Raas	Gujarat
Dumhar	Kashmir
Gair	Rajasthan

UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

Organisations	Headquarters
UNO	New York
UNESCO	Paris
UNICEF	New York
ILO	Geneva
UNCTAD	Geneva
WHO	Geneva
IMF	Washington DC
WB	Washington DC
NATO	Brussels
SAARC	Kathmandu
ASEAN	Jakarta
OECD	Paris
ICJ	Hague
APEC	Singapore
World Intellectual Property Organisation	Geneva
IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)	Vienna
Amnesty International	London
UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Dev. Org)	Vienna
International Maritime Organization	London
Transparency International	Berlin
Commonwealth of Nations	London
WMO (World Meteorological Org)	Geneva
Food&Agricultural Organization	

IMPORTANT AIRPORTS IN INDIA

Airport	City	State
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport	Kolkata	West Bengal
Indira Gandhi International Airport	New Delhi	New Delhi
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport	Hyderabad	Telangana
Swami Vivekananda Airport	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
Biju Patnaik International Airport	Bhubaneshwar	Odisha
Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport	Guwahati	Assam
Kempegowda International Airport	Bangalore	Karnataka

Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
Raja Bhoj International Airport	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
Maharana Pratap Airport	Udaipur	Rajasthan
Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport	Amritsar	Punjab
Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Airport	Patna	Bihar
Birsa Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
Bagdogra Airport	Bagdogra	West Bengal
Rajahmundry Airport	rajahmundry	Andhra Pradesh
Kandla Airport	Kandla	Gujarat
Tezu Airport	Tezu	Arunachal Pradesh
Lengpui Airport	Aizwal	Mizoram
Veer Savarkar International Airport	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar
Silchar Airport	Silchar	Assam
Zaruki International Airport	Shillong	Meghalaya
Sonari Airport	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand
Agatti Aerodrome	Agatti	Lakshadweep

NICK NAMES OF IMPORTANT INDIAN PLACES

Nick Name	City Name
City Of Seven Islands	Mumbai
Pink City	Jaipur
Space City	Bengalore
Golden City	Amritsar
Manchester Of India	Ahmedabad
Silicon Valley Of India	Bangalore
Gateway Of India	Mumbai
City Of Festivals	Madurai
Queen Of Arabian Sea	Cochin
Garden City Of India	Bangalore
Electronic City Of India	Bangalore
Deccan Queen	Pune
City Of Buildings	Kolkata
Egg Bowls Of Asia	Andhra Pradesh
Manchester Of The South	Coimbatore
City Of Nawabs	Lucknow
Venice Of The East	Cochin
Queen Of The Mountains	Mussoorie
Hollywood Of India	Mumbai
City Of Weavers	Panipat
Steel City Of India	Jamshedpur

City Of Temples	Varanasi
Boston Of India	Ahmedabad
Switzerland Of India	Kashmir
Pittsburg Of India	Jamshedpur
Abode Of The God	Allahabad
Garden Of Spices Of India	Kerala
Heaven Of India	J&K
City Of Lakes	Srinagar
State Of Five Rivers	Punjab
City Of Castles	Kolkata
Manchester Of The North	Kanpur
Dakshin Ganga	Godavari
Old Ganga	Godavari
Sorrow Of Bengal	Damodar
Sacred River	Ganga
Blue Mountains	Nilgiri
City Of Rallies	New Delhi
Soya Region	Madhya Pradesh
Sorrow Of Bihar	Kosi

TEMPLES IN INDIA

Temple	Place
Badrinath Temple	Chamoli district, Uttarakhand
Golden Temple	Amritsar
The Konark Sun Temple	Puri district of Odisha
Gangotri Temple	Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand
Brihadeeswara Temple	Thanjavur city of Tamil Nadu
Siddhivinayak Temple	Prabha Devi, Mumbai
Somnath Temple	Saurashtra (Gujarat)
Vaishno Devi Mandir	J&K, near Katra
Kedarnath Temple)	Garhwal area (Uttarakhand)
Ramanathaswamy Temple	
Sanchi Stupa	Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh
Kashi Vishwanath Temple	Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
Meenakshi Temple	Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
Lingaraja Temple	Orissa
Lord Jagannath Temple	Puri (Orissa)
Yamunotri Temple	Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand
Tirupati Balaji	Tirumala (Andhra Pradesh)

Khajuraho Temple	Madhya Pradesh
Akshardham Temple	Delhi
Dwarkadhish Temple	Dwarka city (Gujarat)
Shirdi Sai Baba Temple	Shirdi town of Maharashtra
Gomateshwara Temple	Shravanabelagola town of Karnataka

IMPORTANT REVOLUTIONS IN INDIA

Revolution	Field
Green Revolution	Food grains
Blue Revolution	Fish Production
Black Revolution	Petroleum Production
Golden Revolution	Fruits/Overall Horticulture development/Honey Production
Grey Revolution	Fertilizer
Golden Fiber Revolution	Jute Production
Yellow Revolution	Oil Seeds production
Pink Revolution	Onion production/Pharmaceutical (India)/ Prawn production
White Revolution	Milk/Dairy production
Red Revolution	Meat & Tomato Production
Silver Revolution	Egg/Poultry Production
Silver Fiber Revolution	Cotton
Evergreen Revolution	Overall development of Agriculture.

STADIUMS IN INDIA

Stadium	Location
Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium	New Delhi
Feroz Shah Kotla	New Delhi
Dhyan Chand National Stadium	New Delhi
Brabourne Stadium	Mumbai
Eden Gardens	Kolkata
Green Park	Kanpur
M.Chinnaswamy Stadium	Bangalore
Barabati Stadium	Cuttack
MA Chidambaram Stadium	Chennai
Madhavrao Scindia Cricket Ground	Rajkot
Rajiv Gandhi Port Silver Jubilee Stadium	Visakhapatnam
Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium	Hyderabad
Greenfield International Stadium	Thiruvananthapuram

Barkatullah Khan Stadium	Jodhpur
Barsapara Cricket Stadium	Guwahati
Sardar Vallabhai Patel Motera	Ahmedabad
Wankhede Stadium	Mumbai
Moin-ul-Haq Stadium	Patna
Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Cricket Stadium	Guwahati
Vidarbha CA Ground	Nagpur
Sawai Mansingh Stadium	Jaipur
Indira Gandhi Stadium	Vijayawada

SOME IMPORTANT FACTS RELATED TO CENSUS

Slogan - Our census, Our Future
India's 1st Census - 1872
2011 Census is - 15th Census
Total Population - 1,21,01,93,422
India's Rank in population - 2nd with 17.5% (1st China with 19%)
Most Populous State - Uttar Pradesh
Least Populous State – Sikkim
Most Literate State - Kerala (93.9%)
Least Literate State - Bihar (63.82%)
National Sex Ratio - Female : Male (940 : 1000)
Highest Sex Ratio (State) - Kerala (1084 : 1000)
Lowest Sex Ratio (State) - Haryana
Highest Sex Ratio (UT) - Puducherry
Least Sex Ratio (UT) - Daman & Diu (61 : 1000)
Literacy of Male - 82.14%
Literacy of Female - 65.46%
Population Growth Rate - 17.64%
Highest fertility Rate - Meghalaya
Most literate Union Territory - Lakshadweep (92.2%)
Least literate Union Territory - Dadra Nagar & Haweli
Most Literate District - Serechhip (Mizoram)
Least Literate District - Dadra Naga & Haveli
Highest Density of Population - Bihar (1102 sq.km)
Lowest Density of Population - Arunachal Pradesh (17)
Total number of districts - 640
Highest Populous District - Thane (Mumbai)
100% Literacy District - Palakkad (Kerala)
100% Banking State - Kerala
100% Banking District - Palakkad (Kerala)
Density of Population in India - 382 sq. km
Increase in population (during 2001-2011) - 181 million

IMPORTANT WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

State	Wildlife Sanctuary
Assam	Amchang WLS
	Chakrashila WLS
	Dihing Patkai WLS
	East Karbi Anglong WLS
	North Karbi Anglong WLS
	Nambor WLS
Andhra Pradesh	Coringa WLS
	Kolleru WLS
	Nellapattu WLS
	Pulicat Lake WLS
	Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarjuna SagarSrisailam) WLS
Bihar	Gautam Budha WLS
	Kaimur WLS
	Pant (Rajgir) WLS
	Valmiki WLS
Chattisgarh	Badalkhol WLS
	Bhairamgarh WLS
	Bhoramdev WLS
	Udanti Wild Buffalo WLS
Gujarat	Jambugodha WLS
	Jessore WLS
	Kutch Desert WLS
	Mitiyala WLS
	Porbandar Lake WLS
	Rampara Vidi WLS
	Ratanmahal WLS
	Shoolpaneswar (Dhumkhal) WLS
	Thol Lake WLS Wild Ass WLS
Goa	Bondla WLS
	Madei WLS
	Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) WLS
	Netravali WLS
Himachal Pradesh	Bandli WLS
	Daranghati WLS
	Dalra WLS
	Dhauladhar WLS
	Nargu WLS
	Pong Dam Lake WLS
	Shilli WLS Talra WLS

Haryana	Bhindawas WLS
	Kalesar WLS
	Khaparwas WLS
J&K	Gulmarg WLS
	Limber WLS
	Nandini WL
Jharkhand	Lawalong WLS
	Palkot WLS
	Parasnath WLS
Karnataka	Arabithittu WLS
	Attiveri WLS
	Bhadra WLS
	Bhimgad WLS
	Brahmagiri WLS
	Cauvery WLS
	Nugu WLS
	Pushpagiri WLS
	Ranganathittu Bird WLS
	Sharavathi Valley WLS
	Someshwara WLS
Kerala	Aralam WLS
	Chimmony WLS
	Idukki WLS
	Malabar WLS
	Mangalavanam Bird WLS
	Neyyar WLS
	Periyar WLS
	Thattekad Bird WLS
Maharashtra	Aner Dam WLS
	Bhamragarh WLS
	Bhimashankar WLS
	Great Indian Bustard WLS
	Jaikwadi WLS
	Koyana WLS
	Nagzira WLS
	Painganga WLS
	Radhanagari WLS
	Sagareshwar WLS
	Tipeshwar WLS
	Tungareshwar WLS

Madhya Pradesh	Bori WLS
	Gandhi Sagar WLS
	Ghatigaon WLS
	Ken Gharial WLS
	Narsighgarh WLS
	National Chambal WLS
	Orcha WLS
	Kuno WLS
	Sardarpur WLS
	Son Gharial WLS
Manipur	YangoupokpiLokchao WLS
Mizoram	Dampa WLS (TR)
	Ngengpui WLS
	Pualreng WLS
	Tokalo WLS
Meghalaya	Baghmara Pitcher Plant WLS
	Nongkhyllem WLS Siju WLS
Nagaland	Fakim WLS
	Puliebadze WLS
	Rangapahar WLS
Odisha	Badrama WLS
	Baisipalli WLS
	Chilika (Nalaban) WLS
	Hadgarh WLS
	Khalasuni WLS
	Satkosia Gorge WLS
Punjab	Abohar WLS
	Harike Lake WLS
	Jhajjar Bacholi WLS
Rajasthan	Bundh Baratha WLS
	Darrah WLS
	Jawahar Sagar WLS
	Kailadevi WLS
	Mount Abu WLS
	Ramsagar WLS
	Sariska WLS
	Sawai Man Singh WLS
	Shergarh WLS
	Sitamata WLS
Sikkim	Fambong Lho WLS
	Maenam WLS
	Pangolakha WLS
Telangana	Kawal WLS

Tamil Nadu	Karikili WLS
	Mudumalai WLS
	Pulicat Lake WLS
	Vaduvoor WLS
	Vedanthangal WLS
	Vettangudi WLS
	Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) WLS
	Kalakad WLS
	Karaivetti WLS
Tripura	Gumti WLS
	Rowa WLS
	Sepahijala WLS
	Trishna WLS
Uttarakhand	Askot Musk Deer WLS
	Binsar WLS
	Govind Pashu Vihar WLS
	Kedarnath WLS
	Sonanadi WLS
UP	Hastinapur WLS
	Ranipur WLS
	Sohagibarwa WLS
	Sur Sarovar WLS
	Chandraprabha WLS
	National Chambal WLS
West Bengal	Ballavpur WLS
	Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary
	Haliday Island WLS
	Lothian Island WLS
	Mahananda WLS

12 MAJOR PORTS OF INDIA

Port	State
Paradip	Orissa
Vishakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
Kolkata	West Bengal
Mumbai	Maharashtra
Kandla	Gujarat
Jawahar Lal Nehru	Maharashtra
Cochin	Kerala
New Mangalore	Karnataka
Ennore	Tamil Nadu
Murmugao	Goa
Tuticorin	Tamil Nadu
Chennai	Tamil Nadu

IMPORTANT DAMS IN INDIA

Dam	River	State
Idukki Dam	Periyar	Kerala
Tehri Dam	Bhagirathi	Uttarakhand
Sardar Sarovar Dam	Narmada	Gujarat
Nagarjun Sagar Dam	Krishna	Telangana
Bhakra Dam	Satluj	Himachal Pradesh
Lakhwar Dam	Yamuna	Uttarakhand
Srisailam Dam	Krishna	Telangana
Pakal Dul Dam	Marusudar	J&K
Salal Dam	Chenab	J&K
Madupetty Dam	Palar	Kerala
Indira Sagar Dam	Narmada	Madhya Pradesh
Rihand Dam	Rihand	Uttar Pradesh
Pong Dam	Beas	Himachal Pradesh
Ranjit Sagar Dam	Ravi	Punjab
Baglihar Dam	Chenab	J&K
Supa Dam	Kali Nadi	Karnataka
Koteshwar Dam	Bhagi Rathi Nadi	Uttra Khand
Pillur Dam	Bhavani	Tamil Nadu
Parbati Dam	Parbati	himachal Pradesh
ukai Dam	Tapi Nadi	Gujarat
Chakra Dam	Chakra	Karnataka

IMPORTANT BOUNDARIES

- **Radcliffe Line -** This boundary line is between India and Pakistan drawn by Sir Cyril Radcliffe in 1947.
- **Durand Line -** It is between Pakistan and Afghanistan
- **McMahon Line -** The boundary line between India and China to which China does not approve.It was demarcated by Sir Henry McMahon
- **24th Parallel -** The line which Pakistan claims should be the Demarcation line between India and Pakistan, not accepted by India.
- **Hindenberg Line -** Boundary line between Germany and Poland to which German retreated in 1917 during the First World War.
- **Oder-Neisse Line -** The boundary line between Poland and East Germany.
- **Mannerheim Line -** It is between Russia and Finland.
- **Maginot Line -** The boundary line is between France and Germany.
- **Siegfrid Line -** The boundary line is between France and Germany.
- **17th Parallel -** The line which defines the boundary between North Vietnam and South Vietnam before the two were united.
- **38th Parallel -** The boundary line between North Korea and South Korea.
- **49th Parallel -** It is the boundary line between the United States of America and Canada.

BANKING AND FINANCE NEWS

➤ **Banks to provide funds at 7% to Women SHGs under DAY-NRLM: Central bank**

The Reserve Bank of India in its new Guidelines has mentioned to provide funds to Women Self- Help Groups (SHGs) at 7% under the DeendayalAntyodyaYojna- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). RBI has issued these revised guidelines for 21 public sector banks and 19 private banks.

➤ **Kotak Mahindra launches Paymint:**

Kotak Mahindra Bank in collaboration with financial technology firm Zeta has launched a multi-wallet digital prepaid solution for salaried employees named Paymint. Through Paymint, corporate entities will be able to manage multiple reimbursements and allowances offered to employees including medical reimbursements, travel allowances etc.

➤ **Government permits banks to sell more small saving schemes:**

In order to encourage savings in the country, the Union Finance Ministry has allowed banks, including the top 3 private sector lenders to accept deposits under various small savings schemes. Till now, most of the small saving schemes were sold through the post offices. This decision will result in higher mobilization of money.

➤ **RBI sets up task force for Public Credit Registry:**

The Reserve Bank of India has constituted a high level task force on Public Credit Registry (PCR) for India. The ten-membered task force will be headed by Y M Deosthalee. Public Credit Registry (PCR) keeps database of credit information which is accessible to all the stakeholders.

➤ **SBI launched 2nd Digital Hackathon:**

The State Bank of India has launched the second edition of its Hackathon named 'Digitize for Bank'. This Hackathon will focus upon four themes- facial recognition, signature recognition, voice based authentication and cheque truncation value enhancers.

➤ **Government announces Bank recapitalization plan for PSB's**

The union Government has announced bank recapitalization plan to provide Rs 2.11 lakh crore capital over the next 2 years in public sector banks. It has also decided to provide financial support for MSME's in 50 clusters.

➤ **AU Small Bank, SIDBI launch Rs 200 crore Fund for MSMEs:**

AU Small Finance Bank has tied up with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to establish Rs 200 crorefund for providing loans to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

➢ With an aim to educate public on e-transactions, formal sector borrowings and insurance purchase, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is going to launch financial literacy drive on pilot basis in nine states.

➢ The 9 states will be Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Odisha, Karnataka, Telangana and Haryana.

➢ HDFC, the second largest private sector lender of the country has been listed in Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) by the Reserve Bank of India.

➢ It is the third bank of the country to find a place in the list after SBI and ICICI.

➢ The five banks of BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism (ICM) have signed an agreement to establish local currency credit lines and to develop cooperation on credit lines.

➢ The five banks are: Export-Import Bank of India, China Development Bank, Brazilian Development Bank, Russia's Vnesheconombank and Development Bank of South Africa.

➢ The Parliament has passed the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2017 which amended the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 for handling the cases of non-performing assets (NPA's).

➢ The act empowers the Central Government to authorize the Reserve Bank of India to give directions to the banking companies to resolve the issues of NPA's under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

➢ The central Bank is about to issue new banknotes of Rs.50 denomination with fluorescent blue as the base colour.

➢ RBI also clarified that the old series of Rs.50 denomination will continue to remain as legal tender.

➢ The dimensions will be 66mX135m.

➢ On the front side It will have Mahatma Gandhi's picture at the centre. Micro letters Bharat in devnagri,INDIA,RBI,50 and Ashok Pillar Emblem will also be seen on the right side.

➢ ICICI Bank has announced the launch of Instant Credit Card Service that will enable its savings account customers to get a credit card instantly, in a completely digital and paperless manner.

➢ There is a credit limit of up to Rs 4 lakh based on pre-checked bureau scores.

➢ IDFC Bank has par tnered with digital payments company Zeta, to launch 'IDFC Bank Benefits' announced on 9th August 2017.

➢ Commodity derivatives bourse Multi Commodity Exchange Ltd (MCX) has received markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) approval to launch India's first gold options contract.

➢ RBI sets up Supervisory Colleges for six Scheduled Commercial Banks. These six Scheduled banks are State Bank of India, ICICI Bank Ltd., Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Axis Bank Ltd. and Punjab National Bank.

➢ Canara Bank has hit the international debt market with a benchmark dollar bond issue that will have a tenor of 5 years. Through this issue, Canara Bank will raise $400 million as part of its $2 billion medium-term note programme.

➢ Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched a new service called " Kotak Remit". This service is an Aadhaar-based integrated outward forex remittance solution for both customers and non-customers.

➢ Bajaj Allianz General Insurance and Punjab National Bank have signed an agreement for the distribution of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Products through the bank's network of 7,000 branches.

➢ 36th Foundation Day of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) was celebrated at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi on July 11, 2017.

➢ According to the Reserve Bank of India, Country's foreign-exchange reserves rose past $400 billion for the first time ever.

➢ SBI launched FTSE SBI Bond Index series in partnership with global index provider FTSE 100, which will give tools to investors from India, the UK & globally to analyse India's government bond market, & drive growth in this market

➢ Artificial intelligence banking platform Payjo launched an AI-powered chat assistant for SBI to addresses customer enquiries. The chat assistant, known as SBI Intelligent Assistant, or SIA.

➢ RBI announced that Masala bonds will be treated as External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) from 3rd October 2017 thereby freeing up more investments by FPIs. Masala bonds are rupee-denominated overseas bonds.

➢ SBI launched a CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) initiative, SBI Gram Seva, which will work in the areas of health, education, environment & rural infrastructure.

➢ Former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan has written a book titled 'I Do What I Do: On Reform, Rhetoric and Resolve'.

➢ RBI notified that peer-to-peer (P2P) lending platforms need to be regulated & treated on par with nonbanking financial companies (NBFCs). Few important P2P lending platforms in India are LenDen Club, Faircent, Qbera, Lendbox, Rupaiya Exchange & Monexo.

➢ As per Finance Ministry, RBI will introduce 100 rupees coin to mark the birth centenary (100th anniversary) of AIADMK founder Late Dr. M G Ramachandran.

➢ SBI is India's most trusted & most popular bank according to a survey conducted by Brand Finance, London.

➢ Nepal SBI Bank, a subsidiary of SBI, launched its fully automatic digital banking services in Kathmandu.

➢ RBI allowed systematically important NBFCs to sell & market the new pension scheme (NPS).

➢ Lok Sabha passed a bill to approve the merger of associate banks with the SBI. Lok Sabha passed the bill to repeal the SBI (Subsidiary Banks) Act 1959, State Bank of Hyderabad Act 1956 & to further amend the State Bank of India Act, 1955, following the merger of five associates with the parent SBI.

➢ Rajnish Kumar has been appointed as the new chairman of SBI, for 3-year term. Kumar will succeed Arundhati Bhattacharya.

➢ Vijaya Bank bagged the first prize under the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (Region C) for the year 2016-17.

➢ IDBI Bank launched 'Project Nishchay' in partnership with Boston Consulting Group (BCG) to accelerate its turnaround program & improve financial performance.

➢ Karnataka Bank bagged the 'best bank' award among small banks for the use of technology for financial inclusion at the 13th IDRBT Banking Technology Excellence Awards 2016-17.

➢ NABARD conferred the 'best performance award' for 2015-16 & 2016-17 to Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank (KVGB) for its work in the field of credit-linking joint liability groups (JLGs).

➢ On 11th July 2017, Union FM Jaitley inaugurated the 36th NABARD Foundation Day & Silver Jubilee of SHG Bank Linkage Programme, in New Delhi. Self Help Group Bank Linkage Programme (SHG BLP) is a pioneering initiative of Financial Inclusion by NABARD.

➢ Government made biometric identification Aadhaar mandatory for all post office deposits, PPF, the National Savings Certificate scheme & Kisan Vikas Patra. All depositors will have to provide Aadhaar number and link it with their accounts till December 31, 2017.

> ADB will provide a USD 152 million to Nepal for the implementation & enhancement of its power transmission & distribution. ADB & Nepal's Ministry of Finance signed the loan agreement in Kathmandu.
> Finance Ministry & World Bank signed a grant agreement of $24.64 million from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) of the World Bank for ecosystem service improvement project.
> In its 4th Bi-monthly policy review of October 2017, RBI kept the repo rate unchanged at 6%, reverse repo rate at 5.75%, and the Bank Rate at 6.25%. It also Cuts economic growth forecast to 6.7% from 7.3% for FY'18.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI)

RBI is a central bank of India, the only independent apex body of India which regulates all the financial institutions of India and provides important functions such as issuing of currency notes, inflation control, and monetary policy report.

- It was established on April 1, 1935 under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1935.
- It was nationalized in 1949

Structure of RBI:

The Central Board shall consist of following directors:

- A Governor and four Deputy Governors to be appointed by Central Government
- Four directors to be nominated by Central Government, one from each of the four Local Boards.
- Ten directors to be nominated by Central Government.
- Two Government Officials to be nominated by Central Government.

Functions of RBI:

- Bankers Bank
- Issue of bank notes
- Banker to Government
- Custodian of cash reserve of commercial banks
- Custodian of country's foreign reserve
- Central clearance and account settlement
- Formation of monetary policy for economic growth and to check inflation
- Controller of credit

Some Important Facts about RBI

- Headquarter :Mumbai(initially it was in Kolkata)
- First Governor :Sir Osborne Smith
- First Indian Governor: C.D. Deshmukh
- Present Governor: Urijit Patel

SCHEMES RELATED TO BANKING AND FINANCE

1) Kisan Vikas Patra

Kisan Vikas Patra is small saving instrument which was launched in 1988 but closed in 2011. It was re-launched in 2014 through post office and those banks that are authorized to operate PPF scheme. Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) is regulated by KVP Rules 2014.

Features of Kisan Vikas Patra

- Denomination used in KVP: Rs 1000, Rs5000, Rs 10000 and Rs 50000
- Maturity period: 113 months
- Types of certificates: Category Single, Joint A-Type and Joint B-Type
- Minimum deposit : Rs 1000
- Maximum deposit: No limit
- Rate of interest:7.6%
- Certificate can be encashed after two and half years
- Facility of nomination is available
- Certificate can be transfer from one person to another and from one post office to another
- No tax benefit is available for this scheme

2) Gold Monetization Scheme

It is a scheme that facilitates the depositors of gold to earn interest on their metal accounts. Once the gold deposit in the account, it will start earning interest on it.

Tagline: Earn while you secure

Implemented by: All scheduled/commercial banks excluding RRBs

Deposit limit: Minimum-30 g - Maximum-No limit

Tenure: 1 to 3 years (short term)

5 to 7 years (medium term)

12-15 years (long term)

3) Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme

A sovereign Bond is a debt security issued by national government. It can be denominated in a foreign currency or government's own domestic company. It is tradable on stock market and available in physical and demat form.

Tagline: Invest Wisely, Earn Safely

Minimum limit: 2 gm of gold

Maximum limit: 500 gm

Issued by: RBI on behalf of Union Government

Tenure: Maximum 8 years but exit option is from 5th year

4) Indian Gold Coin Scheme

Under this scheme government sell gold from its own trading centre. Ashok Chakra engraved on one side and the face of Mahatma Gandhi on the other side. It is available at MMTC (Metals and Mineral Corporation)

Denomination: 5gm, 10gm and 20gm

5) Sukanya Samrridhi Yojana

Sukanya Samrridhi Yozna is a girl prosperity scheme. It was launched by PM Modi as a part of Beti Bachao Beti Parao Campaign.

Objective: To promote the welfare of girl child

Minimum Deposit: Rs1000

Maximum Deposit: Rs150000

Maturity: 14 years from the opening of the account

Interest: 8.6%

Tenure of deposit: 21 years of date of the opening account

Account can be opened at Indian Post Office and Commercial Banks

6) Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yozna was launched by PM Modi in 2015. It is an insurance scheme launched for the welfare of needy people.

Minimum age for entry in scheme: 18years

Maximum age for entry in scheme: 50 years

Maximum Maturity Age: 55 years

Sum assured: Rs 200,000

Annual Premium: Rs330

7) Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is a national mission for the financial inclusion to access financial services. Under this scheme a customer can opened with zero balance and if the customer want to get cheque book, the customer have to fulfill minimum balance criteria.

Features of Prime Minister Jan Dhan Yojana

- There is interest on deposit
- Accidental insurance cover of Rs 1 lac
- It also provide a life cover of Rs 30000
- Overdraft facility up to Rs5000 which is available to only one account per household preferably

8) MUDRA(Micro Units Development and Refinance Company)

Micro Units Development and Refinance Company is a new institution set up by the government of India for the development of micro units and Refinance Company. It is a part of SIDBI (Small Industrial Development Bank of India). It was launched in 2015. Under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana, MUDRA has created three products:

1. Shishu: covering up to Rs 50000
2. Kishore: covering up to Rs 50,000 to 500,000
3. Tarun: covering loans above Rs500,000 to 10,00,000

Features of MUDRA scheme

- Its main purpose is to provide funding to non corporate small business sector
- Under the scheme women, SC, ST and OBC are given preference while giving loans

9) Indradanush Scheme

Government has launched a plan Indradanush to boost functioning of Public Sector Banks. This plan basically focuses on the 7 areas that are as follow:

- Appointments- As per the scheme Bank Board Bureau had replaced the existing appointment board
- Distressing-With this focus will be on distressing the banks from Non Performing Assets.
- Capitalization- Under this scheme government planned to infuse Rs 70000 crore in banks for the next four years.

Allocation in four years is as follow:

1. 2015-16 Rs 25000 Crore
2. 2016-17 Rs 25000 Crore
3. 2017-18 Rs 10000 Crore
4. 2018-19 Rs 10000 Crore

- Banking Empowerment-under this government is looking to introduce Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOPs) for the Public Sector Banks.

- Accountability-The government also provide new framework for the boost efficiency.

- Governance- A process of governance reforms start from Gyan Sangam- a conclave of PSBs and financial institutions

- Banking Reforms

- Objective: To improve credit system and minimizing the political interference

10) Indradanush 2.0

Indradanush 2.0 scheme was launched in 2017. It is a comprehensive plan for the recapitalization of public sector lenders with a view that they remain solvent and fully comply with global adequacy norms. It will be finalized after completion of AQR (Asset Quality Review) by RBI. Asset Quality Review: Every year RBI inspector check bank books as part of its annual financial inspection process (AFI). In 2015, a special inspection was conducted and named as Asset Quality Review (AQR).

MASALA BOND, GREEN BOND & JUNK BOND

A bond is a debt investment in which an investor loans money to an entity which borrows a fund for a defined period of time at a variable or fixed rate interest.

It is similar to debentures but the key difference is that it is issued by a government institute.

Following are the different types of the bonds

1) Corporate Bonds - A corporate bond is a debt security which is issued by a company and sold to the investors.

- Company's assets are may be used as collateral in some cases.

- The backing for the bond is usually depending upon the payment ability of the company.

- The corporate bonds have considered higher risk than governmental bonds.

2) Convertible Bonds- A convertible bond is a debt security that can be converted into predetermined amount of underlying company's equity. Convertible bonds are issue to avoid the negative impression of company's actions.

3) Callable Bonds- Callable Bonds are also known as "redeemable bonds" as the bonds are redeemed prior to the period of maturity.

4) Term Bonds- A term bonds are the bond which mature and come due on single date. A term bond possesses all the features of callable bonds.

5) Government Bonds- Government Bonds are those bonds which are issued by the government to support government spending. These bonds are more secure than corporate bonds.

Following are Some Other Important Bonds

1) Masala Bond

Masala Bonds are the rupee denominated borrowings by Indian entities in overseas market. The word "Masala" is given by the IFC (International Finance Corporation) to represent Indian culture and cuisine. First Masala Bond was issued by the IFC (International Finance Corporation) when it raised Rs 1000 crore bond to fund infrastructure projects in India.

Issuers of Masala Bonds

- RBI has issued guidelines allowing following entities to issue rupee denominated bond overseas.
- Indian Companies (Blue Chip Companies)
- NBFCs (Non Banking Finance Companies)
- Infrastructure Investment Trust
- Real Investment Trust

Benefits to Investor

- By investing in Masala Bonds, the investor gets tax deduction on interest income.
- Capital gains from rupee appreciation are exempted from tax.

Benefits to Indian Companies

- If the issuer, issues bonds in rupees, then he gets rid of risk of currency fluctuation.
- The bonds bring new and diversified set of investors for Indian Companies.

Regulator of Masala Bonds

As the Masala bonds are Indian Rupee denominated bonds, it is regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.

2) Green Bonds

A Green Bond is a tax-exempt bond which is issued for the investment in the green projects or for the development of Brownfield sites.

Brownfield Sites are the sites which are underutilized, have abandoned buildings or underdeveloped.

Issuers of Green Bonds: Green Bonds are issued by following multilateral agencies:

- World Bank
- Corporation
- Government agencies
- Municipalities

Purpose

Green Bonds are issued to encourage sustainability and development of Brownfield sites. Specifically it finance projects aimed at energy efficiency, pollution prevention, sustainable water management etc.

Regulator of Green Bonds

In India Green Bonds are regulated by SEBI (Securities Exchange Board of India).

3) Junk Bonds

Junk Bonds refer to high yield or non-investment grade bonds. These are named as junk bonds as it involves high rate of risk in relation to investment bonds. It is fixed income instrument that carry a credit rating lower by Moody's investor services.

Investor demands high yield bonds as it yields high rate of return which in turn a compensation for their investment.

Regulator of Junk Bonds

In India Junk Bonds are regulated by SEBI (Securities Exchange Board of India).

LIST OF THREE BIG CREDIT RATING AGENCIES

Credit Rating Agencies- Credit Rating Agencies provides objective analysis and independent assessment of companies and countries that issue securities. This assessment helps the investors and institutions whether these securities meet their obligations. There are top 3 three credit rating agencies of the world named as Moody's, FITCH and Standard & Poor's

Fitch Inc.

- Fitch Inc. is the smallest of three Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organisation designated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.
- Fitch was founded by John Knowles in Newyork City as Fitch Publishing Company
- It published financial statistics for use in the investment industry
- In 1924, Fitch introduced AAA though D rating system throughout the industry
- Later it merged with London based IBCA in 1997
- Headquarter: It is headquartered in Newyork (U.S) and London(U.K)
- President & CEO: Paul Taylor

Moody's

- Moody's is founded by John Moody in 1909 to produce manual published basic statistic and general information about stocks and bonds.
- It provides international financial research on bonds issued by commercial and government entities
- It ranks the creditworthiness of borrowers using a standardized rating scale
- According to Moody's rating system, rates from Aaa to C are assigned. Aaa for highest quality and C s for lowest quality.
- Headquarter: Newyork (U.S)
- Head: Raymond W MC Daniel

Standard & Poor's

- Standard & Poor's is the world's leading Index provider and the foremost source of independent credit ratings. It provides financial market intelligence to decision makers.
- It is founded by Henry Varnum Poor in 1860
- It includes global ratings, global market intelligence, Dow Jones and global platts
- Headquarter: Newyork (U.S)
- CEO: John L Berisford

LIST OF IMPORTANT COMMITTEES

S.no	Name of committees	Focus Area
	List of Important Committees	
1	Ajay Shankar Committee	To review functioning of PPP cell
2	H R Khan Committee	To evaluate unclaimed PPP and post office saving
3	Bimal Jalan	To head the Expenditure Management Commission
4	Justice M B Shah	On black money
5	Deepak Mohanty Committee	Data and information management in the RBI
6	Arvind Mayaram Committee	To clear the definition to the FDI and FII
7	Nachiket Mor Committee	To permit NBFCs to work as business correspondence
8	P J Nayak Committee	Governance of Boards of Bank in India
9	K.V.Kamath Panel	To examine the financial architecture for Micro, small and medium enterprises
10	Tandon Committee	Follow up for bank credit
11	M L Dhantwala Committee	Regional Rural Banks
12	SS Nadkarni Committee	Trading in public sector banks
13	Bhide Committee	Coordination between commercial banks and SFC's
14	AK Bhuchar Committee	Coordination between term lending institutions and commercial banks
15	R. Jilani	Inspection System in Banks
16	James Raj Committee	Functioning of public sector banks
17	Vipin Malik Committee	Consolidated Accounting by banks
18	A Ghosh Committee	Frauds & Malpractices in India
19	A K Khandelwal	HR issues of public sector banks
20	R.H. Khan Committee	Harmonization of role of financial institution in banks
21	Rakesh Mohan	Small Savings
22	N. K Singh Committee	To review the fiscal responsibility and budget management act
23	Amitabh Chaudhry	Analysis the existing framework of IRDA-linked and non-linked insurance product regulations
24	Inter- departmental Tax Force	To monitor and review the functioning of shell companies to prevent their misuse for money laundering and tax evasion
25	Dinesh Sharma Committee	To propose new regulation related to digital currencies or virtual currencies
26	Sudharshan Sen Committee	To study regulatory issues relating to financial technology and digital banking in India
27	Rattan P Watal Committee	To boost digital payment system in India

MONETARY POLICY

Monetary Policy is a process by which central bank of the country manage the supply of money which in turn effects on interest rates, inflation and growth of economy.

- In India RBI act as Central Monetary Authority.
- It formulates monetary policy at annual basis.

TYPES OF MONETARY POLICY

- EXPANSIONARY POLICY- It emphasizes on increase the money supplies in economy and expands credit creation.
- CONTRACTIONARY POLICY- It emphasizes on decreasing or control the supply of money and credit.

OBJECTIVES

- PRICE STABILITY- It refers to increase in general level of prices in economy. It implies avoiding both prolonged inflation and deflation.
- Economic Growth- It is increase in capacity of an economy to produce goods and services produced by country over a period of time.

MEASURES AND TOOLS OF MONETARY POLICY

RBI use following two measures to regulate the monetary policy i.e. Quantitative and Qualitative Measures

QUANTITATIVE MEASURES

- BANK RATE-It is a rate of interest which a central bank charges on loans and advances to commercial banks without any collateral. It is a long term rate of interest. It implies penalty over banks not complying with RBI rules such as not maintaining CRR and SLR.
- OPEN MARKET OPERATIONS-It refers to buying and selling of government securities in open market in order to expand or contract the amount of money in banking system.

If securities purchased by RBI - By doing so supply of money will increase in market due to which demand will increase and ultimately there will be rise in prices.

If securities sold by RBI - By doing so supply of money will decrease in market due to which demand will decrease and ultimately prices will fall.

Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) - It refers to certain percentage of total deposits the commercial banks are required to maintain in form of cash reserve with reserve bank in form of cash only.

If rate of CRR is increased - By increasing CRR the bank needs to deposit more money with RBI. As a result banks left with less money so less money with people which leads to lower demand for goods and services and lower prices.

If rate of CRR is decreased - By decreasing CRR the bank can deposit less money with RBI. As a result bank left with more money so more money with people which lead to higher demand for goods and services and high prices.

Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) - It refers to proportion of deposits the commercial bank is required to maintain with them in form of liquid assets such as gold or RBI approved securities.

If rate of SLR is increased - By doing so the bank needs to maintain more liquid assets with them. As a result bank left with less money so less money with people which lead to lower demand for goods and services and low prices.

If rate of SLR is decreased - By doing so the bank maintain less liquid asset with them. As a result bank left with more money so more money with people which lead to higher demand for goods and services and high prices.

Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) - It allows banks to borrow money through repurchase agreements.LAF is used to aid banks in adjusting the day to day mismatches in liquidity.

- Bank cannot sell government securities that are under SLR quota.

- Bank can borrow any amount of money.

- Minimum bidding amount is 5cr.

- All clients of RBI are eligible to bid.

LAF (liquidity adjustment facility) can be classified into two:

1) Repo rate (Repurchase Obligation)- It is the rate at which RBI lend money to commercial banks against securities in case commercial bank fall short of funds. It is a short term lending rate which fixed at predetermined rate and time.

If Repo rate is increased - If Repo rate will rise, the interest rate of banks will increased which becomes costlier for people then demand of goods and services will reduce and ultimately prices will fall.

If Repo rate is decreased - If Repo rate will fall, the interest rate of banks will decreased which becomes cheaper for people then demand of goods and services will increase and ultimately prices will rise.

2). Reverse repo rate- It is the reverse of Repo rate i.e. rate RBI pays to bank to park excess funds to RBI

Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) - By these mechanism commercial banks can get loans from RBI for their emergency needs.

- Minimum bidding amount in MSF is 1cr.

- Only scheduled commercial banks can bid.

- Banks can sell government security from SLR quota to RBI.

- Bank can borrow up to 2% of NDTL(net demand and time liability)

QUALITATIVE MEASURES

These measures can affect money supply in a specific sector of economy

1). MARGIN REQUIREMENT- This refers to difference between the securities offered and amount borrowed by bank.

2). RATIONING OF CREDIT- with this tool RBI can controls the credit granted and allocated by commercial banks.

3). MORAL SUASION- By this Central Bank may prohibit or dissuade commercial banks to deal in speculative business.

4). DIRECT ACTION- The Central Bank may take direct action against commercial banks that violate the rules, orders or advice of central bank.

RBI RATES (as per sixth bi-monthly policy statement for the year on October, 2017)

Bank Rate	6.25%
Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	19.5%
Repo Rate (RR)	6.00%
Reverse Repo Rate (RRR)	5.75%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)	6.25%

BANK ACCOUNTS

The account which is maintained by a financial institution for the customer is known as bank account. In India there are only five kinds of accounts such as Saving Account, Current Account, Recurring Deposit Account, Fixed Deposit Account and BSBDA Account

1) **Saving Account-** Saving Accounts are the individual accounts for the personal purpose of saving. Most of the individuals save their investments with this account.

- The saving account is opened on the name of individuals only.
- On saving account individual earn some rate of interest; this rate of interest varies from bank to bank.
- When a person opens a saving account he is provided with a passbook, ATM, and cheque book.
- In saving account, there is no restriction on the number and amount of deposit but there is certain restriction on the withdrawal.
- Minimum balance has to be maintained by the customer as mentioned by the bank.

2) **Current Account-** Current Accounts are the accounts opened for the business transaction, on the name of firm or company. These are never used for the purpose of saving and investment.

- There is no limit on the number of transactions and amount in a day such as deposit and withdrawal.
- There is no interest paid on the amount held in the amount but there are some service charges on such accounts.
- These accounts have not any fixed maturity as these accounts are on regular basis.
- No passbook is issued for the current account holders.
- Minimum amount needed to open a current account varies from bank to bank.
- Many facilities are provided to current account holder such as overdraft facility, statement of account.

3) **Recurring Deposit Account-** This account is opened by those who want to save small amount of money for a certain period of time and earn higher rate of interest.

- Total amount is repaid along with interest after a fixed period of time.
- The maximum period of deposit is ten years and minimum period of deposit is six months.
- No withdrawals are allowed from Recurring Deposit Account.
- Bank may allow close of account before the maturity period.
- Interest rates may vary for different plans based on the amount deposit, period of time and also on banks.
- Accounts can be opened in single or joint account.

4) **Fixed Deposit Account-** In this account a fixed amount of money is paid for a specific period of time on which bank pays high rate of interest. It is also known as Term Deposit.

- In this account deposit and withdrawal can be done only once.
- Bank pays the rate of interest on the amount according to the period of time.
- If withdrawal is done before the maturity period, bank can impose penalty on it.

5) **BSBDA Account-** The Basic Saving Deposit Account is an account in which customer can open an account with zero balance. This bank is also known as No Frill Account.

- No penalty is imposed on non-operating of these accounts.

BANKING ABBREVIATIONS

- **ADB-** Asian Development Bank
- **ADR-** American Depositary Receipt
- **AIFI-** All India Financial Institutions
- **AIIB-** Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- **AQR-** Asset Quality Review
- **ATM-** Automatic Teller Machine
- **BIRD-** Bankers Institute of Rural Development
- **BIS-** Bank for International Settlement
- **BPLR-** Benchmark Prime Lending Rate
- **BSBDA-** Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account
- **BSE-** Bombay Stock Exchange
- **CAD-** Capital Account Deficit
- **CAMELS-** Capital Adequacy Assets Management Earning Liquidity Sensitivity
- **CAR-** Capital Adequacy Ratio
- **CARE-** Credit Analysis and Research Ltd.
- **CASA-** Current Account and Saving Account
- **CBS-** Core Banking Solution
- **CCEA-** Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
- **CDR-** Corporate Debt Restructuring
- **CIBIL-** Credit Information Bureau (India) Ltd.
- **CRISIL-** Credit Rating and Information Services of India
- **ECS-** Electronic Clearing Service
- **EFT-** Electronic Fund Transfer
- **FEMA-** Foreign Exchange Management Act
- **FERA-** Foreign Exchange Regulatory Act
- **FIIs-** Foreign Institutional Investors
- **HDFC-** Housing Development Finance Corporation
- **IBA-** Indian Bank Association
- **IBRD-** International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **ICICI-** Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India
- **ICRA-** Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency
- **ICSID-** International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
- **IDA-** International Development Association

- **IFCI-** Industrial Finance Corporation of India
- **IFSC-** Indian Financial System Code
- **IMF-** International Monetary Fund
- **IMPS-** Immediate Payment Service
- **INVITS-** Infrastructure Investment Trusts
- **IPO-** Initial Public Offerings
- **IRDAI-** Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India
- **KYC-** Know Your Customer
- **LAF-** Liquidity Adjustment Facility
- **LIBOR-** London Interbank Offered Rate
- **MIBID-** Mumbai Interbank Bid Rate
- **MIBOR-** Mumbai Interbank Offered Rate
- **MICR-** Magnetic Ink Character Recognition
- **MIGA-** Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
- **MUDRA-** Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency
- **NABARD-** National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- **NASDAQ-** National Association for Securities Dealers Automated Quotations
- **NAV-** Net Asset Value
- **NBFCs-** Non Banking Finance Companies
- **NDB-** New Development Bank
- **NDTL-** Net Demand and Time Liabilities
- **NECS-** National Electronic Clearing Service
- **NEFT-** National Electronic Fund Transfer
- **NHB-** National Housing Bank
- **NPA-** Non Performing Assets
- **NPCI-** National Payments Corporation of India
- **NSE-** National Stock Exchange
- **PIN-** Personal Identification Number
- **POS-** Point of Sale
- **PSBS-** Public Sector Banks
- **REITS-** Real Estate Investment Trust
- **RTGS-** Real Time Gross Settlement
- **SEBI-** Securities Exchange Board of India
- **SENSEX-** Sensitive Index
- **SWIFT-** Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication
- **SWOT-** Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats
- **UPI-** Unified Payment Interface

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

It is a claim against a person or an institution for payment of a sum of money or periodic payment in the form of interest or dividend at a specified future date. Financial Instruments can be classified in two types such as Capital Market Instruments and Money Market Instruments

A) CAPITAL MARKET INSTRUMENTS

Capital Market Instruments consist of long term instruments for the period of more than one year. It includes:

1) **Equity Shares-** Equity shares represent the owner's capital in the company. The holders are the real owners of the company.

   - They have a control over the working of the company.
   - Equity shareholders are paid dividend.
   - They provide permanent capital to the company and cannot redeem during life time of the company.

2) **Preference Shares –** Preference Shares are shares of company's stock with dividends that are paid out to shareholders before common stock dividends are issued. These shares have their certain preferences as compared to other types of share. These shares are given two preferences such as:

   - Whenever the company has distributable profits, the dividend is first paid on preference shares.
   - Repayment of the capital at the time of liquidation.

3) **Debentures-** A debenture is an acknowledgement of a debt. It is a document under company's seal which provide for the payment of principal sum and interest thereon.

   - A debenture holder is a creditor of a company and interest is paid to him.
   - Debentures are to be repaid after a definite period of time.

4) **Derivative –** A derivative is a security with a price that is dependent upon or derived from one or more underlying assets. Derivative is itself a contract between two parties based upon the asset or assets.

   - The underlying assets include stocks, bonds, commodities, currencies.
   - It can be traded over the counter or an exchange.

   Derivative can be classified as follow:

   - Futures Contract- Futures Contract is an agreement between two parties for the sale of assets at an agreed upon prices.
   - Forward Contract- Forward Contract is similar to futures contract but the only difference is this that it is not traded on exchange but only traded on over the counter.
   - Swaps- It is a contract between two parties agreeing to trade long terms.
   - Options- It is also similar to futures contract but the key difference is that with an option buyer and seller is not obliged to make transaction if he or she decides not to.

5) **Bonds-** A bond is a debt investment in which an investor loans money to an entity which borrows a fund for a defined period of time at a variable or fixed rate interest. It is similar to debentures but the key difference is that it is issued by a government institute.

B) MONEY MARKET INSTRUMENTS

Money Market Instruments consist of short term instruments for a period of up to one year. It includes:

1) **Call Money** - The Call Money Market deals in short term finance repayable on demand.
   - Funds are lent and borrowed without collateral.
   - Maturity period of call loans varies from one day to fortnight.

2) **Treasury Bills** - It is a short term debt instrument issued by government of India and is presently issued in three tenures i.e. 91 days, 182days and 364 days.
   - Treasury bills are zero coupon securities and pay no interest.
   - They are issued at discount and redeemed at face value at maturity.

3) **Certificate of Deposit** - Certificate Deposit are used by banks and issued to the depositors for a specified period less than one year- they are tradable and negotiable in the market.

4) **Commercial Papers** - It is used by corporate houses of India which should be a listed company. These companies need to obtain a specified credit rating from an agency approved by the RBI such as CRISIL

5) **Commercial Bills**
   - Commercial Bills are issued by the All India Financial Institutions (AIFI), Non Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs), Scheduled Commercial Banks, Merchant Banks, Co-operative Banks and Mutual Funds.
   - Maturity of these bills is 30 days, 60 days and 90 days.

Banking and Financial terms:

1. **American Deposit Receipt (ADR) –** It is a negotiable certificate issued by a U.S. bank representing a specified number of shares in a foreign stock traded on U.S exchange. ADRs are denominated in U.S. dollars.

2. **Anti Dated Cheque -** If date mentioned on the cheque is earlier than the date it is presented to bank; it is called anti dated cheque. Anti Dated Cheque is valid up to 3 months. Earlier it was 6 months but now it reduced to 3 months.

3. **Arbitrage -** Arbitrage is a process in which simultaneous purchase and sale of securities is done in order to earn profits with the difference in prices.

4. **Balance of Trade -** Balance of Trade is a difference between country's export and import for a given time period. It is the largest component of balance of payments.

5. **Balance of Payments -** A statement that summarizes an economy's transactions with the rest of world for a specified period of time is known as balance of payments.

6. **Bancassurance -** It is the term used to describe the partnership or relationship between a bank and an insurance company whereby the insurance company uses the bank sales channel in order to sell insurance products.

7. **Bank Account -** The account which is maintained by a financial institution for the customer is known as bank account.

8. **Bank Drafts -** It is a negotiable instrument governed by the Negotiable Instrument Act 1881. It is a facility offered by the bank to its account holders only. A bank draft is a payment made by bank on the behalf of bank

9. **Bank Rate -** It is a rate of interest which a central bank charges on loans and advances to commercial banks without any collateral. It is a long term rate of interest. It implies penalty over banks not complying with RBI rules such as not maintaining CRR and SLR.

10. **Banking Ombudsman -** It is an authority to solve any complaints of the customer against the banks. If the customer is not satisfied with the compliant they can forward their complaint to governor of RBI.

11. **Basel Norms -** Basel Norms are the set of recommendations for regulating banking industry in world. Basel Committee on Banking Supervision issued Basel Accords

12. **Bearer Cheque -** A cheque which is payable to any person who present it for payment at the bank counter. Such cheques are risky as in case it lost, the finder may collect the payment from the bank.

13. **Bonds -** A bond is a debt investment in which an investor loans money to an entity which borrows a fund for a defined period of time at a variable or fixed rate interest. It is similar to debentures but the key difference is that it is issued by a government institute

14. **Broker-** Broker is a registered member of a Stock Exchange who buys or sells securities on behalf of his client and charges a commission such brokers are also known as commission brokers.

15. **Bull Market -** Bull Market is a market situation where a buyer buys shares in a hope that prices will increase in near future and he will resale in order to earn profits.

16. **Call Money -** The Call Money Market deals in short term finance repayable on demand. In this funds are lent and borrowed without collateral and maturity period of call loans varies from one day to fortnight.

17. **Call Option -** It is an agreement that gives the right to investor to buy bonds or shares at a specified price and within a specified period.

18. **Capital Adequacy -** It refers to the amount of capital the financial institution has to hold as required by its financial regulator. This ensures the protection of depositors and investors and financial soundness of the bank.

19. **Capital Market -** The segment of financial market of an economy from long term capital is raised via instruments such as securities, shares, bonds, debentures, mutual funds is known as securities market or capital market.

20. **Capital Reserves-** Capital Reserves are undistributed reserves which is the part of company's profit which is not paid out as dividends to the shareholders.

21. **Cash Reserve Ratio -** It refers to certain percentage of total deposits the commercial banks are required to maintain in form of cash reserve with reserve bank in form of cash only.

22. **Cheque -** A cheque is a negotiable instrument that is used for payments and settlements in India. It is an agreement between two organizations to make payments

23. **Cheque Truncation -** Cheque Truncation is a system in which physical cheque is converted into electronic form in order to reduce physical movement of cheques.

24. **Certificate of Deposit -** Certificate Deposit are used by banks and issued to the depositors for a specified period less than one year.They are tradable and negotiable in the market

25. **Commercial Paper-** It is used by corporate houses of India which should be a listed company. These companies need to obtain a specified credit rating from an agency approved by the RBI such as CRISIL

26. **Commercial Bills -** Commercial Bills are issued by the All India Financial Institutions (AIFI), Non Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs), Scheduled Commercial Banks, Merchant Banks, Co-operative Banks and Mutual Funds. Maturity of these bills is 30 days, 60 days and 90 days.

27. **Commercial Banks-** It is a type of institution that provides services such as accepting deposits, making business loans and offering basic investment product.

28. **Core Banking Solutions-** Core Banking Solution is a system where banks and their branches interconnected for the fast communication.

29. **Credit Rating-** Credit rating is the process in which debtor is given a rate on the basis of paying back of debt in time. This service is basically provided to the large scale borrowers such as companies.

30. **Current Account-** Current Accounts are the accounts opened for the business transaction, on the name of firm or company. These are never used for the purpose of saving and investment.

31. **Debentures-** A debenture is an acknowledgement of a debt. It is a document under company's seal which provide for the payment of principal sum and interest thereon.

32. **Demat Account -** Dematerialized Account is an account where shares and other securities are held in electronic form rather than physical form.

33. **Derivative –** A derivative is a security with a price that is dependent upon or derived from one or more underlying assets. Derivative is itself a contract between two parties based upon the asset or assets.

34. **Dishonor of Cheque-** No payment of cheque by the paying banker with a return memo giving reasons for the nonpayment.

35. **Double Financial Repression-** It is the phenomenon when the bank faces financial repression on the both sides of the balance sheet. Repression on the asset side is a byproduct of SLR and on the liability side, continuing increase in inflation.

36. **Drawer-** the person who holds an account in a certain bank and draws a cheque to make payment.

37. **Drawee-** the person to whom the cheque has been drawn.

38. **Escheat-** When government acquires the property of a person having no nominee is termed as Escheat.

39. **Escrow Account -** Escrow Account is held by the third party on the behalf of the other two parties that are in the process of completing transaction.

40. **Equity Shares-** Equity shares represent the owner's capital in the company. The holders are the real owners of the company.

41. **Factoring-** A factor is a financial institution which offers services relating to management and financing of debts arising out of credit sales.

42. **Foreign Banks –** A foreign branch bank is type of that is obliged to follow the regulations of both the home and host countries.

43. **Fixed Deposit Account-** In this account a fixed amount of money is paid for a specific period of time on which bank pays high rate of interest. It is also known as Term Deposit.

44. **Green Bonds-** Green Bonds are the bonds which are exempted from the tax and issued by qualified organizations for the development of Brownfield sites. Brownfield sites are the areas which are underutilized or underdeveloped.

45. **Global Depository Receipt-** Global Depository Receipt is a certificate issued by more than one country for shares in a foreign country. The shares are held by the international branch of foreign bank.

46. **Hedge-** Hedge is an investment to reduce the risk of adverse price movement in an asset.

47. **Indigenous Bankers-** Indigenous Bankers are the individuals and partnership firms performing banking functions. They are local bankers. They can be distinguished as professional money lenders whose primary business is not banking but money lending.

48. **Interest Rate Swaps-** It is the transfer of contractually agreed between two counterparties of their respective interest rate obligation.

49. **Investment Institutions-** It includes the institutions which mobilize savings of public at large through various schemes and invest these into corporate and government securities.

50. **Internet Banking-** Internet banking is also known as online banking, Virtual Bankingand web banking. Internet Banking allows its user to execute transactions with the help of internet.

51. **Junk Bonds-** Junk Bonds are kind of bonds which gives high yield at the very high rate of risk. These kinds of bonds are rated lower by credit rating agencies.

52. **Leverage-** it is a technique in which debt is used to finance firm's assets in order to increase profitability of the company. The firm which has more debts than equity is highly leveraged firm and vice versa.

53. **LIBOR (London Interbank Offered Rate) -** It is a benchmark rate which some of the international banks charge for the short term loans.

54. **Liquidity Adjustment Facility-** It allows banks to borrow money through repurchase agreements.LAF is used to aid banks in adjusting the day to day mismatches in liquidity.

55. **Masala Bonds-** Masala Bonds are rupee denominated bonds i.e. bonds can be borrowed in Indian currency not in any foreign currency. These bonds can be issued by the Indian entities from overseas market.

56. **Merchant Banking-** In this service bank provides consultancy services to its clients for financial, marketing, managerial and legal matters.

57. **MIBOR (Mumbai Interbank Offered Rate)-** It is the rate at which bank can borrow funds from the other banks in Indian Interbank market. It is calculated everyday by the National Stock exchange

58. **Monetary Policy-** MonetaryPolicy is a process by which central bank of the country manage the supply of money which in turn effects on interest rates, inflation and growth of economy.

59. **Money Lenders-** A money lender is a person or a group who typically offers personal loans at a high rate of interest.

60. **Money Market-** The short term money market is known as Money Market.

61. **Mobile Banking-** Mobile Banking is a system that allows customers to perform a number of financial transactions through a mobile device

62. **Multinational Banking-** Multinational banks are those banks that physically operated in more than one country. It is also known as international bank. Narrow Banking involves mobilizing the larger part of the deposits in risk free assets such as government securities. In India narrow banking is implemented partially.

63. **NPA (Non Performing Assets)-** Non Performing Assets refers to the classification of loans in the books of financial institutions that are in arrears. The debt is considered non- performing when it is not paid for the period of 90 days.

64. **Open Market Operations -** It refers to buying and selling of government securities in open market in order to expand or contract the amount of money in banking system.

65. **Open/ Uncrossed Cheque-** The cheque which is not crossed is known as Open Cheque or Uncrossed Cheque. The payment of such cheques can be obtained on the counter of the bank.

66. **Overdraft –** With this facility a customer can withdraws more money from the bank account that has been deposited.

67. **Preference Shares –** Preference Shares are shares of company's stock with dividends that are paid out to shareholders before common stock dividends are issued

68. **Post Dated Cheque-** If the cheque bears the any future date in the cheque that is known as Post Dated Cheque. Post dated cheque can be presented only on the future date which is written on the cheque.

69. **POS (Point of Sale)-** The place where sales are made. On a macro level, a point of sale may be a mall, market or city. On a micro level, retailers consider a point of sale to be area surrounding the counter where customers pay which is also known as "point of Purchase"

70. **Primary Market-** The market in which the instruments of security market are traded directly between the capital raiser and instrument purchaser is known as primary market.

71. **Put Option-** It is an agreement where investor has given a right to sell shares and bonds at a specified price and within a specified period.

72. **Regional Rural Banks-** Regional Rural Banks are local level banking organizations operating in different states of India. RRBs were established in 1975 on the recommendations of Narsimham Committee. It is followed by Regional Rural Banks Act 1976. RRBs are regulated by NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) act 1981.

73. **Retail Banking-** Retail Banking refers to banking in which banking institutions execute transactions directly with consumers rather than corporate or other banks.

74. **Recurring Deposit Account-** This account is opened by those who want to save small amount of money for a certain period of time and earn higher rate of interest.

75. **Scheduled banks-** The banks which are included in Second Schedule of Reserve Bank of India Act 1934 are schedule banks.RBI includes only those banks under this schedule which fulfill the criteria laid down under section 42(6)(a) of RBI Act 1934.

76. **Saving Account-** Saving Accounts are the individual accounts for the personal purpose of saving. Most of the individuals save their investments with this account.

77. **Secondary Market-** The market where the instruments of security market are traded among the primary instrument holders is known as secondary market.

78. **Self Help Group-** It is a homogeneous group of micro entrepreneurs with affinity among themselves, voluntarily formed to save whatever amount they can convenientlysave out of their earnings and mutually agree to contribute to a common fund of the group from which small loans are given to the members of their meeting their productive and emergent credit needs at such rate of interest, period of loan and the other terms as the group may decide.

79. **Stock Broking-** Stock Broking is a function in which broker buys or sells securities on behalf of its client and charge commission on this transaction.

80. **Statutory Liquidity Ratio -** It refers to proportion of deposits the commercial bank is required to maintain with them in form of liquid assets such as gold or RBI approved securities.

81. **Stale Cheque-** If the cheque is presented after the 3 months of the date which is mentioned on the cheque is known as stale cheque. After the expiry of validity payment cannot be made.

82. **Stressed Assets-** Assets of banking company comprises of loans given and investments made by the bank. Quality of the assets indicates how much of the loans taken by the borrowers are repaid in the form of interest and principle. Hence stressed assets = NPA + Restructured Advances + Loan Write off

83. **SWIFT Code-** It is a standard format of the bank identifier code. This code is used particularly in international transfer of money between banks.

84. **Treasury Bills-** It is a short term debt instrument issued by government of India and is presently issued in three tenures i.e. 91 days, 182days and 364 days. Universal Banking is a combination of commercial banking, investment banking, development banking, insurance and many other financial activities. It is a place where all products are available.

85. **Venture Capital -** The term venture capital represents financial investment in highly risky project with the objective of earning a high rate of return.

86. **Wholesale Banking-** Wholesale Banking refers to conducting banking business with industrial and business entities. This includes corporate, trading houses, multinational companies and domestic companies.

87. **Window Dressing-** It is a strategy used by the mutual fund and other portfolio manager near the year or quarter end to improve the appearance of funds performance before presenting to clients.

DIFFERENTIATED BANKS IN INDIA

Under the recommendations of Dr. Nachiket Mor committee new step for the financial inclusion has been taken in the country. As per the recommendations RBI set up the guidelines for the new categories of banks i.e. Payment Banks and Small Finance Banks.

Payments Banks in India

On the recommendations of Dr. Nachiket Mor committee RBI (Reserve Bank of India) grants license for commencement of banking business under section 22(1) of Banking Regulation Act 1949 and registered as a private company under Companies Act. It is a new model of banks which is conceptualized by the RBI (Reserve Bank of India)

The main objective of setting up of payment banks for the purpose of financial inclusion by providing:

- Small saving account
- Payment services

Features of payment banks

- Non finance company entities and existing non bank prepaid instruments issuer may apply for the payments bank
- Minimum capital required for the payment banks is Rs. 100 crore
- Foreign shareholding is allowed to these banks but as per the regulations of FDI (Foreign Direct Investment)
- Payment Banks cannot provide lending services but allowed to distribute financial product such as mutual funds and insurance products.
- The bank must use the term payment bank in its name to differentiate it from other banks.
- 25% of the bank branches of the payment banks must be in unbanked rural areas.

Services provided by the Payment Banks

- Acceptance of deposits (initially restricted to Rs 100,000)
- Payment Banks can provide services like ATM, net banking, debit cards and net banking
- Current and saving accounts can be operated through this bank.

In 2015, RBI (Reserve Bank of India) grants license to the 11 entities out of 41 entities who applied for the license

Following are the 11 entities which are granted license

1. Aditya Birla Nuvo
2. Airtel M Commerce Services
3. Cholamandalam Distribution Services
4. Department of Post
5. FINO Pay Tech
6. National Securities Depository
7. Reliance Industries
8. Sun Pharmaceuticals
9. Paytm
10. Tech Mahindra
11. Vodafone M Pesa

Out of above three have surrendered their licenses i.e. Cholamandalam Distribution Services, Sun Pharmaceuticals and Tech Mahindra. Airtel becomes the first to launched live payments banks in India

Small Finance Banks in India

Small Finance Banks are the banks which are globally known as niche bank. It is registered as a public limited company under the Companies Act 2013. Small Finance banks are licensed under section 22 of the Banking Regulations 1949. The main aim of setting up of these banks is to provide financial inclusion to those sections of economy not being served by the banks.

Features of Small Finance Banks in India

- Existing NBFCs (Non Banking Finance Companies), Micro-finance Companies and Local Area Banks may apply for the small finance banks in India
- Small Finance Banks are established as public limited company in private sector
- Minimum paid up capital for the small finance banks is Rs 100 crore
- Small Finance Banks are required to establish its 25% branches in unbanked areas
- These entities must add the term small finance bank with its name to differentiate it from other banks
- Foreign Shareholding is allowed as per the FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) policy

Services provided by Small Finance Banks

- Small Finance Banks can provide basic banking activities such as deposit and lending of funds (There is no such restriction on the amount of deposit)
- Small Finance Banks can also undertake non-risk sharing simple financial services such as distribution of mutual funds, insurance products and pension products
- In 2015 RBI grants license to 10 entities through which they have to convert into Small Finance Banks within one year.

Following are the entities

1. Ujjavan
2. Janakakshmi
3. Equita
4. AU Financiers
5. Capital LAB
6. Disha
7. ESAF
8. RGVN
9. Suryoday
10. Utkarsh

CHEQUES

A cheque is a negotiable instrument that is used for payments and settlements in India. It is an agreement between two organizations to make payments. Following are the types of the cheque:

➢ **Bearer Cheque -** A cheque which is payable to any person who present it for payment at the bank counter. Such cheques are risky as in case it lost, the finder may collect the payment from the bank.

➢ **Open/ Uncrossed Cheque -** The cheque which is not crossed is known as Open Cheque or Uncrossed Cheque. The payment of such cheques can be obtained on the counter of the bank.

➢ **Crossed Cheque -** Crossing of cheque means drawing two parallel lines on the face of cheque. It cannot be encashed at the cash counter of the bank but it can only credited to payee's account.

➢ **Anti Dated Cheque -** If date mentioned on the cheque is earlier than the date it is presented to bank; it is called anti dated cheque. Anti Dated Cheque is valid up to 3 months. Earlier it was 6 months but now it reduced to 3 months.

> **Post Dated Cheque -** If the cheque bears the any future date in the cheque that is known as Post Dated Cheque. Post dated cheque can be presented only on the future date which is written on the cheque.

> **Stale Cheque -** If the cheque is presented after the 3 months of the date which is mentioned on the cheque is known as stale cheque. After the expiry of validity payment cannot be made.

BASEL NORMS

Basel Norms are the set of recommendations for regulating banking industry in world. Basel Committee on Banking Supervision issued Basel Accords.

Basel committee is named after the Basel city in Switzerland where Bank for International Settlements headquartered

- Recommendations framed by the Basel Committee but by the National law
- Basel committee consists of representatives of central bank and regulatory authority of ten member countries.

Basel Committee has given three Basel Norms named Basel I, Basel II and Basel III:

1. **Basel I**

    Basel I is also known as 1998 Basel Accords. As in 1998 Basel Committee on Banking Supervision published a set of minimum capital requirement of banks with a goal of minimizing capital risk.

    The banks which are operated internationally are required to maintain a minimum amount of 8% on risk weighted assets as per the recommendations of Basel Committee on Banking Supervision. Basel I basically focused on credit risk and appropriate risk weighting of assets.

    India adopted Basel I recommendations in 1991

2. **Basel II**

    It is the second international banking regulatory accord. Basel II is the expanded rules for minimum capital requirement established under Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.

    Basel II accord based on the three pillars: Minimum capital requirement, supervisory review and market discipline.

    - **Minimum Capital Requirement:** it is the first pillar of Basel I accord. Under this regulatory capital is maintained which is calculated for the major components of risk that a bank faces. The risk involved is credit risk, operational risk and market risk.
    - **Supervisory View:** It is the second pillar of Basel II accord. It provides framework for national regulatory bodies to deal with various types of risk such as systematic risk, liquidity risk and legal risk.
    - **Market Discipline:** It provides various disclosure requirement for the bank such as risk exposures, risk assessment process and capital adequacy.

    In India Basel II norms are implemented by Reserve Bank of India on 31 March 2009.

3. **Basel III**

    In late 2009 the first version of Basel accord is published by Basel Committee on Banking Supervision. It aims to promote a more flexible banking system by focusing on four vital banking parameters viz. capital, leverage, funding and liquidity.

    Purpose:

    - To improve banking sector's ability to deal with financial stress
    - To improve risk management
    - To strengthen the bank's transparency

In India Reserve Bank of India has extended the timeline for full implementation of the Basel III capital regulations by the year to 31 March 2019

IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OF INDIA

1) Credit Rating Agencies

Credit rating agency is a company which rates the companies and government on the basis of their ability to pay back the debt in timely manner. There are four credit rating agencies in India:

I. CRISIL (Credit Rating and Information Services of India Ltd.)

- India's first credit rating agency.
- Founded:1987
- Headquarter: Mumbai

II. ICRA (Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency)

- It is an Indian independent and professional investment information agency.
- Founded: 1991
- Headquarter: Gurugram

III. CARE (Credit Analysis & Research Ltd.)

- It is second largest credit rating agency in India.
- Founded:1993
- Headquarter: Mumbai

IV. Onicra Credit Information Company Ltd

- It is a private sector agency set up by Onida finance.
- Established :1993
- Headquarter : Gurugram

2) CIBIL (Credit Information Bureau (India) Ltd.

- India's first credit information company.
- Founded :2000
- Headquarter: Mumbai

3) SEBI (Securities Exchange Board of India)

- SEBI is a regulator of India's securities market.
- Established: 1992
- Headquarter: Mumbai

4) IRDAI (Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India)

It is an autonomous, statutory agency tasked with regulating and promoting the insurance and re-insurance industries in India.

- Founded : 1999
- Headquarter: Hyderabad

5) MUDRA Bank (Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Bank)

It is financial institution which is setup under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojna. It is set up to provide loans at low interest rates to micro finance institutions.

- Headquarter: New Delhi
- Founded: 8 April 2015
- MUDRA can be classified into three types:

- Shishu: under this loans up to Rs 50000 will be provided
- Kishore: under this loans up to Rs 5 lakh will be provided
- Tarun: under this loans up to Rs 10 lakh will be provided

6) **NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India)**

It is the umbrella organization for all retail payment systems in India, which aims to allow all Indian citizens to have unrestricted access to e-payment services.

- Founded: 2008
- Headquarter : Mumbai

7) **NHB (National Housing Bank)**

National Housing Bank is the apex bank in India. It is the wholly owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India.

- Founded: 1988
- Headquarter :New Delhi

8) **SIDBI(Small Industrial Development Bank of India)**

It is the subsidiary of Industrial Development Bank of India. It was set up to promote finance and to develop micro and medium industries of India.

- Established: 1990
- Headquarter: Luckhnow, Uttar Pradesh

BANKS WITH HEADQUARTERS & TAG LINES

Sr. No.	Bank(s)	Headquarter	Tag Line
1	Allahabad Bank	Kolkata	A T radition of T rust
2	Andhra Bank	Hyderabad	Where India Banks
3	Bank of Baroda	Mumbai	India's International Bank
4	Bank of India	Mumbai	Relationship Beyond Banking
5	Bank of Maharashtra	Pu e	One Family O ne B; nk
6	Bharatiya Mahila Bank Ltd	New Delhi	Empowering Women Empowering India
7	Canara Bank	Bangalore	Together We Can
8	Central Bank of India	Mumbai	Central to you Since 1911
9	Corporation Bank	Mangalore	A Premier Public Sector Bank
10	Dena Bank	Mumbai	Trusted Family Bank
11	IDBI Bank	Mumbai	Banking For All, "Aao Sochein Bada"
12	Indian Bank	Chennai	Your Tech- Friendly Bank
13	Indian Overseas Bank	Chennai	Good People to Grow With
14	Oriental Bank of Commerce	New Delhi	Where Every Individual Is Committed
15	Punjab National Bank	New Delhi	The Name You Can Bank Upon
16	Punjab and Sind Bank	New Delhi	Where Service Is A Way Of Life
17	State Bank of India	Mumbai	Bade Bank ke Bade Faayde

18	Syndicate Bank	Karnataka	Faithful Friendly
19	UCO Bank	Kolkata	Honours Your Trust
20	Union Bank of India	Mumbai	Good People to Bank With
21	United Bank of India	Kolkata	The Bank That Begins With "U"
22	Vijaya Bank	Bangalore	A Friend You Can Bank On
23	Bandhan	Kolkata	Hope for The Poor
24	ECGC Bank	Mumbai	You Focus On Exports We Cover The Risks
25	HDFC	Mumbai	We Understand Your World Indeed
26	Axis Bank	Mumbai	Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi
27	ICICI Bank	Mumbai	Hum Hai Na, Khyal Apka
28	HSBC	London	The World's Local Bank
29	IDFC	Mumbai	-

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