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AWARDS & HONOURS

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Additional Information
Nobel Prize for Physics	Arthur Ashkin , Gérard Mourou and Donna Strickland	Ashkin was awarded “for the optical tweezers and their application to biological systems” while Mourou and Strickland were given the honour “for their method of generating high-intensity, ultra-short optical pulses”.
Nobel Prize in Medicine	American scientist James Allison and Japanese researcher Tasuku Honjo	For their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation.
Nobel Prize for Chemistry	Frances Arnold from the US, US’ George Smith and UK’s Gregory Winter.	Arnold was awarded for the directed evolution of enzymes, while Smith and Winter won the accolade for drug research that can neutralise toxins, counteract autoimmune diseases and cure metastatic cancer.
Champions of the Earth	PM Narendra Modi	PM Modi was recognised for his leadership of the International Solar Alliance and pledge to eliminate single-use plastic in India by 2022.
Nobel Peace Prize	Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad	for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict
Nobel Prize for Economics	American economists William D Nordhaus and Paul M Romer	for innovation, climate and economic growth.
Young Achiever Icons Award	Ruhan Rajput	for his work in the industry in a short period of time
Deming Prize	Indus Towers	
Best Sportsperson of the Year	Wrestler Rahul Aware,	Wrestler Rahul Aware, the Commonwealth Games gold medallist, was awarded the Best Sportsperson of the Year award at the annual Sports Journalists’ Association of Mumbai (SJAM) award function.
Future Policy Gold Award	Sikkim	

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New Academy Prize	Maryse Conde	This award was created after the Swedish Academy postponed this year's Nobel prize for literature following a rape scandal.
Social Entrepreneur of the Year	Prema Gopalan	She was awarded for her work in promoting women's entrepreneurship and rural livelihood.
International Olympic committee IOC award	Suheil F. Tandon	He is the Founder of Pro Sports Development (PSD) and Executive Director of Martha Farrell Foundation.
Hridaynath Award	Khayyam	The award consists of a cash prize of Rs 100,000 and a memento. It will be presented by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis at a ceremony on October 26, 2018, in Mumbai.
'Vimala V Pai Vishwa' Konkani best book award	H M Pernal	He has conferred this award for 'Beeg Ani Beegath', a collection of short stories in Konkani.
Man Booker Prize,2018	Northern Irish author Anna Burns	for her novel 'Milkman', which is her third full-length novel.
Wildlife photo award	Arshdeep Singh	He won the award for the picture titled 'Pipe Owls', which showed two spotted owlets sitting inside an old waste-pipe in Punjab's Kapurthala.
Wildlife Photographer Of The Year 2018	Marsel Van Oosten	The powerful image of a pair of golden snub-nosed monkeys seated in contemplation amid iridescent foliage has been awarded one of the most prestigious prizes in photography, the Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018.
US' Presidential Medal	Minal Patel Davis	for her work against sex slavery and labour exploitation at a White House ceremony attended by President Donald Trump.
Carnot Prize	Piyush Goyal	for rural electrification while he held the power and renewable energy portfolios.
Seoul Peace Prize	PM Modi	for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth.

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World Agriculture Prize	M.S.Swaminathan	The award carries a cash component of \$1,00,000.
Miss Deaf Asia 2018	Nishtha Dudeja	
Lal Bahadur Shastri award	Vice President Venkaiah Naidu	for his "integrity and moral uprightness"
UN Investment Promotion Award	Invest India	
UN Human Rights Prize posthumously	Asma Jahangir	Asma Jahangir, late Pakistani human rights activist and lawyer.
INSA Teachers Award	Tezpur University professor Ashis Mukherjee	for the prestigious Indian National Science Academy (INSA) Teachers Award (2018).
Gleitsman Award	Malala Yousafzai	for her work promoting girls' education.
Miss Grand International 2018	Clara Sosa	

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the Person	Name of the Position	Additional Information
Gita Gopinath	IMF Chief Economist	She is also Economic Adviser to Kerala CM.
Vikram Misri	India's next Ambassador to China	He will replace Gautam Bambawale. Misri, a 1989-batch India Foreign Service (IFS) officer, is presently serving as Indian envoy in Myanmar.
Justice Ranjan Gogoi	46th Chief Justice of India	Justice Gogoi succeeds Dipak Misra and is the first CJI from a North Eastern state.
A Vaidheesh	Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) re-elected President	He is working as Vice President, South Asia & Managing Director, in GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals.
Rangachari Sridharan	chairperson of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)	The National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA), an entity which will function as an independent regulator for the auditing profession.
Rita Baranwal	Head the nuclear energy division at the department of energy.	US President Donald Trump has nominated Indian-American woman to head the nuclear energy division at the department of energy.
Rakesh Sharma	IDBI Bank CEO	The government appointed Rakesh Sharma as Managing Director and CEO of IDBI Bank for a period of six months or until further orders.
Brett Kavanaugh	US Supreme Court judge	
Sanjay Verma	Indias Ambassador to Spain	He is currently the Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

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R N Ravi	Deputy National Security Advisor	He will also continue to be the central government's interlocutor for Nagaland.
Sunil Bhaskaran	AirAsia India MD & CEO	
Tushar Mehta	Solicitor General of India	The government has appointed senior advocate Tushar Mehta as the Solicitor General of India till June 2020.
Lt Gen Asim Munir	Pakistan ISI chief	Mr. Munir, who previously served as the head of the Military Intelligence, was recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General by the Army Promotion Board.
Pravin Srivastava	India's 3rd Chief Statistician	Srivastava's tenure will be till August 31, 2020.
Jackie Doyle Price	Suicide Prevention Minister in UK	
Milind Pant	Amway CEO	
Sajeev Rajasekharan	Harley-Davidson' new MD	
Shekhar Mande	Director-General of CSIR	He is currently a director at the National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune.
Priyank Kanoongo	chairperson of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)	
Sandeep Bakhshi	ICICI Bank MD, CEO	
SS Mundra	BankBazaar , advisor	
Nimesh Shah	AMFI Chairman	He replaced A Balasubramanian, CEO of Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund.
Arundhati Bhattacharya	Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries , Independent director	
Sajjan Jindal	Treasurer of World Steel Association	The association has also appointed Tata Steel MD TV Narendran and ArcelorMittal Chief LN Mittal as its members.
S. Mathur	IRDA panel head	to examine claims in installments.
Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa	New Government in Bhutan	
Paul Biya	Cameroon's President	
Satish Kumar Gupta	Paytm Payments Bank , MD,CEO	
Sahle-Work Zewde	Ethiopia, President	
Neil Chatterjee	US energy regulator head	US President Donald Trump has appointed Neil Chatterjee as the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
Saurabh Kumar	Indias next Ambassador to Myanmar	At present, he is the Ambassador of India to Iran.

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IRS officer Sanjay Mishra	Interim Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED)	
Jair Bolsonaro	President of Brazil	
Aditya Puri	HDFC Bank CEO	

BANKING & FINANCE

State Bank of India reduces ATM withdrawal limit

State Bank of India slashed the daily withdrawal limit on its classic debit card from Rs 40,000 to Rs 20,000. There is no change in the daily withdrawal limits on other cards. The new limit will be effective from October 31st 2018.

SIDBI Launched National Level Entrepreneurship Awareness Campaign 'Udyam Abhilasha'

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) launched a National Level Entrepreneurship Awareness Campaign, Udyam Abhilasha in 115 Aspirational Districts identified by NITI Aayog in 28 States and reaching to around 15,000 youth. They will join to contribute "the transformation mission" unleashed for these districts.

India and ADB sign \$240 Million Loan for Safe Drinking Water Service for West Bengal

The Indian Government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed \$240 million loans for providing safe and sustainable drinking water to about 1.65 million people in three districts of the state of West Bengal affected by arsenic, fluoride, and salinity.

The signatories to the West Bengal Drinking Water Sector Improvement Project were Sameer Kumar Khare, Additional Secretary (Fund Bank and ADB), Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance; and Kenichi Yokoyama, Country Director of ADB India Resident Mission.

India and ADB sign \$ 150 Million Loan Agreement to Support India's First Global Skills Park

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$150 million Loan Agreement in New Delhi to establish a Global Skills Park (GSP) in Madhya Pradesh, the First Multi-Skills Park in India, to enhance the quality of Technical and Vocational Education And Training (TVET) System in the State and create a more skilled workforce.

IRDAI gave final approval to Reliance Health Insurance to start operations

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Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) approved Reliance Health Insurance, a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Capital, to begin operations. It will commence operations by December 2018.

India and ADB Signs \$110 Million loan to improve Rural Connectivity in MP

The government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$110 million loan to finance the upgrade of 2,800 kilometres all-weather rural roads in the State of Madhya Pradesh under the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Program (PMGSY).

Pakistan Test-Fires Nuclear-Capable Ghauri Ballistic Missile

The country successfully test-fired Ghauri ballistic missile capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads up to a distance of 1,300 kilometers. The launch was conducted by Army Strategic Forces Command

SBI signed MoU with Nepals National Banking Institute for human resource development

State Bank of India signed a 3 year MOU with Kathmandu-based National Banking Institute (NBI) for development of human resources.

SBI may block Internet banking if mobile number not linked

India's largest lender SBI has asked users to register mobile numbers with the bank by December 1, failing which their access to Internet banking accounts may be blocked.

RBI approved NBFC license for Kreditech

RBI approved the license for Kreditech, the Germany-based company to operate as a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) licence for digital lending business and app-based financing.

State Bank of India launches Wealth Hub in Mangalore

The nation's largest bank, State Bank of India launched its wealth business services by opening "SBI Wealth Hub" at the Lalbagh branch here. The wealth hub was inaugurated by SBI Chairman Rajnish Kumar.

Paytm forays into Japan with wallet service 'PayPay'

Paytm has forayed into the Japanese market for the first time with its wallet service 'PayPay'. The service, which is a joint venture with SoftBank and Yahoo Japan, enables users to transfer money from a bank

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account to their PayPay wallet and make payments with it. PayPay is based on Paytm's QR technology which has also been deployed in India.

RBI lifts ban on Fino Payments Bank to open new accounts

Fino Payments Bank, one of India's first payments banks, has been allowed to open new accounts by RBI after it submitted a compliance report. It had been barred by the central bank from adding new customers since the end of May. An RBI audit revealed that some Fino accounts had deposits in excess of the stipulated amount of Rs.1 lakh.

PNB Metlife unveiled an app named Khushi

PNB Metlife, a Life insurer, unveiled an app named 'Khushi'. The app is an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered customer service. The app is designed to be a one-stop shop providing insurance-related information, anytime, anywhere.

IDFC Bank to be renamed as IDFC First Bank

IDFC Bank has proposed to change its name to 'IDFC First Bank Ltd' in the wake of its amalgamation with the non-banking financial company Capital First. The decision was taken during the meeting of the Board of Directors of IDFC Bank.

INDIANS AFFAIRS

Reserve Bank of India bars Bandhan Bank from opening new branches

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) barred Bandhan Bank from opening new branches and also ordered freezing of the bank's CEO salary over failure to stick to shareholding rules.

The Bank was not able to bring down the shareholding of Non-Operative Financial Holding Company (NOFHC) to 40% as required under the licensing condition, general permission to open new branches stands withdrawn.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Parakram Parv Exhibition in Jodhpur

Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State for Defence Subhash Bhamre, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and commanders of all three wings of Indian armed forces are also participating in the conference.

Petroleum Minister Launches SATAT Initiative

Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship launched an innovative initiative titled SATAT (Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation). This initiative would benefit both vehicle-users as well as farmers and entrepreneurs.

Cabinet approves big hike in MSP for Rabi crops

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs enhanced MSP for Rabi Crops of the current season. MSP for Wheat has been increased by 105 rupees to 1840 rupees per quintal.

This is 112.5 percent above the cost of production of 866 rupees per quintal. Barley will earn an MSP of 1440 per quintal for farmers, up 30 rupees, which is 67.4% above the cost of 860 per quintal.

Gram brings in an MSP of Rs. 4620 per quintal, up 220 rupees, yielding a 75.2 percent return on cost of Rs. 2637. Similarly MSP of masur is up 225 rupees per quintal at 4475 giving a return of 76.7percent on 2532 rupees cost. The new rates will encourage farmers to produce and earn more.

Odisha government launched own food security scheme

Odisha government launched its own food security scheme on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the scheme at four different districts through video conferencing from the State Secretariat, Bhubaneswar. This scheme will benefit 25 lakh people who were left out of the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

The beneficiaries will get 5 kg of rice per person per month at the rate of Rs.1 per kg. The State government will spend Rs.443.5 crore per annum to support the scheme and Rs. 221.75 crore in the current financial year. This move is after the refusal of the Centre to its request to add additional beneficiaries under the NFSA.

India ranked 5th in pictorial warnings on cigarette packets: Canadian Cancer Society

According to a report released by the Canadian Cancer Society named Cigarette Package Health Warning International Status Report 2018, India ranked 5th among 206 countries.

This was released in Geneva at the 8th session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC). There are now 55 countries/jurisdictions that require at least 65 per cent (on average) of the package, front and back, be covered with a warning.

Mukesh Ambani tops Forbes richest Indians' list for 11th year

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Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped Forbes India's 100 Richest People list for the 11th straight year with a net worth of \$47.3 billion. He is the biggest gainer on the list this year, adding \$9.3 billion to his net worth amid Reliance Jio's success. However, he saw a \$15.3 billion rise in his wealth in 2017.

18-year-old Shaw youngest Indian to score century on Test debut

Prithvi Shaw has become the youngest Indian to score a century on Test debut, achieving the feat aged 18 years and 329 days against Windies in Rajkot. Shaw broke the 59-year-old record set by AA Baig (20 years and 126 days). Shaw is only the second Indian after Sachin Tendulkar to score a Test ton before turning 19.

Project Utkrisht launched by Indian Railways

Indian Railways launched its Project 'Utkrisht' to upgrade 140 rakes of Mail/Express trains in the first phase.

The main aim of the project aims to do the following:

- Installing 'Swachh Rail Toilet',
- Fitting of energy-efficient LED lights – in the main interior, doorway, gangway and inside toilets,
- Braille signage & night glow stickers,
- LED panel photo frame in first AC coaches, new types of bottle holders, big side mirrors,
- Anti-graffiti vinyl wrapping in the gangway area,
- New types of fire extinguishers.

Centre to introduce facial recognition technology at airports in February

The Centre is set to introduce facial recognition technology under the "Digi Yatra" scheme at the Hyderabad and Bengaluru airports in February 2019.

The passengers should initially register themselves on a web portal by providing identity proof. After registration, the passengers would be required to undergo a one-time verification at an airport so that the individual's facial identity would be captured and mapped onto a newly created "Digi Yatra" profile. Once the profile is created a distinct identification number will be generated. This number should be used at the time of purchasing an air ticket, to avail the paperless access facility

DST boosts solar cooking

In order to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) introduced a project to boost the solar cooking.

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The government has been encouraging the use of solar cookers. Financial incentives of 30% of the cost of the solar cooker all over the country and 60% to special category States (hilly and northeastern States) are already in place.

NMCG Partnered with TSAF to Launch Mission Gange

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) partnered with Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF) to launch a month-long rafting expedition of a team of 40 members which will be led by the first Indian woman to scale Mount Everest Ms. Bachendri Pal. The meeting will conclude in Patna.

DRDO employee arrested for leaking BrahMos missile secrets to Pakistan

A man employed with Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was arrested on suspicion of leaking sensitive details about the BrahMos cruise missile to Pakistan. The man, identified as Nishant Agarwal, was detained from Nagpur in a joint operation by UP Anti-Terrorism Squad and Military Intelligence. He was employed at a BrahMos production centre near Nagpur since last four years.

Government panel to probe big discounts by Amazon, Flipkart

The government is probing the Competition Act 2002 to check if the big discounts offered by online retailers like Amazon, Flipkart promote competition. A 10-member panel has been set up by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) for the same. The competition law review panel will be chaired by corporate affairs secretary, Injeti Srinivas.

IMF estimates growth rate of India as 7.3 percent this year

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) said that India has been estimated to grow at 7.3% in 2018 and 7.4% in 2019. This is to regain the tag of the world's fastest-growing major economy 2018, surpassing China with more than 0.7% points. In 2017, India had clocked a 6.7% growth rate.

IIT-Madras signs MoU with Tamil Nadu E-Governance Agency

IIT-Madras signed an agreement with Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) to enhance data-driven governance.

The Robert Bosch Centre for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (RBC DSAI) at IIT-Madras agreed to support the State government on various data science and ICT-related challenges.

Mahesh Reddy Takes Over as PHDCCI Secretary-General

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PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) announced that Mahesh Y Reddy taken over as its Secretary General with immediate effect.

President of India Inaugurates 29th Accountants General Conference

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the 29th Accountants General Conference at the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) building, at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, in New Delhi.

The theme of this year's conference is: "Auditing and Accounting in a Digital Era".

India ranked 147th in Oxfam world inequality index

The United Kingdom-based charity 'Oxfam International's report named 'Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index was released.

Out of 157 countries, Denmark topped the list based on its high and progressive taxation, high social spending and good protection of workers. Ranking at 11th, Japan became the topper among the Asian countries

Sikkim has been nominated for UN FAO Future Policy Award

Sikkim has become the pioneer in organic farming. This achievement has made it world's first totally organic agriculture State in India. UNFAO has shortlisted Sikkim for the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) Future Policy Award.

Activist GD Agrawal dies on 112th day of fast to clean Ganga

Environmentalist GD Agrawal, who was on 'fast unto death' since June 22 to urge the government to clean river Ganga, passed away aged 86 due to heart attack at AIIMS Rishikesh.

India remains polio-free, vaccine safe: UNICEF, WHO

The UNICEF and the WHO reiterated India's status as a polio-free country after some oral polio vaccine vials were found contaminated with the type-2 polio virus

India ranks 115 in Human Capital Index; govt rejects report

The government has rejected the findings of the World Bank's first-ever Human Capital Index report, which ranked India at 115 out of 157 countries, lower than Nepal, Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Shashi Tharoor introduces his book The Paradoxical Prime Minister and 29-letter word Floccinaucinihilipilification

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor introduced his new book "The Paradoxical Prime Minister" and a 29-letter word "floccinaucinihilipilification".

India ranks 147th in Oxfam World Inequality Index 2018

Oxfam International's report, the UK-based charity, released Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index. In the Index, India ranked 147th among 157 countries and was labelled as "a very worrying situation" with respect to the rising inequality in the country.

Coal India Signs MoU With NLC For 5000 MW Power Generation

Coal India Ltd. (CIL) is to jointly set up with NLC India (NLCIL), formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation, for 5000 MW of power generation capacity of which 3000 MW would be solar powered while the rest 2000 MW would be coal-fuelled.

Union Government sanctions 5 new battalions of Rapid Action Force (RAF)

Five new battalions of Rapid Action Force (RAF) were sanctioned by the central government in January 2018 and their new bases have been sanctioned now.

The 5 new Rapid Action Force (RAF) battalions will be based in:

1. Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh
2. Jaipur in Rajasthan
3. Mangalore in Karnataka
4. Hajipur in Bihar
5. Nuh in Haryana

First India-Israel Innovation Centre Opens in Bengaluru

The India-Israel Innovation Centre (IIIC) is a significant step towards facilitating penetration of Israeli companies in India. The main aim is to forge local partnerships and joint ventures between companies from the two countries.

Lupin launched Clobetasol Propionate in US market

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Lupin, Drug firm major, has launched generic Clobetasol Propionate ointment in the U.S. market. This is used to treat inflammation and itching caused by a number of skin conditions.

World Bank Human Capital Index: Singapore Tops, India Ranks 115th

World Bank released the Human Capital Index (HCI) as part of the World Development Report 2019. Broader theme of the World Development Report (WDR) this year is “The Changing Nature of Work”.

India wins seat to UN Human Rights Council with highest votes

India was elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council on Friday for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019.

Classical musician Annapurna Devi passes away aged 91

Hindustani classical musician Annapurna Devi passed away at the age of 91 after suffering from age-related illnesses.

North, South Korea agree to reconnect roads, rail

North and South Korea have agreed to begin reconnecting rail and road links that have been cut since the 1950-53 Korean War.

New Delhi to host 6th India International Silk Fair

Smriti Zubin Irani, will inaugurate the 6th edition of India International Silk Fair (IISF) in New Delhi on October 16, 2018. The International Silk fair will be organized by the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC) at Pragati Maidan.

Rima Hooja authored Maharana Pratap: The Invincible Warrior

A new book on Maharana Pratap named “Maharana Pratap: The Invincible Warrior” authored by historian Rima Hooja released.

Kamal Haasan launched a safety app named Raudram

Kamal Haasan, Makkal Needhi Maiam (MNM) founder, launched a safety app named ‘Raudram’. The app aimed at ensuring the safety of women in the city. The launch function held at Sri Sairam Engineering College. One can store three contact numbers upon registration in the app.

Union Minister MJ Akbar resigns amid sexual harassment allegations

Former editor MJ Akbar has resigned from his post of Minister of State for External Affairs amid sexual harassment allegations against him by over sixteen female journalists.

India's first cryptocurrency ATM installed in Bengaluru

An ATM for deposit and withdrawal of money for cryptocurrencies has been installed in Bengaluru's Kemp Fort Mall by virtual currency exchange Unocoin. Users can deposit money to buy currencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum using an OTP received on their registered numbers. In order to withdraw money, a request has to be first made on the Unocoin website.

Indian Railways to build world's highest rail network in Leh

Indian Railways has started the work to construct Bilaspur-Manali-Leh railway line, which will be the world's highest rail network at 5,360 metres above the sea level. The 465-km railway line will have 30 stations and is estimated to cost ₹83,360 crore. The line is expected to help the armed forces and boost tourism in the region.

4 Himalayan peaks named after late PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Four peaks of the Himalayan range near Gangotri glacier have been named after three-time PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee who passed away in August. A team of mountaineers recently scaled the peaks and hoisted the Tricolour on them. Earlier, Uttarakhand Tourism Minister Satpal Maharaj had said the idea to name them after Vajpayee came in view of his love for mountains.

India ranked 9th most valuable nation brand at \$2,159 billion

India has lost one spot to rank as the 9th most valuable nation brand in the world, according to UK-based consultancy Brand Finance's Nation Brands 2018 report. However, India's brand value increased by 5% to \$2,159 billion. The US topped the list with a brand value of \$25,899 billion, an increase of 23% from the previous year.

Ronaldo first to score 400 goals in top 5 European leagues

Juventus' Cristiano Ronaldo became the first player to score 400 goals across the top-five European football leagues after he got on the scoresheet in his side's match against Genoa.

Himachal govt considers renaming Shimla to 'Shyamala'

Days after Uttar Pradesh government renamed Allahabad to Prayagraj, Himachal Pradesh government is considering renaming its capital Shimla to 'Shyamala'. "Before the British arrived, Shimla was known as Shyamala.

Mumbai defeat Gambhir-led Delhi to clinch 3rd Vijay Hazare title

Shreyas Iyer-led Mumbai defeated Gautam Gambhir-led Delhi by four wickets in the Vijay Hazare Trophy final to win the tournament for the third time. Mumbai had last won Vijay Hazare Trophy in the 2006-07 season, after defeating Rajasthan in the final.

India jumps 5 spots to 58 on Global Competitiveness Index

India has moved up 5 places to rank 58 out of 140 economies in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Competitiveness Index 2018. India registered the largest gain of any country in the G20. India leads the South Asia region in all other areas of competitiveness except for health, education and skills

India to host 4th edition of Global Partners' Forum in December

India will host the fourth edition of Global Partners' Forum on 12th and 13th December 2018 in New Delhi. The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH) will unite over 100 countries' representatives to discuss issues, strategies and solutions to women's, children's and adolescents' health. It will be co-hosted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and PMNCH

India imposes anti-dumping duty on certain steel products from China

The revenue department has imposed the duty based on the recommendations of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR).

Air India gets equity infusion of Rs 1,000 crore from NSSF : Union Government

Air India raised Rs 3,000 crore so far which includes Rs 1,000 crore to the airline from the National Small Savings Fund (NSSF) on behalf of the government. Another Rs 500 crore will be raised by the airline through a loan from the unused sovereign guarantee. It is a part of the Rs 4,200 crore debt of AI to oil companies.

India to host global meet on maternal, child health in December: UNICEF

India would be the global host for a meet of stakeholders from nearly 100 countries on issues related to maternal and child health, the UNICEF has said. The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

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forum will emphasise the importance of people-centred accountability bringing forward the voices and lived realities of women, children and adolescents through innovative programming and creative projects.

PM Modi inaugurates police memorial, museum in Delhi

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated and dedicated to the nation a newly-refurbished national police memorial and a newly-built police museum in Delhi. A 30-foot-tall and 238-tonne heavy black granite sculpture honouring the slain troopers and a wall of valour bearing the names of over 34,800 martyred personnel were also unveiled during the event.

National award in Netaji's name announced for rescue workers

PM Modi's announcement came on the 75th anniversary of the Azad Hind government constituted by Bose. The award will be announced on January 23, on Bose's birthday.

Statistician Vijayan Bala comes up with new book

Veteran commentator and cricket statistician Vijayan Bala has come up with his new book "Indian Sports: Conversations and Reflections", a compilation of interviews of eminent sportspersons he has conducted since 1971.

India's longest river bridge to be built on Brahmaputra river in Assam

India's longest river bridge will be built across the Brahmaputra, connecting Dhubri in Assam To Phulbari in Meghalaya, by 2026-27. It will be a 19.3 km, a four-lane bridge that will cut road travel by 203 km. The new bridge will complete the missing link of NH127B from Assam to Meghalaya.

The bridge will also improve connectivity from West Bengal to Assam. For the project, the National Highways and Industrial Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), recently reached out to global players in France.

JNU signs MoU with Skymet for climate research

The Special Centre for Disaster Research (SCDR) at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) is to sign a pact with Skymet Weather Services Pvt. Limited. The aim is to help the centre obtain weather data for undertaking cutting-edge research in the field of hydro-meteorological disasters risk mitigation.

Larsen & Toubro ranks 22 in Forbes global 2000 best employers list

Construction major Larsen & Toubro (L&T) is the only Indian company to find a spot among the top 25 companies in Forbes' global 2,000 best employers list. The Mumbai-headquartered firm bagged the 22nd spot on the list that is led for the second consecutive year by Google parent company, Alphabet.

Telugu fastest growing language in US: Study

Telugu is the fastest growing language in the US, a study by US-based Centre for Immigration Studies claimed.

'Padmaavat' officially selected at 2018 Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival

Sanjay Leela Bhansali's magnum opus "Padmaavat" has been officially selected for Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival this year. Actors Deepika Padukone, Shahid Kapoor and Ranveer Singh featured in the movie, which was 2018's first blockbuster.

Tea Board of India to launch an app named Chai Sahay

Tea Board of India is planning to launch an app aimed at guiding small growers, whose share in total tea production is increasing. The proposed name of the app is Chai Sahay (tea help). The main objective is to establish better two-way communication, that is, between the manufacturer and customers.

PM Modi launches 'Main Nahin Hum' app for IT professionals

PM Narendra Modi launched a 'Main Nahin Hum' portal and app, which will enable IT professionals and organisations to bring together their efforts towards social causes and service to society on one platform. The portal, based on the theme 'Self4Society', is expected to generate wider participation of interested people motivated to work for the benefit of society.

SC bans sale of Bharat Stage IV vehicles from April 2020

The Supreme Court has banned the sale and registration of Bharat Stage IV vehicles from April 1, 2020.

Cabinet approves NIF monitoring framework for Sustainable Development Goals

The Union Cabinet has approved the constitution of a high-level steering committee for reviewing and refining the National Indicator Framework (NIF) for monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with associated targets.

Centre launched two schemes, IMPRESS and SPARC

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The Centre, the Ministry of Human Resource Development, launched two schemes, Impactful Policy Research in Social Sciences (IMPRESS) and Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC). The aim is to promote higher education research in India.

India Becomes Second Largest Solar Market: MERCOM

India installed 4.9 GW of solar power, consolidating its position as the second largest solar market in the world, during the first half of the calendar year 2018 according to a report by Mercom Communications India. According to the report, China topped the list.

India most outward migrants in 2017 according to ADB report

The number of international migrants was topped by India, followed by China and Bangladesh. One-third of international migrants were from Asia in 2017.

India had the most outward migrants in 2017 (17 million), followed by China (10 million) and Bangladesh (7.5 million).

Anupam Kher resigns as FTII chairman over commitment to US TV show

Actor Anupam Kher has resigned as Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) chairman citing his commitment to a TV show for which he has to be stationed in the US.

PM Modi unveils world's tallest statue measuring 600ft in Gujarat

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's memorial on the leader's 143rd birth anniversary in Gujarat's Narmada district. Called the Statue of Unity, the bronze sculpture is the world's tallest statue measuring 600 feet (182m) and overshadows China's Spring Temple Buddha (153m) and USA's Statue of Liberty (93m). The memorial was constructed in 33 months at ₹2,989 crore.

Gujarat First Mega Food Park Inaugurated In Surat

Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated the first Mega Food Park in Gujarat. It is located at Village Shah and Vasravi, Taluka Mangrol, District Surat. A 2nd Mega Food Park has been sanctioned by the Ministry in Mehsana District of Gujarat.

IIT Kharagpur organises Young Innovators Programme

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Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur organised the final round of 'Young Innovators Programme 2018', a competition for class 8-10 students, at its campus on October 27 and 28.

STATE RELATED CURRENT AFFAIRS

Assam, 1st state to launch Wage Compensation Scheme for Pregnant Women in tea gardens

The scheme will be launched by Assam Chief Minister Sarbanand Sonowal in Guwahati. The announcement was made by the state's Health and Finance Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 12,000 will be given to the pregnant women so that they can take care of themselves and the unborn baby.

Maharashtra tops list of States with Maximum Average AUM: AMFI

According to Association of Mutual Funds of India's (AMFI) statistics, Maharashtra tops the chart for state with the maximum penetration and Assets Under Management (AUM). As per August, average assets under management (AUM) of mutual funds rose to an all-time high of Rs 25.2 lakh crore across the country.

Asiatic lions of Gir reserve faces tough challenge

Asiatic lions of Gir are facing a tough challenge in Gujarat. It appears that Canine Distemper Virus has taken the life of some of the lions that died mysteriously in last one month. According to forest experts this disease spreads to Lion when they eat cats and dogs affected with the deadly virus. Gujarat government is also importing a specific vaccine from USA to deal with the emergency.

Combination of virus, infection killed 11 lions in Gir Forest

A combination of the Canine Distemper Virus and Protozoal infection is responsible for the death of at least 11 of the 23 Asiatic lions that have died in Gujarat's Gir forest since September 12. The government added that it has launched operations to ensure that the infection does not spread.

India Chem 2018 Conference begins in Mumbai

India Chem 2018, the 10th Biennial International Exhibition & Conference began in Mumbai. The largest event of Chemicals and Petrochemical Industry in India will continue till 6 October. Union Road, Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the conference.

Indian International Science Festival begins in Lucknow

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A four-day Indian International Science Festival 2018 will start in Lucknow from October 05, 2018. President Ramnath Kovind will formally inaugurate the festival. Union Science and Technology Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said about ten thousand scientists and experts, including science teachers and students will participate in the event.

Cabinet approved for Mental Health Institute in Madhya Pradesh

The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of the National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) in Sehore district, Madhya Pradesh.

The NIMHR at Madhya Pradesh will be the first of its kind in India in the area of mental health rehabilitation. The institute will also serve as recommending body suggesting models and protocols for effective rehabilitation of persons with mental illness.

National Khadi Festival 2018 held in Mumbai

The National Khadi Festival 2018 is being organised by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to promote Khadi products.

The festival was inaugurated by Union Minister for Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, Giriraj Singh in Mumbai on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti 2018. The main aim of the festival is to promote the products of cottage industry and create awareness regarding the art of states.

Haryana MDU declared Cleanest Government University by HRD Ministry

Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar announced the “Swachh Campus rankings” under various categories.

The rankings are decided on the basis of a survey under the ‘Swachhta Hi Sewa’ campaign. “Swachh Campus rankings” under various categories are listed below:

Cleanest ‘Government Universities’:

1. Maharishi Dayanand University, Haryana.
2. Guru Nanak Dev University in Amritsar, Punjab.
3. Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), New Delhi.

Cleanest Residential Campuses of 'Private Universities':

1. Symbiosis International University, Pune.
2. OP Jindal Global University in Sonapat.
3. KLE Academy of Higher Education and Research in Belagavi.

Indian International Science Festival Begins In Lucknow

Indian International Science Festival (IISF) 2018 will start in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

President Ramnath Kovind will formally inaugurate the festival. IISF-2018 with its focal theme "Science for Transformation" will have 23 special events.

India Chem 2018 Conference begins in Mumbai

India Chem 2018, the 10th Biennial International Exhibition & Conference began in Mumbai. The largest event of Chemicals and Petrochemical Industry in India is a two-day event.

GI Tag For Alphonso Mango from Konkan

Alphonso Mango from Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg and other adjoining areas in Maharashtra, finally gets a Geographical Indication (GI) Tag. A Geographical Indication or a GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.

Zydus Cadila gets approval from USFDA for breast cancer drug

Zydus Cadila, the major drug firm, has received the final approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) to market Exemestane tablets. The drug will be used for the treatment of breast cancer. The drug is made in the strength of 25 mg. The company will manufacture the drug at its group's formulations SEZ facility in Ahmedabad.

Nirman Kusuma programme launched by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik

The main objective is to provide financial assistance for technical education to children of construction workers. The total cost of the project is around Rs. 1.09 crore that has been deposited to the accounts of the beneficiaries.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates first Uttarakhand Investors Summit in Dehradun

PM Modi participated in the two-day event to explore investment opportunities in the hill state in 12 major sectors, including tourism and hospitality. A large number of leading business firms and industrial houses are likely to participate in the two-day event in the state.

Maharashtra launches website and app Maha madat to analyze drought situation

The main aim of the Website app to help in the accurate analysis of the drought-like situation in villages of the state. The website has been created by the Relief and Rehabilitation Ministry with the help of the Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC).

Cyclone Titli hits Odisha at 150 kmph; flights, trains cancelled

Cyclone Titli has hit the Odisha-Andhra Pradesh coast, bringing heavy rains and winds at 140-150 kmph.

Arunachal Pradesh launches two agri schemes

Arunachal Pradesh Agriculture Minister Dr. Mohesh Chai launched Chief Minister's Sashakt Kisan Yojana (CMSKY) and the Chief Minister's Krishi Samuh Yojana (CMKSY) schemes. The schemes are to support the farmers to increase production and their income. The schemes are to fulfil the vision of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to double farmer's income by 2022.

Jharkhand, the partner state at Goa International Film Festival 2018.

Jharkhand announced to be the partner state in Goa International Film Festival 2018 which will be held on 20th to 28th of November, 2018. The decision was taken in meeting between Secretary of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Mr. Amit Khare and Chief Secretary of Jharkhand, Sudhir Tripathy at Ranchi.

Gujarat Government vaccination of Gir lions against deadly Canine Distemper Virus CDV

Gujarat Forest Department started the vaccination of lions in the Gir Forest National Park to protect them from deadly Canine Distemper Virus (CDV).

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu to visit to inaugurate newly built annex of High Court Building

Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu will visit Allahabad to inaugurate the newly built annex of the High Court Building. After this programme. He will inaugurate the Twenty Year celebrations of the Indian Institute of Information Technology popularly known as Triple IT Allahabad.

Himachal to get India's 1st railway station inside tunnel

A railway station will be built inside a tunnel at a height of 3,000 metres on the strategic Bilaspur-Manali-Leh line, an official said. The Keylong station in Himachal Pradesh will be the first on the railway network to be inside a tunnel.

UP Governor approves renaming of Allahabad as Prayagraj

Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik has approved the renaming of Allahabad as Prayagraj with immediate effect. CM Yogi Adityanath recently defended the decision to change the name, saying that people who are ignorant of facts are questioning the renaming.

Kati Bihu festival celebrated across Assam

Assam celebrated its 3rd Bihu festival known as the 'Kati Bihu' festival across the state. The name of the other 2 Bihu festivals is: Rongali and Bohagi Bihu. The festival derives its name from the Assamese month of Kati.

Kerala the first smoke-free State to have 100% LPG

The revenue department has imposed the duty based on the recommendations of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR).

Government to set up National Sports Stadium for differently-abled in Meghalaya

The Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot announced that a stadium of international standard for differently-abled persons will be set up in Meghalaya.

Punjab banned use of glyphosate herbicide

According to Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), the systemic herbicide is a group 2A cancer-causing material and has the potential to damage the human DNA.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Canada, US confirm new trade deal to replace NAFTA

The US and Canada confirmed they had reached a deal, alongside Mexico, on a "new, modernised trade agreement", which is designed to replace the 1994 NAFTA pact.

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The two nations said the new deal would be called the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). The US administration had set Sunday as a deadline for Canada to strike a deal.

Modi and Putin to discuss S400, Kamov at the summit in New Delhi

Before the bilateral summit that is to be held in the first week of October between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin, the discussions are still underway between the two sides to conclude a final deal for 200 Kamov-226T utility helicopters.

India and Russia have already concluded an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for 200 helicopters estimated to cost over \$1 billion. Under the deal, 60 helicopters will be imported from Russia and at least another 140 will be built in India by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) with technology transfer. As part of this, a joint venture was set up in India which will build the helicopters.

India is to gift three MiG-21 fighter jets to Russia

India is to gift three MiG-21 fighter jets to Russia. Russian President Vladimir Putin is to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on October 4 and 5 for the annual summit. The handing over of 3 MiG-21s is based on a request from Russian Defence Minister to Indian Defence Minister. The gifts comprise of one Type 75 aircraft and two Type 77 aircraft.

This is a major symbolic gesture to showcase the all-weather friendship and deep strategic partnership between India and Russia, which has been put to test in recent times due to changing geopolitical conditions.

Indian Railways partners with Google to launch Rail Heritage Digitisation Project

The Railway minister Shri Piyush Goyal launched the project through video conferencing in Delhi. The main aim is to showcase India's rail heritage to the national and international audience in an online storytelling platform.

India, Uzbekistan join hands for developing ICT Sector

Minister for Electronics & Information Technology, Ravi Shankar Prasad and his counterpart Shuhrat Sadikov was held for strengthening the ICT sector.

Union IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad assured his counterpart that India will provide all possible technical support from the Indian side in the digital growth of Uzbekistan.

Goa And Portugal inks MoU for Water and Sewage Management

The MoU between the Portuguese Environment Ministry and Goa Public Works Department (PWD) was signed. It will help Goa manage its water resources better.

The projects would include:

1. Opa water supply project in north Goa,
2. The sewage water treatment plant in Valpoi and
3. Manganese-removal efforts in Selaulim Reservoir.

India and Uzbekistan signed 17 Agreements and MoUs

The agreements were signed in the field of law, tourism, military education, agriculture, science and technology, commerce and industry, pharmaceutical, national security and illicit trafficking.

Russian Prez Vladimir Putin arrives in India for 2-day visit

Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in India for a two-day visit and was received by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj. The visit is likely to focus on the two countries signing a \$5-billion deal for India to procure Russia's most advanced S-400 long-range surface-to-air missile defence system. Putin and PM Narendra Modi will also discuss key global issues.

India officially handed over seven Rohingya men to Myanmar authorities

Seven Rohingya Muslim men who were arrested in 2012 for illegally entering Assam were officially handed over to Myanmar authorities. As the Supreme Court rejected the plea to intervene in the case, the deportation happened from the immigration point at Manipur's border town Moreh.

India and Russia signed S 400 missile deal after summit

India and Russia after the annual summit concluded the contract for five S-400 'Triumph' missile systems. The deal is one of the biggest defence deals in recent times.

It is expected that the deliveries of S-400 will begin in 24 months, at the end of 2020. The agreement for the estimated \$5.43 billion (Rs.40,300 crores) S-400 system was not referred to by either leader.

Coast Guards Of India, Vietnam Hold Joint Exercise Sahyog HOP TAC-2018

A Vietnam Coast Guard ship, on its maiden visit to Chennai, undertook joint exercises with the Indian Coast Guard 'Sahyog HOP TAC-2018', off the city coast aimed at strengthening the working level relationship between them.

India, Kazakhstan agree to step up military cooperation, especially in defence production

Raksha Mantri Nirmala Sitharaman was on a three-day visit to Astana, Kazakhstan at the invitation of Minister of Defence of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr Nurlan Yermekbayev.

India can be hit by 2015-like heatwave that killed 2,500: UN

India could be hit by a 2015-like heatwave, which killed 2,500 people, if global warming increases by 2°C over pre-industrial levels, according to a UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report. It specifically mentions Kolkata among cities that face higher threat of heatwaves.

Indian Navy begins bilateral exercise with Japan after 5 yrs

The Indian Navy began the third edition of JIMEX, a nine-day bilateral maritime exercise with Japan, after a gap of five years. The exercise is aimed at improving understanding and imbibing the best practices of each other, the Navy said. The exercise, being held in Visakhapatnam, shows an "upswing" in defence relations between the two nations, it added.

Passport, Voter ID must for Indians to visit Bhutan from 2019

From January 1 2019, Indian tourists travelling to Bhutan via road will need either a voter ID or a valid passport to enter the country, while the accompanying children can also travel with a birth certificate.

Nepal bags tourism awards at 14th Annual Travel Awards ceremony held in New Delhi

The 14th Hospitality India and Explore the World Annual International Travel Awards 2018 held in New Delhi. The award ceremony was organized to honor the best-in-class in the field of Tourism and Hospitality Industry Sector in India and Nepal.

Indian Railways signed agreements with Government of Russian Federation

The MoC intends to carry forward the activities taken up under the MoU signed between the two countries on 24th December 2015. A MoU was signed between Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Transport of Russian Federation for development of cooperation in transport education.

India And Azerbaijan agree to enhance Bilateral Trade Relations

The two countries signed a protocol on trade and economic, science and technology cooperation at the 5th meeting of India-Azerbaijan Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade and Economic, Science and Technology Cooperation which concluded in New Delhi.

Delhi, Moscow signed Twin-City Agreement

The agreements in the fields of environment, culture and education are updated for the next 3 years. The agreement was signed by Minister of the Moscow City government and head of its international relations Sergey Cheremin and Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

Saudi says will meet India's oil needs ahead of US sanctions

Saudi Arabia has committed to meet India's rising oil demands ahead of the US' sanctions on Iranian oil. Saudi Energy Minister Khalid Al Falih said that the kingdom is also interested in investing in fuel retailing, petrochemical business, downstream projects as well as strategic oil storage in India. Saudi Arabia is India's second-biggest supplier of oil.

First India US special forces exercises to be take place in 2019

The first India-U.S. tri-services exercise will be taking place in 2019. The talks are on to include the special forces of the two countries in the drill. The focus of the drill will be on a United Nations (UN) based scenario and the overarching mission of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief measure.

India and China launch first joint programme to train Afghanistan diplomats

Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan Vinay Kumar hosted 10 Afghan Diplomats who will be traveling to India for the 1st India-China joint training programme.

India and Sri Lanka Sign Two MoU for Construction of 1200 Houses

The MoUs were signed by Mr. Taranjit Singh Sandhu, High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, and Mr. Bernard Vasantha. As per the new MoUs, 600 houses will be constructed in the Southern and Northern Provinces.

India and France are in talks for a bilateral tri service military exercise

India and France are in talks for a bilateral tri-service military exercise. This is to take forward the strategic cooperation while exploring ways to operationalise the logistics agreement.

India and Japan are to hold joint military exercise in Mizoram

India and Japan are to hold the first-ever joint military exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN-2018' involving the Indian Army and Japan Ground Self Defence Force in Mizoram, India. The aim is to promote Military cooperation.

India, China to resume annual military drill: Reports

The Indian and Chinese armies will resume their annual bilateral military exercise 'Hand-in-Hand' in December, according to reports. The last 'Hand-in-Hand' exercise took place in Pune in 2016. The drill did not take place in 2017 allegedly due to tensions between the two armies over Doklam, where the countries were locked in a 73-day standoff.

India, Japan, the U.S. plans for a trilateral joint air exercise

India, Japan and the U.S. plans for a trilateral joint air exercise. It is a set to elevate the bilateral set to elevate the bilateral 'Cope India' air exercise to a trilateral format The Final Planning Conference will finalise the modalities of the exercise is scheduled for the third week of October in Kalaikunda, West Bengal.

India, China sign security cooperation agreement

India and China signed a security cooperation agreement during the first high-level meeting on bilateral security cooperation. The meeting was co-chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Chinese Minister for Public Security, Zhao Kezhi.

India, China ink 1st-ever internal security cooperation pact

India and China inked their first-ever internal security cooperation agreement aimed at strengthening assistance in counter-terrorism, organised crimes and exchange of information.

India signs Rs 5,600-crore deal to get Israeli missile systems

India has signed a \$777-million deal (Rs 5,683 crore) with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) to obtain Barak 8 long-range surface-to-air defence missiles and missile defence systems for seven Indian Navy ships.

India, Iran, Afghanistan hold 1st meet on Chabahar port

India, Iran and Afghanistan held their first trilateral meeting in which they discussed the development of Chabahar port project. "All sides shared the view that full operationalisation of...initiative will promote

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connectivity...economic development of Afghanistan,” MEA said. The port is considered crucial for trade among the three nations after Pakistan denied transit access to India.

Tata Motors' Jaguar opens \$1.6 billion plant in Slovakia

Tata Motors-owned British luxury carmaker Jaguar Land Rover on Thursday officially launched its new \$1.6 billion manufacturing plant in Nitra, Slovakia.

India and Bangladesh sign agreements

India and Bangladesh signed several milestone agreements for enhancing inland and coastal waterways connectivity for trade and cruise movements. Bangladesh agreed to open its Chattogram and Mongla ports for trade with India.

Kareena, Alia win awards at Vogue Women Of The Year 2018

Kareena Kapoor Khan was named 'Vogue and IWC Schaffhausen Style Icon Of The Year' while Alia Bhatt won the award for 'Vogue and Lamborghini Youth Icon Of The Year' at Vogue Women Of The Year 2018. Radhika Apte won the award for 'Vogue Trends Disruptor Of The Year (Female)' while Meghna Gulzar was named 'Vogue Filmmaker Of The Year'.

India inks \$950mn deal with Russia to buy 2 frigates: Report

India has signed a \$950-million deal with Russia to buy two Admiral Grigorovich-class guided-missile frigates for service in the Navy, reports said. The frigates can be used in anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare and anti-air warfare missions.

India, Japan sign \$75 billion currency swap agreement

India and Japan signed a \$75 billion bilateral currency swap agreement in Tokyo during PM Narendra Modi's two-day visit to the nation.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Chinas multi-role combat aircraft, FTC 2000G, made its debut flight

FTC-2000G, China's indigenously built new multi-role combat aircraft, for exports has made its debut flight. The aircraft was developed for export by the State-owned Aviation Industry Corp of China (AVIC).

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The aircraft flew for about 16 minutes. More than 1,000 people, including provincial leaders as well as Ambassadors and military, attaches from several nations, took part in the ceremony marking the flight. The aircraft is tasked mainly with air strikes against ground targets.

Barca world's 1st sports club to surpass \$1 bn in revenues

Spanish club FC Barcelona became the first sports team in the world to surpass the \$1 billion mark in revenues. The Spanish club, which presented its annual accounts on Tuesday, claimed that it earned \$1.05 billion (€914 million) for the 2017-18 season. Barcelona revealed it is the eighth straight year in which the club has closed with a profit.

Lonar Lake and St. Marys Island are announced to be geoparks

Lonar Lake, an ancient circular lake created by a meteorite strike, in Maharashtra and St. Mary's Island, a hexagonal mosaic of basaltic rocks in an island off Udupi are poised to become global geoparks, under the plan of Geological Survey of India (GSI). Lonar Lake in Maharashtra and St. Mary's Island and Malpe beach in coastal Karnataka are the GSI's candidates for UNESCO Global Geopark Network status.

Australia to be 1st nation to eliminate cervical cancer

Researchers claim that Australia is on course to become the world's first nation to effectively eliminate cervical cancer if the current vaccination and screening rates are maintained. According to the new modelling, the disease could be eradicated as a public health issue in the nation within 20 years. Cervical cancer is the fourth most frequent cancer in women.

US ends 1955 treaty with Iran over world court's decision

After International Court of Justice (ICJ) told the US to lift sanctions on Iran which are linked to humanitarian goods and civil aviation, the US pulled out of the 1955 Treaty of Amity with Iran. Iran took the US to ICJ arguing that it violated terms of the treaty by reimposing sanctions following withdrawal from 2015 nuclear deal.

Donald Trump ranked number 259 on Forbes list

U.S. President Donald Trump ranked number 259 on the list released by Forbes's wealthiest 400 billionaires. In 2017, he ranked number 248. Mr. Trump's net worth has flatlined at \$3.1 billion. In 2015, Forbes valued his net worth at \$4.5 billion.

Forbes attributes his declining wealth to deeper reporting about his assets, the decline in brick-and-mortar retail, the slowdown in real estate, particularly in the luxury sector, and how being President affects the brand.

China used tiny chips to steal U.S. technology secrets

Tiny chips were inserted in the U.S. computer equipment that was manufactured in China in order to steal U.S. technology secrets.

The U.S. authorities alerted after finding a chip, that is the size of a grain of rice, were used on equipment made for Amazon and Apple, and possibly for other companies and government agencies.

Saudi Arabia to invest in oil refinery in Gwadar, Pakistan

Saudi Arabia announced that it is to invest in a new oil refinery in Pakistan's growing deep-sea port of Gwadar, Islamabad. The agreement is after the visit of Pakistan's new Prime Minister Imran Khan to the Gulf kingdom as he seeks to attract foreign investment.

Trump, Kim Jong-un to meet for 2nd US-North Korea summit

US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un will meet for a second summit between the two countries "as soon as possible", South Korea has said. The announcement came after US State Secretary Mike Pompeo and Kim Jong-un met in Pyongyang on Sunday. Trump met Kim in Singapore in June for the first-ever summit between the two countries.

Ukraine launched solar power plant in Chernobyl

Ukraine launched a park of photovoltaic panels at the former Chernobyl power plant. It is to use solar power to give the scene of the world's worst nuclear disaster a new lease on life.

Only 12 yrs left to limit catastrophe of climate change: UN

Global temperatures may exceed 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052, which could lead to a catastrophic climate change, a UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report has warned. To contain warming at 1.5°C, greenhouse gas emissions need to decline by 45% by 2030 from 2010 levels. Further, renewable energy would be needed to supply up to 85% of electricity by 2050.

Chelsea legend and ex-England captain John Terry retires aged 37

Chelsea legend and ex-England captain John Terry has retired from football at the age of 37 after being without a club since leaving Championship side Aston Villa this summer.

Japanese passport named world's most powerful, India 81st

Japan's passport has been named the most powerful in the world, overtaking Singapore, according to the Henley Passport Index. The Indian passport has secured the 81st rank with visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 60 destinations.

UNICEF and NASSCOM signed MoU To Strengthen Child Rights

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will work collaboratively on two key areas including national sensitization on child online protection and encouraging innovations for child rights' in the country. NASSCOM Chairman is Rishad Premji.

Seventh edition of Old World Theatre festival will commence from October 20th

Old World Theatre festival is organized by India Habitat Centre. It is being recognized by UNESCO as a "Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity".

South Korea urges US to declare end to Korean War

South Korean President Moon Jae-in has asked the US to fulfil North Korea's demand to formally declare an end to the 1950-53 Korean War.

World Bank announces \$1 billion for quake-hit Indonesia

The World Bank has announced funding of up to \$1 billion for the Indonesian government to supplement relief and reconstruction efforts in wake of the earthquake and tsunami .

Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen passes away at the age of 65

Paul Allen, who co-founded Microsoft in 1975 with his childhood friend Bill Gates, passed away, aged 65 after battling cancer.

Canada becomes 2nd country to legalise recreational cannabis

Canada has become the second country after Uruguay to legalise possession and use of recreational cannabis. Canadians can now grow up to four plants in their own home and carry up to 30 grams of dried cannabis for personal use.

Drunk', round pigeon named New Zealand bird of the year

Kererū, a native green and bronze wood pigeon, known to fall from trees after consuming rotten berries, has been named the 2018 bird of the year in New Zealand.

Canada becomes 2nd country to legalise recreational cannabis

Canada has become the second country after Uruguay to legalise possession and use of recreational cannabis. Canadians can now grow up to four plants in their own home and carry up to 30 grams of dried cannabis for personal use.

Woman to head largest command in US Army for 1st time

Lieutenant General Laura J Richardson has become the first woman to head the US Army's largest command FORSCOM which is based out of Fort Bragg in North Carolina. Richardson, who has served in the US Army since 1986, will represent 776,000 soldiers and 96,000 civilians. She has in the past served as the military aide to the vice president.

Queensland becomes 5th Australian state to legalise abortion

Queensland has voted 50-41 in favour of a bill to legalise abortion, becoming the fifth Australian state to do so. Under the new law, women can terminate pregnancies on request at up to 22 weeks gestation, and thereafter with the approval of two doctors. Abortion had been illegal in Queensland under a 19th century statute.

Turkey to host four nation summit on Syria crisis

Turkey is to host a summit between the leaders of Turkey, France, Germany and Russia in Istanbul in October. The aim of the summit is to discuss the conflict in Syria and efforts for a lasting solution to the war in the Arab country.

Eighth European Congress on SMEs held in Katowice, Poland

The motto of the Congress was: "Science- Business-Self Government TOGETHER FOR ECONOMY". This would engage in the challenges and possibilities of development of SMEs as Small and Medium-size Entrepreneurship is the most important sector of the Polish Economy.

China to launch its own 'moon' in the sky to save energy, light up streets

China is planning to put a 'moon' of its own in the night sky, and the motive reach beyond just a nod to the poetic beauty of the real celestial body. This artificial moon will replace conventional street lamps and help save a pretty penny in electricity expenses.

China successfully tests world's largest unmanned transport drone

China has successfully tested the world's largest unmanned transport drone which can carry a payload of 1.5 tonnes. A large commercial drone Feihong-98 (FH-98) developed and modified by the China Academy of Aerospace Electronics Technology made a successful test flight at Baotou test site in North China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region .

World's longest sea-crossing bridge spanning 55km opens in China

Chinese President Xi Jinping has officially opened the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, nine years after its construction first began.

Saudi to give \$3-bn loan to Pakistan amid economic crisis

Saudi Arabia has agreed to provide \$3 billion in foreign currency support for a year to Pakistan to help address the country's balance of payment crisis. It also agreed to provide a one-year deferred payment facility for import of oil, worth up to \$3 billion.

World's longest sea-crossing bridge spanning 55km opens in China

Chinese President Xi Jinping has officially opened the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, nine years after its construction first began. The \$20-billion bridge, which spans 55 kilometres, connects Hong Kong and Macau to the mainland Chinese city of Zhuhai.

China inaugurated its first private research university

China's first private research university has been officially inaugurated in Zhejiang Province's Hangzhou city. Five Nobel laureates attended the founding ceremony of Westlake University in Hangzhou. It aimed at pushing forward national higher education reform.

China successfully tests 'world's largest' cargo drone

A Chinese company has tested the 'world's largest' cargo drone Feihong-98 (FH-98) which is said to carry a payload of 1.5 tonnes (1,500kg). The FH-98 has a maximum takeoff weight of 5.25 tonnes (5,250 kg)

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and maximum range of 1,200 km. Further, it is capable of reaching a flying altitude of 4.5 km and a cruising speed of 180 kmph.

NATO begins largest military exercise since Cold War

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) began its largest military exercise since the Cold War in Norway.

UK opens all military roles for women

Women in the UK will now be able to apply for all roles in the military, Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said. Women will now be able to apply to join the special forces units including the SAS and the SBS.

UK fines Facebook \$645,000 over Cambridge Analytica scandal

The UK Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has fined Facebook a maximum amount of around \$645,000 allowed under the country's law over the Cambridge Analytica scandal.

World's first sovereign Blue Bond launched by Seychelles, assisted by West Bengal

Republic of Seychelles launched the world's first sovereign blue bond worth US\$15 million to finance sustainable marine and fisheries projects.

Austria to withdraw from UN migration pact

Austria has announced that it is withdrawing from the United Nations' (UN) Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration agreement which is due to be formally approved in December in Morocco.

World's largest airport under one roof opened in Istanbul, Turkey

World's largest airport terminal under one roof with a capacity to serve 90 million passengers was opened in Istanbul, Turkey. It has been constructed as a part of the phase-1A of the project – Istanbul New Airport.

World's 1st robot citizen Sophia gets first ever robot visa

World's first robot citizen Sophia has been granted the world's first robot visa for a world tour on behalf of her Hong Kong-based developer Hanson Robotics.

India-Japan sign 6 key pacts, agree to hold 2+2 dialogue

During PM Narendra Modi's visit, India and Japan signed six key agreements, including on deeper naval cooperation, and agreed to initiate 2+2 dialogue between the foreign and defence ministers.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

HyperloopTT unveils 1st full-scale hyperloop passenger pod

High-speed transportation system developer Hyperloop Transportation Technologies (HyperloopTT) unveiled its first full-size passenger capsule called Quintero One in Spain. Weighing around 5,000 kg, the pod is 32 metres (105 feet) long, while the passenger cabin measures around 15 metres (50 feet). HTT believes that the capsule will be ready to convey passengers before the end of 2019.

Researchers developed spacesuits for microbes

Researchers from the University of California (UC) Berkeley developed spacesuits, a patchwork of mesh-like pieces called a Metal-Organic Framework (MOF), for bacteria which might allow the microbes to survive space environments that would otherwise kill them. The protective suits pair up with a living bacteria with light-absorbing semiconductors in order to capture carbon dioxide and convert it into chemicals that can be used by industry or, someday, in space colonies.

IAL chose L&T for Bengaluru airport T2 project

Bangalore International Airport (BIAL) gave L&T Construction its project to construct its Terminal-2 (T2) at the Kempegowda International Airport. The project worth around Rs.3,036 crore. The 2,55,000 sq.mt Phase 1 of T2 will augment the capacity of the airport by 25 million passengers per annum.

The work includes design, engineering, procurement, construction, testing and commissioning of Terminal-2, including the integration of services and utilities along with the airport's systems, support facilities, and buildings.

First SpaceX mission with astronauts set for June 2019: NASA

NASA has announced that the first crewed test flight by a SpaceX rocket to the ISS is expected to take place in June 2019. It will be the first manned US launch to the ISS since the space shuttle's retirement in 2011. SpaceX will use its Falcon 9 rocket for launch with a Crew Dragon capsule attached on top.

Scientists developed a new DNA analysis tool that can help arresting criminals

The researcher at the Flinders University in Australia has developed a new test that can reveal the amount of DNA people shed, a tool that could be used by forensic experts to catch criminals using genetic clues left at crime scenes.

CUJ signs MoU with ISRO to set up Space Applications Center

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed a MoU with the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) in Jammu for setting up of the Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science in the University.

Scientist developed worlds fastest camera, T CUP

Scientists from California Institute of Technology have developed the world's fastest camera, T-CUP (Compressed Ultrafast Photography), which can capture 10 trillion frames per second.

Europe, Japan launch 7-year mission to Mercury

The European and Japanese space agencies launched a seven-year mission, BepiColombo, to Mercury from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana. It is only the third ever mission to visit Mercury after NASA's Mariner 10 probe (launched in 1973) and its MESSENGER mission (2004). BepiColombo will fly-by Earth once, Venus twice and Mercury six times before entering Mercury's orbit.

NASA retires 9-year-old telescope that found over 2,600 planets

NASA retired its first planet-hunting mission as the Kepler Space Telescope ran out of fuel. Launched in March 2009 into an Earth-trailing heliocentric orbit, Kepler discovered over 2,600 planets outside the solar system.

SPORTS

Thangvellu Mariyappan named India's flag-bearer for Asian Para Games

Rio Paralympic gold medallist Thangvellu Mariyappan has been named as flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the 3rd Paralympic Asian games to be held in Jakarta from October 6-13.

India will field its biggest ever contingent of 302 members including athletes, coaches, support staff, escorts and officials.

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Raegan and Ishita won junior titles in East Zone National ranking table tennis tournament

The top seed, Albuquerque Raegan claimed the junior boys crown and Ishita Gupta won the junior girls' title in the East Zone National-ranking table tennis tournament at the R.G. Baruah Sports Complex's Indoor Stadium.

Raegan outplayed Manush Shah of Gujarat, seeded two, and secured 11-9, 8-11, 11-5, 3-11, 11-9, 11-8. Ishita, seeded eighth, put it across the top seed Prapti Sen of West Bengal 11-3, 11-8, 11-8, 11-6.

Yuvraj Wadhvani Lifts Asian Junior Squash Title

Yuvraj Wadhvani defeated Anas Ali Shah of Pakistan by 13-11, 11-5, 6-11, 12-10 in the final in Chennai. He is the second Indian to win the Under-13 title after Veer Chotrani.

Manipur won the 24th Senior Womens National football championships

Manipur won the 24th Senior Women's National football championships for the 19th time in Cuttack, Odisha. Manipur beat Odisha by securing 2-1 in the final. In the semifinals, Manipur had beaten Railways 4-3 in a penalty shootout, while Odisha dethroned Tamil Nadu 4-3.

Manu Bhaker named as Indias Flag-Bearer at Youth Olympic Games

Manu Bhaker was named as the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the 3rd Youth Olympic Games to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from October 6-18.

Indian Olympic Association (IOA) President Narinder Batra announced that the 16-year-old Bhaker will lead the Indian team in the opening ceremony.

World champions India win Under-19 Asia Cup for the sixth time

India, who had won the Under-19 World Cup in February this year, defeated Sri Lanka to win the Under-19 Asia Cup for a record-extending sixth time. This is the fourth time that India defeated Sri Lanka in the final to win the tournament. In the final, India were captained by Prab Simran Singh, who scored an unbeaten 37-ball 65.

Thirty Six National Games To Be Held Next Year in Goa

The 36th National Games in Goa will be held from March 30 to April 14 next year. Sports Authority of Goa (SAG) Executive Director V M Prabhudesai made the announcement in Panaji after a meeting with visiting officials of the Indian Olympic Association.

Weightlifter Jeremy gives India 1st gold in Youth Olympics history

Weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga has become India's first-ever gold medallist in the history of Youth Olympics. The 15-year-old achieved the feat by lifting a total weight of 274 kg in the men's 62 kg category at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Monday. Jeremy had won silver at last year's Youth World Weightlifting Championships in Bangkok, Thailand.

Lewis Hamilton won the Japanese Formula One Grand Prix

Lewis Hamilton moved to the brink of a fifth World Championship with a lights-to-flag Japanese Grand Prix victory. Mercedes' Hamilton was dominant as title rival Sebastian Vettel ran into trouble attempting to gain ground from eighth place on the grid.

India's Keerthana Pandian wins Girls Title in IBSF World U-16 Snooker Championships

India's Keerthana Pandian won her first international title when she lifted the girls' title in the IBSF World Under-16 Snooker Championships. In the corresponding boys category, Ben Martens of Belgium clinched the title in St Petersburg, Russia. Keerthana won the girls' title by outclassing Belarussian rival Albina Leschuk 3-1 in the final.

16-yr-old Saurabh wins India's 2nd shooting gold at Youth Olympics

Indian shooter Saurabh Chaudhary won the men's 10m Air Pistol event to bag India's second shooting and overall third gold medal at 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Argentina's Buenos Aires. The 16-year-old shot a total score of 244.2 to finish first.

Shooter Manu Bhaker 1st Indian woman to win gold at Youth Olympics

Sixteen-year-old shooter Manu Bhaker has become the first-ever Indian woman to win gold at Youth Olympics. Bhaker achieved the feat after winning the women's 10m Air Pistol event with a score of 236.5 at 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Argentina's Buenos Aires.

Odisha launches 2018 Hockey WC official mascot at Puri beach

The Department of Sports and Youth Services and the Odisha government on Tuesday launched 'Olly', the official mascot of the 2018 Men's Hockey World Cup at the Puri beach.

Vikram Malhotra won Texas Open Squash Championship

India's Squash player, Vikram Malhotra triumphed in the Texas Open Squash Championship, Houston, the U.S. This is his eighth Professional Squash Association (PSA) title of Vikram Malhotra's career.

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Harvinder Singh won gold in archery in Asian Para Games

Harvinder Singh won India's maiden archery gold in the Asian Para Games 2018 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Harvinder defeated China's Zhao Lixue by scoring 6-0 in the W2/ST category final.

Manu Bhaker becomes second Indian to win two medals

She bagged a silver medal after her gold medal finish in 10m air pistol event becoming only the second India after judoka Tababi Devi Thangjam to win two medals at the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires.

Shaw youngest Indian to win Man of the Series award in Tests

Prithvi Shaw, aged 18 years and 339 days, became the youngest Indian to win the Man of the Series award in Test cricket history. Shaw also became the 10th cricketer and fourth Indian after Sourav Ganguly, Ravichandran Ashwin and Rohit Sharma to win the award in his maiden Test series.

Panwar wins India's 1st Athletics medal at Youth Olympics 2018

Suraj Panwar won India's first medal in athletics at the Youth Olympic Games 2018 after claiming the silver medal in the men's 5000m race walk even

Japan set to host 2019 World Relays

Japan Association of Athletics Federations announced to be the host of the 2019 edition of 4th International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Relays, beginning May 11, 2019.

Punia wins silver, becomes 1st Indian with 2 WC medals

Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia won the silver medal at the World Championships to become the first Indian to have two World Wrestling Championship medals. Punia, who lost 9-16 to Takuto Otoguro of Japan in the final of the 65 kg freestyle event, later dedicated his silver medal to the victims of the Amritsar train mishap.

Kimi Raikkonen won US Grand Prix

Kimi Raikkonen claimed his first Formula 1 win in five years in the United States Grand Prix. Hamilton finished third in his Mercedes behind Raikkonen and Red Bull's Max Verstappen.

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Kohli becomes fastest to 10,000 runs in history of ODI cricket

India captain Virat Kohli has become the fastest batsman to score 10,000 runs in the history of ODI cricket, achieving the feat in his 205th innings, against Windies.

Indian Navy won the 14th PMC Bank all India Guru Tegh Bahadur Gold Cup hockey tournament

Indian Navy (Mumbai) won the 14th PMC Bank all-India Guru Tegh Bahadur Gold Cup hockey tournament at the Mahindra Stadium at Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Pooja Dhanda – 1st female Indian wrestler in 6 yrs to win WC medal

India's 24-year-old Pooja Dhanda became the first Indian female wrestler in six years to win a medal at the Wrestling World Championships.

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 in England

Elina Svitolina won WTA Finals in Singapore

Ukrainian Tennis Player Elina Svitolina defeated Romania's Sloane Stephens 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 and won the season-ending WTA Finals. This is the biggest title in Elina Svitolina career.

Pankaj becomes 1st Indian to win an Asian Snooker Tour title

Nineteen-time world champion Pankaj Advani became the first Indian to win an Asian Snooker Tour event after defeating China's Ju Reti 6-1 in the final in Jinan, China.

Indian Golfer Khalin Joshi Clinches Panasonic Open India Title

Khalin Joshi became the seventh Indian to win the Panasonic Open India title in the last eight editions of the tournament. He finished second best after finishing with a par on the 18th.

India, Pak joint winners of Asian Hockey Champions Trophy 2018

India and Pakistan have been declared as joint winners of the Asian Hockey Champions Trophy 2018 after the final was forfeited due to heavy rain in Oman's Muscat. Prior to the 2018 edition, India and

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Pakistan had won the tournament twice each. India's Harmanpreet Singh finished the edition as the second-highest scorer with six goals.

Lewis Hamilton wins 5th Formula One world title at Mexico GP

Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton won his fifth Formula 1 world championship after finishing fourth at the Mexican Grand Prix.

OBITUARY

Name of the Person Died	Associated Field
Balabhaskar	Renowned violinist
Natwar Thakkar	Eminent Gandhian social worker also known as Nagaland's Gandhi'
ND Tiwari,	Veteran politician, Former CM of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand
Osamu Shimomura	Japanese-born Marine biologist
Madan Lal Khurana	Delhi's former Chief Minister
Yeshwant Deo	Marathi music composer

IMPORTANT DAYS

Date	Day	Theme 2018
1 October	International Day for the Elderly	Celebrating Older Human Rights champions".
1 October	International Coffee Day	
2 October	Gandhi Jayanthi; International Day of Non-Violence	
4 October	World Animal Welfare Day	
5 October	World Teachers' Day	
8 October	Indian Air Force Day	
9 October	World Post Office Day	"Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers?".
10 October	National Post Day	
10 October	World Mental Health Day	'Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World'
11 October	International Day of The Girl Child:	'With Her: A Skilled Girl Force'.
11 October	World Obesity Day	

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13 October	UN International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction	Reducing Disaster Economic Losses
14 October	World Standards Day	
15 October	World Students Day	
15 October	International Day Of Rural Women	
15 October	Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas	
16 October	World Food Day	"Our Actions Are Our Future".
24 October	UN Day	
24 October	World Development Information Day	
30 October	World Thrift Day	
31 October	Rashtriya Ekta Diwas	