

Current Affairs Pocket PDF – May 2018

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Cabinet Approvals

- **On May 16 2018, Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the following initiatives**
 - Cabinet approves enhancement of budget for implementation of Network for Spectrum for Defence Services
 - Cabinet approves Corpus for Micro Irrigation Fund with NABARD under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
 - Cabinet approves strengthening the mechanism for resolution of commercial disputes of Central Public Sector Enterprises
 - Cabinet approves National Policy on Biofuels – 2018
 - Cabinet approves setting up of a new AIIMS in Deoghar, Jharkhand
 - Cabinet approves setting up of a Central University in Andhra Pradesh
 - Cabinet approves extension of Delhi Metro corridor from Noida City Centre to Sector-62, Noida Uttar Pradesh
 - Cabinet approves development of Trunk Infrastructure Components for Integrated Multi Modal Logistics Hub known as "Freight Village" at Nangal Chaudhary in Haryana under Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Project.
- **On May 23,2018, The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the following cabinet approvals:**
 - Cabinet approves USOF scheme for provision of mobile services in Meghalaya under CTDP for North Eastern Region.
 - Cabinet approves provision of mobile connectivity in Left Wing Extremism Areas.
 - Cabinet approves waiver of Penal Interest on Government Loans advanced to Visakhapatnam Port Trust.
 - Cabinet approves restructuring of balance sheet of Scooters India Limited, Lucknow.

STATE WISE NATIONAL NEWS

Andhra Pradesh

- On 22nd May 2018, Vice President Venkaiah Naidu laid the foundation stone of the Southern Campus of National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) at Kondapavuluru Village, Gannavaram Mandal, Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh.
- On May 30,2018, after 4 years of bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana, the state of Andhra Pradesh gets its own symbol. This was announced by the Principle Secretary of Environment Forests G. Anantha Ramu.Neem and Black Buck have been declared as the state tree and the state animal respectively.Rose-ringedParakeet will be the State Bird.Jasmine will be the state flower .

Arunachal Pradesh

- On 10th May 2018, Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu inaugurated Arunachal Pradesh's biggest solar power plant at Energy Awareness Park in Itanagar. The plant has a capacity of 1 MW. It was commissioned on 1st April 2018. Estimated investment for the park is Rs 8.50 crore & was implemented by Arunachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (APEDA).
- On May 22, 2018, a 42 seater aircraft of Alliance Air lands at Pasighat from Guwahati in Arunachal Pradesh. It carried Chief Minister Pema Khandu and 24 other passengers with it. Arunachal Pradesh has some 120 helipads and 10 advanced landing grounds operational for defence and civil operations.

Assam

- Shikdamakha, one of the cleanest villages in Assam, along with its neighbouring hamlets - Bormarjong, Maulen, Amsai, Langarkhon has taken an initiative to create a rural tourism model. It is supported by Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, and an NGO named Root Bridge Foundation.
 - Guwahati has India's first railway station run by solar power. The solar-powered station aims to reduce carbon-footprint and also to reduce power costs. The estimated project cost is Rs 6.7 crore. The solar power plant will save Rs 67 lakh worth of electricity. The average power generation capacity per day is 2048 KW.
 - On 3rd to 5th May 2018, 'Vibrant North East 2018' is held in Guwahati, Assam. Vibrant North East 2018 is organized by Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD), a New Delhi-based NGO. This is the fourth edition of the Vibrant North East expo in Guwahati.
- On 29th May 2018, Union Minister of State, of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that, the Government has approved to set up "Brahmaputra Study Centre" at Gauhati University, Guwahati with the total fund of Rs. 28 crore.

Bihar

On May 19, 2018, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar flagged off the 'Krishi Mahabhiyan-cum-Beej Vikas Vahan Rath' to create awareness among farmers about government schemes for them during Kharif season. 'Kharif Mahabhiyan-cum-Mahotsav Rath' that would travel to blocks, gram panchayats and villages to tell the farmers about the schemes being run during kharif season. 'Beej (Seed)Vahan Vikas Rath' which would have Kharif seeds and pesticides for the treatment of kharif crop.

Chhattisgarh

- On 1st May 2018, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh and union minister of state for railways Ranjan Gohain flagged off Antyodaya Express. Antyodaya Express began its service from Raipur, Chhattisgarh on its first day.
- On May 12, 2018, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh launched Vikas Yatra from Dantewada district aimed at spreading awareness about the development the state has witnessed during Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Govt's tenure in the state. He will also give smartphones to 50 lakh families under Sanchar Kranti Yojna.

On 21st May 2018, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) commissioned the Bastariya Battalion in Bastar district of Chhattisgarh. The special unit was numbered as 241 and named as 'Bastariya Battalion'. All the candidates have been selected from 4 highly Naxal affected districts of Chhattisgarh: Bijapur, Dantewada, Narayanpur and Sukma.

Gujarat

- An important peptide that can be used to create a new preventive vaccine against leptospirosis has been found out by researchers from the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre, Gandhinagar. Leptospirosis is a tropical infectious disease. At present there is no preventive vaccine for Leptospirosis.
- Gujarat government will be bearing medical expenses up to Rs 50,000 for each victim of road accident in Gujarat for the first 48 hours, from 18th May 2018. This scheme aims to provide timely and better treatment and to minimise loss of life due to road accidents. On May 29, 2018, the Gujarat government released policy to reuse treated waste water in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. To reuse and treated waste water and reduce state's dependency on fresh water resources like Narmada River. The policy is called : 'Reuse of Treated Waste Water Policy'.

Haryana

- In order to undertake an exercise to assess the state on key areas of interventions that are relevant to a healthy start-up ecosystem, Haryana State Government has decided to adopt startup ranking framework issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).
- On 6th May 2018, a 'Cochlear Implant Awareness Programme' was held at Huda Convention Centre, Sector-12, Faridabad, Haryana. The Cochlear Implant Awareness Programme was organized by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment along with Indian Red Cross Society and Sarvodaya Hospital & Research Centre.
- On 19th May 2018, Haryana Chief Minister Mr Manohar Lal Khattar said that, 'Chatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana', developed for the safety of girl students will be launched in Haryana. He said that, women representation in police force has been increased from 6 % to 9 %.
- On 25th May 2018, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated an Incubation centre and Food Testing Laboratory at NIFTEM in Sonapat, Haryana. The facilities that were inaugurated at NIFTEM are as follows:
 - Pilot Plant for Ready-to-Eat and Traditional Food.
 - Pilot Plant for Milk and Dairy Product.
 - Pilot Plant for Fruits and Vegetable processing.
 - Pilot Plant for Meat and Poultry Processing.
 - NIFTEM Centre for Food Research and Analysis.
- On 29th May 2018, Union Cabinet Minister of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprise, Anant Geete inaugurated the augmented facilities at the National Automotive Testing and RND Infrastructure Project (NATRIP) at the International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) at Manesar in Haryana. The augmented facilities are as follows:
 - Noise, Vibration & Harshness Lab (NVH)
 - Passive Safety Lab (PSL)
 - Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Lab
 - Tyre Test Lab (TTL).
- On May 31, 2018, The Cabinet of Haryana approved the ordinance to grant salary and allowance to the Chief whip. This amendments were done in many other state legislatures like : Delhi, Jharkhand, Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan. The tenure of head of department in Haryana was made to a maximum of three years.

Himachal Pradesh

- On May 4, 2018, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Anurag Thakur and cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar launched 'Star Khel Mahakumbh' in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh. The aim of the

event is to attract participation from at least 100000 youngsters from Anurag Thakur's Hamirpur constituency. The event will have competitions in volleyball, cricket, basketball, football, kabaddi and athletics.

- First workshop on Ayushman Bharat Program was held in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh on May 14, 2018. Under this scheme, Government has set a target to set up 1.5 lakh wellness centres by 2022 to deliver comprehensive primary healthcare. Other component of this scheme is to provide insurance cover to most deprived Indian population.
- Himachal Pradesh State government will spend Rs 25 crore on renovating and developing the historic British era 'Bantony Castle Estate' in Shimla as a major tourist attraction. Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur stated that organising 'Gram Shilp Mela' was a new beginning for the Bantony Castle as local artisans of the state got an opportunity to showcase their artefacts.
- On May 28, 2018, The state Government of Himachal Pradesh will promote Zero Budget Natural Farming System. The govt has come up with 'Prakritik Kheti Khushhaal Kissan Yojana' for zero budget natural farming.
- On May 27, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur Launched a week long 'Polythene Hatao, Paryavaran Bachao Campaign'. While addressing the Campaign, Thakur said the Pollution became the alarming factor of the Country and this Campaign is Started with the Objective to reduce the Pollution by prohibiting the use of Polythene & Plastic.

Jammu and Kashmir

- On May 12, 2018, Jammu and Kashmir State Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, approved a notification of the non-functional (monetary) scheme (NFS) and its implementation for members of the general executive cadre of the Jammu and Kashmir Police Service (JKPS). This scheme seeks placement of Jammu and Kashmir Police Service (JKPS) officers in higher scales.
- On May 19, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of 14.2-km-long tunnel under the Zojila Pass in Jammu & Kashmir. This tunnel will provide all-weather connectivity from Baltal in Kashmir to Minamarg near Gumri in Ladakh.
- On 19th May, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Jammu and Kashmir. He marked the commencement of the all weather connectivity tunnel between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh called Zojila Tunnel. He dedicated the 330 MW Kishanganga Hydropower Station to the Nation and lay the Foundation Stone of the Srinagar Ring Road.
- On May 21, 2018, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Kishanganga Hydroelectric project in Jammu & Kashmir. He also laid the foundation to the Pakal Dam. It is located in the Bandipora District of Jammu & Kashmir. The capacity of this project is 330 MW. The annual generation of the project is 1712.96 MU with the cost of the project is Rs. 5882 crore.
- Pakal Dul Hydro Power Project is the largest project and the first storage project of Jammu & Kashmir. The capacity of this project is 1000 MW. This project is funded by both the Government of India and the Government of J&K. The cost of the project is Rs. 8112.12 Crore.

Jharkhand

- On 5th May 2018, Aajeevika and Kaushal Vikas Melas were held in various parts of India as part of Gram Swaraj Abhiyan. Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, addressed the gathering at the main event held at Ranchi, Jharkhand.
- On 25 May 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of several projects of the Government of India and Government of Jharkhand, at an event in Sindri, Jharkhand. The total cost of the projects, for which foundation stones were laid is Rs. 27,000 crore. Following are the Developmental projects in Jharkhand:

- Revival of Sindri Fertilizer Project of Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Ltd.
- Ranchi City Gas Distribution Project by GAIL.
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Deoghar.
- Development of Deoghar Airport.
- Patratu Super Thermal Power Project.
- On 25th May 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the 2400MW first phase of NTPC's Patratu Super Thermal Power Project in Jharkhand. PVUNL will implement the project in two phases: 2,400 MW (3x800MW) in Phase-I & 1,600 MW (2x800 MW) in Phase-II. The commissioning of the first unit is expected in 2022.

Kerala

- On 9th May 2018, Kerala Government approved setting up of the Kerala Fibre Optic Network Limited, the Joint Venture, to implement the Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project, as a part of its programme to offer free internet to over 20 lakh poor families.
- On 14th to 26th May 2018, the first edition of the International Children's Film Festival of Kerala is held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. Screenings at the festival are organised by the Kerala State Council for Child Welfare, Kerala State Chalachitra Academy, Kerala State Film Development Corporation, and the State Institute of Children's Literature.
- From May 28- 31st, the 15th Finance Commission will be visiting Kerala. Kerala is the first state in Southern India to be visited by the Commission. The commission was led by Chairman N.K. Singh. Kerala is the 10th largest state that contributes to 4.2% of GDP of the nation. It has the highest per capita income. The state has a booming service sector.
- On May 28, 2018, United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) gave recognition to the Cochin International Airport as world's first fully solar energy-powered airport. It is the largest and busiest airport of Kerala and was constructed in 1999. The airport has 46,150 solar panel across 45 acres of land in the cargo complex of the airport. It produces 15MWp solar power.
- Kerala government has decided to reduce the prices of petrol and diesel by Re 1 in Kerala with effect from 1st June 2018. Kerala has become the first state to announce a reduction in fuel prices. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan made the announcement on 30th May 2018.

Madhya Pradesh

- On May 8, 2018, Madhya Pradesh State Government launched India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC) for all seven smart cities of the state in Bhopal to monitor the status of various smart civic amenities in real-time through the sensors connected to it. It was inaugurated by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri.

Maharashtra

- Maharashtra State will get a new airport at Parule Chipi in Sindhudurg district, which is expected to be functional by September 2018. This airport is being constructed under the aegis of Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) by IRB Sindhudurg Airport.
- On May 2, 2018, Maharashtra became the first state of India to provide digitally-signed land record receipts (also known as 7/12 receipts). 7/12 receipt is the most important document which establishes the ownership of the land.
- On 3rd May 2018, the Maharashtra government decided to recommend the decalartion of an ordinance to rename the Jalgaon-based North Maharashtra University after poetess Bahinabai Chaudhari. The North Maharashtra University is to be renamed as 'Kaviyatri Bahinabai Chaudhari North Maharashtra University'.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

- On May 8, 2018, Maharashtra State Cabinet decided to provide Rs 3 subsidy for every litre of milk to the co-operative and private producers to manufacture milk powder. This decision is aimed at encouraging production of milk powder from surplus milk.
- On 15th May, The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 4th Global Exhibition on Services 2018 in Mumbai, Maharashtra. With the launch of 12 Champion sectors as a bold new step this would aid in creating jobs that will further grow the Indian as well as the global economy.
- Maharashtra Government has launched a new scheme to help the landless labourers from the Scheduled Castes to acquire agricultural land or two acres of irrigated land by paying only 5% of the cost. The rest up to 8 lakh rupees will be borne by the Maharashtra government. This is a modified scheme.

Manipur

- On May 1, 2018, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh launched 'Go to Village' mission throughout the state. Manipur State Government's 'Go to Village' mission is aimed at identifying the eligible and deserving beneficiaries in every corner of the state and delivering government services at their doorstep.
- On May 23, 2018, The Union Cabinet approved the ordinance of setting India's first National Sports University in Imphal, Manipur. The ordinance for this proposal is on the lines of the bill introduced in Lok Sabha in August 2017. Manipur government has already granted land for the institute. Rs. 100 crore has been allocated for the institute.
- Manipur has become the first state in the Northeast and the third state in India to have solar toilets. The solar toilets were inaugurated by Tourism Director, Waikhom Ibohal at Ibudhou Marjing hill Heingang recently.

Meghalaya

- On 28th May 2018, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) launched the 'Gaj Yatra' from Tura, a town in Garo Hills of Meghalaya. To honour this effort the Gaj Yatra has been launched. The Gaj Yatra aims to secure 100 elephant corridors in India.

New Delhi

- On May 5, 2018 An Exhibition called 'India and the World: A History in Nine Stories' will be inaugurated at the National Museum auditorium, New Delhi by Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State for Culture (I/c) and Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The exhibition evaluates the development of Indian civilization in a sequel order through delicate artifact from India and abroad.
- On 5th May 2018, 'India and the world: a history in nine stories' exhibition was inaugurated by the President, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, (IGNCA), Raam Bahadur Rai, at

National Museum, New Delhi. The Exhibition marks the collaboration in museum exhibition with the British Museum, London; National Museum, New Delhi and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS), Mumbai.

- On May 7, 2018, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) approved its Rs 5137-crore annual budget, focusing on expansion of sewage and water supply networks in the uncovered areas. For replacement of peripheral sewer lines, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) – Delhi has been appointed as the monitoring agency and will be paid Rs 4.71 crore as the consultancy fees.
- 3rd edition of the United Nations Peacekeeping Course for African Partners (UNPCAP) was inaugurated in New Delhi on May 7, 2018. The course is geared to build and enhance the capacity of the African Troop Contributing Countries to the UN.
- President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to Delhi government's proposed Bill to amend the Minimum Wages Act. As per the amended act, employers violating labour rules in Delhi will now face fine ranging from Rs 20000-50000 and jail term between one to three years.
- On 10th May 2018, NITI Aayog will announce the top 30 innovations of Atal Tinkering Marathon in Delhi. It was conducted in six thematic areas: clean energy, water resources, waste management, healthcare, smart mobility and agri-tech.
- On 16th May 2018, Meenakshi Lekhi, MP (Lok Sabha), New Delhi and Member, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice launched the “Swachhata Abhiyan” of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG). DARPG is observing the ‘Swachhata Pakhwada’ from 16th May to 31st May 2018 at its premises at Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi.
- On 18th May, The Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Shri. Hardeep Singh Puri has announced the expansion of policies under Deen Antodaya Yojna – National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM) in New Delhi.
- On 18th May, The Delhi cabinet gave their approval for procuring 1000 CNG run standard floor buses under cluster scheme. Each bus will have three internet protocol (IP) cameras, panic buttons, in-built GPS and anti skid features
- On 19th May 2018, a workshop on challenges and opportunities of arbitration in SAARC region was held in New Delhi. It was conducted in collaboration with FICCI, ICA and SAARC Arbitration Council. The workshop aims to focus on the role SARCO (SAARC Arbitration Council) in the SAARC region.
- On May 22, 2018, Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated a day-long workshop on the theme “Ganga and its Biodiversity: Developing a Road Map for Habitat and Species Conservation” on river Ganga in New Delhi. This was organized by World Wildlife Fund (WWF). [Click here to read more.](#)
- On 23rd May 2018, the 4th Smart Cities India 2018 expo began at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The Smart Cities India 2018 Expo is held for 3 days till 25th May 2018. It is co-organised by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO), the NASSCOM Center of Excellence - IoT and Exhibitions India Group.
- On May 26, 2018, Minister of State (I/C) for information and broadcasting and Sports & Youth Affairs, Col Rajyavardhan Rathore inaugurated the ASEAN India Film Festival in New Delhi. The tagline for this festival is: ‘Friendship through Films’. The opening film of this festival was: ‘Sinjar’ in Jasari language.
- On 25th and 26th May 2018, a Photo Exhibition on Dynamic Schemes and Major Central Sector Projects & Mega Cultural Programme was held at Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. The exhibition is organized by Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation. The exhibition is aimed to familiarize the schemes and projects to help out the people.

- On May 27, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 1st phase of Delhi-Meerut expressway. The total length of the project is 8 km. Out of this the first 27.74 km will be a 14-laned while the rest is for a 6-lane expressway. The cost of the project is Rs. 4975.17 crore.
- On 29th May 2018, Union Tribal Affairs Minister, Jual Oram launched 'the PANKHA' (Hand-fans), an exhibition cum sale event, at Tribes India, New Delhi. The Pankhas are a range of exotic hand fans. Inspiration for this event has been drawn from Artist Jatin Das and his collection of 10000 handmade Pankhas.
- On May 30, 2018, The Ministry of Railways organized a one day workshop called 'Mission Raftar' in New Delhi. It aimed at brainstorming ideas about speed of freight trains and passenger trains. Its main target is doubling the speed of freight trains and increase the speed of coaching trains by 25 kmph.

Odisha

- Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan said that, LPG penetration in Odisha has reached 58.55 % by 1st May 2018. LPG Penetration in Odisha was at 20% in June 2014. The government has fixed a target of providing gas connections to 80 lac household by the end of December 2018.
- On May 25, 2018, The Union Minister for Electronics & IT and Law & Justice Shri. Ravi Shankar Prasad has inaugurated cloud enabled Data Centre at Bhubaneswar, Odisha. This will provide 24*7 online services for e-Governance applications and its departments. All the districts of Odisha have been taken under the Secure, Scalable and Sugamya Website as a Service website.

Punjab

- On May 17, 2018, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh announced several development projects aggregating Rs 555 crore for the uplift and up-gradation of the border district of Tarn Taran. This district in Punjab is strategically located near the Indo-Pakistan border. Majority of the development projects (amounting to Rs. 370 crore) announced, are for improving road network and connectivity.

Rajasthan

- President Ram Nath Kovind was on an official visit to Rajasthan on 13th and 14th May, 2018. He launched 3 schemes namely, Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Antyodaya Swarojgar Yojana, Sundar Singh Bhandari EBC (economically backward class) Swarojgar Yojana and Rin Maufi Yojna of Rajasthan State Government.
- On May 23, 2018, The government of Rajasthan launched 'Nidaan' software for disease monitoring. This will monitor seasonal and non-communicable diseases and the trends of ailments found in specific areas. This was launched by Additional Chief Secretary (Medical and Health) Veenu Gupta.
- On May 26, 2018, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) sanctioned Rs. 5000 crore for the Rajasthan government farm loan waiver. The Rajasthan government on its budgetary speech had announced a one time loan waiver for upto Rs. 50000 for small and marginal farmers provided by cooperative banks.

Sikkim

- On May 3, 2018, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha stated that Pakyong airport in Sikkim, which is scheduled to be commissioned in June 2018, will be the 100th operational airport in the country. Currently, Sikkim is the only state in India that does not have an airport.

Tamil Nadu

- The first ever International Rail Coach Expo (IRCE) focusing on Rail Coaches and train sets will be held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, from 17th to 19th May, 2018. Objective of the expo is to bring reputed rail car, equipment builders and suppliers under one roof and create synergy for “Make in India” The Expo will be hosted by Integral Coach Factory, in coordination with CII (Confederation of Indian Industries) and RITES Ltd.

Tripura

- On 20th May, The Tripura Government announced that 10% of all police force will be reserved for women in a meeting chaired by the Chief Minister of Tripura Mr. Biplab Kumar Deb. This was done to encourage women to participate and deal more efficiently with crimes related to them. Seven all-women police stations across the state, including two in Agartala.

Telangana

- On May 5, 2018 Union Minister Nitin Gadkari will lay foundation stone of four national highway projects costing Rs 1,523 crore in Telangana. The ceremony to be held in Hyderabad and it will be attended by Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao.
- On 10th May 2018, Pawan Kalyan, actor and Jana Sena Party founder, unfurled the flag, claimed to be the world's largest Indian national flag at Hyderabad, Telangana. The flag was 122 feet in length and 183 feet in width. The flag was prepared by an organisation called 'Vibrants of Kalam'.
- On May 10, 2018, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao launched 'Rythu Bandhu' (friend of farmers), an investment support scheme for farmers. Under 'Rythu Bandhu' Scheme, all farmers in Telangana who own land, will be provided investment support of Rs 8000 per acre per year.
- With an aim to impart skill training and self-sufficiency the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has decided to set up a centre at 'BHAROSA' in Hyderabad. The agreement has been signed by the UNDP & Hyderabad police under the 'DISHA' project to provide skill training to the distressed women effected by violence.
- On May 16, 2018, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao announced setting up of a new Pay Revision Commission (PRC) for government employees. Telangana Government will be giving special allowances to employees working in remote areas.
- On 18th to 20th May 2018, the Venture Capital Symposium 2018 is held in New Delhi. It is organized by NITI Aayog. Vision India Foundation is the Knowledge Partner for the event. It aims to enhance the economic relationships between France and India and to support the Start-up India programme.
- On 21st May to 21st June 2018, a children's theatre and personality development workshop is held in North Delhi. The children's theatre and personality development workshop is organized by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) along with Udaan - the Centre of Theatre Art and Child Development.
- On May 22, 2018, Telangana Irrigation Minister T Harish Rao said that, the Telangana government has completed rejuvenation of 18,000 tanks in Telangana under its Mission Kakatiya programme. T Harish Rao made this announcement at a convention on 'Rejuvenation of Krishna river' organised by the Telangana Water Resources Development Corporation (TWRDC).
- On 25th May 2018, Telangana Chief Minister Chandra Sekhara Rao announced a unique life insurance scheme for farmers, in Hyderabad. As per the scheme, the government will offer life insurance facility of 5 lakh rupees to the nominee, after the death of the insured farmer. Life

Insurance Corporation India will implement this scheme. Farmers aged between 18 and 60 are eligible to register for this scheme.

Uttarakhand

- On May 16, 2018, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated state's first City Gas Distribution (CGD) network at Rudrapur in Udham Singh Nagar district. The network comprises 500 km long pipeline and ten CNG stations, one each in Jaspur, Bazpur, Khatima and Kiccha, two in Kashipur and three in Rudrapur.
- On 19th May 2018, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat launched the first phase of a massive tree plantation initiative along Rispana River, Uttarakhand, by initiating pit-digging work for the campaign. Trivendra Singh Rawat said that, Mission Rispana to Rishiparna is not a government programme, it is a social initiative. Each individual has to contribute to it.
- On May 25, 2018, Ministry of Culture organized the 9th edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2018 in Tehri, Uttarakhand from 25th to 27th May, 2018. Uttarakhand's Tehri Lake Festival will be a part of the event. IT consists of water sports organized by the Uttarakhand tourism each year. This initiative is under the 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.
- On May 29, 2018, Secretary to the Ministry of AYUSH, Shri Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha announced that the main event of the 4th International Yoga Day celebrations will be organized in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

Uttar Pradesh

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritian counterpart Pravind Jugnauth inaugurated 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas which will be held in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh from 21st to 23rd January, 2019. Theme will be "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India".
On May 22, 2018, Governments of India and Nepal has joined hands to plan on running a joint operation to control wildlife poaching. The operation is to be conducted in Shuklaphanta National Park in Kanchanpur district on Nepal's side and Krishnapur Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh.

Other Important National Affairs

- In March 2018, International Solar Alliance (ISA) had a setup a task force, which would be responsible for creating ecosystems for startups in solar innovations by enabling incubation, partnerships and access to finance. The task force is being chaired by SoftBank Group Corp Chairman & CEO Masayoshi Son.
- 9th India Japan Energy Dialogue was held in New Delhi on May 1, 2018. The Indian side was represented by Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, R.K Singh and Japanese side was represented by Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) Mr. Hiroshige Seko signed.
- On May 1, 2018, Department of Telecom uploaded the draft of National Digital Communications Policy 2018 on its website for public consultations. The policy recognises spectrum as a key natural resource which is to be utilised for attaining India's socio-economic goals.
- As per data released by World Health Organisation (WHO), 14 Indian cities have figured in a list of 20 most polluted cities in the world. 14 Indian cities that have figured in the list are: Kanpur, Faridabad, Gaya, Patna, Agra, Muzaffarpur, Srinagar, Gurgaon, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Patiala, Lucknow, Delhi and Varanasi.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

- National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is conducting a two-day National Workshop on Data Requirements for Disaster Risk Reduction Database in New Delhi on 2nd and 3rd May, 2018.
- On 2nd May 2018, the Government held Kisan Kalyan Karyashala at the block level all over India. The Gram Swaraj Abhiyan is a campaign focussed on rural regions that began on 14th April 2018 on the birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) beyond 12th Five Year Plan for a period 2017-18 to 2019-20 with a cost of Rs. 14,832 crores.
- Union Environment Ministry has banned party poppers, stating that the devices pose a serious threat to human health and environment. Poppers, which are commonly used in parties and other celebrations are objects that explode when a string attached to it is pulled.
- On May 2, 2018, a task force constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) presented its report on "Establishing a Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)" to the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh. This task force was constituted on August 18, 2017 and is headed by Ms. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs.
- In a bid to enhance ease of getting visas, Union Ministry of Home Affairs launched online "event clearance system" on May 2, 2018, aimed at granting security clearance to foreigners wanting to visit India to attend conferences, seminars or workshops.
- The Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched an initiative of online professional development of 1.5 million higher education faculty using the MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course) platform SWAYAM. This initiative enables all in-service teachers to access the online refresher course. The NRCs will develop the Refresher Module by 15th June each year.
- National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC) has been recently set up by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation at New Delhi, after approval of the Cabinet. It will be headed by a Joint Secretary level officer. A "Water Resources Information System" (WRIS) will be developed and updated in public domain for effective integrated water resources management.
- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has involved Survey of India to strengthen the Ganga rejuvenation task by using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology. Survey of India is the oldest scientific department in India.
- POWERGRID has set Capex target for the year 2018-19 as Rs. 25,000 crore. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) has signed a MoU for the year 2018-19 with Ministry of Power. The MoU was signed by Ajay Kumar Bhalla, Secretary, Ministry of Power and I. S. Jha, Chairman and Managing Director, POWERGRID.

- Indus dolphin is one of the world's rarest mammals found only in India and Pakistan. The first organized census on Indus dolphins are conducting by the Punjab government along with WWF-India.
- On May 6 2018,With the help of World Bank's assist NITI Aayog confirmed that there was no cheating of funds occurred in the Centre's ambitious Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM), expertise on fraud detection and prevention.
- On May 6 2018, By celebrating the spirit of New India , Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) joined together to strengthen the "Gram Swaraj Abhiyaan" of the current incumbent government which is promoting social harmony and awareness around the pro-poor initiatives of the government.
- On May 8, 2018,India launched auction for 9th city gas distribution (CGD) licensing round offering permits for selling compressed and piped natural gas (CNG and PNG). In addition to this, a floor tariff of Rs 30 for city gas and Rs 2 per kg for CNG has been set. Cities for which CGD licences are on offer include: Ahmednagar, Allahabad, Amethi, Alwar, Barmer, Bhopal, Coimbatore, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Salem, Rai Bareli, Burdwan and Dehradun.
- Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) is planning to expand Van Dhan Vikas Kendras in Tribal Districts across India.The scheme envisages making tribals competent to add value to the products they collect from the jungle, so that they get better prices for the same.The first Van Dhan Vikas Kendra was launched at Bijapur, Chhattisgarh.
- Fifteenth Finance Commission has constituted an Advisory Council to advise and assist the commission.One of the functions of advisory council will be to advise the Commission on any relevant issue or subject related to the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Commission.
- On May 8th,2018; To help violence affected women, the centre has approved setting up of 100 additional One Stop Centres (OSC) in 9 states and these states areHaryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.Raipur, Chhattisgarh, where the first OSC was built has received the President's award on March 8, which is celebrated as International Women's Day.
- On May 9, 2018, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari stated that government has approved green licence plates bearing numbers in white fonts for private e-vehicles.The green licence plates will make it easy to identify electric vehicles for preferential treatment in parking, free entry in congested zones and other proposed benefits like concessional toll.
- Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has stated that India's installed clean energy capacity has already touched 70 GW as per data compiled on March 31, 2018.MNRE stated that that renewable energy capacity of 11788 MW was added during last fiscal, which is the highest ever in a single year.
- In a bid to help sugar mills to clear cane dues of farmers, Central Government has issued orders to extend financial assistance @ of Rs. 5.50 per quintal of cane crushed in sugar season 2017-18 to sugar mills to offset the cost of cane.The total assistance as per this decision is estimated to be about Rs. 1540 crore.
- Vice President of India and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Venkaiah Naidu has constituted a 2-member committee to review rules of procedure and conduct of business in Rajya Sabha.The two-member committee will be headed by V.K. Agnihotri - Former Rajya Sabha Secretary General, while the other member will be S.R. Dhaleta - Former Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Law and Justice.

- India's longest road and railway bridge "Bogibeel bridge", linking Dibrugarh in Assam to Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh is expected to be inaugurated in 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The bridge is 4.94 km long. This is said to be the second longest bridge of this kind in Asia. It has three lane roads on top and double line rail below.
- On 10th May 2018, a parliamentary panel headed by BJP leader Murali Manohar Joshi decided to study the recovery of black money and performance of public sector banks etc. As per the memorandum of the committee, the panel will overview the import of uranium for nuclear plants, mining activities and environment, upgrading of India Post offices and the drought situation in India etc.
- On May 12, 2018, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Radha Mohan Singh laid foundation stone of the frozen semen station in Maranga, Purnea, Bihar. Frozen semen station in Maranga, Purnea is being set up at a cost of Rs 64 crore (100% contribution from the Central Government) under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission.
- On May 11, 2018, Supreme Court of India approved "Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault/other crimes", a scheme for mandatory grant of compensation to victims of sexual assault and acid attack. Under the scheme, a compensation fund will be set up and it would be managed by State Legal Services Authority (SLSA).
- Rs 16,500 crore has been allotted by 71 ministries and departments of the central government for implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) in 2018-19. The Swachhata Action Plan (SAP) 2018-19 was released by Cabinet Secretary P K Sinha at a meeting of Union secretaries and senior officials on 11th May 2018 in New Delhi. SAP Compendium 2018-19 was also released at the meeting.
- In a bid to attract more Buddhist tourists from across the world, Central Government has decided to expand Buddhist tourism circuit to 21 more states. Buddhist Circuit is among the thirteen thematic circuits under central Government's Swadesh Darshan Scheme. As per earlier plan, it comprised only seven major Buddhist pilgrimage sites in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- On 10th May 2018, a parliamentary panel of 30 members estimate Committee also known as Continuous Economy committee has been constituted by the speaker of parliament. Veteran BJP leader Mr. Murali Manohar Joshi has been appointed as the chairman of this committee.
- On May 14, 2018, Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan launched Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP) aimed to train over 5.5 lakh workers in environment and forest sectors. Objective of GSDP is skilling the youth of India, especially dropouts and increasing the availability of skilled workforce.
- On 14th May 2018, Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways, Shipping, Water Resources and Ganga Rejuvenation Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the upgraded 4-lane NH-15 from Amritsar to Bhatinda and NH-64 from Zirakpur to Bhatinda in Punjab.
- IIM-Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE) has launched a Bharat Inclusion Initiative to develop knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurship in areas like financial inclusion, livelihood, education and health. CIIE will invest in seed and pre-Series-A start-ups through Bharat Inclusion Seed Fund.
- On 14th May 2018, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy issued National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy. The objective of National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy is to offer a framework for promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV hybrid system for efficient usage of transmission infrastructure and land.

- On 15th May 2018, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Communications and Minister of State of Railways, Manoj Sinha flagged off Antyodaya train named 22551/22552 Darbhanga-Jalandhar City Antyodaya Express (Weekly).
- Union Finance Ministry has announced that E-way bill system for intra-state movement of goods valued over Rs 50000 would be rolled out in Assam from May 16, 2018 and in Rajasthan from May 20, 2018. The same for intra or within the state movement has been rolled out in phased manner and so far 18 states, including Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar have made e-way bill mandatory for intra-state movement of goods.
- In a bid to pursue the objective of acquiring state-owned generation units across the country, on May 15, 2018, NTPC inked acquisition pact with Bihar and its power utilities. As per the terms of MoU, Barauni Thermal Power Station will be transferred to NTPC and Bihar State Power Generation Co. Ltd. (BSPGCL's) 27.36 per cent equity in Kanti Bijlee Utpadan Nigam Ltd (KBUNL) and 50 per cent equity in Nabinagar Power Generating Company will also be transferred to NTPC.
- On 16th May 2018, the 3rd Advance Estimates of production of major crops for 2017-18 was released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. As per Third Advance Estimates for 2017-18, total foodgrains production in the India is estimated at 279.51 million tonnes.
- An Inter-Ministerial Task Force (IMTF) was formed to perform a comprehensive review of existing coal sources of Independent Power Producers (IPPs) having linkages and consider the feasibility for rationalization of these sources to optimize transportation cost, keeping in mind the technical constraints.
- Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has formed 19 teams to take up cleaning of beaches, lakes and river fronts across India. Eco-club schools, which are being provided assistance from Environment Ministry under the National Green Corps programme will also be a part of the teams.
- On 17th May, The Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs has announced that it has been able to achieve success in the Smart City Mission. Smart Cities Mission - 1,333 projects worth Rs.50,626 crores completed or under implementation. 9 Smart Cities viz. Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Vadodara, Visakhapatnam, Bhopal, Pune, Kakinada, Surat & Nagpur have already established Integrated City Command and Control Centres (ICCC).
- On 17th May, the Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Suresh Prabhu launched an Intellectual Property Mascot named IP NANI. The Mascot is a tech-savvy grandmother who helps in combating IP crimes with the help of her grandson "Chhotu" aka Aditya. The IP mascot will spread awareness about the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) among people, especially children, in an interesting manner.
- On 17th May 2018, the Union Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) sanctioned two projects worth Rs 48 crore to enhance tourism in Tripura. The funds will be utilised to repair and develop two roads that link two tourism spots - Chabimura and Tirthamuk - at Amarpur sub-division in Gomati district.
- With an objective to conserve water, the Bhusawal Division of Indian Railways has fitted specially designed aerators in basin-taps of Tejas Express. The aerators have minute pores that break the stream of incoming water into fine water sub-streams.
- Union Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu has given his approval for creation of Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) in Department of Commerce. DGTR will be the top National Authority for dealing in all trade remedial measures including anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard measures.
- On May 18, 2018, Supreme Court approved Central Government's draft Cauvery Management Scheme aimed at ensuring smooth distribution of water among Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala

and Puducherry. Supreme Court asked Centre to make suitable changes pertaining to this provision as it was not in consonance with its judgement on the matter.

- On 17th May 2018, Nitin Gadkari, met General (Retd.) Luhut Binser Pandjaitan, Coordinating Minister of Maritime Affairs of Indonesia, in New Delhi to enhance bilateral relations between India & Republic of Indonesia. Cooperation for developing alternative fuels like natural gas and methanol for ships was also discussed.
- On 19th May 2018, "Green Good Deeds", the societal movement initiated by Environment, Forest & Climate Change Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan to safeguard environment and promote good living received acceptance from the global community.
- On 19th May, The Northeast Frontier Railway flagged off its first Parcel Cargo Express Train (PCET) that will be connecting the northeast to the west coast. It is an initiative taken by the North East Frontier Railway to provide connectivity to the north east region and encourage local industries of the region.
- Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) has adopted the acronym "AYUSH" as a word, both in the English and Hindi languages, for scientific and technical purposes. CSTT took this decision based on a proposal of the Ministry of AYUSH.
- On 20th May, Government of India's e-Visa scheme has fetched Rs. 1400 crore as revenue. This scheme was launched in 2014. In 2017, 19 lakh tourists have availed this facility and 25 lakh more tourists are expected to join in on 2018. This has 4 slabs zero, \$25, \$50, \$75 for fixed repository and depends on nationality.
- On May 21, 2018, State run EESL (Energy Efficiency Services Limited) has announced that it has distributed over 30 crore LED bulbs across the country under government's UJALA scheme. The distribution of LED bulbs has helped in saving energy of over 38,952 KWh annually amounting to Rs. 15,581 crore.
- On May 21, 2018, IIT-Kanpur has set up India's first advisory Centre for Energy Regulation (CER) with the help of government of United Kingdom. With an aim to provide independent advisory on policy and regulatory matters in the power and energy sector. Its main focus is around the policy and regulatory changes in the power and energy sector.
- On 23rd May 2018, the Union Cabinet approved an ordinance to amend the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) 2016. Through this amendment to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, homebuyers are given the status of creditors in the insolvency process. The government amended Section 29A clause of the IBC. It lists entities barred from bidding for companies under insolvency.
- On May 25, 2018, The Union Minister of Human Resources and Development Mr. Prakash Javedekar launched the "Samagra Shiksha" scheme. This scheme is targeted towards providing education from pre-school till class 12. This scheme will consist of the three components considered earlier for school education. They are: Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Training.
- On May 25, 2018, Visit of Prime Minister of Netherlands to India concluded. Following are the agreements signed by the two countries. PM of Netherlands Mark Rutte launches 'Clean Air India' initiative in New Delhi to curb air pollution in Indian cities. Netherlands signed 51 agreements covering government and private sectors. It is 64th Country to join International Solar Alliance. [Click here to read more.](#)
- On 25th May 2018, the e-Way Bill system for intra-State movement of goods was implemented for Maharashtra, Manipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep. The e-Way Bill system for inter-State movement of goods was launched on 1st April 2018.
- On May 31, 2018, the Minister of State (I/C) of Tourism Mr. K.J. Alphons launched the first ever guidelines on Adventure Tourism in New Delhi. The guidelines of safety and Quality norms for Adventure Tourism in India has been made by Adventure_Tour Operators Association of India (ATOAI).

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test

Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test

NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test

RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free

SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test

- Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Mizoram, Odisha and Punjab are implementing e-way bill system for intra-state movement of goods from 1st June 2018. Tamil Nadu will implement e-Way Bill system for intra-State movement of goods on 2nd June 2018 and West Bengal on 3rd June 2018.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- On 7th May 2018, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) notified the protocol amending the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) between India and Kuwait. The protocol updates the provisions in the DTAA for exchange of information according to international standards.
- On 4th May 2018, India and Sri Lanka agreed on cooperation on exchange of information and other aspects to tackle smuggling of drugs in India and Sri Lanka. The Indian delegation was led by NCB Director General Abhay. The Sri Lankan delegation was led by PNB Deputy Inspector General Sajeewa Medawatte.
- California's economy has emerged as the world's fifth largest, as per new federal data revealed on 4th May 2018. California's economy has surpassed the economy of United Kingdom. California's gross domestic product increased by \$127 billion from 2016 to 2017.
- On 4th May 2018, Israel announced its withdrawal from the contest for a non-permanent seat at the UN Security Council (UNSC) for the 2019-2020 term. Israel has been competing with Germany and Belgium for one out of the two seats assigned to the Western European and Others Group.
- On 10th May 2018, Ram Nath Kovind became the second president of India to visit Indian Army's Siachen base camp. Siachen base camp is also known as the "Third Pole" where temperatures drop to minus 50 degrees Celsius sometimes.
- On May 12, 2018, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and UAE Minister of State & Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) Group CEO Dr. Sultan Al Jaber flagged off first consignment of 2 million barrels of ADNOC crude for India.
- On May 8 2018, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has met with Chinese President Xi Jinping in the northeastern Chinese city of Dalian. China backs Pyongyang's adherence to the denuclearization of the peninsula, and advocates the dialogue and consultation between the North Korea and the United States (US) for resolving the peninsula issue.
- On May 8, 2018, US President Donald Trump announced withdrawal of US from Iran Nuclear Deal. After years of tension over *Iran's* alleged efforts to develop a *nuclear* weapon, in 2015, Iran agreed a long-term deal with the US, UK, France, China, Russia and German. As per the deal, Iran agreed to limit its sensitive nuclear activities if the economic sanctions imposed on it were lifted.
- Investment Board Nepal (IBN) has granted licence to Satluj Jala Vodyut Nigam Power Development Company, a subsidiary of Indian government-owned Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd,

to generate power from the Arun-3 Hydropower Project that is located in Nepal. It was granted in accordance with the decision taken at the 30th meeting of IBN's board of directors chaired by Nepal Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli on 28th April 2018.

- Indian Government has sent 2nd relief consignment for Rohingyas (who fled Myanmar) residing in refugee camps in Bangladesh. The 373-tonne consignment, which was loaded on Indian Navy Ship INS Airavat sailed from Vishakhapatnam and reached Chattogram on May 7, 2018.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on an official visit to Nepal on 11th and 12th May, 2018. This was PM Modi's third visit to Nepal and the first high-level visit from India since the formation of the new Government in Nepal this year. PM Modi, Nepal PM jointly inaugurate direct bus service between Janakpur and Ayodhya. [Click here to read more.](#)
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu was on an official visit to Guatemala, Panama and Peru in Latin America from 6th -12th May, 2018. This was Mr. Naidu's first official overseas visit. On this visit, Mr. Naidu was accompanied by a high-level delegation including Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor. [Click here to read more.](#)
- On 12th May, Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli announced that Nepal will be the host for the upcoming 2018 BIMSTEC Summit. This was announced during the bilateral talks between the Prime Minister of Nepal and India on commitment towards building the Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal initiative.
- On 15th May, the World Health Organisation (WHO) launched a campaign called 'REPLACE'. It is aimed to eliminate industrially produced trans fat from global foods by 2023. Denmark was the first country to implement such restrictions and following its success New York has also eliminated trans fat a decade ago.
- World Health Organisation (WHO) has published its first 'essential diagnostics list', a list of tests needed to diagnose the most common conditions as well as a number of global priority diseases. WHO's essential diagnostics list concentrates on in-vitro tests like tests of blood and urine.
- On 16th May, the President of Guatemala Jimmy Morales inaugurated Guatemalan embassy in Jerusalem. It is the second country after US to do so. Apart from this, other Latin American countries like Paraguay and Honduras are next on opening their embassies in Jerusalem in the next few weeks as per reports.
- Minister of State for External Affairs, M.J. Akbar was on an official visit to Austria and Slovak Republic from 15th to 17th May, 2018. In Austria, Mr. Akbar also had a meeting with President of STRATEG Lt. General Christian Segur-Cabanac. STRATEG is a leading think tank of Austria. Mr. Akbar visited the Slovak Republic to participate at the GLOBSEC 2018 Bratislava Forum.
- On 18th May 2018, Russian President Vladimir Putin reshuffled his Cabinet. Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and Finance Minister Anton Siluanov are unchanged. Anton Siluanov was promoted to the post of first deputy prime minister. Dmitry Patrushev has been made agriculture minister. Culture Minister Vladimir Medinsky has retained his position.
- On 19th May, Russia unveiled the world's first floating nuclear power station at a ceremony in the port of the city of Murmansk where it will be loaded with nuclear fuel before heading to eastern Siberia. It will be primarily used to power oil rigs & supply electricity and heat to the most remote regions, supporting also growth and sustainable development.
- On 16th to 18th May 2018, Minister of State for Defence Dr. Subhash Bhamre was on a three-day official visit to Republic of Nauru. Nauru will host the 49th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in September 2018.

- On 18th May 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) held an emergency meeting to discuss on the outbreak of Ebola in Congo. WHO has declared the risk to the public in Congo "very high" and the regional risk "high".
- On May 21, 2018, an emergency summit of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was held in Istanbul, Turkey. This meeting was headed by the President of Turkey Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan.
- On May 22, 2018, India received the 1st cargo of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) crude oil for its Mangalore Strategic Petroleum Reserve. In February 2018, during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to UAE, ISPR and ADNOC signed an Agreement for storing 5.86 Million barrels of crude oil.
- On May 22, 2018, BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) plans to launch Americas Regional Office in Brazil. It is done to increase the operational capabilities of NDB in Brazil. This will help in identification and preparation of bankable projects in Brazil. Apart from this there is another centre : The African Regional Centre in Johannesburg , South Africa.
- The United Kingdom's National Crime Agency (NCA) has placed Pakistan among the top three sources for money laundering in the United Kingdom. Nigeria and Russia are the other two countries in the top 3 sources of money laundering in UK. London is also considered the "Money Laundering Capital of the World" where corrupt leaders from developing countries use wealth looted from people to buy assets.
- On May 24, 2018, India launches international incubator for clean energy innovators in MI3 at Malmo , Sweden. India announces its plan for hosting MI clean energy materials Workshop in October-November, 2018 at New Delhi . This decision was taken in the 3rd Mission Innovation Ministerial from 22-23 May 2018. India's team was headed by the Union Minister for Science, Technology and Earth Sciences. Dr. Harsh Vardhan.
- On May 24, 2018, The World Health Organization (WHO) declared Nepal the first country to eliminate Trachoma. Trachoma was the second leading cause of preventable blindness in the Himalayan nation in the 1980s. Nepal had stepped up the efforts to eliminate trachoma with the establishment of a National Trachoma Programme.
- Palestine has submitted its instrument of accession to Chemical Weapons Convention to European Union (EU). The Convention will come into force for Palestine on 16th June 2018. The OPCW is an international chemical weapons watchdog. It has been acting as the implementing body for the Chemical Weapons Convention since 1997.
- On May 21, 2018, The Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced the commencement of the 5th Cambodia, Laos PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam (CLMV) countries conclave held at Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 21-22 May 2018. The governments and private sector of the five countries would consider using PPP (Public Private Partnership) form and studying goods production under "Made in I-CLMV" logo for regional and global markets.
- On May 26, 2018, The president of Columbia Juan Manuel Santos announced that Columbia has formally joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The formalization will take place in Brussels and that Columbia will be a global partner of NATO. Columbia is the only country of Latin America to be a part of NATO. Apart from Columbia Afghanistan, Pakistan, South Korea, New Zealand, Iraq, Mongolia and Japan are in the same ranks.
- On 23rd to 25th May 2018, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism, K. J. Alphons along with a delegation of senior officials attended the 108th session of UNWTO Executive Council, in San Sebastian, Spain. He chaired the 'Programme and Budget Committee' meeting of UNWTO. He also met with the Secretary-General of UNWTO, Mr. Zurab Pololikashvili and discussed on creating a Joint Action Plan focused on Tourism Innovation and Digital Transformation and positioning of India on this Action Plan.
- On May 28, 2018, Qatar announced that it was banning products from United Arab Emirates (UAE) , Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Egypt . The four states cut all diplomatic relations with Qatar on wake of Doha supporting terror financing.

- On 29th May 2018, Azerbaijan inaugurated a pipeline at Sangachal Terminal, in Azerbaijan. Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev turned on the taps at Sangachal Terminal. The Sangachal Terminal is located nearly 55 kilometres southwest of Azerbaijan's capital Baku. This pipeline will eventually create the first direct route to transport gas from one of the world's largest fields to Europe bypassing Russia.
- India has released Rs 33.10 Crore to Nepal for 2 road packages of Birgunj-Thori Road implemented under Postal Highway Projects in Nepal with the grant assistance from Indian Government. The funds has been released for 25% of tendered cost (including 10% mobilization advance) of the Postal Highway Projects.
- On May 29, 2018, the 71st World Health Assembly the decision making body of World Health Organization (WHO) has adopted India's Digital Health Initiative. The Assembly was held at Geneva, Switzerland. It is for countries achieving health related SDG (sustainable development goals) and implementing WHO's 13th General Program of work.

BANKING & FINANCE

RBI in News

- Reserve Bank of India has directed banks authorized to deal in foreign exchange (Authorised Dealer-I Banks) to share data with the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI). This decision has been made in line with the government making rules (in December 2017) to exercise powers conferred by the relevant sections of the Customs Act.
- On 4th May 2018, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that, it will buy Rs 10,000 crore of government bonds through open market operation (OMO). RBI made this decision after failing to sell all the debt it had offered to bidders. It was the third consecutive week when the RBI couldn't sell everything on offer which led to a spike in bond yields.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has placed additional restrictions on Allahabad Bank, which is under prompt corrective action (PCA) since January 2018. RBI has debarred Allahabad bank from high-risk lending and has advised to reduce exposure to unrated and high-risk advances.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has modified the norms for setting up International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) Banking Units (IBUs) by banks. As per the new norm, parent bank will be required to provide and maintain a minimum capital of USD 20 million in its IBU on an ongoing basis.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released final guidelines prescribing 100 percent net stable funding ratio (NSFR) for banks aimed at maintaining adequate liquidity for more resilience.
- On May 24, 2018, Reserve Bank of India announced that banks' credit grew at 12.64% and deposits at 7.61% as on May 11, 2018 data. Credit grew by 12.64 percent year-on-year to Rs 85,51,099 crore in the fortnight ending in May 11, 2018 compared to the fortnight ending in May 12, 2017, banks' advances stood at Rs 75,90,941 crore.

Technology in Banking

Name of Entity	Technology implemented	Points to be noted
Fino Payments Bank	Digital services suite	The suite includes BPay app, which was launched in September 2017 for digital transition of customers from assisted to self-service mode.
Paytm	'My Payments'	An automatic recurring payments feature that lets users of Paytm app to pay for periodic recurring

		expenses automatically. That can be used for high-value payments for a variety of cases such as house rent, maid/driver's salary, milk or newspaper vendor payments online
Yes Bank and its think tank YES Global Institute	'Agenda 25x25'	Aimed at creating a synergetic startup environment for budding women entrepreneurs in India. 'Agenda 25X25' is geared towards ensuring that by 2025, at least 25% of all entrepreneurs in India are women.

Loans issued by banks/others

Loan issued by	Received by	Amount	Points to be noted
World Bank	Government of India	\$ 200 million	The loan is used for the National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan). This loan will help India to reach its goal of reducing stunting in children of the age 0-6 years from 38.4% to 25% by 2022
NABARD	Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu	Rs 87.83 lakh	For implementing LED Solar Street lighting System in the State.
International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)	Indian Government	\$500 million	This loan has a grace period of 3 years and a maturity period of 10 years. For adequate maintenance of existing 4.6 million km of road networks.
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development an arm of World Bank	EESL	\$300 mn	The Aim is to avoid lifetime greenhouse emissions of 170 million tonnes of CO2 and 10GW of additional generation capacity.
Asian Development Bank	Madhya Pradesh	\$535.1 million and \$ 160.71 million	The estimated time of completion of the project is September 2025.

MoU/Agreements in Banking & Finance

- On May 22, 2018, Bank Of Baroda has signed agreement with CDSL Commodity Repository (CCRL). This agreement is for pledge finance under the repository ecosystem for registered / accredited warehouses. BOB becomes the first public sector bank to become the repository participant.
- To develop an innovative biopharmaceutical and medical devices industry in India, Government of India and the World Bank signed an agreement. The aim is to make India a hub for design and development of novel, affordable and effective biopharmaceutical products. The

agreement has signed at a cost of USD 250 million for five years with 50 per cent funding through the World Bank Loan.

- On 8th May;2018, The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for the year 2018-19.The corporation aims to increase its total business by 21.30 percent from Rs.22,258crore in the year 2017-18 to Rs.27,000 crorein the year 2018-19.
- On 24th May 2018, CSC SPV and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed an MoU to offer financial support to CSCs all over India.In order to receive the loan, the VLEs should submit their CSC project, with maximum project outlay of Rs. 3.50 lakh and term loan requirement under Rs. 2 lakh per project.
- On 29th May 2018, an agreement for IBRD Credit of USD 21.7 Million from World Bank for the Strengthening of Public Financial Management in Rajasthan Project was signed in New Delhi. Project size: is nearly USD 31 million. Out of this USD 21.7 million will be funded by the World Bank. Rest of the amount will be funded-out of the State Budget.Duration of this project: is 5 years.

Other Important Banking & Finance News

- In a bid to curtail money laundering, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has unveiled with a detailed framework for risk based Know Your Client (KYC) documentation of foreign portfolio investors (FPIs).
- Bank deposit growth fell to a five-decade low in fiscal year ended March 2018 but attractive of other savings methods such as mutual funds and insurance reduced banking competitiveness. A total deposit of Rs.114 lakh crore was reported in the last fiscal .The data showed that cumulative deposits in the banking system grew a mere 6.7% in 2017-18, the lowest since fiscal 1963.
- As per International Monetary Fund's (IMF's) Asia and Pacific Regional Economic Outlook report released on May 8, 2018, India will be the fastest growing major economy in 2018, clocking a growth rate of 7.4 per cent.As per IMF, Indian economy is recovering from after effects of demonetisation in November 2016 and roll out of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in July 2017.
- YES Bank is to launch a capacity building project with farmers in Haryana and Rajasthan under its 'Livelihood and Water Security' CSR (Corporate social responsibility) initiative.The main focus of the programme is sustainable agricultural practices and digital literacy.
- As per Credit rating agency Fitch, Indian economy is projected to grow at 7.3 percent in current fiscal i.e. 2018-19 and 7.5 percent in next fiscal.The above projection has been made in Fitch's second-quarter Sovereign Credit Overview for Asia Pacific region.
- Dena Bank has announced that Reserve Bank of India has restricted it from taking fresh credit exposure and recruiting new staff.It is to be noted that RBI initiated prompt corrective action against Dena Bank and imposed certain restrictions in May 2017 owing to high net non performing assets (NPA) and negative Return on Assets.
- World Bank (WB) has finally agreed to provide a grant to Bangladesh for meeting the basic needs of around one million Rohingyas who fled their homeland Myanmar.WB, which has dealt with similar refugee crisis in Venezuela, Turkey and some other African countries has stated that grant provided to Bangladesh should be entirely spent for Rohingyas only.
- Karnataka Bank will sell 8.26 % stake in Universal Sompo General Insurance to Dabur Investment Corporation and Sompo Japan.After this transaction, Karnataka Bank's stake in the general insurance company will reduce to 6 percent from the current 14.26 percent.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

- Smaller towns are driving growth for SBI Cards (a subsidiary of State Bank of India) which has been increasing its card numbers at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 40%. In terms of spending, Cardholders in centres outside the top 10 cities account for 45% of spending.
- On 20th May, The central bank Reserve Bank of India slapped a penalty of Rs. 5 crore (\$50 million) on South Indian Bank. This penalty was levied due to non-compliance of Income Recognition and Asset Classification (IRAC) norms, Know-Your-Customer (KYC) norms and treasury function and also for deficiencies in its compliance function and compliance culture.
- On May 22, 2018, Bank of Baroda locates major operations at GIFT city. The bank will now offer its services including retail loan processing, deposit account opening in this Shared Service Centre (SSC). It will have a staff strength of 200.
- Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), a state-run Chinese bank has launched ICBC Credit Suisse India Market Fund, China's first India-dedicated publicly offered investment fund. The fund will invest in exchange-traded funds listed on more than 20 exchanges in Europe and the US that are based on the Indian market.
- On May 23, 2018, HDFC bank launched Digital Loans against Mutual Funds. This is launched in partnership with transfer agent CAMS. The bank has a tie-up with 10 mutual companies. The ticket size of the loans will range from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 1 crore at an interest rate of 10.5 - 11%. The bank has a mutual fund loan portfolio of Rs 10,000 crore.
- On May 25, 2018, India's Largest stock exchange National Stock Exchange (NSE) has given approval to Yes Bank to be empanelled as 'Settlement Bank' for National Securities Clearing Corporation (NSCC). Yes Bank is already empanelled as 'Clearing Bank' for BSE, NCDEX, MCX.
- On May 26, 2018, the Mumbai Headquartered ICICI bank launched its innovation lab for digital business. This team is headed by former Chief Technology Officer (CTO) Mr. Rohan Angrish at small business lender Fintech Capital Float. Innovation in areas like: digital small ticket personal loans, 'one cycle' credit loans. The lab will function on a 3 point strategy: 'Run, Evolve & Imagine'.
- On May 28, 2018, the Central Bank of India, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has instructed the Rupee Co-op Bank of Pune to continue its banking services keeping the limitations in mind. RBI has further extended the restrictions for further 3 months till August 31 2018.
- On May 30, 2018, State Bank of India hiked its fixed deposit rates for selected tenures. The range of hike starts from 0.05 (5bps) to 0.25 (25 basis points).

Less than 1 Crore	1 Crore-10 Crore
Term deposits for 1-2 yr=6.65% from 6.4%	1-2 year deposits will get 7 %
Term deposits for 2-3 yr=6.65% from 6.60%	senior citizens it is 7.5%
Term deposits for Senior Citizens:1-2 yr=7.15% from 6.9%	The rates are same for amount greater than 10 crore.
Fixed Deposits 2-3 yr=7.15%	

BUSINESS & ECONOMY NEWS

- As per data released by Union Ministry of Finance, the total gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue collected in the month of April 2018 surpassed the Rs 1 lakh crore mark and stood at Rs 103458 crore.
- As per data released by Union Commerce and Industry Ministry, Core Sector growth slowed down to 4.1% in March 2018. Coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity are together referred to as core industries.
- Dalmia Bharat group has adopted the Gandikota Fort (located in in Kadapa district, Andhra Pradesh) under Central Government's 'Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan' scheme. Gandikota Fort is a 14th century fort, overlooking a stunning gorge carved by the Pennar river in Andhra Pradesh.
- IT firm Cognizant has acquired Hedera Consulting, a Belgium-based business advisory and data analytics services company. The value of the deal was not disclosed. Hedera Consulting will be part of Cognizant Consulting business unit after acquisition.
- Kotak Securities Limited, the stock broking and distribution arm of the Kotak Mahindra Group has launched 'Free Intraday Trading', a facility that allows financial market traders to do intraday trading without paying any brokerage per trade.
- 51st Asian Development Bank(ADB) Annual Meeting was Presided by ADB President Takehiko Nakao. While Addressing the Ceremony of the 51st Meeting, Nakao Said that India's growth is Projected to be 7.3 Percent in Fiscal Year 2018 & 7.6 Per cent in the next Fiscal, which is far higher than its 6.6 Percent in Fiscal Year 2017.
- On 8th May 2018, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released the draft amendment of telecommunication interconnection regulations. As per the draft, TRAI has set time-frame for provisioning of ports for initial interconnection and augmentation to be increased to a maximum 42 working days.
- On 8th May 2018, Uber and NASA announced that they are tying up to simulate flying taxis in urban areas. NASA said that it will start simulations for the "urban air mobility" vehicles. The urban air mobility vehicles also include delivery drones.
- On 10th May 2018, Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed a Rs 945-crore deal with the Harris Corporation of the US for development of its futuristic telecommunications infrastructure (FTI) programme. The contract is for 15 years. It was signed at the sixth edition of the US-India aviation summit that started on 10th May 2018 in Mumbai.
- On 8th May 2018, the Indian tea industry reached the highest ever production of 1,325.05 million kg and export of 256.57 million kg during the financial year 2017-18. The growth in exports is mainly attributed to 5 countries:
 - i. Egypt (7.49 million kg)
 - ii. Iran 6.95 million kg)
 - iii. Pakistan (4.96 million kg)
 - iv. China (2.91 million kg)
 - v. Russia (2.89 million kg)
- According to a report titled 'Indian Industry's Inclusive Footprint in South Africa – Doing Business, Doing Good', released by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), 140 Indian companies have invested close to \$4 billion in South Africa, creating nearly 18000 direct employment opportunities.

- As per the report RemitSCOPE - Remittance markets and opportunities- Asia and the Pacific, India was the largest remittance-receiving country in the world, with migrant workers from India sending home USD 69 billion in 2017.
- **India largest remittance-receiving country in world:**
 - i. India (USD 69 billion)
 - ii. China (USD 64 billion)
 - iii. Philippines (USD 33 billion)
- As per data released by the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation stood at 3.18 percent in the month of April 2018. WPI for April 2018 at 3.18 percent is higher as compared to 2.47 percent for the previous month. The rise can be attributed to increment in index of 'Food Articles' group which went up by 1.9 percent to 139.8 (provisional) from 137.2 (provisional) for the previous month.
- On 14th May, the Indian army Chief General Bipin Rawat announced that the Indian Army has bagged a finalized deal amounting to Rs. 15000 cr for indigenously produced ammunition project consisting of critical weapons and tanks. The objective of this project is to create an inventory of major weapons that would suffice during a 30-day war scenario. And the long term aim is to cut down on defence imports.
- On May 15, 2018, Income Tax Department launched the ITR-2, the third income return form for assessment year 2018-19, on the official e-filing portal. ITR-2 is for individuals, Hindu Undivided families (HUFs) and NRIs who have income from any sources except income from profits and gains of business or profession.
- Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has become the first Indian exchange to be recognised as a designated offshore securities market (DOSM) by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Few exchanges across the world that have the DOSM recognition are London Stock Exchange, Bourse de Luxembourg, Tokyo Stock Exchange and Toronto Stock Exchange.
- As per UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) as of mid-2018, India's economy is projected to grow 7.6 per cent in fiscal year 2018-19. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in 2018-19 will come on back of robust private consumption, supportive fiscal stance and benefits from past reforms.
- NMDC (National Mineral Development Corporation) Limited and NLC India Limited (formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation) may invest over USD 26 million for setting up a research & development (R&D) facility for developing innovative technologies in iron and steel making. ECT is an expert in commercialising leading-edge coal and iron-making technologies.
- According to the Customs Brokers Licensing Regulations, 2018, notified by the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), unique identity number Aadhaar and PAN is mandatory for persons seeking a customs broker licence. Customs broker is a person licensed to act as an agent on behalf of importer/exporter for transaction of business relating to entry or departure of conveyances or goods at any customs station.
- Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) has received environment clearance for the expansion and optimisation of its petrochemical complex at Nagothane in Raigad district of Maharashtra. The expansion and optimisation of this petrochemical complex will be carried out at an estimated cost of Rs 2338 crore.
- On 20th May, state run Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) announced that an LPG bottling plant is being set up in Balkhani, Balangir district in Odisha. This is the second time BPCL has launched bottling plant in Odisha after the Khurda plant with the total cost of Rs. 103 crore.

- India's GDP for January-March 2017-18 has been expected at 7.4 per cent by rating agency ICRA. The Central Statistics Office (CSO) will release the GDP estimate for the fourth quarter (Q4) of fiscal 2017-18 and provisional annual estimates for the year 2017-18 on 31st May 2018.
- On May 21, 2018, the government's Bank Note Paper Mill India (BNPM) received environment clearance (EC) from Environment Ministry to increase production of bank note paper from 12,000 tonnes per annum (TPA) to 16,000 TPA at its Mysuru unit in Karnataka.
- On May 22, 2018, Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) launches India's first copper options. The contract has clocked a traded volume of 461 lots with value of Rs. 21.89 crore. It provides the optimal tool to protect and lessen price risk in copper for the stakeholders. Copper ranks as the third-most-consumed industrial metal in the world, after iron and aluminium.
- On May 22, 2018, The Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog Rajiv Kumar said that the Indian economy and business will grow to a 9% growth rate by 2022. This was possible because of the reforms like GST and demonetization and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). Also encouraging electric vehicles will aid in the improvement as petrol prices are growing to a USD 80 per barrel.
- On May 22, 2018, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will begin its operations in Nagayalanka block in Krishna District. This will be inaugurated by ONGC CMD Mr. Shashi Shanker in the site near the Bhavadevarapalli Village. This Early production System (EPS) will cost Rs. 6804 crore.
- On 21st May 2018, Partners Group agreed to buy ownership stake in GlobalLogic from Funds advised by Apax Partners. The deal size was not revealed by the companies. After acquisition, Partners Group will become an equal shareholder with existing investor, Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB).
- Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under Union Ministry of Finance disposed of five foreign direct investment (FDI) proposals during April, 2018. Another proposal which has been approved is of M/s Hindustan Infralog Pvt Ltd., seeking approval for foreign investment up to Rs. 3250 crore in M/s Hindustan Infralog Pvt Ltd.
- On May 25, 2018, market valuation of Tata Consultancy Service (TCS) has risen past Rs. 7 lakh crore. It becomes the first company so far to have achieved this goal. Reliance Industries at Rs. 5,83,908.87 crore, HDFC bank at Rs. 5,19,654.83 crore, HUL at Rs. 3,42,244.47 crore, ITC at Rs. 3,30,919.46 crore are following TCS.
- On May 26, 2018, after a month of being notified the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has released all the 7 e-filing forms for the taxpayers. ITR-1 is called 'Sahaj' and is for the salaried person earning upto Rs. 50 lakh only. 3 crore taxpayers has used this file for the previous financial year. ITR-2 is for the individuals and 'HUF' (Hindu Undivided Families) having income from profits and gains in business including NRIs.
- On May 26, 2018, Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)'s central board of trustees headed by ministry of Labour has approved 8.55% interest on PF for 2017-18. It has provided 8.5% in 2016-17, 8.8% in 2015-16 and 8.75% in 2013-14 & 2014-15. It was 8.50 in 2012-13 thus it is a 5 year low from that period.
- Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Centre (RGCIRC) has launched a 40 day long cancer screening program and awareness initiative on harmful effects of tobacco consumption. These initiatives have been taken keeping in mind the World No Tobacco Day 2018 (31 May 2018)..
- On May 27, 2018, the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) decided to cut its administrative charges by 0.5%. This would come into effect from June 1, 2018. The Charges has been modified from 0.65 to 0.50 % of the wage paid by the employer. EPFO has accumulated Rs. 38 billion through the charges in the last fiscal.
- On 27th May 2018, Baba Ramdev, Co-founder of Patanjali, launched Swadeshi Samridhi SIM cards, in alliance with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). At the beginning, only the employees and office bearers of Patanjali can avail the benefits of the Swadeshi Samridhi SIM

card. The card also offers medical and life insurance covers of Rs 2.5 lakh and Rs 5 lakh, respectively. The covers can be availed only in case of road accident.

- On May 28, 2018, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) is joining hands with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for sending extreme weather warnings. Under harsh weather conditions IMD will send alerts to the BSNL and BSNL with the help of its technology will send the alerts to the registered numbers in the Delhi region.
- On May 28, 2018, 8 Naxal hit districts of Chattisgarh are to be developed by the government with the help of TATA Trust. To provide technical and human resource assistance to the special development programme launched by the NITI Aayog. This initiative is taken under the 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme. The 8 worst hit districts are: Bijapur, Kanker, Bastar, Rajnandgaon, Dantewada, Kondagaon, Narayanpur, Sukma.
- On May 27, Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) was named as the Nodal Agency to set up 2.5 GW Wind-Solar hybrid Project by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. The Objective of the Scheme is to Build the Hybrid Projects with the Transparent Bidding Process.
- IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative) and Indian Potash Ltd (IPL) have acquired 37% stake in JPMC (Jordan Phosphate Mines Company), Jordan's largest mining and chemical firm, for Rs 900 crore. IPL has bought 27% stake. IFFCO through its subsidiary Kisan International Trading (KIT) has bought 10% in JPMC.
- On May 30, 2018, according to Moody's investor service report India's GDP forecast has gone down to 7.3% from 7.5% for 2018. This cut is because of higher oil prices. The forecast for 2019 is constant at 7.5%.
- On May 30, 2018, National Mineral Development Corporation and NLC Ltd. (formerly known as Neyveli Lignite Corporation) signed a pact with Environment Clean Technologies Ltd. of Australia in Canberra. The project has two phases: Commencing a R&D phase that has a fund of AUD 35 million by Indian partners and commercial expansion of the for the steel making facility with capacity of 5 lakh tonne per annum. The amount for this fund is: AUD 300 million.
- On May 30, 2018, Social Media platform Facebook joined hands with National Commission for Women (NCW) to launch digital literacy programme in collaboration with Cyber Peace Foundation (CPF). The training will be given to 60,000 women in universities across major cities in Haryana, Delhi-NCR, Manipur, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. The training will be conducted in local languages.
- On May 30, 2018, Facebook will be launching Whatsapp Pay, a payment service for its whatsapp platform. It will be partnering with HDFC, AXIS, ICICI and SBI banks. More than 200 million Indians use Whatsapp and that is about 60% of US population. The active usage is estimated to be 20 times more than Paytm's.
- On May 31, 2018, The ministry of Statistics reported that India's GDP grew at robust 7.7% in Q4 of financial year 2017-18. The full year growth is at 6.7%. It surpassed China's trajectory of 8%. The ministry revised the October-December growth from earlier 7.2% to 7.0%. It can be forecasted that the growth is towards a 7.3% for annual growth.

MOUs/AGREEMENTS COUNTRIES & STATES

MoUs between Countries

On May 16, 2018, Union Cabinet Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved following bilateral agreements:

No.	MoU between	Field
1	India and France	Technical Cooperation in the field of railways.
2	India and Morocco	Legal field & field of Mining and Geology.

3	India and Swaziland	Cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine.
4	India and Suriname	Cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration.
5	India and Equatorial Guinea	Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine.
6	India and Colombia	Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine

- On May 23, 2018, The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Narendra Modi approved the following MOUs with different countries:

No.	MoU between	Field
1	India and Angola	For promoting bilateral cooperation in the field of Electronics and Information Technology.
2	India and France	Field of Renewable Energy.
3	India and Denmark	Food Safety Cooperation
4	India and Morocco	Cooperation in Renewable Energy.
5	India and Singapore	Cooperation in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration.
6	India and Turkey	On trade in poppy seeds to ensure quick and transparent processing for import of poppy seeds from Turkey.

MoUs - States wise

No	State	MoU with	Field/Purpose
1	Gujarat government	Poland government	Regarding the centenary celebrations to mark independence of Poland in Delhi and other regions of the world. The department of youth and cultural affairs of Gujarat government will be co-organisers for the centenary celebrations.
2	Punjab State Government	United Kingdom (UK)	For setting up of bio-gas and bio- <i>Compressed natural gas (CNG)</i> plants in the state. Objective of this MoU is to find viable and sustainable solutions to paddy straw burning, which has become a major environmental concern in Punjab and surrounding region.
3	Maharashtra State Government	Centre's Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA) Council	To train state's Public Works Department (PWD) officials to rate government buildings.

4	Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB)	National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)	For increasing solar power generation in the state. The MoU includes an agreement to set up a 15 MW solar power unit at the NTPC complex in Kayamkulam.
5	Government of Uttar Pradesh	Ministry of Women and Child Development	For management of home of Widows at Sunrakh Bangar, Varanasi.
6	Maharashtra Government	Mahindra & Mahindra	Work towards becoming fully electric ready by further investing in its Chakan plant for manufacture of evs, e-motor, controller, battery pack and other electric vehicle components for multiple mobility applications associated with battery pack assembly of evs. The second mou will work with fleet partners, taxi aggregators, logistics companies, etc to deploy 1,000 electric cars in the next one year.
7	Maharashtra Government	Tata Motors	To deploy 1,000 Electric Vehicles across a range of passenger and commercial vehicles in Maharashtra

Other MoUs

- On 2nd May 2018, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved upgradation and expansion of airport infrastructure at Lucknow, Chennai and Guwahati airports with a total cost of over Rs 5,000 crore.
- Union Cabinet has given its approval for doubling the investment limit under the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY) from Rs 7.5 lakhs to Rs 15 lakhs. Cabinet approves Mutual Recognition Agreement between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA).
- In a bid to help sugar mills to clear cane dues of farmers, CCEA has given its approval to provide financial assistance @ of Rs. 5.50 per quintal of cane crushed in sugar season 2017-18 to sugar mills to offset the cost of cane. CCEA has approved the proposal for renaming and restructuring of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) as Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK).
- On May 4, the Government's Policy Think-Tank NITI Aayog & a World's Leading Information Technology Company IBM had Signed a Statement of Intent (SOI), in the Presence of NITI Aayog CEO Shri. Amitabh Kant and MD, IBM India Shri Karan Bajwa.
- NITI Aayog and Google signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to enhance growth in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) ecosystem in India. The Statement of Intent (SoI) was signed by Ms. Anna Roy, Advisor, NITI Aayog and Rajan Anandan, Vice President, India and South East Asia, Google.
- Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE), National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) has signed MoU with Union Ministry of Mines, setting highest ever target of Rs 9350 crore revenue for financial year 2018-19. NALCO's revenue target of Rs 9350 crore marks a 15% increment over previous year.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

- Union External Affairs Minister, Ms. Sushma Swaraj was on an official visit to Myanmar on 10th and 11th May 2018. This visit was a part of the high-level engagement between the two countries. Both the countries signed following agreements/Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs).
 - i. Agreement on Land Border Crossing
 - ii. MoU on Restoration and Preservation of Earthquake Damaged Pagodas in Bagan
 - iii. MoU on assistance to the Joint Ceasefire Monitoring Committee
 - iv. MoU on Training of Myanmar Foreign Service Officers
 - v. MoU on setting up Industrial Training Centre (ITC) at Monywa
 - vi. MoU on setting up Industrial Training Centre (ITC) at Thaton
 - vii. Exchange of Letters on extending a maintenance contract for Industrial Training Centre (ITC) at Myingyan.
- On 19th May, state-run Tripura Horticulture Corporation Limited (THCL) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Spicejet Merchandise Pvt Ltd to boost pineapple export. Pineapple is one of the major fruit crops in terms of area and as per the statistics, the productivity of pineapple per hectare is 18.73 tonnes, which is higher than the national average of 15.80 tonnes.
- On May 23, 2018, The Department of Empowerment of Person with Disabilities (DEPwD-Divyangjan Shashaktikaran Vibhag) and Ministry of Social Justice & empowerment signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) for the Financial Year 2018-19.
- On 22nd May 2018, Ministry of Railways and Indian Railway Construction Company International Ltd (IRCON) signed an MoU. According to the MoU, RCIL has projected revenue from operations of Rs. 1200 crore and other target related to CCTV and Wifi at Stations, development of Content on Demand (CoD) services on trains etc.
- On May 23, 2018, Western Railway (WR) has launched E-catering facility on 23 major stations. Popular restaurants and food chains like Domino's Pizza, Faasos, Havmor, Haldiram, Delhi Darbar, Comesum, McDonald's, MFC etc. are e-catering associates of the WR.
- On 22nd May 2018, Ministry of Railways signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd (MRVC). The MoU was signed by Railway Board Secretary, Ranjanesh Sahai and Chairman and Managing Director of MRVC, R S Khurana. Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd (MRVC) is a Joint venture of Ministry of Railways and the Government of Maharashtra.
- On May 24, 2018, NITI Aayog and ABB India signed a Statement of Intent (SOI) to benefit India from AI and Robotics. The first workshop for senior government officials under this collaboration would be organised in June in Bengaluru. To work together in preparing key sectors of the economy for digitalisation, artificial intelligence (AI) robotics, and industrial automation and the fast growing segment of electric mobility.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNS

NATIONAL

Name	Appointed as	Entity/Place	Points to be noted
Indian Information Services (IIS) officer Sitanshu Ranjan Kar	Director General	Press Information Bureau (PIB)	He has served at key positions in various media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting viz. All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan.
Subhash Chandra Khuntia	Chairman	Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India	He has held positions in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and has also served as Special Secretary and Financial Advisor in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
Radhakrishnan Nair	Additional (independent) director	ICICI bank	
Sameer Singh	chief executive officer	GroupM, part of WPP group	Sameer Singh as the chief executive officer of its South Asia operations. Sameer Singh replaces CVL Srinivas. CVL Srinivas will now take charge as WPP India country manager.
Shanti Jiban Chakma	Chief executive member (CEM)	Chakma Autonomous District Council (CADC)	
Jagdish Mukhi	Acting Governor of Manipur		Mr. Mukhi, currently holds the office of Governor of Assam. He will hold office as acting Governor of Manipur in the absence of incumbent Governor Najma Heptullah.
Justice Ajay Kumar Mittal	Acting chief justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court.		Justice Ajay Kumar Mittal replaces chief justice Shivax Jal Vazifdar who retired recently.
Manish Misra	Chief Innovation Officer (CIO)	Panasonic	Earlier, he worked with HID Global as its India R&D Head and Vice President of Engineering and Innovation.
Nitin Bawankule	country head	Google Cloud India	He has worked with Dell, Motorola Mobility, Whirlpool and Godrej GE Appliances.
Pradeep Kumar Sinha	Cabinet Secretary		He will be the Cabinet Secretary till the next Lok Sabha elections. He was appointed as Cabinet Secretary in May 2015 for a

			two-year term.
Pawan Kumar Agarwal	Chief Executive Officer	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)	He is a 1985-batch IAS officer of West Bengal cadre. He has been given three-month extension beyond 15 th May 2018.
Mohit Chauhan	Green Ambassador	Sikkim government	He is a Bollywood playback singer. He also sings for the 'Silk Route' band. He has been nominated as the Green Ambassador to promote Sikkim as a Green Destination both at a national and international level, on voluntary basis.
Mahendra Singh Dhoni	brand ambassador	Netmeds	
Gujarat Governor Om Prakash Kohli	Governor	Madhya Pradesh	Anandiben Patel is on leave. In the past, Mr. Kohli held the additional charge of the office of Governor of Madhya Pradesh from 8 th September 2016 to 19 th January 2018.
Ambika Sharma	Managing Director of India operations.	U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC)	
Shri Uttam Pacharne	Chairman	Lalit Kala Akademi	He is a renowned artist and sculptor. He has received National Lalit Kala Award 1985, Maharashtra Gaurav Puraska 1985 from Government of Maharashtra, Junior National Award 1986 and Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar 2017.
Yudhvir Singh Malik	chairman	NHAI	He succeeds Deepak Kumar as the chairman of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)
Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar	Chief Justice of the High Court	Manipur.	The oath of office to Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar was administered by Acting Governor of Manipur Jagdish Mukhi.
Dilip Tirkey	chairman	Odisha Tourism Development Corporation	Dilip Tirkey is a former Rajya Sabha MP and ex-captain of Indian National Hockey Team.
Amit Khare	secretary	Information and broadcasting ministry	He will take charge as secretary to the information and broadcasting ministry from

			incumbent N K Sinha, who will superannuate on 31 st May 2018.
Justice C K Prasad	Chief	Press Council of India for the second time	He has earlier replaced Justice Markaday Katju.
Mr . Harish Manwani	Independent director	TATASons	He was earlier the Global Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Unilever and also the Global Executive Advisor of BlackStone Private Equity.
Rajinder Singh	President	Hockey India	He will replace Mariamma Koshy who resigned recently.
Anil Kumar Jha	chairman-cum-managing director (CMD)	Coal India Limited (CIL)	
Deepti Umashankar	chairperson.	Haryana Staff Selection Commission	
Mr. Samaresh Parida and Mr. N Jambunathan	Two new independent directors	IDBI bank	Mr.Parida was a former consultant and Mr.Jambunathan was the former Deputy Managing Director of SBI.
Pravin L Agrawal	Part-time official director	BHEL	Pravin Agrawal is an Indian Forest Service officer. Currently he is joint secretary in the Department of Heavy Industry (DHI), Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
S. D. Moorthy	Ambassador of India	Republic of South Sudan	He is at present Deputy Secretary at Headquarters. He has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of South Sudan.
H D Kumaraswamy	Chief minister	Karnataka	Congress state president G Parameshwara was sworn in as deputy chief minister of Karnataka.
Anubrata Biswas	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer	Airtel Payments Bank	Anubrata Biswas has succeeded Shashi Arora as MD & CEO of Airtel Payments Bank. Shashi Arora resigned in December 2017 after the e-KYC controversy. Earlier, Anubrata Biswas was Joint General Manager and Retail Business Head - South India for ICICI Bank
Charan Singh	Chairperson	Punjab and Sindh Bank	
Anjali Bansal	Chairperson	Dena Bank	

Tapan Ray	chairperson	Central Bank of India	
Sushil Chandra	Chairman	Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)	This is the second extension for Sushil Chandra after becoming the chairman of CBDT on 1 st November 2016. In 2017, he was given a one-year extension till 31 st May 2018. He is a 1980 batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax cadre).
Professor Ganeshi Lal	Governor	Odisha	
Kummanam Rajasekharan	Governor	Mizoram	Kummanam Rajasekharan will replace incumbent Lt Gen Nirbhay Sharma, whose term ends on 28 th May 2018.
Mr. Sachil Vachani	Director	Max Financial Services and Max Life Insurance	He has joined as the representative of owner group to create a powerful real estate brand –Max Estates.
Shri Ramesh Chand Meena	Chairperson	Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED)	
Smt. Pratibha Bhrahma	Vice Chaiman.	Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED)	
Sudha Balakrishnan	Chief financial officer (CFO)	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	Sudha Balakrishnan was the vice-president of National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL). She is a chartered accountant. She will be the 12th executive director of the RBI.
Justice R K Agrawal	President	National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC)	He will replace Justice D K Jain. D K Jain's term ends on 31 st May 2018. NCDRC was formed in 1988. It was set up to decide on consumers' complaints.
Sanjay Mitra	Chief	DRDO	The current DRDO chief is S. Christopher and will retire after the extended one year tenure in 2018. The DRDO chief and Scientific Advisor post was held by one person until 2015 when government bifurcated these two to individual post.
Chiranjeev Prasad	Police Commissioner	Aurangabad	He succeeded former full time police chief Yashaswi Yadav.

Amar Devulapalli and Sabina Indrajit	President and the Secretary – General	Indian Journalists Union (IJU)	Indrajit is a senior journalist in Delhi and works as the Associate Editor of Indian News and Features Agency (INFA).
M D Mallya	Additional (independent) director	ICICI Bank	His appointment comes a month before the ICICI bank's chairman M K Sharma completes his term.

INTERNATIONAL

Name	Appointed as	Entity/Place	Points to be noted
Deepa Ambekar	Interim judge	Civil court of New York City, United States.	Deepa Ambekar has become the second Indian-American woman judge in New York after Raja Rajeswari.
Vladimir Putin	President	Russia	On May 7 2018 , Vladimir Putin became Russia's president for a historic fourth term at a ceremony Kremlin. He will extend his power to another six years.
Dmitry Medvedev	Prime minister	Russia	He has been the Russian Prime Minister since 2012.
Nikol Pashinyan	Prime minister	Armenia	He is the leader of Civil Contract party. He is a former newspaper editor.He started a protest movement with a march of non-violence on 31 st March 2018 demanding Serzh Sargsyan to resign.
Journalist Carlos Alvarado	48 th President	Costa Rica	Carlos Alvarado of the ruling Citizens' Action Party got 60.8 per cent of the votes while his opponent, Fabricio Alvarado of the National Restoration party managed to secure only 39.2 percent votes.
Mahathir Mohamad	Prime Minister	Malaysia	92-year-old Mahathir Mohamad will become world's oldest elected leader. Earlier, Mahathir governed Malaysia for 22 years from 1981 to 2003 as strongman leader of the Barisan Nasional coalition.
Munu Mahawar	Ambassador of India	Sultanate of Oman	He is presently Joint Secretary at Ministry of External Affairs Headquarters.He will soon assume charge as the next Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman.
Susheela Jayapal	member of the	Oregon	First South Asian to be elected in

	Board of Commissioners		Oregon.
Gina Haspel	CIA director	United States	Gina Haspel as the first female CIA director. She will be replacing former director Mike Pompeo. She also won the Intelligence Medal of Merit, the Presidential Rank Award among others.
Mr Lalchand Rajput	Interim head coach	Zimbabwe	Indian Cricketer Mr Lalchand Rajput replaced Heath Streak, a former Zimbabwe pacer, who was sacked after Zimbabwe lost to qualify in March for ICC world Cup to be held next year
Himanta Biswa Sarma	Vice-president	Badminton Asia Confederation (BAC)	He is also the chairman of Para Badminton committee & president of Badminton Association of India (BAI)
C Raja Mohan	Director	Institute of South Asian Studies, a think tank of National University of Singapore	He was also a member of India's National Security Advisory Board and was the diplomatic editor and Washington correspondent for 'The Hindu' newspaper.
Gursoach Kaur	Auxiliary Police Officer	New York Police Department (NYPD)	First female turbaned Sikh auxiliary police officer
Nicolas Maduro	President	Venezuela	Nicolas Maduro won the presidential election with nearly 67% votes. He has won a new six-year term as President of Venezuela.
Gobind Singh Deo	Cabinet minister	Malaysia	First Sikh in Malaysia to be appointed as a Cabinet minister
Mahendra Singh Kanyal	Ambassador of India	Republic of Suriname	
Pradeep kumar Gupta	Ambassador of India	Islamic Republic of Mauritiana	Presently he is Ambassador of India to Republic of Mali.
Ms. Mia Mottley	Prime Minister	The Caribbean Island of Barbados	She is the leader of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) and won against the Democratic Labour Party (DLP). She won all 30 seats of the House of Assembly and is a lawyer. She replaces DLP candidate and former PM Freundel Stuart.
Nasir ul Mulk	Interim prime minister	Pakistan	He is expected to take charge as interim prime minister of Pakistan on 1 st June 2018.

Amit Jain	Regional general manager	Asia Pacific region (APAC)	At present Amit Jain is the president of Uber India and South Asia. Now he will be responsible for the APAC region that includes Australia, New Zealand, and North Asia, in addition to India and South Asia.
Ali Jahangir Siddiqui	Pakistan's Ambassador	US	Earlier Siddiqui had Served as a Advisor on Economics and Business to Prime Minister Abbasi, He also served as a Chairman of JS bank Ltd & JS Private Equity. He was Honoured as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in the year 2014. Siddiqui is Replacing Aizaz Chaudhry.
Ibrahima Kassory Fofana	Prime Minister	Guinea	He replaced Mamady Youla who resigned on May 17. Earlier, Ibrahima Kassory Fofana was Minister in Charge of Public Investment and relations with the private Sector.
Alicia Pucheta	First woman President	Paraguay	She has been named the interim president after the current President Mr. Horacio Cartes steps down and before Mr. Mario Abdo (The newly elected president) starts his tenure for 5 years. She is currently acting as the Vice President of the country.

Other important Appointments

- On 14th May 2018, the Union government announced a cabinet reshuffle. Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal has been given the additional portfolios of Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore has been given independent charge as Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Smirti Irani is now responsible for only the textile ministry.
- On 15th May 2018, the Central Government told the Supreme Court that Mukul Rohatgi was appointed as an eminent jurist in the selection committee for appointment of the Lokpal. Shashank Manohar has been elected for a second term as the independent chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC).
- On May 26, 2018, Lebanese President Michel Aoun announced that Saad Hariri won the rank of the Prime Minister for the third term. The challenges he will be facing are : growing unemployment, refugee crisis, crumbling infrastructure.

Resignations

- WhatsApp co-founder and CEO Jan Koum has decided to exit from WhatsApp due to difference of opinion with parent company Facebook because of data privacy, encryption and other issues.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test

Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test

NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test

RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free

SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test

- On 11th May 2018, Infosys announced that its independent director Ravi Venkatesan has resigned from the Board with immediate effect. He is a former Microsoft India chairman. He joined Infosys Board in April 2011 as an additional director.
- On 17th May, The former CEO of Allahabad Bank Mrs. Usha Ananthasubramanian was moved out of the board and loses all her executive powers. She had previously been in the board of PNB two times. Apart from her other officials of PNB namely KV Brahmaji Rao and Sanjiv Sharan has also been accused.
- On 19th May 2018, BS Yeddyurappa resigned, 55 hours after taking oath as the Karnataka Chief Minister. On 19th May 2018, BS Yeddyurappa resigned ahead of the floor test. His resignation will lead to the formation of a government led by JD(S) State chief H.D. Kumaraswamy, with the support of Congress.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Name of Awards	Award Winner	Field	Points to be noted
P.C.Chandra Puraskaar 2018	Asha Bhosle		Actress Sharmila Tagore was the Chief Guest of the event. She presented the award to Asha Bhosle.
Best Co-operative Society on digital platform" award in the BFSI leadership Awards 2018	Adarsh Credit		Deepak Sharma, Zonal Manager, Gurgaon received the award on behalf of Adarsh Credit Co-operative Society Ltd.
ONV Literary Prize	Jnanpith laureate M T Vasudevan Nair	Contributions to Malayalam literature	The ONV Literary Prize has been instituted in memory of late poet O N V Kurup. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs 3 lakh, citation and a plaque.
V K Krishna Menon Award	Fiji's Indian-origin former Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudhry	For his contribution to the Indian diaspora	The award was announced by the director of V K Krishna Menon Institute Cyriac Maprayil recently.
11th KISS Humanitarian Award 2018	Prof Muhammad Yunus	Contributed exceptionally to the society in fields related to social issues.	He is the founder of Grameen Bank of Bangladesh. He is known as the Father of Microfinance. He is the second Nobel laureate to receive this award.

'Shri Jayadev Rastriya Yuva Pratibha Puraskar 2018'	Anindita Anaam, a US-based Kathak dancer		She is a Kathak instructor in Wisconsin, United States. She is trained in both Jaipur and Lucknow gharanas.
RedInk award	Sir William Mark Tully	Lifetime achievement in journalism.	Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Union Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu will present the award to Sir William Mark Tully on 18 th May 2018 in Mumbai. Faye D'Souze, executive editor of Mirror Now channel, has been chosen for the RedInk award for 'journalist of the year'.
Nikkei Asia Prize	Dr Bindeshwar Pathak	Contribution to the development of Asia	It honours people in Asia who have made remarkable contributions in: Economic and Business Innovation, Science, Technology and Environment and Culture and Community.
'Digital Leader of the Year'.	Shri Nara Lokesh	For development of the rural sector and water supply departments	
UK & Asia Inspirational Business Leaders Award	Dr. Guru N Reddy		
T.K. Ramanathan award for the year 2017-2018	Prajnesh Gunneswaran	Tennis	He received a cash prize of Rs. 30,000.
Man Booker International Prize	Olga Tokarczuk	Polish author	The prize amount is 50,000 British Pounds. The prize money is equally divided between the writer and the translator. Flights was translated by Jennifer Croft. It was published by Fitzcarraldo Editions.
"BRICS Business Forum Leadership Award" for Lifetime Achievement	Late actress Sridevi	Actress	She was earlier posthumously honoured with the 'Best Actress' award for her performance in her last movie 'Mom', at 65th National Film Awards held in New Delhi .
Mark Twain award	Julia Louis-Dreyfus	Actress and Comedian	Past winners of the award include Richard Pryor, Tina Fey, Will Ferrell, Lily Tomlin and Eddie Murphy. Bill Cosby was given the award in 2009.

Clarivate Analytics India Innovation Award 2018	Council of Scientific & Industrial Research		The factors considered for selection are metrics for both patent volume (patents published) and patent quality.
Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017	INSV Tarini team		Consisting of 6 members: Lt Commander Vartika Joshi, Lt Commander Pratibha Jamwal, Lt Commander Swathi Patarpalli, Lt Aishwarya Bodapatti, Lt SH Vi jaya Devi and Lt Payal Gupta.
Medal of Honor	Britt K. Slabinski	Master Chief Special Warfare Operator	He is a former member of the Navy's SEAL Team Six. He was awarded for leading a rescue mission on a mountaintop in Afghanistan in 2002.
13th edition of the World Press Cartoon awards	Thomas Antony		The awards are instituted by an organisation based in Lisbon, Portugal. He is the only cartoonist chosen from Asia for this prize. The awards will be presented at an event in Portugal on 2 nd June 2018.
"most inspiring icon of the year for Social Welfare" award by the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF)	Yuvraj Singh	Indian cricketer	He has been awarded for his remarkable contribution in the social welfare field. He runs a foundation named 'YouWeCan'. The foundation focuses on spreading cancer awareness and educating the kids of cancer survivors.
'Santokbaa Humanitarian Award	Kailash Satyarthi	Nobel laureate	The award is instituted by Shree Ramkrishna Knowledge Foundaton (SRKKF). It is led by Govind Dholakia. The award consists of a trophy and prize money of Rs 1 crore.
Pulitzer Prize	Kendrick Lamar	American rapper	He is the first non-classical or jazz musician to win the Pulitzer Prize. DAMN was released in April 2017. He has received 11 Grammy Awards.

- Swachh Survekshan 2018 was organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), under the aegis of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban).

Swachh Survekshan 2018 - National Level Winners:

Award	Category (in terms of population)	City Name
India's Cleanest City - No.1	National	Indore (Madhya Pradesh)
India's Cleanest City - No.2	National	Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)
India's Cleanest City - No.3	National	Chandigarh

India's 'Cleanest big City'	Greater than 10 Lakh	Vijaywada (Andhra Pradesh)
India's 'Fastest Mover' big City	Greater than 10 Lakh	Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)
India's Best City in 'Citizens Feedback'	Greater than 10 Lakh	Kota (Rajasthan)
India's Best City in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	Greater than 10 Lakh	Nagpur (Maharashtra)
India's Best City in 'Solid Waste Management'	Greater than 10 Lakh	Navi Mumbai (Maharashtra)
India's Cleanest Medium City	3 - 10 Lakh	Mysuru (Karnataka)
India's 'Fastest Mover' Medium City	3 - 10 Lakh	Bhiwandi (Maharashtra)
India's Best City in 'Citizens Feedback'	3 - 10 Lakh	Parbhani (Maharashtra)
India's Best City in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	3 - 10 Lakh	Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh)
India's Best City in 'Solid Waste Management'	3 - 10 Lakh	Mangalore (Karnataka)
India's Cleanest Small City	1 - 3 Lakh	New Delhi Municipal Council
India's 'Fastest Mover' Small City	1 - 3 Lakh	Bhusawal (Maharashtra)
India's Best City in 'Citizens Feedback'	1 - 3 Lakh	Giridih (Jharkhand)
India's Best City in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	1 - 3 Lakh	Ambikapur (Chhatisgarh)
India's Best City in 'Solid Waste Management'	1 - 3 Lakh	Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh)
Cleanest State Capital/UT	Capital Cities/UTs	Greater Mumbai (Maharashtra)
Fastest Mover State Capital/UT	Capital Cities/UTs	Jaipur (Rajasthan)
Best State Capital/UT in Citizens Feedback	Capital Cities/UTs	Ranchi (Jharkhand)
Best State Capital/UT in 'Innovation & Best Practices'	Capital Cities/UTs	Panaji (Goa)
Best State Capital/UT in 'Solid Waste Management'	Capital Cities/UTs	Greater Hyderabad (Telangana)

- The 71st annual Cannes Film Festival was held from 8th to 19th May 2018 in Cannes, France. Australian Actress Cate Blanchett acted as the president of the jury (for In competition Awards). The official festival poster of the Cannes Film Festival features Jean-Paul Belmondo and Anna Karina from Jean-Luc Godard's 1965 film *Pierrot le Fou*. [Click here to read more.](#)
- On May 31, 2018, HDFC bank has been recognized with the Champion Security Award at the 14th Visa Asia Pacific Security Summit. The bank has won the award in the India & South Asia category and it is its second time winning it. The Champion Security awards were presented to

Australia/New Zealand:	National Australia Bank Limited
Greater China:	National Credit Card Centre, Taiwan
India & South Asia:	HDFC Bank Limited
Japan:	Mitsubishi UFJ NICOS CO., Ltd
South Korea:	Lotte Card Company, Limited

Southeast Asia (2 awards):	1.Krungthai Card Limited 2. Bank Mandiri
Best in Asia Pacific:	United Overseas Bank (Singapore)

Recognitions

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has secured a place among the 10 most powerful people in the world in Forbes' 2018 list of the world's most powerful people that was released on 8th May 2018. The list is topped by Chinese President Xi Jinping. Reliance Industries (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani has obtained 32nd rank.
- On 12th May 2018, singer Lata Mangeshkar was presented the Swara Mouli title by spiritual guru Vidya Narsimha Bharati Swami at her residence in Prabhu Kunj, Mumbai. She received the Bharat Ratna award in 2001. She has also received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award.
- On 17th May 2018, NRI industrialist Lord Swraj Paul was presented a lifetime achievement award for his contributions in promoting brand India in the UK, at a UK & Asia Business awards ceremony in London. Dinesh K Patnaik was also honoured as an "iconic leader".
- On 22nd May 2018, Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve received the first prize for conserving the rare wildlife resources from the National Bio-diversity Authority, at Hyderabad. The Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve is adjacent to the Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary in West Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh.
- On 23rd May 2018, Nima Jangmu Sherpa of Nepal made a world record by scaling three highest mountains in a single climbing season. She made her ascent on Mt Kanchenjunga, which is the third highest peak of the world. She is 28 years old. She has become the only woman in the world to climb three highest peaks in Nepal above 8,000 meters in one season within 25 days.

Other Awards

- On 2nd May 2018, President Ram Nath Kovind, hosted the meeting of Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities and presented the Visitor's Awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. Ram Nath Kovind handed over the Visitor's Awards for Research in Basic and Applied Science, Humanities, Arts and Social Science.
- On 4th May 2018, Swedish Academy said that, the Nobel Prize in literature will not be awarded this year due to sex-abuse allegations and other issues and the Nobel Literature Prize 2018 will be given in 2019. The Nobel Literature Prize is postponed for the first time in 70 years.
- On 8th to 19th May 2018, the 71st Cannes Festival is held in Cannes, France. Australian actress Cate Blanchett is the President of the Jury for the Main competition. The 2018 Cannes Film festival will open with 'Everybody Knows', a psychological thriller movie.
- Nisha Bhalla, a holistic coach and consultant from Mumbai was felicitated at the recently concluded Annual Women Economic Forum (WEF) 2018 Awards. Nisha Bhalla was presented the 'Excellent Woman of Excellence' award for her spiritual service.
- Three Indian alumni of UK universities, Saumya Saxena, has been presented 'Professional Achievement Award', Ruchi Shah has been presented 'Social Impact Award' and Sushant Desai, has been presented 'Entrepreneurial Award' by the British Council for their outstanding achievements and contribution to the country.
- On May 14, 2018, Union Defence Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman gave away the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Awards- 2016 & 2017 to various DRDO scientists for their outstanding contributions.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

Winners of DRDO Awards - 2016 & 2017:

Former Secretary, Department of Defence R&D, Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister and Director General, DRDO Dr V K Saraswat was presented DRDO Lifetime Achievement Award – 2017, while former Secretary, Department of Defence R&D, Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister and Director General, DRDO Dr Vasudev Kalkunte Aatre was presented DRDO Lifetime Achievement Award – 2016.

Other awardees

Distinguished Scientist & Director General (Missiles & Strategic Systems) Dr G Satheesh Reddy for Technology Leadership Award – 2016.

- On 16th May, the President of India Mr. Ram Nath Kovind, presented the National Geoscience Award in New Delhi & he said, geoscientists have an important role to play in enhancing agricultural productivity and farmer incomes; in providing a bedrock to the Smart Cities initiative; and in helping our fellow citizens fight the challenge of water scarcity as well.
- On 15th May 2018, Chennaiyin FC's head coach John Gregory was presented with a Special Achievement Award by England's League Managers Association (LMA) at LMA's 26th Annual Awards function in London.
- On 18th May 2018, IIM Calcutta said that, two case studies published by the IIM Calcutta Case Research Centre have received awards in the 2017 edition of the European Foundation of Management Development case competition. IIM Calcutta team of Professor Indranil Bose and student Gaurav Gupta won the award for their case 'SIMsePAY at YES BANK: Creating Value Through an UnSmart Innovation.'
- On 18th May, State owned NMDC won the S&P Platts award in Corporate Social Responsibility. The award ceremony was held in London, United Kingdom. NMDC's CSR has grown from Rs 86 crore (USD 13.25 million) in 2011-12 to an average of Rs. 190 crore (USD 30 million) during the last three (03) years.
- On 17th May 2018, Bengaluru FC (Football Club)'s Awards night was held in Bengaluru. Captain Sunil Chhetri was named Bengaluru FC's top scorer for the fifth consecutive season. He was also presented the Players' Player of The Year award. Gurpreet Singh Sandhu was named Fans' Player of the Year. List of awardees is as follows:
 - Top scorer: Sunil Chhetri
 - Players' Player of the year: Sunil Chhetri
 - Fans' Player of the Year: Gurpreet Singh Sandhu
 - Goal of the Season: Miku
 - Upcoming Player of the Year: Asheer Akhtar
 - U-18 Player of the Year: Biswa Darjee
 - U-15 Player of the Year: Bekey Oram.
- On May 21, 2018, singer Asha Bhosle was awarded the Banga Bibhusan by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at an event in Kolkata. Writer Samaresh Majumdar, Bengali superstar Prosenjit Chatterjee and Justice (retd) Shyamal Kumar Sen were also awarded the Banga Bibhusan. Footballer Subrata Bhattacharya was presented the Banga Bhushan.

- On May 21, 2018, Shivangi Pathak (16) from Haryana became the youngest Indian woman to scale Mount Everest. She was inspired by Arunima Sinha, who was the first Indian amputee to scale the nearly 29,000 ft peak. Her aim was to establish that women can overcome every obstacle to achieve their goals.
- On 22nd May 2018, the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association (MSLTA) annual awards were presented in Mumbai. Some of the MSLTA annual award winners for their performances in 2017 -2018 are:
 - i. Asian junior Champion Mihika Yadav
 - ii. India's No 5 Men's player Arjun Kadhe
 - iii. India's No 4 women's player Rutuja Bhosale
 - iv. National Sub junior Champion Rutuja Chaphalkar
 - v. India's No 1 junior Siddhant Banthia.
- On May 29, 2018, Virat Kohli named the International Cricketer of the year at CEAT Cricket Ratings.
 - i. Shikhar Dhawan has been awarded International Batsman of the Year .
 - ii. New Zealand player Trent Boult named International Bowler of the Year .
 - iii. T20 Bowler of the Year award was given to : Rashid Khan from Afghanistan.
 - iv. T20 Batsman of the Year award : Colin Munro of New Zealand.
 - v. Outstanding Innings of the year award : Harmanpreet Kaur.
 - vi. Domestic Player of the Year award : Mayank Agarwal.
 - vii. U19 Player of the Year award : Shubhman Gill.
 - viii. Popular Choice award : Chris Gayle.
 - ix. Lifetime Achievement Award : Farokh Engineer.
- On May 30, 2018, Indian Botanist Mr. Kamaljit Bawa was awarded the Linnean Medal in Botany from Linnean Society of London. HE is the first Indian to receive this award. He is the president of Bengaluru based non-profit Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE).
- Aditya Puri, managing director of HDFC has appeared in the top 30 global CEOs list released by Barron's. Aditya Puri has featured in the top 30 global CEOs list by Barron's for the fourth consecutive year. He is the only Indian to feature in the list. Other names that have appeared in the list are:
 - Jeff Bezos of Amazon
 - Warren Buffett of Berkshire Hathaway
 - Jamie Dimon of JPMorgan Chase
 - Larry Page of Alphabet
 - Reed Hastings of Netflix
 - Satya Nadella of Microsoft
 - Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook..
- On 31st May 2018, Statistics and Programme Implementation Minister Vijay Goel presented FICCI Smart Policing Awards 2018 to police officials of central armed police force and states police, in New Delhi. This is the 3rd edition of the event. It was held on 30th and 31st May 2018. It is part of two-day conference on Homeland Security-Cyber Crime Management.

CONFERENCE/SUMMIT IN NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWS

No.	Name of Summit/Conference	Place	Facts about the summit /conference
1	4 th Regional Conference on 'Futuristic, Resilient and Digital Infrastructure	Bengaluru	The conference was organized by Union Ministry of Finance in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Research and Information

			System for Developing Countries (RIS).
2	India- South Africa business summit	Johannesburg, South Africa	The tag line of the India-South Africa Business Summit 2018 was "United by Legacy, Unified for Prosperity"
3	19th edition of TOONZ Animation Masters Summit	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	Ashish Kulkarni - Chairman of FICCI for Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics Forum inaugurated the summit. V G Samant, was honoured with the 'Legend of Animation' award for his contributions to the animation industry.
4	15th Asia Media Summit	New Delhi	The summit will be jointly hosted by the Information and Broadcasting (I-B) Ministry, Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) and public sector firm Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd (BECIL). Theme of the summit will be 'Telling Our Stories - Asia and More'.
5	First Apex Conference for the CEOs of Smart Cities	Bhopal	Inaugurated by Hardeep Puri. It is organized for offering a platform for cross learning and knowledge sharing among the Smart City CEOs.
6	6th US-India Aviation Summit	Mumbai	Inaugurated by Suresh Prabhu. India's civil aviation sector is slated to be third largest market globally by 2020 and, potentially, the largest by 2030.
7	First apex conference for Smart City CEO	Bhopal	The conference was inaugurated by Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Housing & Urban Affairs, Hardeep Puri. Agence Française de Développement (AFD's) programme to fund Smart City projects was also launched during the conference.
8	2 day regional conference on "Physical and Social Infrastructure for Regional Development"	Guwahati, Assam	This is aimed to bridge the regional disparity through investment in physical and soft infrastructure. The Theme of the conference is 'Physical and Social Infrastructure for Regional Development'.

9	2018 World Robot Conference	Beijing	This conference will enhance passion and innovation in the robot industry and help to improve research and development.
10	Climate summit	New York	To review the Paris Agreement commitments.He announced that Michael Bloomberg will support the UN in its climate strategy and to organise the 2019 summit.
11	SCO Tourism Ministers	Wuhan, Hubei Province, China	This is the first tourism ministerial meeting between member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).
12	National Conference of Fisheries Ministers of Coastal states	New Delhi	He said that, the government has decided to promote deep sea fishing and has launched a sub-component 'Assistance for Deep Sea Fishing' under the Blue Revolution.
13	First informal summit	Sochi, Russia	Agreement for strategic economic dialogue between NITI Aaoygand Russia's Ministry of Economic Development for better trade and investment.
14	International Conference on Trade – Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs)	Geneva	The conference will be participated by various nations like Brazil, China, Indonesia , Peru, Philippines and New Zealand.

- On May 11, 2018, Indian Customs and Department of India Posts held a first ever Joint Conference in New Delhi to discuss measures for streamlining imports and exports by post.The conference was attended by Commissioners of Customs from all the States having Foreign Post Offices (FPOs) and their counterpart Post Master Generals.
- On May 16, 2018, Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM) organised a conference on successful completion of two years of the National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy adopted by the Government of India in New Delhi.Suresh Prabhu, launched the IP Mascot at the event.
- On May 28,2018, Germany announced that it would be hosting the first edition of Global Wind Summit in Hamburg from September 25-28,2018.The conference will be the largest event on Wind industry worldwide and will consist of 2 parts: WindEnergy Hamburg and WindEurope.The government of India has a target of installing 60GW of wind energy by 2022 and India (33GW till now) is the fourth largest country after China, US and Germany who has already installed wind energy.

COMMITTEE/MEETING IN NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- On May 2, 2018, President Ram Nath Kovind presided over the first meeting of the national committee set up for commemoration of 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, in

2019. 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi will be commemorated from 2nd October, 2019 to 2nd October, 2020.

- On 1st May 2018, the bilateral trade for 2018 between the traders of India and China commenced through the Nathu La border. An official meeting was conducted between representatives from India and China including officials from ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police) of India and PLA (People's Liberation Army) of China.
- Mr. Ivica Dacic, first Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia was on an official visit to India from 1st to 4th May, 2018. During the meeting, both the ministers discussed range of bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest.
- On 4th May 2018, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj chaired an Interactive Session on the Act East Policy with the Chief Ministers of northeastern states in New Delhi. Chief Ministers Sarbanand Sonowal (Assam), Neiphiu Rio (Nagaland), N Biren Singh (Manipur), Biplab Deb (Tripura) and Conrad Sangma (Meghalaya) etc. took part in the meeting.
- On May 5, 2018 Shri Subhash Chandra Garg, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance met President of Asian Development Bank (ADB), Mr. Takehiko Nakao during a tour to Manila to attend the 51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- On 11th May 2018, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh conducted a meeting with Union Minister of state for Tourism (I/C) and Electronics and Information Technology K.J. Alphons in New Delhi.
- On 14th May 2018, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh chaired a meeting of the High Level Committee (HLC) for Central Assistance to Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Lakshadweep and Rajasthan. The total assistance approved was Rs 1,161.17 crore.

The meeting was for Central Assistance to:

- i. Assam - affected by floods during 2017-18
 - ii. Himachal Pradesh - affected by floods/ landslides during 2017-18
 - iii. Sikkim - affected by floods/ landslides during 2017-18
 - iv. Lakshadweep - affected by cyclone Ockhi during 2017
 - v. Rajasthan - affected by kharif drought during 2017.
- On 14th May, a meeting on the the Samarth scheme was held in New Delhi . The meeting was chaired by Union Textile minister Smt Smriti Zubin Irani. It was attended by the senior officials of the Textiles Ministry, institutions and organizations under it, representatives of textile industry, State Governments, training institutions among others. Minister of State for Textiles, Shri Ajay Tamta and Secretary, Textiles, Shri Anant Kumar Singh also addressed the stakeholders.
 - On May 10, 2018, US President Donald Trump announced that he will meet North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on June 12, 2018 in Singapore. This will be the first ever meeting between a sitting US president and North Korean leader. Key issue to be discussed during the meeting will be North Korea's nuclear weapons programme and intercontinental ballistic missile launches which raised geopolitical tensions across the world.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

- On May 18, 2018, Union Minister of Railways and Coal, Piyush Goyal chaired a detailed review meeting with R.K. Singh, Minister of State (IC) Power and New & Renewable Energy and with top officials of Ministries of Coal, Railways and Power in New Delhi. A review of Power supply requirement during the ongoing summer and forthcoming winter season was carried out during the course of this meeting.
- On 17th May, 15th meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held in Sanya, China attended by Dr. Mahesh Sharma. The meeting will focus on showcasing India's willingness to participate and strengthen cultural cooperation with all the other participants including the SCO member countries.
- On 20th May 2018, the 26th BASIC Ministerial meeting of Environment Ministers was held in Durban, South Africa. Brazil, South Africa, India and China are termed as the BASIC countries. The meeting was chaired by South Africa's Minister of Environmental Affairs Edna Molewa.
- On 25th May 2018, the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council (ISC) headed by the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh held a meeting in New Delhi. Discussions were conducted on all 273 recommendations of the Punchhi Commission. This was the 13th meeting of the Standing Committee of the ISC.
- On May 31, 2018, the 34th meeting of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring took place in New Delhi. In this meeting the approval for construction of new 1.5 lakh affordable houses took place. It has an investment of Rs. 7227 crore with central assistance of Rs. 2209 crore.
- On 23rd May 2018, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO-RATS) meeting started in Islamabad, Pakistan. This is the first time Pakistan is hosting the (SCO-RATS) meeting. Experts from the 8 SCO member states China, Kazakhstan, India, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan & representatives of the SCO-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO-RATS) are taking part in the meeting.
- On May 28, 2018, The 2nd meeting of SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group Meeting was held in Beijing. The Indian Delegation was headed by Additional Secretary Gitesh Sharma. India focused on security challenges on the borders of Afghanistan and offered support to peace made by the President of Afghanistan. Bilateral talks of India with China, Tajikistan, Russia, Afghanistan were also held.

RANKINGS

India in Rankings

Index/Report/Field	Position	Points to be noted
Asia Power Index	India has ranked 4 th out of 25 nations	United States Secured 1 st Position followed by China, Japan, India & Russia
Fastest growing economies in the world	India (1 st Place)	India Topped the list with the Projection of 7.9 Per cent which is far high than China

		(4.9 Per cent),U.S.(3 Per cent),France (3.5 Per cent).Uganda is in Second Position with predicted growth of 7.5 percent.
Business optimism index for the first quarter of 2018	India has slipped to the 6th position	Austria Secured 1 st place followed by Finland,Indonesia,Netherlands,US
World Press Freedom Index	India dropped down two places from 136 in 2017 to 138 in 2018.	Without Borders (RWB), the World Press Freedom Index measures the level of media freedom in 180 countries
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Confidence Index 2018	India Secured 11th rank	United States Secured First Place followed by Canada,Germany,United Kingdom,China
Mercom Communications India	India emerged as the third largest solar market in the world in 2017	China and the US secured 1 st and 2 nd Position. In 2017, India set a new record with 9.6 GW of solar installations, which was more than double the 4.3 GW installed in 2016.On account of this stellar growth, India's total solar installed capacity reached 19.6 GW as of December 2017.
The Global Burden of Disease	India ranked 145 among 195 countries	It said that Goa and Kerala had the highest scores in 2016, each exceeding 60 points, whereas Assam and Uttar Pradesh had the lowest, each below 40.China (48), Sri Lanka (71), Bangladesh (133) and Bhutan (134) while its health index was better than those of Nepal (149), Pakistan (154) and Afghanistan (191).
In terms of competitiveness	India ranked 44th place	It has been ranked the 12th most competitive economy out of the 14 Asian countries on the list. United States ranked 1 st followed by Hong Kong, Singapore, Netherlands, Switzerland.

Reports:

- As per a report by HSBC inflation is set to rise further during Oct 2018 to March 2019 and could average 5.1 per cent for financial year 2018-19.This year's projection of 5.1 per cent is higher as compared to 3.6 per cent last year.As per a report released by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India is among top 5 defence spenders in the world for the year 2017.In 2017, India's Defence expenditure stood at \$63.9 billion, marking a 5.5 per cent increment over the previous year. India has replaced France at the No. 5 spot.Top 5 lists are:

Rank	Country	Defence Spending
1	United States	\$610 billion
2	China	\$228 billion
3	Saudi Arabia	\$69.4 billion
4	Russia	\$66.3 billion
5	India	\$63.9 billion

- According to the 'Clampdowns and Courage-South Asia Press Freedom Report 2017-18', released recently by the UNESCO, India alone accounted for 82 out of 97 instances of Internet shutdown among South Asian countries between May 2017 and April 2018.In India, nearly half

of the cases of Internet shutdown were experienced in Kashmir Valley.

Among other Asian countries

i. Pakistan witnessed 12 instances

ii. Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka reported just one instance of internet shutdown.

- As per report, titled 'Impact of mortality and fertility transitions in Kerala on migration and its implications for state's economy' Kerala is currently experiencing an advanced demographic transition. It is to be noted that Kerala was the first Indian state to achieve Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) below 25, in 1989, and then further reduced it to 10 in 2016.
- As per a report by Mercom Communications India, India emerged as the third largest solar market in the world in 2017 behind China and the US. In 2017, India set a new record with 9.6 GW of solar installations, which was more than double the 4.3 GW installed in 2016. On account of this stellar growth, India's total solar installed capacity reached 19.6 GW as of December 2017.
- On 6th February 2018, The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) launched the initiative of a competitive ranking framework system called 'State Startup Ranking Framework 2018'. This was done to grow a sense of competition in the field of providing and promoting the startup environment in different states.
- According to AfrAsia Bank Global Wealth Migration Review 2018, India is the sixth wealthiest country in the world with a total wealth of \$8,230 billion. India emerged as the "Best Performing Wealth Markets" registering 25% growth in total wealth for the year 2017. [Click here to read more.](#)
- India has been listed as one of the top three target countries for Phishing and malware-based attacks as per the RSA Quarterly Fraud Report. The RSA Quarterly Fraud Report for the period from January 1 to March 31, 2018, says that phishing contributed for 48 per cent of total cyber-attacks. The report stated that Canada, the United States, India and Brazil were the countries highly targeted by phishing
- On May 30, 2018, Microsoft becomes third most valuable firm globally surpassing Alphabet. Microsoft had a market cap of \$753 billion. It ranks after Apple and Amazon. Apple's M-cap is \$ 924 billion and Amazon has a m-cap of \$783 billion.

ACQUISITIONS & MERGERS

- On 7th May 2018, Nokia said that, it has acquired SpaceTime Insight, a California-based startup, to expand its Internet of Things (IoT) portfolio and IoT analytics capabilities. SpaceTime Insight offers machine learning-powered analytics and IoT applications for several world's largest transportation, energy and utilities organisations.
- On 8th May 2018, Alibaba announced that, it has bought Pakistani e-commerce firm Daraz. It operates in Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Pakistan. Daraz will continue to function under the same brand.
- Walmart Inc will acquire a 77 percent holding in Flipkart Group for \$16 billion. Flipkart co-founder Binny Bansal and other shareholders will hold the remaining shares. Japan's Softbank will exit Flipkart by selling entire 20 per cent stake to Walmart. Flipkart co-founder Sachin Bansal will exit Flipkart by selling his 5.5 % stake to Walmart.
- On 14th May 2018, Department of Telecom (DoT) approved the merger of Telenor India with Bharti Airtel. The Supreme Court had rejected DoT's petition for security deposit of Rs 1,700 crore from the companies and ordered it to approve the merger. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) had approved the merger on 8 March 2018.

- Tata Steel will be acquiring debt-ridden Bhushan Steel as its bid has been approved by National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). Tata Steel will be acquiring Bhushan Steel through its step-down subsidiary Bamnival Steel Ltd, which will invest in Bhushan steel and acquire the controlling stake.
- On 20th May, Tata Steel has acquired Bhushan Steel for an amount of Rs.35000 crore and settling two-thirds of the loan of the company. Bhushan Steel owes Rs. 56,079 crore to the banks among which the shares are: State Bank of India (Rs. 12872 cr), Punjab National Bank (Rs. 4904 cr) and ICICI bank (Rs. 2449 cr). Tata steel appointed three members to the board of Bhushan Steel namely Rajeev Singhal, Dibyendu Dutta, Anand Sen.
- On May 22, 2018, the California based giant software company Adobe announced its acquisition of Magento for USD 1.68 billion. The acquisition will help Adobe to work on consumers in the company's Experience Cloud. The deal is also seen as a way of Microsoft and Adobe coming closer as they will be able to collaborate better against Salesforce.
- On 30th May 2018, Infosys said that, it has acquired US-based Wongdoody. In April 2018, Infosys said that, it will acquire Wongdoody Holding Company for a total consideration of up to \$75 million. This acquisition, will help Infosys to improve its digital experience services with services like strategy, design and user experience.

DEFENCE

- 20000 troops of Indian Army's South Western Command are participating in the ongoing 'Vijay Prahar' exercise near Suratgarh in Rajasthan. Objective of this exercise is to fine-tune jointmanship between troops of Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) and maximizing the impact of the joint operations.
- On 8th to 11th May 2018, the first edition of 2018 Bi-annual Naval Commander's Conference is held in New Delhi. Navy will review its new Mission-Based Deployments philosophy to ensure peace and stability. Naval Commanders will discuss on steps to improve the Teeth-to-Tail ratio and explore fields like Artificial Intelligence and Big Data Analytics.
- Indian Navy is engaged in conducting a joint *exclusive economic zone (EEZ)* surveillance of Maldives. For this purpose, Indian Navy has deployed Indian Naval (IN) ship Sumedha, a Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel (NOPV), from 9th to 17th May 2018. This deployment is a part of Indian Navy's 'Mission Based Deployments'.
- On 3rd May to 6th May 2018, the IAF (Indian Air Force) successfully conducted its first online selection test for airmen. The first ever Scheduled Test for Airmen Recruitment (STAR) was held through computer based online tests in association with Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) Pune.
- On 13th May 2018, Chief of Army Staff General of India, Bipin Rawat arrived at Colombo on a five-day visit to Sri Lanka. Bipin Rawat will inaugurate a communications lab set up near Kandy with the assistance of Indian army.
- On 14th and 15th May 2018, Head Quarter Western Air Command conducted a seminar on Humanitarian and Disaster relief (HADR) at Subroto Park, Delhi. The seminar was held to focus on effective measures to manage HADR situations in North India.
- On 14th May 2018, Indian Army Women Officers' Mountaineering Expedition to Mt. Bhagirathi-II (6512 metres) comprising 9 women officers, was flagged off by Director General of Military Training. This expedition aims to encourage women in the field of adventure. Mt. Bhagirathi-II is located in the Garhwal Himalayas in Gangotri National Park.

- On 13th May 2018, China's first domestically developed aircraft carrier began sea trials. It is a 50,000-metric tonne vessel. It started off from a shipyard of Dalian Shipbuilding Industry in Liaoning province. This vessel will become China's second aircraft carrier. China commissioned its first carrier the Liaoning in 2012.
- On 20th May, The proposal for India's Next –Gen Defence aircraft has been announced by The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA). They announced that India's fifth generation aircraft could even replace the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas. To propel the Government of India's mission of 'Make in India' campaign forward.
- On 21st May 2018, the all-women crew of the Indian Navy on board INSV Tarini returned from expedition "Navika Sagar Parikrama" and landed at Mandovi in Goa. The all-woman crew was led by Lieutenant Commander Vartika Joshi. Other crew members are: Lt-Commanders Pratibha Jamwal and Swati P, and Lieutenants Aishwarya Boddapati, S Vijaya Devi and Payal Gupta.
- On May 22, 2018, The South-Western command Chetak Corps are engaged in intense training exercise called 'Gandiv Vijay' in Rajasthan. It is a multi-mode exercise from dispersed locations to the time and place of decision in a terrain of operational responsibility of the formation.
- On 22nd May 2018, Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh said that, Chhattisgarh will get a specialised anti-Naxal combat force named the "Black Panther" in line with the Greyhounds unit. He said that, the government is making all possible efforts to stop the resource flow to the Maoists, including seizure of illegally procured properties.
- Three Indian Naval Ships Sahyadri, Shakti and Kamorta under the command of Rear Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi shall be making a port call at Tien Sa Port, Danang, Vietnam from 21st to 25th May, 2018. Objective of this visit is to enhance maritime cooperation between Indian and Vietnamese Navies, strengthen bonds of friendship between the two countries and contribute to security and stability in the region and the world at large.
- On May 28, 2018, joint Indo-Bangladesh Army Trekking Expedition to Nanda Devi has started from New Delhi. The team has a 16-member Indian Army team and a 10-member Bangladesh Army team. Mt Nanda Devi east base camp is located 4300m from the sea level and has a very challenging trekking route.
- On May 31, 2018, a group of 26 countries including India will participate in the biennial Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) military exercise from June 27 2018 to August 2 2018 in and around the Hawaiian islands and Southern California. It is known as the world's largest international maritime exercise. China has been disinvited and won't join the exercise. For the first time 4 new countries are participating in RIMPAC. They are: Brazil, Israel, Sri Lanka, Vietnam. The Theme of 2018 RIMPAC is 'Capable, Adaptive, Partners'.
- On May 31, 2018, the first biannual IAF Commander's conference of 2018 was held by Defence Minister M/s Nirmala Sitharaman at Air headquarters (Vayu Bhawan) in New Delhi. Briefing of the exercise of 'Gagan Shakti' of the Indian Air Force along the conducted in April 2018. IAF to start absorption and production of high end aviation technology in India in the next 15 years.
- On 23rd May 2018, Pentagon, the headquarters of the United States Department of Defence disinvited China from participating in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise. The RIMPAC is a biennial exercise. It is hosted by the United States. It is expected to begin in June. China, Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia and Brunei have been fighting over the South China Sea for several years. On May 28, 2018, India, US and Japan will take part in Malabar exercise in Guam. From India's side, its stealth frigate INS Sahyadri, missile corvette INS Kamorta and fleet tanker INS Shakti and a P-8I long-range maritime patrol aircraft will take part in the exercise.
- On May 23, 2018, The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved measures to simplify defence procurement procedure. These amendments form part of the ongoing Business Process Re-engineering in Defence Capital procurements. These measures will be incorporated in the DPP-16.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test

Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test

NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test

RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free

SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test

- On May 27,2018, the DRDO made the Rustom –II unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) will be delivered by the armed forces by 2020.It has completed its first round test at Chitradurga in Karnataka.It has been made of the use of all the three wings Armed forces viz. Air Force, Indian Army an Indain Navy.
- On May 29,2018, The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) chaired by Defence Minister Ms Nirmala Sitharaman has approved of the acquisition of defence equipment.To establish indegenisation of Indian growing techonological sector for Defence manufacturing .This procurement amounts to a value of Rs. 6900 crore.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Mobile Apps/Portal	Launched by	Purpose
'NCBN' (Nara Chandrababu Naidu) App	Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu	The app will notify people in real-time with news updates. It will be a direct platform for the common people to interact with the government.
Squirrel	Yahoo	Squirrel focuses on group chats. It has features that enables you to organise conversations with several people.
Google's IoT platform	Google	Android Things is for developers who want to build connected devices. Android Things offers hardware and software developers all the necessary SDKs (software development kit) to build all types of IoT devices.
Website of Digital India Internship Scheme	Union Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad	During the internship, the students will learn about working of transformative initiative of Digital India and will gain exposure to technology policy and decision making of government of India
Samagra Resource Portal and mobile app	Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education	Specific training on Samagra has already been provided to 74,000 teachers.
Next Generation e-Ticketing system	Mr. Piyush Goyal	Addition of 'My Transaction' feature to view their booked tickets based on journey date , booking date etc.Addition of 'Waitlist Prediction' has been made for ease of the passangers.
PRAAPTI app and web porta	The Minister of State (I/C) for Power Mr. R. K. Singh	Payment Ratification And Analysis in Power procurement for bringing

		Transparency in Invoicing of Generators) . the website is : www.praapti.in .It will help in making assessments for DISCOMS against 'Ease of Making Payments'to generation companies
ePDS (electronic public distribution system)	The Food , civil supplies and Consumer Affairs department of Himachal Pradesh	The HP government has started Himachal Grihni Suvidha Yojna which will provide 1 lakh women with gas cylinders and stoves free of cost.
Data visualisation	UNICEF	It makes use of the UDISE,the NAS and demographic data.Yasmin Ali Haque is the UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) Representative in India.

Other Science and Technology News of National & International

- On 3rd May 2018, EPFO announced that now Pensioners can view their pension passbook on mobile phones using Umang app. 'View Pension Passbook' service will be available for pensioners through Umang app.
- On May 5, 2018, NASA will be launching 'InSight', the first-ever mission dedicated to exploring the deep interior of Mars. It is a stationary robotic lander. 'InSight' stands for Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport.
- On 29th April 2018, Blue Origin, a US aerospace company, launched the suborbital New Shepard rocket and space capsule from the Blue Origin's West Texas launch site. This is the second flight of the New Shepard 2.0 spacecraft. New Shepard was launched to a target height of 351,000 feet.
- On 4th May 2018, Dakota DC-3 VP 905 aircraft joined the Indian Air Force again, in an induction ceremony at Hindan air force station, Uttar Pradesh, over four decades after the aircraft fleet was phased out. The restored Dakota has been renamed as 'Parashuram'.
- On 5th May 2018, NASA launched InSight spacecraft aboard an Atlas V rocket to study "Marsquakes", from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, United States. InSight has been designed to stay on the surface of Mars and listen to "Marsquakes". The project costs \$993 million.
- "IceCube", a tiny NASA satellite which is about the size of a loaf of bread has developed the first global map of ice clouds.The IceCube spacecraft was deployed from the International Space Station (ISS) in 2017.
- Scientists of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in the United States, have founded that, India is one of the places where overuse of water resources has led to a serious decline in freshwater availability.
- On 18th May, Kolkata based Institute Indian Institute of Science and Research (IISER) has announced a device that would help detect and remove arsenic from water.It would help detect and remove arsenic from water and thus make it safe for human consumption.The device called 'Arsenic Sensor and Removal Media' is a cost effective product.
- On 19th May, a Chinese based space startup named OneSpace launched its OS-X rocket.This was a 30 feetlong satellite named "Chongqing Liangjiang star" was launched from an undisclosed location form north western part of China.It is the first private Chinese firm to launch a commercial rocket.

- On 19th May, National Aeronautics Space Association(NASA) spotted a Pac-Man shaped crater on Mars.NASA and Hirise team of University of Arizona spotted this unusually shaped crater on Mars Using Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO).
- Scientists have created the world's smallest house that has been built on an area of 300 square micrometres, using a robotic system.The robotic system can exactly assemble nanomaterials into tiny, desirable structures.The micro-Robotex nanofactory creates microstructures in a large vacuum chamber and fixes components on optical fibre tips with nanometre accuracy.
- On 21st May 2018, China launched Queqiao satellite to explore dark side of Moon.The relay satellite Queqiao has been designed to set a communication link between earth and a planned lunar probe that will explore the dark side of the moon.Queqiao was launched on a Long March-4C rocket from Xichang launch center, China.
- On May 21,2018, India successfully test fired the Indo-Russian joint venture BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from Launch pad 3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR)at Chandipur, Odisha.To validate its 'life extension' technologies developed for the first time in India by DRDO and team of BrahMos.
- On May 22, 2018, scientists have discovered the first interstellar immigrant .An Asteroid named (514107) 2015 BZ509 has a different origin other than our solar system because the object moves in a direction opposite to that of all the objects in our solar system.This is the second asteroid that is causing stir after the 'Oumuamua' asteroid.
- Scientists have found out a drug named "PLX5622" that could prevent the brain damage caused by exposure to cosmic radiation.The "PLX5622" has shown positive result on mice. Through this drug it would be possible to make advancements in deep space exploration.
- On May 7 2018, Indian Space Research Organization has developed an atomic clock to be used in navigation satellites to measure clear-cut location data.Currently ISRO imports atomic clocks from European aerospace manufacturer Astrium for navigation satellites.
- Scientists have discovered a mineral named Moganite, in a lunar meteorite that points to abundant hidden reserves of water ice under the surface of the Moon, which can be used for future human exploration.
- In the 2018 edition of Indian Pharmacopoeia, that provides guidelines on tests for drugs manufactured and marketed in India, Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission has approved modern, animal-free tests for drug manufacturers.As per the new guidelines that will come into effect from July 1, 2018, pyrogen test will be replaced by a bacterial endotoxin test or a monocyte activation test which can be carried out in test tubes.
- On 3rd May 2018, China launched a new communication satellite named "APSTAR-6C" at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center, China.APSTAR-6C was sent into orbit by the Long March-3B carrier rocket. This was the 273rd mission of the Long March rocket series.
- On May 21, 2018, The Uttar Pradesh Institute of Design(UPID) will launch a mobile app during a two-day event in Varanasi.To help weavers in the state to market their products and come up with new design ideas. This will enhance their confidence and demand thereby increasing sales and exports.
- On 9th May 2018, Uttar Pradesh Health Minister Sidharth Nath Singh informed that the United States Stanford University will partner with Uttar Pradesh to fight disease like Japanese Encephalitis (JE) and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES).
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting will set up a dedicated web portal for spreading information on filming locations and production facilities available in India.The portal will be of great help to production companies looking to shoot in India to obtain permissions and explore locations in India.

- On 12th May 2018, J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare chaired a high level meeting to review the preparedness of various agencies for prevention and management of vector borne diseases, in New Delhi.
- On 8th May, 2018; China successfully launched Gaofen-5, a hyper-spectral imaging satellite, as part of the country's high-resolution Earth observation project. The satellite was launched off the back of a Long March 4C rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre in northern Shanxi Province.
- Scientists at the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute (CSWRI), Rajasthan, have come up with a new laparoscope-assisted insemination technique for sheep. The technique involves passing a rigid fibre-optic laparoscope into the abdomen through a small incision. The reproductive tract is located through camera and the frozen semen is deposited into the uterus.
- Astronomers have discovered an unusual, first of its kind, carbon-rich asteroid in the Kuiper Belt. This object has been designated 2004 EW95. Kuiper belt is a circum-stellar disc in the outer Solar System, extending from the orbit of Neptune to approximately 50 astronomical unit (AU) from the Sun.
- On 11th May 2018, SpaceX launched its most powerful Falcon 9 rocket named Block 5, carrying the first high-orbit communications satellite for Bangladesh named "Bangabandhu Satellite-1" from Cape Canaveral, Florida.
- On 10th May 2018, "Carbon Monitoring System (CMS)", a NASA programme that cost \$10 million per year to track carbon and methane was cancelled. The Carbon Monitoring System (CMS) programme tracked sources and sinks for carbon and developed high-resolution models of earth's flows of carbon.
- Scientists of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have progressed in the development of an environment-friendly propellant to power satellites and spacecraft to replace the conventional hydrazine rocket fuel with a greener propellant. The hydrazine rocket fuel is a highly toxic and carcinogenic chemical.
- The Election Commission will launch a multi-lingual mobile application to enable people all over India to share evidence of malpractice by political parties, their candidates and activists, directly with the electoral body, prior to the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Chief Election Commissioner O.P. Rawat said that a similar application, named Model Code of Conduct Violation Reporting App, was launched for the first time in Bengaluru ahead of the recent Karnataka Assembly elections.
- This ride-share mission took off on a pre-flown Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. GRACE-FO is a follow-on to the original GRACE mission. This mission mapped Earth's water and ice by measuring changes in Earth's gravity field from 2002 to 2017.
- On 25th May 2018, Vice Admiral GS Pabby, AVSM, VSM, Chief of Materiel commissioned IN LCU L54 into the Indian Navy at Port Blair. IN LCU L54 is the fourth Landing Craft Utility (LCU) Mk-IV class inducted into the Indian Navy. This ship was indigenously designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata.
- On May 27, 2018, a discovery led by researchers at University of Minnesota, US said that a new element has been found with magnetic properties. The name of the chemical element is Ruthenium (Ru). It is the fourth such element to have magnetic properties. So far, Iron (Fe), cobalt (Co) and Nickel (Ni) has these similar properties. They are ferromagnetic at room temperature.
- Scientists at Newcastle University have 3D printed human corneas for the first time. The bio-ink was 3D printed to form an artificial cornea. This work has been published in Experimental Eye Research.

ENVIRONMENT

- Scientists have said that, Tapanuli Orangutan, the rarest ape species on Earth, is on the verge of extinction. Less than 800 members of the Tapanuli Orangutan species are alive. They are in danger due to mega-projects, deforestation, road building, and poaching.
- Uropeltis bhupathyi, a new snake species has been discovered in the Anaikatty hills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. The new species has been named Uropeltis bhupathyi after the late herpetologist S. Bhupathy, for his contributions to the field.
- Researchers have said that, the dense vegetation in the Western Ghats determines the amount of rainfall that Tamil Nadu gets during the summer monsoon. A team of researchers from the Department of Civil Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has discovered that dense forests of the Western Ghats contribute to nearly 40% of moisture to the southwest monsoon rainfall in Tamil Nadu in the normal monsoon years.
- A rock sample found eight years ago in Champua, in Kendujhar district of Odisha has been declared the world's second oldest rock. Scientists have found a grain of magmatic zircon (a mineral that contains traces of radioactive isotopes) in the rock. Through which it has been estimated to be 4,240 million years old.
- On 16th May, a team of Indian scientists found a new frog species in a small industrial region in coastal Karnataka. It is named the Microhyla kodial. It is a greyish brown frog and is just 2 cm in length. A thick olive-green band on its head, less-prominent dark green bands on the rest of its body and has a very distinct loud long calls very different from a regular frog.
- On 17th May 2018, the India Meteorological Department issued an advisory to Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and the Lakshadweep archipelago on cyclonic storm 'Sagar'. "Sagar" is centered over the Gulf of Aden, nearly 390 km east-northeast of Yemen's Aden city and 560 km west-northwest of Socotra Islands.
- A new study has stated that, emissions of a banned chemical most responsible for the giant Antarctic ozone hole are on the rise. Trichlorofluoromethane, or CFC-11, is the second-most abundant ozone-depleting gas in the atmosphere.
- Scientists of Chinese Academy of Sciences have discovered a fossilised body piece of an extinct class of marine animal named Cystoidea or cystoids at Guizhou province, China. The cystoids are echinoderms or marine invertebrates. They lived in the Pleozoic era, the Ordovician and Silurian periods.
- Scientists have discovered a 4,000 year old human cremation site along with pottery from the 12th or 13th century. Catherine Frieman from Australian National University (ANU) excavated an ancient barrow near the town Looe in South East Cornwall.
- Scientists from NASA have discovered a special kind of neutron star outside the Milky Way galaxy for the first time. Neutron stars are highly dense cores of massive stars that collapse and go through a supernova explosion. The newly found neutron star was discovered through data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope (VLT) in Chile.
- Researchers have found out mountain ranges and three vast, deep sub-glacial valleys hidden under the Antarctica ice. This is the first finding observed from ice penetrating radar data collected in Antarctica as part of the European Space Agency PolarGAP project. The Patuxent Trough is over 300 kilometres long and over 15 kilometres wide. The Offset Rift Basin is 150 kilometres long and 30 kilometres wide.
- Scientists have discovered world's oldest lizard fossil, the fossil of a lizard-like creature named Megachirella wachtleri. In the early 2000s the fossil of Megachirella wachtleri was found in Dolomites mountain range of Italy.

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free

Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test

Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test

NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test

RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free

SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test

SPORTS

Sports/Tournament/title	Winner	Points to be noted
Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2018	Lewis Hamilton	Kimi Raikkonen of Ferrari came second while Sergio Perez of Force India came third.
IAAF Diamond League	Germany's Thomas Rohler	India's javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra finished fourth
10m air pistol at International Shooting Competitions of Hannover (ISCH)	Heena Sidhu	In the final, Heena Sidhu was tied with France's Mathilde Lamolle on 239.8 points. India's Shri Nivetha won a bronze medal with a score of 219.2.
Spanish Grand Prix	Lewis Hamilton	Valtteri Bottas of Mercedes ranked second . Max Verstappen of Red Bull ranked third . Sebastian Vettel ranked fourth.
UEFA Europa League in Lyon, France	Atletico Madrid	This is the third Europa League title for Atletico Madrid. Earlier, they had won the title in 2010 and 2012.
Italian Open	Rafael Nadal	Rafael Nadal defeated Alexander Zverev in the final of the Italian Open. This is Rafael Nadal's eighth Italian Open title. Through this victory Rafael Nadal will regain his No. 1 ranking from Roger Federer.
5th Women's Asian Champions Trophy at the Sunrise Stadium, Donghae City, South Korea	South Korea	South Korea has won the title for the third time. India finished runners-up for the second time.
Formula Junior Racing Series 2018 Championship in Coimbatore	Bala Prasath	Bengaluru's Sohil finished in the second place in the final round. Chennai's Nirmal Umashankar finished in the third position.
Indian Premier League (IPL) title	Chennai Super Kings	Chennai Super Kings has become the second team apart from Mumbai Indians to have won the IPL title three times.

- On May 22, 2018, Commonwealth medal winner and Table Tennis Star Manika Batra and weightlifter Mirabai Chanu signed multi year agreement with IOS. With this deal, Manika and Mirabai join the likes of boxing stars MC Mary Kom, Vijender Singh and Saina Nehwal on the IOS roster.

Shooting

- On 20th to 30th April 2018, ISSF World Cup Stage 2 was held at the Changwon International Shooting Range in Changwon, South Korea. The total medals tally was topped by China with a total of seven medals. Shahzar Rizvi won India's first medal at the ISSF World Cup Stage 2.
- On May 6 2018, Olympic medalist Gagan Narang and Pooja Ghatkar bagged the silver medal in the mixed event at Grand Prix of Liberation international shooting competition held in Pilsen, Czech Republic. P. Shri Nivetha and Amanpreet Singh claimed the mixed air pistol silver.
- On 23rd May 2018, Tejaswini Sawant won gold medal in the 50m rifle prone event in the Grand Prix in Munich. Anjum Moudgil scored 0.2 point lesser and won the silver medal. In the men's 50m rifle prone event, India's Chain Singh won the silver medal. United States' Matthew Emmons won the gold medal. Oleh Tsarkov of Ukraine finished in the third place.

Archery

- On May 26, 2018, Indian archers won a silver and a bronze in the Archery World Cup Stage II in Turkey .

Winner	Loser	Prize
Mixed pair of Abhishek Verma and Jyothi Surekha Vennam	Belgiums Reginald Kools and Sarah Prieels	Bronze.
Women's compound team : Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Muskan Kirar, Divya Dhayal		Silver.

Hockey

- Hockey India has named Harendra Singh as the chief coach for the Indian men's hockey team. Earlier, Harendra Singh was appointed as the chief coach of the Indian women's hockey team in September 2017. Under his guidance the women's team won the Asia Cup title in Japan in October 2017.

Football

- On 27th April to 1st May 2018, the Indian Blind Football Federation (IBFF) conducted the third edition of All India Invitational Blind Football Tournament in Kochi, Kerala.
- Mohamed Salah of Liverpool football team has been named the Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year for 2017/18. Mohamed Salah is the first African winner of the award. Fran Kirby of Chelsea team won the inaugural FWA Women's Footballer of the Year award.
- On 13th May 2018, the Indian U-16 national football team emerged as champions of the Four-Nation Tournament in Serbia. Indian U-16 national football team defeated Tajikistan 4-2 in the finals and became the champions.
- On 15th May, the Paris saint-Germain's brazilian forward footballer Neymar was named France's player of the Year at an award ceremony in Paris. He received his award from former Brazilian international player Ronaldo as a part of 27th UNFP (French National Professional

Football Players Union) trophy Ceremony.

UNFP awards 2018:

UNFP manager of the year award: Unai Emery.

UNFP Young Player of the Year award: Kylian Mbappa.

UNFP Goalkeeper : Steve Mandanda.

- Football Delhi has planned to launch a Pro League in October 2018 and a community league in January 2019. On 15th May 2018, Football Delhi finalised and approved the Annual Calendar of football activities for the season 2018-19.
- On 17th May, The Tamil Nadu player Dhanapal Ganesh was replaced by Vineet Rai due to physical ailments. This is in line with the upcoming Hero International Cup 2018 to be held at Mumbai Football Arena, Mumbai on June 1. Hero International Cup is held under AIFF.
- On May 21, 2018 Barcelona forward Lionel Messi has won the European Golden Shoe for a fifth time. He won the award with 34 goals, for a total of 68 points during the 2017-2018 season. Four-time winner Cristiano Ronaldo finished ninth in the rankings after scoring 26 goals for Real Madrid in La Liga.
- On 22nd May 2018, Harry Kane was announced as England's captain at the World Cup in Russia. Harry Kane is 24 years old. He has scored 12 goals in 23 international appearances. He first captained England in the last summer's 2-2 World Cup qualifier in Scotland.
- On May 26, 2018, Delhi based Sudeva Football Club to expand its operations in Europe through Spanish league's third division club C.D Olympic Xativa. Sudeva becomes the first football club to do so.
- On May 27, 2018, The Spanish Team of Real Madrid beat Liverpool from England by 3-1 goal in the Champions Trophy. The Champions League was held in NSC Olimpiyskiy Stadium Kiev, Ukraine. The Real Madrid team has won four such tournaments in 5 years.

Cricket

- On 3rd May 2018, Cricket Australia appointed Justin Langer as the new coach of the Australian national cricket team. Justin Langer replaced Darren Lehmann. Darren Lehmann recently resigned due to the ball-tampering scandal.
- India fell to second position in ICC ODI Team Rankings with England reaching the No. 1 position, as per the ICC ODI rankings released on 2nd May 2018.
- Tim Paine and Aaron Finch have been appointed as Australia's new ODI and T20 captains respectively. Aaron Finch will lead the T20 international team. Alex Carey has been appointed the vice-captain for a one-off T20 in England and a T20 tri-series in Zimbabwe.
- Tim Paine and Aaron Finch have been appointed as Australia's new ODI and T20 captains respectively. Aaron Finch will lead the T20 international team. Alex Carey has been appointed the vice-captain for a one-off T20 in England and a T20 tri-series in Zimbabwe.
- On 10th May 2018, Delhi Daredevils' Rishabh Pant scored 128*(63) against SunRisers Hyderabad. He has become the first Indian to reach the highest-ever score in the history of Indian Premier League. He has surpassed Chennai Super Kings' Murali Vijay, who had scored 127(56) against Rajasthan Royals in 2010.
- On 23rd May 2018, former South Africa captain A B de Villiers announced his retirement from all forms of international cricket. He has played 114 Tests, 228 ODIs and 78 T20 Internationals for South Africa. His average is over 50 in both the Tests and ODIs. He made his Test debut against England in 2004. He has been one of the star performers of South Africa.
- New Zealand's Mike Hesson, Australia's Belinda Clark. She has been made the women's cricket representative, replaces Clare Connor. Kyle Coetzter has been appointed as the Associate Members representative. He succeeds Ireland's Kevin O'Brien. Kyle Coetzter is the Scotland

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

skipper. Mike Hesson has been made the Full Member team coach representative. He succeeds Darren Lehmann. Mike Hesson is the New Zealand national team coach.

- Steve Smith, the former Australia captain, who was banned due to ball tampering issue, will make a comeback through the inaugural Global T20 Canada event that starts on 28th June 2018.
- On May 27, The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and UN Environment Signed the letter of Intent to Promote "Green" Cricket in India. The Letter of Intent was Signed by BCCI Acting Secretary Amitabh Choudhary and the UN Environment Executive Director Erik Solheim at the BCCI headquarters in Mumbai.

Boxing

- Indian pugilist Neeraj Goyat has been awarded the WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award. Neerav Tomar was awarded the 'WBC Asia honorary Promoter of the year 2017 Award' by the Asian Boxing Council.

Badminton

- Saina Nehwal has entered into the top 10 in women's ranking, according to the latest rankings released by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) in New Delhi on 3rd May 2018. Shuttlar Kidambi Srikanth has reached the third spot with 74,135 points in Men's section.

Athletics

- On 6th May 2018, India finished on top with 20 gold, 22 silver and 8 bronze medals, at the 3rd South Asian Junior Athletics Championships (SAJAC) at Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Host Sri Lanka occupied 2nd place. Pakistan secured the third place.
- The first National Para Games as part of National Games for able-bodied athletes, will be conducted under the Khelo India Scheme in June-July 2018 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. This will be a multi-sport event for para-athletes which will see participation from various states. The tentative dates for the event are 28 June to 7 July 2018.
- On May 26, 2018, Eugene leg of Diamond League was held in Doha on April. Neeraj Chopra ranks 6th with a javelin throw of 80.81 m. German's Thomas Rohler took the gold with 89.88m, Johannes Vetter ranked second and got silver with a throw of 89.34 m, Andreas Hofmann won the bronze with a throw of 86.45m.
- On 30th May 2018, the Athletics Federation of India announced the retirement of discus thrower Vikas Gowda. He became the first and only Indian male to win Commonwealth Games medals in discus throw. He owns the national record of 66.28m (achieved in 2012). He won silver medal in the 2010 Commonwealth Games and a gold medal in the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

Tennis

- On 10th May 2018, Rafael Nadal broke John McEnroe's record of 49 straight sets won on the same surface by defeating Diego Schwartzman 6-3, 6-4 in the third round of the Madrid Open, in Spain.

- Roger Federer has replaced Rafael Nadal as world no. 1 in the men’s singles tennis ATP rankings published on May 14, 2018. Former world No. 1 Novak Djokovic slipped six places to 18th on account of second-round defeat in Madrid Masters. This is Djokovic’s lowest ranking since October 2006. Russian player Denis Shapovalov jumped 14 spots to a best ever 29th

ATP rankings as on May 14, 2018:

1	Roger Federer
2	Rafael Nadal
3	Alexander Zverev
4	Grigor Dimitrov
5	Marin Cilic

- Czech Republic's tennis player Petra Kvitova jumped two spots to eighth in the women’s singles tennis, WTA rankings published on May 14, 2018. She won the Madrid Open after beating Kiki Bertens.

WTA rankings as of May 14, 2018:

1	Simona Halep
2	Caroline Wozniacki
3	Garbine Muguruza
4	Elina Svitolina
5	Karolina Pliskova

- On 19th May, Tennis Star Simona Halep of Romania retains her Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) ranking at the number one spot. She retained her spot after qualifying for the semi finals of the Rome Masters where she will face Maria Sharapova from Russia.

The WTA top 5 ranking are as follows:

- Simona Halep
- Caroline Wozniacki
- Garbine Muguruza
- Elina Svitolina
- Karolína Pliskova

- On May 31, 2018, Union Minister for Sports Mr. Rajvardhan Singh Rathore granted a financial assistance of Rs. 5 Lakh to Manipuri Fencer Ms. Kh. Kalambia Chanu. It was given for her medical expenses from the Pandit DeenDayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportsperson (PDUNWFS).

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Book Names	Authors	Released/Launched By	Other Information
‘A Treatise on Cleanliness’ and ‘Waste Management, an Introduction’,	Shri Rajat Bhargava	Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu	Contributing a lot to make India a clean country
‘Hidden India’	Latika Nath	Latika Nath	‘Hidden India’ is a coffee table book that comprises of all the photographs of some of her “closest wildlife encounters” as per a statement. The proceeds from this book will go to the Wildlife SOS

			Elephant Conservation and Care Centre which would promote protection of Indian Elephants.
--	--	--	---

- On 16th May 2018, a "Guidebook for Creating a Child Friendly and Protective Environment for Children in Contact with Railways", was launched by Ashwini Lohani, Chairman, Railway Board, at an event at the Habitat World, New Delhi.
- On 11th May 2018, Gen Bipin Rawat, Chief of Army Staff, released the book 'Across the Bench - Insight into the Indian Military Judicial System'. The book speaks on military judicial system, command and management issues in the military establishments and issues related to veterans, their families and dependents.

OBITUARY

National Wise

Name of the person who passed away	Field	Points to be noted
Ashok Mitra	Former Finance minister	
PP Lakshmanan	Former AIFF Secretary	
Ravinder Sharma	Founder of Adilabad's Kala Ashram.	He is an artist and philosopher.
Kottayam Pushpanath	Malayalam detective novelist	
Keyur Bhushan	A freedom fighter and writer	He participated in the 1942 Quit India movement. In the 1980s, he made a footmarch to promote peace in Punjab.
Arun Date	Marathi singer	He was the first recipient of the state government's 'Gajananrav Vatave Puraskar'.
Dr Nirmal Hirawat	Former Madhya Pradesh minister and senior Congress leader	He was a member of Madhya Pradesh's former Chief Minister, Shyama Charan Shukla's cabinet.
Rajinder Pal	Cricketer	He was right-arm medium pacer and played his only Test match against England during the 1963-64 series at the Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai.
Ankit Chadha	Storyteller	He was popular for his unique style of storytelling in Urdu
Mr. Balkavi Bairagi	Noted poet and politician	He was a congressman and won 1968 state assembly elections in Manasa, west Madhya Pradesh. He also won the Lok Sabha elections in 1984 and was a Rajya Sabha member from 1998 to 2004.
Yamunabai Waikar	Lavani singer	She received Padma Shri award in 2012. She had also worked to create awareness about water conservation during the 1972 drought in Maharashtra.
Balakumaran	Tamil writer	He won several awards, listed as "Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar Award, Ilakkiya Chinthanai

		award,Tamil Nadu State Film Award for Best Dialogue Writer,Cinema Express Award,Kalaimamani Award from Government of Tamil Nadu"
Mr. Raghubir Singh	Freedom fighter	He was a part of Subhas Chandra Bose' Azad Hind Fauj.
Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani	Telugu novelist	Some of her most popular works include Aagamana, Aathmeeyulu, Abhijata, Secretary, Jeevana Tarangalu and Kalala Kougili.Many of her literary works have been adapted to film and TV screenplays. Director Trivikram Srinivas' A... Aa is based on Sulochana Rani's novel Meena.
Bansidhar Panda	Industrialist and founder of Indian Metal and Ferro Alloys (IMFA)	He founded Indian Metal and Ferro Alloys (IMFA) in 1961.He was a major contributor in instituting Sarala Award for literature and Ekalabya Puruskar for sports.
Vinod Bhatt	Gujarati writer and humourist	He was well known for his newspaper column 'Mag Nu Naam Mari'
Zorawar Chand Bakshi	Lt Gen	He had received Maha Vir Chakra (MVC), Vir Chakra, Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM).He had played a major role in the capture of the Haji Pir pass from Pakistan army.
Madala Ranga Rao	Actor,Producer of Telugu film	He was popularly known as "Red Star". He was also a member of the CPI-led Praja Natya Mandali. He received the prestigious Golden Nandi award from the then Andhra Pradesh government for his film 'Yuvatharam Kadilindhi'.
Kameshwar Paswan	Former Bihar minister	He started his political career representing Fatuha Assembly constituency.
Urmila Singh	Former Himachal Pradesh governor	She was made the governor of Himachal Pradesh in 2010.Earlier, she had worked as chairman of the National Scheduled Tribes Commission (NCTC).
Pandurang Fundkar	Maharashtra Agriculture minister	He was elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time in 1989. He represented Akola till 1998.In 1978, he was elected to Maharashtra State Legislative Assembly from Changaon assembly seat for the first time.

International wise

Name of the person who passed away	Field	Points to be noted
Dave Michener	Animator	Worked for many Walt Disney films
Anne V. Coates	Film editor	She had received an honorary Oscar, for her lifetime of work, at the 2016 Governors Awards ceremony.She was awarded BAFTA's Academy Fellowship in 2007

David Goodall	Australia's oldest scientist	He was a botanist and ecologist
Tom Wolfe	Journalist and novelist	He published his important novel "The Right Stuff," in 1979. It spoke about the first American astronauts and the Mercury space program.
Zhao Kangmin	Chinese archaeologist	He was the first archaeologist to identify fragments of terracotta in 1974 as remains dating back to the Qin dynasty. He was also the first to excavate the site.
Mr. Alan Bean	Former test pilot of US Navy	He was sent as an astronaut in 193 mission and flew to space twice and was the fourth person to walk on the Moon on Nov 19 1969.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Observed date/week	Day	Other information
1 st May	Maharashtra Day and Gujarat Day	On 1 st May 2018, Gujarat and Maharashtra celebrated their Statehood Day. Maharashtra and Gujarat came into existence as states on 1 st May 1960.
1 st May	World Labour Day	The theme of the International Labour Day in the year 2018 is "Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement".
1 st May	World Asthma Day	The theme for 2018 is: 'Never too early, never too late. It's always the right time to address airways disease.
2 nd May	World Tuna Day	The Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) has announced the theme for World Tuna Day 2018 as: Smart Tuna - Smart Ocean.
3 rd May	World Press Freedom Day	The theme for World Press Freedom Day 2018 is: Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law.
4 th May	International Firefighters' Day	It is observed to honor the sacrifices made by firefighters to safeguard their communities and environment.
5 th May	World Cartoonist's Day	On 5 th May 1895, the first colour cartoon "The Yellow Kid" that was created by Richard F Outcault was published.
6 th May	International No Diet Day (INDD)	It is a celebration of body acceptance, fat acceptance and body shape diversity. Its symbol is a light blue ribbon.
7 th May	The World Athletics Day	It is celebrated every year to popularize sports among the youth, to promote athletics as the primary sport in schools and institutions and to encourage and introduce new talents and youngsters in the field of athletics.
8 th May	World Red Cross Day	This day marks the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, who was born on 8 May 1828. He is the founder of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). He is also the first recipient of Nobel Peace Prize. The theme for World Red Cross Day 2018 is "Memorable smiles from around the world".

AffairsCloud Recommends Oliveboard Mock Test

[SBI PO 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SBI Clerk 2018: Take 30 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[Railways RRB ALP 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[Railways RRB GROUP D 2018: 1 Free Test](#)

[NABARD 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

[RBI Grade B 2018: Take 25 Mocks. 1 Free](#)

[SSC CPO 2018: Take a Free Test](#)

11 th May	National Technology Day	On 11 th May 1998, India successfully carried out nuclear tests at Pokhran, Rajasthan (under Operation 'Shakti'), flew its first, indigenous aircraft "Hansa-3" and also performed successful test firing of the Trishul missile.
12 th May	International Nurses Day	It is Celebrated all over the world to mark the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. The theme for International Nurses Day 2018 was chosen as "Nurses A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human right" by ICN.
12 th May	World Migratory Bird Day	It aims to create awareness on the need for conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. The theme for World Migratory Bird Day 2018 is: "Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation". Also 2018 is the "Year of the Bird".
15 th May	International Day of the Families	The theme for International Day of Families 2018: "Families and inclusive societies".
16 th May	International Day of Living Together in Peace	The day is celebrated to Promote Peace, Tolerance, Inclusion, Solidarity & Understanding. The Aim of is to build a world which is surrounded by peace & to enrich the quality of forgiveness and Compassion.
16 th May	International Day of Light	To create awareness of the primary usage of Light & to describe the importance of Light based Science & technologies & with an Objective to offer UNESCO and opportunity to fulfill its mission of promoting international cooperation in the basic sciences and STEM Education.
17 th May	'World Tele-communication and Information Society Day'	It marks the anniversary of signing the first International Telegraph Convention and the creation of 'International Telecommunication Union'.
17 th May	International day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia	The theme for International day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia 2018 is: "Alliances for Solidarity".
17 th May	World Hypertension Day	The theme for World Hypertension Day 2018 is: "Know Your Numbers", with a goal of increasing high blood pressure (BP) awareness in all populations around the world.
18 th May	International Museum Day	The theme for International Museum Day 2018 is: "Hyperconnected museums: New approaches, new publics".
18 th May	World AIDS Vaccination day	This day stresses on the urgent need for a vaccine to prevent HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infection

		and AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome).
20 th May	World Bee day	Slovenia's northern Alpin village of Zirovnica was the home town of the 18th-century Slovenian beekeeping pioneer Anton Jansa, whose date of birth, May 20, had chosen for World Bee Day.
21 st May	Anti Terrorism Day	This day aims to create awareness on the ongoing terrorist activities and precautions that are need to be taken to prevent terrorism acts.
21 st May	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	This day provides an opportunity to improve our understanding of cultural diversity and to work for the goals of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions adopted on 20 th October 2005.
22 nd May	International Bio-diversity Day	It is celebrated to create awareness on biodiversity issues like habitat destruction, marine pollution, climate change etc.The theme for International Bio-diversity Day 2018 is: Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity.
24 th May	Commonwealth Day 2018	Commonwealth Day was earlier known as Empire Day. It is an annual celebration of the Commonwealth of Nations.The theme for Commonwealth Day 2018 is: 'Towards a Common Future'.
25 th May	International Missing Children's Day	The International Missing Children's Day is celebrated to honour missing and abducted children and to celebrate recovered children.
25 th May	World Thyroid Awareness Day	In 2009, 25 th May was declared as the World Thyroid Awareness Day due to the efforts of European Thyroid Association (ETA) and American Thyroid Association (ATA).Theme for World Thyroid Awareness Day 2018 is: 'Environment and the Thyroid'.
29 th May	International Day of UN Peacekeepers	Theme of 2018 International Day of UN Peacekeepers is : 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice.This was celebrated since 1948.
30 th May	Goa Statehood Day	It became the 25 th state of India. Earlier it was a Union Territory along with Daman and Diu.
31 st May	World No Tobacco Day 2018	The theme of World No Tobacco Day 2018 is: "Tobacco and heart disease". Tobacco is responsible for over 1 in 10 fatalities in the world. India is one among the top four users of tobacco. Nearly 11.2 % smokers in the world are Indians.

Other News Related On Important Days

- On 3rd May 2018, Department of Science & Technology (DST) celebrated its foundation day. DST is one of the three departments of Ministry of Science & Technology. It was set up on 3rd May 1971.Its objective is to explore and develop new areas of science and technology, to strengthen national Science & Technology capacity, cutting across institutions and disciplines.
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) will celebrate its Raising Day on May 7 every year. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) will celebrate completing 58 years of glorious service to the nation.BRO's ideology 'Shramena Sarvam Sadhyam' has been implemented in friendly neighbouring countries through different project.

- On 8th and 9th May 2018, Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during the Second World War is observed. This day is observed to make efforts to settle all disputes by peaceful means and in such a manner that international peace and security are not endangered.

Good Luck with Your Exams!!!

Suggestions are welcomed; Contact us any time at affairscloud@gmail.com and sowba.ac@gmail.com