

AWARDS & HONOURS

In recognition of its relentless efforts towards service excellence and customer delight, Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad received the Airports Council International Airport Service Quality (ACI ASQ) World No. 1 Airport Award in the 5-15 Million Passengers Per Annum (MPPA) category for the 2nd consecutive year.

Recognized as one of the leading neurosurgeons in the world, Dr. B K Misra, a Mumbai-based eminent doctor, will be bestowed upon the **Dr. B C Roy National Award** for 2018 in the most prestigious category of 'Eminent Medical Person of the Year', the highest award in the field of Medicine in India.

BUSINESS & CORPORATE

- **Alibaba** Group Holding Ltd's co-founder and executive chairman Jack Ma announced his plan to retire from the company he founded in 1999 to pursue philanthropy in education. Ma, one of China's best known corporate leaders, will remain on the company's board of directors and continue to mentor its management.
- **Bharat Electronics Limited** bagged an order worth Rs. 9,200 crore for supply of seven Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM) Systems to the Indian Navy.
- In one of its biggest strategic moves ever that has opened new business opportunities, Soft-drink giant **Coca-Cola** made an audacious move into coffee and retail outlets with \$5.1-billion purchase of Costa Coffee- a UK-based global coffee chain.
- The merger of **Idea Cellular** & Vodafone India was completed after being cleared by the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), creating India's biggest telecom service provider with over 408 million subscribers. It has created ripples in the Indian telecom sector with the merged entity dislodging current market leader Bharti Airtel from top position by its sheer size and scale. A new board was constituted for the merged entity "Vodafone Idea Ltd" with 12 directors (including six independent directors) and Kumar Mangalam Birla as its Chairman. The board appointed Baresh Sharma as the CEO.
- **Infosys**, India's second-largest software services company, expanded its business in the Southeast Asian market via a Joint Venture(JV) with Singapore-based Temasek, a global investment company with a portfolio of \$235 billion.
- Indian IT major **Infosys** signed a three-year contract to become the official digital innovation partner of Australian Open.
- Amid fierce competition in utility vehicles space, **Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M)** launched an all new Multi Utility Vehicle (MUV) named Marazzo priced at Rs. 9.99 Lakh (ex-showroom) base price for its entry level model. The 7-8 seater carrier is ready to take on its competitors such as Maruti, Hyundai, Tata and Toyota and regain the lost ground in its stronghold of UVs and SUVs which is currently being led by Maruti Suzuki.
- American security and aerospace giant Lockheed Martin entered into an agreement with **Tata Group** to manufacture wings of its F-16 fighter jets in India; a move that will support Central Government's flagship 'Make in India' Programme.

BILLS / ACTS / COMMITTEES / SCHEMES / POLICIES

- India and the U.S. signed the foundational or enabling agreement COMCASA on the side-lines of the inaugural 2+2 dialogue. COMCASA stands for Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement and is one of the four foundational agreements that the U.S. signs with allies and close partners to facilitate interoperability between militaries and sale of high end technology. COMCASA is an India-specific version of the Communication and Information on Security Memorandum of Agreement (CISMOA). It comes into force immediately, and is valid for a period 10 years.
- In a vital step towards strengthening bilateral cooperation, India jointly inaugurated 3 major infrastructure projects to improve power and rail connectivity with Bangladesh.
- A week-long military field training exercise for seven member nations of Bay of Bengal initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), named MILEX-18, was held in Maharashtra's Pune district. Contingents of India, Srilanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Bhutan took part in the exercise while Nepal and Thailand skipped it.
- "Nomadic Elephant 2018" – a joint military exercise designed to strengthen partnership between the Armies of India and Mongolia- was held for 12 days in Mongolia . Exercise Nomadic Elephant is an annual, bilateral exercise since 2006 which is designed to strengthen the partnership between Indian Army and Mongolian Armed Forces.
- The World Hindu Congress (WHC-2018) was held Chicago, United States. It was organized to commemorate 125 years of Swami Vivekananda's historic Chicago address on September 11, 1893. The theme of WHC-2018 was "Sumantrite Suvikrante" – think collectively, achieve valiantly".
- India signed an agreement with France to collaborate for ISRO's (Indian Space Research Organization) first Human Spaceflight Programme, Gaganyaan, to be launched in 2022.
- India and France signed an implementation agreement on "Mobilise Your City" to support which 3 pilot cities in India - Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad- for reduction of greenhouse gas(GHG) emissions related to urban transport.
- Exim Bank of India signed a multilateral cooperation agreement with member development banks of BRICS to undertake "collaborative research" in distributed ledger/blockchain technology. The BRICS grouping comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. Under this umbrella agreement, the signatories have agreed to constitute a joint research working group which will formulate the research agenda and targeted outcome.
- India signed 5 agreements with Czech Republic on Defence, Scientific & Industrial Research, Laser Technology, Agriculture and Diplomatic Visa Waiver.
- With the objective to boost the all-important Indian dairy sector, Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare launched Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF), with a total investment outlay of Rs. 10,881 crore.
- The Union Cabinet indefinitely extended Atal Pension Yojana after it lapsed in August 2018 and broadened its scope by doubling the accident insurance and relaxing the age criterion by five years to further incentivize the scheme.

- With the objective of developing theme-based tourist circuits in the country, the Union Ministry of Tourism sanctioned Rs. 80.37 crore under Swadesh Darshan Scheme to develop cruise tourism in Kerala.
- Organized by the South Asian Women Development Forum, the 'International Women Entrepreneurs Summit 2018' was held from 3rd to 5th September, 2018 in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- The Minister for Women & Child Development, Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, alongwith Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Adityanath inaugurated the widows' home 'Krishna Kutir' at Vrindavan, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh. Krishna Kutir is a special home for 1000 widows set up by the Ministry of Women & Child Development under Swadhar Greh scheme of the Ministry and is the largest ever facility of its kind created by a government organization.

ECONOMY & FINANCE

- Amitabh Chaudhry, currently the MD & CEO of HDFC Standard Life Insurance who is credited with the company's emergence as the top private insurer by market value, was appointed as the MD & CEO of Axis Bank w.e.f from January 1, 2019.
- The Union government doubled the pecuniary limit to Rs. 20 lakh for filing loan recovery application in the Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) by banks and financial institutions, to help reduce pendency of such cases. As a result, any bank or financial institution or a consortium of banks or financial institutions cannot approach DRTs if the amount due is less than Rs. 20 lakh.
- Asia Index Pvt Ltd launched S&P BSE Private Banks Index to measure the performance of private banks. This index is designed to provide market participants with transparent and rules-based benchmark that measures performance of private banks listed in India.
- According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data, Mauritius was the top source of foreign direct investment (FDI) into India in 2017-18 followed by Singapore. The total FDI in FY 18 stood at \$37.36 billion which was a marginal rise over \$36.31 billion recorded in the previous fiscal 2016-17.

PEOPLE IN NEWS

- Dr **Arif Alvi**, a close ally of Prime Minister Imran Khan and one of the founding members of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party, was elected as the new President of Pakistan. In Pakistan, the President is considered as a symbol of the federation and head of the state and exercises all powers on the recommendations of the prime minister.
- Veteran BJP leader **LK Advani** was renominated as the chairman of the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee. The Committee examines complaints relating to unethical conduct by members of Parliament. It is also free to take up suo motu investigation into the matters relating to ethics and unethical conduct by a member, wherever necessary, and make such recommendations, as it may deem fit.

- Justice **Mukul Mudgal** was named Chairman of the 11-member Selection Committee to pick this year's recipients of the prestigious Dronacharya and Dhyanchand Sports Awards given as part of the National Sports Awards Ceremony.
- Dr **Poonam Khetrupal Singh** was nominated for a second five-year term as Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia. Dr Khetrupal Singh has a long and distinguished career in public health of over four decades. She served in the health sector at various senior positions during her stint in the Indian Administrative Services; in the World Bank; was part of WHO Director-General's cabinet in Geneva; worked as the Executive Director of Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments in WHO headquarters; and was Deputy Regional Director WHO South-East Asia Region from 2000-2013.
- Bollywood actor **Sanjay Dutt** was roped in as the Brand Ambassador for the "Anti-Drug Campaign" for 5 states(Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan) and 2 union territories(Delhi and Chandigarh), to spread awareness about the ill-effects of drugs and educate people on how to refrain from their consumption.
- **Thaawar Chand Gehlot**, the Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, led the Indian delegation at the 3rd ASEM(Asia-Europe Meeting) Conference on 'Global Ageing and Human Rights of Older Persons' held in Seoul, South Korea.

SPORTS

- Lauded as one of the greatest opening batsmen to have ever played the game of Cricket, **Alastair Cook**, the prolific English opener and former Captain, announced retirement from international cricket after a 12-year illustrious career.
- Armyman **Amit Panghal** pulled off a massive upset to outbox the 2016 Rio Olympic champion from Uzbekistan and win gold for India at the Jakarta-Palembang Asian Games in the 49 kg category.
- Indian athlete, **Arpinder Singh**, created history by becoming the first Indian to win a medal(bronze) at the IAAF Continental Cup in Ostrava, Czech Republic.
- The 2022 **Asian Games**, also known as XIX Asiad, will be a multi-sport event celebrated in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China from September 10 to 25, 2022. Hangzhou will be the third Chinese city to host the Asian Games, after Beijing 1990 and Guangzhou 2010.
- "India Blue" defeated defending champions "India Red" to win **Duleep Trophy**, a prominent domestic cricket tournament.
- India's sprint queen **Hima Das**, who recently created history by winning gold at IAAF World Under-20 Championships held at Tampere in Finland, was appointed as the first ever Sports Ambassador of Assam.
- The 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia witnessed **India's** best performance in Asian Games so far in terms of the total number of medals won. India's medal tally at the biggest sporting event in Asia was 69 with 15 Gold, 24 Silver and 30 Bronze. Indonesia, the host nation of the 2018 Asian Games, secured 4th position in the overall medal tally at the conclusion of the Games.
- **James Anderson** of England surpassed Australian fast-bowling legend Glenn McGrath's record of 563 wickets to become the highest wicket-taking pace bowler in test cricket.

- India lost to **Japan** in the finals of the Women's Hockey competition at the 18th Asian Games in Indonesia.
- **Naomi Osaka** became **Japan's** first Grand Slam singles champion after she thumped Serena Williams in a controversial US Open final.
- Former junior world champion **Sakshi Choudhary** brought laurels to the country by emerging victorious at the World Youth Championship in Boxing.
- Hailed as one of the most electrifying midfielders in world hockey and a recipient of the prestigious Padma Shri, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna and Arjuna Awards, former Indian hockey skipper **Sardar Singh** announced retirement from international hockey after a 12-year illustrious career.
- **Saurabh Chaudhary**, the Asian Games gold medallist in Shooting, became the junior world champion at the ISSF World Championships in South Korea.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Researchers Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) re-commissioned India's oldest nuclear research reactor named 'Apsara', which had been shut down permanently in 2009 for repair.
- NITI Aayog, Intel and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) are collaborating to set up Model International Centre for Transformative Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI) in Bengaluru.
- Rail Sahyog Portal was launched by the Union Ministry of Railways to provide platform for Corporates and PSUs to fund creation of amenities at railway stations through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds.
- India joined an elite group of countries which have successfully materialized air-to-air refuelling system for military aircraft by triumphantly carrying out the first ever mid-air refuelling of the indigenously developed Light Combat Aircraft(LCA), 'Tejas'.
- In an effort to promote transparent and speedy governance, Delhi government has launched India's first scheme for doorstep delivery of essential government services like caste and marriage certificates, driving license and new water connections.
- Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru, is set to become the first in Asia to use face recognition as boarding pass.
- The Health and Family Welfare Department of the Tamil Nadu Government issued order banning the manufacture, sale and possession of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) with immediate effect in the state.
- The State Assembly of Odisha passed resolution seeking creation of Legislative Council or Vidhan Parishad, with 104 of total 147 legislators casting their votes in its favour.
- State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has made significant oil and gas discoveries in Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, that may potentially open up two new sedimentary basins in the country.

- In order to provide smooth, accessible and hassle-free scholarship to students from weaker sections of society, the Union Ministry for Minority Affairs launched India's first Mobile App by the name of National Scholarship Portal (NSP).
- Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), the world premier laboratory of Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO) located in New Delhi, has developed India's first indigenous medical kit for protection against nuclear warfare or radioactive leakage.
- In keeping with its prime area of focus of development of tribes and tribal culture, the Union Ministry of Tourism inaugurated India's first 'Tribal Circuit Project' connecting 13 tourism sites in Chhattisgarh.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved 100% electrification of broad gauge routes of Indian Railways (which will make Indian Railways the second largest electrified railway network in the world after China) by 2021-22.
- September 2018 was nationally observed as National Nutrition Month in India.
- KPMG was roped in by the Kerala Government as project consultant partner for rebuilding of the flood-ravaged state.
- In run up to India's first ever Global Mobility Summit held on 7th and 8th September in New Delhi, MOVE Cyclathon (cycle rally) was flagged off by the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog to promote cycling for a healthier life and spread the message of cleaner, accessible and zero-emission mobility across the country.
- India was the Focus Country at the 87th Izmir International Trade Show held from 7th to 11th September, 2018 in Turkey.
- Search Engine giant Google launched 'Dataset Search' targeted at the scientists, data journalists, data geeks or anyone looking for precise data online.
- Japan will conduct the world's first experiment to test a small prototype of 'Space Elevator' in space using two mini satellites.

AWARDS & HONOURS

- Facebook selected three Indian women, Adhunika Prakash, Chetana Misra and Tamanna Dhamija, among five global leaders for \$1 million award each as part of its **Community Leadership Programme**.
- National Sports Awards** are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award is given for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four year, Arjuna Award is given for consistency outstanding performance for four years, Dronacharya Award for coaches for producing medal winners at prestigious International sports events, Dhyan Chand Award for life time contribution to sports development and Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar is given to the corporate entities (both in private and public sector) and individuals who have played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development. Overall top performing university in inter-university tournaments is given Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy. Following is the list of winners this year:

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna 2018

S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
1.	S. Mirabai Chanu	Weightlifting
2.	Virat Kohli	Cricket

Dronacharya Awards 2018

S. No.	Name of the Coach	Discipline
1.	Subedar Chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa	Boxing
2.	Vijay Sharma	Weightlifting
3.	A. Srinivasa Rao	Table Tennis
4.	Sukhdev Singh Pannu	Athletics
5.	Clarence Lobo	Hockey (Life Time)
6.	Tarak Sinha	Cricket (Life Time)
7.	Jiwan Kumar Sharma	Judo (Life Time)
8.	V.R. Beedu	Athletics (Life Time)

Arjuna Awards 2018

S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
1.	Neeraj Chopra	Athletics
2.	Jinson Johnson	Athletics
3.	Hima Das	Athletics
4.	Nelakurthi Sikki Reddy	Badminton
5.	Satish Kumar	Boxing
6.	Smriti Mandhana	Cricket
7.	Shubhankar Sharma	Golf

8.	Manpreet Singh	Hockey
9.	Savita	Hockey
10.	Ravi Rathore	Polo
11.	Rahi Sarnobat	Shooting
12.	Ankur Mittal	Shooting
13.	Shreyasi Singh	Shooting
14.	Manika Batra	Table Tennis
15.	G. Sathyan	Table Tennis
16.	Rohan Bopanna	Tennis
17.	Sumit	Wrestling
18.	Pooja Kadian	Wushu
19.	Ankur Dhama	Para-Athletics
20.	Manoj Sarkar	Para-Badminton

Dhyan Chand Award 2018

S. No.	Name of the Sportsperson	Discipline
1.	Satyadev Prasad	Archery
2.	Bharat Kumar Chetri	Hockey
3.	Bobby Aloysius	Athletics
4.	Chougale Dadu Dattatray	Wrestling

Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2018

S. No.	Category	Name of the entity
1.	Identification and Nurturing of Budding & Young Talent	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited
2.	Encouragement to Sports through Corporate Social Responsibility	JSW Sports
3.	Sports for Development	Isha Outreach

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2017-18: Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar

- Kerala Tourism won two prestigious gold awards of the **Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)** for its innovative marketing campaigns.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President were jointly awarded the United Nations' highest environmental honour, '**UN's Champions of the Earth Award 2018**'.

BUSINESS & CORPORATE

- State-owned India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) entered into strategic partnership with **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance** to provide life insurance solutions.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) shortlisted five IT firms for the implementation of Centralised Information and Management System (CIMS) for seamless data collection and validations. The vendors are: **Capgemini Technology Services India**, IBM India, Infosys, Larsen & Toubro Infotech and Tata Consultancy Services.
- In order to augment Indian Navy's submarine support operations on either coast, the Indian Navy signed a strategically important contract with **Hindustan Shipyard Limited** for construction of two Diving Support Vessels (DSV).
- Marc Benioff, CEO of multinational cloud computing company **Salesforce**, acquired Time Magazine for \$190 million.

BILLS / ACTS / COMMITTEES / SCHEMES / POLICIES

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) at Ranchi, Jharkhand. Touted as the world's largest healthcare scheme that will serve beneficiary population that equals 27-28 European countries and almost equal to the population of Canada, US and Mexico put together, this ambitious scheme aims to provide annual health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakh to 10.74 crore beneficiary families across India.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved National Digital Communications Policy-2018 (NDCP 2018), that enables and supports India's transition to digitally empowered economy and society by fulfilling information and communication needs of citizens and enterprises.
- The Union Government approved Rs. 8,606 crore for 60 projects to be implemented in 111 border districts in 17 states (having international borders with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh) under the umbrella scheme Border Infrastructure and Management(BIM).
- At a recent meeting hosted by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, Ministers from the four 'G4 Nations'- India, Brazil, Germany, Japan- voiced concern over lack of substantive progress in long-pending United Nations Security Council(UNSC) reform.
- India agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of defence and security with Morocco.
- India collaborated with the US to combat the menace of Tuberculosis, the second biggest killer disease worldwide next only to HIV/AIDS.
- Two Coastal Tourism Circuit Projects were recently inaugurated under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme in Andhra Pradesh, aimed at boosting beach and coastal tourism by leveraging bountiful coastlines along the state.
- The policy think tank of the Indian Government, NITI Aayog, inked Statement of Intent (SoI) with US multinational Oracle, to pilot real drug supply-chain using blockchain distributed ledger and Internet of Things (IoT) software to fight the growing problem of counterfeit drugs in India.

- India entered into an agreement with Nepal to explore the possibility of using high resolution satellite images in boundary survey work.
- The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs partnered with Google to launch Loo Review Campaign, under the aegis of Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U), in an effort to increase awareness and ease of locating public toilets on Google Maps across India.
- India inked two loan agreements with Japan, for construction of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project and Kolkata East West Metro Project.
- The Union Railway Ministry launched 'Rail Heritage Digitization Project' in collaboration with Google Arts and Culture; a first-of-its-kind project that aims to showcase India's rich rail heritage to the global audience in an online story-telling platform.
- Tamil Nadu announced a scheme for the protection of exotic Neelakurinji plants that flower only once in twelve years; this initiative being undertaken following complaints that these rarest-of-rare and ecologically unique flowers are being packaged and sold commercially.
- Aimed at supporting India's transition to higher middle-income nation by addressing some of its key development priorities, the World Bank approved the ambitious five-year Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for India.
- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs signed an MoU with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to set up state-of-the-art Integrated Control Room for Emergency Response (ICR-ER) which will cater to the requirements of disaster management as well as internal security.
- The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare exchanged MoUs with Tata Trusts and multinational computer technology company, Dell, to provide technological platform for nationwide prevention, control, screening and management of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs).
- The second edition of the 10-day Nepal-China joint military exercise 'Sagarmatha Friendship Exercise-2018', started from September 17 and aimed at sharing expertise in disaster management and fighting terrorism, among others.
- The 14th edition of the Indo-US joint military exercise in the 'Yudh Abhyas Series', which was started in 2004 under the US Army Pacific Partnership Programme, was conducted in Uttarakhand.
- The 7th UNWTO (United Nations World Tourism Organization) Global Summit on Urban Tourism was held in Seoul, from 16th to 19th September,2018, for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.
- The Prime Minister of Bangladesh approved a draft agreement allowing India access to its key ports.

ECONOMY & FINANCE

- Goods and Services Tax Network(GSTN), the IT backbone of the GST (Goods and Services) regime, and responsible for carrying out IT driven processes of GST like registration, filing of returns, payment of taxes etc, got approval for conversion into a government-owned company.
- In order to rate states on their performance on last-mile banking services availability, the Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Mr. Arun Jaitley, launched Financial Inclusion Index.
- The Union Finance Ministry launched www.psbloansin59minutes.com, to enable micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to get in-principle loan approval within an hour without the need for branch visit.

- The National Stock Exchange of India signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with London Stock Exchange, UK, to collaborate on creating dual listing route for masala bonds and foreign currency bonds of Indian issuers.
- Fitch Ratings in its Global Economic Outlook revised up India's growth forecast for the current fiscal year (2018-19) to 7.8% from 7.4% projected earlier.
- The Union Finance Ministry announced the amalgamation of three Public Sector Banks (PSBs) -Bank of Baroda, Dena Bank & Vijaya Bank. The envisaged amalgamation will be the First-ever three-way consolidation of banks in India, with a combined business of Rs. 14.82 lakh crore, making it India's Third Largest Bank. The consolidation will help create a strong globally competitive bank with economies of scale and enable realisation of wide-ranging synergies.

PEOPLE IN NEWS

- **Anil Kumar Chaudhary** was appointed as the new Chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), a 'Maharatna' Public Sector Undertaking (PSU).
- **Francois Hollande**, the Ex-French President, was in news as his remarks fuelled the Indo-French \$7.87 billion Rafale Deal controversy and made it a political hot potato.
- The Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs constituted 'High Level Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility-2018', to review existing framework and guide and formulate roadmap for coherent policy on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), under the chairmanship **Injeti Srinivas**.
- The Centre appointed **Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas** as the new Secretary of Department of Atomic Energy, and Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission till May 3, 2021. At present Vyas is the Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai.
- 25th September was observed as 'Antyodaya Diwas' across the country to mark the birth anniversary of **Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya**, an eminent philosopher, historian and political activist.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) appointed senior IPS Officer **Rajni Kant Misra** as Director General of Border Security Force(BSF).

SPORTS

- **India** beat Bangladesh in the final match of the Unimoni Asia Cup 2018 in Dubai.
- **Luka Modric**, the prolific Croatian footballer, ended the decade-long Ronaldo-Messi era of domination of football's individual awards by being crowned 'FIFA'S Best Player of the Year'.
- Indian men's Lawn Tennis team lost to **Serbia** in the Davis Cup World Group playoff tie.
- Tossing aside five years of career-threatening injury woes, legendary golfer **Tiger Woods** made one of the greatest comebacks in sporting history by winning his 80th PGA Tour title.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 'Village Rockstars', an Assamese movie, was India's official entry to the Oscars 2019 (91st Academy Awards) in the Foreign Language Film Category.
- The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) achieved a major milestone in developing a two-layer Ballistic Missile Defence System when it successfully conducted interceptor missile test off the Odisha coast by the name of Prithvi.
- 'Astra', the indigenously developed Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) was successfully test fired by the Indian Air Force (IAF) from Su-30 fighter aircraft.
- WAYU, an air pollution control device, aimed at tackling toxicity in air by sucking in particulate matter and releasing fresh air, was inaugurated in New Delhi by the Union Minister of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Environment, Dr. Harsh Vardhan.
- Andhra Pradesh topped the 'Ease of Living Index' rankings under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT).
- The Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting joined UN Global Media Compact, an initiative marking a new drive to advance awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs) that were unanimously adopted by all world leaders at the United Nations in 2015.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Pakyong Airport as the first-ever airport of Sikkim; this being the only state in India without a functional airport prior to the newly inaugurated one.
- In order to institutionalize mechanism to support efforts intended to preserve, document, promote and disseminate Indian Cuisine, the Indian Culinary Institute (ICI) was inaugurated by the Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu in Tirupati.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the commencement of work for India's first Coal-gasification based fertilizer plant at Talcher, Odisha.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is setting up third launch pad at Sriharikota to undertake India's first human space flight programme, Gaganyaan.
- India's first indigenously developed 500-megawatt Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu is expected to achieve criticality by 2019.
- Cyclone-30, India's biggest cyclotron facility, became operational at Kolkata-based Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre (VECC), under the Department of Atomic Energy. (Cyclotron is used to produce radioisotopes for diagnostic and therapeutic use for cancer care).
- The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) successfully flight tested Prahaar, indigenously developed surface-to-surface short-range tactical ballistic missile.
- As part of the Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS), India's first 'smart fence' pilot project involving deploying of laser-activated fences and technology-enabled barriers to plug vulnerable gaps along the frontiers, was inaugurated along the international border of India-Pakistan.
- Maharashtra is setting up a Cyber University dedicated to mitigating cyber threats, where training will be imparted to 3,000 professionals on lines of 'Microsoft Certified Professional Program' to fight online space cyber-attacks, internet crimes and conduct cyber forensics.
- In keeping with the pressing global environmental issues, India Cooling Action Plan was released by the Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan, making India the first country to develop such a document whose thrust is to look for synergies in actions for securing both environmental and socio-economic benefits.

- IITi Indore edged past traditional Indian institutions to become the country's second highest-ranked university (after Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore) in the latest Times Higher Education World University Rankings.
- 'The International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons' was observed across the world on 26th September.
- Nepal became the first in the world to double its tiger population in a decade as part of the World Wildlife Foundation's(WWF) 'Tx2' Programme which aims to double the number of tigers across the globe by 2022.
- The theme of this year's 'World Tourism Day' that was observed globally on September 27, 2018, was 'Tourism and the Digital Transformation'.
- The World Maritime Day is officially celebrated every year on the last Thursday of September to highlight the importance of shipping safety, maritime security and marine environment. It was celebrated on September 27 this year.
- September 28 was observed internationally as World Rabies Day to raise awareness about this horrifying disease and highlight its preventive measures.
- Pakistan invited Saudi Arabia to join the \$50 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as the third strategic partner.
- US collaborated with Morocco to launch 'GCTF Terrorist Travel Initiative' under the aegis of Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) to curb terrorist travel through enhanced terrorist screening and information sharing.
- September 16 was officially celebrated across the globe as World Ozone Day to mark the ever-increasing importance of environmental sustainability.
- Germany rolled out world's first hydrogen-powered eco-friendly passenger train which offers greener and quieter alternative to diesel on non-electrified railway lines.