

March 2018 Current Affairs

Important Days:-

- World Wild Life Day - 03rd March. This Year Theme is "Big cats - predators under threat".
- International Women's Day - 08th March. This year's theme is #PressforProgress.
- World Kidney Day - 08th March. This year theme is "Kidneys and Women's Health".
- World Consumer Rights Day - 15th March
- International Day of Happiness - 20th March
- International Day of Forests - 21st March. This year's theme is 'Forests and Sustainable Cities'
- World Water Day - 22nd March. This Year theme is 'Nature for Water' - exploring nature-based solutions to the water challenges we face in the 21st century
- World Meteorological Day - 23rd March. This year theme is 'Weather-Ready, Climate-Smart'
- World Tuberculosis Day - 24th March. This year theme is "Wanted: Leaders for a TB-Free World. We can make history. End TB"
- World Theatre Day - 27th March

Banking & Financial Awareness

- IndusInd Bank announced its partnership with Ripple, the enterprise block chain solution for Global Payments, to facilitate payments into and out of India.
- The Reserve Bank of India has eased position limit in interest rate futures (IRFs) for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs). The banking regulator has allowed a limit of Rs.5,000 crore for FPIs to go long in IRFs.
- Citi India launched a home loan product linked to 3-month treasury bills, the first of its kind to be offered by a bank in the country.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs.3 crore on Axis Bank for violation of non-performing asset (NPA) classification norms, and Rs.2 crore on Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) for not complying with the know your customer (KYC) regulations.
- India is all set to become the 69th member of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).
- The Reserve Bank has slapped a penalty of Rs.40 lakh on SBI for not complying with its directions on detection and impounding of counterfeit notes.
- ICICI Bank has launched instant overdraft 'InstaOD' facility for MSME customers in a completely online and paperless manner. Customers can get overdraft facility up to Rs 15 lakh for a year anytime, anywhere using the bank's Internet and mobile banking app.
- The country's largest lender, State Bank of India (SBI) has slashed charges for non-maintenance of Average Monthly Balance (AMB) in savings accounts by nearly 75 %.



- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has launched 'Vikas She Plus', a loan scheme for women to take up new ventures or for expanding/modifying the existing enterprises.
- The World Bank has projected India's GDP growth at 7.3 per cent for the next financial year.
- Allahabad Bank has allowed the amalgamation of its wholly own subsidiary - All Bank Finance Ltd (ABFL).
- The Export-Import Bank (Exim Bank) will provide a USD 500 million credit facility to ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID) to fund various development projects in the western-south Africa.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved USD 80 million loan for hill state Himachal Pradesh to fund modernisation of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions and improve skills ecosystem to help boost employability of the youth.
- The Reserve Bank has imposed a penalty of Rs.58.9 crore on the country's leading private sector lender ICICI Bank for violating its directions on direct sale of securities.
- Jana Small Finance Bank has commenced its banking operations, plans to set up over 500 banking outlets by 2019 and expand its reach to unbanked rural areas.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched an artificial intelligence-powered voicebot 'Keya' in the banking sector.

Agreements & MoUs

- India for the first time signed a tripartite agreement with foreign partners Russia & Bangladesh to participate in construction and installation works in the "non-critical" category for the Rooppur nuclear power plant in Bangladesh.
- The government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Israel to enhance cooperation on water conservation in India.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the International Solar Alliance (ISA) signed a cooperation arrangement to promote solar energy deployment in Asia and the Pacific.
- 11 countries signed the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) in Chile.
- The Union Cabinet has approved signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and United Kingdom and Northern Ireland regarding cooperation and Exchange of Information for the Purposes of Combating International Criminality and Tackling Serious Organised Crime.
- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and European Investment Bank (EIB) have inked a 150 million euros loan agreement, a move that will benefit over 1.1 million households with clean energy.
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed a memorandum of understanding with CSC e-governance Services (CSCeGS) to take Udyami Mitra portal to the unserved and the underserved MSMEs.



- The International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the African Development Bank (AfDb), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), the Green climate fund (GCF), and the New Development Bank (NDB) signed Joint financial partnership Declarations.
- The Telangana government is setting up a Rs.100 crore Apparel Super Hub in Sircilla. It signed a memorandum of understanding with Kay Ventures to roll out the project.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and WHO have signed an agreement for enhanced cooperation in the health sector.
- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) inked an agreement with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for increased cooperation in effective implementation of the insolvency law.
- India and Vietnam inked three agreements in the areas of trade, agriculture and atomic energy.
- Odisha government and Tata Trusts signed an MoU for implementing the state's decision on land rights settlement for slum dwellers in urban areas.
- India and Madagascar have signed an umbrella agreement in the field of defence.
- The Maharashtra government has tied up with Wikipedia, to propagate the Marathi language and increase its usage online.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$120 million loan agreement with India to improve operational efficiency of Indian railways by double-tracking and electrification of tracks along high-density corridors.
- As part of Army's sustained initiative to secure a better future for the Kashmiri youth, the Indian Army under the aegis of Chinar Corps has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with corporate partner Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and training partner National Integrity and Educational Development Organisation (NIEDO).
- State Bank of India (SBI) and India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation (IMGIC) signed a pact to offer mortgage guarantee scheme for prospective non-salaried and self-employed home loan customers.
- India and the European Union signed an agreement that will enable them to share earth observation data from each other's satellite.
- The Madhya Pradesh Animal Husbandry Department has signed an MoU with Bharat Financial Inclusion Ltd (BFIL) to roll out an animal healthcare programme.
- BHEL has entered into a technology transfer agreement with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for the manufacturing of space-grade lithium-ion cells of various capacities.
- The Airport Authority of India (AAI) signed an MoU with Assam government under its Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) initiative for sustainable development of human settlements at villages in Kamrup district.
- HDFC Bank signed an agreement with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) under which the bank will facilitate a host of services to the public procurement portal for Central and state government organisations.



- The Odisha government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the British Council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation.

Appointments

- Rangarajan Raghavan has been appointed as a Director and the new Managing Director (MD) of the HCL Infosystems.
- R Subrahmanyam has been appointed as secretary of Higher Education in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- Vinay Kumar has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Islamic Republic Of Afghanistan.
- SBI Life Insurance Company Ltd said P K Gupta has been appointed by the parent firm as nominee director on its board.
- Senior NDPP leader Neiphiu Rio was appointed the new chief minister of Nagaland by Governor P B Acharya.
- Vivek R Wadekar was appointed as the new Special Director in the Enforcement Directorate (ED).
- Prince Charles of Britain has appointed Indian-origin steel tycoon Sanjeev Gupta as the UK's Skill Ambassador.
- Prakriti has been inducted as the first direct-entry combat officer in the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).
- Armenia's parliament elected Armen Sarkisian as the country's next president.
- Biplab Kumar Deb was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Tripura's first BJP government in Agartala.
- National People's Party (NPP) president Conrad Sangma took oath as the 12th chief minister of Meghalaya.
- The BJP's Biplab Kumar Deb has been named the new chief minister of Tripura.
- Nepal's first woman president Bidya Devi Bhandari was re-elected for a second term in office.
- Sangeeta Bahadur has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Belarus.
- Nanda Bahadur Pun has been re-elected as the Vice-President of Nepal for the second term.
- Gina Haspel, the newly nominated first-ever female director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).
- Chinese President Xi Jinping has been "re-elected" for a second five-year tenure by China's rubber stamp parliament.
- US-educated economist Yi Gang has been named the next governor of China's central bank, the People's Bank of China (PBOC).
- Atul M. Gotsurve has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.



- Chinese smartphone maker Vivo announced the appointment of Bollywood actor Aamir Khan as its brand ambassador for India.
- The Government of Pakistan announced that Air Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan will be the next Chief of the Air Staff of the Pakistan Air Force (PAF).
- Germany's parliament elected Angela Merkel for her fourth term as chancellor.
- Reliance Asset Reconstruction Company (RARC) announced the appointment of Ravindra Rao as its new Chief Executive Officer.
- Mumbai-based non-profit organisation 'Educate Girls' has roped in Bollywood actor Katrina Kaif as its ambassador.
- Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has appointed David Wright as a public interest director on its board.
- Krishnaswamy VijayRaghavan was appointed the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India.
- Indu Bhushan was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Centre's ambitious Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission (ABNHPM).
- Lt Gen Harpal Singh, an alumni of National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla has been appointed Director General Border Roads.
- Veteran director Shekhar Kapur has been appointed chairman of the central panel of the 65th National Film Awards.
- American diplomat Rosemary DiCarlo was appointed to become the first woman to head UN political affairs.
- Power backup solutions provider, Luminous Power Technologies has roped in star cricketer Virat Kohli as the brand ambassador for the brand 'Amaze'.
- Cab hailing platform Uber has roped in Indian cricket team captain, Virat Kohli as its brand ambassador in India.
- Former United Nations ambassador John Bolton will be the new US National Security Adviser, he would replace H.R. McMaster.
- Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu has been given additional charge of civil aviation ministry.
- All India Radio's News Services Division (NSD) Director General Sitanshu Kar will be the next head of the Press Information Bureau (PIB).
- The Supreme Court appointed Justice Jawad Rahim as the acting chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- Pradosh Kumar Rath has been shortlisted as the new chairman cum managing director of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL).
- Myanmar's parliament has elected Win Myint as the country's next president.
- R.Dinesh, The joint managing director of T V Sundram Iyengar and Sons, has been elected chairman of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Southern Region for 2018-19.



- The Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) appointed former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan as the coach-cum-mentor of its senior state side for the 2018-19 season.
- Senior bureaucrat Chandra Bhushan Kumar has been appointed as Deputy Election Commissioner.

Sports News

- The 27th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey tournament began in Ipoh, Malaysia.
- The Indian combination of Pankaj Advani and Manan Chandra has won the inaugural IBSF Snooker Team World Cup in Doha, Qatar.
- Navjot Kaur became the first Indian woman wrestler to win a gold in the Senior Asian Championships in Bishkek.
- Vinesh Phogat has won a silver medal at the Asian Wrestling Championships in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- Mahendra Singh Dhoni has become a brand ambassador of gaming platform Dream 11.
- Viswanathan Anand won the rapid event at the 11th Tal Memorial chess in Moscow.
- The Maharashtra women's team won the interstate national tennis championship 2018 held in Chhattisgarh.
- Afghanistan's Rashid Khan has become the youngest cricket captain in international cricket history.
- India's Manu Bhaker (16 Year old) clinched a gold medal while Ravi Kumar bagged a bronze in the ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara, Mexico.
- Australia beat England to win the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup (Hockey) in Malaysia.
- Bishworjit Singh and Samira Abraham have won the gold medals in the men's and women's sections respectively at the senior National triathlon championship in Visakhapatnam.
- Deepa Malik has won gold in the F53/54 Javelin event at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Dubai.
- KL Rahul is the 'Cricketer of the Year' in the sixth edition of Wisden India Almanack.
- English cricketer Kevin Pietersen announced his retirement from cricket.
- Chennaiyin FC has won the Indian Super League (ISL) title for the second time.
- Defending champion Purva Barve won the Women's Singles (Under-19) title at the Israel Junior 2018 held in Rishon LeZion, Israel.
- Ranji Trophy champions Vidarbha lift their maiden Irani Cup against Rest of India at the Vidarbha Cricket Association stadium in Nagpur.
- Indian shooter Elavenil Valarivan shattered the world record and claimed the gold medal in 10m women's air rifle event of the season's first junior ISSF World Cup in Sydney.
- PV Sindhu was chosen as the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the opening ceremony of the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, Australia.
- Manu Bhaker has won gold medal in the 10m Air Pistol at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Sydney.



- Rising shooter Anish Bhanwala secured India a third individual gold medal at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Sydney.
- The India U-16 team emerged champions in the Jockey Cup International Youth Invitational Football Tournament in Hong Kong.
- Pankaj Advani has won the Asian Billiards Championships title in yangon, Myanmar.
- Sebastian Vettel won a dramatic Australian Grand Prix after leapfrogging Lewis Hamilton during a safety car period.
- Lewis Hamilton has banked a record seventh pole at the Australian Grand Prix.
- All India Football Federation (AIFF) launched a mobile application "Scout Me" to scout footballing talent from remote parts of the country.
- Indian women's cricket team captain Mithali Raj was adjudged 'Sportsperson of the Year', while ace shuttlers Kidambi Srikanth and PV Sindhu bagged the best senior male and female athletes at the Telangana Sports Journalists Association annual awards for 2017.

Obituaries

- Prafulla Das - Veteran Literateur
- T Thomas - Former chairman of Hindustan Unilever
- Davide Astori - Italian footballer
- C.V. Rajendran - Veteran Tamil film director
- R K Dorendra Singh - Former Manipur Chief Minister
- Veturi Sriharsha - Veteran Journalist
- Les Payne - Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist
- Kedarnath Singh - Renowned Hindi poet and Critic
- Sunil Sharma - Senior Journalist
- M Sukumaran - Renowned Malayalam writer and winner of the Central and State Sahitya Akademi Award
- Stephen Hawking - World renowned Physicist
- Narendra Jha - Hindi film actor
- Ch Kamamma - Telangana armed struggle fighter and veteran Communist leader
- Pyarelal Wadali - Renowned Sufi Singer
- Shammi - Veteran Bollywood actor
- D Sreedevi - Former Judge of the Kerala High Court
- Arabinda Muduli - Noted Odia Bhajan Singer

Other Important News:-

Oscar 2018 Winners:

Best Picture: "The Shape of Water"



Director: Guillermo del Toro, "The Shape of Water"

Actor: Gary Oldman, "Darkest Hour"

Actress: Frances McDormand, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri"

Supporting Actor: Sam Rockwell, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri"

Supporting Actress: Allison Janney, "I, Tonya"

Foreign Language Film: "A Fantastic Woman"

1. Union Textile Minister Smriti Irani attended the 27th Technological Conference of Indian Jute Industries' Research Association on Shaping the Future of Jute in Kolkata.
2. Tokyo unveiled its long-awaited mascot for the 2020 Olympic Games: a futuristic blue-checked, doe-eyed character with pointy ears and "special powers" that was picked by schoolchildren across mascot-mad Japan.
3. The Delhi government has decided to set up its State Sanskrit Education Council to improve the state of formal education of the language.
4. The Telangana government launched an m-Governance mobile application called 'T App Folio' to help citizens with one point access to government services like MeeSeva services, RTA services, fee payments and bill payment services etc.
5. Tamil Nadu Government said a 24-hour helpline has been set up for the first time in the country that would provide information on education and offer guidance to students.
6. The Centre approved projects worth over Rs.2,900 crore under the Nirbhaya fund for eight major cities of the country in a bid to make them safer for women.
7. As per Hurun Report's Global Rich List 2018, India has the third-largest number of billionaires in the world. (1st China & 2nd US)
8. Annual Army seminar for 2017-18 on 'Contribution of the Army Towards Nation Building' was held at at Manekshaw Centre, Delhi.
9. An Indian-American scientist has been awarded a grant of over \$1.1 million for his ground-breaking research on cancer.
10. Actor-politician Shatrughan Sinha has been honoured with a lifetime achievement award for his contribution to the fields of arts and politics at a ceremony in the UK's Parliament complex in London.
11. The mega annual cultural festival 'India by the Nile' will begin in Egypt.



12. The world's largest solar park set up at an investment of Rs.16,500 crore at Pavagada in Karnataka's Tumakuru district was launched by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.
13. Tata Boeing Aerospace Ltd (TBAL) inaugurated its facility to produce fuselages for the AH-64 Apache helicopter in Hyderabad.
14. Information and Broadcasting Minister Smriti Irani has inaugurated 2018 edition of FICCI Frame in Mumbai.
15. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat inaugurated the week-long 29th annual, world-famous International Yoga Festival (IYF) in Rishikesh.
16. The Odisha government has launched a programme 'Ama Gaon, Ama Vikas' (Our Village, our development) to reach out to the people in rural areas and involve themselves in the developmental activities.
17. Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah unveiled a healthcare scheme 'Arogya Karnataka' (Healthy Karnataka), aimed at benefitting about 1.43 crore households in the state
18. Shigmotsav has been organized enthusiastically in Goa. Shigmotsav or Shigmo is one of the several cultural festivals of the coastal state and is celebrated through colours, costumes, music, dance and parades.
20. Ryoko Azuma has become the first woman as commander of a unit that includes the Japan's biggest warship.
21. India's first and much awaited heli taxi service took off in Bengaluru.
22. Tech giant Microsoft has inked its first renewable energy deal in India for powering its new facility in Bengaluru.
23. The government has set up a steering committee to consider various issues relating to the development of Fintech space in India, the committee headed by Economic Affairs Secretary, Subhash Chandra Garg.
24. Washington became the first state to set up its own net-neutrality requirements.
25. Iraq has overtaken Saudi Arabia by a wide margin to become India's top crude oil supplier.



26. Amazon founder Jeff Bezos has overtaken Bill Gates to become the world's richest man for the first time.

27. Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport has been rated as the world number one among airports handling more than 40 million passengers per annum in a survey by the Airports Council International (ACI).

28. An Indian-origin Birmingham man, Harry Athwal has been selected for this year's 'Pride of Birmingham' award.

29. National Film Archives of India (NFAI) will organise a Women's Film Festival from March 9 – 11, 2018 in Pune.

30. The fourth India-Europe 29 Business Forum (IE29BF) was held in New Delhi.

31. The Odisha MSME International Trade Fair, 2018 was held in Bhubaneswar.

32. The headquarters of the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has been shifted from Chennai to Haryana's Ballabgarh.

33. The Centre had sanctioned Rs.1,000 crore for the Phase II of the Impacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT) India programme.

34. On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) launched a portal for women entrepreneurs of India: www.udyamsakhi.org.

35. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the pan-India expansion of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' programme and National Nutrition Mission in Jhunjunu in Rajasthan.

36. The government launched a biodegradable sanitary napkin called 'Suvidha' under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).

37. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) was participated in World ATM Congress (WATMC) 2018 held at IFEMA, Feria de Madrid, Spain.

38. Architect Balkrishna Doshi has won this year's prestigious Pritzker Prize. He is the first Indian to win the award.



39. Mumbai ranked 16th among the top 20 costliest cities in the world, according to the Knight Frank Wealth Report 2018, topped by Monaco.
40. The Madhya Pradesh government has set up a fund to provide pension to spinsters above 50 years.
41. Madhya Pradesh West Power Distribution Company (MPWPD) started a "Pink Electricity Zone", that will be managed by women staffers.
42. The largest joint US-Israeli air-defense exercise "Juniper Cobra" has begun in Israel.
43. Britain's Queen Elizabeth II recognised Srishti Bakshi from India as the 26th Commonwealth Point of Light in honour of her exceptional service to empowering women in India.
44. India has ranked 52 among 57 countries on the Mastercard Index of Women Entrepreneurs (MIWE) List.
45. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) was named as the fastest growing IT services brand in the world in an assessment done by leading brand valuation firm, Brand Finance.
46. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a two-day National Legislators Conference in New Delhi. The theme of the conference is - "We For Development".
47. Government of Telangana launched Women Entrepreneurship Hub (WE-Hub) in Hyderabad. WE-Hub is India's first state-led incubator exclusively for women entrepreneurs.
48. The Founding Conference of International Solar Alliance was held New Delhi.
49. India has won the "Best Exhibitor Award " at ITB in Berlin.
50. India's tallest tricolour (Flag) was hoisted in Belagavi, Karnataka.
51. The first Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise of the Indian Air Force in association with South Asian Region nations was held in the coast of Kerala.
52. Noted actor Amol Palekar was honoured with the 'Godavari Gaurav' award at an event in Nashik.
53. According to Kaspersky study, India has ranked 33rd in the list of countries facing web-borne threats.



54. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron have inaugurated Uttar Pradesh's biggest solar power plant in Mirzapur district.

55. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a campaign to eradicate tuberculosis (TB) from India by 2025, five years ahead of the globally-set deadline.

56. The Centre has constituted a three-member Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal to adjudicate the dispute between Odisha and Chhattisgarh over sharing the river's water, Supreme Court Judge AM Khanwilkar will be the Chairman of the tribunal.

57. West Bengal has become the best performing State both in terms of allotting jobs and utilising funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

58. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a number of schemes for the poor in Varanasi and emphasised on harnessing solar energy for cooking.

59. The First Regional Conference on Mass Rapid Transport Systems for Urban Areas – Opportunities and Challenges was held in Kolkata.

60. NASSCOM, in collaboration with Facebook and New York-based co-working space company WeWork, unveiled Design4India Studio in Bengaluru.

61. Dr Ketzia David Prakasam has been conferred the "Academy Award for Nobel Peace" from the USA.

62. Anindith Reddy was awarded the title of 'FMSCI National Motorsports Person of the Year 2017'.

63. The Union Home Ministry recently sanctioned the launch of the country's first National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) in Gujarat.

64. Russia has successfully launched a hypersonic missile Kinzhal from a MiG-31 aircraft.

65. Diu has become the first and only Union Territory to be fully solar energy efficient.

66. Banaswadi railway station become first station in the South Western Railway (SWR) zone run by an all-woman.



67. Home Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the two-day Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, IACP in New Delhi. The theme of the conference is "Challenges to Policing in 2020 - How is Cyber Space shaping our approach to Cybercrime and Terrorism, how do we perform within it and take advantage of it".

68. Saudi Arabia's cabinet approved the national policy of its atomic energy programme, as the kingdom prepares to award contracts for its first nuclear power plants.

69. An India-UK Joint Team has won the Newton-Bhabha Fund for a project on Groundwater Arsenic Research in Ganga River Basin.

70. According to Ookla, Chennai has topped in terms of the fastest fixed broadband speeds among the 20 largest cities in the country.

71. According to a UN report, India ranked 133rd out of 156 countries on World Happiness Index 2018.

72. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was awarded the International Kochon Prize 2017 for encouraging research and development (R&D) efforts towards tuberculosis treatment.

73. The First Interaction of 15th Finance Commission with the Members of Parliament was held in New Delhi.

74. Andhra Pradesh stands at equivalent to 51st rank globally in Multidimensional Poverty Index.

75. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal of Department of Fertilizers to continue Urea Subsidy Scheme up to 2019-20 at a total estimated cost of Rs. 1,64,935 crore and for disbursement of fertilizer subsidy.

76. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the World Hindi Secretariat building in Mauritius.

77. US President Donald Trump announced that Lawrence Kudlow will be his new chief economic adviser and chairman of the national economic council.

78. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 105th Indian Science Congress in Imphal, Manipur.

79. The three-day annual Krishi Unnati Mela was held in New Delhi with a focus on doubling the farmers' income.



80. Actor Jackie Shroff's short film 'Shunyata' has won an award at Best of India Short Film Festival in Los Angeles, US.

81. Oklahoma plans to start using nitrogen gas for executions, in what would be the first such method of capital punishment in the United States.

82. Veteran actress Simi Garewal has been felicitated with a "UK Golden Flame Award" for her contribution to Indian cinema.

83. Indian filmmaker Nila Madhab Panda's "Halkaa", which had its world premiere at the 21st Festival International du Film Pour Enfants de Montréal Film (FIFEM), has bagged the Grand Prix de Montreal at the gala.

84. Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the 5th 'Nadi Mahotsava' in Hoshangabad District of Madhya Pradesh.

85. India has ranked 78th on the World Economic Forum's (WEF) energy transition index that was topped by Sweden.

86. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) launched a mobile app for providing better citizen-friendly services by law enforcement agencies.

87. Amazon.com Inc launched its first-ever debit card in Mexico, part of a push to encourage shoppers without bank accounts to buy online.

88. The Union Health Ministry launched 'LaQshya', a programme aimed at improving quality of care in labour room and maternity operation theatre.

89. Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) paid a glowing tribute to former BCCI President Jagmohan Dalmiya by releasing a book, titled 'A Tribute to Jagu', on the occasion of the 70th independence of the island nation.

90. Four Nations, Bhutan, Kiribati, Sao Tome and Principe and Solomon Islands will be recommended for graduation from the least developed country (LDC) category, the United Nations Committee for Development Policy (CDP) announced.

91. The President of India Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Festival of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (FINE) in New Delhi.



92.NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar inaugurated the First India-Japan Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction in New Delhi.

93.The 7th Women Science Congress, 2018 was inaugurated in the backdrop of the ongoing 105th Indian Science Congress in Manipur.

94.The government said its farmer-oriented solar power scheme, Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM), will allow setting up grid-connected solar plants in rural areas apart from off-grid solar pumps.

95.Mauritian President Ameenah Gurib-Fakim has resigned from his post.

96.The Indian Navy will be holding the 16th bilateral naval exercise called VARUNA with the French Navy in India.

97.BHEL has commissioned first unit of 110 MW of the Kishanganga Hydro-Electric Project (HEP) of NHPC in Jammu and Kashmir.

98.According to the Economist Intelligence Unit's Worldwide Cost of Living Survey, Singapore remained the most expensive city in the world and Damascus is the cheapest city for living in the world.

99.Sierra Leone (West African nation) has become the world's first country to have blockchain-powered elections.

100.The Philippines formally informed the UN of its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC).

101.The first National workshop on Poshan Abhiyan was held in New Delhi.

102.The third edition of National Conclave on Mines and Minerals was held in New Delhi.

103.The first G20 meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

104.The 106th edition of the Indian Science Congress will be held in January 2019 in Bhopal.

105.Chief of the Army Staff, General Bipin Rawat has released a book on Paramveer Chakra Awardees 'Paramveer Parwane'.



106. US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order banning the use of Venezuela's new crypto-currency, Petro.

107. According to the Mercer's survey, Austrian capital Vienna has been named the world's best city to live in for the ninth consecutive year, while Iraq's capital Baghdad remains the worst.

108. New Delhi has been ranked 22nd in the world and eighth in Asia in the top destination for 2018, Travellers' Choice awards for Destinations by TripAdvisor.

109. Amazon overtook Alphabet on Tuesday to become the world's second most valuable company, Apple held the top spot.

110. Canadian mathematician Robert Langlands has been named as the winner of the Abel Prize for 2018, for his visionary programme connecting representation theory to number theory.

111. Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated inland ferry services in the port city of Vasco in Goa.

112. The world's last male northern white rhino named Sudan has died.

113. The Union Cabinet approved the launch of the Ayushman Bharat - National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM), the scheme will provide a cover of Rs.5 lakh per family per year.

114. The NITI Aayog and Piramal Foundation entered into a Statement of Intent (Sol) to work closely with the District Collectors and Key officers of 'Aspirational Districts' to support their transformation in terms of healthcare, education and nutrition.

115. The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has introduced billing through 'Point of Sale or PoS' handheld machines in trains.

116. Minister of State for Home Affairs Hansraj Gangaram Ahir inaugurated the first National Conference on Drug Law Enforcement in New Delhi.

117. A three-day International Yoga Fest was inaugurated by Union minister Jitendra Singh in New Delhi.

118. The longest sandstone cave in the world discovered in Meghalaya, the cave named Krem Puri.

119. INS Ganga, an indigenously built frigate of the Indian Navy, was decommissioned in Mumbai.



120.Sikh advertisement campaign "We are Sikhs" campaign received the top 2018 PRWeek US award in the category of Public Cause.

121.7th India-Egypt Joint Commission Meeting led by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry was held in New Delhi.

122.The 5th India Maize Summit 2018 was held at FICCI in New Delhi.

123.Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan launched M-Kerala, a unified app for all government services at #FUTURE 2018, a first-of-its-kind digital tech summit in the state.

124.Martin Vizcarra has been sworn in as the Peru's new president.

125.The first-ever International Exhibition of Graphic Prints 'Print Biennale India 2018' opened at the Rabindra Bhavan Galleries of the Lalit Kala Akademi in New Delhi.

126.The two-day 46th All India Police Science Congress organised by the Himachal Pradesh Police Department and The Bureau of Police Research and Development began in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

127.Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh presented the G.K. Reddy Memorial National Award for journalism to senior journalist and television presenter Karan Thapar.

128.The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport in Ahmedabad has received the award for the 'Most Improved Airport' in the Asia Pacific region, in Airport Service Quality awards 2017 organised by the Airport Council International (ACI).

129.The Government of India has decided to nominate Professor J S Rajput, former Director NCERT, as India's representative to the Executive Board (EXB) of UNESCO.

130.South Asian Cinema Foundation (SACF), a London based organisation has received the Frederick Pincott Award for 2017 from the Indian High Commissioner, Y K Sinha for promoting Hindi cinema in Britain for the last 18 years.

131.Rural Development Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated Saras Aajeevika Mela at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

132.India's first insect museum opened in Tamil Nadu. The Museum was unveiled by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswamy at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University in Coimbatore.



133.The 11th Rashtriya Rifles Biennial Conference was held at Nagrota, Jammu and Kashmir.

134.Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has won an order for setting up a 75 MW solar PV power plant on engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) basis, in Gujarat. Significantly, this will be BHEL's largest Solar PV project till date.

135.Chhattisgarh bagged the National 'Water Digest Award' for Water Conservation-Diversion and for increasing the irrigation capacity in the State.

136.The Ministry of Finance has approved a proposal to provide government guarantee of Rs.5000 crore in the current financial year for Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) bonds to be subscribed by Life Insurance Corporation (LIC).

137.Surat (Gujarat) has become the first district in the country to have 100 percent solar powered Primary Health Centers (PHC).

138.According to internet speed testing analysis firm Ookla, India has ranked 67th for fixed broadband and 109th for mobile internet speeds in February.

139.The world's biggest cruise-liner, Symphony of the Seas, has left the shipyard of Saint-Nazaire in France to embark on its maiden voyage in the Mediterranean.

140.According to the latest 2018 global data show, India has overtaken Germany and has become the fourth largest automobile market in the world.

141.India has become third largest producer and consumer of electricity in the world.

142.West Bengal has the highest number of beggars in India followed by Uttar Pradesh and Bihar at number two and three respectively.

143.According to the Institute for Criminal Policy Research's data, India has a lower imprisonment rate compared with other major economies.

144.The Kerala government has declared jackfruit as its official fruit.

145.The Singapore's Changi Airport has been named the world's best airport for the sixth consecutive year by consultancy firm Skytrax, While the Mumbai airport has been ranked 63rd.

146.India successfully test fired the Brahmos supersonic cruise missile at Pokhran test range in Rajasthan.



147.NHAI Received Best Design Pavilion Award at 105th Indian Science Congress at Imphal.

148.Bollywood actor Anushka Sharma, Shuttler PV Sindhu, Cricketer Smriti Mandhana and Athlete Padmanabh Singh have featured in the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia 2018 list.

149.NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission announced the signing of a Statement of Intent (SOI) with SAP to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

150.The 15th meeting of the India-US Counter-Terrorism Joint Working Group in New Delhi.

151.Department of Posts (DoP) under Ministry of Communications has launched the Cool EMS Service between India and Japan.

152.Google has acquired mobile GIF keyboard and search engine Tenor for Android, iOS and desktop making it easier for users to find and share GIF images.

153.India has successfully launched the GSAT-6A satellite that would provide mobile communication facilities, using its heavy rocket Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F08).

154.The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved continuation of the Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Education Loans and continuation and modification of the Central Sector Interest Subsidy (CSIS) Scheme with a financial outlay of Rs.6,600 crore for the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20.

155.Cabinet has approved Schemes of North Eastern Council (NEC) including continuation of existing Schemes. It will boost the development projects in North-East. Four thousand 500 crore rupees have been approved for the scheme for three years upto March, 2020.

156.Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated Greentech Mega Food Park Private Ltd. the first mega food park in Rajasthan at Roopangarh Village in Ajmer.

157.Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has launched a new portal through which EPFO pensioners will get the details of pension-related information.

158.The stock market regulator Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has allowed physical settlement of both stock options and stock futures. At present only cash settlement of derivatives is allowed.



159.The NHA has joined hands with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for developing a green corridor along a 16.55 km stretch in Varanasi.

160.Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar inaugurated the Smart India Hackathon Grand Finale 2018 – Software edition in New Delhi.

161.The First National Conclave on Psychological Trauma, Child Protection and Mental Illness was held in New Delhi.

162.The Union Cabinet has approved the MoU between India and Canada to boost bilateral cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

163.Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched '181-Sakhi', a toll-free helpline number for women.

164.Madhya Pradesh's Kadaknath, a chicken breed has got the Geographical Indications (GI) tag.

165.Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the longest elevated road in the country in Ghaziabad. The elevated six-lane road is approximately 10 kilometres-long and built on 227 single pillars.

166.India has received its first LNG cargo from the US under a long-term supply deal when a ship carrying super-cooled natural gas arrived at Dabhol in Maharashtra.

167.Darren Lehmann has resigned as head coach of Australia's men's Cricket team.

168.Sreekumaran Thampi was awarded the prestigious J.C. Daniel Award for in recognition of his sterling contributions to the Malayalam film industry.

169.Aleksandra Liashkova from Belarus was crowned Miss Supermodel Worldwide 2018.

170.The two-day meeting of Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) between India and Pakistan was held in New Delhi.

171.Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu flagged off the International Yachting Festival in Vishakapatnam.

172.Asia's largest startup ecosystem congregation, "Huddle Kerala" will be held at Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram.



173.Pakistan has conducted successful test fire of indigenously developed Submarine Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM) BABUR having a range of 450 KMs.

All The Best !!

For More Govt Jobs Click Here: www.jobsforfresher.in

