

April 2018 Current Affairs

Important Days

- World Autism Awareness Day - 2nd April. This Year theme is "Empowering women and girls with autism".
- International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action - 04th April
- World Maritime Day - 05th April. This Year theme is "IMO 70: Our Heritage – Better Shipping for a Better Future".
- International Day of Sport for Development and Peace - 6th April
- World Health Day - 07th April. This year theme is "Universal health coverage: everyone, everywhere" and the slogan is "Health for All".
- World Haemophilia Day - 17th April. The theme for 2018 is 'Sharing Knowledge Makes Us Stronger'.
- World Heritage Day - 18th April
- The Civil Services Day in India - 21st April
- Earth Day – 22nd April. This year theme is 'End Plastic Pollution'.
- World Book and Copyright Day - 23rd April
- National Panchayati Raj day - 24th April
- World Malaria Day - April 25. This Year theme is "Ready to beat Malaria".
- World Intellectual Property Day - 26th April

Banking & Financial Awareness

- The first bi-monthly monetary policy for 2018-19
 - Policy Repo Rate: 6.00%
 - Reverse Repo Rate: 5.75%
 - Marginal Standing Facility Rate (MSF): 6.25%
 - Bank Rate : 6.25%
 - Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) : 4%
 - Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) : 19.5%
- Rubique, the online credit marketplace providing technology-enabled end-to-end solutions to financing needs of individuals and SMEs, announced the appointment of former Yes Bank, senior president and chief financial inclusion officer, Ajay Desai as its chief operating officer (COO).
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to set up Data Sciences Lab to improve its forecasting, surveillance and early warning detection abilities.



- Leading private lender ICICI Bank announced the launch of a service that enables Non Resident Indians (NRIs) to send money to a beneficiary in India using social media platforms like WhatsApp and e-mail.
- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) as part of their 'Customer First' initiative launched Internet of Things (IoT)-based customer feedback application on a pilot basis at its Cathedral branch, Tamil Nadu.
- The government has raised the authorised capital of NABARD by 6 times to Rs.300 billion to help it increase its lending to the rural economy.
- Jammu and Kashmir Bank has launched a special financing scheme 'Add on Working Capital GST' to help the state industry cope with the delay in reimbursement of GST under special tax relief.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has decided to invest USD \$ 140 Million loan to improve Rural Connectivity in India.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank piped SBI to become India's second most valued lender after HDFC Bank in terms of market capitalisation.
- The World Bank has projected a growth rate of 7.3 per cent for India this year and 7.5 per cent for 2019 and 2020.
- According to the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), India's gross domestic product (GDP) to grow at 7.3-7.7 per cent during the 2018-19 financial year.
- According to the Japanese financial services major Nomura, India's average GDP growth is expected to rise to 7.8 per cent in the first half of this year.
- According to International Monetary Fund (IMF), India is expected to grow at 7.4 per cent in 2018 and 7.8 per cent in 2019.
- The World Bank has approved \$55mn to expand the use of clean renewable energy in rural areas of Bangladesh where grid electricity cannot reach easily.
- India's economic growth is expected to rebound to 7.3 % this fiscal and further to 7.6 % in 2019-20, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said.
- The SBI has announced the launch of its UK subsidiary, SBI (UK) Limited, with an initial capital commitment of 225 million pounds from its parent entity.
- The State Bank of India will be investing a total of Rs.80 billion in the Arun III hydropower project of Nepal, which has 900 megawatts (MW) electricity production capacities.
- The Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with the Government hiked the foreign portfolio investors (FPI) investment limit in Central government securities (G-Sec) from 5 per cent of outstanding stock now to 5.5 per cent in FY2019 and 6 per cent in FY2020.
- Kutch-based Bhuj Mercantile Cooperative Bank has bagged the prestigious Banco Award for best performing cooperative bank.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has extended total credit support of Rs.14,690 crore to Rajasthan for 2017-18.

- India's largest public sector lender State Bank of India (SBI) has been termed as the most trusted bank in the country, TRA Brand Trust Report 2018 said. The report also termed ICICI Bank as the most favourite private sector lender.
- Yes Bank has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to have presence in London and Singapore to support the diaspora business and also international trade.
- Private sector lender ICICI Bank has introduced a 'digital form' which will help open current accounts in a few hours.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed in principle to give an aid of Rs.1,700 crore to Uttarakhand for infrastructure development and creation of sewerage treatment facilities in urban areas.
- Iran has banned the use of bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies by its banks and financial institutions.
- Development bank NABARD said it has provided an assistance of Rs.10,012 crore to Uttar Pradesh during 2017-18 to facilitate overall development with special focus on agricultural credit.
- According to Deutsche Bank research report, Indian economy is witnessing a "cyclical upswing" and the country is likely clock a GDP growth of 7.5% this financial year.
- HDFC Bank launched IRA 2.0, its interactive humanoid at the Koramangala Branch in Bangalore.
- India topped as the highest recipient of remittances globally in 2017, with its diaspora sending back \$69 billion, a World Bank statement said.

Agreements & MoUs

- The Government of India, Government of Maharashtra and the World Bank have signed a USD 420 million project to help small and marginal farmers in the Marathwada and Vidarbha regions of Maharashtra.
- A Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) was signed between the Indian Army and HDFC Bank on the Defence salary package.
- Seven MoUs were signed between Indian and Russian companies at the DefExpo in Chennai.
- Japan's SoftBank Group has signed an agreement with China's Golden Concord Group Ltd (GCL) to set up a joint venture firm with a \$930 million investment. The JV firm will manufacture and sell solar equipment in India.
- India and Timor Leste have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the field of public health to extend affordable healthcare to the people of the Southeast Asian nation.
- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed an agreement for up gradation of Yagyi Kalewa section of highway in Myanmar to two lanes with the earthen shoulder.
- India has signed an agreement with the World Bank for a USD 48 million loan to strengthen community-led landscapes management in selected area in Meghalaya.



- India and Nepal have agreed to further strengthen bilateral relations in key areas of border security, connectivity, trade and agriculture.
- India has inked a pact with Morocco under which focus would be laid on evaluation of potential mineral resources and promoting exploration and mining through participation of both public and private sector.
- India will partner up with Finland and the United States to develop a new pollution forecast system, that will help anticipate particulate matter (PM) levels at least two days in advance and at greater resolution.
- Saudi Aramco has signed a pact with a consortium of Indian oil companies to jointly develop and build a mega integrated refinery and petrochemicals complex Ratnagiri Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd (RRPCL), in Maharashtra.
- India and World Expo 2020 has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to showcase the inventions of Industrial Revolution.
- The Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) and the Groupement des Industries Françaises Aeronautiques et Spatiales (GIFAS) signed a memorandum of understanding on the side lines of a major industrial mission in India in the field of aerospace and defence.
- India and the UK have signed 10 agreements in several sectors including cyber-relationship, rejuvenation of Ganga and skill development.
- India and Eritrea have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Foreign Office Consultations.
- Ecommerce market leader Flipkart has entered into a partnership with online travel and ticketing platform MakeMyTrip to launch its entry into the online travel sector.
- India and South Korea are set to boost bilateral relations in the ports and shipping space and would sign an agreement to provide Indian seafarers employment on more than 500 Korean ships.
- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has entered into an agreement for information utility services with the National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)
- SJVN has entered a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Power for FY 19. As per the MoU, the company is targeting to achieve 9,200 million units generation in FY19.
- India has signed a USD 210 million loan agreement with the World Bank to improve rural connectivity in Madhya Pradesh.
- Loan Agreement for IBRD credit of USD 125 (equivalent) for the Innovate in India for Inclusiveness Project was signed with the World Bank in New Delhi.
- Dalmia Bharat Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tourism Ministry to take up Red Fort and Gandikota Fort (Andhra Pradesh) under the 'Adopt a Heritage' project.



- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has entered into a pact with Macquarie for road projects under the highway monetisation drive, the agreement has been signed with Macquarie for the first bundle USD 1.5 billion one of the highest FDI in highways.
- The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) and the Indian Yoga Association (IYA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to promote yoga, health and spiritual tourism in the Krishna Circuit in Uttar Pradesh.
- NITI Aayog and ITC Ltd plans to collaborate in the area of agriculture and allied sectors in order to strengthen farming systems. The two organisations signed the letter of intent.
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL) and the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) under the Ministry of Communications in India have signed an MOU for establishing a nationwide Time Stamping & Time Synchronisation network and traceability of Time signal to UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) NPL Time.
- Singapore and China have inked a deal that paves the way for closer partnerships between their companies in other countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Appointments

- The BCCI has appointed former Rajasthan DGP Ajit Singh as the head of its Anti-Corruption Unit.
- Debjani Ghosh, former managing director of Intel South Asia, is the new president of NASSCOM, she succeeded by R.Chandrashekhar.
- The former chairman of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Vineet Joshi, was appointed the first director-general of the National Testing Agency (NTA).
- Lieutenant General PP Malhotra has assumed charge as Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC), replacing Lt Gen BS Sahrawat.
- SBI Life Insurance has appointed Sanjeev Nautiyal as its new Managing Director and CEO.
- Subrata Bhattacharjee has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Serbia.
- The Union government appointed Rakesh Kumar Vats as additional charge of the chairman of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) with immediate effect.
- Deutsche Bank has named retail specialist Christian Sewing as its new chief executive officer.
- Congress general secretary Ashok Gehlot has been appointed a member of the party's central election committee.
- Rishad Premji, Board member of Wipro Ltd., has been appointed as the Chairman of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) for 2018-19.
- Balram Bhargava has been appointed the new Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research and Secretary of the Department of Health Research.
- Former United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon was elected chairman of Boao Forum for Asia (BFA).



- Assam Health and Education Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma was unanimously elected as the President of the Badminton Association of India (BAI).
- Conservative former senator Mario Abdo Benítez has been elected president of Paraguay.
- Rajesh Ranjan has been appointed Director General of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).
- Inspector General KR Nautiyal has been appointed as the new Coast Guard Commander (Eastern Seaboard).
- Julius Maada Bio, Opposition candidate has won a narrow victory in a run-off election to become Sierra Leone's next president.
- The Union Government appointed Bhanu Pratap Sharma as new chairman of Banks Board Bureau (BBB).
- Chandra Shekhar Ghosh has been re-appointed as managing director and CEO of Bandhan Bank.
- Dilip Chenoy was appointed as the Secretary General of industry body Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) from succeeding Sanjaya Baru.
- Rahul Kulshreshth has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- Sanjay Bhattacharya has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Turkey.
- Senior lawyer Indu Malhotra will be the first woman lawyer to be directly appointed as a Supreme Court judge.
- Former CIA Director Mike Pompeo has been sworn in as the 70th US secretary of state.
- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Christine Schraner Burgener of Switzerland as his new special envoy on Myanmar.
- The Haryana government has appointed international shooter Gauri Sheoran as brand ambassador for its Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign.
- Former Jammu and Kashmir speaker Kavinder Gupta took oath as the deputy chief minister of the state.
- Intex Technologies has appointed Rajiv Bakshi as its Chief Marketing Officer (CMO).
- The board of directors of Kotak Mahindra Bank has redesignated Uday Kotak as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.
- Narinder Chauhan has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Czech Republic.
- Krishan Kumar has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Norway.

Awards & Prizes

- The Pulitzer Prize winners for 2018
 - ❖ Fiction:- Less, by Andrew Sean Greer (Lee Boudreaux Books/Little, Brown and Company)
 - ❖ History:- The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea, by Jack E. Davis (Liveright/W.W. Norton)



- ❖ Biography:- Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder, by Caroline Fraser (Metropolitan Books)
 - ❖ Poetry:- Half-light: Collected Poems 1965-2016, by Frank Bidart (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
 - ❖ General Nonfiction:- Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America, by James Forman Jr. (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
 - ❖ Music:- DAMN., by Kendrick Lamar
- The Mangalore International Airport has been adjudged the cleanest airport in the country. Airport director V V Rao received the award during the 23rd annual day celebrations of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in New Delhi.
 - Siddharth Varadarajan, the founding editor of The Wire, was received the Shorenstein Journalism Award for 2017 at Stanford University.
 - Study Khazana, an e-portal founded by CA Sana Baqai has been awarded "For best emerging online Education Portal in North India".
 - Former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni was conferred with Padma Bhushan Award at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi by President of India Ram Nath Kovind.
 - Shuttlers PV Sindhu and Kidambi Srikanth were named 'Sportspersons of the Year' with their coach Pullela Gopichand being adjudged 'best coach' at the inaugural ESPN Multi-Sport Awards.
 - Eminent Gujarati poet Sitanshu Yashaschandra's poetry collection "Vakhar" has been chosen for the Saraswati Samman for 2017.
 - Chhattisgarh bagged the 'State of the Year' Award under the 'business leader' category as part of the India Business Leadership for the remarkable increase in business and services activities in various sectors.
 - Bollywood actor Anushka Sharma will soon be awarded with the Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award for her successful movies as a producer.
 - Veteran actor Dharmendra has been chosen for Maharashtra government's Raj Kapoor Lifetime Achievement Award and director Rajkumar Hirani will get the Raj Kapoor Special Contributions Award.
 - Fantasy epic 'Game of Thrones' is to be honoured with a BAFTA Special Award at this year's British Academy Television Craft Awards.
 - Late Bollywood actor Vinod Khanna has been honoured with the Dada Saheb Phalke Award for his contribution to the Indian cinema.
 - Aditi Rao Hydari will receive Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award 2018 for the Best Leading Lady (Critics Award) for her memorable performance in 'Bhoomi'.
 - Madhya Pradesh has bagged the Most Film Friendly Award given by the central government for its efforts to ease filming in the state by creating a well-structured website, film friendly infrastructure and more.

- Indu Jain, chairman of Bennett, Coleman & Co, India's largest media house has received the All India Management Association's (AIMA's) annual award for lifetime contribution to media.
- The awards of Print Biennale India 2018 organised by Lalit Kala Akademi. The winners of the biennale were Arup Kumar Kuity (Andhra Pradesh), Satya Narayana Gavara (Andhra Pradesh), Preya Bhagat (Uttar Pradesh), Purvi Parmar (Gujrat) and Sonal Varshneya (Uttar Pradesh).
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been awarded the National Intellectual Property Award, 2018 for being the top research and development organisation for patents and commercialisation.
- Leading Indian agrochemical company, ParijatIndustries (India) Pvt Ltd, has been conferred with the top level National Safety Awards, "Sarvashrestha Suraksha Puraskar" gold award for the year 2017.
- Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam district has been shortlisted for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's excellence award for promoting digital payments and cashless economy.
- The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has nominated country's top singles player Yuki Bhambri and doubles expert Rohan Bopanna for the Arjuna award.
- Egyptian photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid has won the 2018 Press Freedom Prize awarded by the United Nations cultural agency UNESCO.
- West Bengal has once again topped in the country with Digambarpur Gram Panchayat (GP) bagging the Centre's award for the best GP in the country.
- Liverpool star Mohamed Salah was crowned PFA Player of the Year award.

Sports News

- Neeraj Chopra become the first Indian javelin thrower to claim a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games.
- The 21st edition of Commonwealth Games was started at the Carrara Stadium in Gold Coast, Australia.
- Robert Pitcairn, full bore shooter has become the oldest competitor to debut at the Commonwealth Games.
- Captains of men and women's cricket team, Virat Kohli and Mithali Raj were named among Wisden's leading cricketers of the year.
- Indian Cricketer Mithali Raj has become the most capped player in women's One-Day International (ODI) cricket (192 Matches).
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has decided to convert the 2021 Champions Trophy, scheduled in India, into a World T20 event.
- Mary Kom has become the first Indian woman to win a boxing gold at the Commonwealth Games. Mary beat Northern Ireland's Kristina O'Hara convincingly in the 48kg final.

- Saikhom Mirabai Chanu, the 23-year-old weightlifter from Manipur, opened India's account of gold medals at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games 2018 by winning one in the women's 48 kg category, with a combined effort of 196 kg.
- Sushil Kumar and Rahul Aware won gold medals in 74kg and 57 kg men's freestyle wrestling categories respectively at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast.
- Kidambi Srikanth has been named the new top-ranked men's badminton player in the world, he will be the first Indian man to reach the top in the new era of computerised rankings.
- Saina Nehwal became the first Indian to win two singles gold at the Commonwealth Games.
- India finished with 66 medals, including 26 Gold at the 21st Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, Australia.
- Anish Bhanwala (15 Year) created history by becoming the youngest ever gold medallist at the Commonwealth Games (CWG) for India in the men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol event.
- Indian Shooter Shreyasi Singh has won the gold medal in the women's double trap at the 21st Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast.
- Sebastian Vettel has won the Bahrain Grand Prix.
- Rafael Nadal has won his 11th Barcelona title, when he breezed past Greek teenager Stefanos Tsitsipas.
- Rafael Nadal (Spain) has won the 11th Monte Carlo Masters title by defeating Japan's Kei Nishikori.
- Daniel Ricciardo has won the Chinese Grand Prix Formula one.
- 'Son of Dreams' was unveiled as official Mascot of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019.
- The 16th Federation Cup Junior National athletics championship began at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- Kerala has lifted their sixth Santosh Trophy Football title by defeating West Bengal.
- Indian mixed badminton team claimed its maiden Commonwealth Games gold medal at Commonwealth Games 2018 in Gold Coast.
- India's Jeremy Lalrinnunga (56 kg) broke two national records to win a silver and a bronze medal at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championship at Urgench, Uzbekistan.

Obituaries

- S Nihal Singh - Veteran journalist
- Nabi Tajima - The world's oldest person from Japan (117 Years)
- Rajinder Singh Sachar - Former Delhi High Court Chief Justice
- Bhimsen Khurana - the pioneer of Indian animation and many national award winners
- Barbara Bush - Former US First Lady
- E.N. Rammohan - Former BSF Director-General (DG)
- Munin Baruah - Noted Assamese Film Director



Other Important News

1. Delhi has become the first city in the country to leapfrog from Euro-IV grade petrol and diesel to Euro-VI.

2. West Bengal government has launched a scheme called 'Rupashree' which provides one-time financial support to the marriages of poor girls. Under this scheme an amount of Rs.25,000 will be credited to girl's bank account before her marriage.

3. The United States and South Korea started a low-key joint military drill 'Foil Eagle drill' as a diplomatic thaw over North Korea gathered pace.

4. China set to unveil the world's longest cross-sea bridge, connecting Hong Kong, Macau and mainland China.

5. India is now the second largest mobile phone producer in the world after China, as per information shared by Indian Cellular Association (ICA) with Telecom Minister Manoj Sinha and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad.

6. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced an ex-gratia payment of Rs.10 Lakh each to the next of kin of 39 Indians who were killed by ISIS terrorists in Mosul, Iraq.

7. The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru was adjudged the overall best institution in the country by the Human Resource Development Ministry's national ranking framework (NIRF).

8. The Ministry of Tourism has launched the 'Adopt a Heritage Project' in association with the Ministry of Culture and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

9. Union Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation Minister, Suresh Prabhu launched digital initiatives by Export Inspection Council (EIC) for ease of export at New Delhi.

10. Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman embarked on her first visit to Russia, to attend the seventh Moscow Conference on International Security in Moscow.

11. The nation celebrates the 127th birth anniversary of Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar on 14th April, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the first phase of Ayushman Bharat health programme from Bijapur in Chhattisgarh.



12. The India Mobile Congress will be held from 25th to 27th October 2018, at Aero city, New Delhi.

13. The Maharashtra government set up an institution to evaluate and quantify special development budget allocations and their impact on tribal development. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis launched the institution 'QUEST' in Mumbai.

14. The current state of cooperation between Kazakhstan and India in the energy sector was assessed and discussed at the 16th International Energy Forum in New Delhi.

15. Mangaluru International Airport (MIA) has been declared as the cleanest and best-maintained airport in the country.

16. Himachal Pradesh Health Minister Vipin Parmar launched Mother's Absolute Affection (MAA) programme in the state to promote breastfeeding.

17. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched the beta version of the virtual ID (VID) feature. The service providers will soon start accepting the VID number in lieu of the Aadhaar number.

18. The 9th India-Japan-US trilateral meeting was held in New Delhi.

19. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin launched the construction of Turkey's first nuclear power plant in the Mediterranean Mersin region.

20. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has constituted a high-power committee to examine the system of conducting Class 10 and Class 12 examinations to prevent question paper leaks. The committee will be chaired by VS Oberoi, former secretary of the Ministry of Human Resources.

21. External Affairs Minister (EAM) Sushma Swaraj embarked a three-day official visit to Azerbaijan's capital city Baku to participate in Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ministerial Conference.

22. The two days Global Logistics Summit was held in New Delhi.

23. The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, graced and addressed the 34th annual session of FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) 2018 in New Delhi.



24. Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the modernisation of the Government Press which is estimated to cost about Rs.340 crore.

25. India emerged as the third most vulnerable country in terms of risk of cyber threats, such as malware, spam and ransomware, in 2017, according to a report by security solutions provider Symantec.

26. The Union Minister for Railways and Coal Shri Piyush Goyal launched UTTAM App for Coal Quality Monitoring. UTTAM stands for – Unlocking Transparency by Third Party Assessment of Mined Coal.

27. The Indo-Korean joint anti-piracy, search and rescue exercise 'SAHYOG-HYEOBLYEOG 2018' kicked off at the Chennai coast.

28. The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has constituted 5-member working committee to examine taxation aspects related to High Net Worth Individuals (HNWIs) who are migrating abroad to other jurisdictions. The Working Group will be headed by Pragya Sahay Saksena.

29. Qatar is introducing national service for women for the first time while extending the time served in the military by conscripted men, under a law issued by the country's Emir.

30. India has overtaken Japan to become the world's second largest producer of crude steel in February, according to the Steel Users Federation of India (SUFI).

31. A world-class interpretation centre and other tourist facilities for visitors inaugurated at the Konark Sun Temple, Odisha.

32. India ranked 37th in the global startup ecosystem in 2017, according to a report released by global startup ecosystem map Startupblink.

33. Reliance chairman Mukesh Ambani, is Asia's third-richest man and is ranked 19 in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, there are 23 Indians in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index top 500 list, with Jeff Bezos and Bill Gates holding on to the top two spots.

34. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is going to conduct its biggest ever combat exercise 'Gagan Shakti 2018' along Pakistan and China borders.

35. Patna has come on top among 20 largest cities in India in terms of 4G connectivity, a report by OpenSignal.



36. Tamil Nadu government has come out with a mobile application 'Uzhavan (farmer) app, that will allow ryots to have access to nine types of services including details about their crop insurance.

37. Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated the second mega food park in Uttarakhand.

38. Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb launched the state component of Pradhanmantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY) in Agartala.

39. The government of Maharashtra announced that cancer patients would be provided free chemotherapy treatment at district hospitals with the first phase of the plan starting in June.

40. IHHC, India's premier home healthcare service provider became the first home health care company to set up a dedicated ICU simulation lab at their Bengaluru facility to train nursing staff.

41. The two-day Assam Spring Festival began at the Manas National Park.

42. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Malaysia concluded "Desert Tiger 5" joint military exercise aimed at sharing expertise and enhancing joint military actions.

43. The first meeting of the NITI Forum for the North East was held in Agartala, aiming to give a boost to the development projects in the region by identifying constraints and streamlining resources.

44. Union home minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the regional hub complex of the elite anti-terror force National Security Guard (NSG) at Ibrahimpatnam, Hyderabad.

45. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India's first all-electric high-speed locomotive in Bihar.

46. President of Nepal Bidya Devi Bhandari inaugurated the international conference on human rights in South Asia.

47. India's teen shooting sensation Manu Bhaker will be the brand ambassador of Haryana's Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign.



48.The first international conference on 'Water, Environment and Climate Change: Knowledge Sharing and Partnership' has started in Kathmandu.

49.Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated a scientific convention on the World Homoeopathy Day in New Delhi.

50.The UN Security Council was held an emergency meeting over a suspected chemical weapons attack in Syria.

51.Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 16th International Energy Forum Ministerial (IEF - 16) in New Delhi.

52.The tenth edition of a biennial exhibition of weapons and military hardware - DefExpo India-2018 began at Tiruvadanthar, Kancheepuram in Tamil Nadu.

53.The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the IRNSS-1I navigation satellite from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

54.Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial at 26, Alipur Road in Delhi.

55.Prime Minister Narendra Modi left for a five-day visit to Sweden and the UK, where he will attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

56.Textiles Minister Smriti Zubin Irani inaugurated the seventh edition of Home Expo India 2018 at Greater Noida.

57.The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) has began in London.

58.French President Emmanuel Macron said, France will contribute 50 million euros (\$61.9 million) toward urgent humanitarian aid for Syria.

59.The Government has said that the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is well on its way to achieving the target by March 2019. Sensing the importance and urgency of rural roads for national development, the target date for completion of PMGSY-I has been preponed from 2022 to 2019.

60.Bangalore is the highest paying city in the country, while pharma and healthcare is the highest paying industry for talent in India, according to Randstad Insights report.



61. The biannual Indian Army Commanders' Conference has begun in New Delhi.
62. The nine day annual festival 'Bisket Jatra' celebrated in Bhaktapur, Nepal.
63. The Maharashtra government announced cash prizes for those who bagged medals in the Commonwealth Games Gold Coast.
64. The Government has formed a task force headed by the minister of state for civil aviation Jayant Sinha for fast-tracking the roll-out of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) technology.
65. India has jumped 13 places to achieve the 130th spot in the latest annual Index of Economic Freedom released by a top American think-tank.
66. The UAE Cabinet has approved the issuance of legislation to ensure equal pay for men and women working in the country.
67. Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has climbed six positions to enter the club of the top 20 (16th rank) busiest airports across the world, the Airport Council International's preliminary report on airport traffic for 2017 has stated.
68. The first meeting of National Council on India's Nutrition Challenges under POSHAN Abhiyaan was held in New Delhi.
69. The Minister of Commerce & Industry Suresh Prabhu launched the FIEO Global Linker- a digital platform for MSME exporters to digitise their businesses and join a global community of growing businesses.
70. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in cooperation with Germany and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) hosted the India-Wiesbaden Conference 2018 in New Delhi.
71. India has won an election to a crucial non-governmental organisation committee in the UN. The UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) held elections to a number of its subsidiary bodies.
72. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu launched a health scheme of the Assam government 'Atal Amrit Abhiyan' that offers free medical care of up to Rs.2 lakh for every individual from Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families.
73. India was ranked 10th on a new Commonwealth Innovation Index, topped by the UK.



74. India is now the world's 6th largest economy in the world \$2.6 trillion, displacing France, according to the database of the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (WEO) for April 2018.

75. The "Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities (GITC) 2018" will be held in New Delhi from November 8 to 11, 2018.

76. The Union Government formed a new integrated institutional mechanism, Defence Planning Committee to reform the process of higher defense planning. The committee, under the chairmanship of National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

77. Karan Johar has become the first-ever Indian filmmaker to get a place at the famous Madame Tussauds.

78. The Gujarat police unveiled the Pocket Cop project, which will enable quicker verification of passport applicants, and search of accused persons, among others.

79. Bangalore has emerged as the most preferred city for office expansion, according to a survey by real estate consulting firm, CBRE South Asia.

80. Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the two-day Civil Services Day event in New Delhi.

81. First ever International SME Convention-2018 will be held in New Delhi from 22nd to 24th April.

82. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Vijay Goel inaugurated the new office of Central Project Monitoring Unit for the e-Vidhan project of the Government at the Parliament House Annexe.

83. Prince Charles is confirmed as the successor to Queen Elizabeth II as next Head of the Commonwealth.

84. External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has left for China to participate in a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

85. The Commonwealth countries have unanimously agreed to take action on cybersecurity by 2020. In a landmark declaration at the end of Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting (CHOGM) in London.



86. Nagaland Power department launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana - "Saubhagya" scheme, aims to achieve universal household electrification in all parts of the country in a time bound manner.

87. Jim Bridenstine, a congressman from Oklahoma, US Navy veteran and former pilot, was confirmed on a 50-49 vote, and will become the 13th administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration seven months after Trump named him to lead the agency.

88. Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone for various projects in the Union Territory of Diu.

89. The TIME magazine's 100 most influential persons list includes those who have strived to make a difference, and changed people's world views. A total of four Indians are on the list—actor Deepika Padukone, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, Ola co-founder Bhavish Aggarwal, and captain of the Indian cricket team, Virat Kohli.

90. Prime Minister Narendra Modi honoured bureaucrats for making Manipur's Karang the first cashless island of the country, and implementing the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and other priority initiatives of the Centre.

91. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), the country's largest IT outsourcing company created history, become the first Indian company to reach the \$100 billion market capitalisation (m-cap) mark.

92. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat launched a campaign called "Devbhoomi dialogue" calling upon them to look for self-employment opportunities in their chosen fields.

93. Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the 29th Road Safety Week at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. He also released a book named "Have a Safe Journey".

94. Commerce and industry minister Suresh Prabhu chaired the first meeting of the think tank setup to frame a national policy on e-commerce.

95. The Diu Smart City has become the first city in India that runs on 100 per cent renewable energy during the daytime.

96. The Madras High Court became the first court in south India and eighth in the country to introduce e-court fee payment facility.



97.The European Union(EU) and the United Nations(UN) are set to co-chair a two-day international conference in Brussels, aiming to pump financial aid for Syrians and garner political support for UN-led intra-Syrian talks.

98.Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj have attended the meetings of the defence and foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in Beijing.

99.Hardeep Puri, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs (I/C) launched a Mobile App (m-Awas) for allotment of Government accommodations in General Pool Residential Accommodation (GPRA) in Delhi under the control of the Directorate of Estates.

100.India and Mongolia discussed economic cooperation in areas such as infrastructure development, energy, services and IT. In a joint media briefing with Mongolian Foreign Minister D Tsogtbaatar, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said in Ulaanbaatar.

101.The HRD ministry launched the 2nd edition of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan under which students from 750 higher educational institutions from across the country will adopt villages and visit them to get acquainted with lifestyle of people there and the problems faced by them.

102.The Indian and Malaysian armies will hold a two-week military exercise "Harimau Shakti" in the dense forests of Sengai Perdik in Hulu Langat district of Malaysia.

103.The Meghalaya government has launched a mission 'Mission Lakadong' to register a five-fold increase in the production of Lakadong turmeric.

104.The 23rd meeting of the Western Zonal Council was held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat under the chairmanship of the Union home minister Rajnath Singh.

105.Technology giant Microsoft India has been declared the most attractive employer brand, followed by e-commerce giant Amazon India.

106.India has agreed for the most revered Buddhist relics from Sarnath to be taken to Sri Lanka for public exposition on the occasion of Vesak festival.

107.India-Nepal Inter Governmental Committee (IGC) meeting on trade, transit and cooperation to Control Unauthorised Trade began in Kathmandu, Nepal.



108.The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by the Raksha Mantri Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, met and accorded approval to Capital Acquisition Proposals of the Services valued at over Rs.3,687 crore.

109.The leaders of North and South Korea agreed to pursue a permanent peace and the complete denuclearization of the divided peninsula, as they embraced after a historic summit laden with symbolism.

110.Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling became the longest-serving chief minister of any state as he completed 25 uninterrupted years in office. He broke the record of former West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu.

111.Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas, Indian Air Force's indigenous supersonic jet, has successfully fired an air-to-air beyond visual (BVR) range missile.

112.Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh released a book 'My Journey from Marxism-Leninism to Nehruvian Socialism' by former Planning Commission and Finance Commission member C H Hanumantha Rao.

113.Barcelona have clinched their 25th La Liga title thanks to a 4-2 win over Deportivo La Coruna.

114.Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister(Revenue) K E Krishnamurthy initiated Andhra Pradesh government's new project called 'Bhu Seva' (land hub), which aims at providing integrated services related with the land.

115.The Surat railway station will be the third in the country and the second in Gujarat after Gandhinagar to be developed as a world class facility under a Railway Ministry station redevelopment programme. First two are Habibganj and Gandhinagar.

116.India has been projected to be the second fastest growing country in the world for passenger traffic by the Airports Council International (ACI) in its traffic forecasts between 2017-40.

117.The Andhra Pradesh government and MasterCard, along with Fintech valley, held the Andhra Pradesh Cyber Security Summit in Visakhapatnam.

118.Online search engine Google is the most trusted Internet brand in India, followed by Facebook, according to the TRA Brand Trust Report 2018.



119.The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) conducted a mock exercise on earthquake preparedness in three North Eastern States - Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram.

120.The Minister of Housing & Urban Development Hardeep Singh inaugurated the 47th Foundation Day of Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) on 25th April.

121.India slipped in the annual World Press Freedom Index for the second straight year, falling two places to rank 138th among 180 countries in the latest list, topped by Norway.

122.National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has announced the launch of its "e - Gsec" platform for facilitating the non-competitive bidding in Government of India Dated Securities (G-Sec) and Treasury Bills (T-Bills).

123.A two-day coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' began in Kerala, to strengthen and assess the loopholes in the coastal security mechanism.

124.Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan Inaugurated the four-day Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in New Delhi.

125.The two-day Secure India Conclave, organised by Global Counter Terrorism began in New Delhi.

126.Chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated 'AP Cyber Security Operations Centre (APCSOC)' in Vijayawada.

127.The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh chaired the third meeting of the Island Development Agency (IDA) in Delhi.

128.Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani, human rights lawyer Indira Jaising and architect Balkrishna Doshi are among Fortune magazine's '50 greatest leaders' of 2018, featured the three Indians at the 24th, 20th and 43rd places respectively.

129.The 8th South Asian Judo Championship begins in Lalitpur near Kathmandu, Nepal.

ALL THE BEST

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