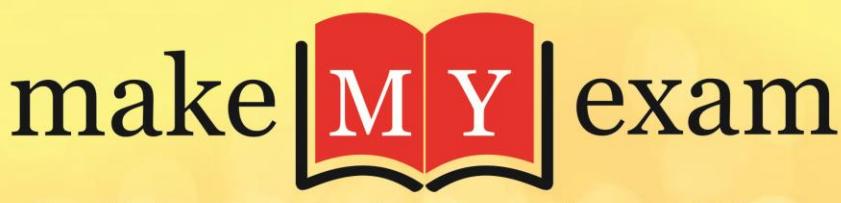


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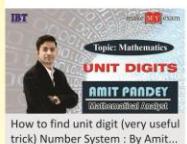
01 October – 31 October, 2018



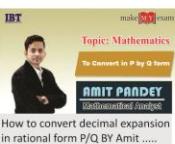
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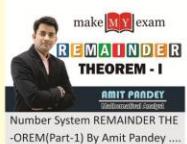
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Parts of Speech : PLURAL By Sajid Aman Khan (General English)....



Number System REMAINDER THEOREM (Part-1) By Amit Pandey



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President of India (Qualification & Election) By Vipan Goyal



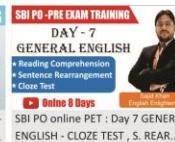
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National News

1. India's First cryptocurrency ATM launched in Bengaluru

- ⊕ Despite the government and Reserve Bank of India's crackdown on cryptocurrency in India, virtual currency exchange unocoin has installed a currency deposit and dispensing ATM at Kemp Fort Mall in Bengaluru.
- ⊕ First of its kind in India, this ATM circumvents the RBI regulation against bitcoins transaction.
- ⊕ RBI has ruled earlier this year that financial institutions associated with RBI are not permitted to deal with cryptocurrencies.

2. Government and Google launch campaign to review public toilets

- ⊕ Government and Google launch Loo Review campaign on Google Map to review public toilets.
- ⊕ The joint campaign has been launched under aegis of Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM-U).
- ⊕ This aims to encourage all local guides in India to rate and review public toilets on Google Maps.

3. PM inaugurates Mahatma Gandhi Museum at Rajkot

- ⊕ The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, inaugurated the Mahatma Gandhi Museum in Rajkot.
- ⊕ The Museum has been set up at the Alfred High School, which was an important part of the formative years of Mahatma Gandhi. It will help spread awareness about Gandhian culture, values and philosophy.
- ⊕ The Prime Minister also unveiled a plaque to mark the inauguration of a public housing project of 624 houses. He witnessed the e-Gruh Pravesh of 240 beneficiary families.

4. Assam govt to launch Wage Compensation scheme for Pregnant Women in tea gardens of state

- ⊕ Assam government will launch Wage Compensation scheme for Pregnant Women in tea gardens of the state.
- ⊕ The scheme will provide better health and nutrition supplements to the pregnant women.
- ⊕ An amount of 12 thousand rupees will be given to the pregnant woman so that she could take care of herself and unborn baby without compromising the livelihood of her family.
- ⊕ The compensation of wages to pregnant women will be given in 4 installments. The scheme is likely to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality in the tea areas.

5. Government constitutes Competition Law Review Committee to review the Competition Act

- ⊕ The Government has constituted a Competition Law Review Committee to review the Competition Act.
- ⊕ The Competition Act was passed in the year 2002 and the Competition Commission of India was set up in pursuance of the same.
- ⊕ The Commission started functioning in right earnest from 2009 and has contributed immensely towards the development of competition and fair play practices in the Indian market.
- ⊕ The Committee shall complete its work and submit its report within three months of the date of its first meeting.

6. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Inaugurates three Day Kalahandi Dialogue in Bhawanipatna

- ⊕ The three day Kalahandi Dialogue, a global conclave on development has been launched here by Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik.
- ⊕ This aims to involve youth in development activities.
- ⊕ After launching a slew of development projects, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik thanked the people of Kalahandi for the incredible spirit and indomitable energy.

7. PM Modi, President pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri

- ⊕ President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat on his 149th birth anniversary, urging the people to rededicate themselves to the values espoused by the leader and fulfil his dreams.
- ⊕ The President, the vice-president and other dignitaries also visited Vijay Ghat on Tuesday morning to pay tributes to former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary.
- ⊕ The government has planned year long grand celebrations to mark 150th year of Gandhi's anniversary which would culminate on October 2, 2019.

8. PM inaugurates first assembly of the International Solar Alliance

- ⊕ The Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, inaugurated the first Assembly of the International Solar Alliance at Vigyan Bhawan.
- ⊕ The same event also marked the inauguration of the second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting, and the 2nd Global RE-Invest (Renewable Energy Investors' Meet and Expo).
- ⊕ This is a great forum to work towards ensuring climate justice. The International Solar Alliance could replace OPEC as the key global energy supplier in the future.
- ⊕ The target is to generate 40 percent of India's total energy requirements in 2030, by non fossil fuel based sources.

9. Raksha Mantri Launches 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' Campaign

- ⊕ 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan' is a mission that has brought together the entire country to fight against the stubborn evil of insanitation and to ensure a clean India.
- ⊕ 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' a yearlong campaign has started in 2018 as part of Swachh Bharat, to commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and to encourage more and more people to participate in the movement.
- ⊕ It has brought together the entire country to fight against the stubborn evil of insanitation.
- ⊕ 62 Cantonment Boards under Ministry of Defence actively participated in 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' campaign from September 15, to October 02, 2018.

10. President gives assent to India's first good samaritan bill of Karnataka

- ⊕ President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to a bill providing legal protection to the good samaritans in Karnataka, who help accident victims with emergency medical care within the golden hour.
- ⊕ The bill - Karnataka Good Samaritan and Medical Professional (Protection and Regulation during Emergency Situations) Bill, 2016 -- received the President's assent.
- ⊕ Karnataka has become the first state in the country to give legal protection to good samaritans.

11. BSE forays into commodity derivatives with launch of gold, silver contracts

- ⊕ The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) on Monday started offering of futures trading in gold and silver contracts to mark its entry into the commodity derivatives segment and become India's first universal stock exchange with all assets classes including equity, mutual funds, currency and commodity in its portfolio.
- ⊕ The BSE took the challenge to commence futures trading in commodities, since the regulator the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) approved the concept of universal stock exchange.
- ⊕ BSE is the oldest stock exchange in Asia formed by eight native stock brokers association in 1875 located at Dala street, Mumbai.

12. Team TSAF arrives in Delhi for "Mission Gange"

- ⊕ The team members of 'Mission Gange', a Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF) initiative in Partnership with National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) have reached Delhi and are all set for the 1500-km 4-week rafting expedition along the River Ganges.
- ⊕ The expedition will be led by India's first woman to scale Mount Everest and Chief, Tata Steel Adventure Foundation, Bachendri Pal, recipient of Padma Shri and Arjuna Award.
- ⊕ The ambitious mission is aimed to create awareness at grassroots level by cleaning the river and riverfronts and educating people about waste management, clean environment and climate change.

13. Project Utkrisht launched by Indian Railways

- ⊕ Railways has plans to develop 640 Utkrisht rakes as part of upgradation of its mail/express trains in the next two years at a cost of Rs 4 billion.
- ⊕ The first lot of Utkrisht rakes rolled out as Kalka Mail from Howrah station and will reach Delhi
- ⊕ The unique feature of this Utkrisht Rake is the provision of Swachh Rail Toilet (SRT), which is a hybrid design of bio-toilet system.

14. Launch of Methanol Cooking Fuel Program of India

- ⊕ India, Northeast and Assam Petro-chemicals, a state-owned company launched Asia's first cannisters based and India's first "Methanol Cooking Fuel Program".
- ⊕ 500 households inside the Assam Petro Complex will be the first pilot project, scaling it to 40,000 households in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana, Goa and Karnataka.
- ⊕ The project is a natural extension of our Prime Minister's vision of reducing import of crude and an effort to provide clean, import substitute, cost effective and pollution free cooking medium.

15. National Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018: Haryana Ranked Best State, While Satara Named Best District

- ⊕ Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave awards to the top-ranked state, district and state with maximum citizen participation based on the National Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 commissioned by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
- ⊕ The awards by Prime Minister were given at the concluding session of Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre.
- ⊕ Haryana was ranked as the best state while Satara district of Maharashtra was ranked as the best district as per the ranking was undertaken by Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018.
- ⊕ Swachh Sarvekshan Gramin 2018: Satara District of Maharashtra Bags Top Spot of Being Cleanest Among Rural Areas.

16. Maharashtra govt launches website, application to analyse drought situation

- ⊕ The Maharashtra government launched a website and a mobile application which will use modern technology to analyse the drought situation in the state by collecting data on rainfall
- ⊕ The state relief and rehabilitation ministry created the website called Maha Madat with the help of the Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC).
- ⊕ Rehabilitation and Relief Minister Chandrakant Patil said the platform will help in accurately analysing drought-like situations in villages across the state.

17. Karnataka govt unveils 'Unnati' scheme to help entrepreneurs from SC/ST communities

- ⊕ Karnataka Social Welfare Minister Priyank Kharge launches unnati scheme, under the Unnati scheme, will invest up to Rs 20 crore to create end-to-end support infrastructure for startups and entrepreneurs from a marginalised background.
- ⊕ The government, under the scheme, will identify the problems dogging society and solve them by identifying companies, working on products and solutions for related problems.
- ⊕ The Social Welfare department will invest up to Rs 20 crore to create end-to-end support infrastructure for startups and entrepreneurs from a marginalised background. This will be done under Unnati scheme.

18. Rajasthan to provide free electricity to farmers to increase their income

- ⊕ The Rajasthan government has launched a scheme to provide free electricity to farmers having general category connections.
- ⊕ The Scheme would help increase the income of farmers.
- ⊕ The project will provide water for drinking and irrigation purposes to 13 districts in eastern Rajasthan.

19. PM Modi inaugurates Investors Summit in Dehradun

- ⊕ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Uttarakhand Investors Summit in Dehradun.Uttarakhand Investors Summit 2018 explores investment opportunities in the state.
- ⊕ A large number of leading business firms and industrial houses are likely to participate in the two-day event in the state.
- ⊕ In the last two years, Centre and state governments have taken more than 10,000 steps which have helped India gain more than 42 points in Ease of Business.

20. Railway Minister Piyush Goyal lays foundation stone of two key railway projects

- ⊕ In Chhattisgarh, Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal and the state Chief Minister Raman Singh laid the foundation stone of two key railway projects.
- ⊕ The construction of a new railway line connecting Katghora-Mungeli-Kawardha-Dongargarh would accelerate the growth of the mineral rich region and bring prosperity.
- ⊕ On the occasion, the union minister also flagged off Korba-Raipur-Korba Hasdeo Express through video conferencing.

21. IndiaSkills 2018, the Country's biggest skill competition

- ⊕ IndiaSkills 2018 was the second edition of the nationwide competition organized by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India to identify, recognize, promote and reward the best talents in various skills.
- ⊕ 23 states actively participated in organizing the competitions at the state and regional levels in which over 50 thousand participants took part.

- ⊕ IndiaSkills 2018, the Country's biggest skill competition, concluded, with the winners being awarded by dignitaries.

22. President of India inaugurates 4th India International Science Festival

- ⊕ The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 4th India International Science Festival in Lucknow. The President said that science has always been a part of Indian culture.
- ⊕ The President pointed to the low participation of women in higher science. He noted that of the 3,446 scientists working at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, only 632 – or 18.3 per cent – are women.
- ⊕ He urges Scientific Community to partner and mentor University Researchers and Students.

23. EAM Sushma Swaraj launches India for Humanity initiative in New Delhi

- ⊕ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj launched India for Humanity initiative in New Delhi as part of 150th Birth Anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi being held over the next one year.
- ⊕ With its focus on Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of compassion, caring and service to humanity, 'India for Humanity' features a year-long series of artificial limb fitment camps in a number of countries spanning the globe.
- ⊕ The camps will be initially held in 12 countries identified through the Missions with financial support of Indian government.

24. Regional conference on 'Good Governance Initiatives,' begins in Kohima

- ⊕ The two day Regional Conference on 'Good Governance Initiatives,' got underway at Kohima .
- ⊕ The Conference, held under the theme "Capacity Building /Best Practices by Aspirational Districts", is being organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) in collaboration with the Nagaland Government.
- ⊕ In today's technical session, 11 presentations followed by panel discussions were made in five sessions covering the topics of Technology for Good Governance.

25. Coal India signs MoU with NLC for 5000 mw power generation

- ⊕ Coal India and NLC India (NLCIL), formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation, will jointly set up 5000 mw of power generation capacity of which 3000 mw would be solar powered while the rest 2000 mw would be coal fuelled.
- ⊕ CIL and NCIL signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for setting up a 50:50 joint venture company that would undertake the projects.
- ⊕ The joint venture company will be scheduled complete the proposed solar projects and thermal projects within 15 months and 60 months respectively.

26. Cabinet approves merger of National Council for Vocational Training, NCVT and National Skill Development Agency

- ⊕ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the merger of the existing regulatory institutions in the skills space - National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) and the National Skill Development Agency (NSDA) into the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET).
- ⊕ NCVET will regulate the functioning of entities engaged in vocational education and training, both long-term and short-term and establish minimum standards for the functioning of such entities.
- ⊕ This institutional reform will lead to improvement in quality and market relevance of skill development programs lending credibility to vocational education and training encouraging greater private investment.

27. Cabinet approves Productivity Linked Bonus for Railway Employees

- ⊕ The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the payment of Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for the financial year 2017-18 for all eligible non-gazetted Railway employees.
- ⊕ The financial implication of payment of 78 days' PLB to railway employees has been estimated to be Rs.2044.31 crore.
- ⊕ The Productivity Linked Bonus on Railway covers all non-gazetted railway employees (excluding RPF/RPSF personnel) who are spread over the entire country.

28. Central University of Jammu signs MoU with ISRO to set up Space Applications Center

- ⊕ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed an MoU with the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) in Jammu for setting up of the Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science in the University in the presence of the Union Minister.
- ⊕ Another MoU was signed between CUJ and the Central Scientific Instruments Organization (CSIR-CSIO) to create awareness about space research and to motivate young minds to take up research related to space.
- ⊕ This is the first of its kind institute coming up in Jammu and Kashmir and the building is proposed in an area of about 1,150 sq. m.

29. India's draft electronics policy aims \$400 billion manufacturing industry by 2025

- ⊕ The country's draft electronics policy released by the IT ministry on has set an ambitious target of creating a \$400 billion electronics manufacturing industry by 2025
- ⊕ The draft National Policy on Electronics (NPE) aims to promote domestic manufacturing in the entire value-chain of ESDM for spur economic development.
- ⊕ The proposed policy aims to double the target of mobile phone production from 500 million units in 2019 to 1 billion by 2025 to meet the objective.

30. President Kovind will inaugurate 13th Annual Convention of CIC

- ⊕ Aiming to improve the transparency and accountability in governance, president Ram Nah Kovind will inaugurate the 13th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission (CIC).
- ⊕ The topic of the Convention will be "Data privacy and Right to Information, Amending RTI act and implementation of the RTI act.
- ⊕ The Convention shall deliberate on three specific subjects " Data Privacy and Right to information", "Amendment in the RTI Act",and "Implementation of the RTI Act"

31. NITI Aayog , IBM co-design programme to skill students in new age tech

- ⊕ IBM partnered with NITI Aayog to offer internship programme to top performing students selected by the Atal Innovation Mission.
- ⊕ Over 40 high school students will go through a two week paid internship at the IBM Bengaluru campus where they will be equipped with the skills in areas like artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, cloud computing and blockchain.
- ⊕ The collaboration with NITI Aayog will help students better align with industry imperative and make them future-proof.

32. NSE signs pact with Uttarakhand govt to fuel MSMEs growth in state

- ⊕ Leading stock exchange signed a pact with the Uttarakhand government to provide access to capital to MSMEs, which will fuel growth of such entities in the state.
- ⊕ The bourse will play an active role in nurturing the SMEs and start-ups by increasing awareness along with the government on the opportunities to raise capital .
- ⊕ NSE's SME Platform has currently 182 companies listed, which together raised over Rs 2,850 crore .The total market capitalisation of these companies will be about Rs 11,300 crore.

33. UNICEF, WHO Say India Remains Polio-Free, Vaccine Safe

- ⊕ The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) reiterated India's status as a polio-free country.
- ⊕ The two global agencies held that risk of children getting vaccine derived poliovirus was minimal in India because of high routine immunisation coverage in the country.
- ⊕ As advised by the India Expert Advisory Group, the country continues to conduct mass vaccination campaigns against polio, using bivalent oral polio vaccine (bOPV), to maintain high immunity.

34. Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani Inaugurates exhibition “Revisiting Gandhi: The Art of Shelly Jyoti” at IGNCA, New Delhi.

- ⊕ Union Minister of Textiles, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani Inaugurated the exhibition “Revisiting Gandhi: The Art of Shelly Jyoti” at IGNCA, New Delhi.
- ⊕ Smt. Smriti Irani appreciated the efforts of IGNCA for making such an excellent exhibition possible.

- ⊕ The exhibition organised as part of Gandhi Parv, 150 years birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi, realises what Gandhi inspired and put into action, self-transformation, with the ultimate goal of the total transformation of society.

35. Allocation of requisite EVMs and VVPATs across all Polling Stations Underway

- ⊕ The Election Commission of India is making all preparatory arrangements to ensure EVM VVPAT allocation well in time for General Elections across States.
- ⊕ The mandatory First Level Checks and training to District Officers are also being ensured to meet the requirement of 100% VVPATs across approximately 10.6 lakh polling stations for the upcoming Lok Sabha Election in 2019.
- ⊕ The EVM VVPAT inventory is securely managed through a robust tracking system to track all operations on machine movement, First Level Checks, randomization, poll day defects.
- ⊕ Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT), Electronic Voting Machines (EVM).

36. Haryana's first autism research centre opens in Gurugram

- ⊕ Haryana, National Autism Intervention Research Centre was launched at Fortis Memorial Research Institute by state's Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, R.R. Jowel.
- ⊕ The centre, dedicated to people suffering from Autism, has been started in association with Behaviour Momentum India.
- ⊕ Nearly one crore children across India are estimated to be affected by autism.

37. Union Minister Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurates PMKK Patiala

- ⊕ The Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) Patiala where 1000 students will get free training in skill Development every year in the multiple courses like Hair Stylist, Manual Arc Welding, Plumber, Field Technician – Other Home Appliances and Mobile Phone Hardware Repair Technician.
- ⊕ PMKK is the flagship scheme of Union Ministry of Skill Development and Enterpreneurship under Government of India is setting up 600 PMKK's in identified districts. From these 480 have been set up and operational.
- ⊕ In Punjab there are 25 sanctioned PMKK's, out of which 16 are operational.
- ⊕ In Haryana there are 21 sanctioned PMKKs are operational and in Himachal Pradesh 4 are operational out of 8 sanctioned PMKKs. UT Chandigarh is having 1 PMKK Centre.

38. Microsoft, Niti Aayog to bring in AI tools for agriculture and healthcare

- ⊕ Microsoft India has signed an agreement with Niti Aayog to deploy artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to address challenges in agriculture and healthcare, and promote adoption of local language computing, among others.

- ⊕ Microsoft India will support NITI Aayog by combining the cloud, AI, research and its vertical expertise for new initiatives and solutions across several core areas.
- ⊕ Microsoft will also accelerate the use of AI for the development and adoption of local language computing, in addition to building capacity for AI among the workforce through education.

39. India International Silk Fair -2018 begins in New Delhi on 16th October

- ⊕ Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani, will inaugurate the 6th edition of India International Silk Fair (IISF) in New Delhi on October 16, 2018.
- ⊕ India is the 2nd largest producer of silk in the world. The silk industry is agriculture based and labour intensive and provides gainful employment to around 8 million artisans and weavers in rural areas.
- ⊕ Over 108 exhibitors of silk and blended silk products manufactured in different parts of the country will display their produce during the three-day event, organised by the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC) at Pragati Maidan. Over 218 buyers from various countries will participate in the fair.

40. India Elected To UN Human Rights Council

- ⊕ India was elected to the United Nations' top human rights body for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019, getting 188 votes in the Asia-Pacific category, the highest number of votes among all candidates.
- ⊕ The 193-member UN General Assembly held elections for new members to the UN Human Rights Council.
- ⊕ The 18 new members were elected by absolute majority through a secret ballot. Countries needed a minimum of 97 votes to get elected to the Council. India was vying for a seat in the Asia Pacific category.

41. Centre To Provide Rs 7.8 Crore Textile Tourism Complex In Shillong

- ⊕ Union Minister of State for Textiles, Ajay Tamta who visited Shillong on Saturday assured that the Ministry would release 7.8 crore for the construction of a textile tourism complex in Nongpoh.
- ⊕ The Minister who visited different weaving centres here in Shillong also informed that the funds for the textile tourism complex would be released within 15 days.
- ⊕ The Minister during his visit to Shillong also visited sericulture farm and weaving centre and interacted with the weavers.

42. Shri RK Singh launches award scheme under 'Saubhagya'

- ⊕ Shri RK Singh, Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy announced an award scheme under Saubhagya.
- ⊕ Awards would be provided for achieving 100 per cent household electrification at DISCOM/Power Department level of the States.
- ⊕ Eight States which have already achieved more than 99 per cent household electrification prior to launch of Saubhagya (Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa,

Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab and Tamil Nadu), are ineligible for participation under the award scheme.

43. IRCTC launched its E-ticketing Chatbot 'Ask Disha' on its website

- ⊕ 'Ask Disha' chatbot was launched on its e-ticketing website, irctc.co.in and is a first of its kind initiative for any government website.
- ⊕ It will provide 24*7 customer query service. It is jointly developed by IRCTC and CoRover Private Limited, a Bangalore-based company.
- ⊕ It can be used by Indian Railways passengers to get their questions answered through the chat bot.

44. Delhi Government Launches CM's Urban Leaders Fellowship Programme

- ⊕ Delhi government announced Chief Minister's Urban Leaders Fellowship Programme with an aim to attract young leaders across the country and work alongside on addressing serious urban challenges.
- ⊕ It also seeks to attract youth who are passionate about public service and are willing to work for two years.
- ⊕ It was announced by Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

45. Air Quality Warning System launched in Delhi to combat worsening air pollution

- ⊕ Earth Sciences Minister Dr Harshvardhan unveiled an Air Quality early warning system for Delhi region.
- ⊕ The system has been designed with the help of American and Finnish models to predict extreme air pollution levels.
- ⊕ Dr Harshvardhan also said that Central Pollution Control Board, CPBC, is proactively doing research in adjoining areas and sending reports of affected places to the concerned department.

46. 6th India International Silk Fair Inaugurated

- ⊕ Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani, inaugurated the 6th India International Silk Fair (IISF) at Pragati Maidan
- ⊕ The 3-days exhibition is expected to generate business of over USD 20 million for the SMEs engaged in producing silk and silk blended garments, fabrics, accessories and floor covering.
- ⊕ The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council is also organizing B2B meeting of participants with buyers and a Fashion Show of the participants.

47. Punjab CM lays foundation stones for 5 projects in Amritsar

- ⊕ Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh laid the foundation stones for five infrastructural projects, worth Rs 127.86 crore, in Amritsar.
- ⊕ He also announced an additional Rs 50 crore for tubewells to ensure seamless supply of clean water in the holy city, pending the completion of the canal water supply network.

- ⊕ The projects for which the foundation stones were laid included ROBs at Vallah Phatak on Amritsar-Delhi Railway line and on Amritsar-Attari section at Khajana Gate, RUB at Jaura Phatak on Amritsar-Delhi section and Amritsar-Pathankot section.

48. West Bengal Govt Launches 'Khadya Sathi', Extends Food Security to 8.5 Crore People

- ⊕ West Bengal government has ensured food security to over 8.5 crore people of the state under the 'Khadya Sathi' scheme.
- ⊕ Special assistance is also being given to the people of Jangalmahal and Hill areas besides Aila-affected areas and farmers of Singur, tea garden workers as well as the Toto.
- ⊕ World Food Day is celebrated worldwide on 16th October to celebrate founding of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations in 1945.

49. Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approves renaming of Allahabad to Prayagraj

- ⊕ The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet adopted a proposal to rename the historic city of Allahabad as Prayagraj, a move opposed by the opposition parties in the state.
- ⊕ Allahabad has been renamed Prayagraj by the government. Five hundred years ago the name of the place was Prayagraj as it is at the 'Triveni Sangam' (a confluence of three rivers).
- ⊕ The new name derives from a place in the city called Prayag, where three rivers flowing across the state meet.

50. Union Minister Mahesh Sharma & Hardeep Singh Puri lay foundation stone for Museum on Prime Ministers of India in New Delhi

- ⊕ Mahesh Sharma and Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri laid the foundation stone for Museum on Prime Ministers of India at Teen Murti Estate in New Delhi.
- ⊕ The museum will depict modern India through collections relating to Prime Ministers of India, their lives, works and significant contributions made towards nation building. It will bring India's democratic experience alive to the visitors.
- ⊕ The proposed museum will include an orientation space, souvenir shop, space for organising talks, seminar halls and auditorium.

51. First national meet to promote investment in AYUSH to be held in Nov

- ⊕ To encourage various public sector undertakings and private firms to invest in AYUSH, the Centre will organise an all-India meet here on November 4.
- ⊕ The "First National Summit on Invest in AYUSH" is to be held at Ambedkar International Centre jointly by NITI Aayog and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.
- ⊕ Ministry of AYUSH has also signed an MoU with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises to develop entrepreneurs in AYUSH sector and to strengthen the existing sectoral players.

52. NITI Aayog launches guidelines for Public-Private partnership in NCDs

- ⊕ NITI Aayog launched the model guidelines for Public - Private partnership in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).
- ⊕ As per the guidelines, the private partner will invest in upgrading, building and deploying human resources. They will be responsible for operational management and service delivery.
- ⊕ It is suggested that the tariff structure for the services offered under the NCD care facility may be linked to the existing state and Central Government Health Insurance scheme.

53. Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates Skill Connect Road Shows in New Delhi

- ⊕ National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) have launched road show 'Skill Connect'.
- ⊕ The road show intends to enhance awareness and participation of industry in the Skill development agenda with a special focus on apprenticeship.
- ⊕ The roadshow will aim to drive awareness about various skilling Initiatives of the state and Central governments.

54. #MeToo: NCW Launches E-mail ID For Sexual Harassment At Workplace Cases

- ⊕ The National Commission for Women (NCW) has come out with a dedicated e-mail address to report instances of sexual harassment at workplace after several such complaints were made to the body by women under the #Metoo movement on social media.
- ⊕ The NCW said it has received formal written complaints from various women about instances of sexual harassment at their workplace.
- ⊕ The Commission urges women who have come forward on social media and other platforms about their alleged harassers to send their formal written complaints to ncw.metoo@gmail.com.
- ⊕ The NCW will take forward complaints of sexual harassment at workplace received on the mail so that appropriate action may be taken.

55. North Central Railways launches apps for its employees, passengers

- ⊕ The North Central Railways (NCR) launched two mobile apps, 'NCR RASTA' and 'Yatri RASTA', for its employees and passengers, respectively, for locating assets and stations.
- ⊕ "NCR RASTA" (Railway assets Summarised Tracking Application) and Yatri RASTA (Railway Approach to Station Tracking Application) were launched by NCR General Manager Rajiv Chaudhry.
- ⊕ The 'NCR RASTA' app is for the use of railway officers and staff and has exact mapping of all railway assets.
- ⊕ The 'Yatri RASTA' app will allow general public to locate the railway stations easily. It is already available for smartphones running on Android and can be downloaded free of cost from Google Play Store.

56. PM Modi hoists Tricolour at Red Fort on 75th anniversary of Azad Hind government

- ⊕ Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoisted the national flag at the Red Fort in New Delhi to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Azad Hind government formed by freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- ⊕ The Azad Hind government was raised by Netaji during the freedom movement.
- ⊕ The decision to hoist the national flag at the Red Fort has reportedly been taken because it was the same place where soldiers of the Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj) faced trials by the British.

57. India's longest bridge to be built across Brahmaputra : Assam

- ⊕ India's longest river bridge will be built across the Brahmaputra, connecting Dhubri in Assam to Phulbari in Meghalaya.
- ⊕ Currently, the longest river bridge in India, at 9.15 km, is the Dhola-Sadiya Bridge which was opened last year.
- ⊕ This bridge will have total length will be 19.3 kilometers and will be four-lane. Its construction will be completed by 2026-27 and will be public-funded work.

International News & Foreign Affairs

1. Indian Govt Signs Loan Agreement With Japan For Bullet Train Funds

- ⊕ The Indian Government signed an agreement with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) which has agreed to provide an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of around Rs 5,500 crore as Tranche 1 for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project.
- ⊕ In September last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe had launched the ambitious project entailing a total cost of around Rs 1.10 lakh crore.
- ⊕ Its objective is to develop mass and high frequent transportation system by constructing high speed rail between Mumbai and Ahmedabad with use of Japan.

2. Goa, Portugal sign MoU for water, sewage management

- ⊕ The Goa government inked a pact with Portugal in the field of water supply, waste water management and sanitation for a period of 2 years.
- ⊕ The signing of the two-year long arrangement is a significant move to work in tandem to develop common initiatives for water supply and waste water management in the state.
- ⊕ The prime ministers of both India and Portugal had identified water and waste management as priority areas for bilateral co-operation and the memorandum of understanding (MoU) is in sync with the vision of the top leaders of both states.

3. Cabinet approves MoU between India and Russia on Bilateral Cooperation in the Road Transport and Road Industry

- ⊕ The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Russia on Bilateral Cooperation in the Road Transport and Road Industry.
- ⊕ The MoU will be signed during the upcoming visit of Russian President to India.
- ⊕ Both the countries will benefit by mutual cooperation in the field of Road Transport and Road Industry.
- ⊕ Increased co-operation, exchange and collaboration with Russia will contribute to establish a long-term and effective bilateral relationship of communication and cooperation in road transportation and road industry and Intelligent Transport System.

4. India and Kazakhstan agree to boost Defence and Military Technical Cooperation

- ⊕ Raksha Mantri Smt Nirmala Sitharaman was on a three-day visit to Astana, Kazakhstan from October 02, 2018 at the invitation of Minister of Defence of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- ⊕ They discussed a wide range of issues relating to defence and military technical cooperation and took stock of the progress that this bilateral relationship has made since the renewal of the MoU on defence cooperation.
- ⊕ Smt Nirmala Sitharaman also discussed issues relating to defence production with the Minister for Defence and Aerospace Industry.

5. India moves up to 28th rank in govt e-payment adoption

- ⊕ India's overall ranking on the government's adoption of e-payments has moved up to 28th in 2018, from 36th in 2011.
- ⊕ The country is taking "rapid strides" in advancing government e-payments capabilities and is one of the top-performing countries in terms of citizen-to-government (C2G), business-to-government (B2G) and government-to-business (G2B) transactions.
- ⊕ The country holds the top ranking on B2G and G2B, and comes third on C2G jointly with Argentina.

6. Russian President Vladimir Putin meets PM Modi at Hyderabad House in Delhi

- ⊕ Indian and Russia on Friday signed the USD 5 billion S-400 air defence system deal in New Delhi.
- ⊕ Modi and Putin also signed eight pacts, including on cooperation on India's ambitious human space mission project Gaganyaan, at the 19th India-Russia annual bilateral summit.
- ⊕ Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in India on Thursday for the two-day annual India-Russia bilateral summit.
- ⊕ India and Russia signed eight pacts in areas ranging from defence, nuclear energy, space and economy.

7. 21 IORA countries adopt Delhi Declaration on Renewable Energy

- ⊕ As many as 21 countries in the Indian Ocean Rim Association, IORA, adopted the Delhi Declaration on Renewable Energy in the Indian Ocean Region.
- ⊕ These nations adopted the Delhi Declaration post the second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting held in Greater Noida, near Delhi.
- ⊕ The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy yesterday said that the Delhi Declaration calls for collaboration among IORA member states in meeting the growing demand for renewable energy in the Indian Ocean littorals.

8. India, Japan begin bilateral maritime exercise JIMEX-18 in Visakhapatnam

- ⊕ Bilateral maritime exercise JIMEX-18 between India and Japan commenced in Visakhapatnam which was marked by Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) ships Kaga, an Izumo-class helicopter destroyer, and Inazuma, a guided missile destroyer.
- ⊕ The third edition of JIMEX will witness the participation of the Japanese ships, under the command of Rear Admiral Tatsuya Fukada, commander of Escort Flotilla-4 (CCF-4).
- ⊕ The participating ships include INS Satpura, a multi-purpose stealth frigate, INS Kadmat, an anti-submarine warfare corvette, missile corvette and INS Shakti, the fleet tanker.

9. India signs key agreements with Tajikistan

- ⊕ President Ramnath Kovind holds bilateral talks with his counterpart Amoli Rahmon in Tajikistan; several agreements signed; India pledges 20 million dollars to aid Tajikistan's development.
- ⊕ The two leaders agreed to strengthen political relations, strategic research, agriculture, renewable energy, traditional medicine, space technology, youth affairs, culture and disaster management relations between India and Tajikistan.
- ⊕ The President commended Tajikistan's commitment to combating terrorism on the occasion.

10. IMF predicts 7.3 % growth rate for India in current fiscal year

- ⊕ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicted a growth rate of 7.3 per cent for India in the current year and 7.4 per cent in 2019. In 2017, India had recorded a 6.7 per cent growth rate.
- ⊕ The latest World Economic Outlook Report has predicted a slightly lower growth rate than it made projections in the April 2018 World Economic Outlook for 2019.
- ⊕ The prediction is lower due to recent increase in oil prices and the tightening of global financial conditions.

11. India ranks bottom of Oxfam world inequality index

- ⊕ India has been ranked among the bottom 10 countries in a new worldwide index released on the commitment of different nations to reduce inequalities in their populations.
- ⊕ UK-based charity Oxfam International's 'Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index' ranks India 147th among 157 countries
- ⊕ The second edition of the annual index finds that countries such as South Korea, Namibia and Uruguay are taking strong steps to reduce inequality.

12. Reuters Report Ranks University of Michigan Among World's Most Innovative Universities

- ⊕ The University of Michigan has been named one of the 100 most innovative university systems in the world.
- ⊕ U-M snagged the 23rd spot, making it the list's top-ranked Big 10 university, as well as the only school from Michigan.
- ⊕ Stanford University came in first, which isn't a huge surprise considering its location in the heart of Silicon Valley.

13. India, Japan vow to boost cooperation on connectivity projects in North East

- ⊕ The meeting of 'Japan-India Act East Forum' was held under the co-chairmanship of Japan Ambassador Kenji Hiramatsu and Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale.
- ⊕ Ambassador Hiramatsu emphasised on cooperation in the northeast region, ranging from connectivity to people-to people exchanges and the need to come up with concrete projects.
- ⊕ The forum witnessed lively discussion, in which the representative from relevant ministers and states of the NER Shared their views .

14. First India-Israel Innovation Centre opens in Bengaluru

- ⊕ The country's first India-Israel Innovation Centre (IIIC), an entrepreneurial technology hub, was launched in Bengaluru.
- ⊕ The IIIC is a significant step towards facilitating penetration of Israeli companies in India and aims to forge local partnerships and joint ventures between companies from the two countries.
- ⊕ It will provide an ecosystem to support entrepreneurship, partnership with vendors, mentoring and non-formal community development that will assist the growth of the companies in different verticals and covers business, technology, investors and customers.

15. Ukraine Launches Air Exercises With NATO Countries

- ⊕ Ukraine has opened a series of large-scale air-force exercises with the United States and seven other NATO countries
- ⊕ Some 700 troops are taking part, half of them from NATO member countries -- the United States, Britain, Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Poland, and Romania.

- ⊕ The aim is "to enhance regional capabilities to secure air sovereignty and promote peace and security through cooperation.

16. UN Food & Agriculture Organisation awards Sikkim for becoming world's first totally organic agriculture state

- ⊕ Sikkim has won this year's UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's Future Policy for Gold Award for its achievement in becoming the world's first totally organic agriculture state.
- ⊕ Sikkim was considered for the award for its policies on Agroecology and Sustainable food systems. It won the gold by beating 51 nominated policies from 25 countries. Brazil, Denmark and Ecuador won Silver for their policies.
- ⊕ The small Himalayan state of Sikkim was declared fully organic state in 2016 after phasing out chemical fertilisers and pesticides and substituting them with sustainable alternatives.

17. India, China Launch Joint Programme To Train Afghan Diplomats

- ⊕ A group of Afghan diplomats will begin training as part of an India-China joint initiative.
- ⊕ The joint training programme is being held after an understanding for such a cooperation was reached during an informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping held in April at China's Wuhan city.
- ⊕ The first India-China Joint Training Programme for Afghan Diplomats will be held from October 15-26
- ⊕ Ahead of their training, Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan Vinay Kumar had hosted the 10 Afghan diplomats, who will take part in the training programme as part of the trilateral cooperation between India, China and Afghanistan.

18. 6th RCEP Inter-sessional Ministerial Meeting in Singapore

- ⊕ The Minister of State for Commerce & Industry and Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution C. R. Chaudhary, attended the 6th RCEP Inter-sessional Ministerial Meeting (IMM) in Singapore.
- ⊕ The Ministers from 16 RCEP countries met in Singapore to discuss a modern, comprehensive and mutually beneficial economic partnership agreement among ASEAN and ASEAN's FTA partners.
- ⊕ The Ministers reviewed developments since the 6th RCEP Ministerial Meeting held on 30-31st August, 2018 in Singapore.

19. Vice President leaves for Belgium to attend 12th ASEM Summit

- ⊕ The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu today left for Belgium to attend the two-day 12th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in Brussels.
- ⊕ The theme of the ASEM Summit is 'Global Partners for Global Challenges'.
- ⊕ The bi-annual event is considered the highest platform for dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe in the areas of trade, investment, security and tourism.

20. Vice President meets Prime Minister of Portugal

- ⊕ The Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu who is presently in Brussels to attend the ASEM Summit 2018, had a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Portugal, Mr. Antonio Costa, at the EU headquarters building.
- ⊕ The Vice President recalled PM Costa's successful State Visit to India in January 2017 when he had been honored with the Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award.
- ⊕ The Vice President mentioned that India and Portugal should collaborate in new areas of cutting-edge technology.
- ⊕ He mentioned that India's inclusion in the UNSC will bolster the credibility and effectiveness of the United Nations.

21. India and Japan set to hold the first ever joint military exercise

- ⊕ India and Japan are all set to hold the first ever joint military exercise 'Dharma Guardian -2018' with the Indian Army.
- ⊕ The Indian contingent will be represented by 6/1 Gorkha Rifles while the Japanese contingent will be represented by 32 Infantry Regiment of the Japanese Ground Self Defence Force.
- ⊕ Both sides will jointly train, plan and execute a series of well developed tactical drills for neutralisation of likely threats that may be encountered during an urban warfare scenario.

22. India 9th most valuable nation brand in the world; US, China lead the list

- ⊕ Brand Finance's annual Nation Brands report measures nations' brands based on the country's image and the economy as a whole.
- ⊕ India was ranked 8th in last year's report but slipped by a spot to the 9th rank. Despite its brand value rising 5% from last year, India has slipped one rank for the second consecutive year.
- ⊕ Topping the list and maintaining its lead is US with a brand value of \$25,899 billion which rose by 23% from last year.

Banking

1. BoB, Vijaya Bank approve merger proposal to create second largest PSU lender

- ⊕ Amalgamation would enable creation of a bank with business scale comparable to global banks and capable of competing effectively in India and globally.
- ⊕ Post-merger, the asset size of the new entity would be over Rs 14.5 lakh crore.
- ⊕ The amalgamation of the three banks would be through share swap which will be the part of the scheme of merger.
- ⊕ Greater scale and synergy would lead to cost-benefit, higher productivity and efficiency of the banking system as a whole

2. SBI reduced ATM withdrawal limit to Rs 20,000

- ⊕ The announcement by the largest lender in the country comes just weeks before the festivals and will be effective days before Diwali.
- ⊕ SBI also aims to boost digital transactions by reducing this limit.
- ⊕ SBI halved the withdrawal limit from Rs 40,000 to Rs 20,000. The limit has been reduced to curb increasing instances of ATM frauds

3. Infosys Finacle launches digital engagement solution for banks

- ⊕ Infosys Finacle, a part of Infosys' product subsidiary EdgeVerve Systems, has introduced Digital Engagement Suite for banks.
- ⊕ The omni-channel solution, helps banks onboard, sell, service and engage customers with tailored experiences.
- ⊕ It also offers comprehensive capabilities to engage retail, wealth, small business and corporate customer segments with impactful digital propositions.

4. National Housing Bank decides to increase the Refinance Limit from Rs. 24,000 crore to Rs.30,000 crore for the Current year

- ⊕ Keeping in view the current scenario, National Housing Bank (NHB) has decided to increase the Refinance limit to Rs.30,000 crore.
- ⊕ Now, eligible Housing Finance Companies & Other entities will have increased availability of funds.
- ⊕ National Housing Bank (NHB) is the Principal Agency to promote Housing Finance Institutions, currently 97 in number, and to provide financial support to eligible institutions.

5. World Bank's Human Capital Index released Singapore tops

- ⊕ The World Bank released a Human Capital Index (HCI) as part of the World Development Report 2019. Singapore Tops, India Ranks 115th in index
- ⊕ Broader theme of the World Development Report (WDR) this year is "The Changing Nature of Work".
- ⊕ The HCP programme is claimed to be a program of advocacy, measurement, and analytical work to raise awareness and increase demand for interventions to build human capital.
- ⊕ The HCI index values are contended to convey the productivity of the next generation of workers, compared to a benchmark of complete standard education and full health.

6. HDFC Bank appoints Vinay Razdan as Chief Human Resources Officer

- ⊕ HDFC Bank has appointed Vinay Razdan as its chief human resources officer (CHRO), responsible for the entire human resource function in the Bank.
- ⊕ Razdan joins the bank from Idea Cellular, where he was the CHRO. He had joined Idea in 2006 and spearheaded several transformational initiatives there.

- ⊕ Razdan is an alumnus of Delhi University and holds a postgraduate degree/diploma in personnel management and industrial relations from XLRI, Jamshedpur.

7. RBI issues guidelines to allow payments among mobile wallets

- ⊕ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released guidelines to facilitate payments among different mobile wallets, a move aimed at promoting digital transactions.
- ⊕ As per the road-map laid down in 2017, interoperability of all KYC-compliant Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) was to be enabled in three phases.
- ⊕ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued consolidated guidelines for enabling all phases "in order to prepare better for implementation of interoperability"
- ⊕ Interoperability is the technical compatibility that enables a payment system to be used in conjunction with other payment systems.

8. SBI launches 'SBI Wealth Hub' in port City of Karnataka

- ⊕ State Bank of India Chairman Rajnish Kumar launched Bank's Wealth Business Services by launching 'SBI Wealth Hub' in the Port City.
- ⊕ SBI is targeting to take its Wealth Business footprint to 50 centres by 2020 from the Present 20.
- ⊕ Introducing Wealth Business has been one of the top strategic business priorities of the Bank as we have numerous HNI Clinets whose banking needs require highly specialized services.

New Appointments & Person in News

1. Justice Ranjan Gogoi Takes Oath As 46th Chief Justice of India

- ⊕ Justice Ranjan Gogoi took oath as the 46th Chief Justice of India. He succeeds Justice Dipak Misra who retired on October 01.
- ⊕ Justice Gogoi was administered the oath of office by President Ram Nath Kovind at Rastrapati Bhavan.
- ⊕ Justice Ranjan Gogoi, 63, is the first person from the northeast to become the Chief Justice of India. He will have a tenure of a little over 13 months and would retire on November 17, 2019.

2. Iraq parliament elects Barham Salih as country's new president

- ⊕ Iraq's parliament has elected the moderate Kurdish politician Barham Salih as president.
- ⊕ Mr Salih, a member of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), beat his main rival Fuad Hussein, of the Kurdistan Democratic Party's (KDP), by 219 votes to 22, AFP news agency reported.
- ⊕ Mr Salih was part of the interim government put in place by the US following the 2003 invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein.

3. Facebook names longtime executive Adam Mosseri as new head of Instagram

- ⊕ Facebook has named Adam Mosseri, a 10-year veteran of the social network who started as a product designer in 2008, as the new head of Instagram.
- ⊕ He succeeds Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger.
- ⊕ Adam Mosseri was previously the Vice President of Product at Instagram. He had joined Facebook in 2008.

4. Chanda Kochhar quits ICICI Bank

- ⊕ Chanda Kochhar, the first woman to head India's second-biggest private sector lender by assets, Quits even as a probe continues into alleged irregularities in granting of some loans during her nineyear chief executive tenure.
- ⊕ The bank's board accepted her plea for early retirement Thursday, elevating COO Sandeep Bakhshi to the CEO role for five years.
- ⊕ The enquiry instituted by the board will remain unaffected by this and certain benefits will be subject to the outcome of the enquiry.

5. Mukesh Ambani is the richest Indian for 11th consecutive year with \$47.3 billion: Forbes

- ⊕ Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani has emerged as the richest Indian for the 11th consecutive year with a net worth of \$47.3 billion, according to Forbes magazine.
- ⊕ As per the 'Forbes India Rich List 2018', Wipro Chairman Azim Premji has retained the second spot, adding \$2 billion to his wealth at \$21 billion; while ArcelorMittal Chairman and CEO Lakshmi Mittal moved a place ahead to the third slot with a net worth of \$18.3 billion, increasing his wealth by \$1.8 billion.
- ⊕ Ambani is also the year's biggest gainer, adding \$9.3 billion to his wealth amid the continuing success of his Reliance Jio broadband telco service.
- ⊕ This list was compiled using shareholding and financial information obtained from the families and individuals, stock exchanges, analysts and India's regulatory agencies.

6. Ramon Laguarta succeeds Pepsico's Indian-origin CEO Indra Nooyi

- ⊕ Ramon Laguarta assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer of global beverage giant PepsiCo Wednesday, succeeding India-born Indra Nooyi who had helmed the American company for 12 years.
- ⊕ She was appointed as CEO in 2006, becoming PepsiCo's fifth chief executive in its 41-year history, and the first woman
- ⊕ Laguarta will become the sixth CEO in PepsiCo's 53-year history. All have been appointed from within the organization, a testament to PepsiCo's strong bench of talent and succession planning.

7. R N Ravi Redesignated As Deputy National Security Advisor

- ⊕ R N Ravi, the Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee, has been redesignated as the Deputy National Security Advisor

- ↳ Ravi, a 1976-batch Indian Police Service officer of the Kerala cadre, is also the government's interlocutor for the ongoing talks with Naga insurgent group National Socialist Council of Nagaland.
- ↳ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved redesignating R N Ravi as Deputy National Security Advisor (Internal Affairs) and as interlocutor of the government of India in Nagaland, instead of Chairman, Joint Intelligence Committee.

8. Pankaj Sharma appointed India's ambassador to UN Conference on Disarmament

- ↳ Pankaj Sharma has been appointed as the ambassador and India's permanent representative to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva,
- ↳ Sharma is currently the joint secretary (Disarmament and International Security Division) in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- ↳ Sharma had replaced Gill as joint secretary of the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) division.

9. Brett Kavanaugh sworn in as USA Supreme Court justice

- ↳ Brett Kavanaugh was sworn in as the 114th Supreme Court justice by one of the narrowest margins in history amid mass protests, ending a vitriolic battle over his nomination and solidifying a conservative majority on the court.
- ↳ He was officially sworn in by outgoing chief justice John Roberts.
- ↳ Kavanaugh, 53, is a veteran of the George W. Bush White House who has served on the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals for a dozen years.

10. Tushar Mehta appointed as new Solicitor General of India.

- ↳ Additional Solicitor General Tushar Mehta was appointed the new Solicitor General of India, months ahead of the general elections in 2019.
- ↳ He will hold office till June 30, 2020. Mehta, who was Gujarat advocate general when Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the chief minister of the state.
- ↳ He was appointed ASG in 2014 after the Modi government came to power.

11. Tata Steel veteran Sunil Bhaskaran to be new Air Asia India boss

- ↳ Sunil Bhaskaran, a Tata Steel veteran, has been selected as the new chief executive and managing director at Air Asia India, a low-cost airline jointly owned by Tata Group and AirAsia Berhad of Malaysia.
- ↳ Bhaskaran is currently the vice president corporate services at Tata Steel, based in Jamshedpur. He is also the chairman of the board at Jusco and Jamshedpur Football Club. He takes charge from November 15.
- ↳ Ramadorai and AirAsia India's non-executive director R Venkataraman are likely to have sold their collectively owned 2% stake in the airline to Tata Sons.

12. Suchitra Durai appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand

- ⊕ Ms Suchitra Durai (IFS:1988), High Commissioner of India to Kenya, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand.
- ⊕ Suchitra Durai is an Indian Foreign Service Officer (IFS) of 1988 batch.
- ⊕ She is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

13. Nokia appoints Alia Bhatt as brand ambassador in India

- ⊕ Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt as the 'face of Nokia phones' in India.
- ⊕ As part of the partnership, a print campaign with Bhatt has been initiated already to mark the festive season.
- ⊕ Earlier this year, the mobile brand, which was considered as the peoples' brand in India about 15 years ago, had appointed Parineeti Chopra as the face of its mobile phones.

14. BankBazaar appoints former RBI Deputy Governor S S Mundra as advisor

- ⊕ Online financial services marketplace BankBazaar appointed former RBI Deputy Governor (DG) S S Mundra as an advisor to the company.
- ⊕ Mundra's expertise will help in driving 100 per cent paperless and presence-less financing by the company in India.
- ⊕ BankBazaar Co-Founder & CEO Adhil Shetty said as digital mode is increasingly becoming the preferred way to transact, there is a greater need for collaboration between fin-tech, regulators, and financial institutions.

15. Kamal Hassan launches Roudram app for women safety

- ⊕ Actor-turned-politician Kamal Hassan inaugurated a mobile app called Roudram created by a student named Sudha to empower women.
- ⊕ The app is aimed at channelising one's anger in changing the society for a better tomorrow for women.
- ⊕ The word 'roudram' means anger, and is aimed at channelising once anger in changing the society for a better tomorrow for women.

16. Sajjan Jindal elected as Treasurer of World Steel Association

- ⊕ Global Body world Steel Association has elected JSW Steel CMD Sajjan Jindal as its treasurer.
- ⊕ Yu Yong(Chairman HBIS Group) and Kosei Shindo have been elected to the post of Vice Chairman.
- ⊕ WSA is a non-profit organisation and is one of the largest industry associations in world.

17. Facebook hires Nick Clegg as head of global affairs

- ⊕ Facebook has hired Sir Nick Clegg, the former UK deputy prime minister, as its head of global policy and communications.
- ⊕ Clegg, 51, will join Facebook as it struggles to cope with mounting political pressure over issues including fake news, data protection and the threat of government regulation.

- ↳ The names of former chancellor George Osborne, now editor of the Evening Standard, and the ex-Labour foreign secretary David Miliband had circulated as potential candidates for the role.

Science Tech & Defence

1. Vietnam Coast Guard ship arrives on maiden visit to Chennai

- ↳ A Vietnamese Coast Guard ship arrived on a maiden visit, as part of enhancing cooperation between the Indian and Vietnamese maritime forces and addressing maritime security threats facing both the countries.
- ↳ The vessel has sailed a distance of 3,575 nautical miles from Hanoi, Vietnam.
- ↳ The visit offers an opportunity to strengthen the cooperation and address maritime security threats such as human-trafficking, drugs and firearms, piracy and illegal fishing.

2. Indian International Science Festival begins in Lucknow

- ↳ A four-day Indian International Science Festival (IISF) 2018 kicked off in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- ↳ The subject of this year's festival is science for transformation. Union science and technology minister Dr Harsh Vardhan open the event.
- ↳ Around ten thousand scientists and experts, including science teachers and students, are participating in the event.

3. Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurates International Conference on Technological Advancements in Railway and Metro Projects

- ↳ Minister of Railways & Coal, Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated International Conference on Technological Advancements in Railway and Metro Projects (IC-TRAM 2018) in New Delhi
- ↳ The aim is to take stock of the consolidation taking place in Railways & Metros world-wide with special focus on India.
- ↳ Experts from various fields of Railway and Metro Operations and Infrastructure from all over the world will be participating in this International Conference being held at New Delhi.

4. Mobile Health app for citizens of India Launched by IAF on Air Force Day

- ↳ On the occasion of 86th anniversary, the Indian Air Force has launched an innovative mobile health App named 'MedWatch' in keeping with the Prime Minister's vision of 'Digital India, Ayushman Bharat and Mission Indradhanush'.
- ↳ The app is conceived by the doctors of IAF and developed in house by Directorate of Information Technology (DIT) with ZERO financial outlay.

- ⊕ MedWatch' will provide correct, Scientific and authentic health information to airwarriors and all citizens of India.
- ⊕ MedWatch' is the first mobile health app in the three Armed Services and was launched by Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa.

5. Google to shut down Google+ after failing to disclose user data breach

- ⊕ Google discovered a skeleton in its own closet: a bug in the API for Google+ had been allowing third-party app developers to access the data not just of users who had granted permission, but of their friends.
- ⊕ Google also announced a series of reforms to its privacy policies designed to give users more control on the amount of data they share with third-party app developers.
- ⊕ Google announced that it will shut down consumer access to Google+ and improve privacy protections for third-party applications.

6. China successfully launches two remote sensing satellites

- ⊕ China successfully launched two remote sensing satellites to conduct electromagnetic environmental probes.
- ⊕ The satellites, both belonging to the Yaogan-32 family, were launched by a Long March-2C rocket with an upper stage on its top, at 10:43 am.
- ⊕ The remote sensing satellites were successfully sent into space from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China.

7. Website for 'Aero India' launched

- ⊕ A website for the 12th edition of 'Aero India', a major trade exhibition of the aerospace and defence industries with public air shows, was launched.
- ⊕ The five-day event, starting from February 20 next year at the air force station in bengluru.
- ⊕ The portal facilitates payment of registration fee online and booking of space/stall of their choice at the venue.

8. Indian Naval Ship & Aircraft reach Belawan Indonesia for 32nd India - Indonesia coordinated patrol (CORPAT)

- ⊕ Indian Naval Ship Kulish, a Kora class missile corvette, commanded by Commander Deepak Bali Indonesia for the opening ceremony of the 32nd edition of India – Indonesia coordinated patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT), to be held from 11 – 27 Oct 2018.
- ⊕ The ships and aircraft from both the countries would undertake patrolling on the respective sides of 236 nautical miles long International Maritime Boundary Line.
- ⊕ The patrolling would be conducted in three phases from 14 – 24 Oct 2018 followed by a closing ceremony at Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Island, scheduled from 25 – 26 Oct 2018.
- ⊕ The visit seeks to emphasize India's peaceful presence and solidarity with friendly countries towards ensuring good order in the maritime domain,

consolidate interoperability and strengthen existing bonds of friendship between the two countries.

9. First Indo-US tri-services exercise likely to held next Year in India

- ⊕ The first Indo-US tri-services exercise is likely to take place next year and talks are on to include the Special Forces of two countries in the drill.
- ⊕ The three forces of India and the US already take part in bilateral exercises separately their armies participate in an annual drill called Yudh Abyaas.
- ⊕ The first one will be in India, and it will take place in 2019. It would include all our services, plus all kind of scoping the exercise right now to include each of the services' special operations forces.

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

- ⊕ India has imposed anti-dumping duties of up to 185.51 US dollars per tonne for five years on certain varieties of Chinese steel to protect the interest of the domestic players.
- ⊕ The revenue department has imposed the duty based on the recommendations of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR).
- ⊕ This followed a joint application by domestic steel industries including JSW Steel Ltd, Sunflag Iron & Steel Co, Usha Martin, Gerdau Steel India, Vardhman Special Steels and Jayaswal Neco Industries.

11. India, Japan, U.S. plan joint air exercise

- ⊕ India, Japan and the U.S. are set to elevate the bilateral 'Cope India' air exercise to a trilateral format. The three countries already conduct naval war games under the expanded Malabar naval exercise.
- ⊕ The next edition is scheduled to be held in December for which the Final Planning Conference to finalise the modalities of the exercise is scheduled next week in Kalaikunda [West Bengal].
- ⊕ At the annual Defence Ministerial Meeting in August between Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and her Japanese counterpart Itsunori Onodera, it was agreed that Japan will send observers for the next round of Cope India exercises between India and U.S.

12. First cruise service launched between Mumbai and Goa

- ⊕ As a part of the government's plan to develop Cruise Tourism in the country, the first cruise service has been launched between Mumbai and Goa.
- ⊕ Union Shipping, Ports and Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari launched the service in Mumbai.
- ⊕ The rates for the luxury Mumbai-Goa ride begin from Rs 7,000 dorm room per person and goes up to Rs 11,000 family suite per person.

Important Days

1. World Animal Day Observed on 4 October

- ⊕ World Animal Day is a day of action recognised worldwide for animal rights as well as welfare.
- ⊕ It is celebrated on 4 October, Francis of Assisi feast day, the animals' patron saint.
- ⊕ The mission of this day is raising the status of animals to improve welfare standards worldwide.
- ⊕ Building the celebration of this day brings together the animal welfare movement, and mobilises it to become a global force in making the world that we live in a better and safer place for all animals.

2. World Teachers' Day 2018 on 5 October

- ⊕ World Teachers' Day, also known as International Teachers' Day, is observed on October 5 every year.
- ⊕ World Teachers' Day focuses on "appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world" and to provide an opportunity to address issues related to teachers and teaching.
- ⊕ This year's World Teachers' Day theme is : "The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher."

3. World Postal Day is observed on 9 October

- ⊕ Postal services are something that people all over the world often take for granted, but the day to celebrate them and recognize their contributions to modern society and the global economy is almost here.
- ⊕ The event was first declared at the 1969 United Postal Congress in Tokyo, Japan and is celebrated annually on October 9.
- ⊕ The theme for World Post Day 2018 will reportedly be: 'Imagine you are a letter travelling through time. What message do you wish to convey to your readers'

4. World Mental Health Day observed on 10 October

- ⊕ World Mental Health Day (10 October) is a day for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma.
- ⊕ It was first celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health, a global mental health organization with members and contacts in more than 150 countries.
- ⊕ The theme of World Mental Health Day 2018 is "Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World".

5. International Day of Rural Women 15 October

- ⊕ The empowerment of rural women and girls is essential to building a prosperous, equitable and peaceful future for all on a healthy planet. International day of Rural women is observed on 15 October.

- ⊕ In 2007, the United Nations General Assembly, declared October 15 as International Day of Rural Women. It was first observed in 2008.
- ⊕ The Theme for International Day of Rural Women 2018 is “Sustainable infrastructure, services and social protection for gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls”.

6. World Food Day observed on 16 October

- ⊕ World Food Day is celebrated every year around the world on 16 October in honor of the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945.
- ⊕ The day is celebrated widely by many other organizations concerned with food security, including the World Food Programme and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.
- ⊕ These events promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure food security and nutritious diets for all.

Books & Authors

1. Vice Prez releases biography of Anumolu Ramakrishna

- ⊕ Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu released a biography of late Anumolu Ramakrishna, a pioneer in the application of innovative systems and construction techniques in the Indian constuction sector.
- ⊕ The biography titled 'Building a Legacy' is authored by city-based Chartered Accountant V Pattabhi Ram.
- ⊕ Ramakrishna, former president and Managing Director at Larsen and Toubro, was posthumously awarded Padma Bhushan in 2014.

2. Northern Irish Author Anna Burns Wins 2018's Man Booker Prize for her novel Milkman

- ⊕ "Milkman" by writer Anna Burns scooped the 2018 Man Booker Prize , with the Northern Irish writer winning the literary award for her third full-length novel.
- ⊕ Set in an unnamed city during the bloody "Troubles" of Northern Ireland, the "Milkman" tells the coming-of-age story of a young girl's affair with an older man.
- ⊕ As winner, the 56-year-old writer, who was born in Belfast, received the award from Prince Charles' wife Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, as well as 50,000 pounds (\$65,900).

3. Stephen Hawking's final book offers "brief answers to big questions"

- ⊕ Stephen Hawking's final work, which tackles issues from the existence of God to the potential for time travel, was launched by his children, who helped complete the book after the British astrophysics giant's death.
- ⊕ Hawking was forever being asked the same things and started work on "Brief Answers to the Big Questions" last year -- but did not finish it before he died in March, aged 76.
- ⊕ It has been completed by the theoretical physicist's family and academic colleagues, with material drawn from his vast personal archive.

4. Vijayan Bala launches 'Indian Sports: Conversations and Reflections' book

- ⊕ Veteran commentator and cricket statistician Vijayan Bala has come up with his new book "Indian Sports: Conversations and Reflections", a compilation of interviews of eminent sportspersons
- ⊕ The 68-year-old Bala, who has also been a member of BCCI's Statistical Committee apart from being an English teacher, has interviewed Olympians like Balbir Singh Senior, Abhinav Bindra.
- ⊕ Bala has earlier published a book on Statistics called 'Indian Test Cricket back in 1974'.

Sports

1. Yuvraj Wadhwani clinches Asian Junior Squash title

- ⊕ India's Yuvraj Wadhwani has clinched Asian Junior Squash Championship title after defeating Anas Ali Shah of Pakistan in the final of the boys' U-13 individual event.
- ⊕ Wadhwani thrashed his Pakistani counterpart 13-11, 11-5, 6-11, 12-10 in the final to become the second Indian to lift the prestigious trophy.
- ⊕ In 2014, it was Indian squash player Veer Chotrani, who had won the title in Iran.
- ⊕ Overall, Indian squash players managed to win a total of six medals in the tournament including one gold, one silver and four bronze.

2. Lewis Hamilton wins in Russian Grand Prix

- ⊕ Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton won the Russian Grand Prix in Russia.
- ⊕ This was Lewis Hamilton's 70th career win.
- ⊕ Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas finished in second position. He was followed by Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel in third place.

3. Manu Bhaker named India's flag-bearer at Youth Olympic Games

- ⊕ Teenage shooting star Manu Bhaker was on Monday named as the flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the 3rd Youth Olympic Games to be held in Buenos Aires from October 6-18.

- ⊕ A contingent of 68 members, including 46 athletes, will leave for Argentina on Tuesday to compete in 13 sports.
- ⊕ Goa Olympic Association Secretary Gurudutta D Bhakta will be the Chef-de-Mission of the contingent.

4. 36th National Games in March-April next year in Goa

- ⊕ The much-delayed 36th National Games in Goa will be held from March 30 to April 14 next year. The Games were earlier scheduled to be held next month.
- ⊕ Prabhudesai said at a media conference that Opening and Closing ceremonies will be held at PZN Stadium, Fatorda.
- ⊕ The Opening ceremony will be on March 30 and closing ceremony will be on April 14.
- ⊕ Five sports -- Rugby, Wushu, Modern Pentathlon, Lawn Bowl, and Billiards and Snooker -- will be added in the Games programme.

5. Former England Batsman Nick Compton Retires From Cricket

- ⊕ Former England batsman Nick Compton announced his retirement from cricket.
- ⊕ The 35-year-old grandson of England great Denis Compton did not play for his county Middlesex in 2018. South Africa-born Compton played 16 Tests for England, scoring two hundred.
- ⊕ Denis Compton scored 5,907 runs in 78 Tests, including 17 hundreds at an average of 50.06 and in the 1947 season alone compiled a staggering 3,816 first-class runs as Middlesex won the County Championship.

6. Google on Saturday dedicated its doodle to mark the start of the 2018 Summer Youth Olympic Games.

- ⊕ Being held in Buenos Aires, till October 18, the Games will see over 200 countries take part. Kosovo and South Sudan are making their debut at the Youth Olympics this year.
- ⊕ New sports that have been introduced include kiteboarding, BMX freestyle park, and a new version of handball that's played on the beach. Football has been replaced by futsal — an indoor game played on a smaller hard court.
- ⊕ The third edition of the Games will also feature mixed gender events as well as mixed National Olympic Committee events, bringing athletes from different countries together on the same team.

7. Under-19 Asia Cup: India beat Sri Lanka by 144 runs to clinch title

- ⊕ India's U-19 team followed the footsteps of their seniors to win the U-19 Asia Cup title with a crushing 144-run win against Sri Lanka in the final.
- ⊕ India outplayed Sri Lanka in all departments by first scoring an imposing 304 for three at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Mirpur after skipper Prabh Simran Singh won the toss and elected to bat.
- ⊕ For his consistency (318 runs in the tournament), Jaiswal was adjudged man-of-the-tournament.

8. Jeremy Lalrinnunga wins India's maiden gold medal at Youth Olympic Games

- ⊕ India won their first gold medal at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina with Jeremy Lalrinnunga lifting 150kg on his last attempt for a combined 274kg.
- ⊕ This is India's first-ever gold medal at the Youth Olympics. In the two editions prior to this, India's best performance was two medals in the 2014 Youth Olympics at Nanjing, China.
- ⊕ With his best successful attempts of 124kg in snatch and 150kg in clean & jerk for a combined 274kg, the 15-year-old won the gold medal.
- ⊕ Toptas Caner of Turkey won the silver medal for a combined lift of 263kg and Estiven Jose Manjarres of Colombia won the bronze medal with 260kg.

9. Thangjam Tababi Devi clinches judo medal at Olympics, fetches youth silver

- ⊕ Thangjam Tababi Devi became India's first judo medallist at the Olympic level, claiming a silver at the ongoing Youth Games after losing to Venezuela's Maria Giminez in the finals of the women's 44kg category.
- ⊕ Tababi Devi, an Asian cadet champion hailing from Manipur, lost 0-11, also conceding a penalty point in the process.
- ⊕ India have never won an Olympic medal in judo either at the senior or the youth level.

10. Youth Olympics Games 2018: Manu Bhaker wins gold in the women's 10 metre Air Pistol

- ⊕ Manu Bhaker claimed India's first ever gold medal in shooting at the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos.
- ⊕ The 16-year-old Bhaker shot 236.5 to finish on top of the podium in the women's 10m air pistol event, making up for the heartbreak at the Asian Games in Indonesia.
- ⊕ Russia's Iana Enina won the silver with 235.9, while Nino Khutsiberidze bagged the bronze medal.

11. Asian Para Games 2018: Harvinder Singh wins gold in archery

- ⊕ Archer Harvinder Singh notched up the men's individual recurve gold at the Asian Para-Games in Jakarta.
- ⊕ Harvinder defeated China's Zhao Lixue 6-0 in the W2/ST category final to claim the top honours and take India's gold tally to seven.
- ⊕ The W2 category of impairment covers athletes with paraplegia, diplegia or double leg amputation below the knee, requiring wheelchair.

12. Saurabh Chaudhary bags gold in Youth Olympics 2018

- ⊕ Shooting gave India another champion as Saurabh Chaudhary claim the 10m air pistol gold at the Youth Olympics.
- ⊕ The 16-year-old Chaudhary dominated the final, shooting 244.2 to finish on top of the podium ahead of South Korea's Sung Yunho.

- ⊕ Switzerland's Solari Jason bagged the bronze with 215.6

13. Pakistan left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman retires from international cricket

- ⊕ Former Pakistan left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman announced his retirement from international cricket.
- ⊕ The 38-year-old took 19 wickets and Ajmal finished with 24 when Pakistan whitewashed the world number one Test team in United Arab Emirates six years ago in one of the finest performances of his career.
- ⊕ A wily spinner Rehman finished his 22-Test career just one short of a deserved hundred wicket mark, while he took 30 in 31 one-dayers and eight wickets in 11 Twenty20 internationals.

14. Leander Paes wins Santo Domingo Open trophy

- ⊕ Leander Paes is still going great guns as the veteran tennis star won his second Challenger level title of the season, lifting the Santo Domingo Open trophy with partner Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela.
- ⊕ The second seeded Indo-Mexican pair, playing its second consecutive final.
- ⊕ The Capital of Dominican Republic Santo Domingo, Currency Dominican Peso.

15. Youth Olympics: Suraj Panwar wins silver medal in 5,000m race walk

- ⊕ Suraj Panwar won India's first medal in athletics at the third Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina
- ⊕ Panwar finished second in the first stage and crossed the line in the same position in the second stage as well.
- ⊕ In a new format, there are no finals in track and field (with the exception of 4km cross-country) in the Youth Olympics and each event is held twice, with results from both rounds counting towards the final standings.

Awards

1. Scientists From U.S, Canada, France Split Nobel Prize In Physics For Laser Work

- ⊕ This year's Nobel Prize in Physics has been "split" with one half going to Arthur Ashkin, an American who won for his work with optical tweezers, while Gérard Mourou of France and Donna Strickland of Canada share the other half for work in generating high-intensity ultrashort optical pulses.
- ⊕ Their achievements mark groundbreaking achievements in the field of laser physics.
- ⊕ Strickland is the third-ever woman to win the prize, first awarded in 1901.
- ⊕ The three winners announced Tuesday bring to 210 laureates who have won the physics prize since it was first awarded.

2. James Allison, Tasuku Honjo win Nobel Prize in Medicine for cancer research

- ⊕ The 2018 Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine was awarded to American and Japanese immunologist James P Allison and Tasuku Honzo for their discovery of "cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation".
- ⊕ The foundation said "Immune checkpoint therapy" has revolutionized cancer treatment and has fundamentally changed the way we view how cancer can be managed.
- ⊕ The prizes for achievements in science, literature and peace were created in accordance with the will of dynamite inventor and businessman Alfred Nobel and have been awarded since 1901.

3. Frances H Arnold, George P Smith and Gregory P Winter win Nobel prize in chemistry

- ⊕ Three scientists have won the Nobel prize in chemistry for their work in harnessing evolution to produce new enzymes and antibodies.
- ⊕ British scientist Sir Gregory P Winter and Americans Frances H Arnold and George P Smith will share the 9m Swedish kronor (£770,000) prize, awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.
- ⊕ The winners' work has led to the development of new fuels and pharmaceuticals by making use of nature's evolutionary processes themselves, leading to medical and environmental advances.

4. Nobel peace prize 2018 won by Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad

- ⊕ The Congolese gynaecologist, Denis Mukwege, who has treated thousands of rape victims, and Nadia Murad, the Iraqi Yazidi, who was sold into sex slavery by Isis, have been jointly awarded the 2018 Nobel peace prize.
- ⊕ They have both put their own personal security at risk by courageously combatting war crimes and securing justice for victims.
- ⊕ The joint award comes a decade since the UN security council adopted Resolution 1820 (2008), which determined that the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war.

5. 2018 Nobel in Economics Is Awarded to William Nordhaus and Paul Romer

- ⊕ Two American economists at the forefront of work on climate change and the role of governments in boosting growth have been jointly awarded the prestigious Nobel Memorial prize for economics.
- ⊕ The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said William Nordhaus and Paul Romer were being honoured for their research into two of the most "basic and pressing" economic issues of the age.
- ⊕ The co-winner – Romer – is seen as the prime mover behind the endogenous growth theory.
- ⊕ Romer was the chief economist at the World Bank but left after 15 months following repeated run-ins with staff.

6. Prema Gopalan wins social entrepreneurship award

- ⊕ Prema Gopalan, founder of Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), was awarded the 8th Social Entrepreneur of the Year award, 2018, for her work in promoting women's entrepreneurship.
- ⊕ After working for years with issues of urban communities, Gopalan got a closer view of rural realities and women's woes after the devastating Latur earthquake in 1993.
- ⊕ Social Entrepreneur of the year awards was founded by Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation.

7. 10-year-old Indian Arshdeep Singh wins 2018 Wildlife Photographer of the Year award

- ⊕ Arshdeep Singh, 10, is among the winners of the 2018 Wildlife Photographer of the Year award in the 10-years-and-under category for his photograph 'Pipe Owls', which is of two spotted owlets nested inside a pipe.
- ⊕ Arshdeep started taking photographs at the age of six. The young photographer often travels with his father Randeep Singh who is also a well-known photographer.
- ⊕ Among the junior winners, there were three categories 10 years and under, 11-14 years and 15-17 years.

8. Prime Minister announces an Award in Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's name for police personnel for their exemplary service

- ⊕ The Prime Minister announced an annual award in the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for police and paramilitary forces for commendable contributions in disaster relief operations.
- ⊕ Prime Minister Mr. Modi announced this while dedicating the National Police Memorial to the nation in New Delhi this morning on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day.
- ⊕ Mr Modi said, the police forces have foiled the designs of those who were trying to disturb the nation and were hatching conspiracy to create an atmosphere of fear and insecurity.

Obituaries

1. Renowned harmonium exponent Pandit Tulsidas Passed away

- ⊕ Legendary harmonium exponent Pandit Tulsidas Borkar passed away after a brief illness. He was 83. He was suffering from chest infection and had difficulties in breathing.
- ⊕ He was honoured with the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, 2005, among many other national and international honours.
- ⊕ He also conducted extensive research to improve the tonal quality, tuning and other technical aspects of the instrument, which gave different visual and sound dimensions to the harmonium.

2. Nagaland's Gandhi' Natwar Thakkar dies aged 86

- ↳ Eminent Gandhian Natwar Thakkar, popularly known as 'Nagaland's Gandhi', died after a brief illness.
- ↳ Mr. Thakkar, a Padma Shri awardee, had founded the Nagaland Gandhi Ashram at Chuchuyimlang.
- ↳ He was from Maharashtra and had made Nagaland his home ever since he had arrived in the State in 1955.

3. Microsoft co-founder, philanthropist Paul Allen dies at 65

- ↳ Paul G. Allen, who co-founded Microsoft who invested in conservation, space travel, arts and culture and professional sports, died. He was 65.
- ↳ He died in Seattle from complications of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, his company Vulcan Inc. announced.
- ↳ Gates and Allen became billionaires when Microsoft was thrust onto the throne of technology.
- ↳ He has invested in conservation, space travel, arts and culture and professional sports. He has backed research in nuclear-fusion power. In 2011, he released his memoir named "Idea Man."

4. Former Uttarakhand chief minister ND Tiwari dies on his 93rd birthday

- ↳ Former Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand chief minister Narayan Dutt Tiwari died of a cardiac arrest in Delhi. He was 93.
- ↳ He is the only politician to have served as chief minister of two states.
- ↳ Tiwari was Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh from 1976-77, 1984-85, and then from 1988-89. and later became the chief minister of Uttarakhand when Congress came to power in the hill state carved out of Uttar Pradesh.
- ↳ This time, Tiwari was able to complete his five-year-term from 2002. He continues to hold the distinction of having been the only Uttarakhand CM who has done so.



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