

NATIONAL

- Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) scheme in Delhi and distributed new LPG connections and cylinders to beneficiaries. The target of Ujjwala connections has been increased from the existing target of 5 crore to 8 crore by 2020.
- Chief Minister K Palaniswami has launched the bi-lingual 'Uzhavan' (farmer) app. The app can be used by farmers to get information on farm subsidies, book farm equipment and related infrastructure and get details on their crop insurance, besides receiving weather forecast for the next four days.
- In Uttar Pradesh Ganga Hariteema Yojana is being launched in 27 districts of the state located on the bank of river Ganga. The objectives of the schemes include enhancing green cover in the catchment areas of the river Ganga and to control the land erosion.
- Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb of Tripura launched State Component of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 2.0 under Directorate of Skill Development.
- Three agreements were signed between India and Equatorial Guinea, in the presence of Indian President Ram Nath Kovind and his Equatorial Guinea counterpart, Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.
- Patna tops in 4G connectivity among 20 of India's largest cities. It has emerged ahead of the likes of Bengaluru, Mumbai and Delhi.
- The **16th International Energy Forum Ministerial meeting** will be hosted by **Government of India** in **New Delhi** and co-hosted by the **Government of China and South Korea**.
- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurates a scientific convention on the World Homoeopathy Day in New Delhi. The day, April 10 is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of Homoeopathy founder **Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann**. This year is his 263rd birth anniversary.
- A major contract for the procurement of **1.86 lakh bulletproof jackets** has been signed after the successful conduct of field evaluation trials.
- The first meeting of newly constituted **NITI Forum for North East** was held in **Agartala**.
- The **two-day Assam Spring Festival** began at the **Manas National Park** where visitors will get to experience the state's local food, music, handloom and handicrafts.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveils **India's first 12,000 horsepower electric locomotive from Bihar's Madhepura locomotive factory.**
- The Haryana government has come up with **Water ATM Policy** to provide clean drinking water to people at public places in cities. It was announced by state minister Kavita Jain.
- The **Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific** was held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The mantra of **3R – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle** – Is at the heart of any vision towards the sustainable development of mankind.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its ex-post facto approval for entering into **Headquarters (Host country) Agreement between India and the International Solar Alliance (ISA)** and authorising the Ministry of External Affairs for signing the Headquarters Agreement.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) has successfully launched **the IRNSS-1I navigation satellite aboard the PSLV-C41.**
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has approved setting up a **5,000 MW capacity solar park at the Dholera Special Investment Region (SIR).**
- The government has set up a **12-member panel** to review the **enforcement of CSR provisions under the companies law, 2013.**
- Boeing India has signed an agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), and Mahindra Defence Systems (MDS) at the Defence Expo 2018 to manufacture Super Hornet fighter aircraft in India.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has launched 'Project Dhoop'.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the phase one of the Ayushman Bharat schemes that aim at creating a healthy, prosperous and strong India on the occasion of Birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar.
- The Government has decided to constitute a Task Force under the chairmanship of Shri Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Civil Aviation for fast-tracking the roll-out of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technology. The Task Force will develop a roadmap with implementable recommendations for Central as well as State Governments, Industry and Research Institutions.

INTERNATIONAL

- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Malaysia concluded “Desert Tiger 5” joint military exercise aimed at sharing expertise and enhancing joint military actions. The Desert Tiger 5, joint military exercise was held in Dubai, UAE.
- The UAE has announced financial support of \$200 million to be split equally between the Lebanese armed and the security forces to contribute to the stability and welfare of the country.
- India and Swaziland have signed two agreements in the **field of Health and Medicine and Visa department.**
- Singapore and China signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) **on Third-party Market Cooperation in Beijing.**
- A three-day international conference on ‘**Water, Environment and Climate Change: Knowledge Sharing and Partnership,**’ is all set to begin **in Nepal.**
- India and Zambia has signed four agreements to strengthen the ties between the two countries. The agreements include one on **Double taxation, Judicial co-operation, Establishment of Entrepreneurship Development Institute in Zambia and visa exemption on diplomatic passports and official holding relevant passports.**
- **India and World Expo 2020** signed participants contract for India’s pavilion in the prestigious **World Expo 2020** held once in 5 years.
- **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.
- In an effort to narrow the gender gap in the **United Arab Emirates,** the Cabinet has approved the issuance of the **Law on Equal Wages and Salaries for Men and Women.**
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- India and Timor Leste have signed a memorandum of understanding in the **field of public health** to extend affordable healthcare to the people of the Southeast Asian nation.
- The Chinese military held its largest ever maritime drill in the disputed South China Sea during which it displayed for the first time the country’s aircraft carrier strike group and the most advanced weaponry of the **People’s Liberation Army (PLA).**

- The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has signed its first international project agreement for upgradation of a highway in Myanmar.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) will extend a USD 140-million loan to improve rural connectivity in Madhya Pradesh.
- Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has decided to scrap the quota system in government services after thousands of students marched across the country in protest against a controversial policy of setting aside jobs for special groups.
- The third India-Russia Military Industrial Conference was held on the side-lines of DefExpo 2018.

BANKING AND BUSINESS

- The country's foreign exchange reserves hit a life-time high of \$424.361 billion after rising by \$1.828 billion in the week to March 30.
- The Reserve Bank had switched back to the **gross domestic product (GDP)**-based measure to offer its growth estimates from the **gross value added (GVA)** methodology, citing global best practices.
- The State Bank of India (SBI) 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**.
- **India** has jumped 13 places in the last one year to **130th spot in the latest annual Index of Economic Freedom**. India's **economic freedom score is 54.5**, making its economy the 130th freest in the 2018 Index.
- India's economic growth is expected to rebound to 7.3 % this fiscal and further to 7.6 % in 2019-20 with increased productivity post GST and investment revival due to banking reform, the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- Jammu and Kashmir Bank has launched a special financing scheme to help the state industry cope with the delay in reimbursement of GST under special tax relief.
- 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.

- **Saudi Aramco**, the state-owned oil company of the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, has signed a pact with a consortium of **Indian oil companies** to jointly develop and build a mega integrated refinery and petrochemicals complex.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the **Dr Ambedkar National Memorial** at **Alipur Road in Delhi** on the eve of Babasaheb Ambedkar's birth anniversary.
- The Payment and transaction processing solutions provider and a wholly owned subsidiary of **Euronet Worldwide**, Euronet India has partnered with **Yes Bank** to **modernise the bank's core payment infrastructure**.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNS

Name of the person	Appointed for the post of	Replaces	Resign
Christian Sewing	as the chief executive officer of Deutsche Bank AG	John Cryan	-----
Darshan Shah	as managing director, fintech company LenddoEFL for India and South Asia	-----	-----
Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon	has been elected as the new chairman of the Boao Forum for Asia	Japanese prime minister Yasuo Fukuda	-----
India's teen shooter Manu Bhaker	will be the brand ambassador of Haryana's Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccination	-----	-----

	campaign.		
Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban	has won a third consecutive term	-----	-----
Board member of Wipro Ltd. Rishad Premji	has been appointed as the Chairman of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)	Raman Roy	-----
Chandra Shekhar Ghosh	re-appointed as managing director and CEO of Bandhan Bank	-----	-----
Senior IPS officer Rajesh Ranjan	appointed as Director General of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).	-----	-----
Bhanu Pratap Sharma	as new chairman of Banks Board Bureau (BBB)	Vinod Rai	-----
Sripriya Ranganathan	has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Korea	Vikram K Doraiswami	-----

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Bollywood actor Anushka Sharma will soon be awarded with the Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award for her successful movies as a producer.
- Veteran actor Vinod Khanna has been honoured with the Dada Saheb Phalke Award for his contribution to the Indian cinema.

SPORTS

Commonwealth Games 2018

NAME	GAME	MEDAL	CATEGORY
Sathish Sivalingam	Weightlifting	Gold	317 Kg
Jitu Rai	Shooting	Gold	Men's 10m Air Pistol
Om Prakash Mitharvel	shooting	Bronze	Men's 10m Air Pistol
Punam Yadav	Weightlifting	Gold	69Kg Category
Heena Sidhu	Shooting	Silver	10m Pistol
Manu Bhakar	Shooting	Gold	10m Air Pistol
Ravi Kumar	Shooting	Bronze	Men's 10m Air Rifle
Pradeep Singh	Weightlifting	Silver	352kg
Indian Team	Table Tennis	Gold	–
Indian Mixed Team	Badminton	Gold	–
Om Prakash Mitharwal	Shooting	Bronze	50-meter air pistol
Shreyasi Singh	Shooting	Gold	Women's double trap
Ankur Mittal	Shooting	Bronze	Men's double trap event
Tejaswini Sawant	Shooting	Gold	50-metre Rifle
Rahul Aware	Wrestling	Gold	Men's Freestyle 57kg
Sushil Kumar	Wrestling	Gold	Men's freestyle 74kg

Babita Kumari Phogat	Wrestling	Silver	women's freestyle 53kg
Anish Bhanwala	Shooting	Gold	Men's 25m rapid fire pistol
Seema Punia	Discuss Throw	Silver	Women's discus throw
Mehuli Ghosh	Shooting	Silver	10m women's air rifle event
Navjeet Dhillon	Discus Throw	Bronze	Women's discus throw
Kiran	Wrestling	Bronze	Women's freestyle 76kg

Bajrang Punia	Wrestling	Gold	Men's freestyle 65kg
Sanjeev Rajput	Shooting	Gold	50m Rifle 3 Position shooting
Sumit Malik	Wrestling	Gold	Men's freestyle 125 kg
Mary Kom	Boxing	Gold	45-48 kg
Gaurav Solanki	Boxing	Gold	52kg
Saina Nehwal	Badminton	Gold	Women's Singles
Neeraj Chopra	Javelin Throw	Gold	
Sanjeev Rajput	Shooting	Gold	50m Rifle 3 Position
Vikas Krishan	Boxing	Gold	75kg

- Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel won the Bahrain Grand Prix and Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas clinched the second spot.
- Ankita Raina became the **only third Indian woman tennis player to breach the top-200 rankings in singles**. She jumped 15 places to reach a career-best 197 in the WTA chart.
- **Leander Paes Becomes Most Successful Player In Davis Cup**
- Kidambi Srikanth became the **first Indian male to become world No. 1 in badminton rankings**.
- **Heena Sidhu** won the gold in women's 25m air pistol event in Gold Coast, Australia.

- **Indian race walker K T Irfan and triple jumper V Rakesh Babu** were sent home of breaching the event's strict no needle policy.

