

NATIONAL:

- First Apex Conference for CEO's of Smart Cities held in **Bhopal**. It aims for **cross-sharing of knowledge** among the cities, the housing and urban affairs ministry.
- **BRO(Border Roads Organisation)** has celebrated its 58th Raising Day on may 7. **Motto-** Creates, Connects and Cares... 'Shramena Sarvam Sadhyam'.
- Delhi to host 6 day festival of Bharat. The event held at Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).
- Patanjali Ayurved Limited has been ranked as **India's** most trusted Fast Moving Consumer Goods (**FMCG**) brand in the TRA's Brand Trust Report 2018.
- MSDE and MoRD has launched Ajeevika and Kaushal Vikas Mela in Bhubaneswar. It aims in promoting social harmony and awareness around the pro-poor initiatives of the government. Vision: "**SabkaSaath, Sabka Vikas**".
- Third Edition of UNPCAP(United Nations Peacekeeping course for Africans Partners) inaugurated in **New Delhi**.
- **15th Finance Commission** Constitutes an advisory council. The role and functions of the Advisory Council will be to advise the Commission on any issue or subject related to the **Terms of Reference (ToR)** of the Commission.
- Ravi Shankar Prasad launches website of '**Digital India Internship Scheme**' which will offer Rs.10,000 Per month as stipend to interns. Its aims to provide an opportunity to secure first hand and practical work experience under the guidance of a mentor.
- BSCDCL(Bhopal Smart City Development Corp. Ltd.) launches India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- India hosted the 15th Asia Media Summit at New Delhi. **Theme:**'Telling Our Stories Asia and More'
- Union Minister for Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu inaugurates 6th US-India Aviation Summit in **Mumbai**.
- **AP CM Pema Khandu** inaugurated the **state's biggest solar power plant** at Energy Awareness Park at **Itanagar**. The plant, with a capacity of 1 MW, was commissioned on April 1 at an estimated investment of Rs 8.50 crore by the Arunachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (APEDA).
- Pawan Kalyan unfurls world's largest Indian flag in Telangana. The flag was **122 feet** in length and **183 feet** in width.
- The **Telangana govt.** introduced **Rythu Bandhu**, a scheme to provide **Rs. 4,000 per acre each** to land-owning farmers for rabi and kharif seasons. The state government has set aside **Rs. 12,000 crore** in the **2018-19 budget** for Rythu Bandhu.



- Indian Army's '**Vijay Prahar**' Exercise concludes in suratgarh in Rajasthan.
- Second Longest in Asia, **India's longest road and railway bridge** named "**Bogibeel Bridge**" connecting **Dibrugarh in Assam to Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh** is likely to be inaugurated later this year by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- **Kerala** govt. To provide free internet to 20 lakh poor families while others will get it at an affordable rate.
- **Indian Customs** and Department of India Posts held a First ever Joint Conference at **Vigyan Bhavan** in **New Delhi**.
- The **Maharashtra govt.** signed a MoU with the Centres **Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (GRIHA)** Council to train state PWD officials to **rate government buildings**.
- The **Kerala State Electricity Board** has signed a memorandum of understanding with the **National Thermal Power Corporation** for increasing **solar power generation** in the state. The MoU, signed, also includes an agreement **to set up a 15 MW solar power unit** at the NTPCNSE -0.62 % complex in **Kayamkulam**.
- **Govt.** Dept Earmarked Rs. 16,500 crore for Swatch Bharat Mission in 2018-19.
- Army finalises **Rs.15,000** crore ammunition production project. The immediate aim of the project is to create an inventory for all major weapons to enable the forces to fight a 30-day war while the long-term objective is to cut dependence on imports.
- Skill Development centre in **Hyderabad** to be set up by UNDP United Nations Development Programme.
- **India and Nepal** have agreed to expand their partnership for **socio-economic development** on the basis of principles of equality, trust, respect and mutual benefit.

INTERNATIONAL:

- **India and Sri Lanka** has agreed on cooperation on exchange of information and other aspects to tackle smuggling of drugs in both countries.
- **China** Successfully launched a Gaofen-5 hyperspectral imaging satellite for comprehensive observation of the atmosphere, including air pollution.
- The **UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres** announced a **climate summit set to take place in September 2019 in New York** to review the Paris Agreement commitments.
- The 2018 World Robot Conference will be held in **Beijing, China**.
- Tourism Minister attends the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Tourism Ministers' conference in **Wuhan, China**.
- India Pavilion inaugurated at Cannes Flim Festival 2018 was held at **Cannes, France**.

BANKING AND ECONOMY:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will buy government bonds worth up to **Rs10,000 crore**. The purchase of securities will be made under the central bank's **open market operations (OMOs)**.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (**CBDT**) has notified the protocol amending the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (**DTAA**) between **India and Kuwait**.



- **IMF** reaffirmed that will be the fastest growing major economy in 2018, with a growth rate of 7.4% that rises to 7.8%.
- **Walmart Inc.** is set to announce the purchase of a majority stake in **Flipkart** in a deal that will value India's largest online retailer at more than **\$21 billion**, making it the **world's biggest ever e-commerce acquisition**.
- **National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)** expects to launch its payment bank's operations within a month as it is awaiting Reserve Bank's nod. It will be a digital bank focussed on making **digital payments**.
- **India and Panama** have signed two agreements on exemption of Visas for holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports and in the field of Agriculture.
- Google has officially launched the stable version of its embedded operating system platform **Android Things 1.0**. To be used for **building commercial Internet of Things products**.
- Indian tea industry records highest ever production, export in FY18. The total tea production was **1325.05 million kgs**. In percentage terms the increase is **around 6%**.
- Chinese e-commerce giant **Alibaba** said it had purchased leading Pakistani online retailer **Daraz**, continuing its overseas expansion by gaining a foothold in the growing South Asian consumer market.
- The **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** signed a Rs 945-crore deal with the **Harris Corporation** of the US for development of its **Futuristic Telecommunications Infrastructure (FTI)** programme.
- **Yes Bank** to launch Water-security Programme. This initiative is aimed **at improving farmers'** access to finance, ensuring effective use of digital banking resources, and imparting good agricultural practices.
- **India and Peru** signed an agreement in the **field of Renewable Energy** at Lima, Peru.
- The **Punjab government** signed a pact with the **UK** for setting up of **bio-gas and bio-CNG plants** in the state.
- PM Modi's 3rd **Nepal** visit starts off bus service between Janakpur and Ayodhya.
- RBI puts Dena Bank Under Prompt Corrective Action. The public sector lender reported **widening of its net loss to Rs 1,225.42 crore**.
- **Fitch** says India's growth to accelerate to 7.3% in next fiscal and 7.5% in FY 20.
- Paytm introduced **automatic recurring payments**, a new feature that lets users configure the payments app to pay for periodic recurring expenses automatically.
- The **World Bank** is going to provide Bangladesh a grant to meet the basic needs of around one million Rohingyas who fled their homeland Myanmar.
- Inflation based on **Wholesale Price Index (WPI)** shot up to **3.18 per cent** in April due to increasing prices of petrol and diesel as well as fruits and vegetables.
- Fino Payments Bank launches Digital Suite of products-UPI, Fastag, Online account opening and netbanking that can be accessed online and through mobile phones.
- **China's largest bank, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC)**, has launched the country's first India-dedicated publicly offered investment fund, the bank .



AGREEMENTS:

- **The Govt. of India** signed a loan deal worth **USD 200 million** with the World Bank for the **National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan)**. It aims in improving the coverage and quality of ICDS nutrition services to pregnant and lactating women and children under **3 years of age**.
- **NITI Aayog and Google** have come together to work on a range of initiatives to help build the **AI ecosystem across the country**. It aims to foster growth for India’s nascent artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) ecosystem.
- **India and Guatemala** has signed a MoU for expanding cooperation in the area of diplomatic training. It aims for strengthening diplomatic cooperation through Respective Foreign Service Institutes in the educational field.
- **Uber Technologies inc.** Signs with NASA for 'Flying car'.
- **National Small industries Corporation Limited (NSIC)** signed MOU with MSME for the year 2018-19. Under the scheme of National SC-ST Hub, being implemented by NSIC on behalf of the Ministry.
- **USA** withdraws from a multinational nuclear agreement with Iran.
- **To strengthen the cultural ties** between Gujarat and Poland, Gujarat govt has decided to join hands with Poland govt. For the celebrations of the Independence of Poland in Delhi.
- **UP Govt.** informed that the **United States Stanford University** will come in a partnership with the state to combat disease like **Japanese Encephalitis (JE)** and **Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES)**.

RANKINGS:

- **Business Optimism Index**(Grant Thornton's survey)- India's rank 6th. Top 5 nations are Australia, Finland, Indonesia, The Netherlands, US.
- **Power Index on Asia-Pacific**-India ranked 4th out of 25 nations. US ranked 1st.
- **Forbes Most Powerful people in the World 2018**-India's PM Modi ranked 9th out of 75 persons. China's Xi Jinping (1st), Russia's Vladimir Putin (2nd) and followed by US Donald Trump.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNS:

- **Eric T. Schneiderman**, the New York State attorney general has resigned.
- **Sachin Bansal** Quits Flipkart after Walmart deal.

Name of the person	Designation	Preceded by
Armen Sarkissian	Armenian President	
Nikol Pashinyan	Armenian Prime Minister	
Carlos Alvarado(Journalist)	Costa Rica's President	Luis Guillermo Solis
Nitin Bawankule	Google Head of India cloud Business	
Mahathir Mohamad	Prime minister	
Arun Bhardwaj	Head of Centre for excellence for	

	cricket	
P.K Sinha	Cabinet Secretary	
Munu Mahawar	The Next Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman	
Pawan Kumar Agarwal	CEO FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India)	
Mohit Chauhan Roped	Green Ambassador of Sikkim	

AWARDS AND HONOURS:

- **Nisha Bhalla** receives Annual World Economic Forum 2018 awards.
- Nobel laureate and noted economist **Muhammad Yunus** who is the founder of **Grameen Bank** and known as the **Father of Microfinance** being honoured with the **11th KISS Humanitarian Award 2018** at a function held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- British Council Awards for three Indian Alumni of UK Universities:
 1. **'Professional Achievement Award': Saumya Saxena**, an alumni of the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford.
 2. **'Social Impact Award': Ruchi Shah**, a post graduate of the University of the Arts London.
 3. **'Entrepreneurial Award': Sushant Desai**, a post graduate from the University of Edinburgh.
- Kalpataru Limited, India's leading premium and luxury real estate developer won the prestigious **CREDAI-MCHI Golden Pillar Award** for the **Best CSR Programme of the Year**.
- **Veteran singer Lata Mangeshkar**, who is one of the most respected playback singers in India, was conferred with the Swara Mauli title by spiritual guru Vidya Narsimha Bharati Swami in Mumbai.

SPORTS:

- **India's Ramit Tandon** wins the Abu Dhabi Open Squash Title.
- Olympic medallist **Gagan Narang and Pooja Ghatkar** won the mixed team silver medal in the Grand Prix of Liberation international shooting competition in **Pilsen, Czech Republic**.
- **Rishabh Pant** became the highest scoring (128) Indian in the history of the **Indian Premier League** as Delhi Daredevils took on the Sunrisers Hyderabad at the **Feroz Shah Kotla in New Delhi**.
- **Rafael Nadal's** surprise quarter-final exit at the Madrid Masters has seen the Spaniard replaced as world number one by Roger Federer in the latest ATP rankings
- **Indian colts** won against Tajikistan 4-2 and emerged as champions in the four-nation Under-16 Tournament held in Serbia.
- **Heena Sidhu** wins shooting Gold, P Shri Nivetha Settles for Bronze at the International Shooting Competitions of Hannover.
- **All India Football Federation** suspends Minerva Owner Bajaj for a year.

IMPORTANT DAYS:

Day	Event of the day	Theme of 2018
May 08	World Thalassaemia Day	Thalassaemia past, present and future: Documenting progress and patients' needs worldwide
May 08	World Red Cross Day	Memorable smiles from around the world
May 11	National Technology Day	To promote the development of technology
May 12	International Nurses Day	Nurses: A voice to lead-Health is a human right
May 12	World Migratory Bird Day	Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation
May 13	National Mother's day	

OBITUARY:

- Former MP minister **Nirmal Hirawat** passes away.
- Former Delhi cricketer **Rajinder Pal** passes away.
- British film editor **Anne V.Coates** who won an Oscar for David Lean's epic film Lawrence of Arabia, has died.
- Australia's oldest Scientist **David Goodall** has died.
- Famous hindi Poet and Former MP **Balkavi Bairagi** Passes away.