

NATIONAL

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**, under the aegis of Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban (SBM – U), has partnered with **Google to launch the Loo Review campaign**. It aims to encourage all local guides in India to rate and review public toilets on Google Maps.
- The **Mayor of Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC)** has launched a **flood forecasting and early warning system (FFEWS)** for Kolkata City to help city officials and citizens act decisively to minimize damage before and during disasters.
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- The **President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind**, inaugurated the **Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention in New Delhi**. India is striving to eliminate **open defecation in its entirety by October 2, 2019**.
- **NITI Aayog** has signed an agreement with **cloud services provider Oracle, hospital chain Apollo Hospitals, and pharmaceutical manufacturer Strides Pharma Sciences**.
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- The **railway ministry** in collaboration with **Google** has launched **rail heritage digitisation project**. The project is a first of its kind **to showcase country's rail heritage to national and international audience in an online story-telling platform**.
- A **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** was signed between the **Portuguese Environment Ministry and the Public Works Department of Goa**. It will help the State manage its water resources better.
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- The **Indian Government** has signed an agreement with the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**.
- **India and Uzbekistan** has inked **17 agreements**, including for visa free travel for diplomatic passport holders and cooperation in the fields of tourism, national security, training of diplomats and against trafficking.
- In **Madhya Pradesh**, the **first corn festival of the country** is being held in **Chhindwara**. The festival is one of a kind international event.

- The **6th edition of IBSAMAR, a joint Multi–National Maritime Exercise** between the **Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies**, is being held at **Simons Town, South Africa** from Oct 1-13.
- **Barham 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.
- **Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has signed **\$240 million loan** for providing safe and sustainable drinking water to about **1.65 million people** in three districts of the state of **West Bengal** affected by arsenic, fluoride, and salinity.
- The **Naveen Patnaik government** launched its own food security scheme benefiting 25 lakh people who were left out of the National Food Security Act. The beneficiaries will get **5 kg of rice per person per month at the rate of ₹1 per kg**.
- **Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh** has declared **Manipur as the 23rd state to become Open Defecation Free (ODF) in India**.
- **India's Vice President Venkaiah Naidu** has inaugurated the **world's largest dome and Peace Center at the Maharashtra Institute of Technology, Vishwarajbaug**, in **Pune, India**.
- **India** has launched '**Operation Samudra Maitri**' to assist the survivors of earthquake and consequent tsunami **in Central Sulawesi province of Indonesia**.
- The Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi has inaugurated the **first Assembly of the International Solar Alliance at Vigyan Bhawan** in the presence of the **United Nations' Secretary General Antonio Guterres**.
- The maiden joint exercise of Coast Guards of India and Vietnam was held in the Bay of Bengal off the Chennai coast. Three Indian Coast Guard ships, a Dornier aircraft and a Chetak helicopter participated in the exercise named "**Sahyog HOP TAC -2018**", apart from Sagar Manjusa vessel of National Institute of Ocean Technology.
- A four-day **Indian International Science Festival (IISF) 2018** kicked off in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**. President Ramnath Kovind will formally inaugurate the festival.
- The **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** has partnered with **Tata Steel Adventure Foundation (TSAF)** to launch a month-long rafting expedition of a team of 40

members. It will be led by the first Indian woman to scale **Mount Everest Ms. Bachendri Pal**.

- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** has approved the **redevelopment of Railway Stations**.
- The **government** has granted **Geographical Indication (GI) tag** to the **Alphonso Mango** from **Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg and other adjoining areas in Maharashtra**.
- **India** signed a deal worth **\$5.43-billion** to buy **five Russian S-400 Triumf missile shield systems** at the **19th India-Russia annual bilateral summit at the Hyderabad House**.
- The **Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation**, **Shri Suresh Prabhu** has released the policy on biometric based digital processing of passengers at airports called “**Digi Yatra**”.
- The **Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation** commissioned “**Swachh Survekshan Grameen-2018**” (**SSG 2018**) through an independent survey agency to develop ranking of all districts of India on the basis of quantitative and qualitative sanitation parameters.
- **India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has signed a **\$110 million loan agreement** to upgrade **all-weather rural roads in Madhya Pradesh** under the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Programme (PMGSY). It plans to upgrade about 12,000 km rural roads across the five states.
- **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 **Namrup-based Assam Petrochemicals Limited** has rolled out the country’s **first methanol-based cooking fuel** which will be cheaper than conventional LPG fuel.
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- **JIMEX-18, a bilateral maritime** exercise between **India and Japan**, began in **Visakhapatnam**. Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) ships Kaga, an Izumo-class helicopter destroyer, and Inazuma, a guided missile destroyer, arrived Visakhapatnam to mark the commencement of JIMEX.
- The **National Dolphin Research Centre (NDRC)**, India’s and Asia’s first is set to be established in **Patna**.

- An MoU was inked between **ISRO and the Federal Space Agency of Russia** ‘**ROSCOSMOS**’ for joint activities in the field of Human Spaceflight Programme. The Roscosmos State Corporation for Space Activities and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will be working together on the **Gaganyaan mission**.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Canada's Parliament** formally stripped **Aung San Suu Kyi** of her **honorary Canadian citizenship** for complicity in the atrocities committed against Myanmar's Rohingya people.
- Nearly 21 countries in the **Indian Ocean Rim Association, IORA**, adopted the Delhi Declaration on Renewable Energy in the Indian Ocean Region. It was held at the 2nd IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting, the **2nd Global Re-Invest India-ISA Partnership Renewable Energy Investor's Meet & Expo** in Greater Noida.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

- **The Public sector bank (PSB), Bank of Maharashtra (BoM)** has announced the **closure of 51 branches** across the country as part of cost-cutting measures being implemented in the banking industry.
- Bharti Airtel has acquired technology of artificial intelligence (AI) service provider AuthMe ID Services. Airtel has also acquired the intellectual proprietary rights for two flagship solutions developed by AuthMe.
- **The Kerala-based Federal Bank** was fined **Rs 5 crore by the Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) for not following procedures on reporting of data on large corporate loans, assessment of risk-based supervision (RBS) by RBI, know-your-customer norms and delay in compensation to customer complaints.
- **Alibaba and SoftBank-backed Paytm** has registered over 137 million UPI transactions in September, **becoming the leading contributor to Unified Payments Interface (UPI) payments with over 33 per cent of the overall market share**.

- The **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**, has launched a national level entrepreneurship awareness campaign--**Udyam Abhilasha**, in 115 aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog in 28 States and reaching to around 15,000 youth.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has allowed state-owned oil companies **to borrow long term working capital** from overseas.
- **PayPal, a global technology platform and digital payments leader**, has announced the launch of its first merchant-focused App in India, **PayPal for Business**. PayPal has 17 million merchant accounts globally.
- The Monetary Policy Committee of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept the repo rate unchanged at **6.5 percent**. The MPC changed the stance from '**neutral**' to '**calibrated tightening**'.
- The **Namrup-based Assam Petrochemicals Limited** has rolled out the country's **first methanol-based cooking fuel** which will be cheaper than conventional LPG fuel.
- An MoU was inked between **ISRO and the Federal Space Agency of Russia 'ROSCOSMOS'** for joint activities in the field of Human Spaceflight Programme.
- **Reliance Health Insurance**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Reliance Capital has received **R3 approval from IRDAI** for its new health insurance business.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** gave its nod to start that **Kerala Bank**, a venture proposed by the Kerala government.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNS

NAME OF THE PERSON	APPOINTED AS	BY REPLACING	RESIGNS
Ravi , Publisher and former Editor-in-Chief of The Hindu	was unanimously elected Chairman of the Press Trust of India (PTI)	Viveck Goenka	_____
Gita Gopinath	has been named as Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) , becoming the second Indian to be	Maurice (Maury) Obstfeld	_____

	appointed to the position.		
Former IAS officer Rangachari Sridharan	was appointed as first chief of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) .	_____	_____
Adam mosseri	Appointed as Instagram head	replaces Instagram co-founders Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger	_____
Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad	was named as the new President of Hockey India (HI) following the 8th Hockey India Congress and Elections .	Rajinder Singh.	_____
Sandeep Bakhshi	Appointed as ICICI Bank CEO	Chanda Kochhar	has resigned as ICICI Bank CEO
Indian advertising veteran and RK Swamy Hansa Group chairman Srinivasan Swamy	took over as new chairman and world president of the International Advertising Association (IAA) .	Felix Tataru	_____
Ramon Laguarta	assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer of global beverage giant PepsiCo	Indra Nooyi.	_____
Pankaj Sharma	has been appointed as the ambassador and India's permanent representative to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva .	Amandeep Gill	_____
RN Ravi	as deputy national		

	security advisor (internal affairs) from his earlier assignment as the chief of the Joint Intelligence Committee (JIC).	_____	_____
Brett Kavanaugh	was sworn in as America's 114th Supreme Court justice.	Justice Kennedy	_____
Vikram Limay	Has been appointed as chairman of its working group committee.	_____	_____
Sanjay Verma	has been appointed as India's Ambassador to Spain.	_____	_____
Arindam Bagchi	a 1995 batch IFS official,has been appointed as the next Indian Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia.	_____	_____
Canara Bank managing director Rakesh Sharma	Appointed as the head of IDBI Bank.	_____	_____

RANKING

- **India ranks fifth**, jointly with **Hong Kong and Thailand**, in terms of the **largest pictorial warning on cigarette packs** with 85 percent of both sides of the packets covered.
- According to global brand consultancy Interbrand's "**Best 100 Global Brands 2018**" report, **Apple** displaced Google to become the top brand in the world in 2018 while Facebook fell to ninth place in the top 100 brands globally.

- **Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani** has emerged as the richest Indian for the **11th consecutive year** with a net worth of USD 47.3 billion, according to **Forbes magazine**. Ambani is also the year's biggest gainer, adding USD 9.3 billion to his wealth amid the continuing success of his Reliance Jio broadband telco service.
- **India's overall ranking** on the **government's adoption of e-payments** has moved up to **28th in 2018, from 36th in 2011**. **Norway leads the pack** in the 73-country ranking, followed by **France and Denmark**.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

- The 2018 Nobel Prize in **Physiology or Medicine** was awarded to **James P. Allison of the United States and Tasuku Honjo of Japan**.
- **Three scientists have been awarded the 2018 Nobel prize in physics for creating groundbreaking tools from beams of light**.
- The **American physicist Arthur Ashkin, Gérard Mourou from France, and Donna Strickland in Canada** will share the **9m Swedish kronor (£770,000) prize** announced by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm.
- The 2018 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to **America's Frances H. Arnold and the other half jointly to America's George P. Smith and Britain's Sir Gregory P. Winter**. They will share the **9m Swedish kronor (£770,000) prize**.
- **Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar** announced the **"Swachh Campus rankings"** under different categories.
- The **US House of Representatives** have moved a resolution to posthumously award the **prestigious Congressional Gold Medal to Mahatma Gandhi** in recognition of his **promotion of peace and non-violence**.
- The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded **Congolese doctor Denis Mukwege and Yazidi activist Nadia Murad** the **Nobel Peace Prize for 2018**.
- The **Hockey player Lilima Minz**, who hails from **Odisha**, has been selected for the prestigious **Ekalabya Puraskar, 2018**.
- **Richie Benaud** will be posthumously honoured as **'Legend' by Sport Australia Hall of Fame**.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

- **Sudha Menon's book Feisty at Fifty**, was released at the Pune International Literary Festival. It is published by **Pan Macmillan India**.

SPORTS

- **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**.
- **India's Deepika Kumari** won bronze medal after **beating Lisa Unruh of Germany** in the Archery World Cup Finals in **Samsun, Turkey**. This was Kumari's **fifth World Cup Finals podium**.
- The **Mercedes player Lewis Hamilton** won **Russian grand prix 2018**. He was followed by **Mercedes player Valtteri Viktor Bottas** and then **Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel**.
- **Europe** regained the **Ryder Cup** as **captain Thomas Bjorn's** team reached the 14.5 points they required to beat the **United States at a packed Le Golf National**.
- **Francesco Molinari** became the first-ever European to win all five of his matches with a 4 and 2 victory over **Phil Mickelson**.
- **The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** is covered under the RTI Act and answerable to the people of the country under its mechanism. The status, nature and functional characteristics of the BCCI fulfil required conditions of **Section 2(h) of the RTI Act, 2005**.
- Teenage shooting star **Manu Bhaker** was named as the **flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the 3rd Youth Olympic Games** to be held in **Buenos Aires, Argentina** from October 6-18.
- **Rio Paralympic gold medallist Mariyappan Thangavelu** was named as flag-bearer of the Indian contingent for the **3rd Paralympic Asian games to be held in Jakarta** from October 6-13. The Tamil Nadu athlete was the fourth Indian to win an individual Olympic / Par
- **Australian midfielder Mile Jedinak** announced his retirement **from international football**.

- **Teenager Prithvi Shaw** became the **youngest Indian** to make a century on his Test debut on day one of the first Test against West Indies **in Rajkot**.
- The 36th National Games will be held in Goa from March 30 to April 14 next year. It was announced by Sports Authority of Goa (SAG) executive director VM Prabhudesai. The Opening and Closing ceremonies will be held at PJN Stadium, Fatorda.
- **Shahu Tushar Mane** opened the medals tally for **India with a silver in air rifle in the Youth Olympics in Bueno Aires, Argentina**.
- **Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton** won Japanese Grand Prix 2018. Hamilton claimed his fourth consecutive victory.
- **Former England batsman Nick Compton** announced his retirement from cricket. South Africa-born Compton played 16 Tests for England, scoring two hundred.

OBITUARY

- The Legendary **Chicago blues guitarist Otis Rush** has passed away.
- **Noted violinist Balabhaskar from kerala**, who was critically injured in a car crash a week ago has passed away.
- The **Oscar-winning animator Will Vinton** has passed away. Vinton is well known for coining the term '**Claymation**'.
- The Eminent Gandhian Natwar Thakkar, popularly known as Nagaland's Gandhi has passed away.

IMPORTANT DAYS

OCTOBER	IMPORTANT DAY	THEME
first Monday of October	World Habitat Day	_____
1	The International Day of Older Persons	"Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions."
1	International Coffee Day	_____
2	The International Day of Non-Violence	_____
4	World Animal Day	
5	International Teachers Day	'The right to education

		means the right to a qualified teacher’.
8	National Airforce Day	