

NATIONAL NEWS

- To showcase Buddhist Heritage in India and boost tourism to the Buddhist sites, the International Buddhist Conclave was inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind in New Delhi. theme: - 'Buddha Path – The Living Heritage'.
- The Centre unveiled The Draft International Air Connectivity (IAC) scheme, for extending the affordable air travel programme UDAN to international circuits.
- The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) constituted B Sesikeran Committee to Review Food Labelling Standards
- AIBD India has been elected as the President of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) for two years.
- To create awareness about Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu launched logo and tagline for Geographical Indications (GI) GI tag: Invaluable Treasures of Incredible India
- Government Approves 122 New Research Projects Under 'IMPRINT-2' Scheme to advance research in energy, security and healthcare domains in the high education institutions.
- Committee Formed to Address Issues of Stressed Thermal Power Projects headed by Cabinet Secretary, Pradeep Kumar Sinha.
- 2nd Conference of Young Superintendent of Police held in New Delhi, Theme: "Predictive Policing and Contemporary Challenges for Indian Police Forces".
- Union Government Provides Rs 66,000 crore green funds to increase the country's forest cover.
- For monitoring the rejuvenation project of Ganga, National Green Tribunal constituted a committee headed by former Allahabad High Court judge.
- Under the Impacting Research Innovation and Technology 'IMPRINT-2' scheme, Government has approved 122 new research projects of 112 crore rupees.



- NITI Aayog Identified 117 Districts as Aspirational Districts for ashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) Scheme.
- To Spread Awareness About Indian Railways Heritage, Ministry of Railways Launches Digital Screens.
- PM Modi Announces Launch of World's Largest Healthcare Insurance On Independence Day to provide country's poor access to quality and affordable healthcare.
- To maintain fund liquidity for the ongoing construction of 14 road packages under Postal Highway Project, Government has released 470 million Nepali rupees for Terai roads project in Nepal.
- India's 1st Genetic Bank where the genetic material will be stored for posterity Inaugurated in Hyderabad.
- For promoting Pharmacovigilance of AYUSH Drugs, New Central Sector scheme released by AYUSH ministry.
- India's first biofuel-powered flight landed in Delhi, developed by Indian Institute of Petroleum, covering the distance between Dehradun & Delhi.
- India's largest business incubator the Bhamashah Techno Hub launched for strengthening the start-up ecosystem in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- Chhattisgarh CM Launch Mobile Distribution Scheme 'Mobile Tihar' under Sanchar Kranti Yojna.
- Rs.215 crore project of Meghalaya Milk Mission launched in Shillong to achieve Centre's goal of doubling farmer's income by 2022 through promotion of milk business.
- World's first-ever thermal battery plant was unveiled in Andhra Pradesh Manufactured by the Bharat Energy Storage Technology Private Limited (BEST).

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Iran unveiled its first domestic fighter jet named 'KOWSAR' which is a fourth-generation fighter shown at the National Defence Industry exhibition in Tehran.
- 'Panini Language Laboratory' inaugurated by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, at Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI) at Port Louis in Mauritius.
- World's First Intertidal Art Gallery Opened in Maldives.
- Israel has opened a Visa Application Centre in Kolkata for West Bengal and the north-eastern states' tourists.
- Japan has overtaken China as the world's number two stock market, as per Bloomberg report.
- Nepal-India Literature Festival 2018 Begins for strengthening Indo-Nepal ties in Birgunj inaugurated by Chief Minister of Province 2 Mohammad Lalbabu Raut

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- Emmerson Mnangagwa Wins Zimbabwe's 1st Post-Mugabe Election.
- Justice Rajendra Menon was sworn in as the new Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court.
- Chile's Michelle Bachelet will be the next UN Human Rights Chief.
- Harivansh Narayan Singh was elected the Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman.
- Nikhil Nanda Appointed as Chairman and MD of Escorts.
- Ajay Data, 1st Indian to Become Member in Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).
- Imran Khan, the chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Becomes the 22nd Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- Ibrahim Boubacar Keita Re-Elected as Mali President
- K S Srinivas Appointed as Chairman of Marine Products Export Development Authority.
- Former RBI Deputy Governor SS Mundra appointed Independent Director of Indiabulls Housing Finance.

- Madhya Pradesh Governor, Anandiben Patel takes oath as Governor of Chhattisgarh.
- D Bala Venkatesh Varma has been appointed as the Ambassador to Russia.
- Treasurer Scott Morrison has been elected the new Prime Minister of Australia.
- G. Satheesh Reddy Appointed as New DRDO Chairman.
- U K Varma Appointed Assocham Secretary General.
- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has appointed Justice S J Vazifdar as Chairman of Panel to Decide Vedanta's Plea.
- Arun Jaitley Resumes Charge as Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister.
- SS Mundra Appointed Independent Director of Indiabulls Housing Finance
- Surendra Rosha appointed as HSBC India CEO.
- Renu Satti Quits as Paytm Payments Bank CEO, will now head Paytm's new retail initiative.
- Anurag Sachan appointed MD of Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL).
- Ivan Duque was sworn in as the newly elected President of Colombia.

BANKING & ECONOMY

- NHAH Signs MoU with SBI of Rs 25000 Crore Long Term Unsecured Loan for 10 years with 3 years of moratorium on repayments.
- India's GDP Growth to Rise to 7.5% This Fiscal by Morgan Stanley.
- RBI Hikes Repo Rate by 25 Bps to 6.5%.
- Mauritius's SBM (State Bank of Mauritius) gets RBI approval for subsidiary.
- NABARD Sanctions Rs772 Crore for Water Projects in Haryana.
- HDFC Life inks pact with Vijaya Bank to sell insurance products, aimed at serving the semi urban rural regions where the insurance products don't have a reach.
- Axis Bank Introduced Iris Authentication for Aadhaar-Based Transactions through its micro ATM tablets.

- **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance and Vijaya Bank Entered into Bancassurance Deal**
- **Exim Bank and BRICS Development Banks signed a MoU in distributed ledger/blockchain technology to undertake “collaborative research”.**
- **PayPal & HDFC Bank partner to offer seamless payment experiences to card holders**
- **In line with Budget estimate, RBI to pay Rs 50,000 cr dividend to govt. for FY18.**
- **Bharti Axa Ties Up with Airtel Payments Bank to Offer the ‘Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana’ (PMJJBY).**
- **According to SEBI, Investment in P-notes hits 9-year low at Rs 80,341 crore since 2009.**
- **UPI 2.0 unveiled by RBI Governor Urjit Patel with enhanced features developed by NPCI.**
- **SBI ranked as India’s most patriotic brand, Survey by UK based YouGov.**
- **World Bank launched world's 1st Block chain Bond ‘bond-i’ which is Block Chain Operated New Debt Instrument.**
- **India Banking Conclave 2018, focused on reforming the banking sector, organized by Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), was held in New Delhi.**
- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Launches Overdraft Facility for MSEs.**
- **PayU India and Reliance Money entered strategic partnership to offer instant app-based personal loans, via LazyPay.**
- **PhonePe and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) entered into a partnership to facilitate convenient, fast and secure payments.**
- **Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) became the first Indian company to cross Rs 8 trillion market capitalization.**
- **Digital payments firm Paytm has partnered with Alibaba to launch AI-based cloud computing platform 'Paytm AI Cloud’**
- **Apple Becomes 1st US-Based Company with Market Value of \$1 Trillion.**
- **Reliance Beats TCS to Become India's Most Valued Company**

MOU'S, AGREEMENT AND SUMMITS

- Senior Official's special meeting of the Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi-Sectoral, Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) was held in Kathmandu. theme - theme "Towards a peaceful, Prosperous and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region".
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Peace Mission 2018 To Be Conducted in Russia.
- To promote Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (MAPs) forest produced for livelihood development of tribal people, Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) & National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), signed an MoU.
- The 'One District One Product' Summit inaugurated by The President of India in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- The 3rd India-Nepal Coordination meeting was started in New Delhi.
- 11th World Hindi Conference started in Port Louis, Mauritius.
- 24th World Congress of Philosophy (WCP) was held in Beijing, China, organized by the International Federation of Philosophical Societies, and Peking University.
- To realize cooperation and collaboration in broadcasting and content sharing, Prasar Bharati and Mizzima Media Group of Myanmar signed an MoU.
- To boost bilateral trade between India and Singapore, signed the Second Protocol amending the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in New Delhi.
- 8th meeting of India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee was held in Nairobi, Kenya.

RANKS, AWARDS & HONOURS

- Mathematician Akshay Venkatesh Wins Prestigious Fields Medal, known as the Nobel prize for math.
- Mohun Bagan 'Ratna', the highest honour of Mohun Bagan club was awarded to former India international Pradip Chowdhury.
- The INFRA Icon Award in the 'Global Energy' category - Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

- India has ranked 96th to break into the top 100 of the United Nation's E-Government Development Index (EGDI) 2018.
- Oscar-winning director Ang Lee to Be Honoured by Directors Guild of America (DGA).
- Smitha V. Crishna Tops List of India's Wealthiest Women.
- EIU Releases Global Liveability Index 2018: Vienna Tops, Delhi Stands 112th.
- According to Forbes, Actress Scarlett Johansson has emerged as the world's highest paid female actress. Global cultural organisation Asia Society honoured PepsiCo's CEO Indra Nooyi with the Game Changer of the Year award.
- General Dalbir Singh Suhag Awarded US 'Legion of Merit' 2018.
- According to "List of Highest Paid Female Athletes 2018" by Forbes, Serena Williams was the highest paid female athlete in 2018.

SPORTS

- Netherlands Wins Women's Hockey World Cup 2018 for a record eighth time.
- India Women Win first gold-medal Blitz Gold in Asian Nations Cup Chess Tourney.
- India defeated Bangladesh in the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-15 Women's Championship in Thimpu, Bhutan.
- Asian Games 2018 Begin in Indonesia.
- Neeraj Chopra became the first-ever Indian javelin thrower to win a gold medal at the Asian Games.
- Japan Wins 1st Ever Title at FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup France 2018.
- Indian women's team fast bowler Jhulan Goswami announced her retirement from T20 Cricket Internationals.
- Indian rowers Sawarn Singh, Dattu Bhokanal, Om Prakash and Sukhmeet Singh won the men's Quadruple Sculls to win India's fifth gold medal at the Asian Games 2018.
- First ever Indian female shooter Rahi Sarnobat won the women's 25m Pistol event at Asian Games 2018 in Indonesia.

DEFENCE

- 'Maitree 2018': Indo-Thailand Joint Exercise Begins in Thailand.
- To build an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship in defence sector, Defence Minister launched the Defence India Start-up Challenge in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Peace Mission 2018, Exercise started at Chebarkul, Russia.
- India's aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya will be Upgrade with a marine hydraulic system to boost the air operations of the ship from Russia.

OBITUARIES

- Veteran Bengali Writer Ramapada Chowdhury Passes Away.
- Former FTII director John Sankaramangalam passes away.
- Nobel Prize-winning British Author V S Naipaul Passes Away.
- Australian Professional Golfer Jarrod Lyle Passes Away.
- Congress leader Rajinder Kumar Dhawan passes away.
- Former The Hindu BusinessLine journalist, Mony K. Mathew, passes away.
- Former Tamilnadu CM and leader of DMK Mr.M Karunanidhi Passed away.
- Former Indian Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, passed away.
- Chhattisgarh Governor Balramji Dass Tandon, passed away
- Former member of Lok Sabha, Chennupati Vidya passed away.
- Former UN secretary general Kofi Annan, passed away.
- US singer Aretha Franklin passed away.
- Former Indian cricket captain Ajit Wadekar, passed away.
- Asian Games gold medallist Hakam Singh passes away.
- US Senator John McCain Passes Away.
- Veteran Journalist Kuldip Nayar Passes Away.
- Israeli Journalist and Peace Activist Uri Avnery Passes Away.



IMPORTANT DAYS

- **August 6 - Hiroshima Day**
- **August 7 - National Handloom Day**
- **August 9 - Quit India Movement Day**
- **August 12 - International youth Day**
- **August 14 - Pakistan's Independence Day**
- **August 15 - India's Independence Day**
- **August 19 - World Photography Day**
- **August 20 - Sadbhavana Diwas**
- **August 29 - National Sports Day of India (Dhyanchand's Birth Day)**
- **August 30 - Small Industry Day**

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