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About the Tutorial

This is a guide to provide you a precise summary and a huge collection of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) covering national and international current affairs for the month of **October 2018**.

This guide will help you in preparing for Indian competitive examinations like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade and Officer Grade, etc.

Audience

Aspirants who are preparing for different competitive exams like Bank PO, Banking, Railway, IAS, PCS, UPSC, CAT, GATE, CDS, NDA, MCA, MBA, Engineering, IBPS, Clerical Grade, Officer Grade, etc.

Even though you are not preparing for any exams but are willing to have news encapsulated in a roll, which you can walk through within 30 minutes, then we have put all the major points for the whole month in a precise and interesting way.

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1. Foreign Affairs

India Signs \$5 Billion S-400 Triumph Missile Shield Systems Deal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin have signed a \$5 billion deal to procure one of the world's most advanced air-defence systems, namely S-400 Triumph missile shield. The missile system is expected to be delivered to India by 2020.



The S-400 is an upgraded version of the S-300 missile systems. It is manufactured by Almaz-Antey, which has been in service in Russia since 2007.

S-400 Triumph missile is better known as Russia's most advanced long-range surface-to-air missile defence system. In 2014, China became the first foreign buyer to seal a government-to-government deal with Russia to procure the lethal missile system.

Besides the Triumph deal, Mr. Modi and Mr. Putin also signed extensive deals on space cooperation. An Indian monitoring station now will be built nearby the Russian city of Novosibirsk in Siberia.



Highlights of the 19th annual India-Russia bilateral summit

- The 19th annual India-Russia bilateral summit was held at New Delhi's Hyderabad House.
- Russia, India signed a deal for the procurement of S-400 Triumph air defence systems; the deal ignores the American sanction on purchase of arms from Russia.
- In this summit, India and Russia are expected to sign (about) 20 bilateral agreements including a deal to purchase four Krivak-class frigates worth USD 2 billion.
- In this defence deal, India will be purchasing 200 light utility Ka-226 helicopters for worth USD \$1 billion. Out of the 200 Ka-226 helicopters, 60 (most likely) would be built in Russia and transported to India and the rest will be built in India.
- In addition to this, Mr. Putin and Mr. Modi also discussed the issue of security challenges in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region; the terrorism threat that emanates from Pakistan and US sanctions on import of Iranian crude oil.

2. Sahyog-Hop Tac 2018

A joint exercise 'Sahyog-Hop Tac 2018' between Vietnam and India was recently held in the Bay of Bengal off the Chennai coast. The exercise saw the participation of Vietnam Coast Guard ship CSB 8001, the Indian vessel 'Sagar Manjusha' - owned by the National Institute of Ocean Technology among other vessels of the Indian Coast Guard.



The exercise was aimed at enhancing cooperation between the two Coast Guards in areas of maritime safety and security.

3. India and Japan signed Currency Swap Agreement

India and Japan have signed a currency swap agreement worth USD75 billion. The agreement aims to strengthen economic relations between the two countries.



The finance ministry posted on its Twitter handle that "this New Swap Agreement should aid in bringing greater stability to foreign exchange & capital markets in India." Besides, the facility will serve as a second line of defence for the rupee after the \$393.5 billion of foreign exchange reserves that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has at its disposal. After this arrangement, India can now acquire dollars from Japan in exchange for rupees.

Highlights of the currency swap agreement

- With the help of currency swap, one country can exchange its national currency for that of another or even a third one.
- India now can acquire yen or dollars from Japan worth of (up to) USD 75 billion in exchange for rupees.
- The exchange rate would be fixed for a transaction.
- Foreign investor would have comfort from this arrangement.

4. Two MoUs signed between India and Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan's President Shavkat Mirziyoyev met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Hyderabad House in New Delhi and signed two MoUs. The two leaders stressed on expanding trade and investment ties. They also set a target of one billion dollars' trade by 2020.



17 agreements and MoUs were signed in the fields of law, tourism, military education, agriculture, science and technology, commerce and industry, pharmaceutical, national security and illicit trafficking besides others.

2. International

1. China's Multi-Role Combat Aircraft Made Debut Flight

The FTC-2000G, a new multirole combat aircraft developed for export by the State-owned Aviation Industry Corp of China, (AVIC) made its debut flight in the southwest Guizhou province.



The FTC-2000G is a fixed-wing, multi-role combat plane designed mainly with airstrikes against ground targets. It can be used as a fighter jet or trainer aircraft, AVIC. Further, the aircraft is equipped with modern radar and fire-control systems, which make it capable of staying airborne for three hours in a single operation. It can carry as much as 3 tonnes of missiles, rockets or bombs.

In the recent past, China developed a range of fighter jets including a stealth aircraft; with Pakistan. It also jointly produces JF-Thunder aircraft with Pakistan.

2. WTO Sets Panel to Examine India-US Dispute

To examine the India-US export case, the World Trade Organisation's (WTO) dispute settlement body has set up a panel. The US complaint is against certain export-subsidy measures by India and both the sides failed to resolve the issue at the consultation level.



The US pulled India to WTO over the export subsidies, saying that these incentives were actually harming the American firms. The US has requested to set up a dispute panel to examine the allegations on India's export incentive measures. Besides, the U.S. has also challenged India's export subsidy programmes such as Merchandise Exports from India Scheme in the WTO, emphasizing that these initiatives are harmful for its companies, and create an uneven playing field.

3. India and the United Nations Sign Five-Year Sustainable Development Framework

Amitabh Kant - the CEO of NITI Aayog, and Yuri Afanasiev - United Nations Resident Coordinator in India, have signed the Government of India-United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF) for the period 2018-2022.

Government of India-United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (SDF) 2018-2022 outlines the work of UN agencies in India. Its objective is to support the achievement

of key development outcomes that have been identified in consultation with the government and are aligned to the national priorities.

The UNSDF 2018-22 consists of seven priority areas, which outline the work that UN agencies will undertake jointly or individually, fully aligned with the priorities of the Government of India.



Following are the seven priority areas outlined in the UNSDF:

1. Poverty and Urbanization
2. Health, Water, and Sanitation
3. Education and Employability
4. Nutrition and Food Security
5. Climate Change, Clean Energy, and Disaster Resilience
6. Skilling, Entrepreneurship, and Job Creation
7. Gender Equality and Youth Development

4. J P Nadda addresses Primary Health Care Conference In Kazakhstan

The conference, co-hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan, World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund) emphasised on Primary Health Care. The theme of the conference was “The Future of Primary Health Care.”



J P Nadda, the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, while addressing the 2nd International Conference on Primary Health Care (PHC) said, “Multi-sectoral action is a key to addressing social and environmental determinants and we have developed operational strategies to build a shared goal and vision between sectors such as nutrition, drinking water and sanitation, education, rural and urban development departments”.

3. National

1. Now Candidates Can Withdraw Applications: UPSC

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has made the provision of withdrawal of applications by the candidates and the same will be implemented and will begin with Engineering Services Examination, 2019.

On the 92nd Foundation Day Celebrations, Mr. Arvind Saxena, Chairman of UPSC, announced this provision with the hope of better examination management.

In order to avail this facility, the respective candidate has to provide details of his/her application. Subsequently, separate OTPs will be sent to the candidate's registered mobile number and email id. Likewise, on successful completion of withdrawal of application, confirmation message will be sent through text message as well as through email. Remember, once the application has been withdrawn, it cannot be revived.



2. Maharshi Dayanand University Declared As Cleanest Government University

The HRD Ministry has declared Haryana's Maharshi Dayanand University the cleanest government varsity. Guru Nanak Dev University of Punjab stands second in the ranking.

Raipur's ITM University ranks at the top among non-residential campuses of private universities.

Among the residential campuses of private universities, Pune's Symbiosis International University ranks at the top.



Prakash Javadekar, the Union Human Resource Development Minister announced the "Swachh Campus rankings."

3. BCCI Covered Under RTI Act

Central Information Commission of India confirmed that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is covered under the RTI Act and is answerable to the people of India.

After going through the orders of the Supreme Court, the Law Commission of India, which is the top appellate body in RTI matters, has concluded that the status, nature and functional characteristics of the BCCI fulfil required conditions to come under the ambit of RTI Act.

The Information Commissioner Sridhar Acharyulu also added that the Apex Court reaffirmed that the BCCI is an approved national-level body holding virtually monopoly rights to organize cricketing events in the country.



4. Task Force Constituted To Address Skill Gaps in India

The Union ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship in collaboration with World Economic Forum constituted a task force known as "Closing the Skills Gap Task Force in India." It will be co-chaired by the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Dharmendra Pradhan along with Infosys MD and CEO Salil Parekh.

The task force will majorly work on bringing together various leaders from different sectors like business, government, education and working on promoting education and training systems in the country.

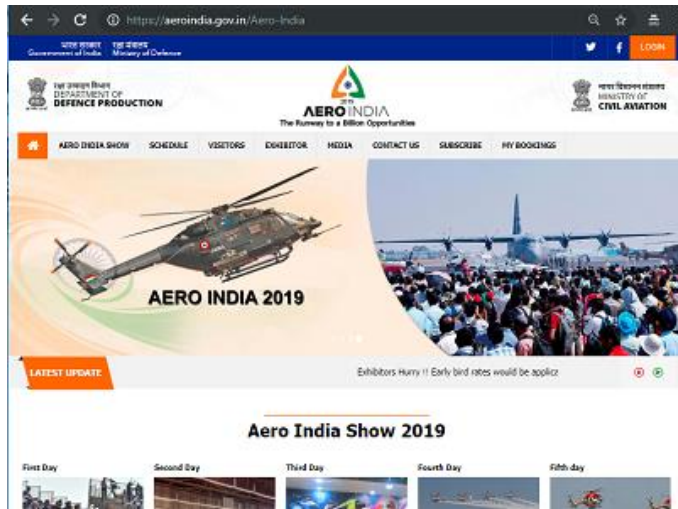
India is the second country-led public-private collaboration of the World Economic Forum's 'Closing the Skills Gap Project' after South Africa.



5. Website ‘Aero India 2019’ Launched

Ministry of Defence launched the newly designed website of Aero India 2019. Its URL is <https://aeroindia.gov.in>. The purpose of this website is to facilitate payment of registration fee online for business visitors.

Likewise, the website is integrated with multi-currency Payment Gateway where Indian companies can pay in Indian Rupees by using their Credit Card/Debit Card/Net Banking/UPI/NEFT/RTGS and foreign companies can pay in US dollars by using credit card/debit card.



Besides, it will also host latest information about the various events in the Aero India 2019 show.

6. MoU Signed Between ISRO and Central University of Jammu

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) signed an MoU with the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) to set up Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science, a Space Applications Centre in the university campus. It is the first of its kind institute in Jammu and Kashmir.



The building is proposed in an area of about 1,150 sq. m. This centre will help in various fields including disaster management, health, education, communication, weather forecasting, land use planning, etc.

7. India’s First Engineless Semi-High Speed Train on Its Trial Run

India's first engineless, self-propelled train the “Train-18” hit the tracks. Normally, engineless trains until now have been running in big cities as part of the Metro network, but Train-18 will be the first semi-high speed train to offer a comfortable inter-city ride.



Highlights

- It would have 16 prototype coaches.

- It will travel at the speed of 160 km/hour.
- It is fully air-conditioned train.
- It has comfortable seats, and WiFi and infotainment among other amenities.
- It is fitted with CCTV cameras and a GPS-based passenger information system.
- It has been developed by a Chennai-based Integral Coach Factory, in 18 months as part of the 'Make In India' initiative.

8. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Unveils World's Tallest Statue

On the eve of India's first home minister's 143rd birth anniversary, Prime Minister Modi inaugurated Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's memorial and named it "Statue of Unity."

The 182-meter-tall (600 feet) statue built on Sadhu Beyt near Sardar Sarovar Dam was actually conceptualized by Mr. Modi – when he was the chief minister of Gujarat.

"The world's tallest statute will remind the entire world, the future generations about the courage, capabilities and determination of the person who did this holy work of vanquishing the conspiracy to disintegrate India into pieces."



9. Rs.700 Crore Project To Clean Up Courts Proposed

Rs.700-crore project has been proposed to have clean courts, starting from the Supreme Court and the High Courts to the 3,388 lower courts.

At a pre-launch function of the 'Swachh Nyayalaya' project, it was also announced that the project will include the construction and maintenance of washrooms in over 16,000 court rooms, and would move on to weeding out of files.

Besides, also cleaning the significant amount of space that can then be put to some other use.



4. Regional

1. Nefertiti: The KSINC's Luxury Vessel Launched

The Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation (KSINC) recently launched a luxury vessel. Nefertiti is an Egyptian-themed cruise ship. Interestingly, the name of the main deck is after an ancient Egyptian deity, who was known for her strength and beauty all over the world.



The ship, which has all the facilities needed for a pleasure trip, has been built at a cost of

Rs 16.42 crore. It is 47.5 m long and 14.5 m wide and has a draft of 3m. It can go at a speed of 9 knots and travel to a distance of 20 nautical miles.

The ship boasts of a 3D theatre, and can accommodate over 150 passengers. "The banquet hall has been named after an Egyptian musical instrument *sistrum* and is known as Sistra. The media room has been named the Nile and the first deck has been named after the ancient Egyptians' national tutelary deity Horus.

2. Assam Govt Launches Wage Compensation Scheme for Pregnant Women

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal recently launched the Wage Compensation Scheme for Pregnant Women.



As per the scheme, an amount of Rs. 12,000 is to be given to pregnant women working in tea gardens of the state. The scheme will help women take care of herself and her unborn baby without compromising with the livelihood of her family. This

compensation of wages would be given to pregnant women in 4 instalments. The objective of the scheme is likely to reduce the maternal and neonatal mortality in the tea growing areas.

3. Odisha Launched State Food Security Scheme

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the state's own food security scheme. Its objective is to cover the poor people 'left out' from the National Food Security Act (NFSA).

This program initially will benefit 25 lakh vulnerable people who were not covered under NFSA. Mr. Patnaik tweeted – "sufficient and nutritious food is a basic need and prerequisite for a healthy Odisha."

Under the scheme, the beneficiaries will get five kg of rice per person, per month at a rate of Rs 1 per kg. To materialize this scheme, the state government will spend Rs 443.5 crore per annum and Rs 221.75 crore in the current financial year.



4. 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Nestham' Scheme Launched By Chandrababu Naidu

On the eve of Gandhi Jayanti, N Chandrababu Naidu, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh launched the 'Mukhyamantri Yuva Nestham' scheme in Amaravati.

Under this scheme, an amount of Rs. 1000/ will be given to all eligible jobless youth of the state as monthly unemployment allowance. This scheme will also provide skill training to 10 lakh youth in the state; 260 training partners have been appointed for this purpose.



5. Manipur Becomes 23rd Open Defecation Free State

N Biren Singh, the Chief Minister of Manipur declared Manipur as the 23rd state in the country to become Open Defecation Free (ODF) in India. In the North-Eastern region, it is the 5th state to get the tag.

Mr. Singh also launched the Google Toilet Locator to enable locating nearest public toilet for use.



6. Telangana Prevention of Dangerous Activities Bill Passed

The President of India Ram Nath Kovind, gave his nod to a bill seeking punishment for sexual offenders, cyber criminals and doers of traditional unlawful acts including bootlegging and dacoity in Telangana state.



The Bill named “the Telangana Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Dacoits, Drug-Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders and Land-Grabbers (Amendment) Bill, 2017” replaces the 1986 Act, which had jurisdiction for the undivided Andhra Pradesh but not for Telangana.

The Act covers the following crimes under it:

Bootlegging, immoral trafficking, dacoity, drug trafficking, sexual offenders, explosive substances offenders, arms smugglers, land-grabbing, cyber fraudsters and white-collar or financial offenders.

7. The Chief Minister’s Sashakt Kisan Yojana and Krishi Samuh Yojana Launched

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh launched two schemes - the Chief Minister’s Sashakt Kisan Yojana and Chief Minister’s Krishi Samuh Yojana in Itanagar. The objective of the schemes is to double the income of the farmers by 2022.

The major programs of the Chief Minister’s Sashakt Kisan Yojana are:

- Agri-Mechanization Programme
- Employment Generation Scheme
- Flagship Programme on Tea and Rubber

The major objective of the Chief Minister’s Krishi Samuh Yojana is to provide timely support and marketing interventions of the government for better price realization and doubling the farmers’ income.



8. Country's First Biofuel Plant Set Up at Bargarh District of Odisha

Prof Ganeshi Lal, the Governor of Odisha, laid the foundation stone for country's first 58-acre Second Generation (2G) Ethanol Bio-Refinery plant located at Bausingha village in Bargarh district of Odisha.

With an estimated cost of Rs. 1000 crore for the project, the refinery will be set up by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL). The commercial production will start from 2020 and it will produce about 3 crore litre of fuel grade ethanol annually. The technology will be based on zero-liquid discharge plant technology where water will be recycled back into the plant.



9. Destination Uttarakhand Investors Summit 2018

Uttarakhand conducted its first ever 2-day investor summit. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Destination Uttarakhand Investors Summit 2018'. Dozens of domestic and international industrialists and businesspersons participated in the summit, such as ITC Limited, Reliance Industries Limited, Azure Power, Hero MotoCorp, Amul, Vardhman, and Pawan Hans; besides, investors from Japan, Czech Republic, Mauritius, Argentina, and Nepal also participated.

Following are the highlights of the session concluded by the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh:

- It has the potential to become a destination for Yoga, AYUSH, and wellness, for tourists from across the world.
- Policies to be framed to realize Uttarakhand's powerful Spiritual Eco Zone.



As a result of this summit, 601 MOUs worth Rs 1,20,150 crore were signed in the following sectors:

- Rs 27,000 crore in the solar power sector
- Rs 14,000 crore investment in the health sector
- Rs 13,000 crore investment in the tourism sector
- Rs 11,000 crore investment in the manufacturing sector
- Rs 5,500 crore investment in the IT sector, and
- Rs 5,000 crore investment in the food processing sector

10. Shahi Litchi of Bihar Gets GI Tag

Along with *Jardalu* mango, *Katarni* rice, and *Magahi* betel (*paan*), Shahi Litchi also has grabbed the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. The GI registration has been done in the name of Litchi Growers Association of Bihar, who had applied for the GI tag.



Shahi litchi is largely cultivated in Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Vaishali, East Champaran and Begusarai districts of Bihar. By using 38 per cent of the cultivation area, Bihar produces about 40% of the litchi grown in the country.

11. UP Govt. Makes Man-Animal Conflict 'State Declared Disaster'

In a first-of-its-kind move, the Uttar Pradesh government has made the man-animal conflict a 'State Declared Disaster' with the objective to bring such incidents under the ambit of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). This would ensure better coordination and relief during mishaps in the state. With such move, the state government will enable faster monetary relief to the victims of attacks by wild animals.

Highlights

- In case of human death due to man-animal conflict, relief of Rs. 5 Lakh will be given to the family of deceased.
- The state forest department from its own budget to the Revenue Department would arrange rs 1 lakh per death.
- The government order further made it mandatory for the concerned authorities to disburse the relief amount within 24 hours of the incident and the production of the post-mortem examination report of the victim.



5. Defence

1. India Will Gift Three MiG-21 Fighters To Russia

During the India-Russia bilateral summit in New Delhi, India announced it would gift three MiG-21 Fighters to Russia.

Based on a discussion between the Russian Defence Minister and the Indian Defence Minister, the Three MiG-21s are scheduled to be handed over to Russia. The Three MiG-21s comprise one Type 75 aircraft and two Type 77 aircraft.”



This gift will be a significant symbolic gesture to showcase the all-weather friendship and deep strategic partnership between India and Russia.

2. Prithvi-II Missile Successfully Test-Fired

India's Strategic Forces Command successfully test-fired Prithvi-II missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur near Balasore in Odisha.

With a strike range of 350 km, Prithvi-II is a surface-to-surface indigenously developed nuclear capable missile. Its dimension is 9 metres tall and single-stage liquid-fuelled. It is capable of carrying 500 to 1,000 kg of warheads and its technology is thrusted by liquid propulsion twin engines. It uses advanced inertial guidance system with manoeuvring trajectory to hit its target.



3. India & Japan Bilateral Maritime Exercise

Japanese Rear Admiral Tatsuya Fukada on his visit to India brought along Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) Ship Kaga, an Izumo Class Helicopter Destroyer and

Inazuma – a Guided Missile Destroyer to participate in the third edition of Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX) with the ships of Eastern Fleet of the Indian Navy.



The ships participating are INS Satpura, multipurpose stealth frigate, INS Kadmatt, Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette, Missile Corvette and INS Shakti, the Fleet Tanker.

4. Joint Exercise by Armies of India and Japan

Armies of India and Japan will hold their first joint exercise from November 1 at the jungle warfare school located in Mizoram's Vairengte. The focus of such joint exercise is to strengthen counter-terror cooperation.



Besides, the focus of the two-week-long joint exercise 'Dharma Guardian' will be to enhance interoperability between the two forces and also to harmonize coordination in dealing with various security challenges. Both sides will jointly train, plan, and execute a series of well-developed tactical drills for neutralisation of probable threats that may encounter in urban warfare scenario.

5. Israeli Missile Deal Worth of \$777 Million

India's Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed a deal with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) worth USD 777 million. As per the deal, the IAI will supply Barak 8 Long-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LR-SAM), Air and Missile Defence (AMD) systems for 7 ships of the Indian Navy.



Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) will be the key manufacturer for the project.

6. Su-30MKI Handed Over To Indian Air Force

The 11 Base Repair Depot (BRD) of the Indian Air Force in Nashik district of Maharashtra handed over its first indigenously renovated Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighter jet to the IAF.

Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighter jet is a twin-jet multi-role air superiority aircraft developed by Russia's Sukhoi and built (under) license by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) of India.



6. Environment

1. 59 Indian Plant Species Under Threat

Based on criteria used by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), scientists have identified 59 Indian plant species under threat.

Highlights

About 2,700 plant species in India are at risk but very few have been assessed by the IUCN.

To pull the attention and bridge the gap, Scientists from Lucknow and from several other institutes prioritized 59 plant species that face risk of "elimination" – rescue program is incumbent for them.

For example, the palm *Bentinckia nicobarica* is presently listed as endangered.

This study also reported that about 38 species have never been assessed by the IUCN.



2. VII Sustainable Mountain Development Summit

The Sustainable Mountain Development Summit VII was held from October 3 to 5. Integrated Mountain Initiative in New Delhi and Himachal Pradesh Council for Science, Technology and Environment in Shimla have joined hands with Shoolini University of Solan to organise the summit. More than 150 delegates from across India participated in the summit.

The purpose of the summit is to integrate viable recommendations for policies that enable sustainable agricultural development. Representatives of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the Swiss Development Cooperation discussed the socio-ecological and economic development of Himalayan farmers.



P.K. Khosla, the Vice-Chancellor of Shoolini University said -

"The overall objective of the conclave is to provide a platform for the mountainous states to come together to discuss issues related to the themes, and find ways to influence national and state policies on the same."

3. Vaccination of *Gir* lions against deadly Canine Distemper Virus (CDV)

Gujarat Forest Department started vaccinating the lions of *Gir* Forest National Park in order to protect them from deadly Canine Distemper Virus (CDV).



Asiatic lions are an endangered species; therefore, they are vaccinated under intensive veterinary care complying with standard protocol. However, over the recent past, about 23 lions have been died in the *Gir* sanctuary (in less than a month). Most of them died because of Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) and protozoa infections.

CDV is a dangerous virus, which has destroyed about 30% of the African lions in East African forests. The virus is largely found in wild dogs, jackals, and wolves. Lions get infected, when they prey on infected animals.

4. Moths Are Key Pollinators In Himalayan Ecosystem

The scientists of Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has declared that Moths (Lepidoptera), widely considered as pests, are potential pollinators to a number of flowering plants in the Himalayan ecosystem.



For the research purpose, the scientists collected moth samples from the Himalayan regions (states including Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal). The analysis of proboscis, a long and thread-like organ used to suck flower sap, of a dozen moth species' exposed the presence of pollen grains. Therefore, based on this research, researchers have confirmed that almost two-thirds of common large moth species have declined over the last 40 years in some parts of the world and the major reasons for the decline is light pollution.

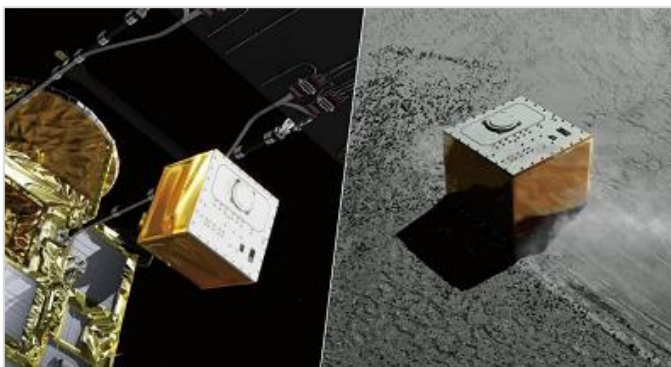
7. Science & Technology

1. Japan Space Probe Hayabusa2 Launches New Robot

A Japanese probe has launched a new observation robot on asteroid to pursue a mission to shed light on the origins of the solar system. The Hayabusa2 probe launched the French-German Mobile Asteroid Surface Scout, or MASCOT, on the Ryugu asteroid's surface.

The 10-kilogram box-shaped MASCOT is loaded with various sensors. It has many features such as it can take images at multiple wavelengths, investigate minerals with a microscope, gauge surface temperatures, and measure magnetic fields. The MASCOT has a maximum battery life of merely 16 hours; therefore, it is planned to transmit the data that it collects to Hayabusa2 before running out of juice.

The Hayabusa2 mission, which costs around ¥30 billion (or USD 260 million), was launched in December 2014 and expected to return to Earth with its samples in 2020.



2. World's First Full-Scale Hyperloop Passenger Capsule Unveiled

US-based Hyperloop Transportation Technologies or HyperloopTT has unveiled its first full-scale transportation capsule (namely Quintero One) at Puerto de Santa Maria, Spain. This new mode of transportation will be ready for passengers in 2019.



The 32-metre "Quintero One" passenger capsule weighs about 5 tonne and has 72 sensors, 75,000 rivets, and 7,200 square meters of fibre. It is constructed entirely out of HyperloopTT's "Vibranium", a specially made dual-layer smart composite material. Its maximum speed goes up to 750 miles (1,200 kilometres) per hour and has a capacity to carry 30 to 40 passengers.

In May, HyperloopTT had proposed to set up the Hyperloop transportation system in Andhra Pradesh, to connect Anantapur, Amaravati, Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam as part of 700-800-km-long integrated public transit system.

Besides, the Maharashtra government also had signed a deal with the Richard Branson-led Virgin Group to build the Mumbai-Pune Hyperloop.

3. Chinese Privately Developed Rocket Failed After Launch

A privately designed and developed Chinese carrier rocket has failed to reach orbit after lifting off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center located in Mongolia. The Beijing-based Landscape developed Zhuque-1 was a three-stage rocket.

It is said that the first and second stage of ZQ-1 rocket worked normally, but an error occurred immediately after the second stage. Zhuque-1 carried a satellite named "Future," it was built for state media China Central Television.



8. Banking, Finance, & Business

1. With 33% Share, Paytm Tops

After the support of Alibaba and SoftBank, Paytm registered over 137 million UPI transactions in September and became the leading contributor to Unified Payments Interface (UPI) payments. It has secured more than 33 per cent of the overall market share.

More than 20% of all payments on Paytm are made by using BHIM UPI for mobile recharge and payments, electricity and water bills, and DTH recharges, etc.



2. BSE First To Commence Commodity Derivatives Trading In Gold & Silver

The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) became the first stock exchange in the country to launch commodity derivatives contract in gold and silver. Commodity derivatives contract is usually available only on MCX and NCDEX - the two specialised commodity derivatives exchanges in the country.



Likewise, history was created by BSE, Asia's oldest exchange and now world's fastest exchange with the speed of 6 microseconds commenced commodity derivatives started trading in delivery-based futures contract in gold and silver.

3. ADB Approved \$ 150 Million Loan For Regional Connectivity

Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$150 million loan to finance regional connectivity projects in North Bengal and North Eastern states. The project was approved in 2014 with the objective to develop a road stretch of 500 kms between North Bengal and Northeast India and connect these regions.



However, the new loan has approved an upgradation of 66 kms national and 103 kms of state highways in Manipur. Besides, the construction of an international bridge (about 1.5 kms) between India and Nepal.

4. Infosys Finacle Launched Digital Engagement Suit For Banks

Infosys Finacle, a part of Infosys' product subsidiary EdgeVerve Systems launched a Digital Engagement Suit for banks with an objective to interact with customers with customized experiences.



Already recognized banks in more than 75 countries, are on a track to accelerate the speed of internal and external innovation with an ecosystem of partner innovations. It will engage with end customers, internal users, partners and trusted parties.

Besides, it will also provide comprehensive capabilities to engage retail, wealth, small business and corporate customer segments.

5. Oil Regulator Approved Sale of Ambani's Pipeline to Brookfield

Mukesh Ambani has gotten the approval by oil regulator PNGRB for the selling of his loss-making east-west natural gas pipeline to Canadian investor Brookfield. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) had in September approved the transaction; Brookfield is sponsoring an Infrastructural Investment Trust (IIT) known as Indian Infrastructure Trust as the acquisition vehicle.



After a few weeks, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) gave its approval. Likewise, it is the first investment in the energy sector in India by Brookfield.

9. Reports

1. India Ranks 5th in Pictorial Warnings on Cigarette Packs

As per the report published by Canadian Cancer Society, India stands fifth among 206 countries in terms of the largest pictorial warning on cigarette packs. On India's cigarette packs, about 85 per cent of both sides of the packs are covered with the warning.

Though India has maintained the size of the pictorial warning on tobacco packaging, it slipped two places because other countries have improved on the parameter.



As per this report, Timor-Leste ranked first, as it has the largest warnings on cigarette packages in the world with 92.5 per cent on front and back, followed by Nepal and Vanuatu (with 90 per cent) and New Zealand at fourth with 87.5 per cent.

2. Among Most Valuable Nation Brand India ranked 9th

According to Brand Finance's annual Nation Brands 2018 report, India lost one spot (last year on 8) and ranked 9th among the 10 most valuable nation brands in the world for the year 2018.

Rank	Nation	Brand Value (in USD BN)
1	The United States	25,899
2	China	12,779
3	Germany	5,147
4	United Kingdom	3,750
5	Japan	3,598
6	France	3,224
7	Canada	2,224
8	Italy	2,214
9	India	2,159
10	South Korea	2,001

On the contrary, India's brand value has increased to \$2,159 billion in 2018 from the value of \$2,046 billion in 2017. US tops the list with a brand value of \$25,899 billion, which rose by 23% from the last year followed by China and Germany.

3. ADB Report: India Has the Largest Outward Migrants

As per the Asian Economic Integration Report 2018 published by the Asian Development Bank, most of the outbound migrants were from India in 2017, followed by China and Bangladesh.

The report displays that with 17 million, India had the most outward migrants in 2017, followed by China with 10 million, and Bangladesh with 7.5 million. The report also reveals that the outward migration in Asia has overtaken inward migration.



The ADB report also illustrated that the intraregional migrants to India largely come from neighbouring countries; in decreasing order - Bangladesh (3.1 million), Pakistan (1.1 million), and Nepal (0.5 million). Major host economies for intraregional migration include India (5 million); Thailand (3.5 million); Pakistan (3.4 million); Australia (3.2 million); and Hong Kong, China (2.7 million).

10. Appointments

1. Ravi Venkatesan appointed as UNICEF Special Representative

UNICEF has appointed Ravi Venkatesan as its special representative of young people. His major role will be to provide strategic guidance and support UNICEF globally.

Serving as the chairman of the Bank of Baroda (between 2015-18), he also served as the chairman of Microsoft India and the chairman of Cummins India and co-Chairman of Infosys Ltd.



2. Gita Gopinath appointed as Chief Economist of IMF

Currently working as John Zwaanstra Professor of International Studies and Economics at Harvard University, Gita Gopinath has been appointed as the chief economist of International Monetary Fund.

Besides, she is co-editor of the American Economic Review and co-director of the International Finance and Macroeconomics Program at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).



3. Rangachari Sridharan appointed as Chairperson of NFRA

Former IAS officer Rangachari Sridharan has been appointed as the first chief of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA).

Sridharan, a 1983 batch (retired) IAS officer of Karnataka cadre, will hold the post of chairperson of NFRA for next three years or till the incumbent attains the age of 65 years.



4. Sanjay Verma appointed as India's Ambassador to Spain

A 1990 batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, Sanjay Verma has been appointed India's Ambassador to Spain. He is currently working as the Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.

On the other hand, Arindam Bagchi, a 1995 batch IFS official, has been appointed as the next Indian Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia.



5. Vikram Limaye appointed as Director on the Board of WFE

Vikram Limaye has been appointed as Chairman of the Working Committee (WoCo) and Director on the Board of the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE). His appointment is confirmed at the 58th General Assembly and Annual Meeting of WEF in Athens, Greece.

Currently, Vikram Limaye is working as the Managing Director and CEO of National Stock Exchange of India (NSE).



6. Suchitra Durai Will Be New Ambassador To The Kingdom of Thailand

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

1988 batch Indian Foreign Service Officer, Suchitra Durai is currently serving as the High Commissioner of India to Kenya.



11. Awards

1. 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics

The 2018 Nobel Prize for Physics was awarded collectively to Arthur Ashkin, Gerard Mourou, and Donna Strickland for their pioneering discoveries in 'laser physics.'



- Ashkin was honoured for his invention of "optical tweezers".
- Mourou and Strickland were honoured for generating ultra-short optical pulses, which are the shortest and most intense laser pulses ever created by a human being.
- Donna Strickland became the third female Nobel laureate in Physics after Marie Curie in 1903 and Maria Goeppert Mayer in 1963.

2. 2018 Nobel Prize in Medicine

The 2018 Nobel Prize for Medicine was given collectively to 'James P. Allison (US) and Tasuku Honjo (Japan)' "for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation."



- Allison is the Head of Department - Immunology at the MD Anderson Cancer Center.
- Tasuku Honjo is Deputy Director-General and Distinguished Professor of Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study (KUIAS).

3. 2018 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2018 was divided into two halves, one half awarded to Frances H. Arnold "for the directed evolution of enzymes", the other half jointly given to George P. Smith and Sir Gregory P. Winter "for the phage display of peptides and antibodies."

- Frances Hamilton Arnold is an American chemical engineer and Linus Pauling Professor of Chemical Engineering, Bioengineering and Biochemistry at the California Institute of Technology.
- George P. Smith is an American biologist and He is a Curators' Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri, US.
- Sir Gregory Paul Winter (CBE FRS FMedSci) is a British biochemist best known for his work on the therapeutic use of monoclonal antibodies.



4. 2018 Nobel Prize for Peace

Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad were jointly given 2018 Nobel Prize for Peace "for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict".

- Denis Mukwege is a Congolese gynecologist. He founded and works in Panzi Hospital in Bukavu, where he specializes in the treatment of women who have been raped by armed rebels.
- Nadia Murad Basee Taha is an Iraqi Yazidi human rights activist who lives in Germany.



5. 2018 Nobel Prize in Literature

The 2018 Nobel Prize in Literature has been **postponed**.

6. 2018 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences (Sveriges Riksbank Prize)

The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2018, was jointly given to William D. Nordhaus (American economist and Sterling Professor of Economics at Yale University) for his work - "integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis" and Paul M. Romer (American economist) for his work "integrating technological innovations into long-run macroeconomic analysis."



7. US Plans To Honour Mahatma Gandhi With Congressional Gold Medal

Six influential US lawmakers, including four Indian-Americans, have moved a resolution in the US House of Representatives to award the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal to Mahatma Gandhi posthumously in recognition of his promotion of peace and non-violence. On 23rd September 2018, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney introduced the resolution (H R 6916) in the US House of Representatives from New York.



The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian honour given by the US Congress. Some of the eminent foreigners who have been received this award are Mother Teresa (1997), Nelson Mandela (1998), Pope John Paul II (2000), the Dalai Lama (2006), Aung San Suu Kyi (2008), Muhammad Yunus (2010), and Shimon Peres (2014).

8. 5 Distinguished Personalities Selected for Rachana Awards

Rachana – Catholic Chamber of Commerce and Industry has selected final list of 5 distinguished people for the Rachana Awards 2018. They are:

<p>Ronald Castelino for Rachana Entrepreneur of the Year award</p>	
<p>Aloysius Richard Lobo for Rachana NRI of the Year award</p>	
<p>Lawrence Pinto for Rachana Agriculturist of the Year award;</p>	
<p>Sr Maria Jyothi AC for Rachana Woman of the Year award</p>	

Faye D'Souza from Mirror now for Rachana Professional of the Year award.



9. Marsel van Oosten Won Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018

Dutch photographer Marsel van Oosten has won **Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018** for his photo titled "The Golden Couple." The Golden Couple is the remarkable photo of a pair of endangered golden snub-nosed monkeys in central China's Qin Ling Mountains (shown in the picture).



For the second place, in the competition was awarded to 16 years old Skye Meaker, who won the **Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2018** award.

These awards are given by London's Natural History Museum and two winning images will be showcased in an exhibition featuring 98 other entries at the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition, running from October 19th until July 1st 2019, (by the Natural History Museum in London).

10. Arshdeep Singh Won Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year (Asia) Award

10 years old Arshdeep Singh won the Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year (Asia) Award 2018, for his photograph 'Pipe Owls,' at the Natural History Museum, London.



Native of Jalandhar, Punjab, Arshdeep Singh started taking photographs at the age of 6. His work has been published in various national and international publications including Lonely Planet UK, Lonely Planet Germany, Lonely Planet India, BBC Wildlife UK, etc.

11. Carnot Prize 2018 Confirmed to Union Minister Piyush Goyal

Minister of Railways Piyush Goyal has been awarded the 4th annual Carnot Prize 2018 by Kleinman Center for Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design, United States.

The award has been presented to Piyush Goyal as a recognition to the major transformations in India's energy sector, which aims to eliminate energy poverty with sustainable energy solutions.

Given by Kleinman Center for Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design, United States, Carnot Prize is given to the leading revolutions in energy policy through scholarship or practice.



12. Persons in News

1. Barham Salih Elected As The 8th President of Iraq

Barham Salih Patriotic representing Union of Kurdistan (PUK) has been elected as 8th president of Iraq. In the presidential election, he secured 219 votes while his rival Fuad Hussein of Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) obtained merely 22 votes.

58 years old Barham Salih replaced Fuad Masum. He has served as a prime minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government and a former deputy prime minister of the Iraqi federal government.



2. Adam Mosseri New CEO of Instagram

Adam Mosseri has been named as the new CEO of Facebook owned Instagram. Adam Mosseri replaces Kevin Systrom who resigned recently. Joined Facebook in 2008, Mr. Mosseri was the Vice President of Product at Instagram.

Instagram was founded in 2010 by Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger. However, in 2012, it was sold to Facebook for \$1 billion.



3. Interpol Chief Resigns

The International Criminal Police Organization (or Interpol) received the resignation from its Chinese president Meng Hongwei. Prior to this, Mr. Hongwei was missing for more than a week.

The new president will be elected for the remaining two years of the president's term at the General Assembly Session, to be held in Dubai in November. Meanwhile, Interpol confirmed that as per the agency's constitution and internal regulations, the

Senior Vice-President of Interpol's Executive Committee, Kim Jong Yang of South Korea, will be the acting president.

As per the report Mr. Meng had been held in the country and was being probed for his alleged involvement in unspecified criminal activities.



4. Paul Biya: 7th Term As President of Cameroon

Paul Biya, won the 7th term as President of Cameroon. 85 years old, Paul Biya has been ruling Cameroon since 1982.

Biya won 71.3 % of the ballot in the presidential election held on October 7, 2018.



5. Haryana Girl Nishtha Dudeja Won Miss Deaf Asia Crown

Haryana girl Nishtha Dudeja has won the Miss Deaf Asia 2018 title at an international pageant held in Prague. She is the first Indian who won any title at the Miss Deaf World Pageant.

She is the brand ambassador for Sivantos India Pvt Ltd (Formerly Siemens Hearing Instruments Pvt Ltd.), the world's leading brand of hearing aids.



6. Clara Sosa won the Miss Grand International 2018 Title

Miss Paraguay Clara Sosa has won the Miss Grand International 2018 title at the sixth edition of the beauty pageant held in Yangon, Myanmar. Miss Sosa succeeds Miss Grand International 2017 Maria Jose Lora of Peru.

India's fbb Colors Femina Miss Grand India 2018 Meenakshi Chaudhary has been named the First Runner Up and Miss Grand Indonesia Nadia Purwoko has named as the Second Runner Up.

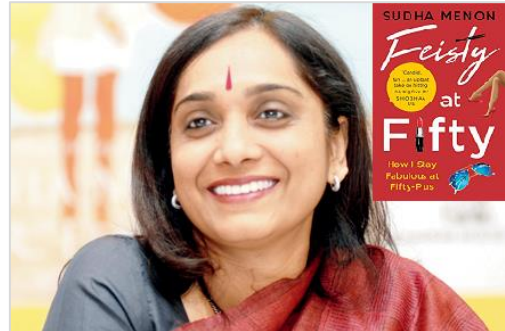


13. Books & Authors

1. Sudha Menon's Book "Feisty At Fifty" Published

The book "Feisty At Fifty" written by Sudha Menon, released at the Pune International Literary Festival. Written on different phases of a woman's life it has been published by Pan Macmillan India.

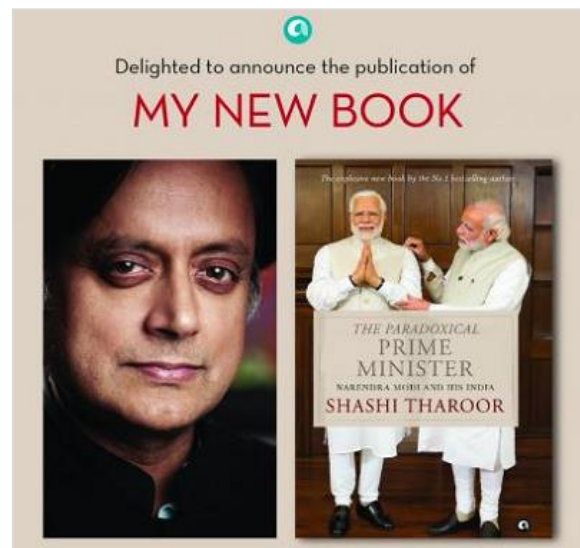
Sudha Menon has also written other books - Leading Ladies: Women Who Inspire India, and Devi, Diva or She-Devil: The smart career woman's survival guide.



2. Shashi Tharoor introduces his book "The Paradoxical Prime Minister"

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor introduced his new book "The Paradoxical Prime Minister" and a 29-letter word "floccinaucinihilipilification." In his new book, Mr. Tharoor described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as "more than just a 400-page exercise in floccinaucinihilipilification".

The meaning of "floccinaucinihilipilification" as defined by Oxford dictionary is "the action or habit of estimating something as worthless."



3. Bihar's Deputy CM Releases book 'Lalu-Leela'

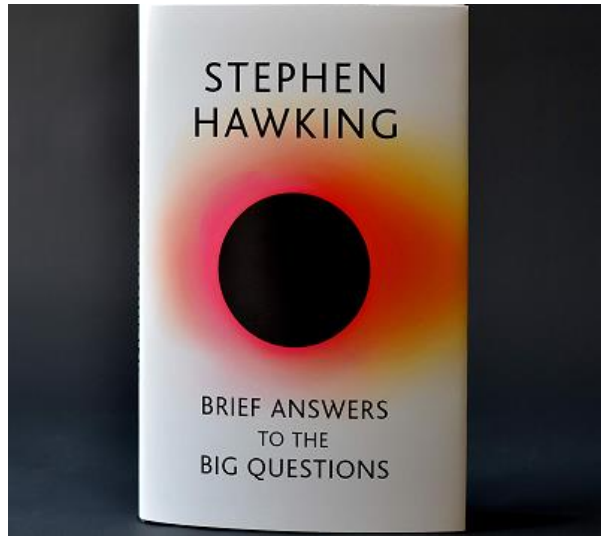
Sushil Modi, the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar released his second book 'Lalu-Leela', at an event in Patna.

The book has about 200 pages describing the alleged illegal dealings of Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) President Lalu Prasad Yadav and his family members.



4. Stephen Hawking's "Brief Answers to the Big Questions" Released

His children, who assisted to complete the book after the British astrophysics giant's death, launched Stephen Hawking's final work, which deals the issues from the existence of God to the potential for time travel, (posthumously).



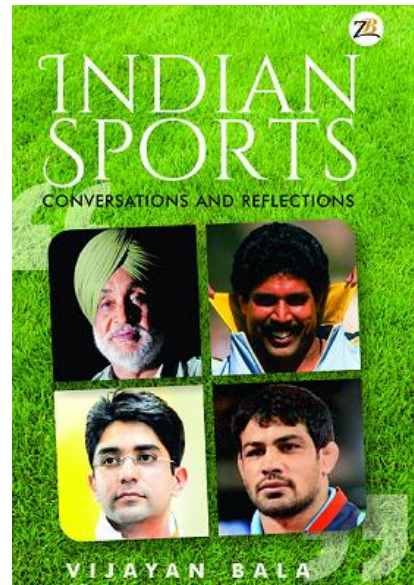
Stephen Hawking was a Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge for thirty years where he served as the director of research at the Centre for Theoretical Cosmology at the University of Cambridge. Besides, he was a Fellow of the Royal Society and the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, which is America's highest civilian honour.

Mr. Stephen authored several books; most popular among them being "A Brief History of Time," which sold over 13 million copies worldwide.

At the age of 20, Stephen Hawking was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and was given two years to live; however, he died on 14th March 2018, at the age of 76 as the longest living MND survivor. His battle with the disease was also featured in the Oscar-winning film "The Theory of Everything."

5. Vijayan Bala released 'Indian Sports: Conversations and Reflections'

The veteran commentator and cricket statistician Vijayan Bala has released his new book namely "Indian Sports: Conversations and Reflections". The book is all about the interviews of eminent sportspersons that he conducted since 1971.



In the category of cricketers, he has interviewed MAK Pataudi, GR Viswanath, Eknath Solkar, Gautam Gambhir, etc.

In the category of Olympians, he has interviewed Balbir Singh Senior, Abhinav Bindra, Sushil Kumar, Sakshi Malik, Col Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, etc.

14. Death

1. M V V S Murthy Passes Away

Mr. M V V S Murthy, the Telugu Desam Party leader, educationist, and member of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council, died in a road accident in the USA.

He served as member of Lok Sabha from Visakhapatnam for two terms - 1991 to 1996 and 1999 to 2004. Besides, he was also elected to Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council in 2014. Mr. Murthy founded the Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management (GITAM) at Rushikonda, Andhra Pradesh.



2. Malayalam Poet M N Paloor Passes Away

86 years old Malayalam poet M N Paloor died due to age related ailments at his home at Kovoor, Kerala. He had received Sahitya Akademi Award in 2013 for his autobiography 'Kathayillathavante Katha;' in 2009, he received the "Asan Prize for poetry;" and in 1983, he had been awarded "Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award" for his collection 'Kalikalam.'



Some other important works are: '*Pedithondan*', '*Theerthayathra*' and '*Bhangiyum Abhangiyum*'.

3. Environmental Activist GD Agrawal Dies On 112th Day of Fast To Clean Ganga

Environmental activist GD Agrawal, died because of heart attack in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand. He was on hunger strike 'fast unto death' demanding the government to clean river Ganga and died 112th day of this strike.

86 years old activist was demanding the government to stop hydel projects on the tributaries of Ganga in Uttarakhand, and to pass a law to protect the river. He had written three letters to Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding this issue and all the three letters were unanswered.



Mr. Agrawal was an environmental engineer, religious leader, monk, former professor of Indian Institute of Technology.

4. Veteran Politician N D Tiwari Passes Away

Congress veteran Narayan Dutt Tiwari, who served in various positions at the Centre and in states, passed away after a prolonged illness. He was a three-time Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and one-time Chief Minister of Uttarakhand (2002-2007). So, he was the distinguished person who served as a chief minister of two states.

N D Tiwari also served as the Governor of Andhra Pradesh.



15. Places in News

1. Keylong: First Railway Station Inside Tunnel

India's first railway station inside tunnel named as the Keylong station is going to be built at a height of 3,000 metres in Himachal Pradesh.

It will be built along the Bilaspur-Manali-Leh line, which is close to the Sino-India border. The tunnel is 27 km long, which will connect all important locations between Bilaspur and Leh such as Sundernagar, Mandi, Manali, Keylong, Koksar, Darcha, Upshi and Karu and other towns of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.



2. Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Opened For Traffic

The world's longest sea bridge (55 km long) Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge between Zhuhai (China) and Hong Kong has opened for traffic on October 24, 2018.

The bridge is constructed (took 9 years to be completed) on the *Lingdingyang* waters of the Pearl River Estuary. It will reduce travel time between Hong Kong and Zhuhai, in China, from 3 hours to merely 30 minutes.



3. World's Largest Dome Inaugurated In Pune

The world's largest dome was inaugurated at Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT)'s World Peace University (MIT-WPU) campus located at Loni Kalbhor, Pune. Venkaiah Naidu, the Vice President of India inaugurated it on the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

The dome has been built atop MIT World Peace Library and World Peace Prayer Hall. It has been named after the 13th century poet-saint and philosopher Dnyane.

- The dome has a diameter of 160 feet, which overtakes the previous record held by Vatican Dome, which has a diameter of 139.6 feet.
- It stands 263 feet tall with a bell hanging from the centre.
- It has a prayer hall with an area of around 30,000 sq ft.
- It is supported by 24 massive columns and each column is 63 feet tall.



16. Sports

1. Raegan and Ishita Gupta Won East Zone National Junior TT Titles

Albuquerque Raegan won the junior boys' crown and Ishita Gupta won the junior girls' title in the East Zone National-ranking table tennis tournament held at the R.G. Baruah Sports Complex's Indoor Stadium.

Raegan played an inflexible aggressive game to beat Manush Shah of Gujarat, second seeded player, in six games i.e. 11-9, 8-11, 11-5, 3-11, 11-9, 11-8.



Eighth seeded **Ishita Gupta**, surprised the top seed Prapti Sen of West Bengal in straight games at 11-3, 11-8, 11-8, 11-6.

2. Adithya and Pranathi Won Sub Junior Boys and Girls Singles Titles

Adithya Joseph from Ernakulam K.R. Pillai Academy's and Pranathi P. Nair, from Thiruvananthapuram YMCA Academy, won the Sub-junior boys and girls singles titles respectively. The tournament held at the Thiruvalla YMCA-P.O. John memorial - all Kerala table tennis.



3. India Beat Bangladesh & Won Seventh Asia Cup Title

India has defeated Bangladesh and won the Unimoni Asia Cup Title 2018. It is the second successive Asia Cup final where India played against Bangladesh. In 2016 final, India had crushed Bangladesh to win the title.

Liton Das has been declared "Man of the Match" (he scored 121 of 117 ball) and Shikhar Dhawan clinched the title of "Player of the Series."



With this victory, India has now seven titles of Asia Cup.

4. Yuvraj Wadhvani Won Asian Junior Squash Title

Young Yuvraj Wadhvani won the Asian Junior Squash Championship title 2018. In the final match, Yuvraj defeated Anas Ali Shah of Pakistan.

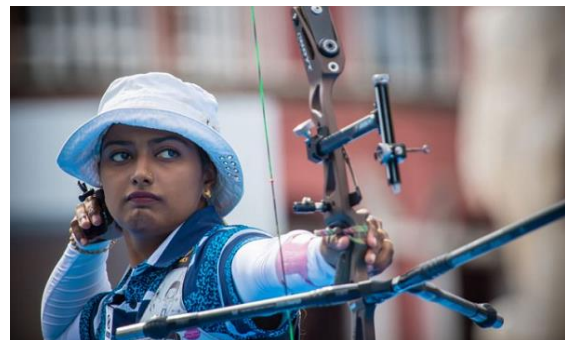
At the **U-13 boys'** game of the Asian Junior **Individual** Squash, Yuvraj thrashed his Pakistani counterpart by 13-11, 11-5, 6-11, 12-10 and became the second Indian to win the prestigious trophy.



5. Deepika Kumari Won Bronze In Archery World Cup

In the Archery World Cup Final held in Samsun, Turkey, Deepika Kumari won bronze medal after beating Lisa Unruh of Germany. It was her fifth World Cup Final.

Deepika and Lisa, both were tied at 5-5 at the end of the five sets, which necessitated a shoot-off. So, Kumari and Unruh both shot 9 but Kumari won bronze because her arrow was closer to the centre.



Highlights

- Deepika Kumari is an Indian athlete who competes in the event of archery.
- At present, she ranks World No. 5, (and is a former world number one).
- She won a gold medal in the 2010 Commonwealth games in the women's individual recurve event.
- She also won a gold medal in the same competition in the women's team recurve event along with Dola Banerjee and Bombayala Devi.
- In 2012, she was awarded the Arjuna Award, India's second highest sporting award by Pranab Mukherjee, the President of India.
- In February 2014, she received FICCI Sportsperson of the Year Award.
- In 2016, the Government of India awarded her Padma Shri the highest civilian honour.

6. Ayhika Wins Silver at Belgium Open

In the under-21 women's singles category, Indian table tennis player Ayhika Mukherjee won silver medal after going down 1-3 to Korea's Youjin Kim in the final of the ITTF Challenge Belgium Open.

In the same tournament, Anthony Amalraj and Sanil Shetty fought hard and bagged bronze in the men's doubles.

