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MAY 2018

MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS



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IMPORTANT APPOINTMENTS

President of Costa Rica	Carlos Alvarado
President of Venezuela	Nicolas Maduro
Prime Minister of Armenia	Nikol Pashinyan
First Women Prime Minister of Barbados	Mia Mottley
Prime Minister of Guinea	Ibrahima Kassory Fofana
Prime Minister of Lebanon	Saad Hariri
Ambassador of India to Republic of South Sudan	S D Moorthy
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Ambassador on India Sultanate of Oman	Munu Mahawar
First female director of Central Investigation Agency (USA)	Gina Haspel
Chairman of ICC for Second Term	Shashank Manohar
Chairman of Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India	Subhash Chandra Khuntia
Chairman of Press Council of India	Chandramauli Kumar Prasad

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Chairman of Lalit Kala Academi	Uttam Pacharne
Chairman of National Highway Authorities of India	Yudhvir Singh Malik
Chairman and Managing Director of Coal India	Anil Kumar Jha
Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes	Sushi Chandra (One Year Extension)
President of Indian Journalists Union	Amar Devulapalli
President of Hockey India	Rajinder Singh
President of National Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum	R K Agarwal
Vice President of Badminton Asia Confederation	Himanta Biswa Sarma President of Badminton Association of India
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Secretary General of Indian Journalists Union	Sabina Indrajit
Director General of Public Information Bureau	Sitanshu Kar
Director of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd	Pravin Agarwal
Director of	

Defence Research Developmental Organization	Sanjay Mitra
Independent Director in ICICI Bank	Radhakrishna Nair
MD and CEO of Airtel Payments Bank	Anubrata Biswas
US-India business council MD of India Operations	Ambika Sharma
Download Budget, Economic Survey 2018 and other Facts and Figures in 2018 PDF	
Cabinet Secretary in Government of India	Pradeep Kumar Sinha
Chief Minister of Karnataka	H D Kumaraswamy
Governor of Odisha	Ganeshi Lal
Governor of Mizoram	Kummanam Rajashekar
First Chief Financial Officer of Reserve Bank of India	Sudha Balakrishnan

IMPORTANT AWARDS AND HONORS

ONV Literary Prize for contribution to Malayalam Literature	M T Vasudevan Nair
Excellent Women of Excellence Award 2018 at Annual Women Economic Forum Awards	Nisha Bhalla
Jayadev Rashtriya Yuva Puraskar Award	Anindita Anaam
RedInk Award – Lifetime Achievement in Journalism	Mark Tully
Nikkei Asia Prize	Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak (Founder of Sulabh International)
Winner of the Palm d'OR Award at Cannes Film Festival held in France	Hirokazu Kore-eda
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Banga Bibushan Award 2018 (West Bengal highest Civilian Award)	Asha Bhosle
Man Booker International Prize	Olga Tokarczuk
Pulitzer Prize in Music	Kendrick Lamar
Santokbaa Humanitarian Award 2018	Kailash Satyarthi
BRICS Business Forum Leadership Award	Lifetime Achievement Award Late Actress Sridevi

26 th PC Chandra Puraskaar 2018	Life Time Achievement Award Asha Bhosle
BFSI Awards (Banking, Financial and Insurance) 2018	Best Cooperative Society on Digital Platform Adarsh Credit
KISS (Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences) Humanitarian Award 2018	Prof Mohammad Yunus
Swara Mauli Award 2018	Lata Mangesghkar
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DRDO Lifetime Achievement Award 2017	V K Saraswat
DRDO Lifetime Achievement Award 2016	Vasudev Kalkunte
Technology Leadership Award 2016	Dr G Satheesh Reddy
Swachh Sarvekshan 2018 – India's Cleanest City	Indore
Business World Digital India Summit 2018	Digital Leader of the Year Nara Lokesh – Minister of IT Andhra Pradesh
National Biodiversity Award	Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve

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Awards for Beautification of Station Premises, by Ministry of Railways	First - Balharshah and Chandrapur Railway Station (Nagpur Division) Second - Madhubani and Madurai Railway Station Third - Kota, Gandhidham and Secunderabad Railway Station
V K Krishna Menon Award	Mahendra Choudhry (Former Indian Origin - Fiji Prime Minister) for his contribution to Indian Diaspora
“Special Achievement Award” by England’s League Managers Association (Football)	John Gregory
Download General Science Study Material PDF	
S&P Platts award in Corporate Social Responsibility	National Mineral Development Corporation
Life Time Achievement Award at UK Asia Business Awards in London	Swaraj Paul NRI Industrialist
CEAT Cricket Ratings of the Year	International Cricketer of the Year Virat Kohli International Batsman of the Year Shikar Dhawan International Bowler of the Year Trent Boult

BANKING AND ECONOMY

- ❑ Finotech Payments Bank has launched a mobile application **digital suite** which is a one stop place for all digital applications of the bank.
- ❑ Reserve Bank of India has directed all banks dealing in foreign exchange to periodically share data with Directorate of Revenue Intelligence.
- ❑ Government of India has recently set up a parliamentary panel headed by Mr. Murali Manohar Joshi to look into the issues concerning unaccounted money legitimized during the demonetization drive and study the performance of public sector banks.
- ❑ Bank of Baroda has signed an agreement with CDSL – Central Depository Services Ltd for offering pledge finance to registered warehouses across the country.

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- ❑ Reserve Bank of India has modified the norms in setting up of a IFSC Banking Units (IBU) by banks, the parent bank of the IBU has to provide and maintain a minimum capital of USD 20 Million in its IBU on an ongoing basis.
- ❑ Reserve Bank of India has released guidelines regarding maintenance of 100% Net Stable Funding Ratio for banks to maintain adequate liquidity for robust financial health, NSFR is a long term liquidity measurement tool mentioned in Basel III framework.
- ❑ YES Bank has launched agenda 25#25 aimed at creating a startup environment for budding women entrepreneurs in India.

- ❑ Government of India signed a USD 200-million-dollar loan agreement with World Bank for National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN ABHIYAN) to be implemented across 315 Districts in the country.
- ❑ Fitch Credit Rating Agency has estimated Indian Economy to grow at 7.3% in 2018-19 and 7.5% in 2019-20.
- ❑ Reserve Bank of India has imposed restrictions of Dena Bank from taking any fresh credit exposure and recruitment of new staff due to degrading financial health of the bank, this is first such bank in the list of prompt corrective action which is imposed a lending restriction. Reserve Bank of India has also imposed lending restriction on Allahabad Bank for taking exposure in high risk assets.
- ❑ International Bank for Reconstruction and Development arm of World Bank has extended USD 300 Million loan to Energy Efficiency Services Limited to enhance and speed up energy efficiency programme in India.
- ❑ Reserve Bank of India has levied penalty of 5 crores on South Indian Bank for non-compliance with Income and Asset Recognition Norms and KYC norms.

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- ❑ Government of India has signed an MoU with World Bank for additional financial assistance of USD 500 Million for PMGSY (PM – Gram Sadak Yojana) rural roads project.
- ❑ Bank of Baroda has signed an agreement with CDSL – Central Depository Services Ltd for offering pledge finance to registered warehouses across the country.

- ❑ As per the recent Reserve Bank of India report, Aggregate Credit by Indian Banks grew by 12.64% year on year to Rs 85.51 Lakh Crore in 2017-18 and Total Deposits grew by 7.61% to 113.92 Lakh Crore.
- ❑ As per the Asia and Pacific regional economic outlook report published by International Monetary Fund, India's economic growth rate for 2018-19 is projected at 7.4%.
- ❑ Small Industries Development Bank of India and Common Services Center SPV have signed an MoU to offer financial support to village level entrepreneurs of CSCs with a minimum one year of operation.
- ❑ Industrial and Commercial Bank of India has launched, India's first dedicated Publicly Offered Investment Fund.
- ❑ National Stock Exchange has recently approved YES Bank as "Settlement Bank" for National Securities Clearing Corporation.
- ❑ Government of India has signed a loan agreement of USD 21.7 Million for strengthening Public Finance Management Project of Rajasthan Government.

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- ❑ Government of India has signed a loan agreement of USD 375 Million with Asian Development Bank for improving the irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh with an aim of doubling farmers' income by 2022.
- ❑ Government of India has signed an agreement with World Bank for financial and technical assistance in the ambitious National Biopharma Mission.
- ❑ Asian Development Bank in its recent annual meeting has estimated growth rate of Indian Economy at 7.3% for FY 2018-19.

- ❑ United Nations in its recent UN World Economic Situation and Prospects report has projected Indian Economic Growth rate at 7.6% for 2018-19.
- ❑ Multi Commodity Exchange of India has launched India's first Copper Options.
- ❑ India has emerged as the largest remittance receiving country in the world with USD 69 Billion received in 2017 as per a report by REMITSCOPE in May 2018.
- ❑ Bombay Stock Exchange has become the first in the country to receive DOSM (Designated Offshore Securities Market) recognition from US – Securities and Exchange Commission.
- ❑ Tata Consultancy Services in May 2018 has become the first Indian Company to achieve Rs 7 Lakh Crore Market Capitalization.
- ❑ Patanjali Ltd has tied up with BSNL to launch Swadeshi Samridhi Sim Cards.
- ❑ Government of India approved doubling of investment limit under PM Vaya Vandana Yojana from existing 7.5 Lakhs to 15 Lakhs. The timeline for subscription has been extended from May 2018 to March 2020. The scheme pays an assured pension with a guaranteed interest rate of 8%. LIC is the implementing agency for the scheme.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- ❑ Dalmia Group has adopted the Iconic Red fort in New Delhi and Gandikota Fort in Andhra Pradesh under the Adopt a Monument - Monument Mitra scheme of the government of India, it has become the first corporate in the country to adopt a heritage site after signing an MoU with Ministry of Culture.
- ❑ International Solar Alliance has set up a task force headed by Chairman of Soft Bank group Masayoshi Son to create startup ecosystems for solar innovations by enabling incubation, partnerships and access to finance.
- ❑ Government of India has approved setting up of Micro Irrigation Fund with an Initial Corpus of Rs 5,000 Crore to be managed by NABARD under PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana.
- ❑ Government of India has approved National Biofuels Policy 2018 with a budget of Rs 5000 Crore over next 6 years.

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- ❑ Two schemes of Rajasthan government Bhairon Singh Shekawat Antyodaya Swarojgar Yojana, which provides loans up to Rs 50000 @ 4% will be given to SC, ST and OBC families for self employment and Sundar Singh Bhandari Swarojgar Yojana, which provides loans up to economically backward classes of the state in general category, have been launched by President Ram Nath Kovind in his recent visit to the state.
- ❑ Energy Efficiency Services Ltd has distributed over 30 crore led bulbs across the country under the UJALA scheme.

- ❑ Samagra Sikhsha Scheme has launched by Minister of Human Resources - Prakash Javadekar. The existing schemes for education Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan and Teacher Training will be brought under a single scheme and will be implemented with more emphasis, the budgetary allocation for education in 2018-19 stood at 34000 Crore. 11.5 Lakh schools are expected to be benefited from the scheme.
- ❑ “Go to village” scheme has been launched by the government of Manipur for delivering door step government services to remote villages in the state.
- ❑ Madhya Pradesh government has launched first integrated smart cities control center in bhopal in May 2018.
- ❑ India’s longest rail road bridge “Bogibeel Bridge” linking dibrugarh in Assam and Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh covering a distance of 4.94 Km will be inaugurated in 2018.The bridge is built over river brahmaputra.
- ❑ Ministry of Environment has launched Green Skill Development Programme which is aimed to train over 5.5 lakh workers in environment and forest sectors through 30 courses by 2021.

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- ❑ Bharat Inclusion Initiative has been launched by IIM Ahmedabad’s Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in areas of financial inclusion, education, health and livelihood.Neharika Vohra is appointed as the chairperson of the initiative.
- ❑ Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has launched a state ranking framework for inculcating competition among states for promoting and establishing a startup environment in the states.

- ❑ Government of India has approved setting up of Micro Irrigation Fund with an Initial Corpus of Rs 5,000 Crore to be managed by NABARD under PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana.
- ❑ Government of India has approved National Biofuels Policy 2018 with a budget of Rs 5000 Crore over next 6 years.
- ❑ Minister of Commerce and Industry - Suresh Prabhu has launched an Intellectual Property Mascot - IP Nani (a tech savvy grandmother) at a conference in New Delhi to combat IP crimes with the assistance of its grand son "Chhotu".
- ❑ Government of India has approved continuation of Umbrella Scheme - Green Revolution : Krishonnati Yojana in agricultural sector from 2017-18 to 2019-20 with an expenditure of Rs 33,269 Crore.

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- ❑ The third advance estimates of production of major crops for 2017-18 has been released by department of agriculture, cooperation and family's welfare.
Food Grains Production reached a record of 279.51 Million Tonnes
Rice Production - 111.52 Million Tonnes
Wheat Production - 98.61 Million Tonnes
Maize Production - 26.88 Million Tonnes
- ❑ Kishanganga Hydroelectric Power Station in Jammu and Kashmir which has a capacity of 330 MW with an estimated cost of Rs 5882 Crore has been inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in May 2018.

- ❑ Incubation Center and Food Testing Laboratory has been inaugurated by Harsimrat Kaur Badal at National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management in Sonapat, Haryana.
- ❑ Ministry of Culture has organized the 9th edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2018 in Tehri, Uttarakhand in May 2018.
- ❑ Government of Telangana has launched a scheme named “Rythu Bandhu”, through which the government will provide a financial assistance of Rs 8000 per acre per year to all farmers in the state who own land. Rs 12000 crore has been set aside for the scheme for 2018-19.
- ❑ Government of Himachal Pradesh has launched Prakritik Kheti Khushhaal Kissan Yojana to promote Zero Budget Natural Farming System in the State.
- ❑ Main event of the 4 day International Yoga Festival will be celebrated in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

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- ❑ The 15th finance commission will be visit Kerala in May 2018, Kerala has become the first state in south India to be visited by the commission.
- ❑ The first ever guidelines on adventure tourism has been launched by Minister of Tourism K J Alphons.
- ❑ PM Swasthya Suraskhsa Yojana has been extended beyond 12th five year plan for a period of three years from 2017-20 with an estimated cost of Rs 14,832 Crores.
- ❑ The 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas has been held in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh in May 2018.

- ❑ International Solar Alliance has set up a task force headed by Chairman of Soft Bank group Masayoshi Son to create startup ecosystems for solar innovations by enabling incubation, partnerships and access to finance.
- ❑ 14 Indian cities have appeared in the list of world's most polluted cities, as per a report published by World Health Organization.
- ❑ Government of Maharashtra has become the first in the country to provide digitally signed land record receipts.
- ❑ The bilateral trade between India and China has started through Nathu La Border.
- ❑ Pakyong Airport in Sikkim has become the 100th functional airport of India.
- ❑ NITI Aayog has signed a Statement of Intent with IBM to assist farmers in improving soil yields, crop productivity and thereby increasing farmers' income using artificial intelligence.
- ❑ World Health Organization has launched a campaign called "REPLACE" for eliminating industrially produced trans fat from global foods by 2023.
- ❑ World's first floating nuclear power plant has been inaugurated in the port city of Murmansk, Russia.

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- ❑ Government of India has approved additional 100 one stop centers in 9 states for assisting violence effected women.
- ❑ Government of India has approved green license plates for private electronic vehicles in the country.

- ❑ As per the recent report by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India's installed capacity of clean energy has reached 70 GW production by March 31st 2018.
- ❑ "BHAROSA" a skill development center has been approved to be set up in Hyderabad, Telangana by United Nations Development Programme.
- ❑ First All Women Passport Seva Kendra has started operations in Phagwara, Punjab.
- ❑ Guwahati Railway Station has become India's first solar powered railway station. The estimated cost of the project was Rs 6.7 Crore.
- ❑ Government of India has earned Rs 1400 Crore revenue from e-VISA scheme which was launched in 2014. 19 lakh tourists have availed the e-VISA facility in 2017.
- ❑ India's first advisory center for energy regulation has been launched by IIT Kanpur with the assistance from government of United Kingdom.
- ❑ INSV Tarini which set on a global expedition - "Navika Sagar Parikrama" last year with an all women crew reached Mandovi, Goa in May 2018.

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- ❑ First commercial flight to arunachal pradesh, a 42 seater alliance air flight, has landed in Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh from Guwahati, Assam in May 2018.
- ❑ NITI Aayog has signed a Statement of Intent with IBM to assist farmers in improving soil yields, crop productivity and thereby increasing farmers' income using artificial intelligence.

- ❑ India's first National Sports University is approved by government of India in Imphal, Manipur.
- ❑ Government of Telangana has introduced a unique insurance schemes for farmers' in the state. The dependent family will receive an amount of Rs 5 lakhs on the death of the insured farmer, the premium will be borne by the government.
- ❑ United Nations Environment Programme has given recognition to Cochin International Airport as the first airport in the world to be fully run by solar power.
- ❑ Approval for another 1.5 Lakh houses has been given at the 34th meeting of the central sanctioning and monitoring authority which took place in New Delhi.
- ❑ Israel has withdrawn recently from the contest of non- permanent seat at UN Security Council for 2019-20. Israel has been competing with Germany and Belgium for the two seats allocated to Western European and Others Group.
- ❑ USA has recently withdrawn itself from the strategic Iran Nuclear Deal. The deal is signed by Iran with US, UK, Germany, France, Russia and China.
- ❑ As per the recent report from UK National Crime Agency, Nigeria, Russia and Pakistan have emerged as the top money laundering sources in United Kingdom.
- ❑ Nepal has become the first country in south east Asia to completely eliminate dreadful trachoma disease.
- ❑ Columbia has become the first Latin American Nation to join North Atlantic Treaty Organization in May 2018.
- ❑ Netherlands Prime Minister Mark Rutte, in his visit to India in May 2018 has signed an agreement to join International Solar Alliance.

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SUMMITS, CONFERENCES AND COMMITTEES

Summit	Inaugurated by / Headed by / Organized by	Place
5 th India - CLMV (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam)	Inaugurated by Minister of Commerce and Industry - Suresh Prabhu and Prime Minister of Cambodia - Hun Sen	Phnom Pneh Cambodia May 21 st and 22 nd 2018
4 th Edition of Vibrant Northeast 2018	Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development	Guwahati, Assam May 03 rd 2018
International Rail Coach Expo	Organized by Integral Coach Factory, Confederation of Indian Industry and RITES Ltd	Chennai, Tamilnadu May 17 th to 19 th 2018
Smart Cities India 2018 Expo	Inaugurated by Minister of Commerce and Industry - Suresh Prabhu	New Delhi
Cochlear Implant Awareness Programme	Inaugurated by Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Krishan Pal Gurjar	Faridabad, Haryana

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International Conference on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights for protection of traditional knowledge	---	Geneva, Switzerland
3 rd edition of UN Peacekeeping Course for African Partners	---	New Delhi
9 th edition of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav	---	Tehri, Uttarakhand May 25 th - 27 th 2018
1 st edition of International Children's Festival of Kerala	Kerala State Council for Child Welfare	Trivandrum, Kerala
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19 th edition of Toonz Animation Masters Summit 2018	---	Trivandrum, Kerala
1 st edition of Global Wind Summit	---	Hamburg, Germany
71 st World Health	Adopted India's Digital	Geneva, Switzerland

Assembly	Health Initiative	May 29 th 2018
15 th Meeting of SCO Cultural Ministers	Minister of State for Culture Dr. Mahesh Sharma will be representing Indian contingent	Sanya, China 17 th May 2018
India – South Africa Business Summit	Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu attended the meeting	Johannesburg, South Africa 29 th and 30 th April 2018
15 th Asia Media Summit 2018	Organized by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	New Delhi 10 th – 12 th May
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Climate Summit 2019	Organized by United Nations	New York, USA
6 th US India Aviation Summit	Inaugurated by Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu	Mumbai 9 th May 2018
Conference of SCO Tourism Ministers	Minister of State for Tourism K J Alphons represented Indian Contingent	Wuhan, China 09 th May 2018

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First Apex Conference for CEOs of Smart Cities	Inaugurated by Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
World Robot Conference 2018	To be held in Beijing	August 15 th – 19 th 2018
First Informal Summit between India – Russia	Attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi	Sochi, Russia
1 st edition of Global Wind Summit	Hamburg, Germany	September 25-28 2018

Important MoU / Sol signed between various Countries and Organizations

Country / Organization	Country / Organization	Purpose
Government of India	France	Technical Cooperation in the field of Railways and Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy
Government of India	Morocco	In the field of Mining and Geology
Government of India	Columbia	In the field of traditional systems of medicine
Institute of Chartered	South African ICAI	Mutual Recognition Agreement for cooperation in development of accounting

Accountants of India		profession in both countries
Government of India	Angola	Cooperation in field of Electronics and Info Tech
Government of India	Google India (Statement of Intent)	Assistance in growth of Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning ecosystem in India
Government of Maharashtra	GRIHA(Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment Council)	To train concerned government officials in the state in rating government buildings.
NITI Aayog	ABB India (Statement of Intent)	To assist India in preparing important sectors of the economy towards improved digitalization, Artificial Intelligence Robotics and Industrial Automation.
Government of Uttar Pradesh.	Ministry of Women and Child Development	For management of home for widows in Varanasi
Government of India	Denmark	For cooperation in the area of food safety
Government of	Singapore	Cooperation in the field of Personnel

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India		Management and Public Administration
Ministry of Power	Power Grid Corporation of India	Capital Expenditure Target for 2018-19 – Rs 25,000 Crore
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International Solar Alliance	Netherlands	Government of Netherlands has joined the International Solar Alliance
Government of India	Netherlands	For cooperation in the field of water management and clean ganga campaign
Government of India	Panama	For Cooperation in the field of Agricultural Research and Education
Ministry of MSME	National Small Industries Cooperation Ltd	For enhanced cooperation in improving the business of NSIC and achieving Rs 27,000 Crore business target for 2018-19
Government of Punjab	United Kingdom	For setting up of Bio-Gas and Bio- CNG Plants in the Punjab
Board of Control for Cricket in India	Un Environment Programme	Signed an Intent for Promotion of Green Cricket in India

RANKING AND INDEX, DEFENCE - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BOOKS AND AUTHORS

RANKING AND INDEX

Name of the Report	Publishing Organization	Rank of India	Rank 01 on the list
(Foreign Direct Investment) FDI Confidence Index	AT Kearney Global Consultancy Firm	11 th	USA
Asia Power Index	Lowy Institute (A Sydney based think tank)	4 th / 25	USA
Business Optimism Index	Grant Thornton	6 th / 37	Austria
SIPRI Report Top Defence Spenders in the World	Stockholm International Peace Research Institute	5 th USD 63.9 Billion	USA USD 610 Billion
Health Care Access and Quality Index	Lancet Study	145 th / 195	Iceland
Wealthiest Countries in the World	AfrAsia Bank Global Wealth Migration Review 2018	6 th (USD 8230 Billion)	USD 62,584 Billion

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Competitiveness Rankings	International Institute for Management Development	44 th	USA
Top 10 Most Powerful People in the World	Forbes List	9 th Rank PM Narendra Modi	President of China Xi Jinping
Fastest Growing Economies of the World for Upcoming Decade	Study by Harvard University	1 st	India

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DEFENCE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

- ❑ Rustom – 2 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle which completed its first round of testing in Karnataka recently and which can fly at an altitude of 22000 ft and fly continuously for 20 hours will be inducted in all the three armies by 2020.
- ❑ Surya Kiran XIII, a joint military exercise between India and Nepal is conducted in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand from May 30th – June 12th 2018.
- ❑ Phase II of Harimau Shakti, a joint military exercise between Indian and Malaysian armies conducted in Hulu Langat, Malaysia.
- ❑ First domestically developed aircraft carrier of china began sea trials off the Liaoning Province in May 2018.
- ❑ 22nd edition of Malabar exercise between India, US and Japan has been conducted in Guam.
- ❑ Vijay Prahar, a joint military exercise between Indian Army and Indian Airforce has been conducted near suratgarh, Rajasthan.

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- ❑ World's largest International Maritime Exercise Rim of Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise will be conducted from June 27 to August 02nd. India is one among the 26 participating countries. The theme for 2018 – Capable, Adaptive, Partners'
- ❑ The first ever mission of NASA to study deep Interior of Mars – “Insight” launched.
- ❑ China has launched a new satellite APSTAR – 6C to provide to provide communication and multimedia services for customers in Asia – Pacific Region.

- ❑ China has launched a satellite Goafen – 5 for monitoring air pollution in the country through observation of various pollutants, aerosols etc. on a real-time basis.
- ❑ India has successfully test fired supersonic missile Brahmos off Chandipur from Odisha Coast.
- ❑ Indian Institute of Science and Research, Kolkata has developed a device recently to detect and remove arsenic from water for making it safe for human consumption.
- ❑ China has launched Quiqiao satellite to explore dark side of the moon from Xichang Center, China.
- ❑ SpaceX has launched most powerful Falcon 9 rocket to launch on board bangladesh's first communication satellite – Bangabandhu Satellite – 1 from cape Canaveral, Florida.
- ❑ Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology has adopted AYUSH as a word in English and Hindi for usage in both scientific and technical purposes.

BOOKS and AUTHORS

Across the Bench – Insight Into Indian Military Judicial System	Lt Gen Gyan Bhushan
A treatise on cleanliness	Rajat Bhargava
Waste Management – an Introduction	Rajat Bhargava
Hidden India (to promote protection of elephants in India)	Latika Nath (Wildlife Photographer)

IMPORTANT DAYS

Day	Observed as	Observed by/ Theme
May 01 st	World Labour Day	---
May 03 rd	World Press Freedom Day	Theme: Keeping Power in Check, Media, Justice and the rule of law
May 07 th	Border Roads Organization	58 th Rising Day
May 08 th	World Red Cross Day	Theme: Memorable smiles from around the world
May 15 th	International Day of Families	Theme: Families and Inclusive Societies
May 18 th	International Museum Day	Hyper connected Museums: New Approaches and New Publics
May 21 st	Anti-Terrorism Day	Observed in India, Martyrdom of former PM Rajiv Gandhi
May 22 nd	International Biodiversity Day	Theme: Celebrating 25 years of action for

		biodiversity
May 24 th	Commonwealth Day 2018	Theme: Towards a common future
May 31 st	World No Tobacco Day	Theme: Tobacco and Heart Disease

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SPORTS

Italian Open Tennis Title	Rafael Nadal
Women's Asia Hockey Championship Trophy 2018	South Korea (Defeated India)
Four Nation Football tournament held in Serbia	Indian U-16 National Football Team
International Shooting Competitions of Hannover	Gold in 10m Air Pistol Heena Sidhu
Spanish Grand Prix Title	Lewis Hamilton
27 th French National Professional Football Players Union Trophy Ceremony France's Football Player of the Year	Neymar
UEFA Football League (Union of European Football Association) held in France	Winners Atletico Madrid
European Golden Shoe Award	Lionel Messi
Formula Junior Racing Series 2018 Championship	Bala Prasath
Women Badminton Uber Cup 2018	Japan (Defeated Thailand)
Indian Shooting Sport Federation – Stage 2	Total Medals Tally topped by

	China Shahzar Rizvi wins silver 10m air pistol
Racing event – Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2018	Lewis Hamilton
Footballer of the Year by Football Writers Association	Mohamad Salah
WBC Asia Boxer of the Year	Neeraj Goyat

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FIRSTS IN INDIA AND WORLD IN APRIL 2018

- ❑ First ever guidelines on adventure tourism has been launched by Ministry of Tourism.
- ❑ Government of Maharashtra has become the first in the country to provide digitally signed land record receipts.
- ❑ First Van Dhan Vikas Kendra has been launched in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh by PM Narendra Modi
- ❑ First all women passport seva kendra started operations in Phagwara, Punjab.
- ❑ Guwahati Railway Station has become India's first solar powered railway station in May 2018
- ❑ India's first advisory center for energy regulation with the help of United Kingdom has been inaugurated in IIT Kanpur.
- ❑ The first ever all women crew navigation of the global, INSV Tarini returned to India and landed in Goa in May 2018.
- ❑ India's first National Sports University is approved in Imphal, Manipur

- ❑ World's first fully solar energy powered airport – Kochi International Airport
- ❑ World's first floating nuclear power station has been unveiled by Russia in May 2018
- ❑ Nepal has become the first country in the South East Asia to completely eliminate dreadful disease trachoma.
- ❑ Columbia has become the first Latin American Country to join the strategic NATO – North Atlantic treaty Organization.
- ❑ China's first India – Dedicated publicly offered investment fund has been launched by china based Industrial and Commercial Bank of China.
- ❑ India's first copper options has been launched by Multi Commodity Exchange of India.
- ❑ Tata Consultancy Services has become the first company to achieve Rs 7 Lakh Crore Market Capitalization in May 2018

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OBITUARIES

Person	Associated Field
Ashok Mitra	Economist and Former West Bengal Finance Minister
Arun Date	Marathi Singer
Rajinder Pal	Cricketer
Anne V Coates	Film Editor (Oscar Winner)
David Goodball	Australia's Oldest Scientist
Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani	Telugu Writer
Alan Bean	4 th Man of Apollo 12 Mission to walk on moon
Pandurang Phundkar	Politics

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