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MARCH - 2018

TAMIL NADU

- 1) **WORLD TAMIL TRADITIONAL CONFERENCE:**The Conference titled “Tamil Language and Tamil Life Style” was held in **Kumarapalayam, Erode district** from **March 1 -2 2018**.
- 2) **14417 Helpline:** TN CM launched the **24 * 7 toll-free** helpline number **14417** Educational guidance for the school students on **3rd March 2018**.
- 3) **NEUTRINO OBSERVATORY:**India-based Neutrino Observatory gets an environment clearance and Central government’s approval on **5th March 2018** and it is going to be set up in Bodi Hills, **Pottipuram Village**, Theni District.
- 4) **ANTYODAYA:** The 1stAntyodaya rake is to be operated as a bi-weekly daytime special train between **Tambaram and Sengotta**from **5th March 2018**.
- 5) **Mr. K. Srinivasan** was appointed as the **New Secretary for Tamil Nadu Assembly** on **6th March 2018**.
- 6) **World Saiva Siddhanta Conference:** 5th edition of this Conference was held in **Chennai** on **8th March 2018**.
- 7) **Doordarshan** was temporarily stopped their services in 7 places in Tamil Nadu from **12th March 2018**. Places such as Arani, Seyyaru, Arcot, Vandhavasi, Thiruvannamalai, Vellore, and Peranampattu.
- 8) **S128:** India’s 1stlargest wind turbine generator**S128** was manufactured by **Suzlon groups India** with a rotor diameter of **128 meters** were installed in **the Sanganeri**site in**Tamil Nadu** on **13th March 2018**.
- 9) **ATULYA MISHRA COMMITTEE:** The State government has appointed Atulya Misra, as an inquiry officer on 14th March 2018 to probe the**KORANGANI forest fire tragedy** in Theni district.
- 10) **UDAN SCHEME(Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik):** Under this scheme, After the gap of 7 years the 1st flight service was flagged off **from Chennai to Salem** after 7 years on **25th March 2018** by Trujet with a fare price of **Rs.1,499/-**

- 11) **1ST INSECT MUSEUM:** India's 1st insect museum was opened at Tamil Nadu Agricultural University campus in **Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu** on **28th March 2018**. **THEME:**“BUGS ARE KINGS”
- 12) **Animal welfare board of India's** headquarter is shifted **from Chennai to Ballabgarh**, Faridabad District in **Haryana**.
- 13) **Tamil Nadu Tourism Award: Chennai International Airport has received this award** and Chennai Airport received in the third consecutive year.
- 14) **Amma mobile app:** TN CM launched the App to help people to access and manage the **e-service of land records** on 2nd March 2018.
- 15) **Krishi Karman Award(2015-16): Tamil Nadu government** has won the award for **high production** of foodgrains. Previously TN govt won **three times(2011-12, 2013-14, 2014-15)**

NATIONAL

- 1) The Union Government has decided to declare **2018** as the “**National Year of Millets**”
- 2) Google commemorated the **45th Anniversary** of the **Chipko movement** with a doodle on 25th March 2018.
- 3) **Asia's Largest Tulip garden** was opened in **Srinagar**, Kashmir.
- 4) **1ST Heli Taxi:** India's 1st Heli Taxi service was started in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**. The **Bell 407** helicopter to be used as a heli taxi.
- 5) **India's Tallest National Flag (110m high)** was unfurled in **Belgaum** (Belagavi) in Karnataka.
- 6) Robertsganj Railway Station in **Uttar Pradesh** was renamed as the **Sonbhadra Railway Station**.
- 7) **Two-tier Panchayat Raj:** Recently, **Arunachal Pradesh** Assembly passed Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill to have a two-tier panchayat raj. **Part -IX, Art (243-243O) & 73rd Amendment** of the Constitution speaks about the panchayat raj.

- 8) **Phirangipuram Railway Station** in Guntur, **Andhra Pradesh** was said to be **All-Women Railway Station** after Mumbai's Matunga and Jaipur's Gandhi Nagar Railway Stations.
- 9) **NagaMohan Das Committee:** To grant a separate "**Religion Status and Minority Status for Lingayat Community**" in Karnataka. CM Siddaramiah accepted the suggestions and declared.
- 10) **Parivara and Talawara:** The Union government has approved the **two ST communities in Karnataka.**
- 11) **Kerala** government announced its **Official State Fruit as Jack Fruit.**
- 12) **Plastic Park: Jharkhand Government** has planned to set up the plastic park in **Deoghar district.**
- 13) **Diu** becomes **1st Union Territory** to fully run **100%** on solar power.
- 14) **Surat district in Gujarat** becomes the first **in the country** to have **100% solar powered Primary Health Centers.**
- 15) **Kollam district in Kerala** brings **all the food** under the **FSSA** (Food Safety and Standards Act).
- 16) **First Cyber Police Station** was established in **Gurugram** district, **Haryana.**
- 17) **Maharashtra Government** has banned the use of plastic.
- 18) **Satara Mega Food Park:** It **was Maharashtra's 1st Mega food park** at Degaon Village in Satara district.
- 19) **Greentech Mega Food Park:** It was the **Rajasthan's 1st Mega food park** at Roopangarh Village in Ajmer district.
- 20) **Arogya Karnataka:** It is the **Healthcare** scheme for Primary, secondary, tertiary treatment for **both BPL and APL families** in the state.
- 21) **Chandigarh** is the **1st City in India** to Install **Digital Automatic Speed Gun Cameras** in the digital boards.

- 22) **NAIPUNYA RATHAM:** “Naipunya Ratham Or World on Wheels”, aimed at taking technology and innovation to the remote corners of **Andhra Pradesh’s** state.
- 23) **Shakti Sthala: World’s Largest Solar Park** was set up in **Tumkur District, Karnataka**. The first phase of the project with a total capacity of **2,000 megawatts** was inaugurated on **2nd March 2018**.
- 24) **Freight Village:** The Union government and Inland Waterways Authority of India are planned to develop a freight village in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**.
- 25) **Hindon Elevated Road:** Hindon **Elevated Road is India’s longest elevated road(10.3Km)** between **Ghaziabad - Delhi** was inaugurated in **Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh**.
- 26) **Annual Survey of India’s City-Systems (ASICS) 2017 report:** For Urban Governance, **Pune** was **ranked 1st among 23 cities** across India, Chennai was ranked as the 19th position & **Bengaluru was in the last position** released by **the Bengaluru-based non-profit organisation, Janaagraha**
- 27) **I-Metros:** Indian **Metros**, Aim of the project is to combine all Indian Metro Rail companies for mutually sharing their ideas & experiences for improving their excellence in performance.
- 28) **Rajasthan** was the **2nd state** to pass the bill for child rape of a girl **below 12** as a **death penalty**. The Criminal Laws (Rajasthan Amendment) Bill, 2018 adds sections **376-AA and 376-DD** to the Indian Penal Code, 1860. **Madhya Pradesh** was the **1st state** to implement this on December 2017
- 29) **Madhya Pradesh** government raised the **Retirement age** for their govt employees from **60 to 62 years**.
- 30) **Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill, 2018:** Based on the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, to provide social **security to workman after retirement** and for **female workers maternity leave from twelve weeks to twenty-six weeks**.
- 31) **National Academy of Coastal Policing:** India’s 1st National coastal policing academy will going to set up in **Gujarat’s Fisheries Research Centre** located in Devbhumi Dwarka district of **Gujarat**.

- 32) **Nabakalebar festival:** The festival is celebrated in Shree Jagannath Temple at Puri, Odisha. During this festival our Hon. President released **Rs.1000 & Rs. 10 Commemorative coins.**
- 33) **Madhavpur Mela:** The Ministry of Culture for the first time had organised **Madhavpur Mela in Madhavpur Ghed** in Porbandar District, **Gujarat.**
- 34) **A study in India Programme:** The Ministry of Human Resources Development has approved **“Study in India”** programme to attract **foreign students to pursue higher education in India.**
- 35) **Know India Programme:** Know India Programme is an initiative of **the Ministry of External Affairs** for **Persons of Indian Origin** between the ages of **18 – 30 years.**
- 36) **Passive Euthanasia:** Supreme Court on **9th March 2018** allowed Passive Euthanasia as the **Right to die with the dignity as a part of Fundamental Right (Art.21).**
- 37) Punjab government is going to observe Bhagat Singh’s martyrdom day as **Youth Empowerment Day** on every year **23rd March.**
- 38) **SPICE PARK:** The Union Government has planned to set up the **Spice Park for Turmeric in Nizamabad, Telangana** because **Telangana** is a **top producer** of Turmeric in India.
- 39) **Losar Festival (Buddhist New Year):** **Buddhist community from Itanagar**, Arunachal Pradesh has celebrated the **silver jubilee** of the Losar Festival on **5th March 2018.**

INTERNATIONAL

- 1) **First** Indian President to **visit Madagascar** is Mr. Ramnath Govind.
- 2) The Indian President **Mr. Ramnath Govind** was the **chief guest** of the 50th year Independence **Day of Mauritius** on **8th March 2018.**
- 3) **Sri Lanka** declared the State of Emergency for 10 days to curb heightening violence targeting the country’s Muslim minority.
- 4) **Sri Lankan government** has decided to **postpone the International Workers Day** event from **May 1 to May 7.**

- 5) **India and Israel** signed an MOU to enhance cooperation on **“National Campaign for Water Conservation in India”**
- 6) **Crime Free Zone: Indo-Bangladesh** Border about **8.3km** stretch was declared as the crime free zone. The stretch covers **Gunarmath and Kalyani Border out Posts in India** and **Puthkhali and Daulatpur in Bangladesh across the border.**
- 7) **International Yoga Festival** was held in **Rishikesh, Uttarakhand**. **CM Trivendra Singh Rawat** inaugurated the festival.
- 8) **The Philippines** withdraws from International Criminal Court
- 9) **Roopur Nuclear Power plant: India, Bangladesh, and Russia** have signed a MoU for construction of Roopur nuclear power plant in **Dhaka, Bangladesh.**
- 10) **World Hindi Secretariat:** President of India has been inaugurated the World Hindi Secretariat in **Port Louis, Mauritius.**
- 11) **Brazzaville declaration:** Brazzaville declaration signed to **protect world’s largest tropical peatlands** in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. It was signed jointly done by Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo and Indonesia
- 12) **Cryptocurrency Sovereign: Marshall Islands** become the **1st** country in the world to recognize its cryptocurrency **“SOVEREIGN” (SOV)** as the legal tender.
- 13) **Newton-Bhabha Fund:** The **Research partnership of India & UK** is called the Newton-Bhabha Fund, which brings **together the UK** and Indian scientific research and innovation sectors to find joint solutions to global challenges.
- 14) **Iraq** became **India’s biggest Oil Supplier** by overtaking Saudi Arabia of supplying **38.9 Million Tonnes of Crude Oil**. Previously Saudi Arabia supplied only 30.9 Million Tonnes of crude oil.
- 15) India has started importing **Liquid Natural Gas (LNG)** from **the US.**
- 16) **Bangladesh** observed March 25 as the **“Genocide Day”**.

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

- 1) **International Solar Alliance: India and France** Co-hosted the 1st International solar Alliance summit at Rashtrapathi **Bhavan** Convention Centre, **New Delhi** on **11th March 2018**. Aim of the Summit is to set the target of generating **175 GW of renewable energy and 100 GW of solar energy within 2022**. ISA was **launched** at the 2015 Paris Conference.
- 2) **Global Digital Summit: “#Future”** was titled for the global digital summit and the event was held in the Kochi, **Kerala**. **Organised by the government of Kerala. THEME: Towards a Digital Future.**
- 3) **8th Theatre Olympics:** The 8th edition of Theatre Olympics was inaugurated by **Vice-president** in **New Delhi & Jaipur** was the co-host of this Olympic. Organised by **National School of Drama. Theme: Flag of Friendship**
- 4) **FINE:** President of India inaugurated **Festival of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (FINE)** in New Delhi.
- 5) **Delhi End-TB Summit:** Prime Minister launched **Tuberculosis (TB) Free India Campaign and Delhi End-TB Summit** in **New Delhi** on the world TB day 24th March. **India’s Target: 2025 & World’s Target: 2030.**
- 6) **Print Biennale India 2018:** The 1st International Print Biennale, an International Exhibition of Graphic Prints was held in **New Delhi**. It was organised by **Lalit Kala Akademi**.
- 7) **SATH-E project:** **NITI Aayog** released the **Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital in Education (SATH-E) project** for school students.

SCHEMES/YOJANAS

- 1) **Ama Gaon, Ama Vikas: Odisha Government** has launched “Ama Gaon, Ama Vikas” (**Our Village, our development**) **self-involvement** programme for rural areas in developmental activities.
- 2) **Udyam Sakhi Portal:** *The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (www.udyamsakhi.org)* **launched** the Portal for the “**women entrepreneurs**” on **8th March 2018** Portal contains learning tools, training programs, and technical assistance.
- 3) **SUVIDHA:** The Union Government has launched the ‘Suvidha’, the **100% Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkin**. The affordable sanitary napkin will be available for **Rs. 2.50** per padat over 3200 Janaushadhi Kendras (Govt Medical Shops) across India.
- 4) **KUSHI: Odisha government** have planned to provide a Sanitary napkin at **free of cost to girl students** for all the schools in Odisha
- 5) “**#Yes I Bleed**” **campaign:** The Union Government has initiated this campaign in Facebook, YouTube etc., for creating **the awareness of menstruation issues**.
- 6) **Urea Subsidy Scheme:** Urea Subsidy is a scheme for **farmers** w.e.f 1st April 2017 and is **wholly financed by the Government of India**. **The scheme** is valid upto 2019-20.
- 7) **Krishi Unnati Mela:** The Mela was held in **New Delhi** and the objective of the mela was to create **awareness among farmers** about latest **agriculture-related technological developments**.
- 8) **IMPRINT II:** It is a **joint initiative** of **IIT’s and IISc**. It will motivate technical institutions to conduct research in areas where the country is heavily dependent on a foreign technology.
- 9) **Swachh Shakti 2018:** It was celebrated in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh under **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan**. The aim of the scheme is to recognize the women in their outstanding contribution towards making **Swachh Bharat in rural India**.
- 10) **Videsh Aaya Pradesh ke Dwaar:** Ministry of External Affairs launched ‘Videsh Aaya Pradesh ke Dwaar’, an engagement programme with regional media in Hyderabad, Telangana.

- 11) **National Nutrition Mission:** The aim of the mission is to achieve an improvement in nutritional status of **Children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women, and Lactating Mothers** in a **time-bound** manner during the next three years beginning from 2017-18.
- 12) **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao:** The Union Government has expanded the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao programme from **161 districts to all the 640 districts** throughout the country. **The Scheme was 1st launched on 2015 in Haryana.**
- 13) **Street Lighting National Programme:** It is the **World's Largest Street Light Replacement Programme** aims to replace 1.34 crore conventional street lights with energy efficient LED lights by March 2019. **Rajasthan** was the **1st** state to adopt this Programme.
- 14) **LaQshya program:** Aim of the program is to improve the quality of **maternity care in labour room and maternity Operation Theatre.**
- 15) **Women Entrepreneurship Platform:** **Niti Aayog** **launched** the platform to build an ecosystem for women across India to realize their **entrepreneurial aspirations** in business. **Theme Song: "Naari Shakti"**
- 16) **National Legislators Conference:** PM inaugurated National Legislators conference in **New Delhi. THEME: We For Development**

DEFENCE & SPACE

- 1) **GSAT 6A:** ISRO had successfully launched the **12th GSLV - GSAT 6A2nd S-band communication satellite** on board of **GSLV-F08 rocket** on **29th March 2018** from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh **after two days the communication from the satellite was lost**
- 2) **GOES-S:** NASA launched the **World's most advanced weather Satellite** named GOES-S launched through **Atlas V Rocket.**
- 3) **Varuna-18:** It is the **Annual Bi-lateral Naval Exercise** between **India & France** was held in Goa Coast, Arabian Sea.
- 4) **Juniper Cobra 2018: Israel – US** joint military exercise held in Israel.

- 5) **ATGM Nag: Indigenously developed** Anti-Tank Guided Missiles **Nag** was successfully test-fired in **desert conditions** against **two tank targets at different ranges**.
- 6) **INS Ganga:** INS Ganga was decommissioned **on 22nd March 2018** at Mumbai, was a Godavari-class **guided-missile frigate** of the Indian Navy. It was commissioned on 30th December 1985.
- 7) **Paschim Lehar: Tri-service maritime exercise** between **Indian Navy, Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Coast Guard** in **the Arabian Sea**.
- 8) **Liaoning:** China is going to build its **1st nuclear-powered aircraft carrier** by the China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation.
- 9) **MILES-18:** It is the part of the **10th edition of the MILAN Exercise** 11 naval ships of 8 countries and 9 Indian ships had participated in MILES-18. **THEME: "Friendship across the Seas"** It is the 1st ever **multi-nation naval exercise** was held at the Andaman Sea organised by Andaman & Nicobar Naval Command.
- 10) **ICG C-162:** Bharati Defence and Infrastructure Ltd built & delivered **high-speed interceptor boat** ICG C-162 to Indian Coast Guard in Mangaluru, Karnataka.
- 11) **K2-229b:** **the K2-229b** planet is an **earth sized planet** was found using **"Doppler spectroscopy technique or wobble method"**
- 12) **M777:** US and Indian joint together for testing **M777 ultra-light howitzers** (ULH) at Pokhran firing range in Rajasthan.
- 13) **Kh-47M2:** It is also known as **"Kinzhal"** a **hypersonic aero ballistic missile** tested by the Russian Aerospace Forces from the **MiG-31BM**.
- 14) **Samvedna 2018:** It is the IAF's **1st Multilateral Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** Air exercise in the South Asian region held **at the Kerala coast**. Air Forces of **Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, UAE, and Myanmar** have joined in the exercise. **'Samvedna' means 'Empathy'**.
- 15) **Gulf Shield 1 military exercise:** The Gulf Shield – 1 military exercise was done between **23 countries including the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member countries** was held in **Eastern Region of Saudi Arabia**.

- 16) **TESS:NASA** has partnered with **SpaceX** to launch **Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite** to search for **exoplanets** using the transit method.
- 17) **Twin Beidou-3:** It is the **China's navigation system** recently China has successfully **sent a pair** of twin **Beidou-30 and Beidou-31** satellites from the **LongMarch-3B** rocket.
- 18) **InSight Mission: NASA** was planned to launch the mission to **explore Mars** named as **InSight** (Interior Exploration using **Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport**) **in May 2018**.
- 19) **RS-28 Sarmat: Russia** has successfully test-fired its **Nuclear Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile RS-28 Sarmat**.
- 20) **SLCM – BABUR: Pakistan Navy** successfully test-fired indigenously developed **Submarine Launched version of Cruise Missile (SLCM – BABUR)**.
- 21) IAF's **C-17 Globemaster heaviest aircraft** for the first time landed in the **Arunachal Pradesh** (Indo-China Border).

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- 1) **The World's Last Northern White Rhino from Sudan has died.**
- 2) **Interstitialium:** Scientists have discovered a new organ in human body named as **"interstitium"** It is the **80th** and might be the **largest organ** in the human body. **79th Organ is Mesentery.**
- 3) **Calcium Silicate Perovskite:** This Mineral was discovered **inside the diamond** at Cullinan Mine, South Africa.
- 4) **TAFERO-EM:** Hetero Healthcare Launches **HIV treatment drug** named TAFERO-EM in India.
- 5) **Bandicoot Robot: Kerala** was the **1st state** to introduce the robot for the **manual scavenging – free.**
- 6) **Earth Hour 2018:** Earth Hour was observed across the world on **24th March 2018** to take a **global call on climate change**. To mark this day, cities from all over the world **turned off** their lights for one hour from **8:30 pm to 9:30 pm** local time. Every year last Thursday of

March Earth Hour is observing. It is the **worldwide** movement organized by WWF.

- 7) **Sach-Gaurav:** India's **1st cloned Assamese buffalo male calf** named Sach-Gaurav was born in **Hisar, Haryana**. It was born to Murrah buffalo.
- 8) **Kadaknath chicken: Madhya Pradesh's** Kadaknath chicken gets **GI tag**. Kadaknath Chicken is looking **black in colour**.
- 9) **Ptilomera nagalanda:** Scientists have discovered the new species of **water strider** named **Ptilomera Nagalanda** belongs to **Ptilomera agriodes** genus in Nagaland.
- 10) **Fluorimeter:** The Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology and a Department of Atomic Energy has developed an instrument called **Fluorimeter** used to **measure the traces of uranium in water**.
- 11) **AgCuTe:** Researchers from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bengaluru developed the **Silver Copper Telluride (AgCuTe)** compound that exhibits **poor thermal conductivity but good electrical conductivity**.
- 12) **Saposhi:** It is a new malware used for **Distributed Denial of Service Attacks**. Saposhi Malware is capable of taking over electronic devices and turning them **into a bot**.
- 13) **AYUSH QOL-2C:** Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences and the Ministry of AYUSH has developed the drug **AYUSH QOL-2C** for **improving the quality of life in cancer patients**.
- 14) **Artificial heart: Chinesescientists** have developed artificial heart using **rocket technology**. The artificial heart uses **magnetic and fluid levitation** **from the rocket system**.
- 15) **Sukhad Yatra app and 1033 Toll-Free:** Both will use for the highway users. Both are used to report an emergency condition and highway-related feedback and these were **prepared by the** NHAI.
- 16) **Krem Puri(24583 metres):**World's **longest sandstone cave** with 3 times that of the Mt. Everest (8848 metres) discovered near **Laitsohum village, Mawsynram area in East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya**.

- 17) **Herbicide-Tolerant (HT) Cotton (BG-III Cotton):** *Dept of Biotech in Min of Sci & Tech* appointed Field Inspection and Scientific Evaluation Committee were constituted to **investigate the illegal cultivation of HT Cotton** in four states.
- 18) **3rd Elephant species** named **African-Savannah** was identified and confirmed by the scientists after Asian & African elephants **in an African forest.**
- 19) **Cops Eye App:** *Madurai Police* have developed the new app to detect the people who are with **criminal backgrounds** by taking photographs with the help of **face recognition** feature.

ECONOMICS

- 1) **Fiscal Deficit:** The budget target of the fiscal deficit for the current fiscal year was reached **113.7%**
- 2) **India back as the world's fastest growing Economy** by achieving **GDP=7.2% & GVA=6.7%** was achieved in the December quarter of 2017-18.
- 3) **According to the Economic Survey,** the economy is likely to grow at **7-7.5%** in 2018-2019.
- 4) India will become the **69th member of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).**
- 5) **World Happiness Index 2018:** **UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network** released the World Happiness Index 2018. **India ranked as 133 among the 156 countries.** (In 2017, India's rank is 122) Finland ranked as the 1st position & Burundi ranked as the last position.
- 6) **Energy Transition Index 2018:** **World Economic Forum** released the report. **India ranked as 78th among the 114 countries.** Sweden ranked as the 1st position & South Africa ranked as the last position.
- 7) **Global Firepower Index 2017:** According to this Index, **Indian Army ranked 4th strongest army in the world.** US, Russia & China are the top three. Released by Global Fire Power (GFP) website.

AWARDS

1) 90th Oscar Awards:

Best Movie	The Shape of Water	
Best Actor	Gary Oldman (Darkest Hour as Winston Churchill)	
Best Actress	Frances McDormand (Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri as Mildred Hayes)	
Best Director	Guillermo del Toro (The Shape of Water)	
Best Animated Feature Film	Coco (Director: Lee Unkrich)	
Best Animated Short Film	Dear Basketball	
Best Foreign Language Film	A Fantastic Woman (Spanish)	
From India	India's NEWTON movie was nominated for the 90 th Oscar Awards.	
Multiple Nominations	The Shape of water	13
	Dunkirk	8
	Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri	7
Multiple Awards	The Shape of water	4
	Dunkirk	3

- Abel Prize 2018 (Equivalent to Nobel Prize given for Maths):** **Robert P. Langlands**, a mathematician from Canada has won the Abel Prize awarded by Norway Govt **“for his visionary program connecting representation theory to number theory”**. Srivasa Varadhan is the only Indian to Receive this prize in 2017.
- Pritzker Prize (Equivalent to Nobel Prize given for Architecture):** **Balkrishna Doshi** is the 1st Indian to receive the **45th Pritzker Award** for designing a low-cost house.
- Lifetime Achievement Award:** **Shatrughan Sinha** has won the lifetime achievement award for his contribution in Arts and Politics.
- Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017:** Indian Navy's project **“Navika Sagar Parikrama”** INSV Tarini team won this award on Intl Women's Day

8th March 2018. **INSV Tarini flagged off on 10th Sep 2017 & completed its voyage on 21st May 2018 (254 days).**

- 6) **Best Exhibitor Award: India won** the Best Exhibitor Award at **Berlin World Tourist Meet** held at Berlin, Germany. India's Short film **"Yogi of the Racetrack"** screened during this meet.
- 7) **Kochon Prize 2017:**The **Indian Council of Medical Research** was awarded Kochon Prize Awarded by **Kochan Foundation South Korea**, for their excellence in **Tuberculosis (TB)** research and development.
- 8) **Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Police Investigation:** The award is to promote high professional standards of **Investigation of Crime in the State/UT Police** and **Central Investigating Agencies** in the country.
- 9) **National Water Digest Award: Chhattisgarh government** has won the award for **Water Conservation-Diversion and increasing the irrigation capacity in the state** on the occasion of World Forest Day – March 21
- 10) The Indian Luxury Train **"PALACE ON WHEELS"** got the **"Tourist Train of the Year"**. **Award is given** by the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association.
- 11) **Miss International Queen: Nguyen Huong Giang** from Vietnam has crowned the Miss International Queen held in Thailand.

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS

1) **Persons who Recently visited India:**

PRESIDENT/KING	COUNTRY	NAME
President	France	Emmanuel Macron
President	Vietnam	Tran Dai Quang
King	Jordan	Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein

2) **Recently appointed “CHIEF MINISTER’s” in India:**

STATE	CANDIDATE
Tripura	Biplab Kumar Deb (BJP)
Meghalaya	Conrad Sangma (National People’s Party)
Nagaland	Neiphiu Rio (Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party)

3) **Country’s New Presidents:**

COUNTRY	PRESIDENT
China	➤ Xi-Jinping (2 nd Time) / ➤ Wang Qishan (Vice President) ➤ Li keqiang (Prime Minister)
Russia	Vladimir Putin (4 th Time)
Peru	Martin Vizcarra
Egypt	Abdel Fattah al-Sisi
Myanmar	Win Myint
Armenia	Armen Sarkisian

- 4) **Satya Pal Malik** was given additional charge as **Governor of Odisha** and **currently**, he is serving as the **Governor of Bihar**.
- 5) Commerce & Industries Minister **Suresh Prabhu** has given additional charge of the **Civil Aviation Ministry**.
- 6) **Subhash Chandra Garg Committee:** The committee was made for the development and regulation of the financial technology sector
- 7) **Bidya Devi Bhandari:** 1st woman **President of Nepal** Mrs. Bidya Devi Bhandari was **elected for the 2nd time**. She was from the Communist Party of Nepal.

- 8) **Bhawana Kanth** became the **2nd Indian Woman Pilot of IAF** to fly in fighter aircraft (**MiG-21 Bison**) followed by Avani Chaturvedi.
- 9) **Prakriti** was the 1st woman to be appointed as the Combat Officer in the **Indo-Tibetan Border Police**.
- 10) **Sitanshu Ranjan Kar** became the head of the **Press Information Bureau (PIB)**.
- 11) **J.S. Rajput** was appointed **as India's representative** to **Executive Board of UNESCO**
- 12) **Krishna Kumari Kolhi** from Sindh province in **Pakistan** became the **1st Hindu woman** to get elected **as Senator**, member of Upper house.
- 13) **Chandra Bhushan Kumar** was appointed as **Deputy Election Commissioner** of India.
- 14) **Justice Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar** was appointed as the **Chairman of Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal**.
- 15) The British Physicist and the Black Hole Theorist **Mr. Stephen Hawking** was passed away on 14th March 2018.
- 16) Amazon CEO **Jeff Bezos** becomes the **Richest Person in the world**.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

- 1) **Stephen Hawking** wrote the book: "**A Brief History of Time**"
- 2) **Rabindranath Tagore's** famous book "**The King of the Dark Chamber**"
- 3) **Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC)** released the book on **Former BCCI President Jagmohan Dalmiya** named: "**A Tribute to Jagu**"

SPORTS

- 1) **Mascots for 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics: *Miraitowa (Olympics)* and *Someity (Paralympics)*** were selected by the Japan elementary School students for Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. **Blue for Olympics & Pink for Paralympics.**
- 2) **INDIAN SUPER LEAGUE (ISL): Chennaiyin FC** won the 2nd ISL title against the Bengaluru FC **held at Bangalore.**
- 3) **Nepal Cricket** team has got the **ODI status.**
- 4) Afghanistan Leg Spinner **Rashid Khan** has become the fastest bowler to reach the **100 ODI wickets.**
- 5) **Smriti Mandhana** created the history for the fastest fifty (**25 off 50 balls**) for India in Women's T20 cricket.
- 6) **Archery Asia Cup: Muskan Kirar and Promla Diamary** won the gold medal in Archery Asia Cup held at Bangkok
- 7) **PV Sindhu and Smriti Mandhana in the Forbes 30, Asia 2018 list.**
- 8) **Asian Wrestling Championships 2018:** Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
Highest no. of Medals:
 - China 14 (7 Gold, 1 Silver, 6 Bronze)
 - India 8 (1 Gold, 1 Silver, 6 Bronze)

MEDAL	PLAYERS from India
Gold	Navjot Kaur - 65Kg (The 1 st Indian Women to win the gold medal)
Silver	Vinesh Phogat - 50Kg
Bronze	Sakshi Malik - 62Kg
Bronze	Rajendra Kumar - 55Kg
Bronze	Harpreet Singh - 82Kg
Bronze	Sangeeta Phogat - 59Kg
Bronze	Bajrang Punia - 65Kg
Bronze	Om Prakash Vinod - 70Kg

9) **2018 ISSF World Cup in Guadalajara, Mexico: Air pistol Shooting**

MEDAL	PLAYERS
Gold	Manu bhaker – 10m
Gold	Shahzar Ravi – 10m
Gold	Manu bhaker and Om Prakash Mitharval – 10m (Mixed)
Gold	Akhil Sheoran - (50metre – 3Position)
silver	Anjum Moudgil - (50metre – 3Position)

10) **2018 ISSF Junior World Cup in Sydney, Australia: Air pistol Shooting**

MEDAL	PLAYERS
Gold	Manu bhaker - 10m
Gold	Manu bhaker and Anmol – 10m (Mixed)
Gold	Anish Bhanwala
Gold	Muskan Bhanwala – 25m

11) **Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2018 (Hockey): Australia won** the cup by beating England in the finals held in Malaysia.

12) **Deodhar Trophy 2018 (Cricket): India B won** the trophy by beating Karnataka.

13) **Deepa Malik won gold in the Javelin** throw in **World Para Athletics Grand Prix, 208 in Dubai**

14) **Indian Wells Title 2018 (Tennis): Juan Martin del Potro** beat the Roger Federer in the finals and lift the trophy.

15) **I-League 2017-18: (Football):** Minerva Punjab won the league.

16) **India** defeated Pakistan and won the **IBSFSnooker Team World Cup** in Doha.

- 17) **Viswanathan Anand** won the rapid event in the 11th Tal Memorial Chess in Moscow, Russia.
- 18) **PV Sindhu** will be the **Flag Bearer** of **Indian Contingent** for the opening ceremony of the **Commonwealth Games**, Gold Coast, Australia.
- 19) **Andhra Pradesh** is going to set up the **“Academy of Adventure Sports”** at Gandikota Village, Kadapa District.
- 20) **Chandigarh** will be going to host Play write 2018, India’s first of its Kind **“Sports Literature Festival”**.

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY
ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS

IMPORTANT DAYS

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
March 1	Zero Discrimination Day	To promote equality before the law
March 3	World Wildlife Day	“Big Cats – Predators Under Threat”
March 4	National Security day	To enhance the safety awareness among the people
March 8	International Women’s Day	“Time is Now: Rural and urban activists transforming women’s lives”
March 10	Raising Day of CISF	CISF was established on this day
March 11	33 rd Inception Day of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)	NCRB is the Nodal Agency for the authentic source of Data on crime, accidents, suicides, and prisons for policy matters and research.
March 14	Pi Day 2018	Pi Day is an annual opportunity for math enthusiasts to recite the infinite digits of Pi.
March 15	World Consumer Rights Day	“Making Digital Market Places Fairer”
March 16	World Sleep Day	“Join the Sleep World, Preserve Your Rhythms to Enjoy Life”
March 20	World Sparrow Day	“I Love Sparrows”
	International day of happiness	“Share Happiness”
March 21	International day of forests	“Forests and Sustainable Cities.”
	World Poetry Day	The main aim of the day is to appreciate and support poets and poetry around the world.
March 22	World Water Day	“Nature for Water”
March 23	World Meteorological Day	"Weather-ready, Climate - Smart"
	Martyrs Day / Shaheed Diwas	The day is to Remember the three great freedom fighters (Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar, and Shivaram Rajguru)
March 24	World Tuberculosis Day	“Wanted: Leaders for a TB – Free world”
	International Day for Achievers	The day is to pay the tribute to Achievers in any fields for their outstanding achievements

Free State Level TNPSC Group II (OT) MOCK TEST on 4th November 2018 (Sunday)

Test Centres: 1. Anna Nagar, 2. Adyar, 3. Salem, 4. Madurai, 5. Trichy, 6. Tirunelveli, 7. Cuddalore, 8. Vellore, 9. Thanjavur, 10. Kancheepuram, 11. Krishnagiri, 12. Erode, 13. Palani, 14. Coimbatore, 15. Namakkal

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