

CURRENT AFFAIRS - CAPSULE

Exclusive for IBPS PO MAINS aspirants

JULY

BANKING

- As per Prime Database Investment Bankers League table for **FY 2017-18**, **IIFL Holdings Ltd. (IIFL)** is **India's top investment bank** for **equity issuances by private sector companies**.
- The **RBI** has issued licence to **Bank of China** to launch operations in **India**.
- **SBI Card**, the country's second largest credit card issuer, announced the launch of '**ELA**' (**Electronic Live Assistant**), a virtual assistant for customer support and services.
- **United Bank of India** to raise equity capital of **Rs 1,500 cr**
- **Licence of Alwar Urban Co-operative Bank in Alwar, Rajasthan** has been cancelled by **RBI** as it is not in a position to pay its depositors in full as and when their claims accrue, among other reasons.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved **USD 503-million** lining project of the **Son canal** in **Shahabad-Bhojpur** region of **Bihar** which would benefit the agriculture sector immensely in the region.
- **HDFC securities** announced launch of Mutual Funds transactional capabilities on **Facebook Messenger** through their virtual assistant, **Arya**.
- **State Bank of India** and **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development** have joined hands to provide collateral-free credit through Joint Liability Groups in **Telangana**.
- **Life Insurance Corporation of India's (LIC's)** board has approved acquiring up to **51 %** stake in **IDBI Bank**.
- First Lady **Usha Vohra** e-inaugurated the first '**All-Women Branch of Jammu and Kashmir Bank**' at a function organised at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC).
- The **Reserve Bank of India** will shortly issue **Rs100** denomination banknotes in the **Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series**, bearing the signature of **Dr Urjit R. Patel**, Governor, Reserve Bank of India.
- **Jana Small Finance Bank**, erstwhile MFI - Janalakshmi Financial Services, officially launched its commercial banking operations.
- **Karnataka Bank** has launched the **DigiLocker facility** by integrating it with the bank's **MoneyClick Internet Banking channel**.
- South-based private sector lender **Federal Bank** has received the regulatory nod to open offices in **Bahrain, Kuwait and Singapore**.
- **Bank of Baroda** sets up '**war room lawyer team**' for bad loan recovery
- **Indian banks** and **financial institutions (FIs)** entered into an inter-creditor agreement (ICA) to expedite the resolution of **banks' non-performing assets (NPAs)**, or bad loans, and ensure smooth credit flow.
- **SoftBank Group Corp** will launch a digital payments service in **Japan**, and has partnered **Paytm** for the service.

ECONOMY

- Premier stock exchange **BSE** has entered into an agreement with the **Bombay Metal Exchange** (BME) for the growth and systematic development of commodity derivatives markets in the non-ferrous metals complex.
- **Tata Steel** board has approved joint venture (JV) with **German steel** major **ThyssenKrupp** AG to combine the **European steel** business of both the firms.
- **Numaligarh Refinery Ltd** (NRL) in Assam has become the **first oil public sector undertaking** (PSU) to adopt an online legal compliance system by introducing 'Legatrix'.
- **World Bank** Group member **IFC** has invested **\$100** million in **Mahindra & Mahindra** Financial Services Ltd. (Mahindra Finance).
- **Reliance** Industries Chairman **Mukesh Ambani**, **Reliance** is **India's largest payer** of Goods and Services Tax (**GST**), Excise and Customs Duty, and Income Tax in the private sector..
- **Google** announced to open the **India** chapter of its global "**Launchpad Accelerator**" mentorship programme to **nurture Indian startups** working in the fields of **Artificial Intelligence** (AI) and **Machine Learning** (ML),
- **Vodafone Idea** is on its way to becoming the **largest telecom** operator in India as the Department of Telecommunications (**DoT**) gave a conditional nod to the merger between the **second-** and the **third- largest telcos** in the country.
- State-owned **BSNL** launched **India's first** Internet telephony service "**Wings**".
- **India** has become the **world's sixth** largest **economy** overtaking **France**, as per **World Bank** data on gross domestic product (**GDP**) of **countries** for 2017.
- **India** is now the **69th** shareholder of the **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development** (EBRD), paving the way for more joint investment with **Indian** companies across the bank's regions of operation.
- The market valuation of **Reliance Industries** **Rs 7 lakh crore** mark, making it the second company after **TCS** Tata Consultancy Services' to achieve this milestone. Reliance Industries had crossed the **\$100-billion** market capitalisation mark for the first time in the last 10 years.
- The **International Monetary Fund** (IMF) on projected a growth rate of **7.3%** in **2018** and **7.5%** in **2019** for **India** as against **6.7%** in **2017**, making it the fastest growing country among major economies..
- **PhonePe** has acquired **Zopper** Retail as part of its strategy to aggressively ramp up its **offline business**.
- **India's** largest **IT** services firm **TCS** has signed a partnership agreement with **Total**, a global integrated energy producer and provider, to create a **digital innovation centre** in **India**.
- Defense electronics company **Bharat Electronics Ltd** (BEL) signed a memorandum of understanding (**MoU**) with **Swedish aerospace** and defence firm for jointly marketing **air surveillance** radar developed by the **two companies**.
- **Walmart** was entering into a strategic partnership with **Microsoft** on "**digital transformation**" for the onetime retail industry leader. The move is **aimed** at helping **Walmart** compete better against **Amazon**.
- **Infosys** Foundation, the philanthropic arm of **IT** major, **Infosys** signed a **MoU** with the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (**BMRCL**) for the construction of a station at **Konappana Agrahara** in Electronics City.
- **India** will continue to be the **fastest** growing major **economy**, ahead of **China**, with **7.3** per cent growth rate in **2018-19** and **7.6** per cent in **2019-20**.
- Despite short-term challenges, **India's economic** growth story remains intact and the country's **GDP** is expected to grow around **7.5** per cent in **FY18-19**.: **FICCI**.
- received clearance from stock exchanges for its merger with **Indus Towers**.
- **Hindalco Industries** has agreed to acquire **U.S.** based **Aleris** Corporation for an enterprise value of **\$2.58** billion in a move that will help **Hindalco** become a global leader in aluminium excluding **China**.

NATIONAL

- The government has set up a **13-member committee** to upgrade the norms for computation of **economic data at states and districts level in the backdrop of plans** to revise the base year for National Accounts or GDP calculation. The Committee for Sub-National Accounts will be headed by **Ravindra H Dholakia**, a retired professor of IIM Ahmedabad.
- Jharkhand Chief Minister **Raghubar Das** announced that **the first 'Khadi Mall'** of the country will be opened soon.
- The **Delhi** government launched '**Happiness Curriculum**' for its school students, with the **Dalai Lama** gracing the occasion, India can lead the world by uniting the modern and ancient knowledge and help it overcome "**negative emotions**" of the mankind.
- **The Chief Election Commissioner Shri. O.P. Rawat**, along with the Election Commissioners Shri Sunil Arora and Shri Ashok Lavasa launched a mobile app, called '**Cvigil**', for citizens to report any violation of the model code of conduct during elections.
- Gujarat Chief Minister **Vijay Rupani** launched '**Poshan Abhiyan**'—a statewide mission to eradicate malnutrition among children by providing them nutritious food through Anganwadi centres. the chief minister also launched '**Purna**' project to eliminate malnutrition among girls in the age group of 14 to 18.
- Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** flagged off **Wagon Cab's taxi** ambulance services. A startup, Wagon Cab claims to be India's first road emergency cab services provider.
- **Madhya Pradesh Govt.** has launched **MP Saral Bijli Bill** Scheme under the flagship **Mukhyamantri Jan Kalyan (Sambal) Yojana**. Govt. will now ensure the availability of electricity to the families of registered labourers at a nominal price of Rs. 200 per month for domestic use. To avail the scheme benefits, candidates can download the offline application form at mpenergy.nic.in
- The **National Security Guard** will be the **first central paramilitary** force to opt for **e-ticketing** instead of the railway warrant under an agreement signed with the **IRCTC**.
- In a major development, the Centre and the state governments of **Tripura and Mizoram** finally managed to sign an agreement for repatriation of thousands of people belonging to the **Bru community** from **Tripura to Mizoram**.
- The **Election Commission** announced that it will soon issue **braille voter** identity cards to visually-challenged electors across the country.
- **Union Minister of Coal, Railways, Finance & Corporate Affairs, Piyush Goyal** launched the **Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System (CMSMS)** and Mobile Application '**Khan Prahari**'.
- In an attempt to cut the costs incurred by the state over travel expenses of ministers and bureaucrats, **West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee** announced the '**one person, one car**' policy.
- The **Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)** has developed a mobile app '**GST Verify**' to protect interest of consumers.
- In a unique ruling, the **Uttarakhand High Court** accorded the status of "**legal person or entity**" to animals in the State, "they have a distinct persona with corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a living person."
- **Union Minister of State for Culture(I/c), Dr. Mahesh Shrama**, inaugurated exhibition titled "**Arth - art for earth**" at **IGNCA, New Delhi**.
- After **Maharashtra** and **Uttar Pradesh**, **Himachal Pradesh** Government is all set to ban the use of plastic and thermocol cutlery in the state.
- **Uttar Pradesh** Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** announced ban on **plastic bags, cups and glasses across the state** from **July 15** onwards.
- Delhi Tourism's much awaited "**Mango Festival**", celebrating the **king of fruits**, is back this summer season. The three-day festival is being organised by Delhi Tourism this year at Dilli Haat, Janakpuri.

- South Korean President **Moon Jae-in** is on a four-day visit to India where he will hold discussion with Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on a range of issues, including trade and defence cooperation.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and visiting **South Korea President Moon Jae-in** will inaugurate a **Samsung Electronics facility in Noida in Uttar Pradesh**. The expanded factory is being billed as the **world's largest mobile phone** production unit in terms of number of devices rolled out every month.
- **Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Ananthkumar** will be inaugurating the **CIPET: Centre for Skilling & Technical Support (CSTS)** at ITI Building and laying the foundation stone of new **Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) Building at Doiwala, Dehradun**.
- In order to reduce electricity losses, the **Maharashtra government** will next month launch a new scheme allocating one transformer per farmer. The scheme, **"one farmer one transformer"**, will be unveiled on August 15.
- **Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu becomes first Chairman of Rajya Sabha to sign an MOU with Rwanda** for promoting inter-parliamentary dialogue.
- **Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani** has given in-principle approval for the 39-crore rupees **'Seema Darshan'** project for developing more infrastructure facilities from T-Junction to Zero Point at Nadabet near Suigam in Banaskantha district to instil patriotism through a unique Gujarat initiative for border tourism.
- 'Heritage Cabinet' constituted by the Odisha Government ; CM Naveen Patnaik is the chairman
- The **Haryana Education Department** has launched **"I am not afraid of English"** initiative to promote English language right from Class 1 in the state's primary schools.
- World's first and cheapest clean drinking water project launched in Darbhanga , Bihar.
- World famous Rath Yatra being celebrated in Puri, Odisha
- **India** has become the vice-chair (regional head) of the **Asia Pacific region** of the **World Customs Organisation (WCO)** for a period of two years till June 2020.
- **The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)** has constituted a **10 Member Committee**, headed by the Secretary of Ministry of Corporate Affairs, **Shri Injeti Srinivas** for review of the penal provisions in the **Companies Act, 2013** may be setup to examine **'de-criminalisation'** of certain offences.
- Haryana Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** launched the **'Paudhagiri'** campaign, aimed at increasing the green cover in the state.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** visited **Mirzapur** and inaugurated the **Bansagar** irrigation project aimed at benefiting farmers. He also launched a bridge across the **Ganga in Chunar** and laid foundation stones for a medical college and a 229-crore project of widening the Mirzapur-Allahabad national highway.
- Union Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** laid the foundation stone for **National Skill Training Institute (NSTI)** to be set up at a cost of Rs 160 crore to meet the rising demands for skilled manpower **at Barang in Bhubaneswar**.
- **Government** has decided to set up a committee under the Chairmanship of **Shri Anil Swarup**, former Secretary, School Education, with suitable representations from NCC, M/o Youth Affairs and Ministry of HRD to suggest measures to strengthen **National Cadet Corps (NCC)** and **National Service Scheme (NSS)**.
- Govt launched a new technology called the MicroDot technology to check vehicle thefts.
- **Chhattisgarh** Chief Minister **Dr. Raman Singh** launched an online portal and mobile app called **'Aabhaar-Aapki seva ka'** by the online pension management system for the pensioners of the state.

- **National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE)**, an autonomous institution under the Ministry has installed a remote sensing instrument- **LiDAR** for assessment of offshore wind resource at Gulf of Khambat, off the Gujarat Coast.
- University Grants Commission (UGC) has constituted a Committee consisting of Prof. **R.C. Deka** (chairman), Former Director, AIIMS, New Delhi, to regulate the fees chargeable by self-financed Deemed to be Universities in Medical and Dental Courses.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurates the most advanced System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting (SAFAR) at ChandniChowk in Delhi.
- The environment ministry has decided to re-introduce a scheme for awarding Indian authors for their original work in Hindi on subjects related to environment including pollution and climate change. The **Medini Puraskar Yojna**, which aims at promoting original writing of books in Hindi, will have four awards for authors of various environmental topics.
- The first international festival of Mizoram '**Mizo Hnahthlak**' was organized **Dengthuama Hall in Aizawl, Mizoram.**
- The **government** has set up a **four-member committee** headed by Union Home Secretary **Rajiv Gauba** to suggest measures and legal framework to effectively deal with incidents of mob violence and lynching.
- Farmers in Rajasthan will soon have the ease to get their defunct transformers replaced within six hours of registering a complaint through a mobile app **Bijli Mitra.**
- **West Bengal** Governor **K N Tripathi** inaugurated the 18th International Children's Film Festival in which 36 films from 17 countries would be screened.
- **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** inaugurated the Rs 300 crore Rukura Medium Irrigation Dam project in Sundargarh district.
- The **Kerala Tourism Development Corporation (KTDC)** is all set to launch India's first public sector hotel run entirely by women for women in the state's capital city, **Thiruvananthapuram.**
- The **West Bengal Assembly** passed a resolution to change the name of the State as '**Bangla**' in three languages — **Bengali, English and Hindi.**
- Indian Railways Launches "Mission Satyanishtha" a Program on Ethics in Public Governance.
- **The Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, laid the foundation stone for permanent campus of **National Skill Training Institute (NSTI)** for Women at Mohali, Punjab. This is the first NSTI Institute for Punjab and only one of its kind in India which is exclusively for women.
- **The Justice Srikrishna** committee, in a report and a draft Bill, recommended the creation of a **Data Protection Authority** that will be in charge of ensuring that entities processing data do so in keeping with the law.
- The **Dindigul district administration** has proposed to conduct **Kurinji flower, Kodai** festival in the month of August. The Kurinji flower, which blossoms once in 12 years in Kodaikanal, Yercaud and Nilgiris would be showcased.
- The **IT** minister launched a desktop software **e-Aksharayan** to enable editing of text printed on scanned document and it can be downloaded for free from its website.
- **Rajasthan** has become the **first State in the country** to implement the national policy on **biofuels unveiled** by the Centre in May this year.
- **Chhattisgarh** Chief Minister **Raman Singh**, along with National Award-winning actress Kangana Ranaut, launched a smartphone distribution scheme, '**Mobile Tihar**', under the **Sanchar Kranti Yojna (SKY).**

INTERNATIONAL

- **China's one billion dollar loan to Pakistan** has come at a time when the **South Asian country has been officially placed on a terrorism financing watchdog's grey list.**
- **A prominent American think tank** announced a fellows exchange programme aimed at enabling **India and the US to better harness technology to improve the lives of their citizens.**
- **The world's first digital Psychedelic art museum** opened its doors to the public in **Tokyo, Japan** allowing patrons to step all the way into the artworks.
- India goes on a joint venture to operate the the world's emptiest airport Mattala international airport in southern Sri Lanka with the Sri Lankan government.
- **India's latest frontline warship INS Trikand** has reached Sri Lanka in a goodwill visit. Sri Lanka Navy ceremonially welcomed the state-of-the-art warship in accordance with naval traditions.
- UN Security Council adopts resolution **Resolution 2427** to protect children in armed conflict
- **The United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres** constituted a High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation. The panel will be co-chaired by **Melinda Gates**, Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and **Jack Ma, Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group.**
- **INS Tarangini** arrived at her seventh port, Sunderland in the UK, during her #Lokayan-18 voyage and also to participate in the prestigious '**tall ship races - 2018**'.
- **The Portuguese parliament** has approved a law that will allow citizens to change **their gender and name from the age of 16** without a medical report showing "identity disruption".
- **A new integrated state-of-the-art integrated Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC)** was jointly inaugurated by **Home Minister Rajnath Singh** and his **Bangladeshi counterpart Asaduzzaman Khan** at **Dhaka's Jamuna Future Park.**
- **Militaries of India and Pakistan** will be part of a mega **anti-terror drill in Russia** next month which is being organised by the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** with an aim to expand cooperation among the member countries to deal with terrorism and extremism.
- **European Union (EU) and Japan** have signed an **Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)** and creates **free trade zone covering nearly third of the world's GDP.** It was signed at **EU-Japan summit in Tokyo** by **EU Presidents Jean-Claude Juncker and Donald Tusk** and **Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.**
- **The first commercial flight to Eritrea in two decades** departed from Addis Ababa, **Ethiopian**, after the **two nations ended their bitter conflict in a whirlwind peace process.**
- As part of its plan to connect billions of people who are still offline, **Facebook** is working on launching **Athena**, its own **Internet satellite**, early in 2019.
- The British capital has launched an action plan to become **the world's most walkable city.** The '**Walking Action Plan**', released by the Mayor of **London Sadiq Khan's** team, **aims to encourage a million additional walking trips each day by 2024.**
- **Myanmar** joined the **India-initiated International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, becoming **the 68th member** of the grouping that is aiming at optimum utilisation of solar energy.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** left on a **three-nation visit to Rwanda, Uganda and South Africa.** In the first leg of his five-day visit, Mr Modi will reach Rwanda. India will extend two lines of credit of **100 million US Dollars each for agriculture and industrial sectors to Rwanda during his two-day visit to that country.**
- **Japan's parliament** passed a controversial law to legalise casino gambling paving way for up to three casino resorts to open.

- **An Indian Air Force contingent** comprising of **four frontline Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter** aircraft participated in **Exercise Pitch Black-2018**, a multinational exercise hosted by **Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)**

PERSON IN NEWS

- **Former Indian captain Rahul Dravid (the fifth Indian player)** and Australian legend **Ricky Ponting** have been inducted into the **ICC Hall of Fame** for their stupendous achievements in international cricket.
- **Major General VD Dogra** became the **first serving Indian Army officer** to complete an **Ironman triathlon**. The Ironman is an international triathlon consisting of three consecutive events — **3.8 km of swimming, 180 km cycling and 42.2 km of running**.
- **Drug major Sun Pharmaceutical Industrie's** Sun Pharma Consumer Healthcare has signed **Bollywood star Akshay Kumar** as the **brand ambassador of health supplement Revital H**.
- **Satyarup Siddhanta** has become the second Indian mountaineer after **Malli Mastan Babu** to climb **Mt Ojos del Salado**, the highest **volcano in the world**.
- **PM Modi third most followed world leader on Twitter, Sushma Swaraj most popular among women leaders**
- Indian artistic gymnast **Dipa Karmakar**, as **brand ambassador of the Tripura state**.
- **Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal** has confirmed that Indian Athlete **Hima Das** will be named as the **first sports ambassador of the state**.

PLACES IN NEWS

- **Bengaluru** to get **India's first e-waste plant**.
- The **Union Cabinet** decided to name the **Agartala airport** in **Tripura** after **Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore**, the erstwhile ruler of the state.
- **National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)** has launched a Centre of Excellence for **Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (CoE - DSAI)** in collaboration with the Government of Karnataka, in **Bengaluru**.
- The next **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** will be held in the holy city of **Varanasi** in January 2019. The theme of this event is **'Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India'**.
- **First-ever metal craft exhibition** inaugurated in **Leh** at **Jammu & Kashmir**
- **Mumbai's Elphinstone Road Station** to be Renamed As **Prabhadevi**

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- India is in the process of inducting the first batch of its intercontinental ballistic missile system — **Agni-V** — (with a strike range of 5,000 km) which will bring targets across China within its range, and is expected to significantly bolster the country's military prowess.
- Indigenous fighter aircraft **Tejas** of no 45 squadron **'The Flying Daggers'** formally started operations from the Air Force Station at Suler in Coimbatore under group captain S Dhankhar.
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** conducted another test of its crew escape system **pad abort test (PAT)** — a key system being developed as part of the proposed human spaceflight programme — taking another step forward in realising another indigenous technology.
- China successfully launched two remote sensing satellites for Pakistan, marking the first international commercial launch for the **Long March-2C rocket** in about 19 years. The satellites — **PRSS-1** and **PakTES-1A** — were launched from the **Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre** in northwest China.
- **New Zealand** scientists have performed the first-ever **3-D, colour X-ray** on a human, using a technique that promises to improve the field of medical diagnostics.

- A high thrust version of the **Vikas Engine** was successfully qualified through a ground test for duration of 195 seconds at **ISRO** Propulsion Complex (IPRC) in Tamil Nadu's Mahendragiri, moving a step closer for use in **Geosynchronous Launch Vehicle MK-III (GSLV MK-III)**.
- The **BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** was successfully test-fired from an Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Odisha's coastal Chandipur district. The success of the test will add into the longevity of life.
- **Facebook will launch a constellation of satellites in early 2019 to beam 5G internet access down to remote areas**
- **SpaceX** successfully launched communications satellite **Telstar 19 VANTAGE** to a **geostationary transfer orbit (GTO)**. It has set a record as the satellite launch is marked by the heaviest payload that a Falcon 9 has ever carried to a GTO.
- **Google Unveils 'Edge TPU' and 'Cloud IoT Edge' at the Google Cloud Next '18 conference in San Francisco.**
- **China launches high-resolution Earth observation satellite to monitor BRI** China successfully launched an **optical remote sensing satellite**, as part of its high-resolution Earth observation project which will also provide data for the Belt and Road Initiative. The **Gaofen-11** satellite was launched on a **Long March 4B rocket** at 11 am (local time) from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in northern Shanxi Province.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- **Himachal Pradesh** has been adjudged **first among states** for its performance under the **Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritav Abhiyan (PMSMA)** in the country.
- **Noted artist Anjolie Ela Menon**, received the **National Kalidas Samman** in Delhi for visual arts from the **Madhya Pradesh government**.
- **"The English Patient,"** the wartime love story by **Michael Ondaatje**, won the **Golden Man Booker Prize**. The one-off award, voted for by the public, commemorates the **50th anniversary of the Man Booker prize**.
- **Ishwar Sharma**, An eight-year-old Indian-origin schoolboy who is the under-11 UK national yoga champion **has been named the British Indian of the Year** for his achievements in the field.
- **Well-known carnatic vocalist Aruna Sairam** has been selected for this year's **'Sangita Kalanidhi'** award of the Music Academy.
- **Repc Micro Finance Ltd**, a **non-banking finance company** promoted by **Repc Bank**, received **Nabard 2018 award** for its service to **self-help group (SHG) linkage in Tamil Nadu for the fiscal year 2017-18**.
- **Indian football team captain Sunil Chhetri** was named **the 2017 All India Football Federation (AIFF) Player of the Year**. This was announced by AIFF after its Executive Committee meeting in Mumbai.
 - 2017 AIFF Woman Footballer of the Year: Kamala Devi.
 - 2017 AIFF Player of the Year: Sunil Chhetri.
- **The list of 2018 Ramon Magsaysay Award winners.**
 - **Bharat Vatwani-India**
 - **Sonam Wangchuk-India**
 - **Youk Chhang-Cambodia**
 - **Maria de Lourdes Martins Cruz-East Timor**
 - **Howard Dee-Philippines**
 - **Vo Thi Hoang Yen-Vietnam**
- India captain **Virat Kohli** was presented with the International Player of the Year award for 2017-2018 by England's Barmy Army as India concluded Day 1 of the practice match against Essex. Barmy Army is a popular fan club of English cricket supporters.
- **The Cochin International Airport Ltd (CIAL)** has bagged the **'Champion of Earth Prize -2018'**, the highest environmental honour instituted by the **United Nations Environment Programme(UNEP)**.

- **Assamese film "Xhoihobote Dhemalite"** ("Rainbow Fields") bagged three top awards at the **3rd Love International Film Festival 2018 in Los Angeles including best movie**. Besides the best film, it also won the awards for **best actress (Dipannita Sharma)** and **best music (Anurag Saikia)**.
- **Mohun Bagan 'Ratna'**, the highest honour of the century-old club will be conferred on **former India international Pradip Chowdhury** at its foundation day programme.
- The Congress announced that **24th Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award** will be given to former **West Bengal Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi** for his outstanding contribution towards promotion of **communal harmony**.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Books	Author
Eleventh Hour	Hussain Zaidi
Winning Like Sourav: Think & Succeed Like Ganguly	Abhirup Bhattacharya
Lethal White	J.K. Rowling
Gandhi: The years that changed the world (1914-1948)	Ramachandra Guha

APPOINTMENTS

Name of the organisation	Name of the Person
Mexico's President	Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador
Director & General Manager of United India Insurance	K B Vijay Srinivas
chairman and managing director of steel PSU SAIL	Saraswati Prasad
Payments Council of India Chairman	Vishwas Patel
chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)	Adarsh Kumar Goel
MD & CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank	T Latha
Director General of Indian Council of World Affairs	T C A Raghavan
first woman chief justice of high court of Pakistan	Justice Tahira Safdar
HSBC India CEO	Surendra Rosha

SEMINARS AND MEETINGS

Seminars and Meetings	Place
9th meeting of EPG on Indo-Nepal relations	Kathmandu
India's First Global Mobility Summit	New Delhi
2nd meeting of India & Nepal joint working group on tourism	Kathmandu
17th World Sanskrit Conference	Vancouver, Canada
International Round Table Conference	New Delhi
World cities Summit 2018	Singapore
4th National Conclave on Mines and Minerals	Indore, Madhya Pradesh
India and China hold maritime security dialogue	Beijing, China
8th India-Oman Joint Commission Meeting	Muscat, Oman
Indo-US delegation meeting on Defence Cooperation	New Delhi
India, Japan hold Maritime Affairs Dialogue	New Delhi
8th BRICS Health Ministers' Meeting	Durban, South Africa
First Meeting of India-Bangladesh Joint Committee on Border Haats	Agartala, Tripura
Global Disability Summit 2018	London, United Kingdom
6th India-UK Science & Innovation Council (SIC) Meeting	New Delhi

SPORTS

- **World Champions Australia** defeated **India 3-1** via shoot-off after both teams were locked at **1-1** in regulation time to clinch its second consecutive **Champions Trophy hockey title**.
- **Australia** captain **Aaron Finch** slammed **172** off just **76** balls to set the record for the **highest** individual score in **T20** international cricket, bettering the previous best of **156** which he himself had set five years ago against England in Southampton.
- A player guilty of **ball-tampering** could now be banned for up to **six tests** or **12 one-days** after the **International Cricket Council (ICC)** introduced harsher sanctions at its **five-day** Annual Conference in **Dublin**.
- Shot putter **Inderjeet Singh** has been **banned** for **four** years for testing positive for **anabolic steroids** but the anti-doping disciplinary panel pulled up the **National Anti-Doping Agency** and the **National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL)** for departures from standard protocol with regard to collection and analysis of samples.
- **Bajrang Punia** emerged champion at the **Tbilisi Grand Prix** in the **65kg** category after outplaying **Iranian** wrestler **Mehran Nasiri** in the final in **Georgia**.
- **India's** premier gymnast **Dipa Karmakar** clinched the **gold** medal in the vault event of **FIG Artistic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup** at Mersin, **Turkey**. This is **Dipa's first medal** in a World Challenge Cup.
- **Hima Das** became the **first Indian** athlete to **win a gold medal** at a global meet: the **IAAF World U-20 Athletics Championship 2018** at **Tampere**.
- **FIFA World Cup 2018.**
 - **France** overwhelmed **Croatia 4-2** in the **World Cup final** at **Moscow's** Luzhniki stadium to lift the **trophy** for the **second** time in **20 years**.
 - **Belgium** beat **England 2-0** in the **World Cup third-place** play-off to secure their best ever finish at a **World Cup**.
 - **FIFA awards for the 2018 World Cup:**

Awards	Winners
Golden Boot	Harry Kane (England), six goals
Golden Ball	Luka Modric (Croatia)
Golden Glove	Thibaut Courtois (Belgium)
Young Player	Kylian Mbappe (France)
FIFA Fair Play Trophy	Spain
MAN OF THE MATCH (FINAL)	Antoine Griezmann (France)

- **Tennis - Wimbledon Championships 2018 Winners.**

	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Novak Djokovic(Serbia)	Kevin Anderson (South Africa)
Women'sSingles	Angelique Kerber (Germany)	Seren Williams (USA)

- **India** jumped one place to the **fifth** position in the **men's hockey world rankings** issued by the **International Hockey Federation (FIH)**.
- Planning for its next **three Olympic Games**, the International Olympic Committee (**IOC**) has added **seven medal events** to the **2022 Beijing Winter Games**. The next **Winter Olympics** will now include **women's monobob**, **Big Air freestyle** skiing for **men** and **women**, plus **mixed team** events in short track speed **skating**, **ski jumping**, **ski aerials** and **snowboard cross**.

- **Rafael Nadal** remains **top** of the **ATP tennis world rankings** with the **32-year-old 17-time Grand Slam winner** enjoying a comfortable margin over his eternal rival the **Swiss Roger Federer**.
- Veteran **South Africa** fast bowler **Dale Steyn** is aiming to **retire** from **limited overs** cricket after the **2019 World Cup** in **England**.
- The **Indian women's** compound **archery team** created history by scaling to the **top** of the **world rankings**, which is bound to give a big boost ahead of next month's **Asian Games** in **Indonesia**.
- **Aapil Dev** will represent **India** in the 2018 **Asia Pacific Seniors golf tournament** after a string of good performances in the **All India Senior** Tournament.
- **India's** star wrestlers **Bajrang Punia** and **Pinki** won **gold** medals at the **Yasar Dogu** International in **Istanbul, Turkey**. **Indian** wrestlers bagged **10** medals with **women** winning seven of those.
- **Squash player Dipika Pallikal** has been appointed as **Asia's representative in the prestigious Athletes Advisory Commission** of the **Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF)**.

SPECIAL DAYS

Day	Special	Theme
1 st July	Goods and Services Tax (GST)	-
7 th July	International Co-operative Day or International Day of Co-operatives	sustainable consumption and production of goods and services
7 th July	Global forgiveness day	-
11 th July	World Population day	Family planning is a human right
12 th July	International Malala Day	-
15 th July	World Youth Skills Day	-
18 th July	Nelson Mandela International Day	Take action, Inspire change
26 th July	Kargil Vijay Diwas	-
28 th July	World Hepatitis Day	Test. Treat. Hepatitis
29 th July	International Tiger day or Global Tiger day	-
30 th July	World Day against Trafficking in Persons	Responding to the trafficking of children and young people
30 th July	International Day of Friendship	-
31 st July	World Ranger Day	-

SURVEYS

- The **Indira Gandhi International Airport** in **Delhi**, the **16th** busiest in the world, ranked poorly in flight punctuality, securing the **451st** position among the **513** airports worldwide.
- **Andhra Pradesh** has topped the ease of doing annual business ranking of states and Union Territories by the **World Bank and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)**.
- **India** climbs 3 spots to **57th** in **Global Innovation Rankings**.
- **New Delhi's Connaught Place (CP)**(**9th** place) has emerged as one of the most expensive office markets in the world.
- The **Forbes** has Released the '**Celebrity 100**' list of World's Highest-Paid Entertainers. **Boxer Floyd Mayweather** captures the top spot on **Forbes' 20th annual Celebrity 100 ranking** of the world's highest-paid celebrities.

- 4G Speed: **India** ranks behind **Pakistan**, stands at 109th place out of 124 countries
- The city of **Udaipur** has once again in 2018 been ranked among the World's Best Cities by **Travel + Leisure**.
- **India** tops list of skilled visa immigrants in **Australia**
- **Karnataka** retained its fourth spot in the Public Affairs Index 2018, while **Kerala** topped the index, for the third time, for being the best governed large State in the country.
- **India** ranks **96th** in the biannual **United Nation's E-Government Index 2018** among **193** countries released by **UN**.

Name of the Person	Name of the Field
JG Nadkarni	Ex Navy chief Admiral
Kabutar Devi	Kumaoni folk singer
Dada J P Vaswani	Noted spiritual leader and educationist
Kalpesh Yagnik	journalist
M.N. Vyasa Rao	Kannada poet
Rita Bhaduri	Actress
Jonathan Gold	first restaurant critic ,winner of Pulitzer Prize
Basabi Nandi	Veteran Bengali actress
Ramapada Chowdhury	Bengali writer
John Sankaramangalam	filmmaker and former director