

Monthly One Liner Current Affairs October 2018

Financial One Liner Current Affairs

- **The Reserve Bank announced on October 1, 2018 that it will inject Rs 36000 crore into the system through purchase of government bonds in October to meet the festival season demand for funds.**
- **Assam Government has become the first Indian state to offer a Wage Compensation Scheme for pregnant women working in the tea gardens of the state.** The scheme was launched by Assam Chief Minister Sarbanand Sonowal on October 1, 2018 in Guwahati.
- **Gram Sabhas** across the country have been asked to inform farmers about the benefits of the **Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)** at the beginning of the Rabi Season.
- The **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** in October, 2018 granted permission to the government for superseding debt-ridden **Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited's (IL&FS) Board.**
- The **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** launched a **National Level Entrepreneurship Awareness Campaign 'Udyam Abhilasha'** in 115 aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog on October 2, 2018, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and **India signed a USD 100 Million Loan Agreement** in New Delhi to continue to expand sewerage and drainage coverage, provide sewage treatment and strengthen capacity of **Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC)** for resilient urban services.
- **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and **India signed a USD 150 million Loan Agreement** in New Delhi to establish the **first Global Skills Park (GSP) in Madhya Pradesh.**
- **India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed USD 240 million loan** for providing safe and sustainable drinking water to about 1.65 million people in three districts of the state of **West Bengal.**
- **The ICCI Bank CEO and MD, Chanda Kochhar quit her position** with immediate effect on October 4, 2018. The announcement came after her plea for early retirement was accepted by the bank.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on October 5, 2018 released its **Fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement 2018-19.** Keep the policy Repo Rate under the **Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) unchanged at 6.5 percent.** The Reverse Repo Rate under the LAF remains at 6.25 percent. The **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate stand at 6.75 percent.**
- **India and Russia** on October 5, 2018 signed a USD 5.43 billion deal for India to procure the S-400 Triumf missile system from Russia.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has allowed state-owned **Oil Marketing Companies (OMC)** to borrow long-term working capital from overseas.
- The Reserve Bank of India, alongside the announcement of the bi-monthly monetary policy statement, proposed the introduction of a **Voluntary Retention Route (VRR)** to encourage Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) willing to undertake long-term investments.
- **As part of efforts to cut down gold imports and lower the current account deficit, the government in October, 2018 launched the Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme FY19.** The scheme retains the incentives offered in the earlier tranche—of 2.5% interest rate and capital gains tax exemption on redemption.
- **Federal Bank** In October, 2018 said the **Reserve Bank** has approved proposal to **sell up to 45 per cent stake in NBFC arm Fedfina to private equity firm True North.**
- **OYO** – South Asia's largest and world's fastest growing hotel chain – has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Government of Uttarakhand.**
- **HDFC Bank in October, 2018 announced the launch of its 'Accelerator Engagement Programme' (AEP) under the Bank's Centre of Digital Excellence (CODE).** In this first-of-its-kind programme, HDFC

Bank will partner with leading start-up accelerators from across the world to gain early access to potential fintech ideas and innovative solutions in the area of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), analytics, and robotic process automation etc.

- The Union Government has decided to cover **damages done to crops in case of wild animal attacks under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna** in select districts on an experimental basis.
- Arunachal Pradesh Government in October, 2018 launched the Chief Minister's **Sashakt Kisan Yojana and Chief Minister's Krishi Samuh Yojana in Itanagar.**
- **The Union Ministry of Railways** on October 5, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Russia's Ministry of Transport for the development of cooperation in transport education.**
- A 10-member panel set up by the corporate affairs ministry last week **will examine the trends in digital economy, including steep discounts in online retailing** and whether the e-tailers are subject to any restrictions in their access to dealerships from manufacturers.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on October 4, 2018 signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the **UN Environment for coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development.**
- **The Reserve Bank In October, 2018 announced it will inject Rs 12,000 crore liquidity into the system through purchase of government bonds on October 11** to meet the festival season demand for funds.
- India's growth rate is predicted to increase to 7.3 per cent in 2018 and 7.4 per cent in 2019, as per the **latest World Economic Outlook report released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on October 9, 2018.** In 2017, India had recorded a growth rate of 6.7 per cent.
- The **National Housing Bank (NHB)** has decided to increase the **Refinance limit to Rs 30000 crore from Rs 24000 crore.**
- **IndusInd Bank in October, 2018 launched the IndusInd Bank Duo Card which is India's first 2 EMV chip debit cum credit card.** This two-in-one Duo Card with two Magnetic Stripes & 2 EMV Chips brings the functionalities of both debit and credit cards to the Indian consumer, on one plastic.
- **ICICI Bank Ltd.** in October, 2018 announced a multi-year partnership with **the Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) and Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited (BSCL) to launch a Common Payment Card System (CPCS)** which will help citizens use a single payment option for their multi-purpose city-level usage.
- **State Bank of India will increase its portfolio purchase of loans from non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)** this year as it looks to provide the much needed liquidity to the funds starved sector, and simultaneously fulfil its priority-sector obligations.
- **The 29th Accountants General conference was inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind in New Delhi** on October 10, 2018. The two-day conference is being organised by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
- The **Maharashtra government** on October 9, 2018 gave administrative **approval of Rs 1,610 crore for the Tarli Irrigation Project in the state's Satara district.**
- **The World Economic Forum in October, 2018 announced its new Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution in India,** which would aim to bring together the government and business leaders to pilot emerging technology policies.
- **Microsoft India** said In October, 2018 it has signed an agreement with **Niti Aayog** to deploy artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to address challenges **in agriculture and healthcare, and promote adoption of local language computing, among others.**

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) on October 10, 2018 released the draft of the **National Policy on Electronics 2018, aiming for a turnover of USD 400 billion in domestic electronics manufacturing industry by 2025.**
- The Union Government has approved a **special package for employment generation in the leather and footwear sector.**
- The state government of **Meghalaya** is planning to launch **Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries.**
- Leading stock exchange **NSE** signed a pact with the **Uttarakhand** government to provide access to capital to MSMEs.
- **India's first India-Israel Innovation Centre (IIIC),** an entrepreneurial technology hub, was launched in **Bengaluru.**
- **India** will soon **set up a special UAE desk to facilitate investments and resolve any business issues** between the two nations.
- The Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated a two-day **Agri-startup and Entrepreneurship in New Delhi on October 16, 2018, on the occasion of World Food Day.**
- Private sector lender ICICI Bank on October 16, 2018 **announced that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the appointment of Sandeep Bakshi as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ICICI Bank for three years.**
- **India attracted \$22 billion of FDI flows in the first half of 2018,** according to a UN report which states that the global foreign direct investment dropped by 41 per cent in the same period due to tax reforms carried out by the Trump administration.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released **operational guidelines to facilitate payments among prepaid instruments (PPI) such as mobile wallets.**
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) rejected Yes Bank's plea to extend CEO Rana Kapoor's term to at least April 2019 and asked it to ensure that a replacement was in place from February 1** next year, in keeping with what appears to be a firm line on restricting the stints of chief executives. The stock fell 6.9% in October, 2018.
- Indian IT industry's apex body **Nasscom** has entered into a partnership with the **Hiroshima government** for co-creating a Japan-India IT Corridor that could be at the forefront of promoting business-to-business cooperation and talent transfer from India to Japan.
- **India and Myanmar** signed an important MoU in October, 2018 for the appointment of a private Port Operator for the Operation and Maintenance of Sittwe Port, Paletwa Inland Water Terminal and associated facilities included in the Kaladan Multi Model Transit Transport Project in implementation of India's Act East Policy.
- **1Bridge, Facebook and the Andhra Pradesh State government** will exchange an MoU for a project on empowering young entrepreneurs.
- **A Rs 35,000 crore plan has been drawn up for electrification of all railway lines across the country.**
- The Union Government has issued a notification stating that sessions courts in **34 states and union territories, will act as special courts for the trial of offences under the benami transaction law.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 24, 2018 launched the 'Main Nahin Hum' portal and mobile application.** The launch was conducted while the PM interacted with IT and electronic manufacturing professionals across India through video-conferencing.
- The first trilateral meeting between **India, Afghanistan and Iran of the Coordination Council of the Chabahar agreement took place on October 23, 2018 in Tehran.**

- **The Government has decided to increase the supply of Onion in Delhi from the buffer stock by two to three times from the current level to tide over any constraint in the interim supply of the commodities in the market.**
- **According to Government Data, as many as 326 products such as Kancheepuram silk saree, Alphonso Mango, Nagpur Orange and Kolhapuri Chappal have been registered as geographical indications (GI) so far.**
- **The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) on October 23, 2018 notified the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Mechanism for Issuing Regulations) Regulations, 2018.**
- **YES BANK, India's fourth largest private sector Bank, in partnership with Makarpura GIDC Industrial Estate Infrastructure & Charitable Association, announced the launch of its first 'Vyapaar Express' – MSME Carnival in Makarpura GIDC at Vadodara in line with the Bank's commitment to creating an enabling environment for MSMEs.**
- **Dubai Internet City (DIC), the leading technology community in the region, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), a non-profit trade association and an apex body of the Indian IT Business Process Management (BPM) industry.**
- **IDFC Bank has proposed to change its name to 'IDFC First Bank Ltd' as it is in the process of amalgamating non-banking financial company Capital First with itself.**
- **YES BANK, India's fourth largest private sector bank, launched a co-branded prepaid card for the citizens of Puducherry Smart City in partnership with Puducherry Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC), a Company incorporated under The Companies Act 1956.**
- **Bank of Baroda (BoB), Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank on October 24, 2018 decided to constitute internal committees to help integrate the functions of the banks before the merger happens.**
- **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 24, 2018 gave its approval for the creation of a special Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF).**
- **The Reserve Bank in October, 2018 said it will inject Rs 400 billion into the system in November through a purchase of government securities as it looks to meet festive season demand for funds.**
- **Maharashtra Industry department in October, 2018 signed an MoU with online retail giant Amazon for making available the products of small and micro entrepreneurs through a separate web portal.**
- **The Punjab government has signed four MoUs with Israeli institutions to address issues of farmers and depleting groundwater level in the state.**
- **India and Bangladesh on October 25, 2018 signed several milestone agreements for enhancing inland and coastal waterways connectivity for trade and cruise movements.**
- **Country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) and Japan's Hitachi will enter into a joint venture (JV) for establishing card acceptance and digital payments platform in India.**
- **In a first, the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) will transport container cargo belonging to the food and beverage giant PepsiCo (India) from Kolkata to Varanasi on river Ganga (National Waterway-1).**
- **Tech Mahindra in October, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Japanese electronic company Rakuten for building next-generation (4G and 5G) software-defined network laboratories in Bengaluru and Tokyo.**
- **WhatsApp In October, 2018 said it has partnered with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) to train small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs on using the messaging platform to connect with customers and growing their businesses.**

- **ICICI Bank** in October, 2018 said that it has entered into an exclusive partnership with **'Amazon Pay' to launch a co-branded credit card, 'Amazon Pay ICICI Bank Credit Card'**.
- The new ATM cash withdrawal rules for SBI account holders will come into effect from October 31, 2018. The country's largest bank will reduce the daily cash withdrawal limit for **Classic and Maestro debit cards to Rs 20,000 per day, from Rs 40,000**.
- The government has approved the construction of **over two lakh additional houses in urban areas under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Japan on October 28-29, 2018 **to attend the India-Japan Annual Summit with the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe**.
- **The foundation stone for India's largest Dry Dock will be laid by Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari and Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at Cochin Shipyard in Kerala on October 30, 2018**.
- **Foreign investors pulled out Rs 35,600 crore from the Indian capital markets in October 2018**. The outflow is higher than Rs 21,000 crore withdrawn in September.
- The Executive Committee (EC) of the National Mission for Clean Ganga on October 29, 2018 **approved 12 projects worth Rs 929 crore under the Namami Gange programme in its 16th meeting**.

Non-financial One Liner Current Affairs

- The **Uttarakhand High Court** on September 28, 2018 directed the state government **to provide reservation to transgenders in educational institutions and public appointments**.
- **India and Uzbekistan** have decided to further deepen ties in various fields including security and defence.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and French President **Emmanuel Macron** would receive the **United Nation's highest environment honour Champions of The Earth Award on October 3** for their exemplary leadership and advocate action on sustainable development and climate change, officials said.
- **Canada** on September 30, 2018 agreed to sign a trade deal with the **United States and Mexico**, revamping the North American Free Trade Agreement after almost a year of negotiations.
- India-born economist **Gita Gopinath in October, 2018 appointed as chief economist of International Monetary Fund**.
- **The 8th Asian Yoga Sports Championship was organised by Asian Yoga Federation in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala** from September 27, 2018. The event was formally inaugurated by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.
- The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet on October 1, 2018 awarded **the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to James P. Allison and Tasuku Honjo** "for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation".
- **The World Habitat Day** was observed across the world on October 1, 2018, that is **the first In October, 2018 of October 2018, with the Theme, Municipal Solid Waste Management**.
- The **International Day of Older Persons** was observed across the world on October 1, 2018. The day's theme this year is, **'Celebrating Older Human Rights champions'**.
- **Maharashtra** government and **University of Southern California** in October, 2018 signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to work together **on projects related to artificial intelligence**.

- **Assam** on October 2, 2018 joined the rest of the country in celebrating the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi by **unfurling India's third highest national flag and tallest from the average city elevation.**
- **Twitter** has unveiled a '**Gandhi Emoji**' which users around the world can use in their tweets to celebrate Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birthday.
- **Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje inaugurated Dravyavati River Rejuvenation Project** in Jaipur on October 2, 2018.
- The state government of **Odisha** on October 2, 2018 launched its own food security scheme to benefit the 25 lakh poor people **who were left out of the National Food Security Act (NFSA).**
- **The National Khadi Festival 2018 is being organised by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to promote Khadi products.** The festival was inaugurated by Union Minister for Micro Small & Medium Enterprises, Giriraj Singh in Mumbai on October 2, 2018, on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti 2018.
- **IndiaSkills Nationals Competition 2018**, the biggest skills competition of the country, got off to a spectacular start in New Delhi on Gandhi Jayanti.
- **Infosys, TCS and Tata Motors** are among the 12 Indian companies which feature in a list of the world's best-regarded firms compiled by Forbes.
- **The International Day of Non-Violence was observed across the world on October 2, 2018**, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- Ambassador of India to Myanmar, **Vikram Misri has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to China.**
- Iraq's Parliament has elected a veteran **Kurdish Politician Barham Salih** as the country's new President. He has named Shiite Adel Abdul Mahdi as Prime Minister of the country.
- **Hockey Bihar's Mohd Mushtaque Ahmad** has now been elected as the President of Hockey India following the 8th Hockey India Congress and Elections held on October 1, 2018.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi received the UN Champions of the Earth award**, the highest environmental honour of the United Nations on October 3, 2018. The award was presented by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres at a special ceremony in New Delhi.
- **UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, in October, 2018 honoured Dr. Evan Atar Adaha (Dr. Atar),** a surgeon from South Sudan, with the **2018 Nansen Refugee Award at a ceremony in Geneva.**
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on October 2, 2018 **inaugurated the first Assembly of the International Solar Alliance at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi** in the presence of the United Nations' Secretary General Antonio Guterres.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** on October 3, 2018 approved **the redevelopment of railway stations through simplified procedures by adopting various business models and issuance of longer lease tenure of up to 99 years.**
- The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu released the policy on biometric based digital processing of passengers at airports called **"Digi Yatra".**
- During the visit of Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to Astana, Kazakhstan, **India and Kazakhstan agreed to boost defence and military technical cooperation.**
- **The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences on October 3, 2018 awarded the 2018 Nobel Prize in Chemistry with one half to Frances H. Arnold "for the directed evolution of enzymes" and the other half jointly to George P. Smith and Sir Gregory P. Winter "for the phage display of peptides and antibodies".**

- Myanmar leader **Aung San Suu Kyi** on October 3, 2018 **became the first person to be stripped of the honorary Canadian citizenship** for her role in gross human rights violations against the Rohingya people.
- The **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** ordered the US to ease sanctions it re-imposed on Iran after abandoning a nuclear deal in May 2018.
- **Prithvi Shaw made history by becoming the youngest Indian to score a Test century on debut.** Shaw, at the age of 18 years and 329 days, reached the historic three-figure mark in just 99 balls against the West Indies on Day 1 of the opening Test at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium, Rajkot.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully undertook series of flight trials of **Astra Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVR-AAM)** from September 26 to October 3, 2018.
- **Post the second IORA Renewable Energy Ministerial Meeting**, 21 countries of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) on September 4, 2018 adopted the **Delhi Declaration on Renewable Energy in the Indian Ocean Region.**
- **Indian Railway launched a committed program to increase the green cover in all public utility spaces like railway stations** and mass contact offices besides other working premises and railway colonies.
- India launched '**Operation Samudra Maitri**' to assist victims of earthquake and tsunami in Sulawesi Province of Indonesia.
- The government In October, 2018 appointed former **Canara Bank managing director Rakesh Sharma as head of IDBI Bank.**
- **Justice Surya Kant** was sworn-in as the **Chief Justice of Himachal High Court**, nearly nine months after the Supreme Court collegium recommended his name for the post.
- **The 2018 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad** for their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict.
- **The World Teachers' Day was observed across the world on October 5, 2018.** The 2018 theme of the Day was '**The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher**'.
- The **Maharashtra government** has launched a website and an application for collectively analyzing the rainfall, crop situation and underground water level using modern technology.
- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** on October 6, 2018 announced the schedule for the elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Mizoram and Telangana.
- The third edition of **Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX), JIMEX 18**, began on October 7, 2018 at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- The Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik on October 6, 2018 launched '**Nirman Kusuma**' programme to provide financial assistance to the children of the construction workers for their technical education in the state.
- A non-governmental organisation (NGO) '**Habitat for Humanity India**' would be building and repairing over 6,000 homes of those affected by the unprecedented floods in Kerala.
- The Union government has granted **Geographical Indication (GI) tag to the Alphonso Mango from Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg** and other adjoining areas in **Maharashtra**. The move will help identify the authenticity of this variety of fruit.
- **D Prasanth Kumar Reddy** has been appointed as **private secretary (PS) to Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu**, according to an order issued by the Personnel Ministry in October, 2018.
- **Pankaj Sharma has been appointed as the ambassador and India's permanent representative to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.**
- US economists **William Nordhaus** and **Paul Romer** in October, 2018 shared the 2018 **Nobel Economics Prize for integrating innovation and climate with economic growth**, the jury said.

- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on October 7, 2018 presented the **Ramineni Foundation's outstanding person award to badminton coach Pullela Gopichand.**
- **The Indian Air Force (IAF) on October 8, 2018 celebrated 86th Air Force Day** with an aim to pay rich tribute to the untiring efforts and supreme sacrifice made by veterans, who laid a strong foundation for the service.
- **World Space Week observed from 4th to 10th of October, 2018.** The theme for World Space Week 2018 is **"Space Unites the World."**
- Indian Naval Officer **Abhilash Tomy**, who was under medical observation at Ile Amsterdam, was brought to Visakhapatnam safely onboard INS Satpura on October 6, 2018. He was immediately shifted to the naval hospital for observation and medical assistance.
- **Thangjam Tababi Devi** became **India's first judo medallist at the Olympic level**, claiming a silver at the ongoing Youth Games after losing to Venezuela's Maria Giminez in the finals of the women's 44kg category.
- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) plans to set up '**Aadhaar Seva Kendras**', similar to the concept of Passport Seva Kendras, covering 53 cities across India at an estimated project cost of Rs 300-400 crore, official sources said.
- Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways and Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, **Nitin Gadkari will lay the foundation stone for the development work of Ghagra River as National Waterway-40** on October 9, 2018 at Basti in Uttar Pradesh.
- **India and Tajikistan** signed MoUs in various fields including political relations, strategic research, agriculture, renewable energy, traditional medicine, space technology, youth affairs, **Culture and Disaster Management.**
- JP Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, inaugurated '**2nd World Conference on Access to Medical Products: Achieving the SDGs 2030**' on October 9, 2018.
- The Union Government on October 8, 2018 constituted the **Strategic Policy Group**, headed by National Security Advisor **Ajit Doval**, to assist the National Security Council.
- Google is shutting down its **Google+** social network after it covered up a gaping security hole that exposed the personal data of half a million internet users.
- The '**Break Free From Plastic Movement**' on October 9, 2018 revealed that Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, and Nestle are among the companies that contribute most to ocean pollution with single-use plastics.
- The **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) approved a Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C** on October 6, 2018 at Incheon, South Korea.
- US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo and North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un made significant progress towards an agreement for the North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons.
- **The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) was awarded the 'ISSA Good Practice Award'** for administrative solution for coverage extension at the 'Regional Social Security Forum for Asia and the Pacific' held recently at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- **Manu Bhaker became the first shooter from India to claim a gold medal at the Youth Olympic Games** taking place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in October, 2018 with a spectacular performance in what is being seen as a comeback after a disappointing Asian Games.
- **The World Post Day was observed across the world on October 9, 2018**, thus, marking the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern.
- The Indian Air Force launched an innovative mobile health application called '**MedWatch**' on October 8, 2018, on the occasion of its 86th anniversary. It was launched by Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, Chief of the Air Staff.

- **Uttarakhand** Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat flagged off the test run of the **state's first electric bus on October 9, 2018.**
- **A Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO),** was on October 9, 2018 inducted into the Pune police on an experimental basis to help in detection and disposal of bombs.
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on October 10, 2018 approved the merger of the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) and the National Skill Development Agency (NSDA) to establish the **National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET).**
- The largest home grown private equity firm **ChrysCapital Advisors LLP** has hired former **SBI chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya as an advisor.**
- Indian-American **Nikki Haley** on October 9, 2018 resigned as the **United States Ambassador to the United Nations.**
- **The Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Auditorium built with Indian grant assistance of 30 crore Sri Lankan rupees** was dedicated to the people of Sri Lanka in a special function on October 9, 2018.
- **The World Mental Health Day** was observed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on **October 10, 2018** with the theme **'Young People and Mental Health in a Changing World'.**
- The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of the **NITI Aayog** and the **IBM India Private Limited** on October 11, 2018 announced a **first-of-its-kind Student Internship Programme for students selected under the mission.**
- Two people have been killed in Andhra Pradesh's Srikakulam as cyclone **Titli** uprooted trees and electric poles and damaged hutments in the region and in Odisha's Ganjam and Gajapati districts after making landfall on October 11, 2018.
- In a first, the **Central Government notified the minimum environmental flows for River Ganga that has to be maintained at various locations on the river.**
- **Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe** offered his **Government's support to the Swachh Bharat Mission.**
- President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the **13th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission (CIC) on October 12, 2018.**
- The Union Home Ministry advised the **Chandigarh Administration** to follow the notification issued by Delhi Government giving an exemption to Sikh women from wearing protective headgear (helmet) while driving two wheelers in UT Chandigarh.
- The inaugural **'Workshop on Best Practices in International Arbitration'** was organised by **NITI Aayog** and the ICC International Court of Arbitration in New Delhi on October 10, 2018.
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) recently launched the **'India for Humanity'** initiative.
- **The World Bank Group unveiled a new system on October 11 to rank countries based on their success in developing human capital,** an effort to prod governments to invest more effectively in education and healthcare. **India ranked 115 in the index.**
- According to the **2018 Henley Passport Index, the Japanese passport is the strongest in the world. India's rank remained same with 81 in the ranking.**
- **Senior Advocate Tushar Mehta** was on **October 10, 2018** appointed as the **Solicitor General of India** with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the office for a period till June 30, 2020 or until further orders.
- The government in October, 2018 extended by one year the tenure of **Bank of Baroda managing director and chief executive officer P.S. Jayakumar.**

- Technology giant **Microsoft Corporation** and former cricketer **Anil Kumble's technology** startup, Spektacom Technologies, along with broadcast partner Star India, announced the launch of a batting performance tracking device called **Power Bat**.
- Pistol shooter **Saurabh Chaudhary bagged the Gold Medal in the 10-metre air pistol event in the ongoing Youth Olympic Games in Argentina**.
- **Archer Harvinder Singh** clinched seventh gold for India in the men's individual recurve category, while track-and-field athletes added a silver and a bronze to India's tally in the Asian Para-Games in Jakarta.
- **The International Day of the Girl Child was observed across the world on October 11, 2018**. The 2018 theme of the International day is **'With Her: A Skilled GirlForce'**.
- **Malaysian government agrees to abolish the death penalty**.
- Veteran environmentalist, a professor of engineering and a Hindu ascetic, **G D Agrawal, fasting in protest to save river Ganga for more than four months in Haridwar passed away** on October 11.
- The Union Minister for Women and Child Development, **Maneka Gandhi announced on October 12, 2018 that her ministry will be setting up a four-member committee to examine all the #MeToo cases**.
- A record number of nearly **50 thousand nominations have been received for the Padma Awards-2019**.
- **The Indian states and union territories released over 900 prisoners in the first phase of the centre's scheme for grant of special remission to specific categories of prisoners**. The move was undertaken as a part of the commemoration of the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** on October 11, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Central University of Jammu (CUJ) for setting up of the Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science in the University**.
- **SpiceJet will join the club of a handful of carriers providing inflight wifi for free**. Among global carriers, JetBlue, Qatar Airways, Turkish Airlines provide wifi as free. Normally, airlines charge a fee for providing the service.
- Direct selling major **Amway** In October, 2018 announced appointment of **Milind Pant**, first Indian and non-family individual, as its **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** with effect from January 2, 2019.
- The Sri Lankan parliament has passed a law **to pay compensation to the victims of the 30-year-long separatist war between the Sri Lankan Army and the LTTE**, which claimed at least 100,000 lives.
- **As per the 2018 Global Hunger Index (GHI)**, published on October 10, 2018, the level of hunger and undernutrition worldwide fell to 20.9, down from 29.2 in the year 2000. **As per the index, India was ranked 103rd out of 119 qualifying countries**.
- The **World Egg Day** was observed across the world **on October 12, 2018**. The day's 2018 theme is **"Protein for Life"**.
- Guadeloupean novelist **Maryse Condé** has been announced as the winner of the **New Academy prize in literature**, a one-off award intended to fill the void left by the cancellation of this year's scandal-dogged Nobel prize for literature.
- **India and Azerbaijan** signed a protocol on trade and economic, science and technology cooperation on October 12, 2018, during the 5th meeting of India-Azerbaijan Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade and Economic, Science and Technology Cooperation (IA-IGC) that was held from October 11-12, 2018 in New Delhi.
- The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) on October 13 launched **'AskDisha' (Digital Interaction to Seek Help Anytime)** -- a chatbot powered by artificial intelligence (AI) for improving customer services of railway passengers, a statement from railways said.

- The Indian Navy on October 13, 2018 inducted its **first Deep Submergence Rescue Vessel (DSRV) at its base in Mumbai**, enhancing its operational capabilities. The second DSRV would be added to its base in Vishakhapatnam by 2019.
- **India** was on October 12, 2018 **elected to the United Nations' Human Rights Council** ' for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019.
- North-eastern state **Sikkim** on October 12, 2018 **won the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) Future Policy Award 2018 for being the world's first 100 percent organic state.**
- The **International Day for Disaster Reduction** was observed across the world on October 13, 2018 to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction. The theme of the 2018 International Day for Disaster Reduction was **'Reducing Disaster Economic Losses'**.
- **Pune has been selected as India's first Lighthouse City for an urban mobility lab**, in a program led by the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and NITI Aayog.
- **Indian & Korean Medical Device Industry**, The Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMeD) has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with BUSAN TECHNOPARK from Republic of Korea to jointly work to promote medical devices industry in both the countries.
- **India and China** launched their **first joint programme for Afghanistan** to train its diplomats.
- The Union Environment Minister Harshvardhan on October 15, 2018 **unveiled an air quality early warning system for the Delhi region.** The system has been designed with the help of American and Finnish models to predict extreme air pollution levels.
- The **Andhra Pradesh** Government announced a relief of Rs 5 lakh each in the case of deaths caused by **'Titli'** cyclone in Srikakulam district.
- Online financial services marketplace **BankBazaar** In October, 2018 said former **RBI Deputy Governor (DG) S S Mundra has been appointed as an advisor to the company.**
- The **International Day of Rural Women** was observed globally on **October 15, 2018** with the theme, **"Sustainable infrastructure, services and social protection for gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls"**.
- **Mahila Kisan Diwas** was celebrated on **October 15, 2018** to increase the active participation of women in agriculture.
- **Ashwini Kumar Choubey**, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, on October 13, 2018 released an **Analytical Report of the National Health Profile 2018.** This is the 12th edition of the health profile.
- **India** on October 13, 2018 **concluded its campaign at the 2018 Asian Para Games in Jakarta, Indonesia with a record medal haul, winning a total of 72 medals that included 15 gold, 24 silver and 33 bronze medals.** India was placed ninth in the overall tally.
- The **Uttar Pradesh Cabinet** on October 16, 2018 **approved the proposal of the state government to rename the city of 'Allahabad' as 'Prayagraj'.** The decision has been vehemently opposed by the opposition parties.
- Minister of State for Power and Renewable Energy RK Singh on October 15, 2018 **launched an award scheme under the umbrella Saubhagya Scheme**, also known as Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana.
- The Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, Mansukh L Mandaviya, **launched the Youth Road Safety Learners Licence programme in New Delhi on October 15, 2018.**
- Minister of state for culture, Mahesh Sharma and Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri on October 15, 2018 **jointly laid the foundation stone for proposed Museum on Prime Ministers of India at Teen Murti Estate, New Delhi.**

- The Union Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers, Mansukh Mandaviya on October 16, 2018 **inaugurated the hi-tech Central Warehouse of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) at Bilaspur, Gurugram.**
- The **Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)**, Dehradun on October 15, 2018 signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with **Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) and Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS).**
- **The 2018 Goa Maritime Symposium, the second edition of the Goa Maritime Symposium (GSM)** was inaugurated by the Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Sunil in Goa on October 16, 2018.
- **India is among the most advanced countries in terms of development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies for the Industrial Internet of Things (IIOT),** according to a survey by Finnish AI-based solutions specialists Zyfra. The survey ranks the US first, followed by China, while **India ranks 13th,** just after Canada.
- **Sri Lanka** has set up a committee to formulate a strategy to help its businesses invest more into the Indian market.
- **The World Food Day was observed globally on October 16, 2018.** The theme of World Food Day 2018 is **'Our actions are our future – A zero hunger world by 2030 is possible'.**
- **Paul Gardner Allen**, the billionaire co-founder of Microsoft, an investor, entrepreneur and philanthropist, passed away on October 15, 2018.
- The **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)**, under the Union Ministry of Rural Development signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Lady Irwin College for establishing **ROSHNI - Centre of Women Collectives led Social Action.**
- The **West Bengal government** ensured food security to more than 8.5 crore people of the State under the **'Khadya Sathi' scheme.**
- The Union Government launched national campaign **'Swasth Bharat Yatra'** on occasion of World Food Day to sensitise people about eating safe food and be healthy.
- Government allowed foreign tourists to visit **Andaman and Nicobar Islands without any restrictions.**
- NITI Aayog on October 17, 2018 launched **the model guidelines for Public-Private partnership in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).**
- The six-week long **National Mission Series concluded with a workshop on Health on GeM in New Delhi.**
- Union Minister of State for External Affairs, **MJ Akbar resigned** from his post on October 17, 2018 over sexual harassment charges levelled against him by several women journalists in the wake of #MeToo movement.
- **Nimesh Shah**, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund, was **elected as the Chairman of Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).**
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) appointed **Dr Shekhar Mande as the Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Secretary of the Department of Scientific and Research (DSIR).**
- **Irish Author Anna Burns** on October 16, 2018 won the **Britain's renowned Man Booker Prize 2018** for her third novel **'Milkman'.**
- Veteran composer, lyricist, writer and national award winning music director Mohammed Zahur Khayyam Hashmi, famously known as Khayya, was 2018 Hridaynath Award for Lifetime Achievement.
- In a first-of-its-kind mission, a **UK-built spacecraft will set off for Mercury to determine whether the planet, which is the closest to the Sun, contains water.**
- The **United States Treasury announced fresh sanctions on Iran,** targeting banks and investment companies.

- The World Economic Forum (WEF) on October 16, 2018 released the Global Competitiveness Report 2018. **India was ranked as the 58th most competitive economy with a score of 62.0 on the Global Competitiveness Index 2018.**
- For the first time in India, a railway station will be built inside a tunnel at a height of 3,000 metres, on the strategic **Bilaspur-Manali-Leh line close to the Sino-India border, a senior official told PTI.**
- The **Delhi government** in October, 2018 signed a MoU with the **British Council** to strengthen spoken-English skills among students of government schools as well as teach teachers to impart quality education, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said.
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR) of Lucknow developed an innovative technology for “Drinking Water Disinfection System” with Trade name “**OneerTM**” which was transferred to Bluebird Water Purifiers.
- The Western Naval Command of Indian Navy successfully concluded the maiden trials of the **Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle (DSRV).**
- Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister **ND Tiwari**, who suffered multiple organ failure in July 2018, passes away on October 18, 2018.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 21, 2018 dedicated **the National Police Memorial to the nation on the occasion of the Police Commemoration Day 2018.**
- **The National Police Commemoration Day is observed on 21 October** every year to pay homage to the 10 men of the Central Reserve Police Force killed in an ambush by Chinese troops in 1959 in Ladakh’s Hot Spring area.
- Four Himalayan peaks near Gangotri glacier have been named after **former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.**
- The Indian Army has undertaken a **challenging wind sailing expedition from Haldia on the east coast up to Porbandar on the west.**
- The **Delhi government** In October, 2018 announced a **fellowship programme that seeks to attract young leaders across the country to work with it** on addressing some of the most pressing urban challenges.
- JSW Steel CMD **Sajjan Jindal** was on October 18, 2018 elected as **the Treasurer of the World Steel Association (worldsteel).**
- **India** has emerged as **the second lowest among 34 countries providing retirement income systems with good benefits according to a study.**
- **Green Climate Fund**, the UN-backed fund has approved more than \$1 billion for 19 new projects to help developing countries tackle climate change. The decision was taken during a four-day meeting in Manama, Bahrain that ended late on October 20, 2018.
- **US President Donald Trump confirmed on October 20, 2018 that the United States will pull out of the three-decade-old Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty**, which it had signed with Russia during the Cold War.
- **The Union Ministry of Environment has launched Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali campaign.** The campaign was first launched in 2017-18 to encourage school children in Delhi and NCR to take the pledge to ensure a green and healthy Diwali by minimising the bursting of crackers.
- In a dramatic midnight action, **the Union Government on October 23, 2018 removed CBI Director Alok Verma from his post.** Verma was appointed as CBI Director in 2016 for two years and his tenure ends in December 2018.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the constitution of a High-Level Steering Committee **for periodically reviewing and refining the National Indicator Framework (NIF) for monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with associated targets.**

- Ram Naik, Governor of Uttar Pradesh, approved the **renaming of Allahabad as Prayagraj on October 20, 2018.**
- **India's first luxury cruise ship service was launched between Mumbai and Goa** on October 21, 2018.
- **Foreigners applying for Indian visa will now have to declare their criminal records as a part of India's new visa format.**
- The Supreme Court on October 24, 2018 **ruled that no Bharat Stage-IV vehicle shall be sold across the country with effect from April 1, 2020.** The Bharat Stage VI (BS-VI) emission norm would come into force from April 1, 2020 across the country.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan on October 23, 2018 **spoke regarding further advancing the historical and strategic friendship ties between the two countries.**
- **The Water, Energy, Technology and Environment Exhibition (WETEX 2018) has begun in Dubai.**
- **The Union Government on October 24, 2018 constituted a four-member Group of Ministers (GoM) to examine and strengthen the existing legal and institutional frameworks** for dealing with matters of sexual harassment of women at the workplace.
- The Election Commission has made arrangements for a constructive participation of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) during elections **to five States of Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Telangana.**
- **The Seoul Peace Prize Committee on October 24, 2018 conferred the 2018 Seoul Peace Prize on Prime Minister Narendra Modi** for his contribution to world peace through his economic vision, 'Modinomics'.
- The Kleinman Center for Energy Policy of the University of Pennsylvania School of Design awarded its **fourth annual Carnot Prize to Union Minister Piyush Goyal.**
- The **'Invest India' initiative** of the Union Government on October 22, 2018 won the **top United Nations Investment Promotion Award** in recognition of its efforts to boost investments in the renewable energy sector in India.
- **The People's Republic of China is planning to launch its own 'artificial moon' by 2020 to replace streetlamps** and lower electricity costs in its urban areas.
- **The UAE** on October 24, 2018 named nine individuals to be included on its list of terrorists and terror organisations.
- **China and ASEAN nations held their first joint maritime exercises in October 2018 in a move aimed at easing tensions in the region.**
- The world's longest sea bridge **'Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge' open for traffic on October 24, 2018.**
- The **United Nations Day was observed across the world on October 24, 2018,** marking the 73rd anniversary of the UN Charter's entry into force. The theme of 2018 UN concert was **"Traditions of Peace and Non-violence"**.
- **India's first 'Made in India' engineless train 'Train 18' is set to hit the tracks for trials on October 29, 2018.**
- Faculty members and alumni of the **Indian Institute of Technology Madras have developed India's first 3D printing construction technology and successfully built the first 3D printed structure.**
- Ayush Ministry is to develop parameters to certify **Yoga professionals at various levels.**
- The railways **'UTS mobile' app** for buying unreserved tickets online will be launched nationwide on November 1, 2018.

- Telecom equipment maker **Nokia** and public sector telecom operator **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)** in October, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly explore opportunities in the public safety arena in the country.
- **Khan Academy of India**, a not-for-profit learning content and products organisation, has entered into an MoU with the **Kerala government** to bring the advantage of e-learning to the state.
- The **Paytm Payments Bank** announced on October 24, 2018 that it has appointed **Satish Kumar Gupta** as its new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.
- **Ethiopia** on October 25, 2018 appointed diplomat **Sahle-Work Zewde** as its **first-ever female President**.
- NATO's biggest military maneuvers began in **Norway** that involves restoring the Scandinavian country's sovereignty after an attack by a "fictitious aggressor."
- The **Global Agriculture Leadership Summit 2018** opened in New Delhi.
- The **International Conference on Status and Protection of Coral Reefs (STAPCOR – 2018)** was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan on October 22, 2018 at Bangaram coral Island of Union Territory of Lakshadweep.
- **World Development Information Day observed on 24 October, 2018.**
- **Virat Kohli** on October 24, 2018 **became the fastest batsman to score 10,000 runs in one-day internationals**, reaching the milestone in just 205 innings.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 26, 2018 **inaugurated Krishi Kumbha 2018 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh through video conferencing.**
- Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi on October 26, 2018 **inaugurated the 5th edition of Women of India National Organic Fest 2018 in New Delhi.** The fest will continue till November 4, 2018.
- **The Manali- Rohtang helicopter service** was inaugurated by Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur on October 25, 2018.
- The Union Minister of Human Resource Development, Prakash Javadekar on October 25, 2018 launched the web portal of the scheme - **"Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC)" in New Delhi.**
- The air quality in the national capital deteriorated on October 26, 2018, **gradually inching towards the 'severe' category**, as parts of the massive Bhalswa landfill site continued to smoulder.
- The Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, **Thaawarchand Gehlot**, announced on October 25, 2018 that **a stadium of international standard for differently-abled persons will be set up in Meghalaya.**
- **Indian wrestler Pooja Dhanda on October 25, 2018 won a bronze medal in the women's freestyle 57kg weight class at the Wrestling World Championships**, held in Budapest, Hungary.
- Former Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Twin City Police Commissioner **YB Khurania** **was in October, 2018 appointed Inspector General (IG) of Border Security Force (BSF)** on deputation basis for a period of five years.
- The 1986 batch Odisha cadre IPS officer **M Nageswar Rao**, **who has been made interim director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**, is known for his acumen in handling disasters in the state as well as neighbouring Andhra Pradesh.
- **Russia has successfully launched a Soyuz rocket for the first time since the failure of a similar rocket** aborted a manned take-off to the International Space Station (ISS) on October 11, 2018.
- The Philippine island- **Boracay**, which was once called 'cesspool' due to overcrowding, partying and neglect, was opened for visitors on October 26, 2018 after a six-month closure to clean waters.

- **The Rs 100-crore indigenously developed high-tech, energy-efficient, self-propelled or engineless train 'Train 18' was flagged off** by Railway Board Chairman Ashwani Lohani
- Indian railways plans to connect New Delhi with **Ladakh region through the world's highest railway line that will run along the India-China border.**
- **TaxiBot**, a semi-robotic towing tractor, in October, 2018 towed a SpiceJet aircraft to the runway, marking the first-time use of such a machine for a commercial aircraft in the country.
- Hon'ble Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, **Suresh Prabhu in October, 2018 inaugurated the 10th Edition of BIOFACH INDIA, the largest show on the "Organic Sector" in India.**
- **The Indian Railways plans to use aircraft-like pressurised coaches in its trains for the Bilaspur-Manali-Leh line along the India-China border**, which will be the world's highest rail track, so that passengers do not have breathing difficulties on board.
- **India has donated three lakh Dollars for a peacekeeping initiative at the UN.** The programme will help develop the capacity of future commanders and managers over a period of three years.
- **The state government of Arunachal Pradesh** on October 27, 2018 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **the British Council** to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation, in order to support the knowledge ambitions and economic growth of the state.
- **Justice Ajjikutira Somaiah Bopanna**, a judge of the Karnataka High Court, was sworn in as the new **Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court** in October, 2018.
- **Michael D Higgins has been re-elected as the President of Ireland after receiving 56 per cent of the country's votes in the elections.**
- Far-right candidate **Jair Bolsonaro was on October 28, 2018 declared as the winner of Brazil's 2018 Presidential Elections** by a wide margin.
- **IBM is making a big move to bring more software developers under its wing by acquiring Red Hat**, the largest distributor of the popular open-source operating system Linux, **for \$34 billion.**
- **The Bangladesh government and the World Bank** on October 28, 2018 signed an agreement to improve the transparency and efficiency of its major cash transfer programmes.
- **Britain's Information Commissioner** has slapped **Facebook** with a fine worth 500,000 pounds for its behaviour in the **Cambridge Analytica scandal.**
- **India and Pakistan's men's hockey teams** were on October 29, 2018 declared **joint winners of the Asian Champions Trophy**, which was held in Muscat, Oman.
- **Asma Jahangir**, late Pakistani human rights activist and lawyer was posthumously announced as one of the winners of the **UN Human Rights Prize on October 26, 2018.**
- The **Vigilance Awareness Week** will be observed across the country from October 29, 2018 to November 4, 2018 to promote probity in public life and achieve a corruption-free society. The theme of the week this year is, **'Eradicate Corruption - Build a New India'.**
- **Madan Lal Khurana**, former Delhi Chief Minister, passed away on October 27, 2018 after a prolonged illness.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 31, 2018 **unveiled the bronze statue of India's first deputy prime minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Kevadia in Gujarat's Narmada district.**
- **Andhra Pradesh is building a world-class and India's first 'Justice City' within its new capital Amaravati** with the vision to provide a state-of-the-art ecosystem built on latest technology for supporting the judicial system in the state.
- The Supreme Court on October 29, 2018 **prohibited the plying of 15-year-old petrol and 10-year-old diesel vehicles in the Delhi-NCR (national capital region) in a move to deal with the prevailing "very critical" and "horrible" pollution situation in Delhi-NCR.**

- **India and Qatar** on October 29, 2018 established a joint commission to review all bilateral matters, as well as regional and global issues of mutual interest.
- The **5th National Summit on Good and Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems in India** began in **Kaziranga, Assam** on October 30, 2018.
- The sail training ship of Indian Navy, **INS Tarangini** based at Kochi, returned after a seven month long sailing across the world to a grand reception at naval base, Kochi on October 30, 2018.
- **The Uttar Pradesh government** on October 19, 2018 signed an agreement with its neighbouring state **Uttarakhand to strengthen inter-state bus services.**
- **The Trilokpuri Sanjay Lake to Shiv Vihar section of the Delhi Metro Pink Line was flagged off** by Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on October 31, 2018.
- **A night trial of India's indigenously developed nuclear-capable Agni-1 ballistic missile with a strike range of 700 km was successfully conducted** on October 30, 2018 from a test range off Odisha coast as part of a user trial by the Army.
- **Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on October 31, 2018 flagged off the 'Run for Unity,'** an event organised to mark the birth anniversary of freedom fighter and India's first Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhai Patel, in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- **Anupam Kher on October 31, 2018 resigned as Chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII),** citing international film and TV assignments.
- In a big boost for Narendra Modi government, **India climbed another 23 points in the World Bank's ease of doing business ranking to 77th place,** becoming the top ranked country in South Asia for the first time and third among the BRICS.
- **The Republic of Seychelles on October 29, 2018 launched the world's first Sovereign Blue Bond,** a financial instrument designed to support sustainable marine and fisheries projects.
- **Germany's Angela Merkel has said she will step down as Chancellor in 2021,** following recent election setbacks.
- **Justice Naresh Harishchandra Patil** was on October 29, 2018 **sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.**
- **Nobel Prize Winner Malala Yousafzai will be honoured by Harvard University** for her work promoting girls' education. Harvard's Kennedy School said Yousafzai will be conferred with the 2018 Gleitsman Award at a ceremony on December 6.
- **India observed Rashtriya Ekta Diwas,** also known as National Unity Day, on October 31, 2018 to commemorate the 143rd birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.