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MAY – 2018



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

May 1

- **India and Nepal** agree to review bilateral trade by July this year. This **treaty** was last revised in **2009**.
- For the first time, **India and Pakistan** will be part of a multinational counter terror exercise, schedule to be hold in Russia in **September 2018**.
- Office of United State Trade Representative (**USTR**) releases 2018 edition of '**special 301 report**'. In this report India has once again been placed in the '**priority watch list**'.
- **India** projected to be **2nd fastest** growing nation for passenger **traffic**, **Vietnam** topped the list with **8.5 percent growth rate**. It is followed by India at 7.5 percent.
- According to **TRA brand trust report 2018**. Google is the most trusted Internet brand in India. Facebook has attained the second position on the list.
- Exercise 'Harimau Shakthi 2018' between the Indian army and the Malaysian army commended on 30 April at **wardieburn camp, Kuala Lumpur**.

May 3

- **Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu**, attended India- South Africa business summit from **April 29-30, 2018** in **Johannesburg**, South Africa. The visit began with a series of **bilateral meetings**
- On **2nd May 2018**, the **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)** released a report, according to which India joined the United States and China as one of the world's **5 biggest military spenders**.

May 4

- According to recently released report of Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India has emerged as **fifth largest military spender in 2017**.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has entered into **200th Unilateral Advance Pricing Agreement (UAPA)** after it **signed** one in **April 2018**.
- **India** was ranked **11th position** in the **FDI Confidence Index 2018** released by global consultancy firm **A T Kearney**.

May 5

- The **12th informal** meeting of **SAARC Finance Ministers** was held in **Manila** on the sidelines of the **51st Annual Meeting** of Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- The **Nobel Prize in Literature**, the **world's most prestigious** accolade for writing, will not be awarded this year, for the first time since **1949** in the wake of a sexual and financial misconduct scandal.

May 6

- **North Korea** moved its **clock forward 30 minutes**, aligning its time zone with South Korea, a move aimed at **promoting the two countries'** reconciliation.
- The 29th International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) meeting between India and **Sri Lanka** was held onboard Indian Naval Ship '**Sumithra**' at the Indo-Sri Lanka Maritime **Boundary Line** off **Kankasanthurai**
- **Department of Economic Affairs (DEA)** secretary meets president of ADB, **Mr. Takehiko Nakao**, attends **12th informal** meeting of **SAARC finance Ministers**

May 7

- **India and Sri Lanka** agreed on cooperation on exchange of information and other aspects to tackle smuggling of drugs in both countries.
- The number of homes destroyed by **Hawaii's Kilauea volcano** jumped to **3** as **scientists** reported lava spewing more than 200 feet (61 metres) into the air.
- President **Donald Trump** and North Korean leader **Kim Jong Un** are expected to hold their **first-ever summit**

May 8

- On **7th May 2018**, **Nokia** said that, it has acquired **Space Time Insight**, a **California**-based startup, to expand its Internet of Things (**IoT**) portfolio and IoT analytics capabilities.
- **Iran's president** on Tuesday warned the country could face "**some problems**" ahead of **President Donald Trump's** decision on whether to pull out of its **nuclear deal with world powers**

May 9

- **India** has ranked **4th out of 25 nations** on the **Asia Power Index** released by **Lowy Institute**
- **2018 World Robot Conference** will be held in **Beijing** from **August 15 to 19**
- **Microsoft** announces '**A1 for Accessibility**' provide intelligent A1 solutions for people with **disabilities**

May 10

- **China** has successfully launched a **hyperspectral imaging** satellite for comprehensive observation of the **atmosphere**, including air pollution which is one of the country's major problems.
- Forbes has released a list of "**The World's Most Powerful People 2018**" which consists of **75 men and women**. **Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Communist Party of China**, seizes the top spot for the **first time ever**.

May 11

- **The SCO Tourism Ministers'** conference was held in **Wuhan, Hubei Province, China**. This is the **first tourism ministerial meeting** between member countries of the **Shanghai** Cooperation Organization (SCO).
- External Affairs Minister (EAM) **Sushma Swaraj** left on a two-day visit to **Myanmar**. The visit is part of the ongoing **high-level interaction** between the governments of **India and Myanmar**.
- **Indian Government** has sent **2nd** relief consignment for **Rohingya** (who fled Myanmar) residing in refugee camps in **Bangladesh**.
- Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed a **Rs 945-crore** deal with the **Harris Corporation** of the **US** for development of its futuristic telecommunications infrastructure (**FTI**) programme.

May 12

- **Commonwealth Heads of Government** has launched an online platform named Commonwealth Digital Education Leadership Training in Action (**C-DELTA**) to create an **enabling environment and culture of lifelong learning**.

- The department of youth and cultural affairs of the **Gujarat government** will be co-organisers for the centenary celebrations to mark the independence of **Poland in Delhi and other parts of the world**

May 15

- **Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli** announced that Nepal will be the **host for the upcoming 2018 BIMSTEC summit.**
- India Meteorological Department (**IMO**) is planning to add **30 more Doppler radars** in the **next two-three years** across the country.

May 16

➤ **Nepal To Hold BIMSTEC 2018**

- **Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli** has announced to host the **2018 Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit.**
- The BIMSTEC is an international organization of seven nations of South Asia and South East Asia, including Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan, and Nepal. China's first domestically manufactured aircraft carrier started sea trials.
- The carrier, known only as **"Type 001A"**, set out for the trials from a port in north-eastern China.
- The ship will give China a second aircraft carrier as it asserts its claims in the South China Sea and seeks to deter any independence movements in **Taiwan in 2020.**
- China's first aircraft carrier – **Liaoning** – was also a **'Type 001 aircraft carrier.** The Liaoning was originally a Kuznetsov-class aircraft cruiser for the Soviet Navy in the mid- 1980s.

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May 17

- **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day: 17 May.** The **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day** was observed across the world on May 17. The theme of WTISD was "**Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All**".
- The World Telecommunication Day is celebrated annually on **May 17 since 1969.**

May 18

➤ **SCO Cultural Ministers' Meeting Held in Sanya, China**

- **The Minister of State for Culture, Dr Mahesh Sharma** led the Indian delegation to the **15th Meeting of the Cultural Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization(SCO) Member States held in Sanya, China.** India participated for the first time at the Meeting of Cultural Ministers of the SCO.
- India became a full member of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** in June 2017 during the SCO Heads of State Summit in **Astana, Kazakhstan.**
- **Guatemala Becomes Second Country to Open Jerusalem Embassy**
- **Guatemala has opened an embassy in Jerusalem** two days after the U.S. moved its embassy to the contested capital city.

May 20

➤ **Russia Unveils World's 1st Floating Nuclear Power Station**

- **Russia unveiled the world's first floating nuclear power station** at a ceremony in the port of the far northern city of Murmansk, where it will be loaded with nuclear fuel before heading to eastern Siberia. Built in Saint Petersburg, **the Akademik Lomonosov** arrived in Murmansk where it was moored in the port and presented to the media.

May 22

➤ **Madhya Pradesh Launches 'My MP Rojgar Portal'**

- **The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has launched **'My MP Rojgar Portal'** to provide jobs to youths as per their educational qualification, skills and interest and ensure availability of able candidates to employers as per the need of their business.
- The portal was launched as a part of the **'Ham Choo Lenge Aasman'** Mukhyamantri Career Counselling programme **'Pahal'** in Model School of Bhopal.

May 28

➤ **India Launches Its 2nd IT Corridor In China**

- **India launched its second IT corridor in China** to cash in on the burgeoning Chinese software market. The **National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)** has established one more **Sino-Indian Digital Collaborative Opportunities Plaza (SIDCOP)** platform in China.

➤ **Colombia to be NATO's 1st Latin American 'Global Partner'**

- Colombia would be formally joining the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**. The announcement was made by the **Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos**.

➤ **Hamburg To Host 2018 Global Wind Summit**

- The first edition of the **Global Wind Summit** will be held in **Hamburg, Germany** in **September 2018**. The four-day event will see speakers from about 100 countries, including India, China, the US, Spain and Denmark.

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- The conference on wind is the largest and most important meeting of the wind industry worldwide. The event combines two conferences, **WindEnergy Hamburg and WindEurope**.
- Former **Pakistan Chief Justice Nasirul Mulk** was appointed as the interim Prime Minister of the country until the general elections are held on July 25.

May 29

➤ **International Day of UN Peacekeepers: 29 May**

- The theme of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2018 is **‘UN Peacekeepers: 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice’**. The first **UN peacekeeping mission** was established on **29 May 1948**. The day was first celebrated in **2003**.
- **PM Leaves On 3-Nation Tour To Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore**
- **Indonesia Capital-** Jakarta, **Currency-** Indonesian rupiah, **President-** Joko Widodo.
- **Malaysian Capital-** Kuala Lumpur, **Currency-** Malaysian ringgit, **Prime Minister-** Mahathir Mohamad.
- **Singapore Currency-** Singapore Dollar, **President-** Halimah Yacob.

May 30

➤ **India & Indonesia Sign 15 MoUs**

- India and Indonesia signed **15 MoUs** in the **fields of defence, scientific and technological cooperation, railways and health**, among others.

NATIONAL NEWS

May 1

- On April 30, Union Minister for drinking water and sanitation, **Uma Bharti** launched the **GOBAR** (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources) - **DHAN** scheme to promote wealth and energy from waste.
- **Surat railway station (Gujarat)** will be the third in India to be developed as a **world class facility under Railway ministry station** redevelopment programme.
- Second edition of world Hindu congress (**WHC**) 2018 will be held in **Chicago**, us from **7th-9th September 2018**.
- **Swachh Bharat** summer Internship to commence from **May 1 2018**. Under the at least **100 hours of sanitation** related work in village would be given a swachh Bharat certificate.
- The government kicks off a pilot scheme for procurement of aggregate power of **2500mw** on competitive basis for **3 years**.

May 2

- **Maharashtra state** will get a new airport at **Parule Chipi in sindhudurg district**, which is expected to be functional by **September 2018**.
- **15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** will be held in **Varanasi**, Uttar Pradesh from 21st to 23rd **January 2019**.
- **International solar alliance** had a setup a task force, which would be responsible for **creating ecosystems** for startups in solar innovations by enabling incubation, partnerships and access to finance.
- 20,000 troops of **India army's south western** command are participating in the ongoing '**Vijay Prahar**' exercise near **Suratgarh in Rajasthan**.

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- On 1st May 2018 chhattisgarh chief minister **Raman Singh** and union minister of state for railways **Rajen Gohain** flagged off **Antyodaya express**.

May 3

- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** has approved three **major infrastructure** projects – new terminal buildings at **Guwahati, Chennai and Lucknow airports**.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** has given its **approval** for extending the investment limit from **Rs 7.5 lakhs to Rs 15 lakhs** under the **Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandan Yojana (PMVVY)** as part of Government's commitment for financial inclusion and social security.
- The **Cabinet** has given its approval for the Umbrella Scheme, "**Green Revolution – Krishonnati Yojana**" in agriculture sector beyond **12th Five Year Plan** for the period from **2017-18 to 2019-20**.
- The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** has approved the proposal for renaming and restructuring of **Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP)** as **Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)**.
- The Cabinet gave its nod to continuation of **Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana** beyond 12th Five Year Plan for a period 2017-18 to 2019-20. Under this **20 new AIIMS** and upgradation of **73 medical colleges** will be undertaken.
- The President of India, **Shri Ram Nath Kovind**, chaired the first meeting of the **National Committee for the Commemoration** of the **150th Birth Anniversary** of Mahatma Gandhi, at **Rashtrapati Bhavan** today. (May 2, 2018).
- **14 Indian cities** have been figured in a list of **20** most polluted cities in the world in terms of **PM2.5 levels** in 2016, according to the data released by the **WHO** (May 2, 2018).

- For the **first time in the country**, the renewable energy sector has added more capacity than the conventional **power — thermal, gas and nuclear — in 2017-18.**
- The **Gujarat government** initiated a **month-long state-wide water conservation** campaign, on the occasion of the state's **Foundation Day on May 1**, aiming to conserve an additional **1,100 million cubic feet of rain water.**
- The **Union Government** has announced to develop the country's **biggest airport**, after only to **Mumbai**, in **Mopa district of Goa.**

May 4

- The Department of Telecommunications (**DoT**) has released for public consultations the draft of the National Telecom Policy (**NTP**) 2018, named the **National Digital Communications Policy, 2018.**
- The Minister of State for Development of **North Eastern Region (I/C), Dr. Jitendra Singh** announced that a **North Eastern Cultural and Information Centre** will come up in Delhi soon.
- On 3rd to 5th May 2018, '**Vibrant North East 2018**' is held in **Guwahati, Assam.** Vibrant North East 2018 is organized by Centre for **Agriculture and Rural Development (CARD)**
- On 3rd May 2018, the **Maharashtra government** decided to recommend the declaration of an ordinance to rename the **Jalgaon-based North Maharashtra University** after poetess **Bahinabai Chaudhari.**
- On 3rd May 2018, **EPFO** announced that now **Pensioners** can view their pension passbook on mobile phones using **Umang app.**
- **Union Environment Ministry** has banned party poppers, stating that the devices pose a serious **threat to human health and environment.**

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- **Maharashtra** has become the first state to issue a **crucial land ownership document online** and accept a **digital signature on it as valid**.
- Indian Meteorological Department (**IMD**) has issued warning of another **dust storm and thunderstorm** in parts of **Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan**.

May 5

- **Mr. Ivica Dacic**, first **Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs** of the **Republic of Serbia** are on an official visit to India from **1st to 4th May, 2018**.
- **27th meeting** of the **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**, chaired by **Finance Minister Arun Jaitley** was held on **May 4, 2018**.
- 4th Regional Conference on **‘Futuristic, Resilient and Digital Infrastructure’** concluded in **Bengalore on May 4, 2018**.
- On **4th May 2018**, External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** chaired an **Interactive Session** on the **Act East Policy** with the Chief Ministers of northeastern states in **New Delhi**.
- According to the latest report of the **World Bank**, India is doing **“extremely well”** on electrification with nearly **85% of the country’s population** having access to electricity
- **HRD Ministry** notifies 75 National Resource **Centres (NRCs)** for online refresher programmes for Higher Education faculty through **SWAYAM**
- **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** has involved Survey of India to strengthen the **Ganga rejuvenation task** by using Geographic Information System (**GIS**) technology.
- Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (**POWERGRID**) has set Capex target for the year **2018-19** as **Rs. 25,000 crore**

- The sugarcane department in **Uttar Pradesh**, the country's largest sugarcane and sugar producer, is soon to make use of plastic waste for construction of 'sugarcane roads' for cutting costs and promoting **green technology**.

May 6

- **Patanjali Ayurved Limited** has been ranked as India's most trusted **Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG)** brand in the **TRA Brand Trust Report 2018**. In overall brand ranking **Patanjali is at 13th rank**.
- **Indus dolphin** is one of the **world's rarest mammals** found only in **India and Pakistan**. The first organized census on Indus dolphins are conducting by the Punjab government along with **WWF-India**.
- **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** to become biennial event from 2019. The 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2019 will be held during **21-23 January 2019 at Varanasi**.
- **Delhi** will host a **six-day-long Festival of Bharat** between May 9 and May 14 as a 21st century tribute to the majesty and depth of **India's civilization**.
- **Triggering** a controversy, a Pakistani girl featured as the "brand ambassador" on the cover page of a booklet meant to promote 'Swachh Jamui Swasth Jamui' initiative in **Bihar's Jamui district**.
- Union Road Transport and Highways Minister **Nitin Gadkari** announced **sanctioning of Rs 5,500 crore** for laying regional ring road around **Hyderabad**. (363 km)
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development **Smt Maneka Sanjay Gandhi** organized **A Day long National Conference on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)** held in New Delhi in which **244 Districts** are selected under this scheme.

- **Dr. Mahesh Sharma** to inaugurate an extensive exhibition called ‘**India and the World: A History in Nine Stories**’ on Indian **Civilisation** at **National Museum**, New Delhi

May 7

- **The Border Roads Organisation (BRO)**, a leader in infrastructure development in the border areas of the country, will celebrate its **58th Raising Day on 07 May 2018**.
- In **Assam**, **97.3 meter** tall national flag, the tallest in the country will be installed in **Guwahati** under **Smart City Mission**.
- On 6th May 2018, a ‘**Cochlear Implant Awareness Programme**’ was held at **Huda Convention Centre**, Sector-12, Faridabad, **Haryana**.
- The famous **Aranmula snake boat regatta in Kerala** will not be a competitive race in the Pampa river waters at this year’s **Onam festival**, and will instead return to its roots as a **spectacle of colour and song**.
- On May 6 2018, With the help of **World Bank’s** assist **NITI Aayog** confirmed that there was no cheating of funds occurred in the Centre’s ambitious **Ayushman Bharat National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM)**
- **Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu** arrived in Guatemala on the first leg of his **three-nation** tour to **Latin America**. During his stay in **Guatemala city**, **Mr. Naidu** will meet the leadership of the nation, with various MoUs expected to be signed.

May 8

- **May 7 2018** marks the **157th birth** anniversary of **India’s first Nobel Award winner Rabindranath Tagore**. He was born in **1861** in **Calcutta**.

May 9

- The third edition of the United Nations peacekeeping course for African Partners (UNPCAP) was inaugurated in New Delhi.
- **India and Guatemala sign** agreements to **boost cooperation in education sector**. Counter terrorism & diplomatic training
- **India** accounted for **74.2 percent** of the total number of **H-IB Visas** issued by the **US**.
- **Indian Navy** has **signed** a memorandum of understanding (**MoU**) with Indian Institute of Technology **Gandhinagar** to promote defence research
- In **order** to implement effective governance in the state **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister launched the official '**NCBN**' (Nara Chandrababu Naidu) App.
- **E-office** system implement in all government departments in up. All the **old files and records will be digitized**.
- **19th** edition of **TOONZ Animation Masters** summit was held in **Thiruvananthapuram**.
- **India** to host **15th Asia Media** summit from **10-12 May** in **New Delhi**. This is the **first time** that India will hosting the summit.
- **Madhya Pradesh** state government launched India's first Integrated control and command centre (**ICCC**) for all seven smart cities of the state in **Bhopal**
- **Maharashtra** state cabinet decided to provide **Rs.3 subsidy** for **every litre of milk** to the Co-operative and private producers to manufacture **milk powder**

May 10

- On **7th May 2018**, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (**CBDT**) notified the protocol amending the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (**DTAA**) between **India and Kuwait**.
- **An important peptide** that can be used to create a **new preventive vaccine** against **leptospirosis** has been found out by researchers from the **Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre, Gandhinagar**.
- **NITI Aayog** and Google signed a Statement of Intent (**SoI**) to enhance growth in artificial intelligence (**AI**) and machine learning (**ML**) ecosystem in India.
- **India** would be hosting the **15th Asia Media Summit (AMS-2018)** in **New Delhi**. The theme of this summit is **“Telling our Stories Asia and More”**.
- The Centre has approved setting up of **100 additional One Stop Centres** in **9 states** to help **violence affected women**.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (**FSSAI**) set new norms for labelling food planned. Moreover, **foods that exceed norms of sugar and fat** should carry **‘red’ and ‘green’ labels**

May 11

- The **Telangana** government has launched a **new scheme** in which the farmers in the state will get **Rs 8,000 per acre** each every year as crop investment support.
- On **10th May 2018**, **Ram Nath Kovind** became the **second president** of

India to visit **Indian Army Siachen** base camp. Siachen base camp is also known as the “**Third Pole**” where temperatures drop to minus **50 degrees Celsius** sometimes.

- Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** stated that government has approved **green licence plates** bearing numbers in **white fonts** for private **e-vehicles** (electronic vehicles).
- On **10th May 2018**, **NITI Aayog** will announce the top **30** innovations of **Atal Tinkering Marathon in Delhi**.
- Union Minister for Civil Aviation, **Suresh Prabhu** inaugurated the **6th US-India Aviation Summit**. **India's** civil aviation sector is slated to be third largest market globally by **2020**.
- **Arunachal** Chief Minister **Pema Khandu** inaugurated Arunachal Pradesh's **biggest solar power plant** at **Energy Awareness Park** in **Itanagar**.
- **Pawan Kalyan**, actor and **Jana Sena** Party founder, unfurled the flag, claimed to be the **world's largest Indian national flag** at **Hyderabad, Telangana**.
- **Indian tea industry** reached the highest ever production of **1,325.05 million kg** and **export of 256.57 million kg** during the financial year **2017-18**.

May 12

- In a bid to help **sugar mills to clear cane dues of farmers**, Central Government has issued orders to extend financial assistance @ of **Rs. 5.50 per quintal** of cane crushed in sugar season **2017-18** to sugar mills to offset the cost of cane.

- Vice President of India and the Chairman of the **Rajya Sabha, Venkaiah Naidu** has constituted a **2-member committee** to review rules of procedure and conduct of business in **Rajya Sabha**.
- **Modi** and his Nepalese counterpart **K.P. Sharma Oli** jointly inaugurate a direct **bus service between Janakpur and Ayodhya**.
- The **Supreme Court** on Friday asked Chief Justices of High Courts across the country to set up **anti-sexual** harassment at workplace committees in High Courts and district courts within **two months**
- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (**BBBP**), a Central scheme aimed at arresting and reversing the decline in Child Sex Ratio (**CSR**), has been extended to **10 more districts** in the **Tamil Nadu**.
- **Indian Navy** is engaged in conducting a joint exclusive economic zone (**EEZ**) surveillance of **Maldives**. For this purpose, Indian Navy has deployed Indian Naval (**IN**) ship **Sumedha**, a Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel (**OPV**), from **9th to 17th May 2018**.
- **India's longest road and railway bridge "Bogibeel bridge"**, linking **Dibrugarh** in Assam to **Pasighat** in Arunachal Pradesh is expected to be inaugurated in **2018** by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.
- **Parliamentary panel** headed by **BJP leader Murali Manohar Joshi** decided to **study the recovery of black money** and **performance** of public sector banks etc.
- **Kerala Government approved** setting up of the **Kerala Fibre Optic Network Limited**, the Joint Venture, to implement the Kerala Fibre Optic Network (**K-FON**) project, as a part of its programme to offer **free internet to over 20 lakh poor families**.

May 13

- **Punjab State Government** signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with United Kingdom (UK) for setting up of **bio-gas and bio- Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)** plants in the state.
- **Chhattisgarh** Chief Minister **Raman Singh** launched **Vikas Yatra** from **Dantewada** district aimed at spreading awareness about the development the state has witnessed during Bharatiya Janata Party (**BJP**) Govt's **tenure in the state**.
- **Maharashtra State Government** signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Centre's Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment (**GRIHA**) Council to train state's Public Works Department (**PWD**) officials to rate government buildings.
- **Indian Customs and Department of India Posts** held a **first ever Joint Conference** in **New Delhi** to discuss measures for streamlining imports and exports by post.
- **Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Radha Mohan Singh** laid **foundation** stone of the **frozen semen station** in **Maranga, Purnea, Bihar**.
- Kerala State Electricity Board (**KSEB**) has signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Thermal Power Corporation (**NTPC**) for increasing **solar power generation in the state**.
- **Jammu and Kashmir State** Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister **Mehbooba Mufti**, approved a notification of the non-functional (monetary) scheme (**NFS**) and its implementation for members of the general executive cadre of the Jammu and Kashmir Police Service (**JKPS**).

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- **Supreme Court of India** approved “**Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault/other crimes**”, a scheme for mandatory grant of compensation to victims of sexual assault and acid attack.
- **Rs 16,500 crore** has been allotted by **71 ministries and departments of the central government** for implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) in **2018-19**.

May 14

- The President of India, **Shri Ram Nath Kovind**, paid homage to **Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed**, former President of India on his **Birth Anniversary** at **Rashtrapati Bhavan** today (May 13, 2018).
- **The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** will set up a dedicated web portal for spreading information on filming locations and production facilities available in India.
- **India** has become the **largest remittance-receiving country** in the world, with migrant workers from the country sending home **69 billion US dollars** in **2017**.
- In a bid to attract more **Buddhist tourists** from across the world, **Central Government** has decided to expand **Buddhist tourism circuit** to **21 more states**.
- On **13th May 2018**, **Chief of Army Staff General of India, Bipin Rawat** arrived at **Colombo** on a **five-day** visit to **Sri Lanka**.
- The Chief Minister of **Madhya Pradesh, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has announced that the State will be declared as open defecation free (ODF) by **Gandhi Jayanti** this year.

May 15

- On **May 14** **Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan** launched **Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP)** aimed to train over **5.5 lakh** workers in environment and forest sectors.
- **First** workshop on **Ayushman Bharat Program** was held in **Shimla, Himachal Pradesh** on **May 14**.
- According to the “**Clamdouns and Courage South Asia Press Freedom Report 2017-18**” India witnessed lightest number of Internet shutdown in **2017-18** by **UNESCO**
- **Kerala** is currently experiencing an advanced **demographic transition** as the **mortality and fertility levels** have come down
- On **14th to 26th** may the first edition of the **International Childrens Film festival of Kerala** is held in **Thiruvananthapuram**
- **Shri Gadkari** inaugurated **two National Highways** and lay foundation stone of a **highway project in Punjab**.
- **Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh** approves central assistance of **Rs.1,161.17 crores** to states of **Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Rajasthan** and **UT of Lakshadweep**.
- On **14th and 15th** **May 2018**, **Head Quarter western Air command** conducted a seminar on **Humanitarian and Disaster relief (HADR)** at **Subroto Park, Delhi**.
- **IIM – Ahmedabad’s** centre for **Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE)** has launched a **Bharat Inclusion** initiative to **transform their ideas into business**.

- The agriculture secretary **SK Pattanayak** announced the inclusion of **200 mare wholesale mandis to the CNAM Portal**
- With an aim to impart skill training and self-sufficiency the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** has decided to set up a centre at **'BHAROSA'** in **Hyderabad**.

May 16

- **4th Meeting Of SAWEN Held In Kolkata**
- The fourth meeting of **South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)** was held in Kolkata.
- Union cabinet gave its nod for India adopting the statute of the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) which will help in checking cross border wildlife crimes.
- **SAWEN** is a regional network comprises eight countries in South Asia— **Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka**.
- **Madhya Pradesh To Be Declared ODF By October This Year**
- The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced that the State will be declared as **open defecation free (ODF) by Gandhi Jayanti this year**.
- **First All-Woman Post Office Passport Seva Kendra Starts Operations**
- In a first, a Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK) run by an all-woman team has started operations **in Phagwara, Punjab**. The seva kendra was inaugurated by **Union Minister Vijay Sampla** in the local head Post Office.

- It was 192nd POPSK in the country, but first one to be operated by an all-woman team

May 17

➤ **India's 1st Solar Powered Railway Station in Guwahati**

- **Guwahati** now has **India's first railway station run by solar power.** The project of installing solar panels was commissioned in April 2017. Around 2352 solar modules with a capacity of generating 700 kwp has been set up over the roof of the Guwahati railway station.
- **Indore, India's Cleanest City In Swachh Survekshan-2018**
- As per the **Swachh Survekshan-2018** results, **Indore has once again emerged as the cleanest city in India.** Bhopal has been ranked 2nd and Chandigarh 3rd in the survey at the national level. The announcement was made in New Delhi by **Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri.**
- Besides, **Vijaywada in Andhra Pradesh** is India's cleanest big city with a population of over 10 lakh. Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh is 'Fastest Mover' big city. **New Delhi Municipal Council** is country's cleanest small city having a population between one lakh to three lakh. **Jharkhand has been declared the best-performing state,** followed by Maharashtra.
- **In a 1st, 3-day International Rail Coach Expo Starts in Chennai**
- **For the first time, an international rail coach expo,** displaying rail coaches and train-sets, has been held in Chennai. The expo is being hosted by the **Integral Coach Factory (ICF),** under the Ministry of Railways, in coordination with the **CII (Confederation of Indian Industries)** and RITES Ltd, a PSU under the Ministry of Railways.

May 18

➤ **Suresh Prabhu Launched Intellectual Property Mascot 'IP Nani'**

- **Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu** has launched the **Intellectual Property (IP) mascot 'IP Nani'**. The mascot was launched during a conference on the National Intellectual Property Rights Policy in New Delhi.
- The first and foremost objective of the Policy is **"IPR Awareness: Outreach and Promotion"**, aimed at raising awareness on IPR for school children to nurture creativity and the ability to innovate from a very young age.

➤ **Cyclone SAGAR: IMD Issues Advisory to 5 States, 1 U**

- **Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)** has issued an advisory to **Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and the Lakshadweep** archipelago over cyclonic storm **'SAGAR'**.
- **Union Environment Ministry Launches Green Skill Development Programme**
- **The Union Environment Ministry** launched the **Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP)** with an aim to train over 5.5 lakh workers in environment and forest sectors in the country.
- **Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan** also launched a related mobile app **'GSDP-ENVIS'** to boost employability and entrepreneurship of the youth in the country. The app can be used for information and for applying to the courses.

May 19

➤ **PM Modi Laid Foundation Stone of India's Longest Road Tunnel in J&K**

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** is on a day-long visit to Jammu and Kashmir. During his visit, Prime Minister laid down the foundation stone of

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'Zojila Tunnel' on the **Srinagar-Leh National Highway in Leh**. The **14.2-kilometre long Zojila tunnel** will be **India's longest road tunnel and Asia's longest bidirectional tunnel**.

- Prime Minister Modi also dedicated to the nation a **330 MW Kishenganga hydroelectric project from Srinagar**.

➤ **Dr Harsh Vardhan's 'Green Good Deeds' Gets Global Recognition**

- **Green Good Deeds**, the societal movement launched by **Environment, Forest & Climate Change Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan** to protect the environment and promote good living has found acceptance by the global community.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan at the ongoing **4th BRICS Environment Ministerial in Durban, South Africa** had urged the BRICS nations to jointly help in the development of a social movement to fight for the protection and conservation of the environment. **NITI Aayog's 3-Day Venture Capital Symposium 2018 Begins**
- **NITI Aayog, in association with Vision India Foundation**, is organising the **Venture Capital Symposium 2018** to deepen the economic relationships **between France and India**. The Venture Capital Symposium 2018 is a three-day event where the French investors will be interacting with 100 early to mid-stage Indian start-ups.

May 20

➤ **Anti Terrorism Day: 21 May**

- **The Anti Terrorism Day is observed on 21 May** every year in our country to make the people aware of the anti-social act of terrorism and its impact on human suffering and lives. The official announcement of National Anti Terrorism Day was made **after the assassination of India's seventh Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on 21 May 1991**.

➤ **India Successfully Test-Fires BrahMos Missile Along Odisha Coast**

- ❖ India successfully test-fired the **Indo-Russian joint venture BrahMos supersonic cruise missile** from a test range along the **Odisha coast** to validate some new features. The missile was test-fired from a mobile launcher stationed at Launch pad 3 of the **Integrated Test Range (ITR)** at Chandipur, according to DRDO.
- ❖ The trial was conducted to validate its **“life extension”** technologies developed for the first time in India by DRDO and team Brahmos.

➤ **Tamil Nadu to Build India’s Next Generation Defence Aircraft**

- ❖ **The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA)**, which had conceived and designed the **Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas**, has set the ball rolling for building the next generation defence aircraft, the **Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)**, by extending an invitation to private players **in Coimbatore** to build a technology demonstrator.

May 21

➤ **'AYUSH' Finds A Place in English Language**

- ❖ The **“AYUSH”** became popular as the acronym for five traditional and complementary systems of medicine, namely **Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy** and successfully adopted and used in all Government communications.

➤ **Indian Economy Projected to Grow 7.6% in 2018-19: UN Report**

- ❖ **India's economy is projected to grow 7.6% in fiscal year 2018-19**, remaining the fastest growing economy in the world, according to a **United Nations report**.

➤ **Shivangi Pathak Becomes Youngest Indian Woman to Scale Mount Everest**

- ❖ **India's Shivangi Pathak** has become **youngest women of the country to scale Mt Everest from Nepal side.**

May 22

➤ **Madhya Pradesh Launches 'My MP Rojgar Portal'**

- ❖ **The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shivraj Singh Chouhan** has launched '**My MP Rojgar Portal**' to provide jobs to youths as per their educational qualification, skills and interest and ensure availability of able candidates to employers as per the need of their business.
- ❖ The portal was launched as a part of the '**Ham Chhu Lenge Asman**' Mukhyamantri Career Counselling programme '**Pahal**' in Model School of Bhopal.

May 23

➤ **Important Cabinet Approvals- 23rd May 2018**

- ❖ MoU between **India and Angola** for promoting bilateral cooperation in the field of Electronics and Information Technology.
- ❖ MoU signed between **India and France** in the field of Renewable Energy.
- ❖ MoU between **India and Morocco** on India-Morocco cooperation in Renewable Energy.
- ❖ MoU between **India and Turkey** on trade in poppy seeds to ensure quick and transparent processing for import of poppy seeds from Turkey.
- ❖ MoU between **India and Singapore** on Cooperation in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration

- ❖ The Union Finance Ministry has tied up with 40 entities including **Flipkart, Swiggy, Patanjali** and **Amul** for extending loans to small entrepreneurs under the **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)**.

May 24

- **Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Netherlands Mark Rutte** has arrived in India for a two-day official **visit**. Rutte is scheduled to meet a **Business Delegation at Hotel Taj Diplomatic** and then participate in the **Clean Ganga Event**.
- **Prime Minister had chaired twenty-sixth interaction through PRAGATI**. He Reviewed progress of handling and grievance redressal related to post offices and railways.
- **India-Nepal Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN To Be Held In Uttarakhand**
 - ❖ **Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN-XIII** between **India and Nepal** will be conducted at **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**.
 - ❖ **Exercise SURYA KIRAN** is a **biannual event** which is conducted alternatively in Nepal and India. The aim of this exercise is to conduct battalion level joint training with emphasis on counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain.
- ❖ **NITI Aayog and Sushant Singh Rajput** have decided to collaborate towards promoting two major initiatives of NITI Aayog, **promotion of BHIM** and the **Women Entrepreneurship Platform**.
- ❖ **A three-day Smart Cities India 2018 Expo**, began in New Delhi.

May 25

- **The Netherlands** has become the **64th signatory member of the International Solar Alliance**. **PM Modi** noted that the **first Indo-Dutch Centre of Excellence CoE** in Vegetables had started in **Baramati, Maharashtra**. India also welcomed the Netherlands as the **Partner Country for the TechSummit in 2019**.

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- **Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar** launched '**Samagra Shiksha scheme**' for school education.
- Samagra Shiksha is a program that unifies learning from the pre-school to class 12 levels and encapsulates elements of the **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan** and teacher education.
- **In New Delhi, Prime Minister of Netherlands Mark Rutte** inaugurated the **Indo-Dutch Ganga Forum** to take forward an MoU signed between the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, and the Ministry of Infrastructure & Environment of the Netherlands in June 2017.
- The two-day conference named **SCO-Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure Legal Experts (RATS)** of legal experts took place in Islamabad under the framework of **Shanghai Cooperation Organization**, which comprises China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, India, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan.
- **The 3rd Mission Innovation Ministerial Meeting** was held at **Malmo, Sweden**. The Indian delegation was led by **Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Science, Technology and Earth Sciences**.
- **The World Health Organization (WHO)** declared **Nepal as free from Trachoma**, the world's leading infectious cause of blindness.
- With this, Nepal becomes the first country in **WHO's South-East Asia Region to eliminate Trachoma**. Trachoma was the second leading cause of preventable blindness in Nepal in the 1980s.
- **The Ministry of Commerce & Industry of India**, along with **Ministry of Commerce of Cambodia** organized the **5th India-CLMV Business Conclave** in **Phnom Penh, Cambodia**.

May 26

- **India will be the host country** for celebrations of **World Environment Day 2018**. The announcement in this regard was made by the Environment Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan. **The theme for this year is 'Beat Plastic Pollution'**.
- **The World Environment Day will be celebrated on 5th of June.**
- **Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** jointly inaugurate Bangladesh Bhawan at **Shanti Niketan in West Bengal**.
- The two leaders then paid floral tributes to **Rabindra Nath Tagore**. This is the first time in Indian history, that two prime ministers attended a convocation ceremony.
- **Ministry of Culture** has organised 3-Day long diversified cultural festival '**Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav**' festival which was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Trivendra Singh Rawat, Near Tehri Lake, Utrakhand. **It is the ninth edition of this festival.**
- **The Indian Navy** commissioned the **IN LCU L54**, the **fourth ship of Landing Craft Utility MK-IV**, into its fleet at **Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar**.

May 27

- **15th Finance Commission Constitutes Panel For Health Sector**
 - ❖ The Fifteenth Finance Commission has constituted a High-Level Group consisting of eminent experts from across the country to examine the strengths and weaknesses for enabling balanced expansion of Health Sector. High-Level Group on Health Sector will have **Convenor** by **Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS (New Delhi)**.
 - ❖ **1st Smart & Green Highway Eastern Peripheral Expressway At Baghpat In UP**
 - ❖ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has dedicated to the nation its first smart and green highway, the **Eastern Peripheral Expressway at Baghpat in**

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Uttar Pradesh. The 135-kilometer six-lane access-controlled expressway is eco-friendly and has world-class safety features. It envisages signal-free connectivity between **Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Gautam Budh Nagar and Palwal.** It has been built at a cost of **11,000 crore** rupees. It is India's first highway to be lit by solar power besides provisions of rainwater harvesting.

- ❖ **E-Way Bill System For Intra-State Goods Movement Comes Into Force In Seven More States, UTs**
- ❖ **E-Way Bill system** for intra-State movement of goods will be implemented in seven more states and Union Territories from 27th May 2018. The States are **Maharashtra, Manipur, Chandigarh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep.**
- ❖ With this, the number of States, where the system is being implemented, will go up to 27. As per the decision of the **GST Council**, e-Way Bill system has been rolled out from 1st of April this year.

➤ **PM Modi Launches Survey On NaMo App**

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a survey on the **NaMo App**, asking people to rate the performance of the government at the **Centre and MPs and MLAs** in their constituencies.

May 28

➤ **Sangeeta Bahl Becomes Oldest Indian woman to Scale Mount Everest**

- ❖ **Sangeeta Bahl, a 53-year-old former model**, has become the **oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest.**
- ❖ Bahl, who currently resides in Gurugram, scaled the peak with the help of two Sherpas and was felicitated at the Indian embassy in Kathmandu.

➤ **Queen Maxima of the Kingdom of the Netherlands** who is also the **United Nations Secretary General's Special Advocate** for Inclusive Finance for Development has arrived in New Delhi on a four-day visit to India.

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- **BCCI, UN Environment Sign Agreement To Promote 'Green' Cricket**
- **The BCCI and UN Environment** signed an agreement to promote 'green' **Cricket in India**. BCCI acting Secretary Amitabh Choudhary and Erik Solheim, Executive Director of UN Environment, **signed a letter of intent in Mumbai**.
- **Film actor Akshay Kumar** launched the twin pit toilet technology campaign in **New Delhi**. The actor appealed everybody to spread the awareness on the issue and make the cleanliness drive more effective.

May 29

- **Bhubaneswar (capital city of Odisha)** becomes the **fourth National data centre of National Informatics Centre (NIC) after Delhi, Hyderabad and Pune**.
- **National Informatics Centre (NIC) was established in 1976**.
- **Its Headquarters in New Delhi**.
- **Main Event of 4th International Yoga Day Celebrations To Be Held At Dehradun**
- The main event of **4th International Yoga Day** celebrations will be held at **Dehradun in Uttrakhand on 21st of June**.
- The DAC approved procurement of **Thermal Imaging (TI) Night Sights** for the **Rocket Launcher (RL)** used by the Army and the Air Force under '**BUY (Indian) IDDM**' category through established Indian Vendors.
- **DAC-The Defence Acquisition Council**
- **India Signs Loan Agreement With World Bank For Rajasthan Project**
- **An Agreement for IBRD Credit of USD 21.7 Million** from the **World Bank** for the Strengthening of Public Financial Management in Rajasthan Project was signed in New Delhi. The Project size is approximately **USD 31 million**, of which **USD**

21.7 million will be financed by the World Bank, and the remaining amount will be funded out of the State Budget.

➤ **Cochin International Airport, World's 1st Fully Solar Energy-Powered Airport: UNEP**

- ❖ **The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** has recognised **Cochin International Airport Ltd (CIAL)** in Kerala as the **world's first fully solar energy-powered airport**. CIAL is India's first airport to be constructed in public-private-partnership (PPP) model in 1999.
- ❖ It is the busiest and largest airport in the state of Kerala. The airport has **15 MWP** solar power plant near the cargo complex of airport comprising 46,150 solar panels laid across 45 acres.

May 30

➤ **Power Minister Launches Web Portal and App Called 'PRAAPTI'**

- ❖ **RK Singh, Minister of State for Power**, launched the web portal and an app namely 'PRAAPTI' that stands for '**Payment ratification and analysis in power procurement for bringing transparency in invoicing of generators**'.
- ❖ The **Ministry of Women and Child and Development, Government of India** has signed an MoU with **Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Uttar Pradesh**, in New Delhi for management of Home of Widows at **Sunrakh Bangar, Vrindavan**.

- ❖ The MoU shall be in force **for a period of 2 years**.

- ❖ **Statehood Day of Goa: 30 May**

- ❖ **Goa celebrates its Statehood Day** as people's demand for full statehood was attained on **30th May 1987**, when Goa became **India's 25th state**. Daman and Diu were separated from Goa and continue to be administered as a union territory.

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❖ **Gujarat Government Launches 'Reuse of Treated Waste Water Policy'**

❖ **The Gujarat government** unveiled its '**Reuse of Treated Waste Water Policy**' which aims to reduce the state's dependence on freshwater sources like the Narmada river.

❖ **'Gaj Yatra' Flagged Off in Meghalaya**

❖ **The Gaj Yatra campaign** was flagged off by the **Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) Brand Ambassador Ms Dia Mirza** at an event organised in Meghalaya. WTI and the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, formally launched the unique campaign.

❖ 'Gaj Yatra', a "journey celebrating India's national heritage animal", aims at securing 100 elephant corridors across India.

May 31

➤ **Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN-13 Begins in Uttarakhand**

❖ The joint military exercise **SURYA KIRAN-13** between **India and Nepal** began at **Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand**. The military exercise is a biannual event which is conducted alternatively in Nepal and India every six months.

➤ **India Releases Rs 33.10 Crore to Nepal for 2 Road Projects**

❖ **India has released 33.10 Crore rupees to Nepal** towards the cost of **two road packages of Birgunj-Thori Road** being implemented under Postal Highway Projects in Nepal with Government of India's grant assistance.

➤ **India and World Bank Signs \$500 Million Additional Financing for PMGSY**

❖ **The Government of India and the World Bank** signed a **\$500 million loan agreement** to provide additional financing for the **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Rural Roads Project**, implemented by

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Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, which will build 7,000 km of climate resilient roads, out of which 3,500 km will be constructed using green technologies

➤ **3rd Meeting of India-UK Home Affairs' Dialogue Held in New Delhi**

- ❖ The **Third Home Affairs' Dialogue between India and U.K.** was held in New Delhi. The Dialogue covered a wide range of issues including cybersecurity, women safety, organized crime, terror financing etc.

➤ **World No Tobacco Day: 31 May**

- ❖ Every year, on 31 May, World Health Organization and partners mark **World No Tobacco Day (WNTD)**. The theme of World No Tobacco Day 2018 is "**Tobacco and heart disease.**"

➤ **World's Largest International Maritime Exercise RIMPAC**

- ❖ As many as 26 countries, including India, will participate in the biennial Rim of the **Pacific, RIMPAC military exercise**, in and around the **Hawaiian Islands and Southern California**. The announcement was made by the Pentagon.

SPORTS

May 2

- **Hockey India** has named **Harendra Singh** as the chief coach for the **India men's hockey team**.
- The Indian Blind Football Federation (**IBFF**) conducted the **third edition** of all India invitational **Blind football tournaments in Kochi, Kerala**.

May 3

- **England** has overtaken **India** to seize the top spot in the **MRF Tyres ICC ODI team** rankings following the annual update, while Nepal has rejoined the **T20I ratings**.

May 4

- **Mohamed Salah** of **Liverpool football** team has been named the **Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year for 2017/18**.
- On 3rd May 2018, Cricket **Australia appointed Justin Langer** as the new coach of the **Australian national cricket team**.
- **Indian pugilist Neeraj Goyat** has been awarded the **WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award**.
- India fell to second position in **ICC ODI Team Rankings** with England reaching the **No. 1 position, as per the ICC ODI rankings**

May 5

- **World junior champion Neeraj Chopra** shattered his own national record with an impressive **87.43m effort** at the Diamond League season-opener in **Doha on Friday**.

May 6

- A sports initiative '**Star Khel Mahakumbh**' was launched at **Dharamshala** in **Himachal Pradesh** today in the presence of **1,500 athletes**.

May 7

- **India** finished on top in the **7-nation 3rd South Asian Junior Athletics Championships** in **Colombo**, Sri Lanka on the final day. **India** ended with **20 gold, 22 silver and 8 bronze medals** (Total 50 Medals).

May 8

- Olympic medalist **Gagan Narang and Pooja Ghatkar** bagged the **silver medal** in the mixed event at **Grand Prix** of Liberation international shooting competition held in **Pilsen, Czech Republic**.

May 9

- **Spain's Rafael Nadal** remained in the **number one spot** in the latest edition of the mens Association of Tennis Professionals (**ATP**)

May 11

- **India's Under-16** national football team started the **four-nation international tournament in Serbia** with a 2-1 victory over **Jordan**.

May 12

- World University champion **Vinita Bhardwaj and Mukund Agarwal** won the gold in mixed air rifle in the **International Shooting Competition of Hannover**.

May 14

- The Athletics Federation of India (**AFI**) has decided to implement a strict '**No-Needle**' policy at all the **national camps and training centers** in the country.
- British driver **Lewis Hamilton** of **Mercedes** won the **Formula One Spanish Grand Prix**, his **second victory** in a row after winning the **Azerbaijan GP**.
- The **Indian U-16 football** team was crowned champions at the **Four-Nation Tournament** held in **Serbia** after they defeated **Tajikistan 4-2** in the finals.

May 15

- **Roger Federer** has replaced **Rafael Nadal** as **world no.1 in men's singles tennis** **ATP** rankings published on **May 14**.

May 16

- Neymar won the **French League's Player of the Year award**. Neymar scored 19 league goals and set up another 13 in only 20 games for French champion PSG.
- **British driver Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes** won the Formula One Spanish Grand Prix. This is his second victory in a row after winning the **Azerbaijan GP**

May 18

➤ **1st Para-National Games to be Held Under Khelo India Scheme**

- **The inaugural National Para Games**, on the lines of National Games for able-bodied athletes, will be held under the **Khelo India Scheme in June-July 2018 in Bengaluru.**

May 21

➤ **South Korea Wins Asian Champions Trophy 2018**

- The Indian women's Hockey team failed to defend its crown at the **fifth Asian Champions Trophy**, as it lost to hosts **South Korea, 0-1 in the summit clash at Donghae City, South Korea.**

May 22

- We Shine Academy**
- **NITI Aayog vice-chairman Rajiv Kumar** exuded confidence that Indian economy will achieve 9% growth rate on sustained basis by 2022 on the back of reforms like GST, demonetisation and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)

May 25

- **Former World Shooting Champion Tejaswini Sawant** had bagged the gold in the **Grand Prix in Munich, Germany**. Tejaswini has won the World Championship gold in prone in 2010 in Munich.

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➤ **Women: 50m rifle prone:**

- ❖ **Gold-** Tejaswini Sawant (India),
- ❖ **Silver-** Anjum Moudgil (India),
- ❖ **Bronze-** Olivia Hofmann (Austria).

May 27

➤ **Japan Won Uber Cup To End 37-Year Drought**

- ❖ Japan's women clinched the Uber Cup, breezing by surprise finalists Thailand 3-0 in Bangkok to end a 37-year wait to regain the title.

May 28

- **Australian Formula One racer Daniel Ricciardo** handed **Red Bull** a victory in their 250th race in the Formula One at **Monaco GP**.

May 30

➤ **Virat Kohli Emerged As International Cricketer of Year: CEAT Ratings**

- **Indian skipper Virat Kohli** has emerged as the **International Cricketer of the Year** at the **CEAT Cricket Ratings awards**, which were presented in Mumbai.

➤ **Other CEAT Cricket Ratings awards:**

- **International Batsman of the Year Award:** Shikhar Dhawan (India).
- **Outstanding Innings of the Year Award:** Harmanpreet Kaur (India)
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Farokh Engineer (India).

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- **U19 Player of the Year award:** Shubman Gill (India).

ECONOMIC

May 3

- According to a **BMI Research**, a Fitch group company, the economic growth in India is expected to strengthen to **7.3% in financial year 2018-19** from **6.6 percent in fiscal 2017-18**, on the back of robust activity from **construction, manufacturing, and services sectors**.

May 10

- The International Monetary Fund, **IMF** has reaffirmed that **India** will be the fastest growing **major economy in 2018**, with a growth rate of **7.4 percent** that will further rise to **7.8 per cent in 2019**.
- **US-based retail giant Walmart** confirmed that it will buy **77% stake in India's largest e-commerce startup Flipkart** for **\$16 billion**.

May 16

- **India Third Largest Solar Market In The World: Mercom Communications**
- **Mercom Communications**, India emerged as the **third largest solar market** in the world in 2017 behind **China and the US**.

May 18

- **BSE Becomes 1st Indian Stock Exchange To Get US SEC's DOSM Recognition**

- **BSE Ltd** became **first Indian exchange to be designated as Designated Offshore Securities Market (DOSM)** by United States Securities and Exchange Commission (US-SEC).

May 22

- **NITI Aayog vice-chairman Rajiv Kumar** exuded confidence that Indian economy will achieve 9% growth rate on sustained basis by 2022 on the back of reforms like GST, demonetisation and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)

May 23

- **Bank of Baroda** has successfully located most of its operational activities at a **shared service centre (SSC)** at the **GIFT City near Ahmedabad.**

May 30

- **Software giant Microsoft** has surpassed **Google's parent company Alphabet** in market capitalisation **for the first time in three years.** Microsoft has now become **the third most valuable firm globally after Apple and Amazon.**
- **Moody's Investors Service report** has **cut India's GDP growth forecast to 7.3% in 2018,** from the previous forecast of 7.5% **due to higher oil prices and tighter financial conditions.**

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNS

May 1

- The board of directors of **Kotak Mahindra bank** has re designated **“Uday Kotak”** as **MD and CEO** with effect from **1 May 2018.**

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May 2

- On May 1 2018 India Information services (IIS) office **Sitanshu Ranjan Kar** took over as the **director General** of press Information Bureau (**PIB**).
- **Whatsapp** co-founder and **CEO Jan** known has announced his **exit from whatsapp**.

May 3

- Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved **Subhash Chandra Khuntia** appointment as **Chairman of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)**.
- On 2nd May 2018, **ICICI Bank's** board appointed **Radhakrishnan Nair** as an additional (independent) **director of ICICI bank for five years**.

May 5

- **Justice Ajay Kumar Mittal** has been appointed as the acting **chief justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court**.
- **Indian-American Deepa Ambekar** has been appointed as interim **judge to the civil court of New York City**, United States. Deepa Ambekar has become the second Indian-American woman judge in New York after Raja Rajeswari.

May 7

- Veteran actress and social activist **Shabana Azmi** has been nominated as the **Global Leadership Ambassador for Women in Public Service Project (WPSP)**

May 8

- On **May 7 2018** , **Vladimir Putin** became **Russian president** for a historic **fourth term** at a ceremony **Kremlin**. He will extend his power to another **six years**.

May 9

- Russian president **Vladimir Putin** has nominated **Dmitry Medvedev** again to be prime minister in his new term.
- **Nikol Pashinyan** was elected as **new prime minister of Armenia**.
- Google has appointed **Nitin BawanKuel** as the country **head** for **google cloud India**.

May 10

- **Journalist Carlos Alvarado** has been **sworn** in as **48th President** of **Costa Rica**. At 39, Alvarado is the country's **youngest president** in modern history.
- **Facebook** announced that the company's Vice President of Product **Chris Daniels** will be taking over **Whatsapp** after Co-founder **Jan Koum** announced his departure, recently.

May 11

- **Dr. Mahathir Mohamad** was sworn in as Prime Minister of **Malaysia** with a historic victory in the country's general elections

May 12

- **Munu Mahawar**, an Indian Foreign Service (**IFS**) officer of **1996** batch has been appointed as the **next Ambassador** of India to the Sultanate of **Oman**.
- **Flipkart** co-founder and Executive Chairman **Sachin Bansal** has announced his exit from Flipkart, following **Walmart's deal** to acquire Flipkart.

May 13

- **Bollywood singer Mohit Chauhan** has been nominated as the **Green Ambassador** of the **Sikkim** by Sikkim government.

May 15

- **Smriti Irani** removed from **I & B ministry**. The Olympic medalist sports minister **Rajyavardhan Rathore** will not hold full scale charge of I & B ministry.

May 17

- **Susheela Jayapal Becomes 1st South Asian To Be Elected in Oregon**

- ❖ Indian American Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal sister **Susheela Jayapal** became the first South Asian to be elected in Oregon in the western US State.

- **Uttam Pacharne Appointed Regular Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi**

- ❖ **The President of India has appointed Uttam Pacharne**, as regular **Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi**. Mr Pacharne is an eminent artist and sculptor.

- ❖ **Lalit Kala Akademi**. Mr Pacharne is an eminent artist and sculptor.

May 18

- **The U.S India Business Council named Ambika Sharma as its head for India.** Ms. Sharma was Director General for International at the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

May 19

- **Gina Haspel Confirmed As 1st Female Director of CIA**

- ❖ The US Senate confirmed **Gina Haspel** as the first female director of **Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)**.

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May 21

➤ **Venezuela's President Maduro Wins Re-election**

❖ **Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro** was reelected for a **second six-year term in presidential elections**, according to the National Electoral Council (CNE).

➤ Mr Nicolas had replaced **Hugo Chavez** after his death from cancer in 2013.

➤ **Anil Kumar Jha Appointed CMD of Coal India**

➤ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the **appointment of Mahanadi Coalfields chief Anil Kumar Jha as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Coal India.**

May 23

➤ State-run power equipment maker **Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL)** has appointed **Pravin L. Agrawal** as a part-time official director on its board.

May 25

➤ **Airtel Payments Bank** has appointed **Anubrata Biswas** as its **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.**

May 26

➤ **Ganeshi Lal and Kummanam Rajasekharan** were appointed as **Governors of Odisha and Mizoram**, respectively. According to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communiqué, **Prof. Ganeshi Lal** will take over as the new governor of Odisha.

May 29

- **Sudha Balakrishnan Appointed 1st CFO of RBI**
- **NSDL executive Sudha Balakrishnan** has been appointed **the first-ever chief financial officer (CFO) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**
- **Urjit Patel- 24th Governor of RBI, Headquarters- Mumbai, Established on- 1st April 1935, in Kolkata.**

May 30

- **Paraguay gets first interim woman President Alicia Pucheta for the first time in its history** after outgoing leader **Horacio Cartes** stepped down ahead of schedule.
- **Justice R.K. Agrawal** has been appointed as the **President of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC).**

IMPORTANT DAYS

May 1

- On **30th April 2018, International Jazz day** was celebrated all over the world.
- **World Immunization week 2018** is celebration from **April 24 to April 30**. The theme for the year 2018 is **“Protected together, vaccines work”**.

May 2

- On **1st May 2018 World Labour Day** was celebrated all over the world.
- On **1st May 2018 Gujarat and Maharashtra** celebrated their statehood day, which came into existence as states on **1st May 1960**.

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May 4

- On **3rd May 2018, World Press Freedom Day** was celebrated all over the world. The theme for the **Day 2018** is: **Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law.**

May 5

- On **4th May 2018, International Firefighters' Day** was observed all over the world.

May 7

- On 6th May 2018, **International No Diet Day (INDD)** was observed all over the world. This day promotes a healthy life style. It focuses **on health at any size and in creating awareness on dangers of dieting.**

May 9

- On **8th May 2018 World Red Cross Day 2018** was celebrated all over the world.

May 11

- **“National Technology Day”** is being observed across **India on May 11** to mark India's technological advancements and to promote the development of technology in various fields

May 13

- On **12th May 2018, International Nurses Day** was celebrated all over the world. The theme for the Day was **“Nurses A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human right”** by ICN.

AWARDS

May 1

- Legendary **singer Asha Bhosle** was honoured with **26th PC Chandra Puraskaar** for her contribution in the field of **India music**.

May 3

- On 2nd May 2018, President **Ram Nath Kovind**, hosted the meeting of **Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities** and presented the **Visitor's Awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi**.

May 4

- **Hockey India** has announced the recommended players for the esteemed **Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award and Major Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement 2018**.
- The President of India, **Shri Ram Nath Kovind**, presented the **65th National Film Awards** on May 3, 2018 in New Delhi.

May 6

- **Jnanpith** laureate **M T Vasudevan Nair** has bagged this year's annual **ONV Literary Prize**, for his contributions to **Malayalam literature**.
- **Ministry of Railways** has announced Awards for beautification of **Station premises across the country**.

May 8

- **Fiji's** Indian-origin former Prime Minister **Mahendra Chaudhry** has been selected for the **V K Krishna Menon Award** for his contribution to the Indian diaspora.

May 9

- On **18th to 19th May 2018**, the **71st Cannes festival** is held in **cannes, france**
- **Nisha Bhalla** conferred with “World Economic Forum (**WEF**) **2018**’ award

May 12

- **Prof Muhammad Yunus** was awarded the **11th KISS Humanitarian Award 2018** at an event, in **Bhubaneswar, Odisha**.
- Leading vaccine maker **Bharat Biotech** on Friday received the **National Technology Award for 2018** from the Central government’s Technology Development Board for its Rotavac vaccine.

May 13

- **Three Indian alumni** of UK universities, **Saumya Saxena, Ruchi Shah and Sushant Desai**, have been awarded by the **British Council** for their **outstanding achievements and contribution to the country**.

May 14

- Legendary singer **Lata Mangeshkar** was on Saturday honoured with “**Swara Mauli**” title by spiritual guru **Vidya Narsimha Bharati Swami** at her residence in ‘**Prabhu Kunj**’.

May 16

- **Faye D'Souza Receives RedInk Award For 'Journalist Of The Year'**
- The RedInk Award for '**Journalist of the Year**' has been awarded to **Faye D'Souza, executive editor of Mirror Now channel**, for her coverage of issues that touch the lives of common people.
- **Sulabh International Founder Awarded Nikkei Asia Prize**
- The founder of **Sulabh International, Dr Bindeshwar Pathak**, has been honoured with the **Nikkei Asia Prize in Japan** for his contribution to Asia's development

May 18

- **Sridevi Honoured At Cannes Film Festival**
 - ❖ **Veteran Bollywood actor Sridevi** was honoured with the **TITAN Reginald F Lewis Film Icon Award** at the ongoing **Cannes Film Festival**.

May 19

- **India's Jagriti Yatra Wins Charity Award in UK**
 - ❖ **The Yatra, an Indian charity** that organises **15-day train journeys around India** to understand and build the India of smaller towns and villages through enterprise **has won an award in London**.

May 21

- **Lionel Messi Wins European Golden Shoe For The 5th Time**
 - ❖ **Barcelona forward Lionel Messi** has won the **European Golden Shoe for the fifth time**. The Argentina international claimed the prize after scoring 34 goals in La Liga this season, helping his club to a 25th league triumph.

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➤ **Prajnesh Gunneswaran Wins T.K. Ramanathan Award For 2017-18**

❖ **Prajnesh Gunneswaran won the prestigious T.K. Ramanathan award** for the year 2017-18 at the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association (TNTA) annual day function at the SDAT tennis stadium.

May 23

➤ **English Translation of Polish Novel 'Flights' Wins Man Booker Prize**

❖ **Polish author Olga Tokarczuk** has won the **Man Booker International Prize** for her novel **'Flights'**. The novel, **translated by Jennifer Croft**, interweaves narratives of travel with explorations of the human body.

May 24

➤ **Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017 Presented to INSV Tarini Team**

❖ **Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi** presented the prestigious **Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017** to the members of the **INSV Tarini team in New Delhi**. The Six-member all-women team led by Lieutenant Commander Vartika Joshi have received the Puraskar from the Minister.

❖ The crew of the Indian Navy Sailing Vessel **'Tarini'** is a part of the Indian Navy's unique project **'Navika Sagar Parikrama'**.

May 25

➤ **Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)** has been awarded the **Clarivate Analytics India Innovation Award 2018** in the Government Research Organizations Category.

May 31

- **Indian botanist Kamaljit S. Bawa** (president of Bengaluru-based non-profit Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment) received the prestigious **Linnean Medal in Botany** from the Linnean Society of London.
- **Kerala cartoonist Thomas Antony** has won an international award, in the best caricature category. Antony is among the nine winners at the **13th edition of the World Press Cartoon awards**, instituted by an organisation based in **Lisbon, Portugal**.
- **Indian star cricketer Yuvraj Singh** has been awarded the '**most inspiring icon of the year for Social Welfare**' award by the **Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival (DPIFF)** for his exemplary contribution in the field of social welfare.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

May 1

- On **May 5 2018 NASA** will be launching '**Insight**' the first ever mission dedicated to exploring the **deep interior of mars**.

May 8

- On **May 7 2018, Indian Space Research Organization** has developed an **atomic clock** to be used in navigation satellites to measure clear-cut location **data**. **Currently ISRO** imports atomic clocks from **European aerospace manufacturer Astrium for navigation satellites**.

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- Scientists have discovered a **mineral named Moganite**, in a lunar meteorite that points to abundant hidden reserves of **water ice under the surface of the Moon**, which can be used for future human exploration.

May 10

- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) signed a space act agreement **with Uber Technologies** to explore concepts and technologies related to Urban Air Mobility (**UAM**) for future air transportation such as **flying cars in populated areas**.

May 11

- **Yahoo** has launched its own **new group chat app** named **Squirrel**. Squirrel Group Chat App is still in testing. It is available on **Google Play** and the **App Store**.
- Astronomers have discovered an unusual, **first of its kind, carbon-rich** asteroid in the **Kuiper Belt**. This object has been designated **2004 EW95**.
- **China** successfully launched a **hyperspectral** imaging satellite '**Gaofen-5**' for comprehensive observation of the **atmosphere**, including air pollution which is one of the country's major problems.

May 12

- **Scientists** have discovered **world's second oldest grain of magmatic zircon** (a mineral that contains traces of radioactive isotopes) from **Champua** from **Singhbhum rock** sample in **Odisha's** Kendujhar district.
- **Bangladesh's first** communication **satellite Bangabandhu-1** will be launched by **SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket** from **Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39A**.

May 15

- Scientists of India Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) have progressed in the **development** of an **environment – friendly propellant to power satellites and space craft**

MOUS / AGREEMENTS

May 5

- **NITI Aayog** and **IBM** signed a Statement of Intent (**SoI**) to develop a crop yield prediction model using **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** to provide real time advisory to farmers in **Aspirational Districts**.
- **India and Sri Lanka** has agreed on cooperation on exchange of information and other aspects to **tackle smuggling of drugs in both countries**.

BANKING

May 16

- YES Bank and YES Global Institute have launched **Agenda 25×25**, which pledges to create a synergistic startup environment for budding women entrepreneurs in India.
- The effort would ensure that **by 2025 at least 25% of all entrepreneurs in India are women**.
- The bank made the announcement **at the YES Bank – YES Global Institute Annual Startup Conclave** hosted in partnership with NITI Aayog, Invest India, Startup India and Atal Innovation Mission.

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BOOKS

May 5

- Athletes Committee of the International Shooting Sport Federation (**ISSF**), with the former **World and Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra** as the chairman, has brought out a comprehensive Athletes **Handbook**, for the benefit of shooters around the world.

May 16

- **Gen Bipin Rawat, Chief of Army the Staff** released the book ‘Across the Bench – Insight into the **Indian Military Judicial System** by **Lt Gen Gyan Bhushan**.
 - ❖ The book deals with military judicial system vis-a-vis command and management issues within the military establishments besides the whole gamut of issues relating to veterans, their families and dependents.

BUSINESS

May 1

- The government of **Maharashtra** has signed a **MOU** with the British has council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation between the **two nations**.

May 2

- As per data released by **Union Ministry Finance** the total gross **Goods and service (GST)** revenue collected in the month of **April 2018** surpassed the **Rs 1 Lakh Crore**.
- **GAIL** India limited and state Bank of India have signed a Rupee term Loan agreement of **Rs 2,000 crores** for a door to **door tenure of 15 years**.

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May 14

- **Chinese** e-commerce giant **Alibaba** has purchased **leading Pakistani online retailer Daraz** in a move to doubling its investment in **Southeast Asian e-commerce firm Lazada**

ENVIRONMENT

May 1

- Australian researchers have said that, the world's oldest known spider named "Number 16" has died at the age of **43 in Australia**.

May 6

- **Scientists** have said that, **Tapanuli Orangutan**, the rarest ape species on Earth, is on the verge of **extinction**.

May 7

- **Uropeltis bhupathyi**, a new snake species has been discovered in the **Anaikatty hills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**.

May 8

- Researchers have said that, the **dense vegetation** in the **Western Ghats** determines the amount of **rainfall that Tamil Nadu** gets during the summer monsoon.

DEFENCE

May 10

- The Indian Army's '**Vijay Prahar**' exercise in which over **25,000 troops** of the **Jaipur based South Western command** participated concluded in **Rajasthan Suratgarh**.

May 14

- On **13th May 2018**, China's first domestically developed aircraft carrier began sea trials. This vessel will become **China's second aircraft carrier**. China commissioned its first carrier the Liaoning in 2012.

RANKS

May 20

- **India Q4 GDP Growth Likely At 7.4%: ICRA Report**
 - ❖ Rating agency **ICRA Ltd** expects **gross domestic product (GDP) growth in the fourth quarter of the fiscal 2017-18 at 7.4%** on account of good Rabi crop harvest and improved corporate earnings, up from 7.2% in the third quarter.
- **India 6th Wealthiest Country With Total Wealth of 8,230 billion USD**
 - ❖ **India is the sixth wealthiest country in the world with a total wealth of 8,230 billion US dollars.** According to the **AfrAsia Bank Global Wealth Migration Review**, the **US is the wealthiest country** in the world with a total wealth of 62,584 billion dollars. China stood at the second place with 24,803 billion dollars, while Japan is at the third place with 19,522 billion dollars.

May 24

➤ **India Stands 44th In Competitive Rankings, USA Tops: Report**

❖ **India ranks 145th among 195 countries** in terms of quality and accessibility of healthcare, **according to a Lancet study**. In 2016, India's healthcare access and quality scored at 41.2 (up from 24.7 in 1990).

➤ **The top 3 countries with the highest levels of healthcare access and quality in 2016:**

- ❖ Iceland (97.1 points),
- ❖ Norway (96.6),
- ❖ The Netherlands (96.1).

OBITUARY

May 2

- On 1st May 2018 **former finance minister** of West Bengal **Ashok Mitra** passed away.

➤ **May 27**

➤ **Alan Bean, 4th Man To Walk On The Moon Died**

❖ Former US astronaut Alan Bean, who was the fourth man to walk on the Moon, has died in Texas, United States. He was 86. Bean went into space twice, the first time in November 1969 as the lunar module pilot on the Apollo 12 moon-landing mission. In 1973 he was commander of the second crewed flight to **Skylab- America's first space station**.