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NATIONAL NEWS

- For the first time, **India's only aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya** will be fitted with a marine hydraulic system to boost the air operations of the ship. Hydraulics technology uses fluid pressure to power machines.
- To ease transportation of goods across the country and export. A committee of secretaries has approved a proposal by department of commerce (DoC) to setup a **National Logistics Portal (NLP)**.
- The **Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)** along with its knowledge partner and the government Think Tank, **NITI Aayog** are organizing two-day **India Banking Conclave 2018 (IBC) in New Delhi**.
 - The conclave is planned with the objective of making the banking sector more adaptable to face multiple future challenges in the coming years.
- A **panel has been set up by the Department of Telecom** to prepare a roadmap for rollout of **5G telephony in India** expects the service to be operational by **2020**. The nine-member **Steering Committee, headed by AJ Paulraj**, recommended releasing additional spectrum for 5G services.
 - It submitted its report to **Telecom Secretary Aruna Sundararajan**. The report said 5G services would have a cumulative economic impact of over \$1 trillion by 2035.
- The **ICOMOS**, a global monument conservation body, has launched an initiative to assess the damage to the rich cultural and built heritage **in flood-devastated Kerala** and set up an emergency response platform.
 - ICOMOS is also an advisory body to the **UNESCO for cultural heritage**, in particular for implementation of the World Heritage Convention. The ICOMOS-India chief has also approached the **International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)** to partner in the post-disaster work.

- **Former President Pranab Mukherjee** launched the **National Electoral Transformation (NETA)** mobile application to rate Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs).
 - **'Neta - Leaders' Report Card'** App, the brainchild of 27-year-old entrepreneur Pratham Mittal, is a platform where voters can review and rate their elected representatives and hold them accountable as well.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- For the **first** time, the militaries of India and Pakistan are taking part in a mega anti-terror drill of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** named **The Peace Mission 2018 in Russia**.
 - It is aimed at expanding cooperation among the member countries to deal with terrorism and extremism.
 - India is participating in the drill for the first time since becoming a full member of the SCO in June 2017.
- India's only aircraft carrier **INS Vikramaditya** will be upgraded and fitted with a marine hydraulic system to boost the air operations of the ship for the first time.
 - Hydraulics technology uses fluid pressure to power machines and the systems to be installed are named **"GS-1MF" and "GS-3"**.

APPOINTMENTS

- Industry chamber Assocham appointed former bureaucrat Uday Kumar Varma as its new Secretary General. He will succeed DS Rawat.
 - Mr. Varma was a former Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.
- Australia's **Malcolm Turnbull** has been ousted as prime minister after confusions for one week. He will be replaced by **Scott Morrison**, one of the architects of Australia's tough immigration policy, who is now the country's sixth prime minister in just over a decade. Mr Morrison won a leadership contest against Peter Dutton.
- The **Maharashtra government** has appointed **Bollywood actor Raveena Tandon** as the brand ambassador of the city-based **Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP)**. It was announced by Maharashtra Forest Minister **Sudhir Mungantiwar**.


SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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- NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) has designed 2 virtual reality applications named: **NASA Selfies app** and **NASA's Exoplanet Excursions**, to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Spitzer Space Telescope.
 - Through the NASA Selfies app users can take selfies in a virtual spacesuit and can pose in front of various cosmic locations.
 - The NASA's Exoplanet Excursions takes the users on a virtual guided tour of the TRAPPIST-1 planetary system.

SPORTS

- **Indian women's team fast bowler Jhulan Goswami** announced her retirement from T20 Cricket Internationals. The veteran player played 68 T20 Internationals and took 56 wickets at an economy rate of 5.45.


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