WEEKLY

9TH SEPTEMBER - 15TH SEPTEMBER 2018

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Awards & Honours

6 AAI-run airports bag international awards

- Six aerodromes of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) have bagged seven international awards.
- The Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards 2017 were presented by the Airports Council International (ACI) at the Customer Excellence Global Summit in Canada, on September 12 2018.
- The winning airports are Lucknow, Indore,
 Ahmedabad, Chennai, Kolkata and Pune airports.

VRP & NSA-2016 ceremony on September 17, 2018

- Labour and Employment ministry will give away Vishwakarma Rashtriya Puraskar (VRP) and National Safety Awards (NSA) for the performance year 2016 on September 17, 2018.
- These Award schemes are operated by the Ministry's Directorate General Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes.
- The NSA is given in recognition of outstanding safety performance of industrial establishments.

Sawai Singh to be honoured with Meera Puruskar

- Jaipur-based poet and writer Sawai Singh Shekhawat will be honoured with Meera Puruskar by Rajasthan Sahitya Academy for his contribution to Hindi literature.
- Meera award is the highest award of the Rajasthan Sahitya Academy.
- He also announced other awards to be given for the vear 2018-19 in October 2018.

Manoj Jhalani selected for UNIATF Award

- Manoj Jhalani, Additional Secretary & Mission
 Director (NHM), Ministry of Health and Family
 Welfare, has been conferred with the prestigious UN
 Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) award.
- He was awarded for his outstanding contribution towards prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases and related Sustainable Development Goals.
- The ceremony will take place on 27th Sept in New York.

First Ever Award to Secondary Steel Sector

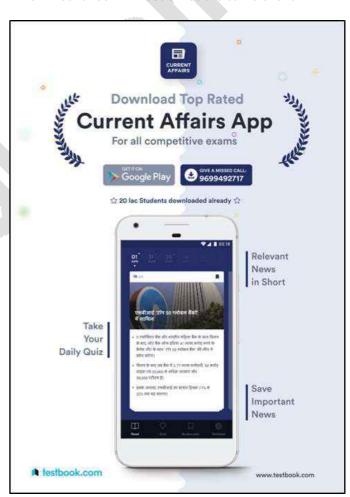
- Ministry of Steel has launched an Award Scheme to recognize the Secondary Steel sector for their contribution to the national economy.
- The first ever awards will be given on 13th September 2018 at a function in New Delhi.
- At present, the PM Trophy / Steel Minister's Trophy are given to large integrated steel plants having achieved crude steel production of 1 million tonnes per annum.

Balzan Prize awarded to NGO in Switzerland

- An international children rights charity based in Switzerland has been awarded the 2018 'Balzan Prize' for humanitarian achievement.
- The Balzan Foundation announced that 'Terre des Hommes' will receive 1 million Swiss francs (USD 1 million) for a project in the African nation of Mali.
- In 2018, prizes were awarded for social anthropology, global history, chemical ecology and fluid dynamics.

Aishwarya received 'Meryl Streep Award'

- Aishwarya Rai was felicitated with the 'Meryl Streep Award for Excellence' at the first edition of Women In Film and Television (WIFT).
- The award has been established to honour the best female talent in Bollywood and Hollywood.
- Filmmaker Zoya Akhtar received the 'Wyler Award for Excellence in Direction' at the same event.



Days & Events

International Day of Democracy on 15 Sept

- International Day of Democracy is observed on 15 September across the world.
- The theme for 2018 is 'Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World'.
- The United Nations General Assembly observed Democracy day for the first time in 2008.
- This day provides an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world.



Engineers Day observed on 15 September

- The Engineer's Community across India celebrates Engineers Day on 15 September every year.
- M Visvesvaraya's birthday is celebrated as Engineer's Day, he was a world-renowned civil engineer.
- He received the **Bharat Ratna in 1955**.
- M Visvesvaraya installed an irrigation system with water floodgates at the Khadakvasla reservoir,
 Gwalior's Tigra Dam and Mysuru's Krishnaraja Sagara dam.

Hindi Divas being observed on 14 Sept

- 'Hindi Divas' is being celebrated across the country on 14 September.
- On this day in 1949, Hindi written in Devanagari script became the official language of India under the Article 343.
- On this occasion, Vice
 President presents Rajbhasha Awards to chiefs of various departments, Ministries and offices for their outstanding performances in promoting the language.

World Suicide Prevention Day on Sept 10

- World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) is observed annually on 10 September.
- WSPD is organized by the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP).
- The purpose of this day is to raise awareness around the globe that suicide can be prevented.
- The theme for 2018 is 'Working Together to Prevent Suicide'.

International Affairs

Typhoon Mangkhut heading for Philippines

- Super Typhoon "Mangkhut" is heading for the Philippines, Taiwan and Hong Kong.
- The massive storm is the equivalent of a Category 5 hurricane, which at its peak became the strongest storm of 2018 with winds of 285 kph (180 mph).
- Mangkhut is known in the Philippines as Tropical Depression Kiko.
- The Philippines is hit by about 20 typhoons and storms a year.

Florence intensifies to 'major hurricane'

- Hurricane Florence threatening the southeastern coast of the United States strengthened into a Category 3 "major" hurricane.
- Hurricane Florence is a powerful tropical cyclone over the Atlantic Ocean.

- The hurricane's maximum sustained winds have increased to nearly 115 miles per hour (185 kilometres per hour).
- Florence is the first major hurricane of the 2018 Atlantic hurricane season.

Om Prakash to be new Nepal Chief Justice

- Justice Om Prakash Mishra has been sworn in as new Chief Justice of Nepal.
- The President Vidya Devi Bhandari administered oath of office and secrecy to Justice Mishra in Kathmandu.
- Nepal's Parliamentary Hearing Committee (PHC) unanimously endorsed his name for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
- Justice Mishra was appointed as a justice of the Nepal's Supreme Court in 2014.

Russia prepares for biggest war games

- Russia will launch the biggest military drills in its history involving 300,000 troops as well as Chinese soldiers.
- The military exercise named "Vostok-2018" (East-2018) will start in eastern Siberia on September 11, 2018.
- The Russian army will roll out: Iskander missiles that can carry nuclear warheads, T-80 and T-90 tanks and its recent Su-34 and Su-35 fighter planes.

Alibaba founder Jack Ma to step down in 2019

- Alibaba founder and billionaire Jack Ma would step down as the Chinese e-commerce giant's Executive Chairman in 2019.
- Jack Ma will hand over the reins to Daniel
 Zhang who is at present the Chief Executive Officer
 (CEO) of Alibaba.
- Mr Zhang will be promoted to the executive chairman on September 10, 2019, while Mr Ma will remain a director on Alibaba's board.

National Affairs

2nd edition of 'Paryatan Parv' from Sept 16

- The tourism ministry would organise the 2nd edition of 'Paryatan Parv' from September 16 to September 27 2018.
- The event will be based on three main components

 'Dekho aapna desh' encouraging domestic
 tourists to travel within India, 'Tourism for all' promoting tourism across social classes, and 'Tourism and governance' interactive sessions with stakeholders.

Welfare panels can't evaluate dowry complaints



- The Supreme Court modified its July 2017 order to form a committee to sift genuine complaints of dowry harassment from the frivolous ones.
- On July 27 2017, the court had ordered family welfare committees' to be set up in the districts.
- Getting rid of these committees, the Supreme Court held that such panels had no place under the established criminal procedural law.

Cabinet approves New Umbrella Scheme

- Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved a new Umbrella
 Scheme "Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA)
- PM-AASHA will provide MSP assurance to farmers as announced in the Union Budget for 2018
- This is an unprecedented step taken by Govt. of India to protect the farmers' income which is expected to go a long way towards the welfare of farmers.

100% Electrification of BG Routes of IR

- CCEA Committee chaired by PM Modi has approved electrification of remaining unelectrified broad gauge (BG) routes of Indian Railways.
- Post electrification, Indian Railways is likely to save Rs 13,510 crore per annum in fuel bill.
- After electrification, there would be reduction in the consumption of high speed diesel oil by about 2.83 billion liters per annum and a reduction in GHG emissions.

Moderate earthquake in Assam's Kokrajhar

- A moderate earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter scale was recorded in Kokrajhar district of Assam.
- Tremors were also felt in parts of Bihar, Jharkhand, and Daga in Bhutan.
- Kokrajhar district is an administrative district in Assam, predominantly inhabited by the Boro tribe.
- Manas National Park is located in Kokrajhar district.

NITI Aayog to set up ICTAI

- NITI Aayog, Intel and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research are collaborating to set up a Model International Center for Transformative Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI).
- The collaboration aims to bring together fundamental and applied research, innovation and technology to solve important problems.
- The initiative is part of NITI Aayog's 'National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence'.

Haryana signs MoU with Indian Oil

- The Haryana government on September 10, 2018, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to set up an ethanol plant in Panipat.
- The plant with a proposed capacity of 100 kilolitres of ethanol per day will manage crop

- residue and prevent straw burning before the upcoming paddy season.
- The pact will be valid for one year.

Bengaluru to host 'Aero India 2019'

- The defence ministry announced that Bengaluru will host the five-day show 'Aero India 2019' from 20-24 February 2019.
- The event will comprise a major trade exhibition for the aerospace and defence industries and public air shows.
- The show is considered to the largest aerospace exhibition in Asia organised at Indian Air Force's Yelahanka air base since 1996.

India & World

VP to visit Serbia, Malta and Romania

- Vice President Venkaiah Naidu will embark on a three-nation tour to Serbia, Malta and Romania from September 14 to 20 to boost ties with the Central European countries.
- Naidu will be visiting Serbia from September 14, 2018, to September 16, 2018.
- The capital of the above countries are as follows: Serbia-Belgrade, Malta-Valletta and Romania-Bucharest.

Cabinet approved MoU in space technology

- The Cabinet approved Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Brunei Darussalam.
- The MoU is on Cooperation in the operation of Telemetry Tracking and Telecommand station for satellite and launch vehicles.
- The MoU enables India to continue to operate, maintain and augment its ground station meant for supporting India's launch vehicle and satellite missions.

Bihar-Nepal bus service inaugurated

- For the first time, bus services between Bihar and Nepal have started on 11 September 2018.
- The bus services have been commissioned following the agreement between India and Nepal.
- Four Bihar-Nepal buses connecting Bodhgaya to Kathmandu via Patna, Raxaul and Beerganj have started.
- Similar four buses will ply from Patna to Janakpur that will go via Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi.

India, Iran, Afghanistan held trilateral meet

• India, Iran and Afghanistan held their first tripartite meeting in Kabul on 11th September, 2018.



- In the meeting, implementation of Chabahar port project and a host of other issues including ways to deepen counter-terror cooperation were discussed.
- The Indian delegation was led by Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale.



India steps up partnership with Afghanistan

- India and Afghanistan agreed to enhance cooperation under the 'New Development Partnership'.
- India had announced taking up 116 "high impact community developmental projects" in Afghanistan.
- The decision was taken at the 3rd meeting of the 'Joint Working Group on Political and Security Cooperation' between India and Afghanistan in Kabul.

India, Bangladesh inaugurated three projects

- India and Bangladesh jointly inaugurated three projects in Bangladesh on 10th September 2018.
- These include 500 MW additional power supply from India to Bangladesh, Akhaura - Agartala Rail Link and Rehabilitation of the Kulaura-Shahbazpur section of Bangladesh Railways.
- Akhaura-Agartala Rail Link would connect Akhaura in Bangladesh with Tripura's capital city Agartala.

MEA-TCIL sign pact to initiate e-Network

- The Ministry of External Affairs signed an agreement with the Telecommunications
 Consultants India Ltd (TCIL) for the implementation of e-Network Project between India and Africa.
- The two projects namely e-VidyaBharati and e-AarogyaBharati (e-VBAB) will work in the field of tele-education and tele-medicine.
- The projects will be completely funded by the Government of India.

Sushma Swaraj to visit Russia

- External Affairs Minister will visit Moscow on 13-14
 September to hold the meeting of the '23rd India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Technical and Economic Cooperation' (IRIGC-TEC).
- IRIGC-TEC is a standing body which annually meets and reviews ongoing activities of bilateral cooperation.
- The last meeting of the commission was held in New Delhi in December 2017.

Environment

Native plants choked in Western Ghats

- The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court directed the National Board for Wildlife to look into the issue of the removal of invasive trees in the Western Ghats.
- Invasive species like eucalyptus, wattle, pine and cypress trees, as well as Lantana camara plants, are proliferating across the Nilgiris upper slopes.
- Prosopis juliflora, parthenium and eupatorium have spread on the lower slopes.

Ocean Cleanup aims to clear Pacific Garbage

- A system launched by 'The Ocean Cleanup' organization send a trash collecting device to clean the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.
- The **2,000-foot long** floating boom 'System **001'** has been towed from San Francisco to clean the patch.
- The system has been created by **Boyan** Slat, from the Netherlands
- The device has a **10-foot skirt** below the floating part which is supposed to gather the garbage.

Government Policies & Schemes

'Swacch Dhara' started in Amaravati

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, Chandrababu Naidu flagged off the 'Swachh Dhara' programme.
- The programme aims to provide clean drinking water across the state.
- As part of the scheme, tankers providing water across the state will be cleaned periodically through a six-layered cleaning process.



• The cleaning process involves the use of ultraviolet radiation to kill bacteria.

Government moves to stabilise rupee-II

- The government will take steps to attract more Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) into the corporate debt market.
- The government will review the mandatory hedging condition for infrastructure loans borrowed under the external commercial borrowing (ECB) route.
- Manufacturing companies borrowing up to \$50 million through ECBs will be able to do so only for a 1-year term.

Government moves to stabilise rupee-I

- The government announced a set of five measures aimed at supporting the rupee.
- The government will take steps to reduce nonessential imports and increase exports.
- To push Indian corporates to take the masala bond route, the government has exempted all such bond issues until March 31, 2019, from withholding tax.

'Swachhata Hi Seva' movement on Sept 15

- The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, launched the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' movement on September 15, 2018.
- The 'Swachhata Hi Seva movement' aims at generating greater public participation towards Swachhta or cleanliness.
- It is being organized in the run-up to the fourth anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Mission, on October 2nd, 2018.

Govt. launches program on energy efficiency

- Ministry of Power launched an ambitious program to encourage the deployment of Energy Efficient chiller systems in the country.
- The Chiller Star Labelling Program has been formulated by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE).
- The **program** envisages providing **star rating** in terms of its **energy performance**.

Bengal scheme to combat human trafficking

- The West Bengal government has launched a scheme, 'Swayangsiddha', in different districts of the State.
- The scheme will combat human trafficking.
- Swayangsiddha means self-reliance and will be executed by the West Bengal Police.
- The scheme aims
 to empower young boys and girls to make informed
 choices so that they are less vulnerable to trafficking
 and child marriage.

Policy to enhance oil production approved

- The Cabinet has approved the policy framework to encourage measures for increasing oil and gas production from ageing fields.
- Oil and natural gas production worth ₹50 lakh crore is expected to be unlocked from this policy.
- The Policy offers a 50% discount on cess charged for crude oil production and 75% discount on royalty charged for gas production.

Cabinet approved EXIM's blockchain research

- The Cabinet approved a joint research on the distributed ledger and blockchain technology by Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) with member-banks of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS).
- Blockchain is a digitised, decentralised ledger to record real-time transactions across borders.
- Exim Bank promotes India's international trade through competitive financing.

Tamil Nadu bans e-cigarettes

- The Tamil Nadu government has prohibited the manufacture, sale (including online sale), distribution, trade, display, marketing, import and possession of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, popularly known as e-cigarettes.
- The use of **e-cigarettes** causes adverse health effects due to second-hand exposure to metals like **nickel** and **chromium**.
- These pose a risk to non-smokers and bystanders.

National Scholarship Portal App launched

- Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi launched the country's first National Scholarship Portal Mobile App in New Delhi.
- Portal will ensure a smooth, accessible and hasslefree scholarship system for students belonging to poor and weaker sections.
- The portal will help in strengthening a transparent mechanism for the scholarships.

Science & Technology

NASA tests foldable heat shield

- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched and tested a new umbrella-like heat shield.
- The new technology, 'the Adaptable Deployable Entry Placement Technology (ADEPT)', stores like a folded umbrella inside smaller rockets.
- The shape allows it to protect larger areas than current heat shields.

India's 1st underwater robotic drone launched

 India's first underwater robotic drone, ' Eyerovtuna', was launched on 14th September 2018.



- It can send **real-time videos** of **ships** and other **underwater structures** to help with their **repair** and **maintenance**.
- It was handed over to the Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL) of DRDO.
- Eyerovtuna was developed by EyeROV Technologies which is a Kochi-based Startup.

NASA's Satellite to track Earth's melting ice

- NASA is set to launch its Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2, or ICESat-2 - that will track Earth's melting poles and disappearing sea ice - on Saturday.
- The satellite with a three-year mission is scheduled to launch on 15th Sept.
- The first ICESat satellite (2003-09) measured ice with a single laser beam, ICESat-2 splits its laser light into six beams to cover more ground (or ice).

'Apsara' reactor recommissioned after 9 yrs

- The country's oldest research reactor 'Apsara' has been recommissioned on September 10, 2018, with a higher capacity.
- The reactor was shut down permanently in 2009.
- The reactor came into existence in August 1956 and was utilised for various experiments including neutron activation analysis, radiation damage studies, forensic research, neutron radiography, and shielding experiments.

NASA's Dawn mission is coming to an end

- Dawn NASA's space probe for the asteroid belt — is coming to an end due to lack of a key fuel.
- It was launched to study two of the three known protoplanets of the asteroid belt Vesta and Ceres, which when combined, make up 45% of the mass of the main asteroid belt.
- It was launched in September 2007.
- The spacecraft is likely to run out of a key fuel known as hydrazine.

Committees & Recommendations

Mudgal to head awards panel

- Justice Mukul Mudgal was named the chairman of the 11-member selection committee to select Dronacharya and Dhyanchand awardees for 2018.
- The retired judge was previously appointed to probe into the 2013 IPL spot-fixing scandal.
- Mukul Mudgal is currently the deputy chairman of the FIFA Governance Committee and Review Committee.

Government panel to look into e-com issues

- The Government of India has set up a 'group of secretaries' to look into the issues of e-commerce sector
- The group will be chaired by the Secretary in the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).
- The other members of the group include Secretaries of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Department of Commerce.



Books & Authors

PM Modi's 'Exam Warriors' in Telugu

- Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Prakash Javadekar released the Telugu version of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's book, "Exam Warriors".
- The HRD Minister had launched 'Exam Warriors' in February this year, aimed at helping students to prepare to face the difficulties ahead of their exams.
- The 208-page book was also released in Odia in August this year.

Business & Economy

RBI to buy G-Secs in open market on Sept 19

- The Reserve Bank will purchase government securities (G-secs) worth Rs 10,000 crore on September 19, 2018.
- The move is aimed at inducing liquidity in the system.
- The purchase of the government securities will be done through Open Market Operations (OMO).
- The RBI proposes to purchase G-secs having five different maturity dates.

Infosys acquired Fluido to expand in Nordics

- Infosys, India's second largest software exporter, has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Fluido.
- Fluido is a Salesforce advisor and consulting partner in Nordics and cloud consulting, implementation and training services company.
- Fluido has offices in Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Slovakia.



Cisco signed agreements with NITI, BSNL

- Cisco has signed two agreements with the NITI
 Aayog and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)
 to speed up its Country Digital Acceleration
 programme in India.
- Cisco is a U.S.-based firm which makes networkingtelecommunications equipment.
- Cisco has made over 25 strategic investments in growth stage companies in India.

Wholesale Inflation eases to 4.53% In August

- The Central Statistics Office (CSO) presented India's Wholesale Price Index (WPI) Inflation for the month of August 2018.
- WPI stood at 4.53% compared to 5.09% of July 2018.
- Wholesale or headline inflation, however, quickened on an annual basis, from 3.24% in August 2017.

Samsung opens Mobile Experience Centre

- Samsung had opened world's biggest mobile experience centre at Opera House in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- At the centre a customer will be able to enjoy VR experiences such as the 4D sway chair, Whiplash Pulsar 4D chair that makes 360 degrees threedimensional movements.
- Earlier this year Samsung has also launched the world's largest mobile phonemanufacturing factory in Noida in July 2018.

BPCL to invest ₹40,000 crore in new plant

- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is planning to set up a ₹40,000-crore petrochemicals plant at Rasayani in Raigad District of Maharashtra.
- BPCL to manufacture polypropylene (PP) and polyethylene at this plant.
- The company also plans to shift its LPG bottling plant, storage facilities and bitumen plant to Rasayani, 60 km away from its Mumbai plant.

CPI Inflation Falls To 3.69% in August

- Data released by the Central Statistics Office on Wednesday, showed that retail inflation was at 3.69 percent in August compared to 4.17 percent in July.
- Consumer price inflation fell below 4 percent for the first time in 2018.
- Inflation is currently running below the MPC's forecast of 4.6 percent in the second quarter of the current financial year.

First Ever Award to Secondary Steel Sector

- Ministry of Steel has launched an Award Scheme to recognize the Secondary Steel sector for their contribution to the national economy.
- The first ever awards will be given on 13th September 2018 at a function in New Delhi.

 At present, the PM Trophy / Steel Minister's Trophy are given to large integrated steel plants having achieved crude steel production of 1 million tonnes per annum.

SC orders status quo on RBI's 12 Feb circular

- The Supreme Court ordered status quo on the implementation of 12 February circular of the Reserve Bank of India.
- The circular mandates insolvency proceedings for a debt servicing default beyond 180 days.
- SC ordered that insolvency proceedings should not commence against the defaulting power companies.
- Banks have exposure of about ₹1.74 lakh crore to stressed power assets.

Govt. notifies rules for shares issue

- The government mandated that issue of further shares and transfer of all shares by unlisted public companies should be only in 'demat form' beginning October 2, 2018.
- This was notified by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- According to the government, the move would help eliminate risks associated with physical certificates such as loss, theft, mutilation and fraud.

Sports

Gurpreet won senior silver at ISSF WC

- Gurpreet Singh clinched a silver medal in the senior men's standard pistol event at ISSF World Championships.
- Vijayveer Sidhu, Rajkanwar Singh Sandhu and Adarsh Singh to claim the team gold 25m standard pistol event for junior men in International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) competition.
- India was placed third in the medals tally with 11 gold,
 9 silver and 7 bronze medals.

2 gold for India at Shooting Championship

- India won 2 junior gold medals at Shooting World Championship in Changwon.
- Udhayveer Singh, all of 16, shone bright with an individual gold in the junior men's 25m pistol, Singh shot a score of 587 (291 in precision and 296 in rapid) in the individual competition to grab the gold.
- Compatriot Vijayveer Sidhu finished fourth with a score of 581.

Sardar Singh set to retire from Int. hockey

- Sardar Singh, who was awarded the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna last year and is one of the most decorated stars of Indian hockey has announced his retirement from International Hockey.
- The former India captain made the decision after a disappointing Asian Games 2018.

 Sardar was part of the Indian team at the recent Asian Games where it finished third.



ICC Test rankings: India still on No. 1

- India continued to be at the No.1 position in the ICC Test Team Rankings in September, after completing a 1-4 series against England at The Oval.
- The Virat Kohli-led side had started the series at 125 points but after the series loss, it is now on 115 points followed by South Africa.
- England improved its ranking to the fourth spot in the ICC Test Team Rankings after a series win over India.

Anderson becomes highest Test wicket taker

- James Anderson has become the highest wickettaker among seamers in Test matches.
- He took 564 wickets and surpassed Australian great Glenn McGrath's 563 to become the most successful fast bowler in Test history.
- The list of highest wicket takers in Tests, however, is led by spinners – Muttiah Muralitharan (800 wickets), Shane Warne (708 wickets) and Anil Kumble (609 wickets).

Junior men's skeet team won silver at ISSF WC

- The Indian junior men's skeet team won the silver medal at the ISSF World Championships.
- Indian junior men's skeet team consisted Gurnihal Singh Garcha, Anantjeet Singh Naruka and Ayush Rudraraju.
- The gold medal was won by the Czech Republic, while the bronze medal was won by Italy at the premier International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) event.

Murray, Mattek won US mixed doubles title

- Bethanie Mattek-Sands and Jamie Murray won the US Open mixed doubles title.
- For Murray, it was a second successive mixed title in New York has teamed up with Martina Hingis in 2017.
- Murray has now won four Grand Slam mixed doubles titles.
- Murray and Mattek-Sands received \$155,000 for winning the championship.

Djokovic wins men's title in US open Tennis

- In the **US Open Tennis**, **Novak Djokovic** of Serbia won the Men's singles final.
- He defeated **Juan Martin del Potro** of **Argentina**.
- It was Djokovic's 14th Grand Slam title and the third US Open title.
- With this win, he has equalled **Pete Sampras's** mark of **14 Grand Slams**.

Naomi lifted Women's singles title of US Open

- In tennis, Naomi Osaka of Japan has won the Women's singles title of US Open 2018.
- She won the Grand Slam by defeating Serena Williams of US.



 Osaka became the first Japanese to win a Grand Slam.

Arpinder won medal at IAAF in Triple Jump

- Arpinder Singh became the first Indian to win a medal in the IAAF Continental Cup in Triple Jump event at Ostrava, Czech Republic.
- Arpinder clinched a bronze when he was representing the Asia-Pacific team in the event which is held once every four years.
- Reigning Olympic and world champion Christian Taylor of the United States took the gold with a jump of 17.59 meters.

Defence

Coast Guard commissions patrol vessel Vijaya

- Indian Coast Guard Ship 'Vijaya', the second in the series of 98 m offshore patrol vessels (OPVs), was commissioned in Chennai on 14 September 2018.
- The OPV is fitted with advanced technology navigation and communication equipm ent and sensors.
- On joining the Coast Guard fleet, the **ship** will be **based** at **Paradip**.
- The Ship will be deployed extensively for Exclusive Economic Zone surveillance.

Missile tracking ship is ready for trials

- Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) will undertake sea trials of India's first missile tracking ship in October 2018.
- The keel of the ship was laid on June 30, 2014.
- It will be named after its induction into the Indian Navy. For now, it is simply referred as VC 11184.
- This would put India in the elite of club of a few countries that have such a sophisticated ocean surveillance ship.

Indo-US joint military drill in Uttarakhand

- A joint military training exercise between India and USA named as "Yudh Abhyas 2018" will be conducted in Uttarakhand from 16 to 29 September.
- This is the 14th edition of the joint military exercise hosted alternately by both the countries.
- The two-week exercise will see the participation of about 350 personnel of the US Army and 'Garud Division' of the Indian Armed Forces.

Exercise Nomadic Elephant-2018 inaugurated

- Indo-Mongolia joint exercise 'Nomadic Elephant-2018', commenced at Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) Five Hills Training Area, Mongolia on 10th September 2018.
- Exercise Nomadic Elephant is an annual, bilateral exercise which is designed to strengthen the

- partnership between Indian Army and Mongolian Armed Forces.
- The Indian contingent is represented by a contingent of '17 PUNJAB Regiment'.

BIMSTEC militaries begin joint exercise

- The military field training exercise for the 'Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technological and Economic Cooperation' (BIMSTEC) nations called 'MILEX-18' was inaugurated on 10th September 2018 at Aundh Military Station near Pune.
- The aim of the forthcoming exercise is to practice the BIMSTEC Nations in the planning and conduct of counter-terrorist operations.

Tejas cleared maiden mid-air re-fuelling trial

- The first ever mid-air refuelling of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas was successfully carried out on 10th September 2018.
- With this first trial, the aircraft gets much closer to the important battle-ready tag, called the final operational clearance.
- India is now placed in an elite group of countries which have developed the air-to-air refuelling system for military aircraft.

Nepal won't join 1st BIMSTEC Military Exercise

- The Nepal Government has confirmed that they will not join the first ever BIMSTEC military exercise in Pune, Maharashtra.
- The field training exercise will be conducted between September 10 and 16 at the Foreign Training Node at Aundh in Pune.
- The BIMSTEC is a regional group comprising of Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan, and Nepal.