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- Odisha CM announces Rs10,000 cr KALIA Scheme for Farmers • Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik announced a Rs10,000 crore scheme for the overall development of farmers. • Named Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA), the scheme will provide farmers with ₹10,000 a year at the rate of Rs5,000 each for Kharif and Rabi season. • Additionally, crop loans of up to Rs50,000 will be interest-free under the scheme.
- Assam Govt announces 3 Schemes for Farmer's Welfare • Assam government has announced three schemes for the welfare of farmers. • The schemes are the • Assam Farmers' Credit Subsidy Scheme (AFCSS), • Assam Farmers' Interest Relief Scheme (AFIRS) and • Assam Farmers' Incentive Scheme (AFIS). Note: • Under AFCSS, whatever amount of loan the farmers took from banks and whatever amount they repaid, 25% of the money will be reimbursed by the state government. • On AFIRS, the Minister Stated that currently 3% of the 7% interest against farm loan is paid by the Central government and the remaining 4% is required to be paid by farmers. The state government has decided to pay the remaining 4% loan. • About AFIRS, Mr. Sarma stated that the government is focusing on bringing back the defaulting farmers into the banking system.
- Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana launched in Uttarakhand • Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana' has been launched in Uttarakhand. • Under the scheme, each household in the state will be able to avail medical treatment of up to 5 lakh rupees annually. • The scheme will benefit 23 lakh households and cover 1,350 critical diseases. Launching the Yojna in Dehradun , Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat distributed scheme related golden cards to beneficiaries. • All the households have been included under the scheme.
- SC introduced Witness Protection Scheme, 2018 in India • The Supreme Court (SC) introduced a witness protection regime in the country noting that one of the main reasons for witnesses turning hostile is that they are not given security by the State. It also announced that the Witness Protection Scheme, 2018 will come into effect immediately across all States. • This scheme is aimed at enabling a witness to depose fearlessly and truthfully, would be the law of the land till Parliament enacted suitable legislation. • The Witness Protection Scheme 2018 was framed by the Central government based on the inputs received from 18 States/Union Territories, 5 States Legal Services Authorities and open sources including civil society, three High Courts and police personnel, as well.
- Delhi Govt. launches Free Pilgrimage Scheme for Senior Citizens • Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal launched the 'Mukhyamantri Tirth Yatra Yojana' which offers free travel packages for senior citizens from Delhi to five religious circuits. • Under this free pilgrimage scheme, a Delhi resident above 60 years will be eligible to take free pilgrimage along with his or her spouse. • 1100 senior citizens from each Assembly Constituency would now undertake free pilgrimage every year, the expenses for which will be borne by the government.
- Jammu & Kashmir Govt. launches AB-PMJAY Scheme • Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik launched the ambitious "Ayushman BharatPradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY)" scheme which would benefit over 31 lakh residents in the state. • The governor distributed golden cards among 10 eligible beneficiaries for availing the annual health cover facility, marking the launch of the scheme in the state.
- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana - Minister of State for the Women and Child Development Ministry Virendra Kumar informed in the Lok Sabha that - Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh were the top three performing states under the maternity benefit programme Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana. • Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana is a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age or above. • The scheme is launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development Government of India. • The programme, which became applicable from January 1, 2017 provides a cash incentive of Rs 5,000 in three instalments to pregnant women and lactating mothers for the first child through Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT).
- PRASAD Scheme of Ministry of Tourism • The Centre has included Gangotri and Yamunotri in Uttarakhand, Amarkantak in Madhya Pradesh and Parasnath in Jharkhand under a central scheme to develop pilgrimage and

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heritage destinations in the country. • With the new additions, the number of sites under the PRASAD scheme has now become 41 in 25 states. • The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Tourism in 2014-15. • PRASAD stands for -Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive. • Under the scheme 'Prasad', the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development and beautification of the identified pilgrimage destinations.

- Ministry of HRD launches faculty development programmes - LEAP & ARPIT • A unique initiative of online professional development of 15 lakh higher education faculty using the MOOCs platform SWAYAM, Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching (ARPIT) was launched on 13th Nov. • The ministry of human resource development also launched Leadership for Academicians Programme (LEAP) which will be implemented through 15 top institutions like IITs, TISS, DU, JNU and IISERs and also include a week training in a foreign campus of the likes of Harvard University, Oxford University, Purdue University and NTU Singapore, among others. About LEAP programme • LEAP is a three-week flagship leadership development training programme (two-weeks domestic and one-week foreign training for second level academic functionaries in public funded higher education institutions. • LEAP programme will be offered by 15 NIRF top ranked Indian Institutions namely, IIT Roorkee, IIT Kanpur, NIT Trichy, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata, Jawaharlal Nehru University, University of Delhi, IIT Bombay and TISS Mumbai, among others.

Objective of LEAP • The objective is to prepare second tier academic heads who are potentially likely to assume leadership roles in the future. About ARPIT programme • ARPIT is a 40-hour module with 20 hours of video content offered in a highly flexible format and can be done at one's own pace and time.

- There are built-in assessment exercises and activities as part of the academic progression in the course. • At the end of the course, they will be a terminal assessment which can be either online or a written examination.
- All faculties who have successfully completed the online refresher course will be certified.

- Eight States achieve 100% household electrification under Saubhagya scheme • 8 States which achieved 100% household electrification under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana - Saubhagya scheme are Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Mizoram, Sikkim, Telangana and West Bengal. • With this, total 15 States in India have 100 per cent household electrification. • Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Rs 16320-Crore 'Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana'- Saubhagya on September 25, 2017 to mark the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya. • The scheme aims to achieve the goal of universal household electrification in the country by March 31, 2019.
- Gujarat tops in implementing Ayushman Bharat • Gujarat has emerged as the top performer of the Centre's ambitious health financing scheme - Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), which was launched on September 23, promises health coverage of Rs 5 lakh per family to over 10 crore poor families. • Over 3.4 lakh beneficiaries have been treated under the scheme since its launch until November 24, according to the National Health Agency. • Tamil Nadu ranked second at 54,273 hospital and Chattisgarh third at 53,180.
- Health Ministry launches Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) • Ms. Preeti Sudan, Union Health Secretary did soft-launch of the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) segment of the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) in seven states. • The path-breaking initiative will provide nearreal-time data to policymakers for detecting outbreaks, reducing the morbidity and mortality and lessening disease burden in the populations and better health systems.

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- Gau Samridhi Scheme launched by Kerala govt. • Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan launched the 'Cow Samridhi Plus Scheme' to provide insurance coverage to dairy farmers in the state. • The government subsidized scheme, as proposed, will give insurance coverage to dairy farmers at low premium rates.
- Yuva Sahakar Scheme launched by Agriculture Ministry • Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Radha Mohan Singh launched the 'Yuva Sahakar-Cooperative Enterprise Support and Innovation Scheme. • Aim - The schemes aim for attracting youth to cooperative business ventures. • The scheme will be linked to Rs 1000 crore 'Cooperative Start-up and Innovation Fund (CSIF)' created by the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).
- CCEA approves ACROSS scheme • Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved continuation of nine sub-schemes of umbrella scheme "Atmosphere & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)" during 2017-2020. • The scheme aims at improving skill of weather and climate forecast through sustained observations, intensive Research & Development. • The scheme refers to the atmospheric science programs of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). 8. Government Launches Bhasha Sangam initiative - • The government has launched a unique initiative called Bhasha Sangam to introduce school students to 22 Indian languages. • The initiative, under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, was active for the period between 22nd November 2018 – 21st December 2018. • Bhasha Sangam is a programme for schools and educational institutions to provide multilingual exposure to students in Indian languages.
- UP Govt launches Women empowerment resolution campaign – • Uttar Pradesh Government launched the Women Empowerment Resolution Campaign to develop abilities in women for leadership and rights. • The purpose of this campaign is to ensure the empowerment of women through different programs in the state. • It was launched by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in Lucknow on November 20, 2018.
- Union HRD Minister launches 'Institution's Innovation Council (IIC)' Program • Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the 'Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) program under Innovation cell in New Delhi. • HRD Ministry has established Innovation cell at AICTE with purpose to systematically foster culture of Innovation in all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the country.
- PM launches Support and Outreach Programme for MSME Sector • Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Support and Outreach Programme. • As part of this programme, PM unveiled 12 key initiatives which will help the growth, expansion and facilitation of MSMEs across the country. • There are five key aspects for facilitating the MSME sector which include - access to credit, access to market, technology upgradation, ease of doing business, and sense of security for employees. Aim - It aims to boost MSME sector it is one of important sector for major generations of employment opportunities.

Key points • It will run for 100 days covering 100 Districts throughout the country. • Under Access to Credit aspect of this programme, Government will launch 59 minute loan portal to enable easy access to credit for MSMEs. • Loans upto Rs. 1 crore will be granted in principle approval through this portal, in just 59 minutes. • Government will give 2% interest subvention for all GST registered MSMEs, on fresh or incremental loans. • For exporters who receive loans in pre-shipment and post-shipment period will get increase in interest rebate ranging from 3% to 5%. • All MSMEs or companies with turnover more than Rs. 500 crore will now be compulsorily brought on Trade Receivables e-Discounting System (TReDS). • Public sector companies have now been asked to compulsorily procure 25 percent, instead of 20 percent of their total purchases, from MSMEs. • Out of the 25 percent procurement mandated from MSMEs, 3 percent must now be reserved for women entrepreneurs.

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- **Saura Jalnidhi scheme launched by the Odisha Govt.** - • This scheme has been launched by the Odisha Government only for Former for their filed irrigation. Key points • Under this scheme, farmers will be given 90% subsidy and 5,000 solar pumps. • This scheme is only for those who have farmer identical and minimum land should be 0.5 acres.
- **Swadesh Darshan Scheme:** Two North East Circuit Projects inaugurated in Arunachal Pradesh • Union Ministry of Tourism has inaugurated two important projects as part of Development of North East Circuit under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in Arunachal Pradesh. Swadesh Darshan scheme • It was launched by Union Tourism Ministry in 2015 with objective to develop theme-based tourist circuits in the country. • These tourist circuits developed will be developed under on principles of high tourist value, competitiveness and sustainability in integrated manner.
- **SPARC' scheme** - The Union Minister of Human Resource Development Prakash Javadekar launched the 'SPARC' scheme. • The objective of the scheme is to boost India specific research in social and pure sciences. • Here 'SPARC' stands for - 'Scheme for promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration'. "SPARC will focus on joint research projects in focus areas, including technology, science and social sciences, which are of relevance to India. Aim of the SPARC scheme - • SPARC scheme aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's higher educational institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world. Key points of the Scheme: Collaboration with foreign countries: • SPARK scheme will facilitate academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions the best institutions in the world from 28 selected nations. National Coordinating Institute • Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur is the National Coordinating Institute to implement the SPARC programme.
- **IMPRESS' scheme launched** • With an aim to promote policy research in social science areas Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar launched 'IMPRESS' scheme in the country. • 'IMPRESS' stands for - Impactful Policy Research in Social Sciences. Key points: • The scheme will provide an opportunity for social science researchers in any institution in the country which includes all universities (central and state). Implementing Agency – The scheme will be implemented by the Indian Council of Social Science and Research (ICSSR). • The IMPRESS scheme will open up new avenues in Research aiming at visible impact on Technology, Economy, Society, Culture - B.B. Kumar (ICSSR Chairman) • Under IMPRESS, 1,500 research projects will be awarded for two years to support social science research in the higher educational institutions. Objective of IMPRESS Scheme - The objective of the scheme is as follows • To identify and fund research proposals in social sciences with maximum impact on the governance and society. • To ensure selection of projects through a transparent, competitive process on online mode. • To provide opportunity for social science researchers in any institution in the country, including all Universities (Central and State), private institutions with 12(B) status conferred by UGC.
- **Govt. launches Youth Road Safety Learners Licence Programme** • Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has launched Youth Road Safety Learners Licence programme in New Delhi. • It is Public–private partnership (PPP) initiative in collaboration with Diageo India and Institute of Road Traffic Education (IRTE). • This programme will help Government to achieve its target of reducing road accidents by 50% by 2020.
- **Udyam Abhilasha: SIDBI launches national level entrepreneurship awareness campaign** • Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has launched Udyam Abhilasha a national level entrepreneurship awareness campaign. • It was launched in 115 Aspirational Districts identified by NITI Aayog in 28 States. Objectives - To inspire rural youth in aspirational districts to be entrepreneurs by assisting them to set up their own enterprise. • To impart trainings through digital medium across the country, • To create business opportunities for CSC-VLEs. • To focus on women aspirants in aspirational districts to encourage women entrepreneurship. • To assist participants to become bankable and avail credit facility from banks to set up their own enterprise.

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- Odisha govt. launched 'Nirman Kusuma' scheme – Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched 'Nirman Kusuma' programme for providing financial assistance to the children of the construction workers for their technical education in the state. Key points: • The children of construction workers would get financial assistance for their education in Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and polytechnics.
- Odisha govt. launch Food Security Scheme - Odisha government launched the State's own food security scheme to cover the poor people. • As per the provisions of the scheme, 25 lakh poor people left out from the benefits of the National Food Security Act, will get rice of 5 kg per month for one rupee.
- Wage Compensation Scheme for pregnant women: Assam Government has become the first Indian state to offer a Wage Compensation Scheme for pregnant women working in the tea gardens of the state. Key points • Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 12,000 will be given to the pregnant women so that they can take care of themselves and the unborn baby. • The compensation of wages to pregnant women will be given in 4 instalments - Rs 2,000 in the first trimester, Rs 4,000 in the second trimester, Rs 3,000 for institutional delivery and Rs 3,000 for registration of the child's birth.
- Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna: The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has approved a new scheme- Atal Bimit Vyakti Kalyan Yojna for Insured Persons covered under the Employees' State Insurance Act. Key points: • This scheme is a relief payable in cash directly to their Bank Account in case of unemployment and while they search for new engagement. • The eligibility for availing Super Specialty treatment for dependents of Insured Person has now been relaxed to insurable employment of one year with 156 days of contributions.
- Swayangsiddha scheme - In an attempt to combat human trafficking, the West Bengal government rolled out a scheme, Swayangsiddha, in different districts of the State. As per the NCRB data, West Bengal has highest recorded case of trafficking among the States. Aim of the scheme – • The scheme aims to empower young boys and girls to make informed choices so that they are less vulnerable to trafficking and child marriage. • Swayangsiddha means self-reliance and it will be executed by the West Bengal Police.
- Petroleum Minister to launch 'SATAT' initiative - • Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship launched SATAT initiative to promote Compressed Bio-Gas as an alternative, green transport fuel. • Titled SATAT, the initiative is aimed at providing a Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) as a developmental effort that would benefit both vehicle-users as well as farmers and entrepreneurs.
- Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM) scheme - Union Government has approved Rs 8,606 crore for 60 projects being implemented under umbrella scheme of Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM). • The projects are being implemented in 111 border districts in 17 states having the international borders with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh. • The scheme include construction of roads, schools, primary health centres, promotion of rural tourism, border tourism, cleanliness mission, promotion of sports activities, supply of drinking water, protection of heritage sites, community centres, connectivity, drainage, to enable sustainable living in border areas.
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana: • Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched ambitious Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), under Ayushman Bharat umbrella at Ranchi, Jharkhand. • The scheme aims to provide annual health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh to 10.74 crore beneficiary families i.e. over 50 crore beneficiaries across India. • It is touted as world's largest healthcare scheme that will serve beneficiary population that equals 27-28 European countries and almost equal to population of Canada, Mexico and US put together. • The scheme will become operational from September 25, 2018 i.e. on birth anniversary of Deendayal Upadhyay. Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) • PMJAY is government-sponsored health insurance scheme, that will provide free coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year in any government or empanelled

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private hospitals all over India. • It will cover beneficiaries families identified on the basis of Socio Economic Caste Survey (SECC) 2011 in 444 districts of 30 states/Union Territories.

- Tamil Nadu Government announces scheme for protection of exotic Neela Kurinji plants • Tamil Nadu government has announced Scheme for protection of exotic Neela kurinji (*Strobilanthus kunthianus*) plants that flower only once in 12 years. • This scheme comes following complaints that these rare and ecologically unique flowers are being packaged and sold on the commercial basis. Neelakurinji plant • Neelakurinji is a tropical plant species. It is native to Shola forests in Western Ghats. • It is also seen in Shevroys Hills in Eastern Ghats, Anamalai hills and Agali hills in Kerala and Sanduru hills in Karnataka.
- Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) - The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved a new Umbrella Scheme “Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan’ (PM-AASHA). The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018. Aim – The scheme aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce. • Objective – To empower farmers and strengthen the Agriculture sector. • Allocation - The Cabinet has sanctioned Rs 15,053 crore to implement the PM-AASHA in the next two financial years, of which Rs 6,250 crore will be spent this year. Components of PM-AASHA: Under the PM-AASHA, states would be allowed to choose from three schemes – • Price Support Scheme (PSS), • Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) • Pilot of Private Procurement & Stockist Scheme (PPPS).
- Govt. extends Atal Pension Yojana indefinitely - Union Cabinet decided to indefinitely extended Atal Pension Scheme, which had lapsed in August 2018. To further incentivize people’s participation in the scheme. Atal Pension Yojana (APY) – • It is a social security scheme launched by the government in 2015 to provide a defined pension between Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000. • It had replaced earlier government-backed pension Swavalamban scheme. Key features of the schemes: • Overdraft facility doubled - The Finance Minister Arun Jaitley stated that the overdraft facility has been doubled from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 under the Yojana. • Age limit increased - The age limit has been revised to 18 to 65 years from the earlier 18 to 60 years.
- Govt. revised Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) – The government has revised the PMJDY scheme, to further incentivize people’s participation in the scheme. Key points • Overdraft facility doubled - The Finance Minister Arun Jaitley stated that the overdraft facility has been doubled from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 under the Yojana. • Age limit increased - The age limit for availing overdraft facility under it has also been revised to 18 to 65 years from the earlier 18 to 60 years. • Accidental insurance cover raised - The accidental insurance cover for new RuPay Cardholders has been raised from Rs. one lakh to Rs. two lakh.
- Swadesh Darshan Scheme: Tourism Ministry sanctions Rs. 80.37 crore for developing cruise tourism in Kerala. Note: • The scheme was launched by Union Tourism Ministry with an objective to develop themebased tourist circuits in the country. • The first project under Swadesh Darshan Scheme ‘North East Circuit: Imphal and Khongjom’ was inaugurated in Manipur. • The project covers two sites i.e. Kangla Fort and Khongjom in Manipur.
- Government launches third edition of Smart India Hackathon 2019 - Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has third edition of Smart India Hackathon 2019 (SIH-2019). • Smart India Hackathon is world’s biggest open innovation model which aims to provide students with platform to solve some of pressing problems faced by people in their daily lives.
- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) – Govt. has appointed senior bureaucrat Ashish Kumar Bhutani as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Key points • It is farmers’ welfare scheme launched in 2016 to ensure faster insurance services or reliefs to farmers. • It aims to reduce the premium burden on farmers and ensure early settlement of crop assurance claim for the full insured sum. • Under this scheme, farmers need to pay uniform premium of only 2% for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all Rabi

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crops. • In case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, farmers have to pay premium of only 5%. • The premium rates to be paid by farmers are very low and balance premium will be paid by Government. • Moreover, there is no upper limit on Government subsidy, so farmers will get claim against full sum insured without any reduction.

- PMS-OBC scheme - Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved continuation and revision of Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Other Backward Classes Students for studying in India (PMS-OBC) till 2020. Key points • PMS-OBC is flagship scheme of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, in operation since 1998-99. • It is fully centrally sponsored scheme that aims to provide financial assistance to OBC students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education. • Under revised PMS-OBC, annual parental income ceiling has been increased from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 1.5 lakh. • Now onwards, 30% of funds will be earmarked for girl students and 5% for students with disabilities.
- CCEA approves continuation of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) – The scheme was launched on 25 December 2000. • It aims to provide single all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations in rural areas. • Union Ministry of Rural Development is nodal ministry for implementation of Scheme.
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) - Union Government, NABARD and National Water Development Agency (NWDA) have signed revised Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for funding of central share of 99 prioritized irrigation projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) through Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF). Key points: • PMKSY was launched in July 2015 with overarching vision to ensure access to some means of protective irrigation for all agricultural farms in the country and to produce 'per drop more crop', thus bringing much desired rural prosperity. • It is implemented by Ministries of Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Development. • It has outlay of Rs 50000 crore with implementation period of over five-year till April 2020. Note: • The government has approved setting up of a dedicated micro irrigation fund (MIF) under the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard).
- 9. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana: Government achieves 5 crore Free LPG Connections Target. • Union Government has announced that it has reached target of providing 5 crore free LPG connections under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) almost eight months ahead of schedule (i.e. in 27 months instead of 35 months). • World Health Organisation (WHO) has recognised PMUY as one of decisive intervention by Government to address indoor air pollution which accounts for nearly 10 lakh deaths in year in the country. Key points: • Union Government launched PMUY in May, 2016 with tagline of 'Swachh Indhan, Behtar Jeevan.' • It aims at providing clean-cooking fuel to poor households, who are otherwise vulnerable to various health hazards associated with indoor air pollution and bringing in qualitative changes in living standards. • PMUY is implemented by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. . Note: Uttar Pradesh has got the maximum number of LPG connections (87 lakh) followed by West Bengal (67 lakh) and Bihar (61 lakh).
- Mukhyamantri Yuva Nestam: Andhra Pradesh Government has approved Mukhyamantri Yuva Nestam, an unemployment allowance scheme to provide Rs 1000 per month unemployed youth in state. • The allowance will directly credited in bank accounts of selected beneficiary through biometric authentication in transparent manner. It will not be applicable to those paying provident fund.
- Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) – NITI Aayog identified 117 Districts as Aspirational Districts for RUSA Scheme. • During the second phase of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), central assistance is provided for opening of new Model Degree Colleges(MDCs) in 'Aspirational Districts' identified by NITI Aayog and in unserved & underserved districts in North Eastern and

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the Himalayan States. • Note: RUSA is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), launched in 2013 aims at providing strategic funding to eligible state higher educational institutions.

- Sukanya Samriddhi Scheme: The Union Government has reduced the minimum annual deposit requirement for accounts under Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana from Rs 1000 to Rs 250. The minimum initial deposit to open the account has also been reduced to Rs 250. • The move is aimed at enabling more people to take advantage of the girl child savings scheme. Key points: • Aim - The scheme aims to provide financial security to a girl till the time that she gets married. • Age limit - The Sukanya Samriddhi Account scheme is meant for girl children below the age of 10 years. • The account matures in 21 years before which it is in a lock-in period where funds cannot be withdrawn. • Also, the interest rate for the July-September quarter is 8.1%. • Flexible deposit amounts: The account can be opened with a minimum deposit of Rs.250 and in multiples of Rs.100 thereafter. • A maximum of Rs.1.5 lakhs can be deposited per account every year.
- Govt. launches Student Police Cadet Programme: Ministry of Home Affairs sponsored Student Police Cadet (SPC) Programme was launched nationally in Gurugram, Haryana. • It was launched by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh in the presence of Union Human Resources Minister Prakash Javadekar. • The programme aims to build bridge between Police and larger community through school students by inculcating values and ethics in them through classes in school and outside.
- Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018: Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MDWS) has launched Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 (SSG 2018) in New Delhi. It is a rural cleanliness survey to rank all states and districts on basis of qualitative and quantitative evaluation.
- Govt. selects 734 athletes for Khelo-India scholarships - Sports Authority of India (SAI) under Union Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs has cleared 734 athletes for the scholarship under the Khelo India Talent Development Scheme. • They will be provided with annual stipend of Rs. 1,20,000 on quarterly basis to meet their out of pocket expenses, treatment of injuries and other expenses. Khelo India Talent Development Scheme • The scheme was introduced by Ministry of Sports and Youth affairs to revive sports culture in India at grass-root level. • Its objective is to build strong framework for all sports played in our country and establish India as great sporting nation. • It aims to help scout young talent from schools in various disciplines and groom them as future sports champions.
- Solar Charkha Mission: President Ram Nath Kovind launched Solar Charkha Mission under which Government will disburse subsidy of Rs 550 crore to thousands of artisans, generating employment in rural areas. • It was launched during the event of Udyam Sangam (National MSME Conclave) on the occasion of World MSME Day (observed on 27 June). 2. Suryashakti Kisan Yojana' for Farmers: The Gujarat government launched a solar power scheme for farmers- Suryashakti Kisan Yojana (SKY) enabling them to generate electricity for their captive consumption as well as sell the surplus power to the grid and earn an extra buck.
- The Union Ministry of Culture has launched Seva Bhoj Yojna, a new scheme to provide financial assistance on purchase of specific food items by Charitable Religious Institutions (CRIs) for free distribution among people. • Under this scheme, Centre's share of Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) charged on the raw food materials purchased by the religious institutions will be refunded. • The scheme has been launched for financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20 with a total outlay of Rs. 325.00 crores.
- Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation launched Swajal Scheme in 115 Aspirational districts of India to provide clean drinking water, under existing National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) budget.
- The Madhya Pradesh government announced an outstanding power bill waiver scheme Bijli Bill Mafi Yojana 2018 for laborers and poor families. • Laborers falling under the unorganized sector in Madhya Pradesh will get power supply at a subsidized rate. • The state cabinet also approved Mukhyamantri Jan Kalyan (Sambal) Yojana 2018 (a scheme to provide subsidized power) in the meeting.

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- Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana a Health Insurance Scheme for Journalists: Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana is a new Health Insurance Scheme for the journalists launched by the state government in Odisha. • This scheme provides Rs. 2 Lakh per annum health insurance cover to all working journalists of the state.
- The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) launched Samagra Shiksha scheme to improve quality of school education. • The scheme aims at improving quality of education, enhancing learning outcomes and using technology to empower children and teachers.
- Union Ministry of Power launched the PRAAPTI App to bring transparency in electricity payments to Generators. Note: • The Union Ministry of Power launched web portal (www.praapti.in) and app namely PRAAPTI (Payment Ratification And Analysis in Power procurement for bringing Transparency in Invoicing of generators). • The webportal and app aims to bring transparency in power purchase transactions between Generators and Discoms.
- IP Nani - The union minister Shri Suresh Prabhu launched the Intellectual Property (IP) mascot IP Nani at the conference in New Delhi. • Mascot IP Nani is a tech-savvy grandmother who helps the government and enforcement agencies in combating IP crimes with the help of her grandson “Chhotu” aka Aditya. • The IP mascot will spread awareness about the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) among people, especially children, in an interesting manner.
- National Wind-solar Hybrid Policy - Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) launched National Windsolar Hybrid Policy to promote new projects as well as hybridization of the existing ones.
- ‘SWAYAM’ - Human Resource Development Ministry has launched an initiative ‘SWAYAM’ to train teachers using digital platform. • The government will use the Massive Open Online Courses platform SWAYAM aims to update the teaching technique of 1.5 million higher education faculty with focus on new and emerging trends. • To achieve this, in the first phase, 75 disciplinespecific National Resource Centres (NRCs) have been identified to prepare online training material and keep the teachers well-informed of latest developments in their disciplines through the online refresher course.
- ‘Project Dhoop’ - In order to address rising incidence of Vitamin 'D'Deficiencies, particularly amongst the young people, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has launched a unique initiative, 'Project Dhoop' in association with NCERT, NDMC and North MCD Schools.
- The Union Minister for Railways and Coal Shri Piyush Goyal launched UTTAM App for Coal Quality Monitoring. • UTTAM stands for – Unlocking Transparency by Third Party Assessment of Mined Coal • UTTAM App ensures accountability, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency in coal ecosystem. • It provides a platform for monitoring of sampling and coal dispatches.
- ‘Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan’ - Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the ‘Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan’ at Ram Nagar in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh. • The objective of the scheme is to enhance capacities and effectiveness of Panchayats and the Gram Sabhas.
- Atal New India Challenge - On 26th April 2018, NITI Aayog launched Atal New India Challenge under Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) with an aim to bring-in innovations and technologies relevant to the people. Key points – • Grant - Under the Atal Innovation Mission grants of up to Rs 1 crore will be provided to the applicants showing capability, intent, and potential to productize technologies. • Objective - The objective of this initiative is to solve problems in different 17 areas, which would have direct impact on improving lives of citizens and also generate employment. • Partnership - Under this new initiative, Atal Innovation Mission has partnered with the Ministries of Road Transport and Highways, Housing and Urban Affairs, Agriculture and Family Welfare, Drinking Water & Sanitation and the Railway Board.

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- Unnat Bharat Abhiyan - The Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) launched the second edition of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan in New Delhi. • The objective of this mission is to students from 750 colleges and universities across the country will adopt the nearby villages and visit them to get familiar with the life of the village people and the problems faced by them in the day to day life.
- Study in India - In April 18, the Government of India (GoI) has launched its flagship 'Study in India' programme to attract international students to study in India. • It was jointly launched by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Minister of State for Human Resources Development Satya Pal Singh in New Delhi.
- 'Atal Amrit Abhiyan' - Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu launched an ambitious health assurance scheme 'Atal Amrit Abhiyan' in Assam state. • The scheme will offer free medical care of up to 2 lakh rupees for every individual from Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families. • The scheme will cover 92% of the state's population with annual income below 5 lakh rupees. • The Assam govt. earmarked 400 crore rupees for the scheme in the financial year 2018-19.
- Ganga Haritkala Scheme (Ganga Hariyali Yojana) - started by the state of Uttar Pradesh. • The main objective of this scheme is to increase the green cover in the catchment areas of Ganga river and to control the erosion of land.
- DARPAN-PLI App - Minister of Communications Manoj Sinha launched the DARPAN-PLI App in New Delhi. • The DARPAN-PLI App will help in the collection of a premium for PLI and RPLI policies at Branch Post Offices anywhere in India. • DARPAN stands for - Digital Advancement of Rural Post Office for a New India.
- Udyam Sakhi Portal - Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises launched the Udyam Sakhi Portal for women entrepreneurs of India.
- "SATH-E" project - to introduce system-wide Governance Transformation in school education. • The expand form of "SATH-E" is Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital in Education. • It is an initiative launched by the NITI Aayog.
- 'Saubhagya' scheme – Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship union ministry partnered with the Ministry of Power to support household electrification scheme 'Saubhagya'. • The Union Ministry of Power has partnered with the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship to train the manpower in six states – Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh – for speedy implementation of its household electrification scheme 'SAUBHAGYA'. • The purpose of the SAUBHAGYA (Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojna) scheme is to achieve universal household electrification in all parts of the country in a time bound manner.

Schemes launched in Union Budget 2018

1. KUSUM scheme 2018 - Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahaabhiyan scheme announced in the Union Budget 2018. • Objective: to encourage farmers for solar farming across the country. • Budget allocation - Rs. 48,000 crore

• Benefits – Govt. will provide Solar Agricultural Pumps to the farmers. • Target – Doubling farmers income by 2022.

2. Ayushman Bharat Scheme – In the Union Budget 2018 two major initiatives in health sector as part of Ayushman Bharat programme announced by the Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.

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(i) Health and Wellness Centre - Under this 1.5 lakh centres will bring health care system closer to the homes of people. These centres will also provide free essential drugs and diagnostic services. Budget - The Budget has allocated Rs.1200 crore for this flagship programme.

(ii) National Health Protection Scheme - National Health Protection Scheme will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families. It will have 50 crore beneficiaries. This scheme will be world's largest government funded health care programme.

3. Operation Green – On the lines of “Operation Flood” a new Scheme “Operation Greens’ is announced in the Union Budget 2018. • Aim – The aim of Operation Green scheme is to promote farmer producers organisations, agrilogistics, processing facilities and professional management. • It is a price fixation scheme that aims to ensure farmers are given the right price for their produce. • The operation aims to aid farmers and help control and limit the erratic fluctuations in the prices of onions, potatoes and tomatoes. • Budget Allocation – Rs. 500 crore • Objective - to double the income of farmers by the end of 2022.

4. National Bamboo Mission (NBM) – Terming Bamboo as ‘Green Gold’, the Union Finance Minister launched announced the scheme in the Union Budget 2018. It is a wholly-sponsored central scheme. • Objective - to promote the bamboo sector in the country. This will help the people of rural and tribal areas. • Budget Allocation - Rs 1,290 crore

5. Gobar Dhan Yojana - Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resource Fund Scheme - In Union Budget 2018, the Finance Minister Arun Jaitely has announced the new scheme for the villagers. Objective - To make the villages open defecation free and improving the lives of villagers. Key points

- Under this scheme the solid waste and cattle dung will be composed into useful elements such as Bio-CNG and Bio-Gas that are needed in agricultural sector.

6. Affordable Housing Fund (.Kifayati Aawas yojna)– In Union Budget 2018, the Finance Minister Arun Jaitely has announced the new scheme to provide homes at low cost. Objective – To boost demand and supply of low-cost homes. Key points – • Government will establish a dedicated Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) in National Housing Bank, funded from priority sector lending shortfall and fully serviced bonds authorized by the Government of India.

7. Ekalavya Model Residential School – In the Union Budget 2018, the Finance Minister Arun Jaitely has announced the scheme to educate children from the Tribal Community. Objective – To bring major revolutions in the education sector. Key points • Under this mission, it has been decided that by the year 2022, every block with more than 50% Scheduled Tribes (ST) population and at least 20,000 tribal persons, will have an Ekalavya Model Residential School. • “Ekalavya schools will be on a par with Navodaya Vidyalayas and will have special facilities for preserving local art and culture, besides providing training in sports and skill development.”

8. Revitalising Infrastructure and Systems in Education (RISE) - To make India produce better research and make its institutions climb up in global rankings. • Objective - To step up investments in research and related infrastructure in premier educational institutions, including health institutions. • Agency - Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) would be suitably structured for funding this initiative.

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1. Govt relaxes norms for Atal Pension Yojana - The Union Finance Ministry has relaxed norms of Atal Pension Yojana (APY) to allow small finance banks and payment banks to offer APY distribution. The move is expected to help expand coverage of the scheme. Key features of the APY – • It is a social security scheme. • It replaced earlier Swavalamban scheme. • Age limit – 18 – 40 years • Pension - Under scheme, subscriber will receive a minimum guaranteed pension of Rs. 1000 to Rs. 5000 per month, depending on his contribution, from age of 60 years. • There is no exit to the scheme before the age of 60. Note: Uttar Pradesh with 11.41 lakh subscriber (APY accounts) is highest contributing state of the scheme followed by Bihar (8.87 lakh subscribers) and Tamil Nadu (6.60 lakh).
2. Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Vikas Yojana (MGSVY) – Punjab government launched the 'Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Vikas Yojana' (MGSVY) aimed at the inclusive growth of the distressed sections of the society.
3. Cyber Surakshit Bharat initiative - The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched Cyber Surakshit Bharat initiative. Objective - to strengthen cyber security ecosystem in India in line Government's vision for a 'Digital India'. Key points • It was launched in association with National eGovernance Division (NeGD) and industry partners. • Cyber Surakshit Bharat is first public-private partnership of its kind. • It will leverage the expertise of the IT industry in cyber security. • The founding partners include leading IT companies such as Microsoft, Intel, WIPRO, Redhat and Dimension Data.
4. Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjivani Yojna - Maharashtra state government launched the Yojna. Objective – To promote climate-resilient agriculture in the state. Total budget - Rs.4,000-crore. Note: • The yojna will be roll out in 2018-19 and continue till 2023-24. • The Scheme has been named after social activist Nanaji Deshmukh who has worked in fields of education, health, and rural self-reliance, and has been honoured with Padma Vibhushan.
5. Swasth Bachche, Swasth Bharat' launched by HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar in Kochi, Kerala. • The programme is an initiative of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan to prepare a physical Health and Fitness Profile Card for more than 12 lakhs of Kendriya Vidyalaya students.
6. National Programme for Control of Viral Hepatitis scheme – The scheme will be roll out by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare . Objective - The focus will be on anti-viral treatment of Hepatitis C which will be provided free at all government health set-ups. Budget - Rs 600 crore for the next three years.

NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

1. 1st Chief Justice of Telangana High Court • Justice TBN (Thottathil Bhaskaran Nair) Radhakrishnan was sworn in as the first Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court. • With this, the state of Telangana will have its first independent high court.
2. New Chief Information Commissioner - Sudhir Bhargava ;
3. New Railway Board Chairman – V.K. Yadav
7. New Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh – Kamal Nath ;
8. New Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh - Bhupesh Baghel
9. New Chief Minister of Mizoram - Mr. Zoramthanga
10. New Chief Minister of Telangana - K Chandrasekhar
11. New FTII Chairman - Producer-director Brijendra Pal Singh
12. New Secretary of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) - Ashok Kumar Singh
13. Vice President Of FICCI - Uday Shankar (Star India's Chairman and CEO)
14. New Chief Economic Advisor - Krishnamurthy Subramanian ;
15. New Finance Secretary – AN Jha .
15. New Chief Election Commissioner of India - Sunil Arora ;
16. New Chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) – Arvind Saxena

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17. India's 1st Ever Youth Ambassador – Hima Das • The United Nations Children's Fund-India (UNICEF) has appointed Hima Das as India's first ever Youth Ambassador. • Hima Das is the first Indian athlete to win the India's first international gold in track events.
18. Justices Hemant Gupta, R Subhash Reddy, MR Shah and Ajay Rastogi sworn-in as Supreme Court Judges
19. New Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission - Renowned scientist Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas
20. New Chief Justice of India - Justice Ranjan Gogoi (46th CJI) ; 21. New DRDO Chairman - G. Satheesh Reddy
22. New Secretary General of Assocham - Uday Kumar Varma
23. New Deputy Chairperson of Rajya Sabha - Harivansh Narayan Singh
24. Current Cabinet secretary of India - Pradeep Kumar Sinha
25. Chairman of the 22-member Public Accounts Committee (PAC) - Mallikarjun Kharge Note:
26. Ashok Lahiri appointed as full-time member of - 15th Finance Commission Note: The head of the 15th Finance Commission is N K Singh.
27. New Chairman of Banks Board Bureau - Bhanu Pratap Sharma
28. New Chairman of NASSCOM for 2018-19 - Rishad Premji
29. First woman officer to be inducted as the first direct entry combat officer in Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) - Prakriti
30. New Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of the Indian Army - Lt. Gen Anil Chauhan
31. New Foreign Secretary of India - Vijay Keshav Gokhale
32. New Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - K Sivan.
- 33 New Director General of FICCI - Dilip Chenoy
34. First woman lawyer to be directly appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India - Indu Malhotra

1. New President of Brazil - Jair Bolsonaro
2. New Prime Minister of Sri Lanka - Ranil Wickremesinghe
3. New President of Mexico - Andres Manuel Lopez ;
4. First female President of Georgia - Salome Zourabichvili
5. New PM of Fiji - Voreqe Bainimarama
6. Youngest UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador - Millie Bobby
7. New Interpol President - Kim Jong Yang
8. First Female President of Ethiopia - Sahle-Work Zewde
9. New Prime Minister of Sri Lanka - Mahinda Rajapaksha
10. Re-elected President of Ireland – Michael D Higgins
11. New Prime Minister of Sudan - Moutaz Mousa Abdallah
12. New Prime Minister of Australia - Treasurer Scott Morrison
13. New President of Paraguay - Mario Abdo Benitez
14. New President of Zimbabwe - Emmerson Mnangagwa
15. New President of Turkey - Tayyip Erdogan
16. New President of Colombia - Ivan Duque
17. New Prime Minister of Spain - Pedro Sanchez
18. New Prime Minister of Italy - Giuseppe Conte
- 19 New President of Venezuela - Nicolas Maduro
20. New Prime Minister of Malaysia - Mahathir bin Mohamad
- 21 New President of Cuba - Miguel Diaz-Canel
22. New 'Head of the Commonwealth' - Prince Charles
23. New Prime Minister of Hungary - Viktor Orban
- 24 New President of Sierra Leone - Julius Maada Bio
25. New Prime Minister of Ethiopia - Abiy Ahmed
26. New President of Myanmar - Win Myint

Honours & Awards National

1. Tansen Samman, 2018 - Manju Mehta (eminent Sitar Player) • Tansen Award was instituted by Madhya Pradesh government to honour the individual artists with significant contribution to Hindustani Classical Music.
2. Mrs. India 2018 Title - Divya Patidar Joshi of Madhya Pradesh was crowned with the prestigious Mrs. India 2018 Title. • The Mrs. India My Identity Beauty Pageant 2018 finale was held in Delhi on 25th Dec 2018.

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3. Sahitya Akademi announced its annual Awards for 2018 in 24 languages. Complete List of Winners • Sananta Tanti (Assamese) - Kailoir Dinto Amar Hobo (Poetry) • Sanjib Chattopadhyay (Bengali) - Srikrishner Sesh Kata Din (Story) • Anees Salim (English) - The Blind Lady's Descendants (Novel) • Chitra Mudgal (Hindi) - Post Box No-203-Naala Sopara (Novel) • Rama Kant Shukla (Sanskrit) - Mama Janani (Poetry)
4. 54th Jnanpith Award, 2018 –Amitav Ghosh (Renowned English fiction writer) • He has become the first English author to be honoured with the award. • The Jnanpith Award is an Indian literary award presented annually by the Bharatiya Jnanpith to an author for their "outstanding contribution towards literature".
5. Lokmat Parliamentary Awards – • Lifetime achievement award - Rajya Sabha MP Sharad Pawar, Murli Manohar Joshi. • Best Parliamentarian Award - Ghulam Nabi Azad, BJP MP Nishikant Dubey • Best debut woman parliamentarian - (Lok Sabha) Hema Malini • Best woman parliamentarian - Lok Sabha MP Rama Devi • Best woman parliamentarian in the Rajya Sabha - DMK leader Kanimozhi • Best debut woman parliamentarian (Rajya Sabha) - Chhaya Verma
6. Krishi Karman' Award - Jharkhand has been selected for "Krishi Karman" award in the rice category from the Union Ministry of Agriculture.
7. New Award for National Integration - PM Narendra Modi announced the institution of 'Sardar Patel Award for National Integration', which would be given for "outstanding efforts to further national integration".
8. NITI Aayog organised Women Transforming India Awards 2018 in New Delhi • The theme for WTI Awards 2018: "Women and Entrepreneurship".
9. Mary Kom Honoured With 'Meethoileima' Title - Manipur Government honored AIBA World Women Boxing Gold medalist MC Mary Kom with the title "Meethoileima" (par excellent queen) at a function in Imphal, Manipur.
10. Veteran Journalist N Ram received Raja Ram Mohan Roy Award • Eminent journalist and Chairman of the Hindu Publishing Group, N Ram has been selected under prestigious award category of Raja Ram Mohan Roy award.
11. Dr. Martha Farrell Receives Lifetime Achievement Award • Late Dr. Martha Farrell has been honoured with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 6th Indian Social Work Congress in New Delhi.
 - Dr. Farrell was recognized for her lifelong work towards gender equality, women's empowerment and prevention of sexual harassment at workplace.
12. First World Agriculture Prize – Prof. M.S. Swaminathan • M.S. Swaminathan won the first World Agriculture Prize. • This prize instituted by the Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) was presented by Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. • Prof. Swaminathan is known as Father of Green Revolution in India.
13. BEML Received Top Challengers' & Best Mining Equipment Seller Award • Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), a Mini Ratna Public Sector Undertaking, under the Ministry of Defence, received the prestigious 'Top Challengers Award 2018' for the excellent performance during the financial year 2017-18.
14. 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration - • Eminent jurist Fali S. Nariman (89) was awarded 19th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration. • He was presented the award by Vice President Venkaiah Naidu at a function held in New Delhi.
15. Swachh Survekshan Grameen Awards 2018 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave awards to top Ranked State, District and State with maximum citizen participation based on the National Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 commissioned by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. • Haryana was ranked as the best State while Satara District of Maharashtra was ranked as the best district as per the ranking undertaken by Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018. Overall Ranking: • Top 3 States- Haryana, Gujarat & Maharashtra. • Top 3 Districts- Satara, Maharashtra, Rewari, Haryana, Pedapalli, Telangana. • States with maximum citizen participation- Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat & Maharashtra. • Districts with maximum citizens' participation- Nashik, Maharashtra, Solapur, Maharashtra & Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.
16. Tenzing Norgay Award - All-women crew of INSV Tarini has bagged the prestigious Tenzing Norgay National Adventure award for beating the odds in water with their enduring skills and sailing across the world for eight long months.
17. 2018 Dr B.C. Roy National Award - Dr B.K. Misra was named for prestigious Dr B.C. Roy National Award for year 2018 as Eminent Medical Person of the Year. Note: It is the highest medical honour of India.

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18. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna 2018 - It is India's highest sporting award given for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sports person over a period of four years. • Ms. S. Mirabai Chanu – Weightlifting • Virat Kohli – Cricket
19. Dronacharya Awards 2018 - It bestowed upon coaches for producing medal winners at prestigious international sports events. • Subedar Chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa – Boxing • Vijay Sharma – Weightlifting • A. Srinivasa Rao - Table Tennis • Sukhdev Singh Pannu – Athletics • Clarence Lobo - Hockey (Life Time) • Tarak Sinha - Cricket (Life Time) • Jiwan Kumar Sharma - Judo (Life Time) • V.R. Beedu - Athletics (Life Time)
20. Arjuna Award 2018 - It is India's second highest sporting award bestowed upon sports person for consistently outstanding performance for four years. • Neeraj Chopra (Athletics), • Jinson Johnson (Athletics), • Hima Das (Athletics), • Nelakurthi Sikki Reddy (Badminton), • Satish Kumar (Boxing), • Smriti Mandhana (Cricket), • Shubhankar Sharma (Golf), • Manpreet Singh (Hockey), • Savita (Hockey), • Ravi Rathore (Polo), • Rahi Sarnobat (Shooting), • Ankur Mittal (Shooting), • Shreyasi Singh (Shooting), • Manika Batra (Table Tennis), • G. Sathiyana (Table Tennis), • Rohan Bopanna (Tennis), • Sumit (Wrestling), • Pooja Kadian (Wushu), • Ankur Dhama (Para-Athletics) and • Manoj Sarkar (Para-Badminton).
4. Dhyana Chand Award 2018 - It is bestowed upon sports persons for life time contribution to sports development. • Satyadev Prasad – Archery • Bharat Kumar Chetri – Hockey • Bobby Aloysius – Athletics Chougale Dadu Dattatray - Wrestling
21. 'Legion of Merit' 2018 - The United States government has awarded the Legion of Merit (Degree of Commander) to General Dalbir Singh Suhag (Retired), of the Indian Army.
22. Shaurya Chakra - Rifleman Aurangzeb and Major Aditya Kumar of Indian Army will be conferred the Shaurya Chakra.
23. 24th Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award - Gopalkrishna Gandhi has been chosen for the 24th Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award for his contribution in promoting communal harmony, peace and goodwill.
24. Miss India 2018 - Anukreethy Vas • Anukreethy Vas, a 19-year-old Tamil Nadu college student, has been crowned Femina Miss India 2018.
25. India's first Tribal Queen -- Pallavi Durua • Pallavi Durua, who belongs to Odisha's Koraput district, was crowned as the first Tribal Queen at the Adi Rani Kalinga Tribal Queen competition held at Utkal Mandap.
26. 'Santokbaa Humanitarian Award' - Kailash Satyarthi & A S Kiran Kumar • President Ram Nath Kovind presented the 'Santokbaa Humanitarian Award' to Child rights activist and Noble Laureate Kailash Satyarthi and space scientist A S Kiran Kumar, former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Surat, Gujarat.
27. Dadasaheb Phalke award - Akshay Kumar won the best actor awards at the Dadasaheb Phalke award for film Padman (Jury) and for Toilet: Ek Prem Katha. • Bhumi Pednekar won the best actress award for the film 'Toilet: Ek Prem Katha'. • Veteran director & actor Rakesh Roshan had been awarded with the lifetime achievement award for his contribution to the industry as an actor, producer, and a director.
28. Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award 2018 - Anushka Sharma • Ranveer Singh selected for 2018 Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Award as Best Actor for his movie 'Padmaavat'.
29. Saraswati Samman for 2017 - Sitanshu Yashaschandra • Eminent Gujarati poet and playwright 'Sitanshu Yashaschandra' is the winner of the 2017 Saraswati Samman. • He won the Saraswati Samman for his collection of verses titled 'Vakhar' (published in 2009). • The Saraswati Samman was instituted in 1991 by the K. K. Birla Foundation.
30. Col. CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement award - Pankaj Roy (posthumous) & Anshuman Gaekwad • Former Indian batsman and two-time national coach Anshuman Gaekwad and former opener, the late Pankaj Roy, have been recommended for the prestigious Col. CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement award. • Former India women's team captain Diana Edulji, and former India batter and coach Sudha Shah also selected for Col. CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement award.
31. Sahitya Akademi's Bhasha Samman - Magahi writer Shesh Anand Madhukar
32. Miss World 2018 - Mexico's Vanessa Ponce de Leon won the coveted Miss World 2018 crown at a grand event held in the Chinese city, Sanya. • Former Miss World Manushi Chhillar (India) presented the crown to the new winner.

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- 33 Miss Universe 2018 - Philippines' Catriona Gray has been crowned Miss Universe 2018. • Tamaryn Green from South Africa was named the first runner-up while Miss Venezuela Sthefany Gutiérrez stood third at the pageant which was held in Bangkok, Thailand. • India was represented by 22-year-old Nehal Chudasama.
34. Miss India Worldwide 2018 - Indian-American Shree Saini has been crowned Miss India Worldwide 2018 at a pageant held in the Fords City of New Jersey.
35. Arunima Sinha gets Honorary Doctorate in the UK • Arunima Sinha has been awarded an honorary doctorate by a prestigious UK university for her inspirational achievements. • She is the Indian mountaineer who became the world's first woman amputee to climb Mount Everest in 2013.
36. Jawahar Lal Sarin Conferred with France's Highest Civilian Honour 'Knight of the Legion of Honour' in recognition of his outstanding contribution to enhancing Indo-French cultural cooperation and promoting the French language.
37. UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards 2018 Announced for Cultural Heritage Conservation • The renewal of the early 20th-century 'Shijo-cho Ofune-hoko Float Machiya' has received the Award of Excellence in this year's UNESCO Asia Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.
38. Nobel Prize Winners 2018 1. Physiology or Medicine – James P. Allison (USA), Tasuku Honjo (Japan) • Field - For their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation 2. Physics - Gérard Mourou (France), Arthur Ashkin (USA), Donna Strickland (Canada) • Field - For their method of generating highintensity, ultra-short optical pulses in the field of laser physics. 3. Chemistry - George Smith (USA), Frances Arnold (USA), Greg Winter (UK) • Field - For control of evolution and used it for purposes that bring the greatest benefit to humankind. 4. Peace - Denis Mukwege (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Nadia Murad (Germany) • Field - For their efforts to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict. 5. Economic Sciences – William Nordhaus (US), Paul Romer (US) • Field - For work on climate change, and the endogenous growth theory. 6. Alternative Nobel Literature Prize - Maryse Conde Note: • Maryse Conde, one of the Caribbean's most renowned authors, has won an award created to replace this year's Nobel Prize for Literature. • The Nobel Prize for Literature was suspended after a crisis over its handling of allegations against Frenchman Jean-Claude Arnault, the husband of one of the academy's members.
39. WHO World No Tobacco Day 2017 Award - SK Arora was awarded prestigious World Health Organization (WHO) World No Tobacco Day 2017 Award for his extraordinary contribution towards tobacco control.
40. Man Booker International Prize 2018 - Polish author Olga Tokarczuk for her novel 'Flights'. • The novel, translated by Jennifer Croft, interweaves narratives of travel with explorations of the human body. • She is the first Polish writer to win the award.
41. 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction - Andrew Sean Greer for his novel 'Less'. • He is an American novelist and short story writer. The list of other winners of– • Martyna Majok won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for 'Cost of Living'. • Kendrick Lamar won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for music for his album 'Damn'. • Frank Bidart won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for his collected poems 'Half-light'. • The 2017 Pulitzer Prize awarded to Colson Whitehead for his novel 'The Underground Railroad'.
42. 2018 UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize - Mahmoud Abu Zeid • Egyptian photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid, known as Shawkan, won the 2018 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.
43. Abel Prize 2018 - Robert Langlands • Robert Langlands is a Canadian mathematician won the Abel Prize for 2018 "for his visionary programme connecting representation theory to number theory".