



Weekly Capsule 8th –15th Feb 2018

Economy

AIIB plans to launch its first dollar bond this year:

- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (**AIIB**) plans to launch its first dollar denominated bond worth of **\$ 1 billion** in this June.
- AIIB is a multi-lateral development bank **initiated by China**.
- Currently it has 84 members and is **headquartered** at **Beijing** (China).
- It was established in **2015** with an authorized capital of **\$ 100 billion** to provide loan for infrastructure development to countries in Asia Pacific region.
- Jin Liqun is the current President of the bank with 7.5% share. **China** is the **highest shareholder** with 26% share and **India** is the **second largest shareholder** in AIIB.

JSPL to raise ₹1,000 cr. via QIP:

- Jindal Steel and Power will raise **₹1,000 crore** through qualified institutional placements (QIP) in February. (Besides, the firm plans to raise up to ₹2,000 crore by listing its Oman business on a foreign exchange.)

What is Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP)?

QIP is a capital raising tool by a listed company by issuing equity or debenture. But these shares are issued to Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIB) only. It is the easiest and hassle free method of raising domestic capital by India. It was launched by SEBI in 2006.

CCI slaps Rs 135.86 crore fine on Google for search bias:

- **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** imposed an **Rs 136.86 crore fine** (5 per cent of the company's average total revenue generated from India operations) on **Google** for unfair business practices.



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- Google was accused of abusing its dominant position in the online search market through practices leading to search bias and search manipulation.
- The complain was brought by Matrimony.com and Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS).
- In June **2017**, the **European Union fined Google** parent Alphabet a record \$2.9 billion antitrust fine against the company for allegedly abusing the power of its dominant search engine.

About CCI:

*It is a statutory body established under **The Competition Act 2002** to prevent any such market that has an adverse impact on competition in India.*

Devendra Kumar Sikri is its current Chairman.

India ranks 44th in US Chamber's Intellectual Property Index:

- India has been ranked **44th out of 50 countries** in the annual International IP index of US Chamber of Commerce, with **USA at the top** followed by UK and Sweden.
- Last year India's rank was 43rd out of 45 economies. This year India witnessed the largest improvement in its score compared to others.

Direct Tax Collections for FY 2017-18 show Growth of 19.3% up to Jan:

- The provisional figures of **Direct Tax collections** up to January, 2018 show that net collections are at **Rs.6.95 lakh crore** which is **19.3% higher** than the corresponding period last year.
- The net Direct Tax collections represent 69.2% of the Revised Estimates of Direct Taxes for F.Y. 2017-18 (Rs.10.05 lakh crore).



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- The Growth Rate for Net Collections for Corporate Income Tax (CIT) is 19.2% and for Personal Income Tax (PIT) is 18.6%.

Note-

- *Examples of direct taxes collected **by centre**- income tax, corporation tax (highest contribution), capital gain tax etc.*
- *Direct tax **by states**- professional tax, land revenue, stamp duty etc.*
- *Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)- **Sushil Chandra***

India Post Payments Bank to enable digital payment by April:

- **India Post Payment Bank (IPPB)** would start its pan-Indian roll out **from April** this year, providing the **largest financial inclusion network** in the country.
- All **1.55 lakh post office branches** will operate as access points and **650 payments bank** branches will provide them back- end support.
- It will enable to provide digital payment services at the doorstep with the help of Postmen and **Gramin Dak Sewaks (GDS)**.

Note-

- *In 2015, the **Nachiket Mor Committee** constituted by RBI gave approval to **11 payment banks** including IPPB.*

What is a payment bank?

It is also a niche bank with operates at a smaller scale without any credit risk.

*It can accept **demand deposits (up to Rs 1 lakh)**, offer **remittance services**, mobile payments/transfers/purchases and other banking services like ATM/debit cards, net banking and third party fund transfers.*

But it can not provide loan or any kind of credit.

Here also CRR and SLR norms are applicable but not PSL (since there is no lending activity).



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Till now 10 payment bank license have been granted. Ex- Airtel PB, Paytm, India Post, Fino

RIL wins Golden Peacock Award 2017 for CSR:

- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has won the **Golden Peacock Award 2017** for the success of its **Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives**.
- Its CSR activities are done by **Reliance Foundation**, the CSR arm of the company.
- Reliance foundation is headed by **Neeta Ambani**.
- The foundation has made successful intervention in food and water security thus improving the livelihood condition of farmers.

PNB signs pact with NeSL for information utility:

- **Punjab National Bank** entered into an agreement with **National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)** for utilizing information utility services
- NeSL is the **first information utility entity registered** under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), (**information utility service providers** - store and share information regarding borrowing, default, security interests of entities etc.)
- This information is utilized during insolvency resolution under the supervision of **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)**.

Note- Please read about the salient feature of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 for Grade B exams (not required for other exams). It is beautifully explained in Chapter 3, Volume 2 of Economic Survey of last year (2016-17).



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Box 3. Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code) was enacted on May 28, 2016. The Code provides a comprehensive, modern and robust insolvency and bankruptcy regime, at par with global standards and even better in some aspects. The unique features of this regime are: (i) a comprehensive regime dealing with all aspects of insolvency and bankruptcy of all kinds of persons. (ii) separating commercial aspects of insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings from judicial aspects and empowering stakeholders and adjudicating authorities to decide the matters within their domain expeditiously. (iii) moving away from erosion of net worth to a more objective default in payment for initiation of the insolvency process. (iv) moving away from the 'debtor-in-possession' regime to a 'creditors-in-control' regime where creditors decide matters with the assistance of insolvency professionals. (v) providing collective mechanism to resolve insolvency rather than recovery of loan by a creditor. (vi) achieving insolvency resolution in a time bound manner and empowers the stakeholders to complete transactions in time.

A key innovation of the Code is four pillars of institutional infrastructure. The first pillar is a class of regulated persons, the "Insolvency Professionals", who assist the stakeholders in conduct of insolvency and bankruptcy process. The second pillar is a new industry of 'Information Utilities' who store and make available authentic information required to carry out various transactions under the Code efficiently and expeditiously. The third pillar is the adjudicating authorities, namely, NCLT and DRT for corporates and individuals respectively and their appellate bodies, namely, NCLAT and DRAT. The fourth pillar is a regulator, namely, "The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India" which has regulatory over-sight over the Insolvency Professionals, Insolvency Professional Agencies and Information Utilities and writes regulations to govern various transactions under the Code.

The Government moved at a quick pace to implement the Code. It established the Tribunals, National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), on 1st June 2016 and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) on 1st October 2016. With concerted efforts of all concerned, most of the regulatory framework and ecosystem related to corporate insolvency were rolled out by 31st March 2017.

About 2050 applications have been filed before NCLT so far, of which, 112 applications have been admitted and another 146 have been rejected or withdrawn. The default underlying admitted applications range from a few lakh of rupees to a few thousands of crores. The announcement of 12 large defaulters by the RBI will expand this sharply.

HDFC Bank appoints Rakesh Singh as private banking head:

- **HDFC or Housing and Development Corporation** of India has appointed Rakesh Singh as private banking head.
- Private banking is wealth management service of the bank catering to **High Net Worth** and ultra-HNW individuals or entities.

Note-

HDFC headquarter- Mumbai

CEO- Aditya Puri



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Recently it became the first bank of India to cross 5 lakh crore market capitalization.

Paisabazaar.com collaborates with Microsoft to build 'industry first' technologies:

- **Paisabazaar.com** has entered into a partnership with **Microsoft** to drive an '**industry first**' technology innovation on its platform.
- Paisabazaar.com is an online lending marketplace offering loan, credit card services etc.
- As per agreement, entire infrastructure of Paisabazaar.com will be moved to Microsoft Azure (MS Azure is a cloud computing service)

About MICROSOFT:

CEO- **Satya Nadella**

Headquarter- **Washington, USA**

Govt to amend RBI Act to introduce 'Standing Deposit Facility':

- In his **budget speech**, Arun Jaitley said the government is looking to **amend the RBI Act** to introduce standing deposit facility or SDF.
- It will add one more **tool for RBI's liquidity management** in addition to existing ones like Repo rate, Open Market Operation (OMO) etc.
- It will help **banks with excess funds to park it with the central bank, without having to provide any collateral.**
- SDF was first proposed in the **Urijit Patel committee** report in January **2014**.
- The new tool will help RBI define a floor rate in the inter-bank market, especially in liquidity surplus conditions.



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- Such a tool became essential in **post-demonetization scenario** when banks had excess of liquidity.

India signs first concessional agreement with UAE in oil sector:

- India on Saturday signed the **first concessional agreement** with the United Arab Emirates (**UAE**) in **the oil sector**.
- It is the first concessional agreement which has been signed between Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and India.
- It is an agreement for acquisition of **10% stake** in the off shore **Lower oil field Zakum concession** for **40 years** from 2018 to 2057.
- This is the **first Indian Investment in upstream oil sector of UAE**, transforming the traditional buyer-seller relationship to a long-term investor relationship.

About UAE:

Capital- Abu Dhabi

Currency- UAE Dirham

Govt proposes changes in Small Saving Accounts:

- Government has proposed to allow **premature closure** of Public Provident Fund (**PPF**) accounts and seeks to permit opening of small savings accounts in the name of minor.
- The changes proposed in the **Finance Bill 2018** are aimed at adding flexibility in operation of the account under **Small Savings Schemes (SSS)**.
- It has also proposed **merger of Government Savings Certificates Act, 1959 and Public Provident Fund Act, 1968 with the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873**.



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- Purpose behind a **common act**- ease and simplify rules for depositors.

What is a Small Saving Scheme (SSS)?

*These are financial saving instruments run by Central Government to mobilize household saving. Ex- **Kisan Vikas Patra, National Small Savings Certificate, Public Provident Fund (PPF), Sukanya Samridhhi Account** etc.*

*The **interest rate** on them is determined by **Department of Economic Affairs** under Finance Ministry.*

These are generally fixed deposit type savings and interest offered is generally higher than offered by banks with many tax benefits.

RBI issues revised guidelines for expeditious resolution of bad loans:

- Reserve Bank of India has issued a revised framework for **expeditious resolution of bad loans**. It harmonized the existing guidelines with the new Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).
- The new guidelines are or **early identification and reporting** of stressed assets.
- RBI has decided to **do away with the Joint Lenders' Forum (JLF)** as an institutional mechanism for resolution of stressed accounts.

What is Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016?

This is a comprehensive single law to deal with cases of insolvency of companies. Earlier insolvency resolution had several issues like delay, repeated appeal in higher courts, difficulty in exit of sick companies etc. This law seeks to address all of these.

Joint Lender Forum (JLF) was a mechanism used before IBC- 2016 by RBI for the same purpose to reduce NPAs. The JLF was forum for lender where they used to decide on methods to deal with insolvent companies.



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All villages will be connected by roads by 2019: Union minister

- The Centre is making efforts to connect all villages through a road network by next year as part of the '**Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna**' as said by Union Minister of State for Rural Development **Ram Kripal Yadav**.
- Earlier, the target to complete these works was 2022 but it has been **advanced to 2019**.
- The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched by the Central government to provide all weather road connectivity to unconnected villages all over India.

Citi India bans use of debit and credit cards to buy bit coins:

- **Citi India today banned use of its debit and credit cards for purchase of bit coins** and other crypto currencies.
- This is following the concerns expressed by the Reserve Bank over virtual currencies. Even in his budget speech, Finance Minister had mentioned that Government does not consider crypto currencies as legal tender.

What is Bitcoin?

Bitcoin is a digital crypto currency that uses **block chain technology** that enabled **fast and anonymous transaction**. It is a **decentralized system** without and government or central bank backing it. It was created in 2009 by Satoshi Nakamoto.

Bank of Baroda to shut down its operation in South Africa:

- **Bank of Baroda** has notified the South African Reserve Bank that it is shutting down its operations in the country.



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- South African reserve bank had imposed a fine of R11 mn for lapses in various compliances.
- The exit from South Africa could also be linked to BoB being banker to the Gupta family of Indian origin who reportedly took undue advantage of their connections with the South Africa's president Jacob Zuma.

About Bank of Baroda:

Headquarter- **Vadodara**

CEO- **P S Jay kumar**

New 'Port Performance Index' by Dun & Bradstreet:

- A new '**Port Performance index**' compiled by **Dun & Bradstreet** was handed over to Union Commerce Minister **Suresh Prabhu**.
- The index measures and compares the performance of **13 major ports** of India based on various parameters.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (Mumbai)**, **Kamarajar port** (Tamil Nadu) and **Visakhapatnam port** (Andhra Pradesh) have recorded 'Good' score in the index.
- Others have been categorized into 'Average' and 'Poor'.

First dairy plant in Motihari:

- The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare **Radha Mohan Singh** laid the foundation stone for the first dairy plant in **Motihari of East Champaran** District (Bihar).

Note-

- **India** is the **largest milk producer** in the world for last two decades.
- Annual milk production is around 165 MT.
- **White Revolution** increased the milk production of india significantly.



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R.K. Singh inaugurates 'Indian Power Stations 2018':

- Union Minister of State for **Power and New and Renewable Energy**, R.K. Singh inaugurated the '**Indian Power Stations 2018**'.
- It is a **three-day International Conference (from 14th Feb.)** on Operations and Maintenance in New Delhi.
- The Minister exhorted the NTPC to become India's power sector multinational by setting up power plants in other Nations and become world's largest power producer.

BHEL bags order worth Rs 560 crore from NTPC:

- The Central Public Sector **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)** has bagged a major order worth Rs. 560 crore from the National Thermal Power Corporation (**NTPC**).
- The order involves installation of an indigenously developed **Flue Gas Desulphurization system** in the NTPC station.
- The system is aimed at controlling various harmful emissions, as per the more stringent emission norms declared by the Union Ministry for Environment.

Note-

*Both NTPC and BHEL are **Maharatna PSUs** and are **headquartered in New Delhi**.*

NTPC bags order to supply 300 MW electricity to Bangladesh:

- India's biggest electricity producer National Thermal Power Corporation (**NTPC**) has got the tender to supply **300 MW electricity** to Bangladesh for 15 years.



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- **NTPC Vidut Vyapar Nigam (NVVN)**, a wholly owned subsidiary of NTPC has emerged as successful bidder.
- India currently exports approximately 600 MW electricity to Bangladesh.
- NTPC will revenue to the tune of 900 crore per annum.

POLITY

Gujarat tops logistics performance index chart: Commerce ministry

- **Gujarat** has topped the logistics index chart followed by Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, released by **Ministry of Commerce**.
- What is this index about? This index called **Logistics Ease across Different States (LEADS)** index is an indicator of the efficiency of logistical services which helps economic growth.
- The ranking is based on the analysis of perception with regard to eight parameters, including infrastructure, services, regulatory process and safety of cargo.
- Among the Union Territories, **Daman & Diu** occupied the top slot followed by Delhi and Chandigarh. As regards the hilly states, **Tripura** was on top followed by Mizoram and Meghalaya.

The Central Government notifies the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2017:

- **Section 53** of the Companies Act, 2013 prohibited issuance of shares at a discount. The Amendment Act now allows companies to issue shares at a discount to its creditors when its debt is converted into shares in pursuance of any statutory resolution plan.
- **Section 197** of the Companies Act, 2013 required approval of the company in a general meeting for payment of managerial remuneration in excess of 11 percent of the net profits. The Amendment Act now requires that



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where a company has defaulted in payment of dues to any bank or public financial institution the prior approval of the bank or public financial institution concerned is required before obtaining the approval in the general meeting.

- The Amendment Act now prohibits a registered value from undertaking valuation of any asset in which he has direct or indirect interest. (**Section 247**)

BharatNet Phase 1: Target Achieved:

- Government has achieved a significant milestone under the BharatNet. It has completed the Phase-1 of the project by connecting over **one lakh Gram Panchayats** (GP) across the country with high speed optical fibre network as per the declared deadline of 31 Dec 2017.
- BharatNet network built under Phase 1 envisages delivery of high-speed broadband services in over **2.5 lakh villages** benefitting more than 200 million rural Indians.
- Now the second phase requires the optical fibre network to connect all 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats by March 2019.
- It is said to be the world's largest rural broadband project.
- It started as National Optical Fibre Network (**NOFN**) by the previous regime. But later with change in government its name was changed to BharatNet since earlier targets were unrealistic.

RK Singh launches ASH TRACK Mobile App:

- Union Minister of State for Power and New & Renewable Energy, **R.K Singh**, launched a Web based monitoring System and a **Fly Ash mobile application** named **ASH TRACK** in New Delhi.
- It will enable better management of the ash produced by thermal power plants by linking the fly ash producers and users.



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- At present, 63 per cent of the fly ash is being utilised and target is for 100 per cent utilisation of the fly ash.

NITI Aayog releases “Healthy States, Progressive India” Report:

- **NITI Aayog** released a comprehensive Health Index report titled, “**Healthy States, Progressive India**” in New Delhi to rank states and Union territories on their incremental change in health outcomes, as well as, their overall performance with respect to each other.
- The report was released jointly by the Amitabh Kant (CEO, NITI Aayog); Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Preeti Sudan and World Bank India Country Director, Junaid Ahmad.
- Among the **Larger States, Kerala, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu ranked on top** in terms of overall performance.
- **Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, and Uttar Pradesh** are the top three ranking States in terms of annual **incremental performance**.
- Among **Smaller States, Mizoram** ranked first followed by Manipur on overall performance. Manipur followed by Goa were the top ranked States in terms of annual incremental performance.
- **Among UTs, Lakshadweep** showed both the best overall performance as well as the highest annual incremental performance.
- About one-third of the States have registered a decline in their performance in 2016 as compared to 2015.
- The report notes that while States and UTs that start at lower levels of development are generally at an advantage in showing better incremental progress.
- **Linking this Index to incentives under the National Health Mission** by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare underlines the importance of such an exercise.



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Govt approved 1.86 lakh more houses under PMAY- urban:

- The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has approved the construction of **1,86,777 more affordable houses** under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (urban)**.
- With the latest approval, the total number of houses approved under PMAY becomes **39.25 lakh**.
- **Haryana** has been approved **maximum number of houses** (53,290) followed by Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

About PMAY (urban):

- *Aims to provide affordable house to all urban poor and economically weaker section, Part of Prime Minister's **Housing for All by 2022** vision.*
- *Intended beneficiaries- poor people (BPL), Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG).*

NIC to create awareness about Digitalisation Initiative:

- **2nd National Meet on Grassroots Informatics – “VIVID: Weaving a Digital India”** was organized in New Delhi.
- Subject of discussion- **Cyber Security, Cyber Threats & Countermeasures**.
- Organized by- **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**

About NIC:

- *It is the premier science & technology organisation of Government of India playing crucial role in all ICT and e-governance initiatives by government. (All government sites are designed and maintained by them)*



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- *Headquarter- **New Delhi***
- *Director General- **Neeta Verma***

Health Ministry launched National Deworming initiative:

- **J P Nadda**, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare launched the **National Deworming Day** (observed on **10th Feb**) at **Gurugram**, with aim of govt. to reach more than **32.2 crore children** on this year's deworming day.(first **launched in 2015**)
- It covers all Government and Government-aided schools and Anganwadi centres targeting **children aged 1 to 19 years**

Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates PNG Supply in BSF Campus, Chhawla:

- Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas inaugurated the PNG supply to kitchens in the Campus of Border Security Force (BSF), located in Chhawla in Delhi.
- All houses inside BSF Chhawla camp have been provided PNG connections.

No essential service can be denied for want of Aadhaar, says UIDAI:

- Unique Identification Authority of India (**UIDAI**) has asked the government departments, Ministries and State governments to ensure that **no essential service or benefit** should be **denied to a genuine beneficiary** for want of Aadhaar.
- This was in response to recent reports regarding denial of health services leading to death of some persons.

About UIDAI:



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Set up in 2009

*Related legislature- **Aadhaar** (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies) Act 2016*

*CEO- **Dr. Ajay Bhushan Pandey***

Clean air for Delhi campaign launched to combat pollution:

- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change **Dr. Harsh Vardhan** launched the **Clean Air for Delhi campaign** along with Delhi CM **Arvind Kejriwal**.
- This **15-day long campaign** will continue till 23rd of this month.
- **70 teams** have been constituted who will deal with various localities to curb pollution.

Every youth above 30 years will be given comprehensive health care with universal check-up:

- Union Health and Family Welfare minister **JP Nadda** said that, Under the **Aayushman Bharat programme**, every youth, who is completing 30 years of age, will be given comprehensive health care with universal check-up
- Under this programme, **1.5 lakh centres** will provide comprehensive health care, including for non-communicable diseases and maternal and child health services.

India State of Forest Report 2017 Released:

- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change released the **"India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2017"** on 13th Feb.



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- India ranks **among the top ten countries** of the world in terms of **forest area** despite the fact that rest 9 countries have population density less than 150 whereas India has 382.
- India **has 24.4% of land area under forest** and tree cover. Consider that India has only **2.4% of world's land area** which sustains **17% of human** and **18% of livestock population**.
- There is an increase of 8, 021 sq km in the total forest and tree cover of the country compared to 2015 (the report comes **in every 2 years**).
- **Madhya Pradesh** has the **largest forest cover** followed by Arunachal Pradesh and Chhattisgarh
- **Andhra Pradesh** followed by Karnataka and Kerala have shown **maximum increase in forest cover**.
- In terms of **% of forest cover** the order is- **Lakshadweep** (90.3%), Mizoram, Andaman % Nicobar Island.
- 15 states/UT's have above 33 per cent of the geographical area under forest covered. Seven States/UTs have more than 75 per cent forest cover (mostly states of North East).

India ranks 2nd in global phosphorous pollution by human activity:

- In anthropogenic (caused by human activity) phosphorous pollution, **China tops** the list accounting for 30% of total pollution followed **by India** (8%) and **USA** (7%).
- The domestic sector was the largest contributor of phosphorus accounting for 54%, followed by agriculture (38%) and industry (8%).
- Huang He river basin has highest phosphorous related water pollution.
- This information was published in a scientific journal called 'Water Resource Research'.



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President hosts LPG Panchayat at Rashtrapati Bhavan:

- The President of India, Shri **Ram Nath Kovind**, hosted an '**LPG Panchayat**' yesterday at Rashtrapati Bhavan, Organized by- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- Objective - to provide a platform for LPG consumers to interact with each other regarding safe and sustainable use of LPG
- The ministry aims to conduct 1 lakh such Panchayats across India before March 31, 2019.

DAC Clears Proposal Worth Rs 15,935 Crore:

- The **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**, **chaired by Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman**, approved Capital Acquisition Proposals valued at approximately Rs 15,935 crore.
- These included procurement of essential quantity of Light Machine Guns for the three Service, 7.4 lakh Assault Rifles for the three Services. The later ones will be 'Made in India' under the categorisation of 'Buy and Make (Indian)'.
- DAC has fast tracked procurement of the three main personal weapons, i.e., Rifles, Carbines and Light Machine Guns.
- The DAC also approved procurement of 5,719 Sniper Rifles for the Indian Army and Indian Air Force at an estimated cost of Rs 982 crore.

ADR report: Chandrababu Naidu is the richest CM

- As per a report by **Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR)** and **Election Watch**, **35% of CMs** of India have **criminal cases** against them.
- Out of 35 CMs, 11 have criminal cases against them.



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- **25 CMs are crorepatis.** With 177 crore of declared net asset, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **Chandrababu Naidu is the richest CM.**
- Tripura CM **Manik Sarkar** is the poorest CM with declared net asset of 27 lakh.
- Only **10% of CMs are women**- Vasundhara Raje (Rajasthan), Mamata Banerjee (West Bengal) and Mehbooba Mufti (J&K).
- Arunachal Pradesh CM **Prema Khandu** (35 years) is the **youngest CM.**
- 10 % of CMs are 12th pass, 39% are graduates, 32% are graduate professionals, 16% are post-graduates and 3% are doctorates.
- These data are collected from the election affidavits submitted by the politicians during nomination filing in election.

About ADR:

ADR is a non-partisan, non-governmental organization which works in the area of electoral and political reforms.

NEET mandatory for foreign medical courses:

- Indian students will now need to clear **the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET)** if they want to pursue medical studies outside the country.
 - This proposal by Medical Council of India (MCI) to amend the Screening Test Regulations, 2002 has been approved by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
 - Indian students pursuing medical degree abroad will have to qualify **Foreign Medical Graduates Exam (FMGE)**, for registration to practice in India.
- Why this move?** It is observed that foreign medical institutions often grant admission in MBBS course without properly assessing the ability of the candidate to cope up with the course thus producing poor quality medical graduates.



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INTERNATIONAL

- **China to build second foreign naval base in Pakistan** near Gwadar where China is already working on a base. Since Gwadar is a civilian base handling merchant ships; another base is needed to handle warships.

Note-

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) links Xinjinag in China to Gwadar in Baluchistan province of Pakistan. It will benefit both the nations. Pakistan will benefit from this huge infrastructure project. China will get access to Indian Ocean. It will open an alternate route for China to carry its oil supply from Middle East. Right now most of its oil supplies passes through Indian Ocean. India is opposed to this projects since it passes through Gilgit- Baltistan region which is now under Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK) which is claimed by India.

Bilateral annual Haj agreement between India and Saudi Arabia signed:

1. Saudi Arabia has allowed the option of **sea route travel** for Haj pilgrims from India as said by Union Minority Affairs minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi.
2. The practice of ferrying Haj pilgrims **between Mumbai and Jeddah** by waterways was stopped from 1995.
3. This sea route travel is much cheaper and with modern shipping it will take just 3-4 days to travel from Mumbai port to Jeddah. It can also take 3000-4000 pilgrims at a time.
4. From this year onwards, women have been allowed to go for Haj without their male companion (called **Mehram**). About 1300 women had applied for such travel and they have been exempted from lottery system and allowed to proceed to Haj just by applying for it.



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- North and South Korea have begun high-level talks, the first between the countries in two years, after months of high tensions due to N Korea's series of deadly weapon tests. (The meeting will focus on N Korea's possible participation in Winter Olympics games of 2018 to be held in South Korea.)

Sushma Swaraj inaugurated Saudi Arabia's National Heritage Festival:

1. External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** inaugurated the **32nd edition** of **Saudi Arabia's National Heritage Festival** in **Janadriyah village**, Riyadh.
2. This year India was accorded the Guest of Honour status.
3. This festival is organized every year by National Guards since 1985.
4. Theme- **Saudi ka dost Bharat**

Note-

*Saudi Arabia is the **4th largest trade partner** of India after **China**, USA and UAE and a major source of India's oil import & remittance by about 3 million Indians living there.*

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** delivered the keynote address at the inaugural day of the **World Government Summit in Dubai on 11th Feb.** in which more than 140 countries participated.

List of MoUs signed during PM's visit to Palestine:

1. Setting up of India-Palestine Super-specialty hospital at Beit Sahour in Bethlehem Governorate at a cost of US \$ 30 million.
2. Construction of India Palestine Centre for Empowering women, "Turathi" at a cost of US \$ 5 million.



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3. New National Printing Press at Ramallah at a cost of US\$ 5 million.
 4. Construction of school in Muthalth Al Shuhada Village at a cost of US\$ 1 million.
 5. Construction of school in Tamoon village in Tubas Governorate in Palestine at a cost of US \$ 1.1 million
- President Abbas conferred his country's highest award, the "Grand Collar of the State of Palestine", on PM Modi on his visit to Palestine on 12th Feb. ,2018.
 - Leading Pakistani human rights advocate and **France's highest civilian award** and **Sweden's Right Livelihood Award** recipient, **Asma Jahangir** has died of cardiac arrest at the age of 66.
 - United Nation General Assembly has celebrated 11th Feb. as **the International Day of Women and Girls in Science** to encourage more participation of women and girls in science. (It is organized jointly **by UNESCO and UN-Women.**)
 - **Saudi Arabia** has temporarily banned imports of live birds, hatching eggs and chicks from India after a form of bird flu **H5N8 virus** was found in India.
 - India will host the first International Solar Alliance (**ISA**) summit on **11th March** in New Delhi in which French President **Emanuel Macron** and Leaders of many African, South American and Asian countries are expected to participate.

Note - **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** -It is an alliance of **121 solar energy rich countries** lying between tropic of cancer and tropic of Capricorn.



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Its aim is to efficient exploration of solar energy and to reduce dependence on fossil fuel.

The initiative was first proposed by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sideline of Paris Climate Agreement in 2015.

*It is headquartered in **Gurugram** (Haryana).*

2,300 Army personnel to join UN peace keeping mission in South Sudan:

1. Indian Army is contributing approximately **2300 personnel** (from Infantry battalion of Garhwal Rifles regiment) to support United Nations **Peacekeeping Missions** to South Sudan (UNMISS).
2. India is the largest cumulative troop contributor to UN Peace Keeping Mission. It has provided almost 200,000 troops in nearly 50 of the 71 UN peacekeeping missions over the past six decades, including 13 of the current 16 missions.

Background- South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011 making it the newest nation in the world. But civil war broke out in 2013 thus making international intervention necessary.

PM laid foundation stone for first Hindu temple in Abu Dhabi:

1. During his visit to UAE, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid foundation for the first Hindu temple of UAE in **Al Wathba**, Abu Dhabi.
 2. It is a **Swaminarayan temple** and will be built in the model of Akshardham temple of New Delhi.
 3. It will be the first traditional Hindu stone temple in West Asia.
- India and Russia celebrated 70 years of bilateral relations in the field of agriculture at **Suratgarh in Rajasthan** on 14th Feb. 2018 and both delegations visited the **Central State Farm (CSF)** (set up in Suratgarh in 1956 with the assistance from erstwhile USSR) to commemorate the event.



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- **Venezuela and Libya** have been **suspended from voting in the UN General Assembly** for the third time in three years ,informed in late January by Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres**

About UN:

Set up in 1945

Headquarter- New York (USA)

Members- 193

Secretary General- Antonio Guterres

- Iranian President Rouhani to visit India on 3-day visit from 15th feb 2018 (Indian Prime Minister had visited Iran in May 2016) .

India gets access to strategic port in Oman for military use:

1. India signed a key pact with **Oman** that allows its military vessels to use the strategically located **Duqm port** and dry dock.
2. The Duqm port on the south eastern coast of Oman, opening into the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean.
3. It is strategic to India because to its **north is the Chabahar port** in Iran and not very far from **Gwadar port** of Pakistan.
4. **Chabahar port** is being developed **by India** to get **access to Iran, Afghanistan and Central Asia**. Since land route via Pakistan is not a feasible option due to enmity between two nations.
5. **Gwadar port** is being developed **by China** in the **Baluchistan province of Pakistan** to get access to Indian Ocean.



India Eyes Strategic Heft Through Duqm



- A ceremonial **Border Personnel Meeting (BPM)** between Indian (delegation was led by Colonel Deependra Jasrotia) and Chinese (delegation by Senior Lieutenant Colonel Bu Hong Dong) army on the occasion of **Chinese spring festival** was held in Ladakh region , meeting marked by saluting the national flag of China by both the delegation members.

EVENTS

- Ananth Kumar (Union **Minister of Parliamentary Affair.**) will inaugurate the **18th all India Whips Conference** to be held in **Udaipur** (Rajasthan) in which govt proposed to roll out **e-Sansad** and **e-Vidhan** in Parliament and State Legislatures to digitize and make their functioning paperless.
- Actor **Sterling K Brown** created history by becoming the **first African-American to win Golden Globe for best actor** in a drama television series for his role as Randall Pearson on NBC's breakout hit "**This Is Us**", with **Elizabeth Moss** was the winner in the category of **best actress in drama TV** series "**The Handmaids Tale.**"

List of Golden Globe award winners:

- Best Motion picture, drama- **Three Billboards Outside ebbing**, Missouri
- Best motion picture (musical or comedy)- **Lady Bird**
- Best director (motion picture)- **Guillermo del Toro**, "The Shape of Water"



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- Best performance by an actress in a motion picture, drama: **Frances McDormand**, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri"
- Best performance by an actor in a motion picture, drama: **Gary Oldman**, "Darkest Hour"
- Best performance by an actress in a motion picture, musical or comedy: Saoirse Ronan, "Lady Bird"
- Best performance by an actor in a motion picture, musical or comedy: James Franco, "The Disaster Artist"
- Best screenplay, motion picture: **Martin McDonough**, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri"
- Best motion picture, animated: "**Coco**"
- Best motion picture, foreign language: "**In the Fade**"
- Best original song, motion picture: "This Is Me" — "The Greatest Showman"
- Best television series, drama: "**The Handmaid's Tale**," Hulu
- Best performance by an actress in a television series, drama: Elisabeth Moss, "The Handmaid's Tale"
- Best performance by an actor in a television series, drama: Sterling K. Brown, "This Is Us"
- Best television series, musical or comedy: "The Marvellous Mrs. Maisel," Amazon
- Best television limited series or motion picture made for television: "**Big Little Lies**," HBO
- A "**Swachh Bharat Sanitation Park**" was inaugurated in New Delhi to create awareness on various safe technology option for solid and liquid waste management, developed and inaugurated by **Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation**, in collaboration with the Environmental Sanitation Institute and Tata Trusts
- A two-day **International conference on Unani Medicine** will be organized by Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), under the



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Ministry of AYUSH on 10th February, 2018 at New Delhi. Theme of conference - **Integration of Unani System of Medicine in main stream healthcare.**

- Union Home Minister **Rajnath Singh** inaugurated **6th edition** of “**Hunar Haat**” organized by- **Ministry of Minority Affairs** with an objective to provide an opportunity, as well as domestic and international exposure to the master artisans from across the country., on February 11, 2018 in New Delhi. **Theme- Development with dignity**
- The **10th Edition** of **International Plastic Exhibition** called **PlastIndia 2018** was held in Gandhi nagar (Gujarat) on 10th feb 2018, organized by- **PlastIndia Foundation**
- The South Central Railway (SCR) has become the **first railway zone** in the country to complete **100 per cent LED lighting** at **all the stations** under its jurisdiction. (All the 733 railway stations on the zone have been provided with 100 per cent LED lighting.)
- An eight-year-old Indian-origin schoolgirl **Sohini Roy Chowdhury** has made it to the top **100 World Hall of Fame in Mathematics Hall of fame**
- Sachin Tendulkar launched book “**Even When There Is A Doctor**” on child healthcare , **in Mumbai**, The books talks about the child health during the crucial first 1000 days of his/her birth.
- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh launched **first of its kind** the Centre for **learning Sanskrit language** in **Gujarat University in Ahmedabad** , centre will offer a six-month course for people on how to speak the language
- In Kolkata, the **42nd edition of International Book Fair** concluded on 11 feb 2018 , considered as **largest of its kind** in the world in terms of visitors.



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- The National Productivity Council observed **National Productivity Day** on 12th Feb and this week observed as **National Productivity week** till 18th February. (Theme- **Industry 4.0 Leapfrog Opportunity for India**)
- Eminent Kannada writer **Chandrasekhar Kambar** has been elected as the President of the Sahitya Akademy and Hindi poet **Madhav Koushik** has been elected as the Vice President.
- **13th Feb** is observed as **World Radio Day** by **UNESCO** , Theme for 2018- **Radio and Sports**
- Union Home Minister **Rajnath Singh** launched a book named “**Mere Sapno ka Bharat**” on best **interview of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee** in the Parliamentary premises , Book is compiled by Tarun Vijay, former BJP MP.
- The President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind**, inaugurated the international conference ‘**Agricon 2018**’ and ‘**Agriexpo 2018**’ at Chandrasekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology (CSAUT), **Kanpur** on 15th Feb. , 2018
- With a total wealth of **\$ 950 bn**, India’s financial capital Mumbai is the **12th richest city** in the world with first position held by New York followed by London and Tokyo and Mumbai is expected to be the fastest growing city (in terms of wealth growth over the next 10 years).

TECHNOLOGY

INS Arihant:

- It is a **nuclear powered ballistic submarine** of India commissioned in 2016 into Indian navy.



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- It completes India's **nuclear triad** i.e. now India is capable of launching nuclear missile from land, air and sea.

NASA releases logo for upcoming 60th anniversary:

- In 2018, NASA will mark the 60th anniversary of its establishment, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed NASA's founding legislation, the 1958 National Aeronautics and Space Act, on July 29, 1958.
- NASA has released an official logo for use in observing this milestone anniversary, created by NASA graphic artist Matthew Skeins, the logo depicts how NASA is building on its historic past to soar toward a challenging and inspiring future.

Legendary astronaut John Young died:

- Veteran U.S. astronaut John Young who **went into space six times, orbited the moon** and then **walked on its surface** and in 1972 became the ninth of 12 people ever to set foot on the moon, has died.
- Young became one of the most accomplished astronauts in the history of the U.S. space program. He flew into space twice during NASA's Gemini program in the mid-1960s, twice on the Apollo lunar missions and twice on space shuttles in the 1980s.

Union Minister of Earth Sciences dedicates India's first multi-petaflop supercomputer 'Pratyush' to nation:

- Union Minister of Earth Sciences **Dr Harsh Vardhan** dedicated **India's fastest and first multi-petaflops supercomputer** to the nation in **Pune**.
- The supercomputer named as '**Pratyush**' meaning the Sun, established at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), **Pune**, will be a national facility for improving weather and climate forecasts.



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Inauguration of Integrated Automatic Aviation Meteorological Systems (IAAMS) At INS Garuda:

- The Indian Navy has launched the Integrated Automatic Aviation Meteorological System (IAAMS) at INS Garuda in Kochi, where it will give a major fillip to aviation safety through automation of weather monitoring process.
- IAAMS is an ambitious project of the Indian Navy to modernise the Meteorological infrastructure of the nine Naval Air Stations.

China puts its stealth fighter J-20 into combat service:

- China's air force has commissioned its fourth and the latest generation **of J-20 stealth** fighter into service, with this China has become the only second country in the world after USA to commission its own domestically developed aircraft.

India Health Fund to boost research on TB, malaria:

- The **India Health Fund (IHF)** has come forward to financially support innovations and technologies designed to combat tuberculosis and malaria.
- IHF is an initiative by **Tata Trusts**, in **collaboration with the Global Fund**.
- The IHF aims to support new products and strategies that impact the entire lifecycle of TB and malaria, from prevention to post-cure recovery.
- Its objective is aligned with the country's goal of **eliminating TB by 2025 and malaria by 2030**.
- The two diseases account for over 4.23 lakh deaths and around 15 million lab-confirmed cases every year.



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Scientists grow human eggs to full maturity in laboratory:

- Scientists have succeeded for the **first time in growing human eggs in a laboratory from the earliest stages** in ovarian tissue to full maturity.
- This feat was achieved by scientists from UK and USA as published in the journal 'Molecular Human Reproduction'.
- It could widen the scope of available fertility treatments. It could also in future help cancer patients wishing to preserve their fertility while undergoing chemotherapy treatment.

Russia's unmanned cargo ship takes off for Space Station:

- Russia has successfully launched **MS-08 unmanned cargo ship** to International Space Station (ISS) , launched from Baikonur launch facility in **Kazakhstan**.
- It was launched by Soyuz-2.1a rocket and the payload carries 2.7 tons of food, fuel and other supplies.
- The ISS is orbiting 400 km above earth is currently manned by six astronauts including three from US, two from Russia and one from Japan.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Justice Abhilasha Kumari** was sworn-in as new Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur on 9th Feb. , 2018.
- **Justice Antony Dominic**, was sworn in as the Chief Justice of Kerala on 10th Feb. , 2018.
- **Hardayal Prasad** become the new MD & CEO of SBI card replacing Vijay Jasuja.(10th feb 2018)



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- **Pradeep Rawat** appointed as **next ambassador to Timor-Leste** (10th Feb. 2018)
- The Muthoot Group has made **Amitabh Bachchan** as the new brand ambassador for its national promotion. (11th Feb. 2018)
- **National Payment Corporation of India** (NPCI) has appointed **Biswamohan Mahapatra** as **non-executive chairman** of the board for 2 years (12th Feb. 2018)
- **Ashok Das** has been named next ambassador of India to Brazil on 15th feb 2018.
- **Krishna Kumari**, a Hindu minority woman has been nominated by Pakistan People's Party for upcoming Senate election, She will be the **first female Hindu law maker** of India since the creation of Pakistan.

SPORTS

First Khelo India School Games concluded on 9th feb 2018 in New Delhi:

- **Haryana has topped** the medal tally with 102 medals which includes 38 golds followed by **Maharashtra and Delhi**.
- Khelo India School Games was a part of the Khelo India programme which has been introduced by the Sports Ministry to revive the sports culture in the country at the grassroots level and make India a sporting nation.
- 16 sports disciplines including Archery, Athletics, Badminton etc were part of the week long event.

Indra Nooyi appointed ICC's first independent female director:



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- **PepsiCo Chairman and CEO Indra Nooyi** has been appointed to the International Cricket Council (ICC) Board.
- She will be the **governing body's first independent female director**.
- The introduction of an Independent Director, who must be female, was approved by the ICC Full Council in June last year as part of wide ranging constitutional change aimed at improving the governance of the sport.

Smriti Mandhana appointed brand ambassador of Bata's POWER:

- **Smriti Mandhana** (21 year old opening batsman of Indian women cricket team.), the Indian Women's team Vice-Captain, has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the **European footwear brand Bata's vertical Power**.

Guinness World Record attempted for playing Ice Hockey at highest altitude:

- An **international level tournament in ice hockey** was organised by - the Hockey Foundation , USA , Ladakh Winter Sports Club and Lalok Winter Sports Association at **Chibra Kargyam** in Ladakh region of **Jammu and Kashmir** .
- Its aim was to set a **record in the Guinness book** for ice hockey on the **world's highest altitude**.
- Five international teams from USA, Germany, Canada, Slovakia and Russia and a local team participated in the tournament.

Pune-based Indian long-distance swimmer, Rohan More, has become the **first Asian and the youngest** (the ninth person in the world) to **swim across the Cook Strait** between North and South Islands of New Zealand, covering the distance in eight hours and 37 minutes

Kishan Gangolli wins 13th edition of National Chess Championship for blind:



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- Defending champion **Karnataka's Kishan Gangolli** won the **13th edition of the National 'A' Chess Championship** for the blind in **Mumbai**.
- Organised by **All India Chess Federation for the Blind (AICFB)**.
- Gangolli became the **champion for the fifth consecutive time** with 10.5 points.
- **Gujarat's Ashvin Makwana** stood second with 9.5 points

Sharmila Nicollet (Indo French professional golfer from Bangalore) became the first Indian golfer to qualify for the China Ladies PGA tour.

World's first robot ski competition called “**The edge of robot: ski robot challenge**” was held in PyeongChang in South Korea in which 8 humanoid robots from various universities participated with prize money of \$ 10,000.

India has recaptured its **number 1 position in ODI ranking** after defeating South Africa in ODI series, India has taken a lead of 4-1 in the series. It was India's first ever ODI series win in South Africa. (India is currently at number **one in Test ranking** and number **three in T20 ranking**)

Services and Indian Railways registered hard-fought victories to bag the Men's and Women's titles in the third Federation Cup Kabaddi tournament in Mumbai.

Ranking system for National Sports Federations:

- The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is planning a **ranking system for National Sports Federations (NSFs)** to inculcate **healthy competition** among sports bodies.



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- The rankings will be based on the federations' administrative capability, transparency, talent-spotting ability, and medal count of athletes.
- For this purpose a committee will be constituted comprising of sports administrators, sports persons, management experts etc.
- The Sports Ministry will also introduce a two-year sports management course in IIM Rohtak.

STATES

- Punjab Chief Minister Capt. **Amarinder Singh** launched the farm debt waiver scheme in Mansa benefitting 5.63 lakh farmers in the first phase.
- The three day annual flamingo festival was held at **Pulikat Lake and Nelapattu bird sanctuary , Andhra Pradesh** in Sullurpet mandal (from 9th feb) organized (for past 12 years) to attract tourists to Pulikat and nellapattu as Migratory birds from faraway places like Siberia visit this place in winter for breeding
- Union Minister of State announced that the second Film and Television Institute of India will be set up in Arunachal Pradesh (The first one is in Pune which was set up in 1960).
- West Bengal has received the first prize from centre for implementation of **e-tendering process** with which state becomes best in the country for ensuring e-tendering of Fifty-three thousand projects worth Rs 36,000 crore.
- State Election department of Meghalaya has deployed **Mobile Democracy Van** to **create voters awareness** as state assembly election is near, van deployed in all 3 regions of Garo, Khasi and Jaintia Hills loaded with Voters education materials specially **EVM (Electronic Voting Machine) and VVPAT (Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail)**



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- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** on Saturday released the Hindi version of '**Exam Warrior**' written **by Prime Minister Narendra Modi** in New Delhi, The book contains 25 mantras to help students alleviate stress of exams.
- President Ram Nath Kovind visited Madhya Pradesh (Gwalior) to grace a function to declare **Gwalior as Divyang friendly district** and to distribute artificial limbs.
- The **Bihar government** has banned the sale of **loose cigarettes** in the state becoming the **12th state** in the country to **enforce such a ban**.
- The Centre has released a sum of **₹1,269 crore** to **Andhra Pradesh** for various projects including ₹417.44 crore for the **Polavaram multipurpose project** and ₹369.16 crore under post-devolution revenue deficit grant, as per the recommendation of the 14th Finance Commission.
- Jharkhand CM Raghubar Das has announced to set up Dada-Dadi Park for senior citizens in every city to provide relief to senior citizens from hot summer.
- Punjab Government has made it mandatory to attach super straw management system with combine harvester machines, It will check the uncontrolled stubble burning causing severe air pollution (The instructions were issued under **Air Pollution Act of 1981**).
- To revisit the existing land Acts to make them relevant with the changed land use situation, Punjab government notified a **six-member revenue commission (Justice (Retd) SS Saron** of Punjab and Haryana high court-head of the commission.)



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- **West Bengal** has **withdrawn** from **National Health Protection Scheme** or known as '**Modi Care**' (Scheme recently launched in budget which will provide 10 crore families a **health insurance of Rs 5 lakh per year** for secondary and tertiary healthcare.)

Note -As per the programme, **40% share of fund has to come from the states** and West Bengal is unwilling to spend the sum since it already has similar scheme. Bengal government had already enrolled 50 lakh people under its own **Swasthya Sathi programme**.

- **Meghalaya Governor Ganga Prasad** inaugurated the "**Friendship Gate**" between Indian and Bangladesh constructed with an aim to have a **Wagah-like beating retreat ceremony** for the Indian and Bangladesh border guards
- **Assam** has become the **fourth state in the country** to issue the **Right of Way (RoW) guidelines(entire process is online)** for telecom service providers to regulate the establishment of underground and over ground telecom infrastructure and telegraph infrastructure in government buildings

Note -Right of Way (RoW) is a strip of land used by telecom companies to construct, operate and maintain their transmission lines

Quick Review :

1. India ranks in US Chamber's Intellectual Property Index.
2. **Payment Bank** **which** would start its pan-Indian roll out providing the **largest financial inclusion network** in the country.
3. India signed a key pact with **Oman** that allows its military vessels to use the strategically located **port** and dry dock.
4. **Which state** has topped the logistics index released by **Ministry of Commerce**.
5. Union Minister of Earth Sciences **Dr Harsh Vardhan** dedicated **India's fastest and first multi-petaflops supercomputer** to the nation in **Pune** , named as..... .



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6. become the new MD & CEO of SBI card replacing Vijay Jasuja.
7. 3 day annual flamingo festival was held at
8. World radio day observed on

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