

SAMPLE NOTES ONLY. Posted in response to queries asking how to prepare GA notes from Kiran Prakashan magazines Affairscloud magazines. These sample notes contain only a few points from a few topics from a couple of months' magazines

Sections to be covered from monthly magazines (I have prepared list based on Affairscloud Pocket monthly magazine)

1. Cabinet approvals to be done
2. In state-wise news, nationally relevant news to be done, state news can be skipped
3. National news to be done
4. International Affairs - only those related to India and major international orgs
5. Visits can be skipped
6. Banking, finance, business, economy all to be done
7. MoUs/Agreements can be skipped - except those with major international orgs like World Bank, IMF, ADB etc
8. Appointments - only major ones at National, International level; state level appointments and those for minor bodies can be skipped; no need to remember Indian ambassadors to all countries (only important countries like US, China if these are in news)
9. Awards/Recognitions to be done - only the major ones (those awarded by unheard-of bodies can be avoided)
10. Most Conferences and Meetings can be avoided - only major international ones like World Health Assembly, BRICS to be done if in news
11. Summits - only important ones i.e. ones involving Indian PM (Wuhan, G20, East Asia Summit, BRICS etc) or major international ones like Trump-Kim summits, Xi-Putin summit etc
12. Committees to be done
13. Indices, Reports to be done
14. Acquisitions/Mergers - major ones to be done
15. Defence to be done
16. Science and Tech to be done
17. Environment to be done
18. Sports - focus on major events like Grand Slam winners in tennis, latest F1 Grand Prix winner etc, focus on which Indian players are associated with what sport (eg. Manav Thakkar with Table Tennis etc), minor events can be avoided
19. Books and authors, other personalities (dead or alive) - only the major ones
20. Important days to be done

Awards (Sample notes)

- RIL wins Golden Peacock award for success of its CSR initiatives
- Repco Micro Finance awarded NABARD 2018 award for its service to SHG linkage in TN
- Ajay Singh, Chairman of SpiceJet received USISPF leadership award at first Annual Leadership Summit of US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) in Washington DC; theme was Strengthening of strategic partnership
- MP awarded for reducing maternal mortality under PM Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan
- World Food Prize to Lawrence Haddad and Dr. David Nabarro for alleviating maternal and child undernutrition
- Indian smart cities award
 - Surat selected for City Award
 - Bhopal(Integrated Command and Control Centre) and Ahd(safe and secure Ahd) for Innovative Idea Award
 - Governance – PMC Care from Pune
- Bindeshwar pathak awarded Japan's Nikkei Asia Prize – founded of Sulabh
- Arunachal's Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve, an NGO, won National Biodiversity Award 2018 for conserving a bird species Bugun Liocichla

- INSV Tarini team conferred Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017
- Prez presented Santokbaa Humanitarian Award to Kailash Satyarthi and A S Kiran Kumar of ISRO
- ICMR awarded International Kochon Prize 2017 (from Korea) for contribution to TB
- CG wins National Water Digest Award
- India's Aadhaar and Umang app win awards at World Govt Summit 2018
- Tata Steel bags Most Ethical company award given by Ethisphere Institute

RBI updates (Sample notes)

- RBI allows higher position limit of Rs. 5000 crore for FPIs in interest rate futures
- RBI makes it compulsory to incorporate purchaser's name on the face of DD, pay order, bank cheques etc
- RBI said that housing loan limits under Priority Sector Lending will be revised to 35 lakh in metropolitan centers from 28 lakh earlier and to 25 lakh in other centers from 20 lakh earlier
- RBI tightens norms for Liberalised Remittance Scheme by making quoting of PAN mandatory even for txns below \$25,000 (Under Liberalised Remittance Scheme, all resident individuals, including minors, are allowed to freely remit up to USD 2,50,000 per year for any permissible current or capital account transaction or a combination of both)
- RBI issues draft guidelines on setting up board of mgt in addition to Board of Directors for Urban Cooperative Banks to strengthen governance in these banks; Min 3 members for UCBs having deposits upto 100 crore and min 5 members for deposits above 100 crore; recommended by Y H Malegam as well as R Gandhi Committees on UCBs
- RBI names Mahesh Kumar Jain, MD and CEO of IDBI Bank as 4th Dy. Governor – a post that had been lying vacant since retirement of S S Mundra last year
- Sudha Balakrishnana starts as RBI's first Chief Financial Officer – former VP of NSDL; duties are –
 - Timely reporting of RBI's financial performance and oversee its budgetary process
 - In charge of corporate strategy functions like deciding Provident Fund rate
 - In charge of govt and bank account dept which processes govt txns
 - Oversee RBI's investments in India and abroad
- RBI puts Dena Bank under Prompt Corrective Action in view of high NPAs, restricting the bank from giving new loans and new hiring – 11 out of 21 PSBs are under PCA
- RBI issues final norms on Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) which emerged after GFC 2008 and was proposed by Basel Committee on Banking Supervision
 - NSFR is defined as ratio of Available Stable Funding to Required Stable Funding (and should be $\geq 100\%$ according to RBI; however, some banks may be made to follow stricter guidelines)
 - Apart from NSFR, the Basel Committee had also prescribed a liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) to ensure banks can respond to potential liquidity distortions promptly
- Food credit is credit provided by banks to FCI for procurement of food grains
- Norms for IFSC Banking Units (IBUs) – parent bank will be required to provide and maintain min of \$20 mn to its IBU
- RBI allows FPIs to invest in treasury bills issued by the central govt, subject to their exposure in these + corporate bonds of < 1 yr maturity remaining below 20%
- RBI liberalizes ECB norms by including more sectors in the window
 - raise ECB Liability-Equity ratio for ECB raised from direct foreign equity holder under automatic route to 7:1
 - Permit Housing Finance Companies and port trusts to avail ECBs under all tracks
 - Restricts ECB fund to be invested in share market and equity investment
- Aadhar seeding must for bank accounts under new KYC norms by RBI – also, use of officially valid docs to establish address and ID proof of customers have been restricted to cases where enrolment for Aadhaar is not possible
- RBI drops Axis bank from list of bullion(gold and silver) importers for current FY
- RBI switches back to GDP model to measure economy – earlier used GVA methodology; GVA gives picture from producers' side whereas GDP gives picture from consumers' side; switch is to conform to international standards
- RBI raises FPI limit for Indian bonds (both govt and corporate)
 - Limit for FPIs would be increased to 5.5% of outstanding stock of securities in 2018-19 and 6% in 2019-20
 - For buying govt bonds under general category, revised limit stands at Rs. 2.07 tn for first half of fiscal 2019 and Rs. 2.23 tn for 2nd half (current limit is 1.91 tn)
- RBI allows banks to spread out provisioning for bond market losses over 4 quarters – Banks have to revalue their bond portfolio every quarter. In case the value of securities is lower than the market rate, they are mandated to keep aside funds as mark-to-market(MTM) provisioning. Bond portfolio is divided into 3 categories – available for sale (AFS), held for trading (HFT) and held to maturity (HTM). HTM only category where quarterly MTM provisioning not applicable

- New RBI framework for bad loans has replaced all other existing schemes such as strategic debt restructuring (SDR), 5/25 refinancing and Scheme for sustainable structuring of stressed assets (S4A). New rules are
 - Starting 1s March 2018, lenders must implement a resolution plan within 180 days for loan accounts at least Rs. 2000 crore, failing which the defaulting borrowers must be referred to insolvency courts
 - Banks mandated to report defaults weekly to RBI, even if loan payments are delayed by a day
- RBI discontinues issuance of LoUs and LoCs for importers with immediate effect following PNB scam
- RBI creates sub tgts of 8% of ANBC for foreign banks(20+ branches) to lend to S&M farmers from 2018-19
- RBI report states that 1 in every 5 bank borrower now is a woman
- RBI disallows hedging of price risk in gold, gems and precious stones
- Banking Regulation Act allows RBI to regulate all commercial banks in the country but Sec 51 of the amended Act does not allow RBI to remove the Chairman, directors or mgt of PSU banks, does not allow RBI to move ahead with liquidation of PSU banks or to order forced mergers
- RBI and IBBI (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India) sign MoU on data sharing for better implementation of IBC
- RBI to link base rate with MCLR from 1st April
- RBI comes up with revised guidelines to deal with bad loans
 - Decided to do away with JLF as an institutional mechanism
 - Banks will be required to identify incipient stress in loan accounts by classifying stressed assets as Special Mention Accounts (SMAs) depending upon the period of default
 - Laid down timelines for resolution of stressed assets
 - If resolution plan not implemented as per timeline, lenders to file insolvency application under IBC 2016
 - All lenders will be required to submit Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC) – Main Report to RBI on a monthly basis from April 1
 - Lenders shall report to CRILC all borrower entities in default on a weekly basis every Friday
- RBI issues new KYC norms for payments banks – has asked payments banks to get their customers' information verified by third parties – done to curb Airtel's method of verifying customers using its own telecom business
- RBI to have additional instrument for liquidity mgt – Standing Deposit Facility Scheme – as announced by FM in Budget speech. FM proposed to amend RBI Act to add this (MSS is no more)
 - SDF will be used particularly when money market liquidity is in excess to deal with post-demonetisation like scenario where RBI ran out of securities to offer as collateral and had to temporarily hike CRR
 - SDF was first proposed by Urjit Patel Committee report in 2014
- RBI to scrap subsidies for installation of ATM and cash recycler machines given to banks, to promote digital economy

Banking (sample notes)

- Banks collected Rs. 5k crore as min balance non-maintenance penalty in 2018; SBI highest at 2433 crore
- Recapitalization of PSBs announced in Oct 2017 – capital infusion for 2017-18 includes 80k crore through Recap bonds and 8,139 crore as Budgetary support. This recap would be accompanied by a strong reforms agenda with overarching framework of 'Responsive and responsible PSBs'. Reforms agenda is aimed at EASE (Enhanced Access and Service Excellence) focusing on 6 themes –
 - Customer responsiveness; Responsible banking; Credit off take; PSBs as Udyami Mitra; Deepening financial inclusion; Digitalisation and developing personnel for brand PSB
- SBI to launch a Kisan Mela outreach programme to impart financial literacy and issue KCCs
- RBI cancels license of Alwar Urban Cooperative Bank
- Federal Bank obtains regulatory approval to open branches in Bahrain, Kuwait and SG
- RBI issues license to Bank of China to launch operations in India
- AI – SBI's Innovation Center, BoB's Digital Lab and Allahabad Bank's empower App
- SBI card, India's 2nd largest credit card issuer after HDFC, announced ELA (Electronic Live Assistant), for cust support
- ATM density – Delhi > TN > KN
- CVC has imposed new monetary limits on PSBs to report frauds to CBI
 - Frauds of 3 crore to 25 crore (up from 15 crore) to be reported to CBI's ACB (employee involvement) or Economic Offences Wing (no employee involvement)
 - Fraud cases from 25 to 50 crore to be given to CBI's Banking Security and Fraud Cell
 - Cases >50 crore to be lodged with Jt Dir, CBI
- SBI biggest beneficiary of Bhushan steel sale to Tata
- Moody's downgrades PNB rating from Baa3 to Ba1

- UIDAI has asked banks to open Aadhaar enrolment centers in 10% of their branches
 - Enrolment/updation target per branch per day has been relaxed to 8 for now
 - So far target was 16; set to 12 from Oct 1 and again to 16 from Jan 1, 2019
- Indian currency paper made of cotton pulp by Bank Note Paper Mill India which has received green signal from MoEFCC to increase production from 12000 tonner per annum to 16000 TPA
- PM launches 3 Indian digital payment apps in SG – Rupay, BHIM and SBI app
 - Rupay linked to Network for Electronic Transfer (NETS) – Rupay users can now make payments at all NETS acceptance points and vice versa
- Walmart buys 77% stake in Flipkart for \$16 bn
- Aadhaar Virtual ID
 - Feature aimed at giving users the option of not sharing their Aadhar number at the time of authentication
 - Compulsory for all agencies that undertake authentication to accept VID from users from 1st July 2018
 - VID is a random 16 digit number mapped to 12 digit Aadhar
- Currently RBI holds 100% stake in National Housing Bank (NHB). Finance Bill 2018 has amended NHB Act 1987 for transferring RBI's stake to the govt and process to transfer stake has been initiated
 - Govt has earlier on already acquired RBI's stake in SBI (59.7%) and NABARD in 2007 and 2010 resp
 - All being done on recommendations of Narasimhan Committee
- YES Bank receives approval to open offices in SG and London; it had opened its first representative office in Abu Dhabi in April 2015 and also launched IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) in GIFT City
- Total currency in circulation as on April 2018 was Rs. 18.43 trillion, was Rs. 17.98 trillion before demonetization
- ICICI launches digital form for opening current accounts – account can now be opened at customer's premises
- 1.55 lakh post offices to be empowered as Payments Banks – by Indian Post Payments Bank which had launched pilot services in Ranchi and Raipur
- SBI launches UK subsidiary with 225 mn pounds capital
- Jio Payments Bank begins operation (first Bharti Airtel, then Paytm, then FINO, then Birla Idea)
- SBI to invest Rs. 80 bn in Arun III hydropower project of Nepal
- Kotak Mahindra Bank pips SBI in market capitalization
- RBI bars banks from links to cryptocurrencies
- ICICI launches social media based remittance service for NRIs – using Whatsapp and email; named 'SocialPay'; available on Money2India (ICICI remittance app)
- Finance Ministry has approved linking of savings bank accounts in Post Offices with IPPB
- Dimension Data powers 60 digital branches for SBI – sbiINTOUCH
- ICICI first Indian bank to go live with an improved version of SWIFT cross border payment
- PSBs wrote off Rs 81,683 crore loans in FY17
- Gross bank NPAs on Dec 17 were 8.41 lakh crore
- Citi launches first of its kind treasury bills linked home loans
- Govt infuses 9,502 crore in BoB and IOB – IDBI and BoI which have been placed under PCA of RBI to receive highest capital infusion from GoI at Rs. 10,610 crore and Rs. 9,232 crore resp
- Bandhan Bank's bumper listing makes it India's 8th most valued bank
- Highest number of branches of Indian banks in UK, followed by HK
- Govt asks banks to name and shame willful defaulters by publishing their photos in newspapers
- HDFC blocks usage of all its cards for purchase or trading of cryptocurrencies
- ICICI launches online overdraft facility for MSME customers – called InstaOD
- Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank starts operation – 5th payments bank. RBI had issued in-principle approval to 11 applicants in 2015. License issued under Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- BoB to shut operations in South Africa

Capital market and insurance (sample notes)

- SEBI proposes using UPI to reduce public issue timeline from T+6 to T+3
- HDFC securities announces launch of mutual funds transactional capabilities on FB through its virtual assistant Arya
- BSE enters into agreement with Bombay Metal Exchange
- IRDAI approves LIC's proposal to hike its stake to 51% in IDBI from 10.8%; LIC expected to infuse 13k crore
- NSE signs agreement with NASDAQ for a suitable platform and tech backbone
- IIFL is India's top investment bank for IPO issuance by private sector companies

- WB group member IFC invests \$100 mn in M&M Financial Service Ltd for tractor finance
- SEBI extends trade timings for futures and options from current 3.30 pm to 11.55 in the night from 1st Oct, 2018
- BSE first Indian stock exchange to get US SEC (Securities and exchange commission) certification
 - Help US investors invest in India as they can invest through BSE without registering these securities with SEC
- NSE first Indian stock exchange to get an exemption from the US Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) that will allow members of NSE to trade in derivatives for US clients without the members having to register with CFTC
- MCX launches India's first Copper options contracts (futures); also launches first silver options contract; launched world's first brass futures contract – first non-ferrous contract with compulsory delivery option
 - MCX is country's first listed commodity futures exchange that facilitates online trading and clearing and settlement of commodity futures transactions
 - MCX offers futures trading in bullion, ferrous and non ferrous metals, energy, agri commodities like menthe oil, cardamom, potatoes, palm oil etc
- Telanga approves Rs. 5 lakh insurance cover (death and accident) for farmers through LIC – govt to pay premium for all farmers between 18 and 60
- Kin of people dying in road accidents to get Rs. 5 lakh compensation
- New India Assurance to offer cover for Indian ships
- Vistara (TATA + SIA) joins International Air Transport Association (IATA) – earlier only Air India and Jet were members
- Malaysia announced to lower GST to 0% - now going to introduce sale and service tax to make up for shortfall
- Patanjali + BSNL = Swadeshi Samridhi SIM cards
- TVS motors to assemble vehicles in Bangladesh (currently only in ID outside of IN)
- Britannia launches first exports only facility in GJ at Mundra
- NCLT allows Vedanta's bid to acquire bankrupt Electrosteel (one of the first 12 cases referred by RBI under IBC)
- IRDAI : though Aadhaar not mandatory at the time of buying new insurance policy, to be submitted within 6 months
- LIC's first year premium income jumps 13.5% to record Rs. 1.34 lakh crore in FY18
- NSE IFSC launches debt securities – lists IREDA's Rs1950 crore green masala bond;(first issued in London and then SG)
- SEBI accepts around half of the 80 suggestions made by Uday Kotak led panel on corporate governance
- P K Malhotra, former SAT member, assigned duty of reviewing norms for buyback of secs by listed companies, by SEBI
- SEBI doubles the investment limit by angel funds in venture capital undertakings to Rs. 10 crores by amending Alternate Investment Funds (AIF) regulations wrt angel funds; SEBI to also halve the min corpus size for an angel fund to register with it to Rs. 5 crore; SEBI to raise max period of accepting funds from an angel investor to 5 years from current 3 years
- SEBI exempts govt from open offer for 6 PSBs(PNB, Canara, Syndicate, Vijaya, BoB, UBI) post capital infusion
- IRDAI bars issuers from rejecting claims based on genetic disorders – ruled by Delhi HC
- New India Assurance to offer medical covers for treatment of ailments like cancer, neurosurgery, heart surgery, organ transplant and bone marrow transplant outside India
- Airtel-Telenor merger approved by NCLT
- BARC to use Airtel Digital TV to measure viewership by using Return Path Data (RPD)
- Suzlon installs India's largest wind turbine generator with rotor dia of 128 m
- Bharat Dynamics and IREDA get SEBI nod for IPO
- Under SEBI norms, every listed company is mandated to maintain a public shareholding of 25%
- Govt ropes in Nandan Nilekani to develop IT infra for National Health Protection Scheme

Economy and policy (sample notes)

- SBI authorized to issue and encash electoral bonds initially at 4 authorized branches – first sale to commence from 1 Mar for 10 days; bonds valid for 15 days from date of issue; only Parties under RPA that secured >1% of the votes polled in last elections to LS or LA shall be eligible to receive bonds
- Govt reconstitutes Financial Stability and Development Council to also include MoS for Dept of Economic Affairs (P Radhakrishnan), Secy of Meity, Chairperson of IBBI and revenue secy
- TCS first company to cross Rs. 7 tn (7 lakh crore) capitalization mark; Reliance was first to cross 6 tn mark
- Cabinet approves accession to 2 WIPO treaties – WIPO Copyright and WIPO Performers and Phonograms Treaties
- BSE building, Phirozjee Jijibhoy Towers, at Dalal Street gets trademark under Trade Marks Act
- FB + NSDC to train youth and entrepreneurs on digital skills
- Govt cuts min annual deposit requirement in Sukanya Samridhi Yojana Account from 1000 to 250 Rs.
 - Max deposit 1.5 lakh; Current interest rate 8.1%

- Google announces Launchpad Accelerator India – mentorship program for startups in Machine learning/AI
- BSNL launches India's first internet telephone service Wings
- NTPC 250 MW solar plant in Suwasra, Mandsaur – will use domestically manufactured solar cells
- India becomes 69th shareholder of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- India becomes 6th largest economy in the world, overtaking France, according to WB data on GDP
 - US – 19.39 tn USD; China – 12.24 tn USD; Japan – 4.87 tn USD; Germany – 3.68 tn USD; UK – 2.62 tn USD; India – 2.597 tn USD; France – 2.582 tn USD
- Manappuram Finance to buy 85% stake in Indian School Finance Company (ISFC), an NBFC
- Tata Steel for 50-50 JV with Germany's Thyssenkrupp to create Europe's 2nd largest steel company after Arcelor Mittal
- Numaligarh Refinery Ltd in Assam to become first oil PSU to adopt an online legal compliance system Legatrix
- Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd commissions 2 solar projects of 50 MW each in Ananthapuramu Solar Park in AP
- Govt increases MSP on paddy by a record Rs 200 per quintal taking it to Rs 1750 per quintal
- WHO most polluted cities – Delhi, Greater Cairo, Dhaka, Mumbai, Beijing
- Indore, Bhopal, Chandigarh top 3 cleanest cities; NDMC cleanest among Municipalities with <3 lakh population; Greater Mumbai cleanest among all state capitals; JK best performing state; Vijaywada and Mysuru cleanest in their resp categories
- CBDT exempts angel investors from income tax on investments in start-ups with share premium <10 crore)
- TG govt launches Rhythu Bandhu Scheme (friends of farmers), an investment support scheme to support livelihood of farmers; farmers will directly get financial support twice every year; Investment support of Rs. 8000 per acre per year
- Horticulture production estimated at 307 mn tonnes in 2017-18 and foodgrain production at 279.5 mn tonnes
- Target of 283.7 mn tonnes of foodgrain in 2018-19
- Pulses production estimated at record 24 mn tonnes in 2017-18 – India caps imports of green gram (moong) and black matpe (urad) at 3 lakh tonnes and that of pigeon peas (arhar) at 2 lakh tonnes
- India's global trade rises 16% to \$767.9 bn in 2017-18
- MP launches India's first integrated control and command center for its smart cities
- TN cancels allocation of land to Sterlite's expansion plans in Thoothukudi
- China bank Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) launched China's first India dedicated publicly offered investment fund (ICBC + Credit Suisse)
- NITI Aayog seeks WB help to prevent fraud in Ayushman Bharat scheme
- Indian IT corridors in China : Dalian – first – focus on IoT; Guiyang – recent – focus on Big Data
- Govt launches Samagra Shiksha Scheme for school education from pre-school to senior secondary levels – focus on improving quality of education, enhancing learning outcomes and use of tech to empower children and teachers – integration of SSA, RMSA and Teacher Education
- Suresh Prabhu launches Intellectual Property mascot IP Nani
- Govt approves green license plates for electric vehicles – for preferential parking, free entry in congested zones, etc
- NITI Aayog inks pact with IBM for crop yield prediction model using AI – to help farmers in Aspirational Districts
- Govt approves Rs 5000 crore for dedicated micro irrigation fund under NABARD, which will then extend loans to states
- Govt allows embedded SIMs (eSIMs) – installed in mobile; details of service providers can be updated when required
- SIDBI to provide financial support to Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) through Common Service Centers (CSCs)
- Govt to release a services Producers Price Index soon (PPI excludes taxes whereas WPI and CPI include taxes)
- According to Internet Security Threat Report, most vulnerable countries to cyber threat are US>China>India
- Fitch maintains India's sovereign rating to BBB- (lowest investment grade), with a stable outlook
- IMF said that India's combined gross debt (centre + states) is set to decline by almost 9% to 61.4% of GDP by 2023-24
- ITC and NITI Aayog to collaborate on strengthening agriculture systems in 25 aspirational districts
- Delhi HC ruled that plant varieties and seeds cannot be patented under India law by companies like Monsanto and any royalties by GM tech will be decided by a specialized agency of agriculture ministry
- KisanKraft, manufacturer of agri machinery for S&M farmers, signed 10 year licensing agreement with National Research Development Corp and National Bio-diversity Authority for marketing of aerobic rice variety developed by University of Agricultural Sciences, Begaluru
- States allowed to set up their own insurance companies to implement PMFBY
- Atal Innovation Mission of NITI Aayog launches Atal New India challenge – focus on solving problems in core areas which would directly improve people's lives
- IGI Airport in world's top 20 busiest airports

- PM launches India's first all-electric superfast train engine in Bihar – 12000 hp from Madhepura locomotive factory; launched when Modi was attending Champaran centenary events; made with help from French company Alstom under Make in India; will be used to transport coal and iron ore; 120 km/hr
- India replaces Vietnam to become world's 2nd largest mobile phone producer after China
- USA adds India to currency watch list saying India increased its purchase of forex over the first 3 quarters of 2017, which does not appear necessary (China, JP, South Korea, Germany, Switzerland are already in the list)
- Govt approves pacts for supply of iron ore to Japan, South Korea
- UK joins ISA on eve of Modi's visit
- Van Dhan scheme to increase tribal income – M of Tribal Affairs + TRIFED; 10 SHGs of 30 tribals would be trained and provided with working capital
- HRD Ministry launches 2nd edition of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan – students from higher education instis to adopt villages
- PM launches Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan in MP on occasion of national Panchayati Raj day – to make rural bodies self-sustainable, financially stable and more efficient
- WB launches Rupashree scheme for marriage of poor girls – one time financial assistance worth Rs. 25k to family of girl whose annual income <1.5 lakh
- According to payroll data released by EPFO and NPS, 2.2 mn formal jobs got added over 6 months till Feb 2018
- First wellness centre under Ayushman Bharat at Bijapur(CG), aspirational district program also launched same time
- CSIR National Physics Lab and DoTelecom sign MoU for nationwide time stamping and time sync network
- UIDAI introduces new QR code for offline Aadhaar verification. Code to contain photo of user and other non-sensitive info like name, address, birth date
- HIRA acronym given by PM for Northeast – Highways, Internet ways, Railways and Airways
- Think tank on e-commerce set up under India's ambassador to WTO (Trade and Commerce Minister) – comprising of officials from Commerce min, MHA, MCA, MEITY etc and many corporates + Paytm and NPCI as well
- Bengaluru 5th cheapest city in the world to live in according to Economic Intelligence Unit
- India has worlds highest number of inhabitants without safe water according to WorldAid
- CCEA allows bulk export of all edible oils except mustard (will continue to be exported in consumer packs up to 5 kgs)
- Agriculture, allied sectors see growth of 3% in 2017-18 as compared to 6.3% in 2016-17
- Govt to set up plastic park in Deoghar district in Jharkhand
- India receives first LNG consignment from US at Dabhol terminal in MH through a GAIL chartered vessel
- India HK sign DTAA
- Iraq overtakes Saudi Arabia as India's largest oil supplier
- NDB + ISA tie up to promote solar energy
- PM launches pan-India expansion of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao from Jhunjhunu on International Women's Day + also launched National Nutrition Mission ICDS Common Application Software
- Ayushman Bharat to integrate 2 ongoing centrally sponsored schemes – RSBY and Senior Citizen Health Insurance
- E-way bill comes into effect on inter-state movement of goods over Rs .50k
- EPFO lowers interest rate to 8.55% for 2017-18
- Govt planning to change base year to 2017-18 for GDP and IIP numbers while for retail inflation
- IRDAI tells issuers to transfer unclaimed deposits to Senior Citizens Welfare Fund by 1st March
- All varieties of onions can now be exported without any Minimum Export Price
- Indian Railways inducts first digitally enabled High Horse Power Locomotives – based on insulated gate bipolar transistor technology; collaboration with GE; made in India
- PM inaugurates 4th container terminal at JNPT
- Northeast's first regional centre for agriculture in collaboration with Israel to come up in Mizoram – exclusively for processing of citrus fruits
- Shahid Beheshti Port at Chabahar
- India contributes additional 1 mn \$ to UN Development Partnership Fund for south-south cooperation – fund is set up between India and UN Office for South South Cooperation
- Petronet LNG + Japanese company to set up USD 300 mn floating LNG terminal in SL
- Airtel, Huawei successfully conduct India's first 5G network trial
- UIDAI launches blue coloured Bal Aadhaar for kids below 5
- Cabinet approves creation of National Urban Housing Fund of 60k crore Rs. To finance Housing for All which aims to build 12 mn affordable units by 2022; Fund to be placed under Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council