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BANKING

RBI : Reserve Bank of India (HQ: Mumbai Governor : Urjit Patel -24th)

- **RBI report sees India's economic growth rate at 7.3% in 2017-18:**

The **Reserve Bank** said the ongoing accelerated reform initiatives like GST and continuing political stability will **push the economic growth scale to 7.3 per cent in terms of Gross Value Added -GVA** in the current fiscal year.

- **RBI releases 2,600 crore to Telangana to help farmers** in the ongoing kharif season. According to an official release, the amount was more than the earlier commitment of Rs 1,700 crore made by the Centre to the state.

- **RBI Mandates Customers should report fraud in 3 days to avoid losses:**

In a major step to **protect customers** from large financial losses on account of frauds, **Reserve Bank of India** has capped the **customer liability at Rs 25,000** if they **report unauthorised transactions** within **7 working days**. RBI said **customers can't be made liable at all** if they **notify the bank** within **3 working days of the transaction**. These rules will be applicable for **third party breach** where the deficiency lies neither with the bank nor with the customer but lies elsewhere in the system.

- **Investment in G-sec: RBI revises norms for foreign portfolio investments in government securities**, giving preference to **long-term investors**. The central bank has also increased the investment limits by foreign investors in government bonds by Rs **11,000 crore to Rs 2,42,000 crore**.

The limits for the **"general" category** is increased by Rs 2,800 crore to Rs 1,88,000 crore, and **"long-term" category** by Rs 8,200 crore to Rs 54,300 crore w.e.f **July 4, 2017**.

- **RBI slaps Rs 1 crore penalty on Union Bank for KYC non-compliance:**

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** said it has imposed a **penalty of Rs 1 crore** on state-owned **Union Bank of India** for **"non-compliance"** with the directions on **Know Your Customer (KYC) norms**.

- **Fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2017-18 Resolution of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) Reserve Bank of India(october):**

On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation, The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided the following changes in rates:

Policy Rate	Previous	Current
Repo Rate	6.0%	6.0%
Reverse Repo Rate	5.75%	5.75%
Marginal Standing Facility	6.25%	6.25%
Bank Rate	6.50%	6.25%
CRR	4%	4%
SLR	20%	19.5%

- **RBI issues final guidelines for tri-party repo transactions:**

The **Reserve Bank** issued the final guidelines on **tri-party repo transactions** as part of its attempt to energise the **corporate bond market** and **generate more liquidity** in the segment.

- **About Tri –party repo**

A tri-party repo is a **contract** between a **buyer** and a **seller** of a security along with a **third party agent**. In most cases, the **third-party agent** may be a **custodian bank**, which will facilitate services like collateral selection, payment and settlement, custody and management during the life of the transaction.

Such repos can be traded **over-the-counter (OTC)** including on **electronic platforms**, or, **on stock exchanges**, and should reported within **15 minutes** of the trade for public dissemination to CCIL or to exchanges or any other reporting platform authorised for the purpose by the Reserve Bank, it said in a notification.

- **RBI makes Aadhaar linkage mandatory for farmers to avail short-term crop loans in 2017-18:**

Reserve Bank has made **Aadhaar linkage** mandatory for **farmers** who wish to avail short-term crop loans up to **3 lakh rupees** in 2017-18 **under the Interest Subvention Scheme** at subsidised interest rate of **7 percent** in FY18 to the farmers, with an interest subvention of 2% per annum.

- **Banks should link home loan rates to repo rate: RBI appointed committee:**

A Reserve Bank of India appointed **committee on Household Finance** has suggested that banks link their **home loan rates to the RBI's repo rate**, the rate at which it lends to banks, instead of the **Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate (MCLR)**, which the banks follow now. The committee report is chaired by **Dr Tarun Ramadorai, Professor of Financial Economics**.

- **Govt notifies Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act:**

The government has **notified** the **Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act**. The Act authorises the **Reserve Bank of India**, RBI to issue directions to banks to initiate insolvency resolution process to **recover bad loans**.

The banking sector is saddled with **non-performing assets**, NPAs of over **8 lakh crore rupees**, of which, **6 lakh crore rupees** are with public sector banks. The government in May had promulgated an ordinance authorising the RBI to issue directions to banks to initiate insolvency resolution process under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016**.

- **RBI identifies 12 mega defaulters for insolvency, their total NPA Rs 175,000 cr:**

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** is moving to resolve the bad loan crisis with an **Internal Advisory Committee (IAC)** of the RBI having identified **12 accounts of corporate borrowers who owe over Rs 5,000 crore each** – and overall involve an amount of close to **Rs 175,000 crore** – for insolvency proceedings under the newly enacted **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 (IBC)**

- **RBI to implement the Legal Entity Identifier system:**

The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** said it will implement the **Legal Entity Identifier (LEI code: 20-character unique code)** system for all participants in the over-the-counter markets for rupee interest rate derivatives, foreign currency derivatives and credit derivatives in India in a phased manner.

- **RBI imposes curbs on Central Bank:**

The **Reserve Bank of India** has put state-run lender, **Central Bank of India**, under **Prompt Corrective Action (PCA)** due to a sharp increase in bad loans. The net NPA ratio of the lender was **10.2%** as on **March** end, which breached the second risk threshold of **9%**.

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- **RBI initiates PCA against BoM as NPAs mount:**

The Reserve Bank has initiated Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) against Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) in view of the high level of bad loans and negative return on assets.

- **RBI directs IDBI Bank to start insolvency proceedings for Lanco Infra:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed its lead lender IDBI Bank to initiate insolvency proceedings for the company under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) for Lanco Infratech.

- **Masala bonds to be treated as ECBs from Oct 3:**

The Reserve Bank relaxed norms for issuance of rupee-denominated overseas bonds, popularly known as masala bonds, saying they will be treated as external commercial borrowings from October 3, thereby freeing up more investments by FIIs.

After a review, the RBI said that from October 3, masala bonds will no longer form part of the limit for FPI investments in corporate bonds.

- **RBI expands Oversight Committee:**

(RBI) has expanded the size of its Oversight Committee – formed to advise banks on stressed assets resolution where lenders have more than Rs.500 crore exposures – to five, by adding three more members.

- **List of Committee members:**

- **Three New Members:**

- **M.B.N.Rao** – Former CMD of Canara Bank
- **Y.M.Deosthalee** – Former CMD of L&T Finance Holding
- **S.Raman** – Whole time member at the SEBI

- **Two Existing Members:**

- **Janki Ballabh** – Former SBI Chairman
- **Pradeep Kumar** – Chief Vigilance Commissioner

SBI : State Bank of India (HQ: Mumbai Chairman: Rajnish Kumar)

- **SBI to lend 400 cr. for rooftop solar projects:**

The State Bank of India (SBI) announced financing of rooftop solar projects worth Rs 400 crore, with private developers. This would add at least 100 Mw of rooftop solar capacity to the grid. SBI availed loan of \$625 million from the World Bank for lending to viable Grid-Connected Rooftop Solar PV projects undertaken by photovoltaic developers.

- **SBI, Tirumala Milk Products tie up for providing loans to dairy farmers:**

SBI has entered into a tie-up with Tirumala Milk Products, a South- based company which was acquired by Group Lactalis in 2014, to provide loans to dairy farmers who supply milk to the latter.

- **Nepal SBI launches first paperless banking services:**

Nepal SBI Bank launched its fully automatic digital banking services in the Nepalese capital Kathmandu. This is for the first time the State Bank of India has expanded the paperless banking system outside India.

- **SBI waives charge on IMPS fund transfer of up to Rs 1,000:**

SBI has waived charges for **fund transfer of up to Rs 1,000 through its IMPS** (Immediate Payment Service) to promote small transactions. State Bank of India had been charging **Rs 5** along with the applicable service tax for IMPS fund transfer of up to **Rs 1,000**.

- **SBI to cut NEFT, RTGS charges by up to 75%, 18% GST will be applied:**

In a push to digital payments, SBI will cut charges on electronic transfer of funds through **NEFT and RTGS by up to 75 per cent**, benefiting nearly 5.27 crore customers. As per the revised schedule, the **NEFT** charge on fund transfer up to Rs 10,000 has been halved to **Re 1, and to Rs 2 for up to Rs 1 lakh**. For transfers between Rs 1 lakh and Rs 2 lakh, the NEFT charge will be reduced to Rs 3 from the existing Rs 12. The charge above Rs 2 lakh has been fixed at Rs 5 as against the current Rs 20. For **RTGS transactions, the charges will be Rs 5 for transactions between Rs 2 lakh and Rs 5 lakh**. Currently, the bank charges Rs 20 for such transaction.

- **SBI launches 'SBI Realty' portal for home buyers:**

India's largest commercial bank SBI launched a dedicated portal '**SBI Realty**' that will help home buyers to choose flats from its **3,000 approved projects** across the country. "State Bank of India has taken another step towards customers' convenience by launching '**SBI Realty**' – a one stop integrated website **www.sbiirealty.in** for home buyers.

- **SBI, Carlyle to buy out GE Capital's 26% stake in SBI Card:**

State Bank of India and marquee private equity investor Carlyle Group will acquire GE Capital Group's entire **26 percent stake in SBI Card**.

SBI Card is a **joint-venture** between **SBI Cards** and Payment Services and GE Capital Business Process Management Services, which issue credit cards and process card transactions.

- **Samsung Pay now available for higher variants of State Bank of India debit cards:**

The **SBI** and **Samsung** India announced the availability of payment platform **Samsung Pay** for higher variants of SBI debit Card. This will allow SBI debit card holders to make payments using Samsung smart phones at **Point of Sale (PoS)** card machines at merchant outlets. SBI debit card users can also avail introductory cash back benefits upto Rs 500.

- **SBI plans to raise Rs 2,000 cr via Basel-III bonds:**

State Bank of India plans to raise Rs. **2,000 crore** by allotting **Basel-III compliant bonds** to various investors. **SBI** said the bonds will carry a coupon rate of **8.15 per cent** per annum with a call option **after 5 years** or the anniversary date thereafter.

- **State Bank of Mauritius (SBM)** is likely to become the **first foreign bank** to open a **wholly-owned subsidiary** almost **4 yrs** after the **RBI** allowed overseas lenders to open local units in India.

- **SBI Card to offer pre-approved cards to SBI customers:**

SBI Card, the **second largest credit card selling company** after **HDFC**, is all set to **offer pre-approved cards** to customers of its parent State Bank of India. It has entered into a tripartite agreement with **SBI** and **India's first credit bureau TransUnion (CIBIL) credit information bureau of india ltd** to this end. The agreement will allow the credit bureau to check the credentials of SBI customers and SBI Card to leverage the data.

- **SBI training institute in Kolkata to be unveiled:**

Country's largest lender, State Bank of India unveiling its sixth apex **management training facility** in **Kolkata**. At present, of the five such institutes run by the bank, three are in **Hyderabad** and one each in **Gurgaon** and **Indore**.

- **SBI cuts minimum average balance from Rs 5,000 to Rs 3,000:**

SBI has lowered the average minimum balance requirement under its savings account for metro customers to Rs 3,000 from Rs5,000 earlier following protests. Minimum balance for urban, semi-urban and rural centres continues to be at Rs 3,000, Rs 2,000 and Rs 1,000, respectively, as per the bank's website.

PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK (HQ: New Delhi, MD & CEO: Sunil Mehta)

- **PNB gets ADB's first tranche for solar rooftop fund of \$100 million:**

The **PNB** has received **\$100 million** (about Rs645 crore) as the first tranche of the **Asian Development Bank** (ADB HQ: **Mandaluyong**) multi-million dollar funding for installation of **rooftop solar systems** in India. This is the **first tranche loan** of the **\$500 million** multi-tranche finance facility **Solar Rooftop Investment Programme** (SRIP) approved by the ADB in **2016**.

- **To initiate Insolvency proceedings: Banks to move NCLT against Bhushan Power & Steel:**

Lenders, led by **PNB** decided to initiate proceedings against **Bhushan Power & Steel** under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code**. Banks will move the National Company Law Tribunal to recover their money within a month.

- **PNB to block all Maestro debit cards from July 31:**

PNB Maestro debit cards holders will face a **card blockage** if they fail to replace it with a more secure **EMV chip based card by July 31**. The bank will **not charge** anything for the replacement and it will be provided free of cost.

- **PNB ties up with Bajaj Allianz General for distribution:**

State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) and **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** have signed an agreement for the **distribution of insurance products** through the branches.

CANARA BANK (HQ: Bengaluru, CEO: Rakesh Sharma, Tagline: Together We Can)

- **Centre-Canara Bank to raise Rs 20,000 cr to give loans to IITs, IIMs:**

The HRD ministry and Canara Bank have set up an agency to fund creation of **infrastructure and research facilities** at higher education institutes. The government said the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) has been authorised to raise up to Rs 20,000 crore to give loans for specific needs of the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) and the National Institutes of Technology (NITs).

- **Canara Bank unveils two new digital services**

"**Bharat QR (Quick Response)** is for payment settlement at merchant locations and **Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)** is an integrated bill payment system for net banking customers.

- **Canara Bank ties up with New India Assurance:**

Canara Bank and the **New India Assurance Company** have entered into a corporate agency arrangement for **distribution of insurance products**.

VIJAYA BANK (HQ: **Bengaluru**, CEO: **R A Sankaranarayanan**, Tagline: **A friend you can bank upon**)

• **Vijaya Bank opens self-employment training institute in Indore:**

Vijaya Bank has disbursed loan sanction letters to beneficiaries who were trained at the **Vijaya Bank Self Employment Training Institute (VIBSETI)** in Bhenslay Village, Indore, **Madhya Pradesh**.

• **Vijaya Bank bags nine Skoch Awards:**

Vijaya Bank has bagged nine Skoch Awards. The bank received awards in the following categories Best Bank in Public Sector; Best Bank for NPA Management Organization Category; Retail Lending; Digital Inclusion; IT Security; e-Surveillance of ATMs and branches; and 100 Digital Villages Financial Inclusion. The bank's Executive Director **B. S. Rama Rao** received the NPA Management Award from **Sameer Kochhar**, Chairman, Skoch Group at Mumbai.

• **Vijaya Bank set to develop 100 digital villages:**

Vijaya Bank has announced that it plans to develop as many as **100 digital villages** in various States across the country as part of its initiative to **promote digital banking** among the rural population.

IDBI BANK (HQ: **Mumbai**, CEO: **Mahesh Kumar Jain**, Tagline: **Banking for all , Aao Sochein Bada**)

• **IDBI Bank launches 'Project Nishchay' for turnaround:**

IDBI Bank said it has launched 'Project Nishchay' in partnership with The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) to accelerate its turnaround programme and improve financial performance.

• **IDBI Bank only PSB to get 'high' rating for code compliance:**

According to **the Code Compliance Rating of banks** done by the Banking Codes and Standards Board of India (BCSBI) 2017 reported that **only one out of 26 public sector banks** and **eight out of 17 private sector banks** got 'high' rating for their adherence to code compliance.

• **IDBI Bank** was the only public sector bank that got 'high (H)' (85 and above score out of 100) rating in **two successive surveys**. The eight private sector banks that got 'high' rating are: Axis Bank, DCB Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, IndusInd Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, RBL Bank and YES Bank.

• **IDBI bank to establish exclusive vertical for NPA recovery:**

IDBI Bank has announced **formation of a separate vertical** having around **100 dedicated staff** to recover their mounting **non-performing assets (NPAs)**, which now stand at around **Rs 45,500 crores**. Also, the bank management has formed a '**Credit Monitoring Group**' to find out **potential NPAs** based on early **warning signals**.

• **IDBI Federal Life partners with SunTec:** (HQ: **Mumbai**, chairman: **Vighnesh Shahane**)

IDBI Federal Life Insurance said it has partnered with **SunTec**, which will help facilitate in computing and invoicing of debit tax and credit tax that will be **GST compliant**.

ALLAHABAD BANK (HQ: **Kolkata**, CEO: **Usha Ananthasubramanian**, Tagline: **A tradition of trust**)

• **Allahabad Bank reduces MCLR:**

Kolkata-based public sector lender **Allahabad Bank**, announced reduction of its benchmark lending rate by **10 basis points at 8.50 per cent for one year** and by **15 basis points at 8-8.40 per cent for a less than a year tenure**. It will be effective from **June 12th**.

• **Andhra Bank and Allahabad Bank to sell Rs 6,000 crore of bad loans:**

Andhra Bank and **Allahabad Bank** have put up for sale nearly **Rs 6,000 crore of bad loans**. **Andhra Bank** to sell off more than 100 accounts worth **Rs 4,000 crore of loans**, **Allahabad Bank** has invited bids for 73 accounts with outstanding loans of **Rs 2,000 crore**.

OTHER PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS IN NEWS

• **Bank of Baroda** has entered into an agreement with **Directorate General of Supplies & Disposal (DGS&D)** for extending various **banking services** to **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)**. (HQ: **Vadodara**, CEO: **P. S. Jayakumar**)

• **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)**, the **Lead Bank** for Thiruvananthapuram district, has **launched the Retail Mart**, a retail lending concept, in Kerala's capital city. (HQ: **Chennai**, CEO: **R. Subramania Kumar**, Tagline: **Good people to grow with**)

• **Bank of India** conducted a '**Star Mahotsav**' across its branch network in the country. The thrust was on **contacting every customer** at their door step either for **recovery of bad loans**, disbursement of **retail loans** including **housing and vehicle loan**, disbursement **under MSME** and agriculture and promotion of its products, including **debit and credit card**, POS machine, and **internet banking service**. (HQ: **Mumbai**, CEO: **Dinabandhu Mohapatra**)

• Public sector banks, including **SBI**, **Bank of Baroda** and **IDBI Bank**, plan to raise **Rs 58,000 crore** through equity dilution during the current fiscal to meet **Basel-III norms** and clean up their balance sheets.

• Of the **56 regional rural banks (RRBs) in the country**, two notched up net profit of over **Rs.150 crore each during 2016-17**. These are among the **49 RRBs** that recorded a profit in 2016-17. The three RRBs promoted by **Syndicate Bank — Prathama Bank, Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank, and Andhra Pragathi Grameena Bank** — improved their net profit over 2015-16 and emerged in the top league of profit-making RRBs during 2016-17.

PRIVATE SECTOR BANKS

HDFC BANK (HQ: **Mumbai** CEO: **Aditya Puri** Tagline: **We understand your world**)

• RBI has included **HDFC** in the list of '**too big to fail**' lenders, referred to as **D-SIB or domestic systemically important bank**. India's largest lender **SBI** and private sector major **ICICI Bank** were classified as D-SIBs in 2015.

• **HDFC Bank** surpassed **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** to become the country's second most valued firm on BSE in terms of market valuation.

• **HDFC buys 15% stake in Tanzania's First Housing Finance Co:**

As part of Greenfield expansion outside India, country's largest mortgage lender **HDFC Ltd** has acquired a **15% stake** in **Tanzania's First Housing Finance** for **\$1.5 million**. **First Housing Finance co** is the first housing finance company in the **Tanzania** that still has to commence operations.

- **HDFC Bank introduces charges for UPI transactions:**

HDFC Bank has introduced **charges on UPI (Unified Payment Interface)**. These charges make small value payments over UPI more expensive than those on **National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT)**.

- **Transaction Charges:**

- All **UPI Outward transaction** will be charged from **July 10**.

- Transaction of Rs.1 to Rs.25,000: **Rs.3+Taxes**

- **Above Rs.25,000 to Rs.1 lakh: Rs.5**

- **BharatQR, SMS Pay or even UPI, HDFC Bank launches all-in-one PoS machine:**

HDFC Bank announced a **software upgrade** to create a **single point-of-sale (PoS) machine** which will accept payments through **Unified Payments Interface (UPI), BharatQR, SMS Pay** and the bank's mobile wallet, in addition to the traditional mode of swiping cards. The bank plans to carry out a software upgrade of its existing base of **4 lakh PoS** machines to create what it calls a **DigiPoS** at no cost to merchants.

ICICI BANK (HQ: Mumbai CEO: Chanda Kochhar Tagline: Hum Hai Na, Khyal Apka)

- **ICICI Bank commissions 200 solar-powered ATMs:**

ICICI Bank commissioned over **200 solar powered ATM sites** in the last one year as part of its efforts to **reduce carbon footprint** and use **more clean energy**.

- **ICICI offers up to Rs 15 lakh instant personal loan via ATMs:**

Largest private sector lender ICICI Bank will be **selling personal loans** of up to **Rs 15 lakh** through its **ATMs** that can be availed of by select salaried customers even if they haven't previously applied for one.

- **ICICI Bank introduces instant credit card:**

ICICI Bank announced the **launch of instant credit cards**. This **first-of-its-kind offering in the Indian banking industry** enables the savings account customers of the Bank to get a credit card instantly, in a completely digital and paperless manner.

AXIS BANK (HQ: Mumbai CEO: Shikha Sharma Tagline: Badhti ka naam Zindagi)

- **Axis Bank to issue biodegradable prepaid gift cards:**

Axis Bank Ltd announced **biodegradable prepaid gift cards** on the occasion of World Environment Day. According to a circular issued by the **Reserve Bank of India** on **1 July 2014**, the **maximum validity of pre-paid gift instruments** is **three years**.

- **Axis Bank, Kochi Metro launched India's first Open Loop EMV Metro Card:**

Axis Bank in association with **Kochi Metro Rail Corporation (KMRL)** has launched **KMRL Axis Bank 'Kochi1' Card**, India's first **open loop EMV contactless metro card** that would make travel a convenient and hassle free experience for commuters in Kochi. Axis Bank has partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) in developing this transit EMV contactless specification on interoperable open standards.

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- **Axis Bank to buy FreeCharge from Snapdeal for Rs 385 crore.**
- **Axis Bank, IIC pact to boost trade with Latin America:**
Axis Bank announced that it will **help traders boost relations between India and Latin America** and the Caribbean in collaboration with Inter- American Investment Corporation.
- **Axis Bank to waive 12 EMIs on regular home loan repayment:**
With competition getting hotter in the **affordable housing finance sector**, **private lender Axis Bank** will waive **12 equated monthly installments (EMIs)** on regular repayments of loans of up to **Rs. 30 lakh** under the new scheme **Shubh Aarambh Home Loans**.
- **Freyr Energy ties up with Axis Bank:**
Solar energy services company **Freyr Energy** has tied up with **Axis Bank** to offer term loans ranging from **₹5 lakh to ₹50 lakh** for tenures up to five years, for solar rooftop installations in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

YES BANK (HQ: Mumbai CEO: Rana Kapoor Tagline: Experience our Expertise)

- **Yes Bank partners with TerraPay for faster international remittance:**
Yes Bank has partnered with mobile payments switch **TerraPay** to enable real time money transfer to bank accounts in India.
- **Hike partners with Yes Bank to launch UPI and Wallet service:**
Hike Messenger launched the **new version of the app** with a completely new interface and the addition of a **mobile wallet**, in partnership with **YES Bank**. With **Unified Payments Interface** support enabled in **Hike 5.0**, users can now do **free and instant bank-to-bank transfers** with their friends. The feature works even if your friends aren't on Hike.
- **IIM-Lucknow, Yes Bank tie up for climate awareness**
YES BANK and Indian Institute of Management Lucknow (IIM-L) are signing a charter to further the common objective of spreading 'Climate Literacy' to achieve sustainable development through shared learning.
- **Yes Bank Launches 'Yes GST' Program To Assist MSMEs Become GST- Ready:**
YES BANK survey of MSMEs indicates that 1 in 2 MSME is unaware of implications of GST on its business. **YES BANK** has launched a **Missed call** Helpline to address this. **YES BANK** aims to reach out to 1 million MSMEs through this program over next **6 months**.
- **YES Bank gets another \$150 mn from OPIC to fund SME lending:**
YES Bank has received another round of **\$150 million** funding from **US government and Wells Fargo** to **fund SME lending**. **OPIC** will provide \$75 million in financing to **YES Bank** and up to \$75 million as a syndicated financing from **Wells Fargo Bank**, a part of financial services provider **Wells Fargo and Company**.

KARNATAKA BANK (HQ : Mangalore CEO: Mahabaleshwara MS Tagline: Your Family Bank, Across India)

- **Karnataka Bank unveiled 'KBL Image Debit Card':**

Karnataka Bank has launched the '**KBL-Image Debit Card**' to enable its cardholders to personalise the card with the image of his/her choice. Now, customers will have the **option of selecting an image** either from the **bank's gallery of images** or **any image of his/her choice** to be **printed on the debit card**.

- **Karnataka Bank launches 'Met Loan & Life Suraksha':**

Karnataka Bank, one of the leading private sector lender, announced that the bank has launched **Met Loan & Life Suraksha" (MLLS)** for its customers. It is a single premium plan covering the loan liability of a customer. The bank also introduced '**KBL MLLS' app**, which marks the celebration of 15 years of partnership with M/s PNB MetLife. This app is exclusively for the Karnataka Bank employees to instantly calculate the insurance cover and premium-based on loan liability of their borrowers.

IDFC BANK (HQ: Mumbai CEO: Vikram Limaye)

- **IDFC Bank partners with Zeta for digital payments solution:**

Private sector lender IDFC Bank has partnered with digital payments company Zeta, to launch 'IDFC Bank Benefits' - a payment solution for corporate that digitises employee spends and claims, making the process simple, real-time and paperless. The end-to-end digital solution comprises an **IDFC Bank Benefits Card** and **Zeta app** which integrates the full suite of allowances and reimbursements offered by an employer into one preloaded card.

- **IDFC arm raises Rs250 crore to refinance two solar plants:**

IDFC Alternatives Ltd's India Infrastructure Fund II has raised long-term project finance of Rs250 crore by selling non-convertible debentures to infrastructure debt funds and financial institutions.

OTHER PRIVATE SECTOR BANKS IN NEWS

- **DCB Bank launches India's first Aadhaar-based ATM in Telangana:**

DCB Bank launched **India's first Aadhaar-based** iris eye scan customer verification and Aadhaar-based fingerprint-operated ATM in **Telangana**.

- **Emkay and DBS ink pact for equity research distribution:**

Emkay Global Financial Services has entered into exclusive pact with **DBS Bank** arm **DBS Vickers Securities** (Singapore) for **co-branding and distribution of equity research** to the latter's global clients. (HQ : **Singapore** CEO:**Piyush Gupta**)

- **Bandhan Bank to open 160 branches:**

Bank is planning to open another **160 branches** at different locations and reach the **1000-mark** by the end of this financial year (**2017-18**). The bank currently has **840 branches** spread across different states in the country. (HQ: **Kolkata** MD & CEO: **Chandra Shekar Gosh**

Chairman: **Ashok Lahiri**)

- **South Indian Bank partners with PFG Forex:**

South Indian Bank has tied up with **PFG Forex** for **remittance facility** for the benefit of **Indian expatriates from Australia**. The new facility will leverage the bank to reach the Indian diaspora. Under this arrangement, **NRIs** can enjoy **cost-effective and fast remittance** services using **SIB's Express facility**.

NRI's can visit the PFG Forex outlets across Australia for remittances to India. (HQ : **Thrissur, Kerala** CEO:

V.G. Mathew)

- **StanChart unveils forex card:**

Standard Chartered Bank has launched a Multi-currency Forex Card for overseas travellers. The card will allow customers the convenience of loading up to 20 widely used currencies on one card with an online reload facility during overseas travel.

- **Kotak Bank's new forex service:**

Kotak Mahindra Bank has launched Kotak Remit — an Aadhaar-based integrated outward forex remittance solution for both customers and non-customers. The 24x7 forex remittance service offers a completely paperless process that enables users to register online using Aadhaar and PAN numbers, and initiate remittances instantly.

- **Karur Vysya Bank inaugurates AADHAAR enrolment centre:**

Karur Vysya Bank unveiled the Aadhaar Enrolment Centre following UIDAI's directive last month. The Unique Identification Authority of India had advised commercial banks to provide Aadhaar enrolment and updation facility at various branches in its July 13 notification.

OTHER BANKS

WORLD BANK (HQ: Washington President: **Jim Yong Kim** CEO: **Kristalina Georgieva**)

- **India signs Global Environment Facility (GEF) Grant Agreement with the World Bank for USD 24.64 Million for "Ecosystems Service Improvement Project":**

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change will implement the project in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh through Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education under the National Mission for Green India.

- **India signs loan agreement with the World Bank for USD 36 Million:**

The programme size is USD 45 million in which IBRD Credit of USD 36 Million from World Bank and the remaining amount will be funded out of State Budget for Himachal Pradesh Public Financial Management Capacity Building to improve the efficiency of Public Expenditure Management and Tax Administration in Himachal Pradesh.

- **World Bank, AIIB to grant \$380 million to Andhra Pradesh power project:**

Out of \$380 Million, World Bank signed a agreement of \$240 million loan and Asian Infrastructure Investment bank signed a agreement of \$140 million loan to Andhra Pradesh.

- **World Bank sanctioned \$44Million for Assam State Public Financial Institutional Reforms (ASPIRe) project:**

It was sanctioned by World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)) in its meeting held at Washington DC.

- **World Bank forecasts global economy growing at 2.7%:**

The global economy is expected to grow by 2.7 % for 2017, rising to 2.9 % in 2018 and 2019. In a report, emerging market and developing economies are expected to grow 4.1 % this year.

- **World Bank Clears \$250 Million Loan to Train India's Job Seekers:**

The World Bank has cleared a USD 250-million loan for making Indian youth more employable through reskilling, in a move that is seen to aid the Skill India mission.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (HQ: Manila, Philippines Chairman: Takehiko Nakao)

- **ADB provides \$616 million loan to Bangladesh:**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide a \$616 million loan to Bangladesh to help the south Asian nation meet its goal of providing 100% access to electricity to its citizens by 2021. ADB is providing a market-based loan of \$600 million and a concessional loan of \$16 million while the government will contribute \$441 million. The total cost of the project signed between ADB and Bangladesh is nearly \$1.1 billion.

- **ADB lowers India growth forecast for FY18:**

"India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth is downgraded to seven per cent in financial year 2017-18, a 0.4 percentage point drop from the April forecast. In financial year 2018-19, the forecast is adjusted down to 7.4 per cent, from 7.6 per cent," ADB said in its Asian Development Outlook 2017 update.

- **Power Grid inks \$500 million loan pact with Asian Development Bank:**

According to the statement, the proceeds of the loan are proposed to be utilised for funding of Green Energy Corridor (Part D); 800KV High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) bipole link between Western Region (Raigarh, Chhattisgarh) and Southern Region (Pugalur, Tamil Nadu) and 320 KV HDVC link between Pugalur and North Trichur (Kerala).

- **ADB, Centre ink pact for road revamp:**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$220 million loan agreement meant to improve connectivity, transport efficiency, and safety on the State highways of Rajasthan.

- **India signs USD 329 million USD loan pacts with AIIB for Gujarat road project:**

The objective of the project is to improve the rural road connectivity and accessibility (by providing all weather road connectivity) to 1,060 villages in all the 33 districts in Gujarat state benefiting about 8 million people. (HQ: **Beijing, China** President: **Jin Linqun**)

- **First regional centre of NDB opens in South Africa:**

The first regional centre of the New Development Bank, set up by India and other BRICS nations, was officially opened by South African President Jacob Zuma and the banks Indian head K V Kamath. (HQ: **Shanghai, China** President: **KV Kamath**)

SOFT BANK (HQ: Minato, Tokyo, Japan CEO: Masayoshi Son)

- **SoftBank to buy robotics businesses from Alphabet Inc:**

SoftBank Group Corp would buy two firms that build walking robots from Google's parent company, **Alphabet Inc**, adding to the Japanese company **Schaft** growing artificial intelligence portfolio.

- **Softbank to invest over \$2.5 billion in Flipkart:**

Softbank has invested over \$2.5 billion— a mix of primary and secondary capital—in the e-commerce company. With this massive infusion, Softbank has become one of Flipkart's largest shareholders.

SMALL FINANCE BANKS

- **AU Small Finance bank (HQ: Rajasthan) IPO opens on June 28:**

AU Small Finance Bank will come up with an initial public offering (IPO) of 5.34 crore equity shares in the price band of between 355-358 a share to raise a little more than 1,900 crore at the higher end of the band the issue opens on 28 June and closes on 30 June.

- **AU Small Finance Bank on stock market debut:**

Shares of AU Small Finance Bank made a stellar market debut, ending their first trading day 51% higher than the price at which the stock was sold to investors in an initial public offering (IPO).

- **IPO-ready AU Small Finance Bank placed under RBI caution list:**

AU Small Finance Bank has been placed under the caution list by the Reserve Bank to monitor the foreign shareholding of the company which is hovering around the permissible limit of 49%.

- **Fincare Small Finance Bank** (previously known as **DishaMicrofin Limited**) on Friday kick-started its banking operations with about **25 operational branches** across **Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh**.

- The services of **Ujjivan Financial services** shot up 10 percent after they announced that its own subsidiary **Ujjivan Financial Small Bank** has been granted "**Scheduled Bank**" status on August 25.

PAYMENT BANKS

- **Payment bank Paytm** can now sell life insurance, health and general insurance products. The IRDAI has granted corporate agency license for One97 Communications, the parent of Paytm. (HQ:**Noida** CEO: **Renu Satti**)

- Paytm Payments Bank has partnered with NPCI to launch a RuPay-powered digital debit card.

- **Airtel Payment Bank** has integrated with the Unified Payments Interface(UPI) and soon the customers will be able to link their bank accounts on Bhim App and make UPI payments. (HQ: **New Delhi** CEO: **ShasiArora**)

- **Airtel Payments Bank** announced a partnership with **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited**. All 14,000 HPCL fuel stations will act as banking points for Airtel Payments Bank.

- **FINO becomes payments bank:**

FINO Payments Bank has commenced operations as a payments bank with effect from June 30.

HQ: **Mumbai** CEO: **Rishi Gupta**

- **FINO Payments Bank launches mobile banking app -Bpay.**

BUSINESS & FINANCE NEWS

- **Amazon** announced a partnership with the **AkshayaPatra** Foundation to implement the Karnataka government's '**KsheeraBhagya**' Scheme in the city, wherein schoolchildren would be provided a glass of milk

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each five days a week.

- **Amazon** announced the launch of **virtual customer service (VCS) model**, an initiative launched to create cost efficient employment prospects for skilled candidates seeking more flexible work opportunities. **VCS** has currently been launched in **Hyderabad, Pune, Coimbatore and Noida** .

- **India** is expected to **surpass China** in **innovation competitiveness** between 2025-2030, **BRICS Innovative Competitive Report 2017** released by **China Science and Technology Exchange Center** and also predicts that India would take over Russia in terms of Comprehensive STI competitiveness by 2030. **China** tops the **BRICS nation innovative competitive report**.

- **India, China home to 39% of world's young Internet population: UN report**

Neighbouring countries **India and China** are home to **39 per cent** of the **830 million youngsters** worldwide who use the **Internet**, according to the data released by the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**, the United Nations specialised agency for Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

- **India in line to meet fiscal deficit target of 3.2%: Report:**

The Indian government is on track to achieve the **fiscal deficit target** of **3.2%** of **GDP** in the current fiscal year, said a report by UBS. The **Centre's fiscal deficit** narrowed from a peak of **6.5% of GDP** in 2009-10 to **3.5 % of GDP** in 2016-17 and is estimated to fall further to **3.2% of GDP** in 2017-18.

- **1st time India becomes net export country in Steel:**

Minister for Steel Chaudhary Birender Singh said that first time India has become a net export country in Steel. **The steel import in the country has gone down by 39 per cent and an export has gone up by 102 per cent last year.** Crude steel production has registered **3.5 per cent** growth during April-June 2017-18.

- **India, ASEAN-5 more fetching to FDI than other emerging markets:**

India along with **Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam** is more attractive to FDIs as compared to other emerging markets and flows to these nations are expected to surge to around **\$240 billion** by **2025**, says a Nomura report. The Japanese financial services major have dubbed India and ASEAN-5 (**Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam**) as "**Asia's tiger cubs**".

- **India**, the world's biggest sugar consumer, is likely to raise import duty on the sweetener **to 50 percent from 40 percent** in an attempt to restrict the cheaper flow of the commodity from overseas, a government official.

- **India to become largest milk producer in 2026, says UN and OECD report:**

India, projected to be the most populous country over the next decade, will be the **world's largest milk producer by 2026** and will account for the biggest increase in wheat production globally, according to a report by the **UN and OECD**.

- **Orion Broking and Orion Capital** along with their partners are barred from the **securities market for 10 yrs** for failing to redress the several investor grievances pertaining to the non-settlement funds by **Market Regulator SEBI**.

- **Larsen & Toubro**, the country's largest engineering firm, has received green nod for expansion of its Powai residential and IT tower projects in Mumbai that will entail an investment of **Rs.1,102 crore**.

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- **PACL** (*Pearl Agrotech Corporation Limited*) and its four directors, **Mr. Sukhdev Singh, Gurmeet Singh, Subrata Bhattacharya** and certain other past directors were imposed a penalty of **Rs.2423 Crore** by the markets regulator SEBI for illegal mobilization of funds from the public.
 - **China** plans to ban trading of Bitcoin and other virtual currencies on domestic exchanges, dealing another blow to the **\$150 billion** crypto currency market after the country outlawed initial coin offerings.
 - **Google** has launched a payment service '**Google Tez**', which will include support for **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**. Tez means fast in Hindi.
 - **Suzuki Motor** will invest more than **Rs 1,150 crore** along with Japanese partners Toshiba and Denso to set up India's first lithium ion battery facility in Gujarat,
 - The government has set up an **advisory panel under Justice B N Srikrishna** to take the process forward. The 10-member panel will advise and "**provide professional support**" to the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India**, the regulatory body headed by M S Sahoo, which is drafting the norms for filing bankruptcy by individuals and help them start afresh, a clause that is contained in the law but is yet to be operationalized.
 - Footwear retailer **Khadim** India has **received capital** markets regulator **Sebi's** approval to raise an estimated **Rs550-650 crore** through an **initial public offering**.
 - **Three Indian entrepreneurial legends, Ratan Tata, Lakshmi Mittal and VinodKhosla** have been included in Forbes's special list of the world's '**100 Greatest Living Business Minds**'.
 - **Nooyi, Kochhar, Shikha on Fortune's most powerful women in business list:**
Two Indians **Chanda Kochhar** and **Shikha Sharma** have made it to the rankings of most powerful women in **business outside the United States** drawn up by the Fortune magazine while **Indra Nooyi** featured in the **top three** on the **US edition list**.
 - The Most Powerful Women in Business **outside the US list**, which was topped by Banco Santander group executive chairman **Ana Botin**, placed **ICICI Bank's Kochhar** at the fifth spot while **Axis Bank's Sharma** has been ranked **21st**.
- US Most Powerful Women Business list:**
- **Mary Barra**
 - **Indra Nooyi**
 - **Marillyn Hewson**
 - **Mukesh Ambani overtakes Hong Kong's Li Ka-shing to become second richest man in Asia**
- report:**

According to the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**, Ambani's wealth has seen a rise of **\$12.1 billion** with the oil-to telecom conglomerate's shares seeing a surge with investors rallying behind his decision to launch the cheapest 4G phone, according to a Bloomberg report.

- **Flipkart completes eBay India merger:**

E-commerce major **Flipkart** said it has completed the merger with **eBay India's operations**. With this, **eBay.in** will now be a Flipkart Group company. The deal was announced in April when the Flipkart group raised **\$ 1.4 billion** from global technology major's eBay, Tencent and Microsoft.

- **SEBI forms committee on fair market conduct:**

Regulator **SEBI** set up a committee on '**fair market conduct**' which will suggest measures **for improving surveillance of the markets** and **strengthen rules for algo trades**, among other norms. The panel, under the chairmanship of former law secretary **T K Viswanathan**, would suggest measures for improvement in **PIT (Prohibition of Insider Trading)** norms, **PFTUP (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices)** regulations and mainly related to 'trading plans'.

- **SEBI launches online registration for custodians of securities:**

Securities and Exchange Board of India, SEBI, has introduced an online registration mechanism for **custodians of securities** to make it **convenient** for them to do business. Markets regulator said, the new system will help custodian of securities to **complete registration** and other regulatory filings with SEBI much faster and in a cost-effective manner.

- **SEBI ties up with Securities & Exchange Organization (SEO) of Iran for technical assistance:**

Markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and **Securities & Exchange Organization (SEO)** of Iran have entered into a bilateral **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for mutual cooperation and technical assistance. It will facilitate mutual assistance, contribute towards efficient performance of the supervisory functions, and enable effective enforcement of laws and regulations governing the securities markets. The MoU was signed by **SEBI chief Ajay Tyagi** and **SEO Iran chairman Shapour Mohammadi**.

SEBI (HQ: Mumbai Chairman: Ajay Tyagi)

- **PayPal unveils two innovation labs:**

PayPal has unveiled its **newest Innovation Labs** at the **Chennai** and **Bengaluru** Tech centres. The lab is the **first** by PayPal in India and third **after the U.S. and Singapore**. The firm said the lab will serve as a platform **to promote** innovation which is a core value for PayPal globally.

- **Government announces new PSU ETF called Bharat-22 with diversified portfolio:**

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced creation of **new ETF (Exchange Traded Fund)** called **Bharat 2022**, comprising of **22 companies**, or investments from central public sector undertakings, public sector banks and some other strategic holdings.

- Compared to energy heavy **CPSE ETF, Bharat 22** is a well diversified portfolio of companies from six sectors (**basic materials, energy, finance, FMCG, industrials & utilities**) with a **20% cap** on each sector and a **15% cap** on each stock.

It will feature four banking stocks- SBI, Axis Bank, Bank of Baroda and Indian Bank other than CPSEs such as Nalco, ONGC, IOC, BPCL and Coal India.

- **MobiKwik partners Bajaj Finance for larger financial services pie:**

Taking a big step towards positioning itself as a top consumer finance brand in the digital space, mobile wallet major **MobiKwik** has entered into a **strategic partnership** with **Bajaj Finance** Ltd to transform itself into **financial services App from a payment App**. Under this strategic partnership, **Bajaj Finance** has picked up **10.83 per cent** equity stake in MobiKwik for about **Rs. 225 crore** and offer its lending (purchase finance, credit card, mortgage loans and personal loans) and insurance products to be sold through MobiKwik App.

MobiKwik

- **MasterCard, PayPal expand partnership into Asia Pacific:**

MasterCard and **PayPal** have extended their **partnership into Asia Pacific to enhance the consumer experience** and make MasterCard a clear payment option with PayPal.

- **Iran signs its biggest-ever car deal with France's Renault:**

Iran's official news agency says two Iranian companies have signed the country's biggest-ever car deal worth several hundred million dollars with French multinational automobile manufacturer Group Renault to produce 150,000 cars, beginning in 2018.

- **ONGC Videsh to pump \$150 million in Colombia, Kazakhstan & Bangladesh:**

ONGC Videsh, the overseas arm of the **state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corp**, plans to invest **\$150 million** in exploration this fiscal year to drill more wells in Colombia, where it just made a commercial discovery, as well as in **Kazakhstan and Bangladesh**. ONGC Videsh, has made a commercial discovery in its exploration well **Mariposa-1**.

- **NSDC, Google India to launch mobile app development programme:**

The **NSDC and Google** India will come together to **train app developers** for mobile platform on the **Android** and **web platforms**, a move aimed at improving the country's mobile application development ecosystem.

- The **National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)** is a public-private partnership enterprise under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. Under the initiative, NSDC will introduce a specific course with the scope to **train developers to create applications for the mobile platform** that can be used on Smartphone and tablets running on the Android operating system.

- The **100-hour duration course** is designed to be delivered by NSDC's partner agencies, outside the formal education system. **NSDC MD & CEO Manish Kumar** said the collaboration aims to accelerate mobile skill training and create opportunities for youth in the country.

- **NCLT admits insolvency proceedings against Lanco Infratech:**

The **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** has admitted insolvency proceedings against Lanco Infratech Ltd, among the 12 identified cases referred to the tribunal following the Reserve Bank of India.

- **Facebook launches YouTube competitor called 'Watch':**

In an apparent bid to take on **Google-owned YouTube**, **Facebook** has rolled out **'Watch'** - a redesigned video platform for creators and publishers. The social media giant last year launched 'Video' tab in the US which offered a predictable place to find videos on Facebook.

- **Flipkart World's 3rd Most Funded Pvt Co:**

With the **\$2.4 billion** it just received from Japanese technology and telecom giant SoftBank, **Flipkart** has become the **third most funded private company globally**. The top two are both ride hailing platforms – China based **Didi Chuxing** and US based **Uber**. Flipkart is the **only e-commerce company** in the **top 10**.

- **Indian Oil Corporation buys first shale oil from US:**

State-owned **Indian Oil Corp (IOC)** has bought the country's **first shale oil from the US** and is looking to step up imports from America as part of its crude diversification strategy.

IOC bought **1.9 million barrels** of US crude in its second import tender seeking oil from the Americas, company Director (Finance) **A K Sharma** said. IOC has received government nod for buying one cargo (or shipload) of US oil every month **till March 2018**.

- **Hike Messenger acquires Bengaluru-based tech start-up Creo:**

Hike Messenger said it has acquired Bengaluru-based tech **start-up Creo** for an undisclosed amount. The **Creo** team constitutes over 50 members and was founded in December 2013 by **Sai Srinivas Kiran G and Shubham Malhotra**.

- **TAL Manufacturing launches educational cell in robotics:**

After the successful launch of the country's first indigenously developed robot '**BRABO**' in **April 2017**, **TAL Manufacturing**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of **Tata Motors**, has launched '**Robo Whiz**', an education cell designed for universities and polytechnics.

- **Government slaps \$264 million penalty on RIL, BP:**

The **government** has imposed a **new penalty of \$ 264 million** (about Rs 1,700 crore) on **Reliance Industries Ltd** and its partners for producing less than the targeted natural gas from eastern offshore **KG-D6** fields in 2015-16.

- **BSNL launches digital wallet powered by MobiKwik:**

State-run Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) unveiled its mobile wallet in partnership with **MobiKwik** to enable one-tap bill payment for its over **100 million subscribers**. Besides, the subscribers will also be able to use the digital wallet at over 1.5 million merchants across India.

The **digital wallet, developed by MobiKwik for BSNL**, is in line with the telecom corporation's intent to take the reach of digital payments to semi-urban and rural India.

- **Telecom regulators of 23 Asia-Pacific countries to meet in Delhi:**

Telecom regulators of **23 countries** from the **Asia-Pacific** will meet in **Delhi** this month to discuss challenges in **framing rules for digital ecosystem** and regional roaming, among others. Regulatory heads of **Australia, Afghanistan, Iran, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu, Fiji** and some others are slated to attend the international meet.

- **TRAI, Malaysian Telecom Regulator Ink Pact:**

The **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India** has inked an agreement with the **Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)** to deepen bilateral cooperation in telecom and broadcasting regulation. The **two telecom regulators** signed a **letter of intent (LoI)**, under which they will exchange

information and regulatory best practices. **TRAI chairman RS Sharma** and **MCMC chairman Halim Shafie** were signatories to the pact, which will enhance cooperation and bilateral ties between the two entities.

- **ONGC board approves HPCL takeover of 51.11% stake:**

The board of **state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp, ONGC**, has given 'in-principle' approval to acquire government's **51.11 per cent stake** in **Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd**. Prior to the merger, **HPCL** is likely to take over **Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL)** to bring all the refining assets of **ONGC** under one unit. **ONGC** currently owns 71.63 per cent of **MRPL** while **HPCL** has 16.96 per cent stake in it.

- **FDI jumps 37% to \$10.4 billion during April-June 2017:**

Foreign direct investment (FDI) into the country grew by **37 per cent** to **USD 10.4 billion** during the first quarter of the current fiscal, **DIPP** said. According to the figures of the **Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)**, **India** had received **USD 7.59 billion FDI during April-June 2016-17**.

- **Microsoft launches 'Project Brainwave' for real-time AI:**

Software giant Microsoft has announced its **Project Brainwave deep** learning acceleration platform for **real-time artificial intelligence (AI)**. With the help of ultra-low latency, the system processes requests as fast as it receives them. The '**Project Brainwave**' uses the massive field-programmable gate array (FPGA) infrastructure that **Microsoft** has been deploying over the past few years.

- **NPCI approves Spice Digital's operation under Bharat Bill Payment System:**

The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has given a **nod** to **Spice Digital Ltd.** for processing bill payments under the **Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)** as a **Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU)**.

- **Work on \$16.5bn Carmichael coal plant in Australia to begin in Oct: Adani**

Adani Group plans to start work on its **\$16.5 billion Carmichael coal project** in **Australia** in October, chairman **Gautam Adani** said, buoyed by the dismissal of appeals filed against the project by Australian activists. **Adani**, who ranked **250** in the **Forbes World's Billionaire List 2017** with a net worth of **\$5.8 billion**, linked the controversies to the **Carmichael** project.

- **Alibaba's Jack Ma Again Asia's Richest Man:**

According to **Forbes**, **Jack Ma**, the founder of the leading e-commerce giant in China, was worth **\$37.4 billion**, with **Tencent (TCEHY)** Chairman **Ma Huateng** now ranked second with a \$36.7 billion fortune.

- **BSNL aims to set up 1 lakh Wi-Fi hotspots by March 2019:**

BSNL Chairman and Managing Director Anupam Shrivasta said that the state-run telecom operator is going to set up **1 lakh Wi-Fi spots** across the country by March, 2019. As many as **25,000 Wi-Fi hotspots** will be set up in the rural areas.

- **Adani Ports raises USD 275 mn via bonds:**

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zones Ltd said it has raised **USD 275 million** (about Rs 1,777 crore) through unsecured notes.

- **Microsoft India inks pact with NISA:**

Microsoft India signed an agreement with **National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA)** to offer **Microsoft Aspire School Program (MASP) Pro Plus** to over 55,000 member schools.

- **Svatantra Microfin launches cashless solution 'Saathi':**

Mid-sized microfinance institution Svantra Microfin had launched an app, **an end-to-end cashless solution called Saathi**, for an entire spectrum of operations in areas such as loan originating system, loan management system and collections.

- **Sun Pharma, BioLogics in \$56 mn pact:**

Drug major Sun Pharma and South Korean firm Samsung Bio Logics announced a long-term manufacturing agreement for **Tildrakizumab** to be used for treatment of **psoriasis**. The agreement was entered into by **Sun Pharma's wholly-owned subsidiary** and Samsung BioLogics. The contract value is **\$55.5 million (more than Rs. 359 crore)**.

- **Nandan Nilekani, Helion's Sanjeev Aggarwal launched \$100-million fund Fundamentum:**

Aadhaar architect **Nandan Nilekani** and **Helion Venture's Sanjeev Aggarwal** have launched an investment fund called **Fundamentum** with a **corpus of \$100 million** to back startups looking for growth capital.

- **Tata Power completes construction of 187 mw Hydropower Project in Georgia:**

Tata Power Company, through its joint venture company **Adjaristsqali Georgia LLC** has completed the construction of its **187 mw Shuakhevi Hydro Power Project in Georgia**.

- **Siemens opens first digital factory in Thane:**

Siemens opened its first digital factory in **Kalwa, Thane**. The factory is the first of its kind to be opened in India. It is also the third globally.

- **Oracle picks Bengaluru for its first digital hub in Asia-Pacific:**

American tech giant Oracle has said it is opening its **first digital hub in Asia Pacific**, which will be based in **Bengaluru**.

- **Govt. to spend 29.7 cr. to raise IPR awareness :**

To make India a **global leader** in innovation and **Intellectual Property (IP)**, the Centre is estimated to spend **29.7 crore (\$4.6 million)** on a **three-year scheme** to create awareness on the issue.

- **Govt saves over Rs 57,000 cr through DBT scheme:**

Government has saved **more than 57 thousand crore rupees** with its **Direct Benefit Transfer, DBT, scheme** under which subsidies are given directly to beneficiaries.

- **MobiKwik, Samsung Pay to enable one-tap payment solution for e-wallet users:**

Digital payments company **MobiKwik** has partnered **Samsung Pay**, under which consumers will be able to **make payments with a single tap using select Samsung handsets**. MobiKwik's mobile wallet will also be available soon to Samsung Pay users, it added.

- **India, China, Pak among 10 nations with 95% HIV in APAC last year: UN**

India, China and Pakistan are among the **10 countries** that accounted for more than **95 per cent** of all new **HIV infections** in the Asia and the Pacific region in 2016, according to a UN report.

- **Montenegro defies Russia joins NATO:**

Montenegro joined the **NATO** in a historic turn that has made the Kremlin furious. Montenegro formally became the **29th member** of the Western military alliance.

- **Japan's NEC to invest \$10 million in 3 years:**

Japanese technology giant NEC, which announced a new Centre of Excellence in India, it will be investing **\$10 million** over the **next three years** in the country, while targeting revenues of **\$100 million** during the same period. The Centre of Excellence in **Noida** will work on building **Big Data** and **analytics solutions** for clients across sectors such as banking and financial services, telecom, retail and the Government.

- **NHB approves merger between Aadhaar Housing Finance and DHFL Vysya Housing Finance:**

The **proposed merger** between **Aadhaar Housing Finance** and **DHFL Vysya Housing Finance** has hit the final lap with it getting the nod from housing finance regulator **National Housing Bank (NHB HQ: New Delhi)**.

- **Verizon to buy Yahoo for \$4.48 bn:**

Yahoo shareholders approved the company's sale of **\$4.48 bn** to **Verizon Communication Inc.** Verizon is **No. 1 U.S. wireless communication service Provider Company**.

Yahoo Headquarters: **Sunnyvale, California, United States**

Verizon Headquarters: **New York City, United States**

- **Facebook launches maps for disaster relief and aid:**

Facebook has launched **disaster maps** to help humanitarian organisations save lives in emergencies, said its **chief executive Mark Zuckerberg**.

- **Boeing, Dassault racing for Rs 50,000-cr Navy deal for 57 fighter jets:**

American aerospace giant Boeing and **France's Dassault Aviation** are among the four entities that have responded to the Indian Navy's 'Request for Interest (RFI)' to provide 57 multi-role carrier borne fighters.

- **Microsoft to buy Israeli security firm Hexadite:**

Microsoft confirmed that it will acquire **Hexadite**, an **Israeli start-up** that uses AI to identify and protect against attacks. The deal might be worth around **\$100 Million**.

- **CDSL to Launch 500cr Initial Public Offer on June 19:**

Securities depository firm **Central Depository Services (India) Ltd (CDSL)** it plans to launch its over **500 crore initial public offering (IPO) on June 19**. CDSL has priced its shares in a price band of **145-149** per share for the initial share sale.

- **State oil firms sign pact to build \$40 billion refinery:**

State-owned oil firms **IOC, BPCL and HPCL** signed an agreement to jointly set up the **world's largest refinery and petrochemical complex** in **Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra** at a cost of \$40 billion. **Indian Oil Corp.** (IOC) will be the lead partner with **50%** stake while **Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd.** (HPCL) and **Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd.** (BPCL) will take **25%** stake each.

- **India to host AIIB's 3rd annual meeting in 2018:**

India will host the **third annual meeting** of the China-initiated **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** in **2018**. The third annual meeting of the AIIB's board of governors will be held in **Mumbai, India** in **June 2018**. In this bank, **China** will be the largest shareholder (at **30.34 %**), followed by **India** (8.52%) and **Russia** (6.66%).

- **GDP growth to rise to 7.5% in FY19: Fitch**

India's GDP growth will rise from **7.4% to 7.5% in 2018-19 and to 7.6% in 2019- 20** boosted by GST, increased public spending on infrastructure, and a supportive monetary policy over the last two years, according to Fitch Ratings.

- **Amazon acquired Whole Foods for \$13.7 billion to become major grocer:**

Amazon and Whole Foods Market, Inc. announced that they have entered into a definitive merger agreement under which Amazon will acquire Whole Foods Market for **\$42 per share** in an all-cash transaction valued at approximately **\$13.7 billion** including Whole Foods Market's net debt.

- **Intel is IOC's new partner:**

The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** announced that it had signed a partnership deal with technology giant Intel. "**Intel and the IOC** are partnering to bring Intel's leading technology **to enhance the Olympic Games** through to **2024**," the IOC.

- **IDAI mAadhaar app launched on Android:**

The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has just launched the **mAadhaar app** for **syncing Aadhaar data** on the **mobile phone**. The mAadhaar app is only available on Android for now and is available for download on the Google Play Store.

- **Google Introduces Recruiting App 'Hire' For Businesses:**

In an apparent move to compete with Microsoft-owned **LinkedIn**, **Google** has launched **'Hire'**, a recruiting app for small- and medium-sized businesses that also integrates seamlessly with **G Suite**. **Google** announced that the launch of Hire, a new service **that helps businesses more effectively manage** their internal recruiting process.

- **Microsoft launches Kaizala a 'made for India' app:**

Microsoft India has finally announced the launch of **Kaizala a 'made for India' app** for large group **communications and work management**.

- **TRAI launches three apps for tracking call and data quality:**

The telecom regulator "**TRAI**" launched **three apps** and **a portal** for service providers. The three apps - **TRAI MyCall App, auto test enabled MySpeed app** and **Do-not-disturb 2.0 app**.

- **TCS launches app development kit for banks:**

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) launched "**BaNCs App Development Kit**" (ADK) that will enable banks to fast design and build their own apps and deploy it across devices and desktops seamlessly. "**BaNCs ADK**" will help banks to **design** and **deploy enterprise** and **consumer apps** in hybrid architecture, adopting modern principles of responsive web design.

- **GST Rates Finder' app to soon launch on iOS platform:**

Central Board of Excise and Customs- CBEC Mobile app, GST Rates Finder will be available soon on iOS platform. Currently it's available on android platform. **Finance Minister Arun Jaitley** launched the app in **New Delhi**.

NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS:

NORTHERN STATES

UTTAR PRADESH (Cap: **Lucknow** CM: **Yogi Adityanath** Gov: **Shri Ram Naik**)

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• Three districts – **Gorakhpur** in **Uttar Pradesh**, **Koraput** in **Odisha** and **Thane** in **Maharashtra** – will initiate India's ambitious '**Zero Hunger**' programme through interventions in farm sector on October 16 (**World Food Day**) and most importantly **India's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end hunger by 2030.**

• **Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL)**, under the **Ministry of Power, Government of India** had put out a mega tender for procurement of **50 lakh** smart meters in July, which would help in reducing AT&C losses, power theft and also help in monitoring of round the clock power supply eventually leading to greater efficiency and **24X7 power for all.**

• **Govt inks MoA to set up IRRI's regional centre in Varanasi:**

The **Agriculture Ministry** signed a **memorandum of association (MoA)** for setting up a **regional centre** of the **global rice research institute IRRI in Varanasi**, the prime minister's constituency, to develop high- yielding rice varieties. The **Philippines- based International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)**, which has offices in **17 countries**, is known for its work in developing rice varieties that contributed to the green revolution in 1960s. The MoA was signed between Agriculture Secretary **Shobhana K Patnaik** and IRRI Director General **Matthew Morell.**

• **1000 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) Kendras to be opened in Uttar Pradesh:**

Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, Shipping and Chemicals and Fertilizers, **Shri Mansukh Lal Mandviya**, presided over the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between the Union Government and the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for opening **1000 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) Kendras** in the State.

• **Agriculture Minister addresses gathering at Sankalp Se Siddhi program in Varanasi:**

Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh addressed a gathering at the **Sankalp Se Siddhi program in Varanasi.** The programme was organized by **ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute**, Kanpur, **Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology**, Faizabad and **Krishi Vigyan Kendra Varanasi.**

• **Yogi Adityanath to launch 'CM Helpline':**

In order to strengthen the public grievance Redressal system, **Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath** has ordered the setting up of a "**CM Helpline**" which will connect people to a call centre manned by 500 people.

• **Uttar Pradesh Budget presented, Yogi Government allots Rs 36,000 cr for crop loan waiver:**

The **Uttar Pradesh** government presented its first Budget for the state. **CM Yogi Adityanath's Rs 3, 84,659 crore** maiden Budget was **11 per cent more** than the previous Akhilesh Yadav's government.

• **Yogi Adityanath govt allocates Rs 10 crore for IIIT Lucknow:**

The **Yogi Adityanath-led government** has allocated **Rs 10 crore** for the completion of construction work at **Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) in Lucknow**, the capital of Uttar Pradesh.

- **Centre, UP govt sign MoU to set up AIIMS in Gorakhpur:**

Uttar Pradesh government has signed an MoU with the **Centre for setting up of an AIIMS hospital in Gorakhpur**. The hospital will have 750 free beds and the project will cost **1,750 crore rupees**. The foundation of the AIIMS at Gorakhpur was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last year.

- **Varanasi Nagar Nigam building to be redeveloped as iconic building:**

Varanasi Nagar Nigam building will be redeveloped as an **iconic tower to provide office and commercial space**. This was decided in the review meeting which was chaired by Uttar Pradesh Urban Development Minister **Suresh Khanna**. Under **Varanasi Smart City Plan**, 8 locations for developing multi-level car parking will be identified by September this year. A Museum-cum-Culture Centre on the contributions of **Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya** to freedom movement and to the city of Varanasi will be developed.

- **UP govt has set target to provide 70 lakh jobs in five years: CM Yogi Adityanath**

The **Uttar Pradesh government** has fixed a target to **provide jobs to 70 lakh people in five years**, of which 10 lakh jobs will be provided through the vocational education and skill development departments, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said at a function to mark the **World Youth Skills Day**.

- **UP Assembly passes resolutions on renaming two airports:**

The **Uttar Pradesh Assembly** adopted two resolutions on naming the civil terminals of the **Kanpur** and **Bareilly** airports after freedom fighter **Ganesh Shanker Vidyarthi** and as **Nath Nagri** respectively.

- **Lucknow Metro Station Is Set to Become India's First to Provide Free Water & Toilet Facilities:**

Lucknow Metro will also become the **first** in the country to have its own **FM radio station**. Lucknow Metro stations will be the **first** in the country **to provide free drinking water** to commuters at all **21 metro stations** of the North-South metro corridor. The stations will have a kiosk providing purified, chilled water to commuters free. (LMRC) is also going to provide free toilet facility at each of its stations.

- **Uttar Pradesh launches free power connection scheme for BPL families:**

Uttar Pradesh Power Minister Srikant Sharma launched **free power connection scheme** for the **Below Poverty Line (BPL)** card holders. The people who do not have BPL cards will have to pay between **Rs 80 to Rs 120** for getting the power connection.

- **Varanasi to Get India's First Infrastructure Platform 'Freight Village':**

Varanasi will get the country's first '**freight village**' spread over around **100 acres**. The plan to set up this project close to the **upcoming multi-mode terminal** along the Ganga has attracted major players **including Dubai Port World and IL&FS**. The village, a one-of-its-kind infrastructure platform, will **fasten movement of goods through railways and roadways**.

- **Adani Group Commissions 50 MW Solar Plant in U.P:**

Global integrated infrastructure conglomerate **Adani Group** is set to commission **50 MW (megawatts) solar PV (photovoltaic) plant in Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh with an investment of Rs 315 crore under the National Solar Mission Scheme**.

- **Cabinet Clears Uttar Pradesh Highway Project Worth over Rs 3,690 Crore:**

The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** has given its **approval** for development of **six laning of Chakeri-Allahabad section** of National Highway (NH) - 2 in **Uttar Pradesh**. The cost is estimated to be

Rs.3691.09 crore including cost of land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation and other pre-construction activities. The **total length of the road** to be developed is **approximately 145 kms**.

HARYANA (Cap: **Chandigarh** CM: **Manohar Lal Khattar** Gov: **Kaptan Singh Solanki**)

• **Kerala, Haryana top sanitation survey:**

According to the survey, almost all rural households in **Kerala and Haryana** access to a toilet report. The survey is released by the Ministry of **Drinking Water and Sanitation** and was carried out by the Quality Council of India (QCI). The **Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation** released the findings of the survey of **1.4 lakh rural households**, undertaken by the Quality Council of India (QCI) between May and June this year. North-eastern States of **Sikkim, Manipur and Nagaland** were top performers with 95% rural households covered by toilets. And so were the Himalayan States of **Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand** with over 90% toilet coverage of the rural houses. Apart from Kerala, Tamil Nadu was the other performer as 79% rural households had access to a toilet. However, neighbouring Puducherry scored poorly with just 43%.

• **Gurgaon to get 50 new green-fuel stations in 3 years:**

The **Gurugram district** administration has decided to sanction **50 new green-fuel stations in Millennium City** in the **next three** years to control rising air pollution, a pollution control department said. The **Haryana City Gas Distribution Ltd (HCGDL)**, an authorised dealer to sell **compressed natural gas (CNG)** in Gurgaon, has been given the responsibility construct the 50 stations. The city has 17 CNG stations are distributing 2.5 lakh kg of gas per day and the demand is expected to rise by up to **50 lakh kg** in next three years.

• **Govt approves establishment of PG Institutes for Research in Yoga at Nagmangla, Jhajjar:**

The **Government** has approved establishment of **Post Graduate Institutes** for **Research in Yoga and Naturopathy** at **Nagmangla** in **Karnataka** and **Jhajjar** in **Haryana**. Minister of State for AYUSH Shripad Yesso Naik said.

• **First-ever transgender beauty pageant to be held in Gurugram:**

The first edition of **Miss Transqueen India**, a beauty pageant for transgenders, will take place in **Gurugram**. **Nitasha Biswas**, a trans woman who hails from Kolkata, was named the first Miss Transqueen India in **Gurgaon**. **Loiloi** from Manipur bagged the first runner-up position and **Ragasya** from Chennai was crowned the second runner-up. Miss Transsexual Australia 2017 Laeticia **Phylliscia Raveena** had crowned the first Miss Transqueen India.

• **PM Modi to address CA day celebrations of ICAI:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend **68th Chartered Accountants Day** function and GST event in New Delhi. The national professional accounting body of India, Institute of Chartered Accountants of India - ICAI celebrates its Foundation Day as the "**Chartered Accountant's Day**" on 1st July every year.

• **Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal confirmed that 13,872 villages electrified under rural scheme DDUGJY:**

Union Government **Shri Piyush Goyal** confirmed that **13,872 villages** electrified till **30th June 2017** in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Sikkim are the states where **100% villages** are electrified till date.

- **Youth centres to be set up in Haryana in RSS icon Upadhyay's name:**

As part of its celebrations of the birth centenary of **RSS ideologue Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay**, the **Haryana government** has decided that **youth centres** would be **established in his name in all districts of the state** at a **cost** of about **Rs 3 crore each**. These '**Yuva Vikas Kendras**' would offer facilities such as library, Wi-Fi and skill development centres for the physical and cognitive development of the youth.

- **Haryana govt to reward farmers who grow crops other than water-guzzling ones:**

The **Haryana government** is contemplating a policy to reward the farmers who grow crops other than **water-guzzling ones like paddy**. Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said that the move is aimed at water conservation at Rakhi Garhi village in Hisar. The amounts is ranging **from Rs 8,000 to Rs 10,000 per acre** will be given to the farmers implementing the policy.

- **Haryana to set up hi-tech and ultra-modern ornamental fish hatchery in Jhajjar:**

Haryana government has decided to set up a **hi-tech and ultra-modern ornamental fish hatchery** in **Jhajjar** district at a cost of **Rs 13.68 crore**. It would be done over 400 hectares additional unutilised saline land under the **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna Scheme** during the year **2017-18**. Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Fisheries Minister **Om Prakash Dhankar** said this would be the **first-of-its-kind project** in the country. It has also been proposed to develop about **16,000 acres** of water-logged land in **Jhajjar district** and **Charki Dadri** for fish farming so as to generate a new source of income for the farmers.

- **Haryana renames HUDA:**

The **Haryana government** has renamed HUDA (**Haryana Urban Development Authority**) as it sounds similar to the name of the former chief minister of the state **Bhupinder Singh Hooda**. The **Hindi name** of the authority "**Haryana Shahari Vikash Pradhikaran**" will now be the **new name in English** as well.

- **Haryana increased stipend amount for widows and destitute women:**

The Haryana government announced an **Rs.500 increase** in the **monthly stipend of widows and destitute women and girls imparting training in tailoring**. To **purchase raw materials** each trainee will get **Rs.300 per month** instead of **Rs.150** during the training period.

- **Haryana sets up GST offices in five ranges:**

The **Haryana government** is fully geared to implement the **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** in the State and has set up district offices in **five ranges of Ambala, Gurugram, Faridabad, Hisar and Rohtak**. Excise and Taxation Minister, Capt. Abhimanyu, said that Joint Excise and Taxation Commissioner (JETC) has been made the range in charge.

UTTARKHAND (Cap: Dehradun CM: Trivendra Singh Rawat Gov: Krishna Kant Paul)

- **Dr. Harshvardhan launches Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Vigyan Gram Sankul Pariyojana:**

The Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest & Climate Change, **Dr. Harshvardhan** launched "**Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay Vigyan Gram Sankul Pariyojana**" which will experiment and endeavour to formulate and implement appropriate S&T Interventions for Sustainable Development through cluster approach in Uttarakhand.

- **Green tribunal declares area near Ganga as 'No-Development Zone':**

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An area of 100 metres from the edge of **the Ganga between Haridwar and Unnao has been declared a "No Development Zone"**, with the **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** prohibiting dumping of waste **within 500 metres of the river.**

• **Two-day Regional Conference on Good Governance and Replication of Best Practices in Governance begins in Nainital:**

A **2-day Regional Conference on "Good Governance and Replication of Best Practices"** will begin in **Nainital, Uttarakhand.** Organised by the **Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG)**, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Government of India in collaboration with Government of Uttarakhand, the Conference will be inaugurated by Secretary, DARPG, **Shri C. Viswanath.**

• **AAI, Uttarakhand Govt. ink MoU on aviation development:**

The responsibility of **creating, upgrading, maintaining and managing civil aviation infrastructure** in the country, **Airports Authority of India (AAI)**, has signed an MoU with Government of Uttarakhand and joined hands with Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA).

• **Uttarakhand gets award of excellence at international meet:**

Uttarakhand was conferred with the award of excellence at the 2nd Global Skill Development Summit held in **Paris** recently for innovations and extensive use of IT for skilling the state's youth. Project Director of Uttarakhand Skill Development Committee **Pankaj Kumar Pandey** received the honour on behalf of the state.

RAJASTHAN (Cap: Jaipur Chief Minister: Vasundhara Raje Governor: Kalyan Singh)

• **Joint Indian Air Force-Border Security Force Women Camel Expedition:**

Indian Air Force embarked upon an all women camel expedition along with Border Security Force from **Utarlai** (Barmer, Rajasthan) to **Attari** (Amritsar, Punjab). The expedition will conclude on **30 Sep 17.** The team was flagged off from **Air Force Station Uttarlai.** The expedition is planned with a team of 10 Women Air Warriors of IAF and 10 Women personnel from BSF. Motto: **Touch the sky with glory**

• **Rajasthan govt signed JV agreement for refinery project with HPCL:**

Rajasthan government and state owned oil firm **HPCL** inked an agreement to form a joint venture company for **Barmer petroleum refinery** and petrochemical complex. In a new firm, **HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited (HRRL)**, state government will have **26%** and **HPCL** will have **74 per cent** of partnership.

• **NABARD sanctions Rs 1,350-cr loan to Rajasthan govt:**

The **National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has sanctioned a **loan assistance** of Rs **1,349.55 crore** to the Rajasthan government for creation of rural infrastructure in the state under the **Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).** The sanction includes assistance for construction of two rural drinking water supply projects, strengthening/ rehabilitation of **1,614 rural roads** and modernisation of three major irrigation projects modernisation is located in **Udaipur, Banswara** and **Dungarpur** districts, a NABARD said.

• **Prime Minister to inaugurate National Highway projects in Rajasthan:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate various **National Highway projects in Rajasthan.** The projects include six Lane **Cable Stayed Bridge** across River Chambal at Kota, four laning of **Gomati Chauraha**

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- **Udaipur section** and four laning of **Rajsamand - Bhilwara section**. Mr Modi will also lay the foundation stone of various projects including the Jaipur Ring Road. The total outlay on these projects is estimated to be over **15,000 crore rupees**.

- **PM inaugurates 1.4-km long hanging bridge in Rajasthan:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **1.4-kilometre** long hanging bridge across the **river Chambal** in **Rajasthan's Kota**. The bridge which is 30 metres wide and 125 metres high, has been built at a cost of around 277.67 crore. PM Modi had earlier inaugurated 1.4-kilometre long cable stayed bridge across the river Narmada in **Gujarat** in March this year.

- **Rajasthan to impart skill training to ex-Army men:**

After successfully conducting recruitment rallies for the **Indian Army**, the **Rajasthan government's Department of Skills, Employment and Entrepreneurship (DSEE)** is planning to start skilling former soldiers to help them take up gainful occupations that utilise their experience. According to DSEE Commissioner **Krishna Kunal**, since most Army men retire early, often before they turn 50, their experience can be utilised to **enhance** the "skills ecosystem".

- **Village cooperative sets up first-ever solar power plant:**

A **village cooperative society** in **Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan** has set up the **first-ever solar power plant** to **serve its own needs** and supply surplus electricity to the power grid. The initiative has been hailed as a major step for **promoting renewable energy** and a significant contribution to environment protection. The **20 kV on-grid rooftop solar energy system** has been installed in a 2,000 sq. foot area at the cooperative society's office in **Bandha Colony village**, situated 11 km away from the Anupgarh town.

- **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurates the Indian National Congress meeting at Udaipur:**

The union Minister of **Road Transport and Highway and Shipping Nitin Gadkari** inaugurated the **212th Mid -Term Council meeting** on road safety Scenario in India held at **Hotel Radisson Blu of Udaipur**.

- **First child-friendly police station coming up:**

Rajasthan's first "child-friendly" police station will come up shortly in **Dholpur**, with the provision for **spreading awareness about laws against child labour, child marriage and sexual offences** and establishment of a colourful and attractive child cell.

- **Rajasthan government signed MoUs to reduce maternal, early neonatal mortality rates:**

The **Rajasthan government** signed **three MoUs** to leverage technology to **reduce maternal and early neonatal mortality rates**, and **enhance health services** in the state. The government signed an memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Reliance Foundation, Tata Trusts** and **USAID** (United States Agency for International Development) for implementing **Project ASMAN** to reduce of maternal and early neonatal mortality rates in **Ajmer, Bhilwara, Jhalawar** and **Kota districts**. The government also signed **second MoU** with **Cairn Foundation** for **improving emergency delivery services** in Barmer district. In the **third MoU**, the government signed MoU with another company for **improving family planning activities** in the state.

PUNJAB (Cap: **Chandigarh** Gov: **V. P. Singh Badnore** CM: **Captain Amarinder Singh**)

- **JP Nadda to launch 15 medical outlets of AMRUT Deendayal in Assam, UP & Punjab:**
Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare JP Nadda will launch **15 medical outlets of AMRUT Deendayal in Assam, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab** through Video Conference from Shimla. **Mr Nadda** will also inaugurate one outlet of **AMRUT Deendayal** at **Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC) Shimla**. Affordable Medicines and Reliable Implants for Treatment, **AMRUT Deendayal Pharmacy** is the flagship programme of Government of India.
- **Badal lays foundation stone of maize-based food park in Punjab:**
Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid the foundation stone of an **Rs 123.7 crore mega food park** with focus on **maize processing in Kapurthala district, Punjab**. The park is being developed by **Sukhjit Mega Food Park and Infra Limited** at village **Rehana Jattan**. It will boost job opportunities and environment conservation.
- **Punjab CM to launch Uber bike taxi scheme on July 24:**
Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh will be launching the first set of **100 Uber bike taxis, a new scheme** aimed at generating jobs for the **unemployed youth** in the state on **July 24**.
- **DIPP inks pact with a Punjab institute to set up TISC:**
The **Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP)** signed a pact with a **Punjab state council to set up Technology and Innovation Support Centre (TISC)**. At present, **500 TISCs** operate worldwide and establishing such centre in India will give the host institutions an access to the global network, said by the Commerce and Industry Ministry. The centre would be established at **Punjab's Patent Information Centre** under a **World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO)** programme.
- **Punjab Govt releases Rs 90 lakh for constructed of ultra modern cattle pond:**
The **Punjab Government** has released Rs **90 lakh** for the constructed of **ultra modern cattle pond** at village **Kanian Kalan in Jalandhar district**. This was disclosed by the chairman of Punjab Gau Sewa Commission **Mr. Keemti Bhagat at Jalandhar**.
- **Apni Gaddi Apna Rozgar Scheme Launched in Punjab With Uber Bikes:**
The **Punjab government** launched **Apni Gaddi Apna Rozgar Scheme** in collaboration with **Uber Taxi App**. This scheme is a part to **provide jobs to unemployed youth** in Punjab by providing **vehicles at subsidized rates**. Apni Gaddi Apna Rozgar Scheme aims to create entrepreneurship opportunities for the youths.
- **Punjab becomes first state to sign MoU with a global diagnostic firm to fight hepatitis C:**
Punjab has become the **first** state in the country to sign a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with a global diagnostic firm, "**FIND**", to help it diagnose and then properly treat hepatitis C. Health minister **Brahm Mohindra** was present when the agreement was signed at a function to mark the **World Hepatitis Day**.
- **Punjab govt launches 'Care Companion Programme':**
Brahm Mohindra, Health and Family Welfare Minister, Punjab launched its flagship health scheme "**Care Companion Programme**" (CCP) targeted at improving patient outcomes through better family engagement and education.
- **Stamp on noted playwright Balwant Gargi released:**

A stamp on noted **playwright** and **theatre director late Balwant Gargi** was released. BJP leader and Chandigarh MP **Kirron Kher** released the stamp on the commemoration of Balwant Gargi centenary by the **Punjab University**, On the occasion, the stamps of two other writers Krishan Chander and Bisham Sahni who are also the Punjab University (PU) alumni.

- **Punjab, UK join hands to promote skill development, technical education:**

The Punjab Government and the UK in principle decided to join hands to impart **skill development and technical education to the youth** of the state with a view to providing them **better employment opportunities in foreign countries**. It was announced by Technical Education Minister **Charanjit Singh Channi** after meeting Britain Deputy High Commissioner **Andrew Ayre**.

- **Punjab inks UDAN pact:**

The **Punjab government** signed a **tripartite agreement** with the **Centre** and **Airports Authority of India** under the country's flagship programme **UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik)** in the presence of Chief Minister Amarinder Singh. The agreement was signed by **Usha Padhee (Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation on behalf of GoI)**, **Tejveer Singh (Secretary Civil Aviation for Punjab Government)** and **GK Chaukiyal (Executive Director for AAI)**.

- **Punjab to get mohalla clinics, health insurance for all citizens:**

Punjab chief minister has announced his government's decision to **establish wellness mohalla (ward) clinics** across the state and also initiated the **process of providing health insurance** to all **the citizens** so that they can get quality healthcare facilities at affordable cost. The government has given an incentive of **30% marks** to PCMS (**Punjab Civil Medical Services**) doctors in the NEET for post-graduation.

JAMMU & KASHMIR (Cap: Srinagar CM: Mehbooba Mufti Gov: Narinder Nath Vohra)

- **Youth from Jammu & Kashmir Participating in Operation Sadbhavana:**

President Ram Nath Kovind said the youths of **J & k** are the future of the State and it is their responsibility to play a role in its development. **Operation Sadbhavana, to learn from the discipline of the Army**. He was interacting with a group of youths from the **Gurez Valley** of the State at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

- **J&K govt would spend Rs 1 lakh crore on education & road connectivity:**

The **Jammu and Kashmir government** would spend **Rs 1 lakh crore** on development works in the **next five years**, with special emphasis on **education and road connectivity**. This was stated by the Public Works minister **Naeem Akhtar**.

- **J-K govt to setup Eco-Pak in Rajouri:**

The **Jammu and Kashmir** government has decided to **build an Eco-Park** on over 34 acres of land reclaimed from encroachers in the **state's Rajouri district**. The park is a **first-of-its-kind** project in the region. It will have a botanical garden, a cactus garden, a cafeteria and other amenities.

- **J&K likely to clear GST by July 6:**

Jammu and Kashmir, the only state which failed to meet the June 30 timeline for the GST rollout, is likely to **clear the legislation by July 6**. State Finance Minister **Haseeb Drabu**, who attended the launch of

the GST said, in view of differences among the political parties, the state government had set up an all-party consultative group to find a common ground. With this, all the states have implemented the Goods and Services Tax.

- **Kargil International Marathon concludes:**

The first ever **Kargil International Marathon 'Run for Sarhad'** concluded with more than **800 runners** from all over the world participating in the event. The marathon started from **Tourist Facilitation Centre (TFC) Kargil** and concluded at the same venue covering Drass War Memorial, Kaksar Harka Bahadur and much more.

HIMACHAL PRADESH (Cap: Shimla CM: Virbhadra Singh Gov: Acharya Dev Vrat)

- **Himachal Pradesh: Country's first electric bus service launched:**

After two years of trial runs on the challenging Manali-Rohtang highway, **Himachal Roads Transport Corporation (HRTC)** finally launched its **electric bus** service on the route on a regular basis. With this, Himachal Pradesh has become the **first hill state** in the country to **run electric buses**. Electricity charging points have been installed at **Manali** and **Marh**

- **Government extends tax exemption for industry in NE, hilly states:**

Industries in the north eastern and Himalayan states will continue to get **tax exemption till March 2027**, albeit as refund, under the current GST regime which was rolled out on July 1, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. Industries in the **north eastern and Himalayan states of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand** under the previous excise regime used to get **10-year** exemption.

- **Indo-Thai joint military exercise begins in Himachal Pradesh:**

A 14-day joint **military training exercise** between **India and Thailand** started is conducting the yearly joint training exercise named "**Ex Maitree 2017**" from **July 3 to July 17** at Bakloh in Chamba district of **Himachal Pradesh**. The **aim** is to build and promote bilateral Army-to-Army relations and enhance inter-operability between the two armies.

- **First Unit of 100 MW Sainj Hydro electric project commissioned in Himachal Pradesh:**

The **first 50 MW unit of 100 MW Sainj Hydro Power project** of **Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL)** commissioned and synchronised with northern grid through **Parvati-Kol Dam** transmission line. The **second unit of 50 MW** would also be commissioned soon and the project would produce **322 million units of electricity** every year accruing an income of **Rs 100 crore** to the state government.

WESTERN STATES

MAHARASTRA (Cap: Mumbai CM: Devendra Fadnavis Gov: Vidyasagar Rao)

- **Maha govt launches Aadhaar-authenticated Direct Benefit Transfer portal:**

Maharashtra Government launched the **MahaDBT portal**, through which benefits of all government schemes will be transferred directly into bank accounts of beneficiaries in the state. **Maharashtra** Chief Minister
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Devendra Fadnavis launched benefits of all government schemes will be **transferred directly** into **bank accounts and MahaVASTU** online portals at an event. Maharashtra is the **first state** to launch this system to give direct benefits with 'Aadhaar' authentication. **MahaVASTU** is an Online Building Permission Management System with an electronic workflow for sanctioning building approvals. **MahaDBT portal** has been **designed on the lines of the central government's direct transfer** benefit scheme.

- **Maharashtra to raise \$270 m from Green Climate Fund:**

The **2030 Water Resources Group** (2030WRG) will help the **Maharashtra Government raise \$270 million** from the Green Climate Fund, which will be invested in integrated **watershed programmes** such as **Jalyukt Shivar Yojana**. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a new fund under the UN and is guided by the principles and provisions of the **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change**.

- **Mumbai's first marine rescue centre to come up at Juhu:**

The **dolphins, whales, tortoises and turtles** that wash ashore Mumbai's beaches injured will soon get medical aid at the **city's first marine mammal rescue centre**. Proposed at **Juhu beach**, the centre is part of the government's plan to invest **Rs1 crore** to build rescue centres in every district along **Maharashtra's 720-km coastline**.

- **India's First World Peace University Inaugurated in MIT, Pune:**

MIT World Peace University, the first of its kind in India, was inaugurated by **Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis**. Following the celebrations, a two-day '**Global Summit Science and Spirituality for World Peace**' was organized on the next day discussing issues of national and international importance and how a different outlook towards education could solve many of them.

- **Sushma Swaraj to inaugurate first Videsh Bhavan in Mumbai:**

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will inaugurate the **country's first Videsh Bhavan**, assimilating all **Regional Passport Offices** under one roof, at the **Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC)**.

- **Mumbai's Vikrikar Bhavan renamed as GST Bhavan:**

Maharashtra government's erstwhile Sales Tax headquarters '**Vikrikar Bhavan**' was today renamed as '**GST Bhavan**' after the Goods and Services Tax regime was rolled out.

- **World Population Day 2017: Maharashtra first to launch injectable contraceptives for women**

Maharashtra has become the **first state** in the country to roll out a **reversible method of contraception through intramuscular injections for women** marking the **World Population Day**, under a national programme called **Antara**.

- **Matunga Becomes India's First Railway Station with All-Women Staff:**

Matunga suburban railway station in **Mumbai** has become the **first station** in India to be **run by an all-women staff**. A total of 30 women staffers, including eleven booking clerks, five Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel and seven ticket checkers are working under station manager **Mamta Kulkarni**, who was the **first female station master** in Central Railway's Mumbai division.

- **Maha govt approves revised policy of 'Majhi Kanya Bhagyashree' scheme:**

The **Maharashtra government** approved a revised policy of the '**Majhi Kanya Bhagyashree**' scheme, according to which families who have a yearly income of up to **7.5 lakh rupees** will be benefited. A decision to this effect was taken during the cabinet meeting held in Mumbai.

• **Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi launches "Jiyo Parsi Publicity Phase-2" in Mumbai:**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for **Minority Affairs & Parliamentary Affairs Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi** said here that the NDA Government has been working with commitment to "inclusive growth" and "Antyodaya" to ensure prosperity, security and dignity of the last person of the society.

• **Maharashtra Launches 'Mahaswayam', Web Portal for Job Seekers And Employers:**

Maharashtra Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** launched a web portal 'Mahaswayam' that will cater to job seekers, employers, entrepreneurs, and training institutes who can avail details regarding skill development and employment.

Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship: **Sambhaji Patil Nilangekar.**

• **Maharashtra leads in awards for Prime Minister Awas Yojana:**

Maharashtra has received the **maximum awards** for execution of the **Prime Minister Awas Yojana (PMAY)**, for its technology-driven processes for registration, geo-tagging and sanctioning of houses under PMAY (Gramin). The state has bagged the **gold** medal for its impressive performance in overall implementation of PMAY (Gramin).

• **Maharashtra government to launch 'My Plant' mobile app on tree plantation:**

Maharashtra forest minister **Sudhir Mungantiwar** announced that a mobile app named 'My Plant', which would help in recording data about tree plantations in the state, would be launched on **July 1**.

• **Maharashtra govt enters into agreement with Ola for skill development:**

The Maharashtra government entered into an agreement with Ola, under which the cab aggregator will train 20,000 youth to become micro-entrepreneurs in the field of passenger transport in the next five years.

GUJARAT (Cap: Gandhinagar CM: Vijay Rupani Gov: Om Prakash Kohli)

• Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, **ThaawarchandGehlot** has launched a scheme that provides for physical aids and assisted-living devices for senior citizens belonging to the BPL category in Gujarat. It is expected to benefit 5,20,000 senior citizens over a period of three years. Under the scheme, devices were distributed to senior citizens free of cost.

• **President RamnathKovind** will lay foundation stone for **link - 4 of Saurashtra Narmada Avataram Irrigation Scheme -SAUNI- Yojana** in Rajkot district.

• **Prime Minister NarendraModi** inaugurated the **world's second biggest dam SardarSarovar Dam** described as Gujarat's lifeline by BharatiyaJanata Party (BJP) leaders.

• **Japan to fund mass rapid transit systems in Gujarat, Haryana:**

Funds from a Japanese government loan will soon be utilised for the first time in the \$100 billion, Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project. So far, the mega-project was being developed only with the Indian government's financial assistance. The DMIC spans six States (Uttar Pradesh, Delhi National Capital Region, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra). It uses 'the 1,500-km-long, high-capacity western Dedicated Railway Freight Corridor (DFC) as the backbone' and aims to be 'a global manufacturing and investment destination'.

• **Kandla Port renamed as Deendayal Port:**

The Ministry of Shipping has rename **Kandla Port Trust** as **Deendayal Port Trust** with effect from 25th of September, 2017. Kandla Port, located on the **Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat**, is one of the twelve major ports in the country.

- **Gujarat first state to implement coal utilisation between power units:**

Gujarat has issued tender for power developers to receive cheap coal marked for the state in return of selling its coal-based power at less than **Rs 2.82 per unit**. Through the auction, Gujarat will transfer the coal allocated to power generating stations owned by **Gujarat State Electricity Corporation (GSECL)** to more fuel efficient private power plants.

- **Gujarat sets up 1555-hectare 'Japanese Industrial Park' ahead of Shinzo Abe visit:**

Ahead of the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's scheduled visit to India in September, Gujarat government is setting up a brand new "Japanese Industrial Park" on the **Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)** passing through **Ahmedabad**, which is spread on 1555 hectare and is 15 times bigger in size compared to an existing one.

- **Gujarat govt to give 'Namo' tablets to 3.5 lakh college students for Rs 1000:**

Around **3.5 lakh college students** in **Gujarat** will get tablets at a subsidised rate of **Rs 1,000 each** under a state government scheme. Under this scheme, the first year college students in the state will get 7-inch '**NAMO E-Tab**' tablets, which have a market value of Rs 8,000 each, by just paying Rs 1,000.

- **Andhra, Telangana, Gujarat best in ease of doing business: NITI CEO**

Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Gujarat are the three best-performing states in "ease of doing business", **NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant** said. On the other hand, **Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Assam** fare worst in the rankings, while Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Bihar are at the bottom.

- **Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal confirmed that 13,872 villages electrified under rural scheme DDUGJY:**

Union Government **Shri Piyush Goyal** confirmed that **13,872 villages** electrified till **30th June 2017** in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Sikkim are the states where **100% villages** are electrified till date.

- **Prime Minister inaugurates Textiles India 2017:**

Narendra Modi inaugurated **Textiles India 2017, India's first ever mega textiles trade fair**, being held at **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. The Prime Minister expressed the hope that **Textiles India 2017** helps familiarize global & Indian leaders with India's enabling policy environment, strengths & vast opportunities.

- **PM Narendra Modi inaugurates TransStadia Arena in Gujarat:**

India PM **Narendra Modi** formally inaugurated **TransStadia in Ahmedabad, Gujarat**. The multi-purpose sports complex also hosts a **20-000 seater state-of-the-art football stadium**, the **first of its kind in the state**.

- **UNESCO declares Ahmedabad as world heritage city:**

Ahmedabad city has been declared as a **World Heritage City** at the **41st session of UNESCO's world heritage committee** being held at **Krakow in Poland**. Nomination of Ahmedabad was supported by close to 20 countries, including Turkey, Lebanon, Tunisia, Portugal, Peru and Kazakhstan.

- **High speed rail training centre to come up in Gujarat:**

The country is all set to get its first cutting edge high-speed rail training centre in Gujarat. "The construction will begin shortly after the foundation-laying ceremony is held in September," said MD, National High-Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRC), Achal Khare.

CENTRAL STATES

MADHYA PRADESH (Cap: Bhopal CM: Shivraj Singh Chouhan Gov: Om Prakash Kohli)

- **Madhya Pradesh sets record with plantation of 6 cr saplings in day:**

In Madhya Pradesh, a massive plantation campaign was undertaken to save the environment and conservation of the Narmada River. According to official sources over six crore saplings were planted in 24 districts of Narmada basin in just 12 hours.

- **Foundation stone of country's biggest Global Skill Park to be laid in Bhopal:**

Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship **Rajeev Pratap Rudi** and **Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** laid the foundation stone of the country's biggest Global Skill Park in Bhopal.

- **4th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems conducted by health ministry:**

4th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems was recently inaugurated by **Sumitra Mahajan**, Speaker of the 16th Lok Sabha at Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

- **Chouhan launches RSS website, says serving the needy biggest religion:**

Madhya Pradesh chief minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** said the biggest religion is to serve the needy, at the launch of **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's Sewa Prabhag website Sewagatha**, which highlights the "good work" done by people.

- **Shala Siddhi Prohatsan Puraskar Yojana in 25000 MP Schools:**

The Education department of Madhya Pradesh launched the **Hamari Shala Kaise Ho, Shala Siddhi Karyakram** and **Shala Siddhi Prohatsan Puraskar Yojana** to provide qualitative education to the students of government school of the state.

- **India's first 'private' railway station in Habibganj:**

The **Habibganj railway station** which is among the two railway stations that Bhopal has becoming the first world-class private station in the country under an ambitious project of the Indian Railways and redeveloped as a Public-Private Partnership (PPP). Also, it gets first ISO certified station in India.

- **Madhya Pradesh government launches farmers' debt relief scheme:**

Madhya Pradesh government launched a new debt relief scheme "Krishi Rin Samadhan Yojana" for farmers. The cabinet also allocated **Rs 1,000 crore for the scheme**. Under this scheme, the interest rate on loans would be less which would in turn also help defaulting farmers get loan.

- **Indore installs India's 1st 14-foot robot to control traffic:**

Indore from Madhya Pradesh has just installed India first **14-foot-tall robot** to control traffic in the state. It's equipped with a public address system and can take photos of traffic violators to generate e-challans when connected to police control room.

CHATTISGARH (Cap: Raipur CM: Raman Singh Gov: Balram Das Tandon)

- 'Ye India ka time hai' event was organized at **National Institute of Technology, Raipur**. The event was held as per the directives of HRD ministry to mark India's **70 years of independence** and **75 years of the Quit India movement**.

- **Raipur Becomes India's First City To Build A Micro-Forest, Wants To Create An Oxy-Zone:**

Nineteen acres of land which housed around 70 government office buildings in **Chhattisgarh's Raipur** is being converted into India's **first micro forest** in order to create an **oxy-zone**. The micro forest will provide fresh air to Raipur which is the seventh most polluted city in the world. It will reportedly be open to the public in the **next 8 months**.

- **Chhattisgarh tops list of states in issuance of soil health cards:**

Chhattisgarh has topped the list among all the states in the country for having issued over **43 lakh soil health cards (SHCs)** to farmers in the past **two years**, a state minister informed at Raipur.

- **Chhattisgarh govt to merge regional Co-Operative Banks into State Co-Operative Bank:**

In **Chhattisgarh**, a major decision aimed at benefitting farmers, state government has decided **to merge all regional Co-Operative Banks into a mega State Co-Operative Bank**. State Cabinet approved the re-organization. The **264 branches** however will remain functional and in the state as same as earlier but from now on will give its services as a **scheduled cooperative bank**.

- **Raipur Airport Ranked First in Customer Satisfaction Index Survey:**

Raipur's Swami Vivekananda Airport was once again ranked **first in Customer Satisfaction** among 49 airports in the country. Raipur Airport achieved **4.84** score on a five point scale index in the latest CSI survey conducted by an independent agency for the period of January-June 2017.

SOUTHERN STATES

TELENGANA (Cap: Hyderabad CM: Chandrasekara Rao Gov: ESL Narasiman)

- No frills airliner **Trujet** of **Turbo Megha Airways** has announced the launch of **Hyderabad-Mysore flight** under the **regional connectivity scheme**. **Turbo Megha** is one of the five air operators which won bids to operate on 128 routes connecting 70 airports, of which 31 are unserved under the regional connectivity scheme – **UdeDeshKaAamNagrik (UDAN)**.

- The Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri **Kiren Rijiju** addressed at the seminar "**Pralay Sahayam**"- "**Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief**" held at College of Defence Management in **Secunderabad** Cantonment. The exercise is for all agencies involved in search, rescue and relief operations during natural disasters, to interact and evolve a seamless and optimized Disaster Management Strategy.

- **India's first private missile production facility unveiled:**

India's first private sector missile sub-systems manufacturing facility, a joint venture between the

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\$2.5 billion Kalyani Group and **Israel's Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd.**, was inaugurated near Hyderabad. To begin with, the **Kalyani Rafael Advanced Systems (KRAS)** plant will make **anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) Spike**. Kalyani group has invested **Rs 60 cr** in the project. It is **51:49** joint venture between India's Kalyani Group and Israel's Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd. It has been established line with the **'Make in India' initiative** and Government's policy to encourage private sector participation in defence production.

- **Microsoft tied with Telangana to provide AI-based eye care solutions:**

Microsoft is going to help the government of Telangana use **artificial intelligence** to **provide eye care screening for children in the State**. As part of the agreement, Microsoft's cloud based machine learning eye care screening **Microsoft Intelligent Network for Eyecare (MINE)** will align with the **Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram programme** under the **National Health Mission**.

- **Hyderabad to host World Congress of Optometry:**

The world's visually impaired will be the subject of some serious discussions at the upcoming **2nd World Congress of Optometry** to be held in **Hyderabad International Convention Centre** during **September 11-13**. The Congress will not only highlight and raise awareness of issues, but will also further the important strides made in India to improve both access to vision care and reduce avoidable blindness. The conference theme is **'Accessible, quality vision and eye health'**. It ties into WHO's **'Universal Eye Health: A global action plan 2014-19'**, which aims to reduce the prevalence of avoidable visual impairment by 25 per cent by 2019.

- **Telangana to have separate agriculture budget from next year:**

Telangana will have a separate budget for **Agriculture** from next year. This was decided after **Chief Minister, K. Chandrasekhar Rao** met the Ministers and officials on Agriculture. He said it has also been decided **to enhance fund for agriculture sector**.

- **India's first university only for Dalit students to come up in Hyderabad by 2018:**

A proposal to establish an **exclusive university for Dalit students** in **Hyderabad** is under active consideration of the state government. The university is said to be part of the government's policy of providing education free of cost to students from **weaker sections from kindergarten to post-graduation (KG to PG) level**.

- **Telangana: "Janahitha" launches to receive complaints from public:**

In Telangana, an innovative programme christened **"Janahitha"** was launched to receive complaints from public through a special portal. The programme, kick started in **Suryapet** district on pilot basis is aimed at facilitating the public to submit their complaints on line and get Speedy Redressal.

ANDHRA PRADESH (Cap : Amaravati CM: Chandrababu Naidu Gov: ESL Narasiman)

- **Hyperloop Transportation Technologies (HTT)** signed a memorandum of understanding with the **Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB)** to **connect Vijayawada and Amaravati**, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh in Guntur district.

- **Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu** declared the year of **2017 as e-pragati year**.

The Chief Minister also inaugurated the **Andhra Pradesh Sports Policy 2017**. On "**Parishkara Vedika**", a call center that has been set up to hear and redress the grievances of the public, Naidu said any complaints would be resolved quickly.

- **Andhra Pradesh first to implement Bharat QR digital payments to make Vizag less-cash city:**
Andhra Pradesh's Eastern Power Distribution Company Ltd (EPDCL) and the **Southern Power Distribution Corporation of AP Ltd (SPDCL)** have become the **first state-owned distribution** companies in India to accept payments through **Bharat QR**, the world's first interoperable quick response code acceptance solution launched by the Reserve Bank of India. As part of the '**Vizag less-cash city**' initiative underway between Visa and the Andhra Pradesh government, the state has witnessed a slew of initiatives aimed at increasing the rate of digital payment adoption.
- **Pedaparupudi to be smart village:**
Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu pledged all the necessary support from the government to develop **Pedaparupudi village in Krishna district as India's smart village by the end of 2018**.
- **'A.P. to be developed as knowledge hub':**
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, along with **Union Minister Venkaiah Naidu**, inaugurated **SRM University in Amaravati**. He said that he was committed to developing the State into a **knowledge hub**.

TAMIL NADU (Cap: **Chennai** CM: **Edappadi K. Palaniswamy** Gov: **Banwarilal Purohit**)

- The board of **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** has approved the setting up of a Rs 27,460 crore refinery by its subsidiary, Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd (CPCL). This will be CPCL's third refinery. It currently operates a 10.5 million tonnes Manali refinery in **Tamil Nadu**. It also has a smaller 1 million-tonne **Nagapattinam** refinery.
- Union minister **Anupriya Patel** launched a nationwide health campaign to sensitise women about the early screening and the preventive care for cancer. Themed 'Nurturing the Nurturer', the campaign was launched by **FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO)** in partnership with the Apollo Hospitals group.
- **PM Modi to inaugurate APJ Abdul Kalam's memorial in Rameswaram:**
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the former President, Dr **APJ Abdul Kalam's memorial** at **Pei Karumbu in Rameswaram**, Tamil Nadu today on the second death anniversary of the former President. Mr Modi will unveil a statue of Dr. Kalam and will hoist the National flag at the memorial. Mr. Modi will flag off **Kalam Sandesh Vahini**, an exhibition bus which will travel across the country and reach **Rashtrapati Bhavan** on **15th of October**, which marks the birth anniversary of the former President.

KERALA (Cap : **Thiruvananthapuram** CM : **Pinarayi vijayan** Gov : **P.Sathasivam**)

- **The KOCHI Host City Logo**, the venue for the FIFA U-17 World Cup, India 2017 was launched by **Kerala CM PinarayiVijayan** and the logo reflects Kochi's identity and it will be valuable tool in linking the local community in a global world cup. The **Jawaharlal Nehru football stadium** in Kochi is a host for the FIFA U-17

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World Cup and will host eight matches.

- **Kochi** will host the **fifth edition** of the '**Coastal Shipping and Inland Water Transportation Business Summit 2017**' at Hotel Crowne Plaza. **Kerala Governor P Sathasivam** also present the India Sea trade Award for Excellence in Coastal Shipping & Inland Water Transportation.

- **Kerala to open India's first transgender-exclusive clinics.**

- **Royal Australian naval ship visits Kochi:**

Royal Australia Navy (RAN) ship **HMAS Newcastle** arrived in Kochi on a four-day visit. The Commanding Officer of the Ship MD Sirois accompanied by Captain Sheldon Williams called on **Vice Admiral A R Karve AVSM**, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Southern Naval Command (SNC) for interactions on issues of common interest to both navies, a Naval press release said.

- **Sabarimala airport to come up on Cheruvally estate:**

The **proposed Sabarimala greenfield international airport** in **Central Travancore** is to come up on the **Cheruvally estate**, 2.5 km from the Theni-Kottarakara National Highway and close to Erumeli town in **Kottayam district**. The 2,263 acre Cheruvally estate of the Harrisons Plantations is located at Kanjirapally, about 48 km from Sabarimala.

- **Kerala to host literary fest with tolerance as theme:**

Kerala is getting ready to host a literary festival with "**Tolerance**" as the core theme. Creative writers, journalists, theatre and film personalities will deliberate on tolerance at the fifth edition of **South India Writers Ensemble (SIWE)**, to be held at **Chengannur**, a sleepy town in coastal Alappuza district, from July 24.

KARNATAKA (Cap: **Bengaluru** CM: **Siddaramaiah** Gov: **Vajubhai vala**)

- **Karnataka** is the first state to roll out an **Electric Vehicle and Energy Storage Policy** and is also looking to attract investments to the tune of Rs31,000 crore from companies looking at research and development (R&D), and manufacturing of **electric vehicles (Evs)**.

- **Bengaluru to have India's first heli-taxi service:**

Bengaluru's **Kempegowda International Airport** will become the **first airport** in the country to have a **helicopter-taxi (heli-taxi)** service. The service, which will be operated by **Thumbay Aviation Private Limited**, is expected to take off within **three months**. Initially, services will be operated between **KIA and Electronics City**, where a heliport is expected to come up. Estimates by the company peg the **travel time at around 15 minutes**, a journey that takes a few hours by road otherwise.

- **India's first railways disaster management centre to come up near Bengaluru:**

India's first railways disaster management village expected to come up near **Bengaluru** by **December 2018**. It will be used to replicate train accidents so that real time rescue operations could be carried out to improve such efforts. The ministry has earmarked the **3.32-sqkm village of Hejjala**, with a population of 3,483 people, to develop its Disaster Management Institute and Safety Village at a cost of Rs 44.42 crore, according to the blueprint accessed.

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- **Karnataka launches 'Indira Canteen' in Bengaluru:**

Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi launched the **Indira Canteen scheme** a state government initiative named after former prime minister Indira Gandhi aimed at **providing food at low cost to the urban poor**. The state government has launched 101 Indira canteens within city limits which will serve breakfast for **Rs 5**, and lunch and dinner for **Rs 10**.

- **Cloud seeding begins in Karnataka:**

The **cloud seeding** experiment taken up at cost of **35 crore**, called **Project Varshadhari**, began. This cloud seeding operation, a **first in Magadi and Ramanagaram**, aims to condense small water particles by clouds (size less than 10 microns) to droplets of **50 microns**, which can constitute rains. The flight is expected to a one-hour sortie and will spray **Silver Iodide, Sodium Chloride and Potassium Chloride** to condense the water particles. A committee, comprising meteorologists, experts in cloud physics and hydrologists, will monitor the process.

- **Karnataka to merge health schemes, launch 'Arogya Bhagya':**

Karnataka, the **State government** has decided to merge various health schemes and launch unified '**Arogya Bhagya**' to cover all the 1.4 crore households. The Universal Health Coverage scheme would help the card holder get treatment in all the empaneled private hospitals besides government hospitals to get treatment without paying any cash. The main theme of the '**Arogya Bhagya**' scheme is "**Treatment First and Payment Next**".

- **Karnataka launches skilling programme:**

With the aim of creating over **10 lakh skilled jobs**, **Karnataka** has launched the '**Yuva Yuga**' scheme to **skill the youth with new-age technologies**.

- **Karnataka 'Elevate 100' scheme for start-ups:**

The Karnataka government has launched the '**Elevate 100**' scheme to identify and nurture innovative start-ups. The aim is to identify 100 most innovative start-ups in the state to elevate them to the next level of success, said **Priyank Kharge, Minister for IT and BT**.

GOA (cap: Panaji CM: Manohar Parrikar Gov: Mridula Sinha)

- **Coconut palm declared State tree of Goa:**

The State government has decided to include **coconut palm** as **tree** in the **Goa, Daman and Diu (Preservation of Trees Act), 1984** to regulate felling of coconut trees under this Act," the Cabinet stated. The State Cabinet also resolved to declare the coconut tree as the "**State tree**".

- **ICGS 'Shaurya' commissioned, Dharmendra Pradhan calls it 'joyous moment' for India:**

The Indian Coast Guard Ship '**Shaurya**', an indigenously built **offshore patrol vessel by Goa Shipyards**, was commissioned at Panaji, in **Goa**. The commission was inaugurated by **Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan**, who expressed his gratitude for being a part of this joyous moment. This Goa Shipyard **to initiate a pilot project** to explore the use of compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG) in ships like Shaurya and have talked to the GAIL to collaborate in the venture. Focussing mostly on creating **Green Energy fuel**, Pradhan said that this would also help to create Goa as a state for green fuel conversion.

• **Free GST facilitation centres in Goa:**

In a bid to facilitate traders with the **State Goods and Service Tax (GST)** implementation. The facilitation centres are set up at **Panaji, Margao, Mapusa, Ponda** and **Vasco**.

EASTERN STATES

WEST BENGAL (Cap: Kolkata CM: Mamata Banerjee Gov: Keshari Nath Tripathi)

• **Bengal Government to celebrate Kanyashree Utsav on July 25:**

Kolkata, on **July 25** will mark the celebration of **Kanyashree Utsav** the day will witness representatives from all corners of the state coming together to **congratulate accomplished Kanyashree**.

• **Health min, WB signs MoU to set up transfusion medicine centre:**

To strengthen the **blood transfusion services in West Bengal and the surrounding areas**, the Union health ministry joined hands with the state government for setting up a **centre for transfusion medicine at Kolkata**. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Ministry and the state government, under which **Rs 200 crore** would be allocated by the Centre for equipment, manpower and running costs while state will provide land free of cost.

• **President of India Inaugurates 7th Edition of KKM Memorial Gold Cup - Rural Football Tournament:**

The President of India, **Shri Pranab Mukherjee** inaugurated the **7th Edition of Kamada Kinkar Mukherjee Rural Football Tournament** at **Mackenzie Park Football Ground** in Murshidabad district of West Bengal.

JHARKHAND (Cap: Ranchi CM: Raghubar Das Gov: Draupati Murmu)

• **Venkaiah Naidu Laid Foundation of Country's First 'Green-Field' Smart City:**

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu laid the foundation stone for **Ranchi Smart City** on the **Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) land**. According to the Urban Development **Minister CP Singh**, this would be the country's first 'green-field' smart city.

ODISSA (Cap: Bhubaneswar CM: Naveen Patnaik Gov: S.C. Jamir)

• **Odisha cabinet approved setting up of Handlooms and Handicrafts Development and Promotion Council:**

The Odisha government decided to establish the Handloom and Handicrafts Development and Promotion Council in the state and restructuring of the cadre of the Odisha Administrative Service (OAS). The council will also undertake promotional activities such as exhibition, fairs, conferences and other programmes to facilitate sale of handloom and handicraft items on a large scale and improve the market linkage with special focus on exports.

• **Odisha govt and Facebook launches 'She Means Business' programme to train women entrepreneurs:**

Chief minister Naveen Patnaik launched 'She Means Business' programme of Facebook for women entrepreneurs in Odisha. Under the scheme 25, 000 women entrepreneurs and self-help group (SHG) members will be given training on digital marketing skills within next one year.

- **Grid connected rooftop solar projects programme launched:**

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated grid connected roof top solar programme in a bid to enable public participation to harness renewable energy. A web platform www.rtsodisha.gov.in was also launched to help project stakeholders interact with consumers and provide services. This website created by Odisha Renewable Energy Development Agency (OREDA) will be useful in making the Rooftop Solar Program easily accessible to the common citizens.

- **Statue of Sanjukta Panigrahi unveiled:**

The Odisha government unveiled a statue of Sanjukta Panigrahi on her 74th Birth anniversary as a mark of respect to the state's foremost exponents of Odisha dance. Odisha Culture Minister A C Panda unveiled the statue in the premises of Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Odisha Research Centre. Sanjukta Panigrahi (1944-1997) started dancing at the tender age of four and consequently trained in Indian Classical Dance forms of Kathak, Bharat Natyam and Odissi, but embraced Odissi as her passion. She was conferred Padmashree in 1975 and Sangeet Natak Akademy Award in 1976.

- **Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated computerisation of PACS & launched Rupay KCC:**

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated computerisation of PACS and launched RuPay Kisan Credit cards in the state. Patnaik said Odisha is the first state to implement an integrated Core Banking Solution Project covering all three tiers of short term cooperative credit structure - state cooperative bank, district central cooperative banks and 2,708 primary agriculture cooperative societies.

- **IAAF partners with Odisha government for establishment of high performance academy:**

The Odisha government signed an expression of intent (EOI) with the IAAF and the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) for establishment of a high performance academy inside the premises of Kalinga Stadium.

- **Operation Muskan launched in Odisha to rescue missing children:**

Operation Muskan, a month-long drive to rescue Odisha's missing children, was launched by the State police. This is the third edition launched by the Crime Branch in association with the Women and Child Development Department.

- **Naveen Patnaik dedicates Odisha's longest bridge to nation:**

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik dedicated to the nation the state's longest bridge and named it after Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The 2.88 km bridge over the river Kathajodi will connect the state capital of Bhubaneswar with Cuttack reducing the distance between the two cities by 12 km.

BIHAR (Cap: **Patna** CM: **Nitish Kumar** Gov: **Keshari Nath Tripathi** (ad.charge))

- **Regional air connectivity in Bihar to be promoted:**

Bihar government signed an MoU with the Centre for promoting regional air connectivity in the state. The MoU was signed under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) in presence of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Union Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapati Raju.

NORTH EASTERN STATES

ASSAM (Cap: Dispur CM: Sarbananda Sonowal Gov: Jagdish Mukhil)

- **Assam** government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **Google India** and would work to provide Internet connection to 26000 villages and 1500 tea garden areas to increase digital literacy.
- It has been given to successfully implement **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichi Yojna in Assam**, for community nursing to help flood hit farmers. Amount of **600 crore rupees** have been sanctioned by the Centre for Prime Minister **Awaz Yojna Urban scheme** in Assam.

- **Centre declares entire Assam as 'disturbed' area under AFSPA for another month:**

The **Centre** has declared entire **Assam** state as a disturbed area under the **Armed Forces Special Powers Act, AFSPA** for one more month, citing various violent activities by insurgent groups ULFA, NDFB, and others. The Home Ministry also declared Meghalaya's border areas adjoining Assam and three districts in Arunachal Pradesh as disturbed under the AFSPA.

- **Eronet to be launched in Assam on Aug 28:**

In **Assam**, new internet based software '**Eronet**' introduced by **the Election Commission of India** will be launched in **Assam on 28th August**. Eronet is useful for various activities relating to electoral roll such as the inclusion of name, deletion, name correction, transfer of name including providing the new photo identity cards.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH (Cap: Itanagar CM: Pema Khandu Gov: Padmanabha Acharya)

- **Rijju inaugurates RIWATCH Museum in Arunachal Pradesh:**

Minister of State for Home Affairs, Kiren Rijju inaugurated the **Research Institution of World Ancient, Traditional, Culture & Heritage (RIWATCH)** Museum at Roing, and hoped that it would serve as a place of exchange of cultural values of various tribes of the state and the North East.

- **Arunachal to host 5th North East Connectivity Summit:**

Arunachal Pradesh has been chosen to host the **5th North East Connectivity Summit in 2018**, informed Chairman, North East Advisory Council of **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Ranjit Barthakur**.

- The **North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO)** said its two hydro-electric projects in Arunachal Pradesh are on the verge of completion and they would be commissioned next year.

MANIPUR (Cap: Imphal CM: N.Biren Singh Gov: Najma Heptulla)

- **Manipur govt declares flood situation a 'State Calamity':**

In Manipur, an emergency review meeting chaired by State Chief Minister N. Biren Singh assessed the **flood situation in the state** and decided to declare the **present disaster as 'State Calamity'**.

- **24/7 helpline '181' launched for Manipur women:**

To battle the ever increasing crimes against women in Manipur, the Manipur government has launched a toll free 24/7 helpline number 181 for women in the state. The helpline **181** was launched by **Nemcha Kipgen, State Minister for Social Welfare and Corporation.**

- **Nungthaang Tampak becomes North East's first 100 % computer literate village:**

Nungthaang Tampak village has emerged as the '**100 percent computer literate**' not only in the state but in the entire North East. The training program was organised by **Mangaal Rural**, an NGO working for rural development. The computer course, which is affiliated to All India Society for Electronic and Computer Technology (AISECT), was organised by Mangal Rural as a part of the Digital India program. The **Nungthang Tampak** has become India's second 100 percent computer literate village in India. Kerala's **Chamravattom village** is the country's first 100 percent computer literate village.

- **Dr. Jitendra Singh announced "Hill Area Development Programme" for Northeast:**

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), **Dr Jitendra Singh** announced the launch of "**Hill Area Development Programme**" (HADP) for Northeast in **Imphal, Manipur.**

MEGHALAYA (Cap: Shillong CM: Mukhul Sangma Gov: Banwarilal Purohit)

- **Meghalaya CM Mukul Sangma launches LIFE prgm at Songsak:**

Meghalaya Chief Minister **Dr Mukul Sangma** launched a flagship programme '**Livelihood Intervention and Facilitation of Entrepreneurship**' (LIFE) at Songsak in East Garo Hills. LIFE is a programme of the State Rural Livelihood Society, an agency of the Community and Rural Development Department, which is implementing the Centre's flagship programme - **National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM).**

- **Meghalaya signs MoU with SBI for online payments:**

As part of the state government's drive towards migrating government **transactions to the digital mode**, the state finance department signed two MoUs with the **State Bank of India for SBIPay and SBI CMP** facilities at the main secretariat building. The state government has already established a new treasury, called Cyber Treasury, which dedicatedly handles all online transactions of government receipts across the state.

MIZORAM (Cap: Aizawl CM: Lal Thanhawla Gov: Nirbhay Sharma)

- **Mizoram celebrates 31st anniversary of Mizo peace accord:**

The 31st anniversary of the signing of the historic Mizo peace accord between the Union government and the erstwhile underground Mizo National Front (MNF) was celebrated today in Mizoram. The Mizo Accord was signed on **June 30, 1986** ushering in an era of peace after 20 years of violence and disturbance in the state.

- **First meeting of Japan-India Coordination Forum (JICF) for Development of North-Eastern Region held:**

The first meeting of the **Japan-India Coordination Forum (JICF)** for Development of North-Eastern Region was held in New Delhi. Secretary, **Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER),**

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Shri Naveen Verma led the Indian side while the Japanese delegation was led by the Japanese Ambassador to India, **Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu**.

INTERNATIONAL

- **First time India became partner country in International Economic Forum:**

PM Narendra Modi attends the **St Petersburg International Economic Forum** held in **Russia**. This will be the first time that **India** will be a **partner country** in this **business event**.

- **India, Pakistan to become full SCO members at Astana summit:**

India and **Pakistan** admission as full members to the Beijing-based **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation** (SCO) will be formalised at the political and **security grouping's summit** in **Kazakhstan**. Expo 2017 – Astana, will be hosted from June 10- September 10, 2017. The theme of the Expo is "**Future Energy**".

- **Arun Jaitley to attend AIIB annual meets in Korea:**

Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley** will attend the annual meeting of China-led **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank** (AIIB) to be held in mid-June in **South Korea**. This year meeting is being co-hosted by the **Bank and Korea** and will be held in **Jeju Island**.

- **Irrfan's Doob to première in Shanghai:**

Bangladeshi director **Mostofa Sarwar Farooki's** bilingual film **Doob: No Bed Of Roses**, starring **Irrfan Khan** and Bangladeshi actor **Nusrat Imrose Tisha**, will have its **world première at the 20th Shanghai International Film Festival**. The film has also been selected to compete at **the 39th Moscow International Film Festival**.

- **G7 Environment Ministers Meet in Bologna:**

G7 environment ministers and officials are met in **Bologna, Italy on June 11th and 12th** to discuss issues ranging from climate change to sustainable development and litter at sea and adopted the "**5-Year Bologna Roadmap**". **G7 Countries** consists of **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States**.

- **AUSINDEX-17: India, Australia to Participate in Joint Maritime Exercise:**

Navies of **India** and **Australia** will participate in **bilateral maritime exercise AUSINDEX-17** this week with an **aim to enhancing interoperability and cooperation between the two forces**.

- **India, South Korea agree to more investments, fight protectionism:**

India and **Korea** decided to stimulate investments **to push infrastructure development and bilateral trade** as they sought to **ward off threats of rising protectionism**.

- **Switzerland agrees to automatic exchange of account info with India from 2019:**

Switzerland ratified automatic exchange of financial account information with India and 40 other jurisdictions **to facilitate immediate sharing of details about suspected black money**, even as it sought strict adherence to confidentiality and data security.

- **UNESCO names Sharjah as World Book Capital 2019:**

Sharjah has been **crowned** with the prestigious '**World Book Capital**' for **2019** by **UNESCO** for the quality of its literary and cultural activities and for its efforts to make books accessible to the entire population of the nation.

- **India becomes 1st country to give to UN Tax Fund with \$100000 contribution:**

India has contributed **\$100,000** to a **UN fund** to **help developing countries** actively participate in the discussion of tax issues, becoming the **first country to make the contribution**.

- **UNESCO declares HEBRON- Old Palestinian city as World Heritage site.**

- **Bolivia's President Declares 'Total Independence' From World Bank And IMF:**

Bolivia's President Evo Morales has been highlighting his government's independence from **international money lending organizations** like **IMF & World Bank** and their detrimental impact the nation.

- **NATO countries begin major military drills in southern Bulgaria:**

NATO countries have begun their **major military drills in southern Bulgaria**. Nearly 25,000 military personnel from 22 NATO allied and partner countries are participating in "**The SABER Guardian 17 exercise**". The drills have been considered as **one of the largest in the Black Sea region** under the leadership of US Army.

- **5th Meeting of BRICS Education Ministers held in Beijing, China.**

- **BRICS Youth Forum opens in Beijing:**

The **2017 BRICS Youth Forum** opened in China **to discuss youth development in the BRICS member-nations**. Theme: "**Enhance BRICS Partnership, Promote Youth Development,**"

- **Indian, Israeli defence firms join hands:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Israel, Indian and Israeli companies entered into agreements to bid jointly for **defence contracts** for the Indian military and locally build the systems under "**Make in India**".

- **Japan's Okinoshima Island gains UNESCO World Heritage status.**

- **South Sudan marks grim 6th independence anniversary:**

South Sudan marked its **sixth independence anniversary** in muted fashion, with no official celebration as the **world's newest nation** reels from a brutal and destructive ongoing civil war.

- **India is 4th largest investor into UK:**

India has slipped by one spot to become the **fourth-largest foreign investor into the UK** and **US** remains on the top.

- **UK launches 'Grand Trunk Road' project to mark 70th anniversary of India's partition:**

The **British government** has launched a new project titled the '**Grand Trunk Road**' to mark the **70th anniversary of India's partition in August 1947** with volunteers from the Muslim, Sikh and Hindu communities in the UK coming together to stage special events.

- **IFFM 2017: Aishwarya Rai Bachchan Becomes The First Woman To Hoist The Indian National Flag**

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan became the **first Indian actor** to hoist the **Indian National Flag at the Indian Film Festival Of Melbourne (IFFM 2017)** that started on August 10 and shall continue till August 22.

- **World's Highest-Paid Authors 2017: J.K. Rowling Leads With \$95 Million**

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Harry Potter creator **JK Rowling** has been named the **world's most highly-paid author** with earnings of **£72.2m (\$95mn)** this year.

- **World's largest bicycle parking garage opens in the Netherlands:**

World's largest bicycle parking garage opens in the **Netherlands**. It has over **10,000 cyclists** riding to work, school or home. Utrecht has opened the world's largest bicycle parking garage. The parking lot is spread in an area of over 17,100 sq m and three storey.

- **Festival of India being Organised in Brazil from 31 August to 9 September 2017**

A **Festival of India** is being organized in **Brazil** from **31 August - 9 September 2017**. The Festival will showcase diverse Indian culture, i.e. classical dances, literature, cuisine and **Exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi**.

- **India, Canada start next round of free trade agreement talks:**

The **10th round** of negotiations for the proposed **free trade agreement** between **India and Canada** started in **New Delhi**.

- **India hopeful operations at Chabahar Port will start by 2018:**

The **Minister for Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Shri Nitin Gadkari** has said that the government is keen on developing **Chabahar Port** in Iran and is hopeful of starting operations by **2018**.

- **15th BIMSTEC Ministerial meeting to be held in Kathmandu:**

The working session of the 15th Bay of Bengal Initiative for **Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, BIMSTEC**, Ministerial meeting is held at Kathmandu. Prime Minister **Sher Bahadur Deuba** has inaugurated and address the meeting. **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj** is representing India in the meeting.

- **India, Russia to hold joint military exercise in October:**

India and Russia will hold a **mega military exercise** in **October** involving their armies, navies and the air forces for the first time to further ramp up military ties.

- **India and US to co-host the Global Entrepreneurship Summit:**

India and **US** will be co-hosting the **Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES)** at **Hyderabad** from 28-30 November, 2017. The Summit is a **unique opportunity** for bringing together entrepreneurs and start ups with global leaders.

- **West Bengal gets \$300 million ADB loan to carry forward fiscal reforms:**

Multilateral funding agency ADB said it has sanctioned a **USD 300 million loan facility** for carrying forward **fiscal reforms in West Bengal**.

- **Joint Sea 2017: Russia, China participate in joint naval exercises in Baltic Sea.**

- **China launches the world's fastest bullet train:**

China has again launched the **world's fastest bullet train**, running at 350 kilometres (217 miles) per hour.

- **Sushma Swaraj to visit Russia, attend Eastern Economic Forum:**

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj three-day visit to **Russia's port city Vladivostok** where she had participated in the **third Eastern Economic Forum**.

- **China and Australia joint military training exercise called Panda Kangaroo 2017 held in Kunming:** capital of southwest China's Yunnan Province.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- **New species of flying squirrel discovered by scientists:**

Scientists from Washington have discovered a **new species of flying squirrel** in **North America** that had been hiding in plain sight for hundreds of year.

It is known as **Humboldt's flying squirrel** or **Glaucomys oregonensis**, the new flying squirrel species inhabits the Pacific Coast region of North America.

- **World's first hybrid 'aeroboot' made by Indo-Russian JV unveiled:**

The world's first hybrid "aeroboot" capable of **travelling on land, water, snow and sand** that has been **built by an Indo-Russian joint venture** was unveiled in **Moscow** at a start-ups event organised by Russia's state-run Skolkovo Foundation. It has been designed by **IIAAT Holding**, a **joint venture** between the **International Institute for Advanced Aerospace Technologies** and **Indian firm Millennium Aerodynamics**.

- **Astronomers find hottest giant planet Kelt-9b:**

Astronomers have discovered the **hottest planet** ever known as "**Kelt-9b**", with a dayside temperature of more than 4,300 degrees Celsius.

KELT-9b is **2.8 times more massive than Jupiter**, but only half as dense.

The KELT-9b planet was found using the **Kilo degree Extremely Little Telescope (KELT)**.

- **China launches space telescope to observe black holes:**

China launched its **first ever space telescope** to **observe black holes, pulsars and gamma-ray bursts**. The **2.5-tonne Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope (HXMT)** was launched via a **Long March-4B** rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in Gobi Desert.

- **Indians working on world's biggest telescope:**

Union Science Minister Harsh Vardhan praised Indian scientists for their contribution toward the **world's biggest telescope Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT)**, which is under development. Last year **Ladakh**, one of the sites for the giant telescope, was ruled out. The TMT is being built at an estimated cost of **USD 1.47 billion** by an international consortium consisting of **India, the United States, Canada, Japan and China**.

- **IISER Pune: Novel drug delivery system to kill cancer cells**

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune have successfully developed a novel cancer drug delivery system using **graphene oxide nanoparticles**. In a serendipitous discovery, a team led by **Dr. Sudipta Basu** and **Dr. Nirmalya Bhallav** from the Department of Chemistry found that when a FDA-approved anticancer drug **cisplatin** was added, the graphene oxide sheets self-assembled into spherical nanoparticles enclosing the drug within.

- An **international team of astronomers** used the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope to estimate whether there might be **water on the seven earth-sized planets orbiting the nearby dwarf star TRAPPIST-1**.

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- India's indigenously developed third generation anti-tank guided missile (**ATGM**) **Nag** has been successfully flight tested by premier defence research organisation DRDO in deserts of Rajasthan, marking completion of development trials. The missile can hit a target up to 7 km.
- NASA's **Cassini spacecraft** made its dramatic '**death plunge**' into Saturn's atmosphere, ending an **epic 20-year space journey**.
- **An Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi** team developed a new drug delivery platform using **nanoparticles**, with ability to boost efficacy of antibiotics at the cellular level and improve chances of recovery from cancer-related bacterial infections.
- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will launch a niche Earth observation (EO) satellite - **Hyperspectral Imaging Satellite (HySIS)**, with critical chip called *optical imaging detector array*. It will allow ISRO to enter operational hyperspectral imaging from earth orbit.
- Indian scientists discovered **Nasikabatrachus bhupathi**, a new species of frog with a snout-shaped nose like a pig, near **Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary** in Tamil Nadu. It has been named after the Indian herpetologist S. Bhupathy.
- Vizag's **Rayichapalu** is declared one of the rarest fish in world by Marine Living Resources Department of Andhra University. Rayichapalu will have the scientific name '**Pseudathias Vizagensis**', after the city where it was first discovered.

APPOINTMENTS

S.No	Name	Post
BANKING		
1.	KV Rama Moorthy	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Tamilnadu Mercantile Bank
2.	P R Seshadri	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of KarurVysya Bank
3.	Ajay Vipin Nanavati	Chairman of Syndicate Bank
4.	R A Sankara Narayanan	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Vijaya Bank
5.	M Nagaraja Sharma	Managing Director of United India Insurance (UIIC)
6.	Sambamurthy	Interim Chairman of the Board of NPCI
7.	S. Aparna	Executive Director, World Bank
8.	Dr. (Ms.) Mamta Suri	Executive Director, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)
9.	Melwyn Rego	MD and CEO of Syndicate Bank

10.	Manjunath	Non-executive chairman of LVB
11.	Sunil Kakar	MD & CEO of IDFC
12.	Jeevandas Narayan	MD of Manappuram Home Finance
13.	Subash Samant	CEO of Manappuram Home Finance
14.	Mohammad Mustafa	Chairman and Managing Director in Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
15.	S. Ganesh Kumar	New Executive Director of RBI
16.	Shinjini Kumar	Head of Citi Bank's consumer banking
17.	Dilip Asbe	the acting chief executive of NPCI
18.	David Rasquinha	Managing Director of the EXIM bank
19.	Kewal Handa	Non-executive chairman of Union Bank
20.	Mukesh Kumar Jain	MD & CEO of Oriental Bank
21.	K G Karmakar, Gauri Shankar	Independent Directors of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)

NATIONAL & BUSINESS

22.	Ram Nath Kovind	14th President of India
23.	Venkaiah Naidu	next Vice-President of India
24.	ShriHaribhai Parthibhai Chaudhary	MoSMinistry of Coal
25.	ShriPiyushGoyal	Union Railway Minister
26.	Smt.NirmalaSitharaman	Union Defence Minister
27.	ShriNitinJairamGadkari	Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways; Shipping; and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
28.	Shri Suresh Prabhu	Union Minister of Commerce and Industry.
29.	Shri D.V. SadanandaGowda	Union Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
30.	Smt. Uma Bharati	Union Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
31.	ShriDharmendraPradhan	Union Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
32.	ShriAlphonsKannanthanam	Union Minister of tourism; and Electronics and Information Technology.
33.	Shri Rao Inderjit Singh	Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers

34.	Defence Minister NirmalaSitharaman	Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) & Permanent members of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)
35.	Railway Minister PiyushGoyal	Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA)
36.	Petroleum minister DharmendraPradhan	Permanent members of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)
37.	I V Subba Rao	secretary to Vice President
38.	Sanjay Kothari	secretary to President of India
39.	T.R. Zeliang	Nagaland Chief Minister
40.	Rajiv Mehrishi	13 th Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India
41.	Sunil Arora	Election Commissioner of India
42.	Rajiv Kumar	Secretary in the Department of Financial Services
43.	Rajesh Kotecha	special secretary in AYUSH ministry
44.	Arvind Subramanian	Chief Economic Advisor
45.	Bibek Debroy	Chairman of Economic Advisory Council
46.	Shashi Tharoor	first chief of the All India Professionals' Congress
47.	Lt Gen Abhay Krishna	chief of eastern command
48.	Rajiv Kumar	new Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog
49.	Dilip Chauhan	Deputy Comptroller for Minority Affairs of Nassau Country
50.	Justice Dipak Misra	45th Chief Justice of India
51.	Shri Dharmendra Kumar	Director General, Railway Protection Force
52.	R.K. Pachnanda	IPS officer of the West Bengal
53.	Rajiv Bansal	Additional Secretary and the Financial Advisor of Air India
54.	O Panneerslevam	Tamil Nadu Deputy CM
55.	KK Venugopal	Attorney General of India
56.	Achal Kumar Jyoti	21 st Chief Election Commissioner
57.	Sanjay Kumar	new chief of the National Disaster Response Force
58.	Somesh Goyal	new DGP of Himachal Pradesh

59.	Subhash Garg	Governor on the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs
60.	PV Sindhu	Deputy Collector of Andhra Pradesh
61.	Anita Karwal	Chairperson of Central Board of Secondary Education, CBSE
62.	KuldipKaura	Interim CEO of Metal and mining major Vedanta Ltd
63.	Lt Gen ManojPande	Chief of Staff at Headquarters of Southern Command in Pune
64.	N Baijendra Kumar	CMD of the state-run National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
65.	J Y Pillay	Singapore's acting president
66.	U B PravinRao	MD and CEO of Infosys
67.	Y C Modi	Chief of the National Investigation Agency
68.	VasantNarasimhan	CEO of Europe's largest drug maker "Novartis"
69.	VivekGoenka	Chairman of Press Trust of India
70.	N. Ravi	Vice Chairman of Press Trust of India
71.	Ajay BhushanPandey	Interim chairman of the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN)
72.	HarmanpreetKaur	Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Western Railway
73.	P Nataraj	Chairman of Southern India Mill's Association (SIMA)
74.	Former United Nations secretary general Ban Ki-moon	Chairman of International Olympic Committee's ethics commission
75.	PunitGoenka	President of The Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF)
76.	Balraj Joshi	new NHPC chairman
77.	Sameer Garde	Cisco India and SAARC President
78.	Dhirendra Swarup	BSE chairman
79.	Rajni Kant Misra	Director General of the SashastraSeemaBal (SSB)
80.	Sanjay Rajagopalan	Senior Vice-President of Infosys
81.	Devendra Chawla	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Walmart India
82.	Hemant Narayan Bhagwat	New Air Officer-in-charge Administration
83.	Ushanath Banerjee	chairman of Transfers Dispute Committee of AIFF

84.	Santosh Sharma	chairman and managing director (CMD) of Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL)
85.	P B Balaji	Chief Financial Officer of Tata motors
86.	Shashi Shekhar Vempati	chief of Rajya Sabha TV
87.	Sanjiv Gupta	MD of General Motors India
88.	Sankara Rao	IFCI Chief Executive
89.	Vishpala Reddy	Chief People's Officer of Uber India
90.	Pravin Rao	interim CEO of Infosys
91.	Nandan Nilekani	Chairman of Board of Infosys
92.	N.B. Gupta	Director (Finance), Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC)
93.	Ashwani Lohani	new Chairman of Railway Board
94.	Harmanpreet Kaur	DSP of Punjab
95.	Roopa Purushothaman	chief economist of TATA Sons
96.	Dara Khosrowshahi	CEO of Uber
97.	Ashish Chauhan	Re elected BSE CEO for another 5 year
98.	John Joseph	chief of GST intelligence agency
99.	SN Subrahmanyam	L&T CEO & MD
100.	N Chandrasekaran	Chairman of Tata Global Beverages
101.	Rajesh Laddha	MD and CEO of Shriram Capital
102.	Sanjay Gupta	Chairman of the Society and Board of Governors of Indian Institute of Management, Amritsar
103.	Sanjiv Goenka	Chairman of IIT Kharagpur's Board of Governors
104.	Raninder Singh	president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)
105.	Debi Prasad Dash	Director-general of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence
106.	Ned Segal	CFO of Twitter
107.	Justice (retd) Vikramjit Sen	New chairman of Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC)
108.	Thomas Kuehl	president of Indian operations of Nissan
109.	Aarthi Subramanian	Chief Digital Officer of Tata Group
110.	Satyendar Jain	new chairperson-cum-managing director of the Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (DSIIDC)

111.	Arbind Modi and Bajrang Dass Vishnoi	members of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
112.	Bharat Arun	Team India bowling coach
113.	Vinay Dube	Jet Airways CEO
114.	Sanjiv Singh	new chairman of Indian Oil Corporation
115.	Satish Borwankar	COO of Tata Motors
116.	Sharad Jain	Director general of National Water Development Agency (NWDA)
117.	Hoshiar Singh	Chief of copyrights office
118.	Sadhana Kinnar	First Transgender Social development officer of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS)
119.	Amit Sinha	Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Paytm Mall
120.	Kajal Singh	Executive Vice President of GSTN
121.	Ramanathan Ramanan	Mission Director of the Atal Innovation Mission
122.	Imran Khawaja	ICC deputy chairman
123.	N N Vohra	President of IIC
124.	Dr. Manoj Soni	Member, Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
125.	Shashi Shanke	Next ONGC chief
INTERNATIONAL		
126.	Madam Halimah Yacob	Singapore's first female president
127.	Indian-American lawyer Manisha Singh	Incharge of economic diplomacy in USA
128.	Indian-American Raj Shah	Key Position in Trump Communication Team
129.	Hope Hicks	Communications Director to Team Trump
130.	Mercedes Araoz	Prime Minister of Peru
131.	Tilak Marapana	Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister
132.	Raquel Dodge	Brazil's First Female Attorney General
133.	Peter Thomson	first UN envoy for oceans
134.	Angela Merkel	4th term as German chancellor
135.	MC Mary Kom	first Indian AIBA representative

136.	Lourenco sworn	Angola's new president
137.	Mihai Tudose	Prime Minister of Romania
138.	Christopher Wray	Cheif of FBI
139.	Justice B N Srikrishna	Head of Data Protection Framework for India
140.	Sanjaya Baru	FICCI secretary general
141.	Peter O'Neill	Re-elected Papua New Guinea PM
142.	Hassan Rouhani	Iran's President for a second term
143.	Uhuru Kenyatta	Re-elected as Kenyan President
144.	Prasad Parajuli	Nepal' new SC Chief Justice
145.	Preet Kaur Gill	Britain's first woman Sikh in parliament panel
146.	Paul Kagame	Rwandan President
147.	Neil Chatterjee	member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission of US
148.	Vishal Amin	Intellectual Property (IP) Enforcement Coordinator of US
149.	Travis Sinniah	chief of Sri Lankas naval forces
150.	Lt.Gen Mahesh Senanayake	new Army Commander of Srilanka
151.	Battulga	Mongolia's president
152.	Farzaneh Sharafbani	first female CEO of Iran Air
153.	Lord Davies	Chair of the UK India Business Council (UKIBC)
154.	Rajeev Dubey	elected to the governing board of International Labour Organisation
155.	Brenda Hale	UK Supreme Court's first female president
156.	Major Nana Kofi Twumasi-Ankrah	first ever black assistant of Queen Elizabeth
157.	Shahid Khaqan Abbasi	Interim prime minister of Pakistan
158.	Nirupama Rao	public policy fellow to a Washington-based think-tank
159.	Aleksandar Vucic	Serbian President
160.	Miroslav Lajcak	President of UN General Assembly
161.	Sher Bahadur Deuba	Prime Minister of Nepal
162.	Amul Thapar	Judge on US Court of Appeals
163.	Dalveer Bhandari	Renominated Judge at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

164.	Mohammed bin Salman	Saudi Arabia's crown prince and Deputy prime minister of Saudi Arabi
165.	Vladimir Voronkov	Chief of UN counter terrorism centre
166.	Kailash Chand	Vice-president of UK medical body
167.	Palbinder Kaur Shergill	first turbaned (amritdhari) Sikh woman of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in New Westminster

AMBASSODORS

168.	Param Jit Mann	Next Ambassador of India to the Slovak Republic
169.	Sandhu-Rojon	UN deputy representative for West Africa
170.	Ruchira Kamboj	Next High Commissioner of India to South Africa
171.	Prabhat Kumar	next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Kazakhstan
172.	Rana Sarkar	Canada's consul general in San Francisco
173.	Kenneth I Juster	Next US ambassador to India
174.	Gaitri Issar Kumar	Next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Belgium
175.	Reenat Sandhu	Next Ambassador of India to Italy
176.	Ajit Vinayak Gupte	Next Ambassador of India to Denmark
177.	GautamBambawale	Ambassador to China
178.	Ajay Bisaria	High Commissioner to Pakistan
179.	Vani sarraju Rao	next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Estonia
180.	Sohail Mahmood	Pakistan's High Commissioner to India
181.	Reenat Sandhu	next Ambassador of India to the Republic of San Marino
182.	Nikolay Kudashev	Russia's new ambassador to India
183.	Shamma Jain	India's ambassador to Greece
184.	Pradeep Kumar Rawat	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Indonesia
185.	Krishna Urs	US ambassador to Peru
186.	Parineeti Chopra	Indian woman ambassador for Tourism Australia
187.	John R Bass	US envoy to Afghanistan
188.	Bishwadip Dey	Next High Commissioner Of India To Montserrat
189.	Shri Sanjiv Kohli	Next High Commissioner of India to New Zealand
190.	P.V. Sindhu	Bridgestone India's First Brand Ambassador

191.	Akshay Kumar	Brand Ambassador of the Swachh Bharat Mission in Uttarkhand
192.	Priyanka Chopra	Ambassador for Government's Skill India campaign
193.	Syrian refugee Muzoon Almellean	Goodwill Ambassador for UNICEF
194.	Vidya Balan	ambassador of Indian Film Festival of Melbourne
195.	Hrithik Roshan	Brand Ambassador of Health and wellness startup Cure.fit
196.	Rahul Dravid	InCred brand ambassador
197.	Milkha Singh	Goodwill Ambassador for physical activity of WHO
198.	Sandeep Patil	Brand ambassador of the Indian Indoor Cricket Team.
199.	Lilly Singh	UNICEF's Global Goodwill Ambassador
200.	Neymar	goodwill ambassador position for Handicap International
201.	Vidya Balan	brand ambassador of Signature Global
202.	Ms Saima Wazed Hossain	WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Autism in South-East Asia Region
203.	Dia Mirza	Wildlife Trust of India's brand ambassador

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

NOBEL PRIZE

Physiology or Medicine (for discovery of molecular mechanism controlling the circadian rhythm)	Jeffrey C.Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W.Young
Physics (LIGO waves observatory)	Rainer Weiss, Barry C.Barish and Kip S.Thorne
Chemistry (for developing cyro-electron microscope for the high resolution structure determination of biomolecule in solution)	Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson
Economics (for his contribution to behavioural economics)	Richard Thaler
Peace	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons(ICAN)

- Former India Women's Hockey captain **Sumrai Tete** became the **first woman from Jharkhand** to be awarded **Dhyan Chand Award 2017** by the President Ramnath Kovind.
- Eminent **Konkani** writer **Mahabaleshwar Sail** has been honoured with the **Saraswati Samman 2016** for his novel **Hawthan** that captures cultural lives of traditional potter community in Goa.

- **Karnataka Bank** has bagged "**Best Bank Award among Small Banks for use of Technology for Financial Inclusion**" in the 13th **IDRBT Banking Technology Excellence Awards 2016-17**, held at Hyderabad, on 01-09-2017.
- **Hyderabad International Airport Ltd** has bagged the National Award for '**Excellence in Energy Management**' at a conference hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- **UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy** is given to the **AdulTICoProgram** from **Columbia, The Citizens Foundation** from **Pakistan**, and the **Fundza project** from **South Africa**.
- Badminton great **Prakash Padukone** will be conferred with the **first Lifetime Achievement Award** instituted by the **Badminton Association of India (BAI)** for his rich contribution to the sport.
- Eminent jurist **Tahir Mahmood** today received the prestigious **Prof N R Madhava Menon Best Law Teacher Award** as part of the Law Teachers' Day celebrations.
- The **Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA)** has been awarded National level **Rajbhasha Keerti Award** for the third consecutive year.
- **Vijaya Bank** has bagged the first prize under the **Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (Region C)** for the year 2016-17. It got the award for active implementation of Hindi in its day-to-day activities.
- **NHPC** has been awarded First Prize by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for the year 2016-17 under '**Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar**' scheme for commendable work in implementation of Rajbhasha amongst Public Sector Undertakings located in **Region 'A'**.
- **HUDCO** received '**Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar**' 2017 award under the **CPSE category**, for its contribution in promoting the use of Hindi as official language.
- Bollywood superstar **Salman Khan** has been honoured with the **Global Diversity Award 2017** in the **British Parliament House**.
- **Bharat Heavy Electricals (BHEL)** has been conferred **PSE Excellence Awards 2016 for R&D, Technology Development & Innovation, Human Resource Management Excellence** and for Contribution of Women in PSEs, in the Maharatna & Navratna CPSEs category by the **Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC)**.
- Former **DIG D Roopa**, who highlighted in a report alleged irregularities at the central jail here, including preferential treatment to AIADMK leader **V K Sasikala**, was on Saturday conferred the **President's Medal**.
- **Zannah Mustapha** an **Nigerian lawyer** who helped secure the release of more than 100 schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram was on Monday awarded one of the **United Nations Peace Prize**.
- **Ria Sharma** became the first Indian to receive the **Leadership Award** at the **2017 Global Goals Awards** for her work on acid attack survivors through her organisation Make Love Not Scars (MLNS).
- Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (**Jipmer**) received **SKOCH Award-2017** in **Smart Governance-Health Category** from SKOCH Institution.
- **Newton** will be India's official entry to the **Best Foreign Film** category at the **Oscars 2018** which is directed by **Amit Masurkar** starring **Rajkumar Rao**.
- **Rajkumar Rao** bags **GQ Actor of the Year Award** for his performance in '**Newton**'.
- **National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX)**, the only commodity exchange in the country promoted by national level institutions, has awarded **Ragunandan Industries Pvt Ltd** with **Krishi Pragati Awards 2017** in an event held in Delhi.

- Eminent Scientist and Bharat Ratna **Prof C.N.R. Rao** awarded as 2017 **Von Hippel Award**, the highest international prize in materials research.
- Indian economist **Bina Agarwal**, a professor at the University of Manchester, was recognised in the gender studies category for her "heroic" work studying women's contributions to agriculture in India as he winners of this year's **Balzan Prize** that recognise scholarly and scientific achievements.
- Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu felicitated film-maker **S S Rajamouli** with the prestigious **ANR National Award** for his contribution to the Telugu film industry.
- **Maryna Viazovska** of **Swiss Federal Institute of Technology**, Lausanne, Switzerland, will receive 2017 **SASTRA Ramanujan Prize** for her **contribution to number theory**.
- Noted **Odia poet** and short story writer **Banaj Devi** will be honoured with the 38th edition of the prestigious **Sarala award** for her **short story** compilation **Kathapua**.
- An Army medic who ran into danger to save wounded soldiers during a **Vietnam War battle** despite his own serious wounds became the first **Medal of Honor** recipient under President Donald Trump. **48 years** after the selfless acts of bravery, **James McCloughan** is now nationally recognised.
- **Shikha Pandey**, member of **India women's cricket team** which ended as runners up at ICC Women's World Cup 2017, was felicitated by the **Indian Air Force**. The cricketer received a cheque and medal from Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa at Air Headquarters in New Delhi.
- Veteran actor and three times national award winner **Sharada** has been selected for this year's **Prem Nazir Award**.
- **Firoz Merchant**, an **Indian businessman in the UAE**, who has spent over **USD 4 million** to help free prisoners languishing in jails due to nonpayment of debts, has been honoured with the country's prestigious **Community Service Medal**.
- Indian-origin actor **Dev Patel** is to be honoured by a leading educational organisation for making a "transformative and positive" difference for the future of Asia and the world as the **Asia Game Changers Award** at a ceremony to be held at the United Nations, New York by the **Asia Society 2017**.
- **ASSOCHAM** confers the "**Best Skilling Award**" on **National Centre for Excellence of RSETIs**(Rural Self Employment Training Institutes)(NACER).
- World Renowned **facial plastic surgeon Dr. Debraj Shome** has been awarded with the prestigious '**Indian of the Year**' award at the 8th Annual **India Leadership Conclave & Indian Affairs Business Leadership Awards 2017**, held in Mumbai.
- The **Hugo Award** for **Best Novel 2017** was given to **Nora K. Jemisin**, an American speculative fiction writer for her work '**The Obelisk Gate**'.
- **Skill Development Institute, Visakhapatnam** has been adjudged the '**Best Institute-Innovation of Skill Development**'.
- Veteran **journalist T J S George** has been chosen for the first **Kesari Media Award**, instituted by the Kesari Memorial Journalist Trust.
- **Corporation Bank** has bagged the best performance awards for **SHG-bank linkage programme** for 2015-16 and 2016-17 among commercial banks operating in Karnataka from **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**. The bank has formed more than 1.32 lakh self-help groups (SHGs) till

date.

- **NABARD** has conferred the '**best performance award**' for **2015-16 and 2016-17** to **Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank** (KVGB) for its work in the field of credit linking joint liability groups (JLGs).
- US-based **Marconi Society** has announced its **Lifetime Achievement Award** to Indian-born Stanford University professor **Thomas Kailath**, for his outstanding contributions to modern communications.
- **Bappi Lahiri**, 1st music director who composed songs for Bharat Ratna Shri. Atal Bihari Vajpayee & Bharat Ratna Dr. Ambedkar gifted the CDs to Honorable President of India Mr. Ram Nath Kovind in the presence of Home Minister Rajnath Singh. Bappi Lahiri was awarded **7th Bharat Ratna Dr. Ambedkar Award** for his legendary 48 years of musical work in both Bollywood and Hollywood in Delhi.
- '**Durga of Indian football**' **Oinam Bembem Devi**, the flag bearer of Indian women's football over the past two decades was named the winner of the prestigious **Arjuna Award**. Bembem becomes the **second Indian woman footballer** to win the award, the first being **Shanti Mullick** in 1983.
- The **Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA)** announced the **Global Agriculture Leadership Award** to Telangana chief minister **K Chandrasekhar Rao** for his transformational role in bringing new systems and improving farm sector.
- Indian American novelist and playwright **Padma Viswanathan** is the recipient of the 2017 **Porter Fund Literary Prize** for fiction
- **Preethi Srinivasan**, the former State under-19 cricket captain was presented with the '**Kalpna Chawla Award for Courage and Daring Enterprise**' award by Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami during the 71st Independence Day celebrations at Fort St. George in Chennai.
- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik conferred the **Biju Patnaik Award for Scientific Excellence** for 2016 to **Prof. Digambar Behera**.
- **National Research Development Corporation (NRDC)**, the technology transfer and commercialization arm of the **Ministry of Science & Technology** won the **Assocham Services Excellence Award** and its Chairman and Managing Director, **H Purushotham** with the **International Association of Advanced Materials (IAAM) Sweden** honored Purushotham with the IAAM Medal 2017 for his outstanding R&D contributions in the Advanced Materials Science & Technology.
- Former India defender **Subrata Bhattacharya** will get this year's **Mohun Bagan Ratna award**. . A well-known defender Bhattacharya, 64, played for Bagan from 1974 to 1990. **Jhulan Goswami** to be felicitated by Mohun Bagan at their annual awards ceremony
- Health Ministry's mobile app **eVIN(Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network)** has won the prestigious **GSMA Asia Mobile Award 2017 (AMO)** for outstanding contribution to the **UN's sustainable development goals in Asia**. The award was given during the Mobile World Congress 2017 in Shanghai.
- Two Indian-Americans, **Adobe Chief Shantanu Narayen** and former **US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy** will be honoured with the prestigious '**Great Immigrants**' annual award on **US's Independence Day** for their role in helping advance the country's society, culture and economy.
- Writer **Preeti Shenoy** was honoured with the **Indian of the Year** award in the field of **Literature** awarded by the **Brands Academy**.
- **Guruswamy Jayraman**, who **migrated from Delhi to Australia in 1991**, has been awarded Order of

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Australia for community work, the highest civilian award in Australia.

- **Tata Steel** has won the **Prime Minister's trophy** for being the **best performing integrated steel plant** in the country during **2014-15 and 2015-16**.

- GQ's(Gentleman Quarterly Magazine) **Most Influential Young Indians 2017: Mavericks list- Ranveer Singh** and GQ's Most Influential Young Indians 2017:Artistes list - Prabhas, Rajkummar Rao, Radhika Apte, Diljit Dosanjh and Badshah featured in the list.

- **A R Rahman** shortlisted for **World Soundtrack Awards Public Choice Award** for the film "**Viceroy's House**". The award allows fans across the world to cast their vote for what they consider to be the best soundtrack of the past 12 months.

- Climate and energy efficiency solutions company **Danfoss India** has been conferred with the '**Golden Peacock Award**' for **Environment Management**. The award was presented during the **19th World Congress on Environment Management** in the presence of Supreme Court Justice Kurien Joseph.

- '**Maruti Suzuki Sportsperson of the Year**' Charity Gala Awards.

Sportsperson of the Year award - **P V Sindhu** Coach of the Year award - **P Gopichand**
 Legend of the Year award - **Milkha Singh**

Milkha Singh

- **Vijaya Bank MD Kishore Kumar Sansi** gets **SKOCH 'Personality of the year'** award by Skoch Consultancy Services.

- **Ramon Magsaysay Awards(Asian Nobel Prize)**

Yoshiaki Ishizawa(Japanese historian)-For restoring Cambodia Angkor Wat temple.

Gethsie Shanmugam(Srilanka)- For rebuilding the lives of Srilanka affected by war.

- **Global Indian Impact Icon-** Baahubali -**Tamannaah Bhatia** and **V Vijayendra Prasad** (writer of Baahubali) **India's Global Icon-** **Shri A. S. Kiran Kumar**(ISRO Chairman)

- **Singapore Airlines** has been rated the world's best airline in a survey by the **Travel and Leisure magazine**. It has been followed by Emirates and Qatar Airways at second and third place.

- **Chitraveena** maestro **N Ravikiran** would be conferred with the "**Sangita Kalanidhi Award**" instituted by the **Music Academy**(Chennai)

- Veteran BJP leader **LK Advani** received the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for his contributions as a Lok Sabha member. JD(U) leader **Sharad Yadav** got the Lifetime Achievement Award as a **Rajya Sabha MP**. The award was given by the Ex-Vice President Hamid Ansari at a function organised by the Lokmat Media Group.

- A group of **seven Indian students** has bagged two awards at the first **global robotics Olympiad in the US** where 157 countries participated. The students, who hail from **Mumbai**, won **gold** for **Zhang Heng Engineering Design Award** and **bronze** for **Global Challenge Match** at the international robotics challenge organised by **FIRST Global** in Washington.

- Chennai-based professor of psychiatry and leading specialist in neuro behavioural medicine, **Dr. U. Gauthamadas** was presented the '**Most Trusted Neuro-psychiatrist of the Year**' Award at the **Rising Leadership Awards** held in Goa.

- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee conferred this year's **Mahanayak Samman 2017** to veteran **actress Shakuntala Barua** for her contribution to the world of cinema.

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- The Chief Executive Officer of Swimming Federation of India, **Virendra Nanavati**, was recently honoured by **FINA**(International Swimming Federation) in Budapest. HQ: Lausanne,Switzerland.
 - **Mahindra and Mahindra** have conferred the prestigious **National Young Entrepreneur Award** to **Wangchu Khrimy** of **Iconic Automobiles, Naharlagun.(Arunachal Pradesh)**.The award was presented by the President and CEO of Mahindra, Rajan Wadhwa at a Company Annual event in Greece.
 - Indian American author **Jhumpa Lahiri** has been announced as the recipient of the 2017 **PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in the Short Story**.
 - Actress **Raveena Tandon** was awarded the **Phalke Best Critic** award for her performance in "**Maatr**" at the 148th Dadasaheb Phalke Jayanti Celebration Actress **Manisha Koirala** honoured with the special **Phalke Brave and Beautiful** award.
 - **Vinod Dua - RedInk Award for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism Raj Kamal Jha**(Chief editor of The Indian Express) - **Journalist of the Year award for 2017**. National RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism is instituted by the **Mumbai Press Club** and will be presented by Maharashtra Chief Minister.
 - Kalinga Literary Awards 2017: Kalinga Literary festival held in **Bhubaneswar** with the theme of "**Literature for Peace and Harmony**".
- Anand Neelakantan:** The Kalinga International Literature Award
Haraprasad Das: Kalinga Literacy Youth Award
Paramita Satapathy: Kalinga Karubaki Award
- **Muttiah Muralitharan** became the **first Sri Lankan** to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame along with **Arthur Morris**(Australia), **George Lohmann**(England) and **Karen Rolton**(Australia).
 - **Poland** poet and author **Adam Zagajewski** won **Spain's** prestigious **Princess of Asturias Award 2017** for **Literature**.
 - **Soumitra Chatterjee**(Bengali Actor) is conferred with The France's highest civilian award, the coveted **Legion of Honour** Award. The award comes to him exactly **30 years after Satyajit Ray** got the honour.
 - **Israeli** author **David Grossman** has won the **Man Booker International** Prize for his novel '**A Horse Walks Into a Bar**'. The award was announced in London. The award has a prize of 50,000 pounds (\$64,000) that is split evenly between Mr. Grossman and translator Jessica Cohen. Last year the prize was awarded to The Vegetarian by South Korea's Han Kang.
 - **Priyanka Chopra** is more popular than her "Baywatch" co-star Dwayne Johnson(second) and even "Wonder Woman" Gal Gadot on social media in the report released by Social media analytics company **MVP(Most Valuable Professional) index**.
 - Eminent writer from **Arunachal Pradesh** **Yeshe Dorjee Thongchi** was conferred '**Sarhad's 5th Bhupen Hazarika National Awards**' 2017.Sarhad is a Pune based NGO.
 - **Margaret Atwood**(Canadian poet) will receive a **lifetime achievement** award from one of the world's oldest literary organisations at the group's annual **Literary Awards Festival** on October 27 in California.
 - **Syama Sanju** was declared the **Queen of Dhwayah**, the winner at Kerala's first ever beauty pageant for **transgender women**.
 - A Noted Kannada poet and playwright **H S Shivaprakash** was presented with the **Kusumagraja Rashtriya Puraskar** 2017. The award was constituted by Nashik-based Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra

Open University's (YCMOU).

- The 2017 **Orwell Prize, Britain's** most prestigious prize for **political writing**, was announced in London. The £3,000 2017 Orwell Prize for books titled "**Citizen Clem: A Biography of Clement Atlee**" (Former Britain PM) authored by **John Bew** won the award
- **Doha based Qatar Airways** was announced as the **World's Best Airline** at the **SKYTRAX 2017 World Airline Awards**. It has won the award at 4th successive time. Singapore Airlines was ranked No. 2.
- **Francis Spufford** has been awarded the 2017 **Desmond Elliott Prize** for his debut fiction, **Golden Hill**. The Desmond Elliott Prize is an annual award for the best debut novel written in English and published in the UK. The winner receives £10,000.
- **Ferrari's 3.9-litre V8** from the 488 GTB has won the 2017 **International Engine of the Year** award for the second consecutive year.
- **Angolan writer Jose Eduardo Agualusa** wins €100,000 **International Dublin literary** award for his 14th novel "**A General Theory of Oblivion**", translated by Daniel Hahn.
- **Radio Mirchi** bagged a Gold Radio for '**Five years of Nirbhaya**,' under the **Public Service Announcement Promotion category** at **New York Festivals International Radio Program** in New York City Manhattan Penthouse. Totally, India won nine medals (One Gold, Four Silver and Four Bronze) and bagged 22 finalist certificates.
- Sahitya awards for 2 Goan writers: **Vincy Quadros** has been awarded Sahitya Akademi's **Bal Sahitya Puraskar** for his book '**Jaduche Petul**' for children in Konkani.
Amev Naik has been selected for **Youva Puraskar 2017** for his Konkani poetry collection '**Mog Dot Com**'.
- Wipro Chairman **Azim Premji** is among the recipient of this year's **Carnegie Medal**, considered the most prestigious prize in philanthropy, for his efforts to reform India's public school system.
- **Nisha Dutt**, Chief Executive Officer of **Hyderabad-based Intellectap** has been honoured with the "**Social Entrepreneur of the Year**" award at The **7th Asian Awards** in London. She is the first Indian woman leader to have been conferred with this recognition.
- **Kanyashree Prakalpa** the scheme launched by Mamata Banerjee won her government the **United Nations Public Service Award 2017** at The Hague. The "Kanyashree Prakalpa" is a targeted conditional cash transfer scheme aimed at retaining girls in schools and other educational institutions. It also aims towards skill development and prevent child marriage.
- 40th convention of the **SJFI (Sports Journalists Federation of India)** to be held in Indore Best Sportsperson of the Year Award- **P V Sindhu** Best Team of the Year award - **Indian Men's junior hockey squad**.
- The 54th **Femina Miss India World 2017** winner is **Manushi Chhillar from Haryana**. The event was held at Yash Raj Studios in Mumbai.
- Former India hockey captain **Dhanraj Pillay** will be awarded "**Bharat Gaurav**", East Bengal football club highest honour on their foundation day.

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- **India's largest autonomous public research and development organisation. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been ranked ninth best government institution in the world. In overall global ranking, CSIR stands at 75th position amongst 5250 institutions world-wide. It is the only Indian organisation which has found place amongst the Top 100 Global Institutions.**

- **Emma Stone named 2017's highest-paid female actor with \$26m:**

Emma Stone has been named **Hollywood's best-paid female actor** in Forbes' annual list of top earners. The 28-year-old made \$26m in the last 12 months, the majority of which was earned from her Oscar-winning performance in the musical romance La La Land. The film made over **\$445m** worldwide.

- Indian actors **Shahrukh Khan, Salman Khan** and **Akshay Kumar** are **among the top 10 highest paid actors** in the **world** in a list compiled by Forbes. The list is topped by Hollywood action **star Mark Wahlberg**.

- **Shahrukh** is at the **eighth spot** on the list with earnings of 38 million dollars, followed by **Salman** on **ninth** position with 37 million dollars. **Akshay** is the **10th** highest paid actor in the world with 35.5 million dollar earnings.

- **Wahlberg** the leading man in the **Forbes list has earning of 68 million dollars** in the scoring period. He replaced last year's top-ranked star, Dwayne Johnson who comes in at the second spot with **65 million dollar earnings**. On the third spot is Vin Diesel with **54.5 million dollar earnings**.

- **ICEX launches world's first diamond futures contracts:**

The **Indian Commodity Exchange (ICEX)** launched the **world's first diamond futures contracts** to provide exporters with a **hedging tool**. The merger of Ahmedabad-based **National Multi Commodity Exchange (NMCE)** into ICEX was also announced. ICEX will soon approach the **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)**, Ahmedabad, to initiate the merger procedure.

- **India ranks 23rd among 165 nations in cyber security index:**

India is ranked a high **23rd** out of **165** nations in a global index that measures the commitment of nations across the world to **cyber security**. The top **11** most committed countries to cyber security are **Singapore, United States, Malaysia, Oman, Estonia, Mauritius, Australia, Georgia, France Canada and Russia**.

- **India's Forex reserves at record-high of USD 386.53 billion:**

India's foreign exchange reserves have increased by **4.007 billion US dollars** to touch a record high of **386.539 billion US dollars** in the end of 30th June.

- **India ranks 116 out of 157 nations on SDG index:**

India is ranked **116 out of 157** nations on a global index that assesses the performance of countries towards achieving the **ambitious sustainable development goals (SDGs)**.

Top three places of SDG index

1. Sweden
2. Denmark
3. Finland

- **BSE Inks Pact with Egyptian Exchange:**

BSE joined hands with **Egyptian Exchange (EGX)** for cooperation in **exchange of information across business areas**. EGX Executive chairman **Mohamed Omran** said the exchange aims to cross list and trade securities that would provide new investment alternatives.

• **Nine Indian Cities in JLL's latest 'Global 300' rankings:**

Mumbai, Delhi and 7 other Indian Cities have featured in the list of **top 300 global cities** which are the focus of **commercial activity** and **interest**. This list was released by **Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL)**. **New York** has ranked 1st in the list based on **commercial attraction index** and **Tokyo** has placed 1st in term of **economic size**.

Those Nine Indian cities in JLL Global 300 list in term of economic size

• City	• rank
• Mumbai	• 17
• Delhi	• 22
• Kolkata	• 63
• Bangalore	• 75
• Chennai	• 81
• Ahmedabad	• 92
• Surat	• 111
• Hyderabad	• 147

• **India ranked 137th in the 11th Global Peace Index while Iceland topped the list:**

Iceland has been named the **world's most peaceful country**, topping the Global Peace Index for the tenth consecutive year. **New Zealand and Portugal** completed the top three while **India has ranked 137th out of 163 countries** in the list published by the Institute of Economics and Peace.

• **World Bank forecasts global economy growing at 2.7%:**

The **World Bank report** said that "**despite substantial policy uncertainty**," the **global economy** still is expected to grow **by 2.7 % for 2017**, rising to 2.9 % in **2018 and 2019**.

In a report, **emerging market** and **developing economies** are expected to grow **4.1 %** this year, led by **India** which is expected to expand by **7.1%** and **China** at **6.5%**.

• **India slips to 45th spot in IMD's World Competitiveness list:**

India has been ranked 45th, in terms of competitiveness in the annual rankings compiled by IMD, in which **Hong Kong** topping the list.

Switzerland and **Singapore** were ranked **second** and **third** respectively, with the USA at the **fourth** spot.

International Institute for Management Development (**IMD**):

Headquarters: **Switzerland**

• **India overtakes China to top global retail index:**

The **16th edition of 2017 Global Retail Development Index (GRDI)** titled '**The Age of Focus**', **India** has surpassed **China** to secure the top position among **30 developing countries** on ease of doing business.

India's retail sector has been growing at an annual rate of **20%** and **projected** to grow **30%** annually and reach **USD 48 billion by 2020**.

- **BMI research: India among top 5 consumer markets in Asia**

India is among the **top five consumer markets** in Asia offering **retailers consumer** spending growth of an average of **6.1%** over the **next five years**, according to a BMI Research report.

China, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, India and **Indonesia** are the five favourite consumer markets in Asia. These countries offer retailer the **strongest consumer spending growth** over its forecast period to **2021**.

- **Digital India takes hit as India ranks 74 in internet data speed:**

According to a new report by London based company "**OpenSignal**", **India has ranked 74th** in the list below neighbouring countries Pakistan and Srilanka in terms of internet data speed and India has risen to **15th spot in 4G** availability in the world

- **Walmart Tops Fortune 500 List:**

Walmart was placed **top position** for **5th consecutive years** in the America **top 500 companies list**.

Top 5 companies in the Fortune 500 list

1. Walmart stores
2. Berkshire Hathaway
3. Apple
4. ExxonMobil
5. McKesson

- **India emerged as 7th largest exporter of agri products globally:**

Commerce Secretary Rita Teautia announced that **India** has emerged as the **seventh largest exporter of agri-products globally, and opportunities in newer markets** have to be searched for further growth.

- **Shahrukh, Salman, Akshay part of Forbes' highest-earning celebrities list:**

Indian superstars **Shahrukh Khan (65th)**, **Salman Khan (71st)** and **Akshay Kumar (80th)** are among **Forbes' annual list of the highest-earning entertainers** in the world. **The Forbes list of the 'World's Highest-Paid Celebrities of 2017'** has been topped by **American rapper and entrepreneur Sean Combs**, known by his more famous stage name '**Diddy**', with earnings of **130 million dollars**.

- **India ranks 60th in the Global Innovation Index:**

India has moved up six places to **60th among 130 nations** on the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2017. **Switzerland was top** placed in the list followed by Sweden and Netherlands. **China was ranked 22nd in the list**.

- **India ranked 75th in environmental impact survey:**

India was placed **75th in environment survey** with renewable energy making up only **15.2% of all energy** used and only **2.2 % of waste water** being **recycled** and municipal waste of **0.34 kg per person** being generated daily. **Mozambique topped the list** because almost all its energy use comes from **green sources** and **Trinidad and Tobago** is the **worst country** for environmental impact in the report released by UK-based Money Super Market.

- **India ranked 93rd in Social Progressive Index topped by Denmark:**

India has been placed **93rd** rank among **128 countries** on 2017 social progress Index report by **Social Progress Imperative (SPI)** association with Deloitte and its strategic partners.

• Rank	• Country
• 1	• Denmark
• 2	• Finland
• 3	• Iceland
• 3	• Norway
• 5	• Switzerland

• The **Geneva based World Economic Forum** has released the **Global Human Capital Index** and **India** has been placed at 103rd Rank and the rank was **topped by Norway**.

• **India is world's 40th most competitive economy: WEF**

India has been ranked as the **40th most competitive economy** slipping one place from last year's ranking — on the **World Economic Forum's global competitiveness index**.

• Top three places

• **Switzerland**

• **US**

• **Singapore**

• **India ranked infrastructure (66th rank)**, higher education and training (75) and technological readiness (107), reflecting recent public investments in these areas, it added.

• **Nooyi, Kochhar, Shikha on Fortune's most powerful women in business list:**

Two Indians **Chanda Kochhar** and **Shikha Sharma** have made it to the rankings of most powerful women in **business outside the United States** drawn up by the Fortune magazine while **Indra Nooyi** featured in the **top three** on the **US edition list**.

• The Most Powerful Women in Business **outside the US list**, which was topped by Banco Santander group executive chairman **Ana Botin**, placed **ICICI Bank's Kochhar** at the fifth spot while **Axis Bank's Sharma** has been ranked **21st**.

• **US Most Powerful Women Business list:**

• **Mary Barra**

• **Indra Nooyi**

• **Marillyn Hewson**

• **Money in Swiss banks: India slips to 88th place:**

India has slipped to **88th** place in terms of money parked by its citizens with Swiss banks, while the UK remains on the top.

• **TERI ranked second among world's climate think tanks:**

An international body which focuses on climate policies has ranked **The Energy Resources Institute (TERI)** among the **top think tanks in the world**. **TERI** was ranked number two by the **International**

Center for Climate Governance (ICCG), an internationally-renowned body whose activities focus on the design of climate policy and related governance issues.

- **India ranks 132 in commitment to narrow income inequality:**

India has been ranked **132nd among 152 nations** in a new index tracking commitment to reducing income inequality. Sweden led the index while Nigeria remained the worst performer.

- **20 Indian firms in top 100 companies in Asia 300 ranking:**

20 Indian firms have been named in the **top 100** of Nikkei Asian Review's **Asia 300 companies list** which was topped by **Taiwan's Largan Precision**. In Asia, there are 3 Indian companies made it to top 10 list. **HCL Technologies** came in at the **second place** followed by **Zee Entertainment Enterprises** and **Tata Consultancy Services** at the **third and fourth place** respectively.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- **New species of flying squirrel discovered by scientists:**

Scientists from Washington have discovered a **new species of flying squirrel** in **North America** that had been hiding in plain sight for hundreds of year.

It is known as **Humboldt's flying squirrel** or **Glaucomys oregonensis**, the new flying squirrel species inhabits the Pacific Coast region of North America.

- **World's first hybrid 'aerobot' made by Indo-Russian JV unveiled:**

The world's first hybrid "**aerobot**" capable of **travelling on land, water, snow and sand** that has been **built by an Indo-Russian joint venture** was unveiled in **Moscow** at a start-ups event organised by Russia's state-run Skolkovo Foundation.

It has been designed by **IIAAT Holding**, a **joint venture** between the **International Institute for Advanced Aerospace Technologies** and **Indian firm Millennium Aerodynamics**.

- **Astronomers find hottest giant planet Kelt-9b:**

Astronomers have discovered the **hottest planet** ever known as "**Kelt-9b**", with a dayside temperature of more than 4,300 degrees Celsius.

KELT-9b is **2.8 times more massive than Jupiter**, but only half as dense.

The KELT-9b planet was found using the **Kilo degree Extremely Little Telescope (KELT)**.

- **China launches space telescope to observe black holes:**

China launched its **first ever space telescope** to **observe black holes, pulsars and gamma-ray bursts**. The **2.5-tonne Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope (HXMT)** was launched via a **Long March-4B** rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in Gobi Desert.

- **Indians working on world's biggest telescope:**

Union Science Minister Harsh Vardhan praised Indian scientists for their contribution toward the **world's biggest telescope Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT)**, which is under development. From the Indian side, the project would be led by the **Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bangalore**, with the help of the **Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital**, and **Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune**.

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- **IISER Pune: Novel drug delivery system to kill cancer cells**

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune have successfully developed a novel cancer drug delivery system using **graphene oxide nanoparticles**.

- An **international team of astronomers** used the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope to estimate whether there might be water on the seven earth-sized planets orbiting the nearby **dwarf star TRAPPIST-1**.

- India's indigenously developed third generation anti-tank guided missile (**ATGM**) **Nag** has been successfully flight tested by premier defence research organisation DRDO in deserts of Rajasthan, marking completion of development trials. The missile can hit a target up to 7 km.

- NASA's **Cassini spacecraft** made its dramatic '**death plunge**' into Saturn's atmosphere, ending an **epic 20-year space journey**.

- 2 new species of Cycas Tree discovered by researchers in **Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden (West Bengal)**, taking Total number of Cycas species found in India to 14. Cycas are among most ancient plants whose fossils date to the Jurassic period.

- **An Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi** team developed a new drug delivery platform using **nanoparticles**, with ability to boost efficacy of antibiotics at the cellular level and improve chances of recovery from cancer-related bacterial infections.

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will launch a niche Earth observation (EO) satellite - **Hyperspectral Imaging Satellite (HySIS)**, with critical chip called *optical imaging detector array*. It will allow ISRO to enter operational hyperspectral imaging from earth orbit.

- Indian scientists discovered **Nasikabatrachus bhupathi**, a new species of frog with a snout-shaped nose like a pig, near **Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary** in Tamil Nadu. It has been named after the Indian herpetologist S. Bhupathy.

- Vizag's **Rayichapalu** is declared one of the rarest fish in world by Marine Living Resources Department of Andhra University. Rayichapalu will have the scientific name '**Pseudathias Vizagensis**', after the city where it was first discovered.

MOU

- **Kishore Kharat, MD and CEO, Indian Bank** and **Kalavathi SM, CGM, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd** signed an MoU to Upgrade the **bandwidth of Indian Bank's branches to 2mbps**. The upgradation would be in line with the **bank's policy of promoting digital channels**.

- **TRIFED inks MoU with Amazon to sale tribal products online:**

The **Government of India** has partnered with **Amazon** to sell tribal products through the online marketplace. **Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED)**, a PSU under Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, and Amazon would sign a MoU .

- **Maharashtra Government Signs MOU with South Korea:**

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The Maharashtra government's ambitious Rs 46,000-crore **Nagpur-Mumbai** Super-communication Expressway(also called Samruddhi Corridor) got a positive response from **South Korea**, which has agreed to enter into business partnership with the state to push mega-infrastructure projects.

• **Agriculture price forecasting model to get a Microsoft update:**

Software giant Microsoft will come to the aid of **farmers in Karnataka** who constantly struggle **with an unpredictable market**. The Agriculture Department has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with **Microsoft** India to develop an unique '**farm price forecasting model**' using the latest IT tools in a bid to help farmers, administrators and other stakeholders understand the market behaviour in advance.

• **BRPL, TERI sign MoU to explore opportunities, research in solar rooftops:**

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and The Energy and Resources Institute (**TERI**) have signed a **MoU** for **two** years to achieve the common goals and objectives.

• **MOU Signed between Department of Defence Production and MDL:**

Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL), a Miniratna Schedule 'A' DPSU under the Department of Defence Production, **Ministry of Defence** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for the financial year **2017-18** with the Ministry.

• **MCX inks MoU with Mahindra Agri for data on farm pricing:**

The **Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX)** and **Mahindra Agri** Solutions have signed a pact to provide agriculture related price information.The MoU will enhance the **decision-making ability of the farmers further**.This information will be available on its **mobile application – 'MyAgriGuru'**.

• **Amazon to offer training, aid to Telangana weavers:**

Amazon India has said it signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the **Telangana Department of Handloom and Textiles, to educate, train** and enable weavers and artisans to directly sell their products to Amazon customers across the country.

• **Cabinet approves MoU between SEBI and European Securities and Markets Authority:**

The **Union Cabinet** chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** for entering into a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)** in relation to **Mutual Co-operation**.

• **Cabinet approves India-Bangladesh MoU for promoting cooperation in IT&E:**

The Union Cabinet approved signing of **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between **India and Bangladesh** for promoting cooperation in the field of **Information Technology and Electronics**.

• **India, Spain call for 'zero tolerance' to terrorism.**

• **Seven MoUs were signed between India and Spain on cooperation in:**

- Agreement for Transfer of Sentence Persons
- Organ Transplantation
- Cyber
- Renewable Energy
- Technical Cooperation in Civil Aviation
- Agreement on visa waiver for holders of diplomatic passports

- Foreign Service Institute and Diplomatic Academy of Spain.
- **India, Mauritius sign pact to institutionalise cooperation.**
- **Nalanda University Sign MoU with South Korean Institute:**
The **Nalanda University** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **South Korea's Academy** of Korean Studies for **academic cooperation, exchange of faculty and Joint teaching.**
- **Launch of GeMSamvad: The GeM -Industry forum**
An **MoU** was signed between **Government eMarketplace (GeM)** SPV and the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**, in the presence of Smt **Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce & Industry Minister at Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.**
- **CISF signs an MoU with NSDC for skilling retired CISF personnel:**
A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between **CISF** (Central Industrial Security Force) and **NSDC** (National Skill Development Cooperation) to develop skills amongst the retiring/retired personnel of CISF, their families, students and Low Medical Category persons.
- **Cabinet approved MoU between India, Portugal on governance reforms:**
The Union Cabinet has approved a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between **India and Portugal** on cooperation in the field of **public administration and governance reforms.**
- **Cabinet approved MoU on cooperation in the textiles, clothing and fashion sectors between India and Australia:**
The Union Cabinet has approved the **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** on **cooperation in the textiles, clothing and fashion sectors** between the **Ministry of Textiles, India** and the **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia.**
- **Cabinet approved MoU between India & Armenia for peaceful use of outer space**
The Cabinet has approved **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** on cooperation in the **peaceful uses of outer space** between India and Armenia.
- **Cabinet approved MoU for cooperation in Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy between India and Sri Lanka:**
The Union Cabinet has approved **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** for cooperation in **Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy** between **India and Srilanka.** It was signed by Ministry of AYUSH of the Government of Republic of India and the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine of the Government of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
- **Cabinet approved MoU between India and Israel on National Campaign for Water Conservation in India:**
The **Union Cabinet** has approved signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between **India and Israel** on **National Campaign for Water Conservation** in India.
- **India and France vows to work together:**
India and France vowed to work together for the implementation of the **landmark Paris climate agreement** and fight the challenge posed by terrorism, as Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** met newly elected French President

• **India, Sri Lanka sign pact for \$ 318 million line of credit :**

India signed an agreement with Sri Lanka to provide USD 318 million as line of credit to develop the island nation's railway sector

• **India, Russia agree to roadmap for development of defence co-operation:**

India and Russia have agreed to a **roadmap for the development of bilateral defence cooperation**. The roadmap includes specific activities to be concluded by both sides, and aims **to enhance cooperation in the field of political and military dialogue, exercises, exchange of visits, military cooperation and training of military personnel**.

• **India and Portugal sign 11 pacts on science, tech, education, research, commerce**

• **India and Somalia sign agreement on transfer of sentenced persons.**

• **MOU between India and Spain on India-Spain cooperation in renewable energy.**

OBITUARIES

Field	Name	Important Notes	Country/State
Musician	Walter Becker	Guitarist, bassist and co-founder of the 1970s rock group Steely Dan	Usa
	Glen Campbell	Musician	Usa
	Ustad Sayeeduddin Dagar	Eminent Dhrupad singer	India
	Charles Bradley	Legendary soul singer	Usa
Actor	Michael Nygyist	Actor	Sweden
	Amrit Pal	Actor	Indian
	Sam Beazley	Actor	Uk
	Adam west	Actor	American
	C Shivraj	Actor	Indian
	Robert Gene 'Red' West	Actor and Songwriter	Usa
	Martin Landau	Veteran Actor	Usa
	Sumita Sanyal	Actor	
	Madhukar Toradmal	Marathi Actor	Maharashtra
	Sam Shepard	Actor and Pulitzer-Winning Playwright	Usa
	Robert Hardy	Veteran actor	British
Jerry Lewis	Comedian	US	

Director	Tobe Hooper	Director	
	George Romera	Veteran Director	Toronto
	K.R.Mohan	Film maker	Kerala
	John Avildsen	Director	American
	Ramanda Sengupta	Oldest Cinematographer	Kolkata
	Mangesh Tendulkar	Cartoonist	Maharashtra
	Fred Koenekamp	Cinematographer	America
Writer & Journalist	John Ashbery	Rare winner of the book world's unofficial triple crown- the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle prize.	USA
	Veronique Robert	Journalist	Paris
	A S Aulakh	Play wright	Punjab
	T.S.V.Hari	Journalist	Chennai
	C Narayana Reddy	Poet	Andhra Pradesh
	Juan Goytisolo	Spanish Writer	Spain
	Abdul Rahman	Tamil poet	Tamil Nadu
	Vijay Nambisan	Poet ,Writer and Journalist	Kerala
	Ted Corbett	Former cricket journalist	UK
	Sam Shepard	Actor and Pulitzer-Winning Playwright	USA
Arun Sadhu	Veteran Marathi journalist	Maharashtra	
GauriLankesh	Journalist-activist	Karnataka	
Social Activist	Pushpa Mittra Bhargava	Scientist And Activist	Hyderabad
	Ruth Pfau	Pakistan's Mother Teresa	Pakistan
	Mohana Krishnan	Veteran Water Expert	Kerala
	Liu Xiaobo	Nobel Peace prize Laurete	China
	SS Khaplang	Socialist	Myanmar
	Padre Miguel d'Escoto	Advocate, and Social Activist for Peace	Nicaragua
Swami Atmasthananda	Ramakrishna mission Cheif	Karnataka	

Politician	Santosh Mohan Dev	Former union minister	Assam
	Sanwar Lal Jat	Former Union minister	New Delhi
	Vishvjit P Singh	Ex-MP	Punjab
	Rishang Keishing	Former Manipur CM	Imphal
	Simone Veil	Iconic French Leader Politician	France
	Bahadur Bhandari	Former Sikkim CM	Sikkim
	Uzhavoor Vijayan	NCP state President	Kerala
	Era Sezhiyan	Politician	Tamil Nadu
	Palvai Govardhan Reddy	Politician	Telengana
Sportsperson	Betty Cuthbert	Olympic champion	Australian
	Jake LaMotta	Raging Bull' boxer	Usa
	Stephen Wooldridge	Australia's former Olympic and world cycle Champion	Australia
	Ahmed Khan	Legendary footballer and Olympian	West Bengal
	Gour Gosh	Former Cricketer	West Bengal
	Peter Doohan	Tennis Player	Australia
	Mervyn Rose	Tennis Player	Australia
	Nancy Hatch Dupree	American Historian	US
	Sir Peter Hall	Former Director of the National Theatre and Founder of Royal Shakespeare Company	Uk
	Arjan Singh	Marshal of the Indian Air Force (IAF) and India's oldest, five-star ranked air force officer	India
	DrKS Chugh	Father of nephrology in India	Punjab
	Violet Mosse-Brown	The world's oldest living person and the last living subject of Queen Victoria	Jamaica
	Eman Ahmed	world's 'heaviest' woman	Egypt
	Liliane Bettencourt	World's richest woman	heir to the French L'Oreal hairspray

Others	Yisrael Kristal	World's oldest man	Israel
	Spaul	Veteran Photographer	New Delhi
	M K Damodaran	Advocate General	Kerala
	US Naresh	Former Indian Ambassador	Uttarpradesh
	Chandra Sekharan	Forensic Expert	Tamil nadu
	Maryam Mirzakhani	Mathematician	Iran
	Udupi Ramachandra Rao	Former ISRO Chairman	Bengaluru
	Sudripta Roy	Former Cheif Secretary	New Delhi
	Yash Pal	Scientist	New Delhi
	Basudev Chatterji	Historian	Guwahati
	P N Bhagwati	Former Cheif Justice of India	New Delhi
	Helmut Kohl	Father of German Reunification	Germany
	Prof. P.K.Kaw	Scientist	Ahmedabad
	Baldwin Lonsdale	President of vanuata	Ni- vanuatu
	Carla Fendi	Fashion Designer	Italy
Desh Bandhu Gupta	Lupin Founder and Chairman	Mumbai	

SPORTS

- In Badminton, **Rahul Bharadwaj** lost to top seed **Kunlavut Vitidsarn** in the men's singles final to finish as **runners-up** at the **Junior International Grand Prix** in **Pune**.
- **India's Konsam Ormila Devi** bagged a **gold medal in 44kg** weight category on the opening day of the Commonwealth Youth (boys & girls) weightlifting championships, held at **Gold Coast, Australia**.
- The captain of the **Indian basketball team, Amritpal Singh** scripted history by becoming the **first Indian-born player** to be picked up by an **Australian NBL team**.
- **India** will **host** the **2019 edition of the Commonwealth** (Youth, Junior and Senior) **Weightlifting Championships**.
- **Sathish Sivalingam** won gold in the **senior men's 77kg** category of the Commonwealth and Oceania Championships held at **Gold Coast in Australia**. **Sathish Sivalingam and Ragalaven katraghul** qualified for 2018 commonwealth games.
- **Pardeep Singh** qualified for next year's Commonwealth Games with a gold medal, even as 34 new records were created by the Indians in the last five days of the Commonwealth youth, junior & senior weightlifting championships at **Gold Coast, Australia**.

US OPEN GRAND SLAM 2017

S. No	Category	Winner / Winners	Runner /Runners
1	Men's Singles Title	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Kevin Anderson (South Africa)
2	Women's Singles Title	Sloane Stephens (USA)	Madison Keys (USA)
3	Men's Doubles Title	Jean-JulienRojer (Netherlands) &HoriaTecau (Romania)	Feliciano Lopez(Spain) & Marc Lopez (Spain)
4	Women's Doubles Title	Martina Hingis (Switzerland) & Chang Yung-Jan (Chinese Taipei)	Lucie Hradecka (Czech Republic) &KaterinaSiniakova (Czech Republic)
5	Mixed Doubles Title	Martina Hingis (Switzerland) & Jamie Murray (England)	Chan Hao-Ching (Chinese Taipei) & Michael Venus (New Zealand)

- **India's PV Sindhu** won her **third Super Series title** beating **NozomiOkuhara** in the **women's singles final** of the **Korea Open**.
- **Lewis Hamilton** capitalised on incredible first-lap drama to **win** the **Singapore Grand Prix** and extend his **Formula One world championship** lead to 28 points.
- **India won** its **first athletics gold**, through **Purnima Hembram** in women's pentathlon, in the fifth Asian indoor and martial arts games. India also got **two silvers**, through **SanjivaniJadhav** in women's 3000m and **Tejinder Singh Toor** in men's shot put, and a **bronze** through **Kerala's V. Neena** in women's long jump.
- **Wrestler Bajrang wins gold in Asian Indoor Games:**
Indians added four medals, including a gold through wrestler Bajrang, on the **ninth day of the 5th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Ashgabat** on Sunday.
- **Vaishnavi Reddy clinch Belgian Open badminton, Arjun-Shlok win in Ethiopia:**
Indian shuttler Vaishnavi Reddy notched up the women's singles U-19 title at the Belgian Junior Open after defeating **top seed Vivien Sandorhazi** in a three-game final at **Herstal, Belgium**.
- **India bags 4 more medals in 5th Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games in Turkmenistan:**
India grabbed the **11th spot** in the **5th Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games in Turkmenistan** after winning four more medals. India's medal tally now stands at **5 gold, 7 silver and 7 bronze**. **Sajan Prakash** of India finished second with a **silver medal** in the **Men's 100-metre butterfly event**.
- **India become World No. 1 in both ODIs and Tests:**

India beat Australia by 5 wickets in the third ODI played between the two sides at Indore. Now **India** is the **no. 1 spot in the International Cricket Council (ICC) One-Day International (ODI) rankings**. The three Top teams in ODI are **India, South Africa, and Australia**.

- **Ronaldo, Messi, Neymar nominated for 2017 FIFA Best Mens Player award:**

Famous Football players Cristiano Ronaldo, Lionel Messi, and Neymar Jr are the final three players in contention for **FIFA Best Men's Player of the Year 2017 award**. The final three nominees for the Best FIFA Men's Coach of the Year 2017 award are Real Madrid's Zinedine Zidane, Juventus' Massimiliano Allegri, and Chelsea's Antonio Conte.

- **Sourav Kothari wins gold in billiards at Asian Indoor Games:**

India's Sourav Kothari overcame a stiff challenge from former World Billiards champion Praprut Chaitanasakun of Thailand to win the **gold medal** in the **Asian Indoor Games**.

- **Lakshmanan wins 5,000m gold at National Open Athletics:**

Asian champion Govindan Lakshmanan cruised to victory in the **men's 5000 metre race** on the opening day of the **57th National Open Athletics Championships** at the Nehru Stadium. **Lakshmanan**, fresh from winning a gold in the 3,000m event at the Asian Indoor Games in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

- **Turkmenistan (Currency: Turkmenistan manat Capital: Ashgabat)**

- **Mithali Raj features on BBC's list of 100 powerful women:**

Mithali Raj, the captain of **India's national women's cricket team**. **BCC** named her as one of the **100 most influential women**.

- **Neymar becomes most expensive footballer:**

It has been confirmed that the **25-year-old player Neymar** has been bought for a staggering **€222 million** officially activating his release clause from Barcelona and smashing the **record for most expensive football player** (soccer player), in both single transfer & combined transfer fees title.

- **Alexander Zverev beats Roger Federer to win Rogers Cup final:**

Alexander Zverev kept his winning streak alive with a victory over **Roger Federer in the Rogers Cup final** in Montreal, Canada.

- **2 silver, 6 bronze medals for India at Asian Junior boxing:**

India finished the **Asian Junior Boxing Championships** in **Puerto Princesa, Philippines** with **two silver** and **six bronze** medals. **Satender Rawat** lost to Uzbekistan's Almatov Shokrukh in the 80 plus kilogram category in a split verdict, while **Mohit Khatana** went down to Kazakhstan's Togambay Sagyndyk in the 80 kilogram category. They settled for **silver medals** after losing their final bouts in the Championships. Earlier, **Ankit Narwal** (57kg), **Bhavesh Kattimani** (52kg), **Sidhartha Malik** (48kg), **Vinit Dahiya** (75kg), **Akshay Siwach** (60kg) and **Aman Sehrawat** (70kg) had claimed **bronze medals**.

- **Yulimar Rojas wins triple jump to claim Venezuela's 1st IAAF World Championships title:**

Yulimar Rojas claimed **Venezuela's first-ever World Athletics Championships title** when she won the women's triple jump by two centimetres from great rival Caterine Ibarguen in a see-saw battle.

- **Venezuela (Currency: Venezuelan Bolivar Capital: Caracas)**

- **Summer Olympics: Los Angeles agrees to host 2028 Games; Paris gets 2024**

Los Angeles formally announced its bid for the **2028 Summer Olympics** after agreeing on a deal that paves the way for **Paris** to host in **2024**.

- **Rahul Yadav, Manu Attri-Sumeeth Reddy clinch titles at Lagos Open:**

C Rahul Yadav clinched the men's singles title while **Manu Attri and B Sumeeth Reddy** claimed the men's doubles title at the Lagos Open International challenge in Nigeria. India's **Mugdho Agrey** finished as runners-up in women's singles at the Molade Okoya-Thomas Hall of the **Teslim Balogun Stadium in Nigeria**.

- **Junior World Wrestling Championship:**

Two Indian wrestlers, **Veer Dev Gulia** (74kg freestyle) and **Ravinder**, (60 kg) made it to the **bronze medal** round of their respective weight categories. India's **Manju Kumari** (59 kg) won the **bronze medal** with a victory over Ilona Prokopeniuk of **Ukraine** in the **Junior World Wrestling Championship** in Tampere, Finland. Two Indian Greco-Roman wrestlers **Manish (60kg)** and **Sajan (74kg)** have entered the **bronze-medal** round of their **respective weight categories**.

- **Jadeja maintains top position, Virat stays 5th in ICC Test Rankings:**

Star **spinner Ravindra Jadeja** maintained **pole position** in the bowlers' list while **India skipper Virat Kohli** remained static at **fifth** place in the batting charts in the latest ICC Test Rankings released.

- **Joshna-Dipika settle for bronze at World Doubles Squash Championship:**

The Indian pair of **Joshna Chinappa** and **Dipika Pallikal Karthik** settled for a **bronze medal** after losing to English duo of **Jenny Duncalf** and **Alison Waters** in the semifinals of the **WSF World doubles squash championship** in **Manchester, England**.

- **Usain Bolt finishes 3rd in 100 meters Final at World Athletics C'ship:**

Usain Bolt has been stunned as he **finished third** in the 100 meters Final of World Athletics Championship at **London**. In his farewell 100 meters, Bolt clocked a time of 9.95 seconds but was left behind by veteran American sprinter **Justin Gatlin** who clocked **9.92 seconds** to claim **Gold**, his compatriot **Christian Coleman** came second with **9.94 seconds**.

- **Indian boxers clinch 10 medals at Serbian tournament:**

India won **10 medals**, including two gold, four silver and four bronze medals. The **gold-medallists** were **Jyoti** (51kg) and **Vanlalharitpuii** (60kg). The **silver medals** were clinched by **Anjali**(48kg), **Sakshi**(54kg), **Ashtha** (69kg) and **Anupama** (81kg). **Mandeep** (57kg), Nisha (64kg), Shruti (75kg) and Neha (81+kg) settled for bronze medals after losing in the semi-finals. Glove women's Boxing Tournament at **Vojvodina, Serbia**.

- **Lakshya wins Bulgaria Open Int'l Series**

Young Indian shuttler **Lakshya Sen** clinched the Bulgaria Open International Series title after notching up a hard-fought win over Croatia's **Zvonimir Durkinjak** in the men's singles final in **Sofia, Bulgaria**.

- **Rafael Nadal to return to No 1 for first time:**

Rafal Nadal is set to return to world number one for the **first time** in three years after Roger Federer withdrew from the **Cincinnati Masters** with a back injury. The Swiss star **Roger Federer**, ranked **No. 3**, is sidelined along with **No.2 Andy Murray**, No.4 Stan Wawrinka, No.5 Novak Djokovic and defending champion and world number six Marin Cilic leaving Nadal as the top-seeded player remaining in the draw.

- **Rinku Hooda bags silver at World U-20 Para Athletics Championships:**

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Rinku Hooda remembers the **Sport Arena in Nottwil, Switzerland** as the first international stadium. Competing in his first overseas meet in 2015, Hooda, **won a silver medal** in the **F46 javelin throw** event and subsequently became **the youngest Indian para-athlete to compete** at the **Rio Paralympics**.

- **Virat Kohli retains top ICC ODI rankings for batsmen:**

India captain Virat Kohli continued to be the world's top-ranked one-day batsman in the latest ICC ODI rankings. And in the **Second** placed is Australian **David Warner**.

- **Shapath Bharadwaj wins bronze at Junior Shotgun World Cup:**

Teenager Shapath Bharadwaj won a **bronze medal** in the double trap event while **Lakshay Sheoran** and **Manisha Keer** combined to win a **bronze** in the mixed team trap competition at the **ISSF Junior Shotgun World Cup in Porpetto, Italy**.

- **Subroto Cup International Football Tournament begins in Delhi:**

58th edition of Subroto Cup International Football Tournament began in Delhi. **Manipur** defeated **Haryana** by 5-0 in the opening match of the Tournament. Teams from **Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Afghanistan** and **Singapore** are participating in this edition.

- **Ronaldo named 2016/17 Men's Player of the Year:**

The **32-year-old Ronaldo Portuguese international** – who last term helped the **Spanish team** to their **second successive UEFA Champions League** title and 12th overall in European football's premier club competition – received the award at the 2017/18 UEFA Champions' League group stage draw in Monaco.

- **England to host 2018 ITTF Team World Cup.**

- **Sania settles for bronze at World Badminton Championships:**

At the **World Badminton championships**, **Saina Nehwal** has settled for a **bronze medal**. In the first women's singles semi-final at **Glasgow**, she lost to **Nozomi Okuhara** of Japan in three games. **Okuhara** is the **first shuttler** from Japan to reach the finals of World Championship. Saina had won a silver medal two years ago in the World championship at Jakarta.

- **PV Sindhu wins silver at World Badminton Championships 2017:**

Rio Olympic silver medallist PV Sindhu has made India proud yet again. The young badminton star has secured a **silver medal** at the **World Badminton Championships**. Sindhu was playing against Japan's **Nozomi Okuhara**.

- **India lifts SAFF Under-15 football Championship title:**

India has lifted the **SAFF Under-15 football Championship title**. At **Kathmandu**, Lalrokima and Vikram struck in the second half to guide India edge past hosts Nepal in the final.

- **Lewis Hamilton wins Belgian Grand Prix in his 200th Formula One race to close title gap:**

Lewis Hamilton says selecting the wrong power mode actually helped him **stay ahead** of 2017 **Formula 1 world championship** rival Sebastian Vettel at the **Belgian Grand Prix**.

- **Germany defeat Chile to Win 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup held in Russia.**

- **Snooker: India clinches Asian championship**

India's leading cueist Pankaj Advani teamed up with **Laxman Rawat** to demolish Pakistan in the final of the Asian Team Snooker championship at the Kalinga Stadium in **Bhubaneswar**.

- **India ranked 96th in FIFA World ranking:**

India has moved four places up to the **96th position** in the FIFA World ranking which was second best ranking behind 94th rank in 1996.

- **Harinder wins South Australian Open title:**

India's Harinder Pal Sandhu beat Rhys Dowling of Australia in the final to **win the South Australian Open squash title**.

- **Lewis Hamilton battles back as Valtteri Bottas wins Austrian GP:**

Valtteri Bottas dominated the **Austrian Grand Prix** to take his second victory of the year ahead of **Sebastian Vettel** as **Lewis Hamilton** recovered to fourth.

- **22nd Asian Athletics Championships 2017:**

India's **Vikas Gowda** wins **bronze** medal in men's discus throw event and **Govindan Laxmanan** won **gold in the 5000 metres**. The UP athlete **Sudha Singh** resumed training this year and **won her maiden steeplechase gold**. Odisha sprinter **Dutee Chand** won bronze at this event. **Muhammad Anas** and **Nirmala Sheoran** won a **Gold medal** each in the **400 metres races**, while Silver medals also went to India through **Rajiv Arokia** and **Jisna Mathew**. **PU Chitra** and **Ajay Kumar Saroj** bagged a **Gold** each in the **1,500 metres races**. **India** have **topped the medal tally for first time** in the history of **Asian Athletics Championships**. **India clinched five gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze**. With that, the hosts ended the championships on top with a haul of **29 medals which included 12 gold, 5 silver and 12 bronze**.

- **Mithali Raj Breaks World Record, Becomes First Woman to Score 6000 ODI:**

Indian women's cricket team captain Mithali Raj has another feather in her cap as she has now become the **highest run-getter in the history of women's ODI cricket**.

- **Wimbledon 2017 highlights:**

- **Garbine Muguruza** beats **Venus Williams** for 2nd Grand Slam trophy

- **Jamie Murray** and **Martina Hingis** win mixed doubles title

- **Roger Federer** beats **Marin Cilic** to win record **8th Wimbledon title**, 19th Grand Slam.

- **India's Harinder Pal Sandhu wins Victorian Squash Open title:**

India's Harinder Pal Sandhu continued his fine run by winning a second title in two weeks, beating top-seed Rex Hedrick of Australia in a 77-minute final of **Victorian Open squash**, a PSA Tour event, in Melbourne.

- **Govindan Lakshmanan wins gold in 5000m, three meet records broken:**

Asian champion Govindan Lakshmanan grabbed a **gold medal** in men's **5000m race** while three meet records fell by the wayside on the opening day of the **National Inter-State Athletics Championships** in **Bhubaneswar**, has already qualified for the World Championships to be held in **London**.

- **Lewis Hamilton wins fourth straight British Grand Prix:**

Lewis Hamilton swept to his **fourth consecutive victory** at the **British Grand Prix** to move within a single point of world championship leader Sebastian Vettel.

- **ICC Women's World Cup final 2017: England clinch 4th title**

Anya Shrubsole's magnificent 6/46 helped **England clinch the ICC Women's World Cup** in dramatic style as they defeated India by nine runs in the final at Lord's, London.

- **World Para Athletics Championship:**

India's Sundar Singh Gurjar has won gold on opening night of 2017 **World Para Athletics Championships in London**. He triumphed in the men's javelin throw with a personal best of 60.36 metre. **India's Amit Kumar Saroha** clinched silver in **men's club throw F51** competition. **India** bagged **two medals** in the high jump. While **Sharad Kumar** won a **silver** medal, **Varun Bhati** bagged **bronze** medal in the T42 event. **India** ended their **World Para Athletics Championship campaign** with **five medals**, including gold. India collected five medals with a **gold, two silver** and **two bronze** medals to finish outside top-30 in the medal standings.

- **India finish 7th in Commonwealth Youth Games with 11 medals:**

India finished at **seventh position** in the **sixth Commonwealth** Youth Games at Nassau in Bahamas after winning **11 medals**, including **four gold**. India won **four gold, one silver** and **six bronze medals**.

- **India to host maiden men's World Boxing Championship in 2021:**

In a historic first for Indian boxing, the country will host the elite men's **World Championship in 2021** besides conducting the women's World Championship for the second time next year, the **International Boxing Association (AIBA)** has announced.

- **Amateur golfer Diksha wins silver at Deaflympics:**

Young Indian golfer Diksha Dagar scripted history after winning a silver medal in the women's individual golf event of the **Deaflympics**, which is being held at the **Samsun, Turkey**.

- **H S Prannoy wins US Open Grand Prix Gold badminton title:**

Indian Shuttler H S Prannoy has won the **US Open Grand Prix Gold badminton tournament title** defeating his compatriot Parupalli Kashyap at Anaheim, California.

- **India beat Kazakhstan to win Division B of FIBA Women's Asia Cup:**

The **Indian women's** basketball team defeated Kazakhstan in a thrilling contest of the **FIBA Asia Cup 2017** held at **Sree Kanteerava** Stadium in Bengaluru.

- **China's Vivo is new sponsor of FIFA:**

Chinese Smartphone maker Vivo has signed on to sponsor the 2018 and 2022 FIFA World Cups.

- **Virat Kohli only Indian in Forbes highest paid athletes list:**

Virat Kohli has been only Indian ranked 89th on the 2017 Forbes list of 'The World's highest paid athletes' with a total pay of **\$22 million**.

- **Stan Wawrinka oldest French Open finalist in 44 years:**

Stan Wawrinka became the **oldest French Open finalist in 44 years** with win over world number one **Andy Murray** in semi final of the French Open. He will face nine-time winner **Rafael Nadal** in the final match of the tournament.

- **England defeated Venezuela to win FIFA U-20 World Cup:**

England won the maiden **FIFA U-20 World Cup title** in **51 years** after defeating **Venezuela** in the **final** held at **Suwon, South Korea**.

- **Lewis Hamilton wins Canada grand prix for 6th time:**

Lewis Hamilton won the Canada grand prix, Circuit Gilles Villeneuve for 6th time. It was Hamilton third victory of the season and also third in a row. He was driving for Mercedes team.

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- **Divya Dhayal won the Bronze medal in Archery World Cup:**

Pune girl Divya Dhayal won the bronze medal at the Archery World Cup, held at Antalya, Turkey.

- **World Shooting Championship: Yashaswini, Anmol strike gold:**

Yashaswini Singh Deswal and Anmol provided a memorable finish to the Indian campaign by clinching the mixed team gold in air pistol in the Junior World Shooting Championship. Youth Olympics finalist Yashaswini had clinched the junior women's gold earlier with a World record.

OCTOBER (1st-10th)

NATIONAL

- **President Kovind declares Rural Gujarat as Open Defecation Free:**

President Ramnath Kovind has also declared the Rural Gujarat as ODF -Open Defecation Free- at a function held at Kirti Mandir in Porbandar. He has felicitated rural women for achieving ODF status for rural Gujarat. During his day visit to Gujarat, President Kovind also inaugurated the new Jetty and other facilities at Jafarabad Fishing Harbour and upgradation of Veraval and Porbandar fishing Harbour.

- **Haryana to observe Gandhi Jayanti as International Day of Non-Violence:**

Haryana government has decided to observe Gandhi Jayanti as International Day of Non-Violence in the state.

- **Venkaiah Naidu Unveils Gandhi Statue of 1.8 m in Rajghat:**

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu unveiled a 1.8-metre-tall bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat on the occasion of the 148th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation.

- **IPS Officer Aparna Kumar becomes the first Indian woman to scale Mt Manaslu:**

An Indian Police Service (IPS) Officer of Uttar Pradesh Cadre, Aparna Kumar became the first Indian woman to scale Mount Manaslu, which is the eighth highest mountain peak in the world.

- **The third edition of 'Women of India Organic Festival' to be inaugurated by Smt Menaka Sanjay Gandhi at Dilli Haat, INA:**

To celebrate and promote women entrepreneurs and farmers in the organic sector from across India, the Ministry of Women and Child Development will be hosting the 3rd annual 'Women of India Organic Festival' from October 1st to 15th, 2017, in New Delhi. Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, Union Minister for Women and Child Development, inaugurated the festival in the presence of Shri Virendra Kumar, Minister of State, Ministry of Women and Child Development, at Dilli Haat (INA).

- **Madurai's Meenakshi Temple named best 'Swachh Iconic Place' in India:**

The Madurai City Corporation is set to receive a special award from the Centre as part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple has been adjudged best 'Swachh Iconic Place' in India as on October 1.

- **Karnataka launches 'MathruPurna' scheme for pregnant women:**

The State government launched MathruPoorna, a scheme meant to meet the nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women in rural areas. Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah launched the 'MathruPurna' scheme, which aims to provide nutritious meals to about 12 lakh pregnant women and lactating mothers in the state.

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- **Govt approves Karnataka's Harohalli industrial park:**

The Union government has given its green light to the combined development of Harohalli industrial zone in Ramnagara district of Karnataka entailing an investment of Rs 1,561 crore, reported a national news agency quoting a government official.

- **Chairman NHAI launches new website and PMIS Mobile App:**

The Chairman of National Highways Authority of India Shri Deepak Kumar launched a world class, new multilingual website of the organization. He also launched a Project Monitoring Information System (PMIS) Mobile App that will facilitate close, in-house monitoring of NHAI projects on a mobile phone.

- **Uttar Pradesh government launches 'Mukhyamantri Samoohik Vivaah Yojana':**

Uttar Pradesh State Government launched a mass marriage scheme called 'Mukhyamantri Samoohik Vivaah Yojana'. Under the scheme, Uttar Pradesh social welfare department will conduct mass marriages.

- **Global Entrepreneurship summit 2017 to be held in Hyderabad:**

The 2017 Global Entrepreneurship Summit will be held at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre from November 28 to 30. The Summit will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Advisor to the US President, Ivanka Trump, who leads the US delegation/ This year's theme is "**Women First, Prosperity for All**" to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit in all its strengths and diversity.

- **India to be guest country at the World Government Summit:**

India will be the guest of honour during the sixth edition of the World Government Summit scheduled from February 11th - 13th, 2018 in Dubai. The summit is the largest movement to review and share the best experiences, and the first global forum for governments, countries, organizations and private sector leaders interested in the industry of the future.

- **Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India** in collaboration with **Ministry of Culture** and Seher presents the first ever **ASEAN-India Music Festival** from October 6th-8th 2017 at **Purana Quila in New Delhi**. The Festival is being organised to celebrate the 25th year anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations. The **theme** for this commemorative year "**Shared Values, Common Destiny**" along with this Music Festival aims to boost cultural influences among the peoples of the ASEAN member states and India.

- The ASEAN-India Music Festival will witness performances by musicians of 10 enigmatic bands from member states of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) (**Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam**) along with 5 prominent Indian bands

- **Dr. Mahesh Sharma**, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Culture and MoS Environment, Forest & Climate Change along with **Shri K.J Alphons**, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism inaugurated the '**Paryatan Parv** celebrations' at **Humayun's Tomb, New Delhi**.

- The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** has been **adjudged** as the **best** department for its contribution during **Swachhta Pakhwada**, an inter-Ministry initiative of **Swachh Bharat Mission** of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. The Health Ministry observed the Swachhta Pakhwada from 1st February 2017 to 15th February 2017. The award was presented to the Ministry on 2nd October 2017, the **third anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission**. **Shri C K Mishra**, Secretary (HFW) received the award on behalf of the Ministry.

- **Centre sets up high-level committee for water management in northeast:**

The **Government** has constituted a high-level committee for proper management of the water resources in the **North-Eastern Region (NER)** under the Chairmanship of Dr. **Rajiv Kumar Vice-Chairman, Niti Aayog**. This is a sequel to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's visit to Guwahati in August this year to review the flood situation and relief work in the NorthEastern States.

- **Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, and UP Sign MoU to Boost Culture and Tourism**

To boost cultural ties, a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** was signed by **Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh** and **Meghalaya** under the 'Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat' programme. Under the 'Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat' programme, the states will connect with each other to know more about the culture, heritage and traditions of each other. The programme aims at actively enhancing interaction between people of diverse cultures living in different states and union territories, with the objective of promoting greater mutual understanding among them.

- **India's first Marine Police Training Institute to be set up at Dev Bhoomi Dwarka:** Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced the setting up of the country's **first "Marine Police Training Institute"** at the newly created **Dev Bhoomi Dwarka district of Gujarat**.

- **ISRO to Set up Research Centre in Guwahati:**

The **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** will set up a research centre here for startups, academicians, environmentalists and entrepreneurs. ISRO would set up the exclusive research facility in Assam to explore the possibility of using geospatial technology, which include data generated through global positioning system (GPS), geographical information systems (GIS) and satellite remote sensing for expediting the development of **Assam**.

- **India's First Portal Dedicated to Para-Sports Launched:**

In a bid to create awareness about para-sports and provide a platform to para sportspersons to narrate their stories of triumph and adversity, the country's first portal dedicated to para-sports was launched. **thenationspride.com** is a non-profit initiative, helmed by 17-year-old Mumbai student and sports enthusiast, **Saachi Munot**.

- **Prime Minister Launched Intensified Mission Indradhanush:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched an **intensive immunisation drive from Gujarat's Vadnagar**, saying no child should suffer from any vaccine-preventable disease. Through the '**Intensified Mission Indradhanush**' or IMI, the government aims to reach every child below the age of two years and pregnant women still uncovered under the routine immunisation programme.

INTERNATIONAL

- **US, India to explore cooperation for natural gas exploration in 3 states:**

US and India will work together on the sale of US crude and explore opportunities to expand the role of natural gas in India in the districts of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana, a US government statement said.

- **Bangladesh signs \$4.5 bn loan deal with India:**

Bangladesh signed USD 4.5 billion third line of credit (LoC) agreement with India for its infrastructure and social sector development.

- **India** and **Ethiopia** signed agreements on **trade, communication** and **media** to boost **bilateral ties** as **President Ram Nath Kovind** held talks with his Ethiopian **counterpart Mulatu Teshome**.

- **Ethiopia** (Currency: **Ethiopian birr** Capital: **Addis Ababa**)

- The Cabinet meeting chaired by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** approved **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between **India and Myanmar** on up gradation of the **Women's Police Training Centre** at **Yamethin, Myanmar**.

- **Myanmar** (Currency: **Burmese kyat** Capital: **Naypyidaw**)

- **India** will get **EUR 300 million** from **European Investment Bank (EIB)** for **financing Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II- Line R6**, according to finance ministry. Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II is to be jointly financed by the **European Investment Bank** (EUR 500 million) and **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank** (EUR 300 million). The first tranche of EUR 300 million was signed.

- **India's renewable energy capacity** will **more than double** by **2022** to overtake renewable expansion in the **European Union** for the first time, **International Energy Agency (IEA)**. The government has a target of raising it to **175 GW** by **2022** including **100 GW** of solar and **60 GW** of wind energy. IEA said the solar PV and wind together represent 90 percent of India's capacity growth as auctions yielded some of the world's lowest prices for both technologies.

- **Reliance Industries** chief **Mukesh Ambani** emerged as **India's wealthiest** for the 10th straight year as his net worth swelled to \$38 billion (nearly Rs 2.5 lakh crore) while the wealth of 100 richest rose by 26% despite economic hiccups. **Wipro's Azim Premji** was the distant **second** with a net worth of \$19 billion, moving up two places from last year, while Sun Pharma's Dilip Shanghvi slipped from his earlier second place to the ninth now (\$12.1 billion) on **Forbes magazine's annual India Rich List 2017**.

- The **Mongolian Parliament** confirmed **Ukhnaa Khurelsukh** as the **country's new Prime Minister**. His confirmation comes after **Jargaltulga Erdenebat** was voted out of office over allegations of corruption and incompetence. He is the **30th** Prime Minister of Mongolia.

- **Mongolia** (Capital: **Ulaanbaatar** Currency: **Mongolian tögrög**)

- **World Dental Show 2017 opens in Mumbai:**

The **3-day international exhibition - 'World Dental Show 2017'** was opened in **Mumbai** showcasing the evolving global technologies and techniques in dentistry. **Indian Dental Association (IDA)** hosted the exhibition which has witnessed participation from the international exhibitors from **China, Germany, Israel, Malaysia, Russian Federation, South Korea, Taiwan, Turkey, UK** and **US**, numbering about 120 are displaying their latest dental wares in 250 well-furnished stalls.

- **Saudi Arabia** agreed to purchase **S400 missile** defence systems from **Russia** on the side lines of a visit by **Saudi King Salman** to **Moscow**. The system uses four missiles, a very-long-range 400 km missile, a long-range 250 km missile, a medium-range 120 km missile and a short-range 40 km missile.

- **Saudi Arabia** (Capital: **Riyadh** Currency: **Saudi riyal**)

- **First Meeting of India-Australia Joint Steering Committee held**

The **First Meeting of India-Australia Joint Steering Committee** was held. Shri **TVSN Prasad**,

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Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Mr. Stephen Bouwhuis, First Assistant Secretary, International and Auscheck Division, Criminal Justice Group, Attorney-General's Department led the respective delegations.

- **Memoranda of Understanding (MoU)** on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime exchanged between the two sides during the visit of **Australian Prime Minister Mr. Malcolm Turnbull** to **New Delhi** in April this year and his talks with the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

- **Australia** (Capital: **Canberra** Currency: **Australian dollar**)

- **India and European Union 14th summit, Three key pacts inked; both sides agree to strengthen trade and security ties:**

India and the **European Union** agreed to strengthen ties in key areas of trade and security after their **14th summit**, during which Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the top EU leadership deliberated extensively on **bilateral, regional and international issues**.

- **US to sell \$15 bn missile defence to Saudi Arabia:**

The **US government** has approved the sale to **Saudi Arabia** of the **advanced Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD)** missile defence system for **USD 15 billion**, the State Department. This sale furthers US national security and foreign policy interests, and supports the long-term security of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region in the face of Iranian and other regional threats.

BANKING & BUSINESS

- **India jumps to 14th rank as best country for expats: HSBC**

India leap up the global rankings by 12 places to take the 14th spot in terms of best country for expats to live and work in, says a HSBC survey. The list, which is topped by Singapore, is part of HSBC's latest 'expat explorer survey' that covered 27,587 expats from 159 countries and territories in March and April this year.

- **India GDP to hit \$6 trillion by 2027:**

India is likely to be the world's fastest-growing large economy in the next 10 years, driven by digitisation, favourable demographics, globalisation and reforms, predicts a Morgan Stanley report.

- **Bengaluru ranked world's most affordable tech hub, Gurugram bags 2nd spot:**

According to a survey conducted by a realty consultancy firm Knight Frank, Karnataka capital Bengaluru has been ranked world's most affordable technology hub, followed by Haryana's Gurugram.

- **India to top global remittances chart with \$65 billion in 2017: World Bank**

India is expected to retain its position as the top remittances receiving country, with its diaspora set to pump in a whopping USD 65 billion in the year 2017, the World Bank said.

After India the other top five remittances receiving countries are:

1. India (USD 65 billion)
2. China (USD 61 billion)
3. Philippines (USD 33 billion)
4. Mexico (USD 31 billion)

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5. Nigeria (USD 22 billion).

- **Blockchain tech-based smartphone unveiled:**

Gurugram-based VVDN, in partnership with Ireland's Embedded Downloads, unveiled blockchain technology-based smartphone BitVault for 75,000 a unit. This is the world's first blockchain technology-based smartphone.

- **GIFT City 's IFSC bags 10th place in Global Financial Centres Index:**

Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City)'s International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) has bagged the 10th spot in the latest edition of Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI), London, September 2017.

- **Reserve Bank of India opens branch in Dehradun:**

The Reserve Bank of India opened a branch in the Dehradun to make transactions of the state government more convenient. Inaugurating the RBI's branch here, **Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat** said it was an important step which will speed up economic development of the state besides making financial transactions of the government more convenient.

- **PAN, Aadhaar card not mandatory for jewellery purchase above Rs 50,000:**

Now **PAN card** and **Aadhaar card** are not needed for **jewellery** purchases above **Rs 50,000**. The government decided to revoke the notification that extended provisions of the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, (PMLA)** to **jewellery** purchases. This decision was taken at the **22nd GST Council meeting**.

- **HDFC Life Launched Neo, a servicing Bot for Twitter:**

HDFC Life Insurance Company has launched 'Neo', a servicing bot for Twitter that uses **artificial intelligence** for **customer service**. This is the second bot put in operation by HDFC Life, after the launch of SPOK, which was an email bot to answer customer queries

- **Tata AIA Life launches 'Eazy Connect':**

Private insurer Tata AIA Life announced the launch of 'Eazy Connect', that will extend **online customer service** to **social media platforms**. The chatbot will be available through social media platforms and is developed to respond to the most frequently asked queries, the company said.

- **Donald Trump is Most Followed World Leader on Twitter, PM Modi Third:**

Donald Trump is the world's **most followed leader** on Twitter, while **Narendra Modi** is the **third**, according to the latest report by Twiplomacy, a Burson Marsteller research project that tracks the use of Twitter by governments and international organizations. He overtook **Pope Francis** by a few thousand followers to occupy the first place in Diplomacy's October report.

- **Vijaya Bank Inks MoU with HPCL for Digital Payments:**

Vijaya Bank has entered into a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL)** for enabling all HPCL retail outlets with BHIM/UPI merchant solutions. This rollout will empower all petrol pump attendants and LPG delivery personnel to accept digital payments. Customers can make payments by scanning a payment **QR code**, using **BHIM Vijaya** or any BHIM app that supports payments via UPI.

- **RCF to get rs 300cr loan from IREDA:**

Reliance Capital arm will get a **loan assistance** of Rs **300 crore** from **IREDA** and utilise the funds for lending it to its renewable energy projects.

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- **2k crore sanctional to set up Aadhaar centres in post offices**

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has approved Rs **2,000 crore** specifically for setting up **Aadhaar centres** in post offices, a move that will see private contractors phased out from the data collection process. Aadhaar enrolment and updation facilities will be available in around **15,000 post offices** by **March 31** next year.

- **Age limit for NPS entry to be raised to 65 years :**

Pension regulator PFRDA notified the increase in maximum entry age limit for **National Pension System (NPS)** to **65 years**, its Chairman Hemant Contractor has said.

- **Aadhaar Made Mandatory For Small Saving Schemes as Post Office Deposits, PPF, KVP:**

The government has made biometric identification Aadhaar mandatory for all post office deposits, **PPF**, the **National Savings Certificate scheme** and **Kisan Vikas Patra**.

- **NABARD sanctions Rs. 273 crore to Andhra Pradesh for development projects:**

The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** has sanctioned an amount Rs. **273.06** crore to the Andhra Pradesh Government under **Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)** for Rural Water supply, Road and Bridge projects.

- **AIIB, ADB approves \$100 million loan for India's power sector:**

China-led AIIB and multilateral funding agency **ADB** will co-finance a USD **100-million loan** for India to **improve power transmission network** and expand the use of solar and wind energy. The loan, approved by the Board of Directors of the Beijing-headquartered Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), involves co-financing of USD 50 million from the Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB).

- **Andhra Pradesh Signs MoU With Mastercard to Set Up Centre of Excellence in Vizag:**

The **Andhra Pradesh** Government signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with **Mastercard** to setup a **centre of excellence** in **Visakhapatnam**. The agreement is believed to digitally transform the technology sector in Andhra Pradesh. As part of agreement, MasterCard will also organise business summits in Visakhapatnam every year.

- **Mastercard (CEO : Ajay Banga)**

APPOINTMENTS

- **TK Viswanathan Committee Recommendation to Deal with Hate Speech:**

The home ministry is examining the recommendations of TK Viswanathan committee formed to propose new laws or amendments to deal with hate speech on the internet.

- **Sikh lawyer Jagmeet Singh voted leader of Canada's New Democratic Party:**

A 38-year-old Sikh lawyer was elected the leader of Canada's New Democratic Party, becoming the first member of a minority community to lead a major political party in the country.

- **Rajiv Sabharwal to take charge as Tata Capital CEO:**

Tata Capital announced the appointment of Rajiv Sabharwal as Managing Director & CEO designate of the company. He replaces Praveen P Kadle.

- **Pakistan appoints Vice Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi to be new Chief of the Naval Staff:**

Vice Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi will be succeeding Chief of Naval Staff (CONS) Admiral Mohammad Zakauallah after President Mamnoon Hussain approved his elevation to the office.

- **BJP's Sambit Patra appointed to ONGC board:**

BJP's national spokesperson Sambit Patra was appointed as non-official director on the board of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd.

- **ICMR chief Soumya Swaminathan appointed as WHO's deputy director general:**

The director general of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Soumya Swaminathan, has been appointed as the deputy director general of programmes of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

- **Rajnish Kumar as SBI chief:**

State Bank of India managing director Rajnish Kumar will succeed Arundhati Bhattacharya as chairman of the country's largest bank.

- **PNB MetLife appoints Srivastava as MD & CEO:**

PNB MetLife India Insurance has a **new MD and CEO** in **Ashish Srivastava**. He will be responsible for leading all aspects of the business in the country. Prior to this elevation, Srivastava was an interim CEO at PNB MetLife.

- **RBI forms High-level Task Force on Public Credit Registry under Yeshwant M. Deosthalee:**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has formed a **High-level Task Force** on **Public Credit Registry (PCR)** for India. The task force has been constituted under the chairmanship of **Yeshwant M. Deosthalee**.

- **ICC names Corey Anderson as event ambassador for U-19 World Cup 2018:**

International Cricket Council (ICC) announced **New Zealand** all-rounder **Corey Anderson** as the event ambassador for the **ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup 2018** that will bring together the world's future cricket stars.

- **Pooja Kapur concurrently appointed as next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Macedonia:**

Ms. Pooja Kapur, presently **Ambassador of India** to the **Republic of Bulgaria**, has been concurrently accredited as the next **Ambassador of India** to the **Republic of Macedonia**, with residence in Sofia, Republic of Bulgaria.

- **Panel to review GST composition scheme:**

A **group of ministers** or **GoM** has been set up **under Assam finance minister Himanta Biswa Sarma** to make the composition scheme more attractive and to revisit the **goods and services tax rates** on restaurants. To bring simplicity and to reduce the compliance cost for the small taxpayers, the **GST Council** in its **22nd meeting** has decided to allow taxpayers with **Rs 1.5 crore** to file quarterly returns and at the same time increased the threshold for composition scheme to **Rs. 1 crore** from the present **Rs. 75 lakh**.

- **Axis Bank acquires Freecharge, appoints Sangram Singh as CEO:**

India's third largest private sector bank – **Axis Bank** acquired payments wallet **Free charge** for **Rs 373 crore** in an all-cash deal. **Sangram Singh** has been appointed as the CEO of **Free charge Payment Technologies Private Ltd**.

AWARD

- **INA veteran, 91-year-old awarded best tourist guide:**

Khandwala received a National Tourism Award in the 'Best Tourist Guide' category to honour her almost 50-year stint as a Mumbai tour guide. The ministry of tourism award was presented to the 91-year-old by President Ram Nath Kovind in Delhi.

- Journalist-activist **Gauri Lankesh**, who was shot dead by unknown assailants on September 5, has been **posthumously** accorded with the **prestigious Anna Politkovskaya Award**, instituted by Reach All Women (RAW) in War.

- **BHEL wins National Safety awards:**

Among a host of public and private sector companies in the country, six '**National Safety Awards**' have been **won** by **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)** for outstanding achievements in terms of the longest accident free period and lowest accident frequency rate at their works. The awards were received by Sh. **Atul Sobti**, Chairman & Managing Director, BHEL from Sh. **Santosh Kumar Gangwar**, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Labour & Employment (Independent Charge), at a function in **New Delhi**.

- **Belarussian student becomes first-ever Miss wheelchair world:**

A psychology student from **Belarus, Aleksandra Chichikova**, was chosen **Miss Wheelchair World** in the **first-ever edition** of the beauty pageant held in Warsaw. **Lebohang Monyatsi** from South Africa was the **runner-up** ahead of Poland's Adrianna Zawadzinska.

- **Belarus** (Currency: **Belarusian ruble** Capital: **Minsk**)

- **Rajesh Nath Gets Germany's Highest Civilian Honour:**

Rajesh Nath, Managing Director of VDMA India, has been conferred the '**Cross of the Order of Merit**', the **highest civilian honour** awarded to individuals for their services to Germany. The award, also known as Bundesverdienstkreuz or Federal Cross of Merit was instituted in 1951 and is Germany's only honour that is awarded to both Germans and foreigners for achievements in the economic, social, political or intellectual realms.

- **TAKE Solutions to receive Golden Peacock Award:**

TAKE Solutions would receive the **Golden Peacock Award** for **Excellence in Corporate Governance**. The award, set up by the Institute of Directors, London recognises exemplary organisational performances through a three-tier process.

SPORTS

- **Max Verstappen wins Malaysian Grand Prix 2017 title:**

Red Bull driver **Max Verstappen** won the final edition of the **Malaysian Grand Prix**, as Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton finished second to extend his championship lead over Sebastian Vettel to 34 points.

- **Mahaveer becomes first Indian to claim European racing title:**

Mahaveer Raghunathan became the first Indian to win a European racing championship when he sped to victory in the last two races of the prestigious Boss GP Championship (Formula Class).

- **International Weightlifting Federation suspends nine countries for doping violations:**

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Nine countries have been suspended from weightlifting for a year by the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF). The member federations identified as such are currently Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine.

- **Pooja Kadian** created history as she bagged **India's first ever gold medal** at **Wushu World Championships in Russia**.

Pooja, an ace Central Reserve Police Force's (CRPF) Wushu champion, finished on top of the podium in the 75 kg women's Sanda Category after defeating Evgeniya Stepanova of Russia in the final.

- **Russia** (Currency: **Russian ruble** Capital: **Moscow**)

- **American Morgan Hurd wins all-around title:**

American Morgan Hurd won the all-around title at the gymnastics world championships in Montreal. The 16-year-old won the United States' seventh straight Olympic or world all-around title by edging out Canada's Elisabeth Black 55.232 to 55.132. U.S. champion Ragan Smith withdrew minutes before the competition with an ankle injury.

- **Lewis Hamilton wins Japanese Grand Prix:**

Lewis Hamilton moved within reach of a fourth **Formula One world championship** after winning a **Japanese Grand Prix** that saw Ferrari title rival Sebastian Vettel retire with engine problems.

- **Japan** (Capital: **Tokyo** Currency: **Yen**)

- **Samiya Crowned Asian Junior Championship:**

Indian **shuttler Samiya Imad Farooqui** clinched the **gold medal** at the **Under-15** women's singles competition after defeating Indonesia's Widjaja Stephani at the **Asian Junior Championship Yangon, Myanmar**.

- **Rafael Nadal Wins Mens single title of china open:**

World number one **Rafael Nadal** won his **sixth** title of another remarkable year at the China Open

- **Caroline Garcia stuns new no.1 Simona Halep to win China Open:**

Unseeded **Caroline Garcia of France** won her second title in as many weeks as she stunned new world number one Simona Halep in the closely fought final of the **China Open**.

- **China** (Currency: **Renminbi** Capital: **Beijing**)

- **Anupama Clinches World Open Under-16 Snooker Championship Title:**

India's **Anupama Ramachandran** clinched the World Open **Under-16 Snooker Championship** title at **St. Petersburg in Russia**. This is the Federation of Billiards Sports of Russia hosted this first-ever World Open championships for Under-16 boys and girls.

- **Harmeet-Soumyajit pair wins Silver in polish Open:**

Fifth seeded Indian pair of **Harmeet Desai** and **Soumyajit Ghosh** lost to second seeds Ho Kwan Kit and Ng Pak Nam of Korea to settle for the silver medal at the ITTF Challenge Polish Open in Czestochowa.

OBITUARIES

- Writer & journalist **H. M. Marathe** passed away in Pune.

- **Noted Journalist Bismoy Kumar Mohanty** passed away Puri.

- **Veteran director Kundan Shah**, best known for the dark comedy Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro, passed away.

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- Former Union minister and socialist leader **Purushottam Lal Kaushik** passed away.

IMPORTANT NOTES

DENOMINATION	COLOUR	SIZE	MOTIFS
2000	Magenta	66mm x 166mm	Mangalyan Moon Mission
500	Stone Grey	66mm x 150mm	Red Fort
200	Bright Yellow	66mm x 146mm	Sanchi Stupa
50	Flurosent Blue	66mm x 135mm	Hampi Chariot

Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881

- **Section 4** – Promissory note
- **Section 5** – Bill of exchange
- **Section 6** – Cheque
- **Section 13** – Negotiable Instruments
- **Section 123** – Cheque Crossed Generally
- **Section 124, 126** – Cheque crossed specially
- **Section 130** – Cheque bearing Not Negotiable
- **Section 118** – Presumptions as to Negotiable Instruments

Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934

- **Section 17** – Defines Business of RBI
- **Section 18** – Deals with Emergency loans to Banks
- **Section 22** – only RBI has the exclusive rights to issue currency notes in India.
- **Section 24** – maximum denomination a note can be Rs. 10,000.
- **Section 26** – Describes the legal tender character of Indian bank notes.
- **Section 28** – Allows the RBI to form rules regarding the exchange of damaged and imperfect notes.
- **Section 31** – In India only the RBI or the central government can issue and accept promissory notes that are payable on demand.
- **Section 42(1)** – Every scheduled bank must have an average daily balance with the RBI

Banking Regulation Act, 1949

- **Section 10BB:** Power of Reserve Bank to appoint [chairman of the Board of directors appointed on a whole-time basis or a managing director] of a banking company.
- **Section 11:** Requirement as to minimum paid-up capital and reserves
- **Section 12:** Regulation of paid-up capital, subscribed capital and authorised capital and voting rights of shareholders
- **Section 21:** Power of Reserve Bank to control advances by banking companies
- **Section 21A:** Rates of interest charged by banking companies
- **Section 22(1):** Licensing of banking companies
- **Section 23:** Restrictions on opening of new, and transfer of existing, places of business
- **Section 29:** Accounts and balance-sheet

- **Section 36AE** : Power of Central Government to acquire undertakings of banking companies in certain cases
- **Section 44A**: Procedure for amalgamation of banking companies.
- **Note:**
- Amalgamation of **two banking companies** is under the provisions of Section 44A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- Amalgamation of a **banking company with a non-banking company** is governed by sections 391 to 394 of the Companies Act, 1956.
- **Section 47A**: Power of Reserve Bank to impose penalty
- **Section 49A**: Restriction on acceptance of deposits withdrawable by cheque.