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NATIONAL NEWS

- **Government ends Haj subsidy:**

The Union Ministry of Minority Affairs has decided to end Haj subsidy from this year on the recommendations of Afzal Amanullah Committee.

The decision has been taken to empower minorities with dignity.

The Supreme Court in May 2012 had stated that Haj subsidy should be removed by 2022.
- **Government to install digital boards in all schools:**

The Union Government has decided to launch Operation Digital Board to help students to view diagrams and presentations through digital tools.

It will be implemented within next 5 years and make the learning process more interesting.
- **India to establish \$350 million Solar Development Fund for Solar Projects:**

The Central Government has announced to set up \$350 million Solar Development Fund for financing solar projects under the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

This was announced during the first ever ISA outreach program 'International Solar Alliance Forum' held in Abu Dhabi's World Future Energy Summit (WFES) 2018.
- **Government launches Cyber Surakshit Bharat initiative:**

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched Cyber Surakshit Bharat initiative to strengthen the cyber security ecosystem under the Digital India campaign.

Cyber Surakshit Bharat will spread awareness about cyber-crime and building capacity for safety measures by leveraging the expertise of IT industry.
- **2018 to be observed as National Year of Millets:**

Government has approved 2018 as the National Year of Millets to boost the production of millets and the sunrise agri-industry involved in it.

The step has been taken to increase the production and consumption of millets that will substantially contribute in fight against targeted hunger.
- **Government launches Website Accessibility Project:**

With an aim to make 100 government websites accessible to persons with disabilities, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched Website Accessibility Project.

The project has been launched under the Accessible India Campaign on the occasion of National Conference on Improving Accessibility.
- **Rapid Reporting System for Adolescent Girls:**

The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched the 1st phase of Rapid Reporting System (RRS), a web based online monitoring scheme for adolescent girls.

The portal will facilitate monitoring of the adolescent girls and take the corrective measures by ensuring faster flow of information, accurate targeting of beneficiaries and reduction of leakages.

The scheme aims to provide nutritional support to the girls apart from motivating out of school girls to go back to formal schooling or skill training under its non-nutrition component.

- **Pulse Polio Programme 2018:**

Administering polio drops to children at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, President Ram Nath Kovind has launched Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme 2018.

The polio eradication programme was organized on the occasion of National Immunisation Day, observed on 28th January.

Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme was launched by the Central Government in 1995 under the World Health Organisation's Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

- **Stree Swabhiman Initiative:**

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeITY) has launched Stree Swabhiman Initiative for providing adolescent girls and women an access to affordable sanitary products by leveraging Common Services Centres (CSCs).

Its purpose is to create awareness on menstrual health and hygiene of women, protecting the dignity of women.

- **Cabinet approval for National Medical Commission Bill:**

In order to introduce medical education reforms, the Union Cabinet has approved the National Medical Commission Bill 2017.

The new bill will replace the Medical Council Act 1956.

The bill aims to eradicate corruption and unethical practices in the medical sector.

It will replace the Medical Council of India (MCI) with National Medical Council (NMC) to ensure transparency. NMC will have 25 members.

- **NITI Ayog launches ATL Community Day:**

National Institute of Transforming India (NITI) Aayog' Atal Innovation Mission has launched Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) day in New Delhi.

The day aims to provide 25 young mentors to more than 200 students who are not enrolled in the formal education sector.

- **Cabinet approval for agreement with UNESCO on the establishment of ITCOO in Hyderabad:**

The Government has given approval to establish the International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOO) as a category-2 centre of UNESCO in Hyderabad, Telangana.

The training centre has been established with a purpose to develop capacity for countries on the Indian Ocean Rim (IOR), African countries bordering Indian and Atlantic Ocean under the framework of UNESCO.

- **Cabinet approves continuation of National AYUSH Mission:**

The Union Cabinet has given approval to continue National AYUSH Mission (NAM), a centrally sponsored scheme from April 2017 to March 2020.

NAM was launched in 2014 to provide cost-effective universal access to AYUSH services.

- **India's first National and Transportation University at Vadodara:**

The Union Cabinet has sanctioned the proposal of Railway Ministry to establish the first ever National Rail and Transport University in Vadodara to enhance the human resources and build capability.

The first academic programme is expected to be launched in July 2018.

- **Government launches e-HRMS:**

On the occasion of Good Governance Day (25th December), the Union Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions has launched the electronic- Human Resource Management System (e-HRMS).

The e-HRMS launch is a part of Government's goal of minimum government, maximum governance.

- **Lok Sabha passes Triple Talaq Bill:**

The Lok Sabha has passed the Muslim Women (protection of Rights on Marriages) Bill 2017.

The bill declares instant triple talaq illegal and prescribes three years of imprisonment for the husband.

It makes triple talaq (either in written or electronic form) as illegal and void.

- **Government launches Livestock Disease Forewarning Mobile App:**

Livestock Disease Forewarning- Mobile Application has been launched by the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in New Delhi.

The app will be helpful for consumers and stakeholders indulge in the disease control programmes as the app will provide early disease warning and information about clinical samples for diagnosis in case of epidemics.

- **Lok Sabha passes GST (Compensation to States) Amendment Bill, 2017:**

Lok Sabha has passed the Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Amendment Bill, 2017.

This bill will amend the GST (Compensation to States) Act, 2017 and replace an ordinance promulgated in September 2107.

- **Government inaugurates online portal NARI:**

An online portal NARI has been inaugurated by the Women and Child Development Ministry to promote women empowerment.

The portal, apart from providing easy access to online applications and grievance redressal will also emphasize upon nutritional tips, health check-up suggestions, tips for job search and information on crime against women.



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- **Parliament passes NABARD (Amendment) Bill, 2017:**

Rajya Sabha has recently passed the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Amendment) Bill, 2017. Lok Sabha has already passed the bill in August 2017.

The Bill seeks to amend the existing NABARD Act, 1981 by allowing Union Government to increase the capital of NABARD from Rs.5000 crore to Rs.30,000 crore.

The bill also states that Government must hold at least 51% capital share of NABARD.

- **Government approves the construction of bi-directional Zojila Tunnel in J&K:**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has given approval for the construction and maintenance of 2-lane bi-directional Zojila Tunnel on Srinagar-Leh stretch.

The strategically important tunnel will provide all-weather connectivity to important Leh region.

On completion, it will be Asia's largest 2-lane bi-directional tunnel.

- **Government launches Swachh Survekshan 2018:**

As a part of Swachh Bharat Mission, the Government has launched the cleanliness survey 2018.

The survey will rank 500 cities on national level having more than 1 lac population.

- **New Railway Technology Mission:**

Three central ministries have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a technology mission for Indian Railways and academic and research institutions.

Ministry of Railways, HRD and Science and Technology have come together to provide world class technologies to the national transporter.

- **Railways launches SFOORTI application:**

With an aim to optimize freight operations and plan traffic flow, the Union Ministry of Railways has launched Smart Freight Operation Optimisation & Real Time Information (SFOORTI) application.

The app will help the freight managers to monitor and manage freight business using Geographical Information System (GIS) views and dashboard.

- **Government launches National Strategic Plan and Mission SAMPARK:**

With an aim to eradicate AIDS by 2030, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the National Strategic Plan 2017-24 on the occasion of World AIDS Day (1st December).

Mission SAMPARK was also launched to find individuals who are left to follow up and will be brought under Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART)

- **Government launches website of CIPAM:**

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu has launched the official website of Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM) of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP).

The new website will provide all the updates related to the upcoming events of CIPAM apart from giving information related to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

- **MSME Sambandh: Public Procurement Portal for MSMEs launched:**

With an aim to monitor the implementation of public procurement from MSMEs by Central Public Sector Enterprises, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has launched a new portal 'Sambandh'.

The new portal will help the Ministry and CPSEs to assess their performance in the procurement process according to the Procurement Policy, 2012.

- Ministries of Power and Textiles joint initiative-SAATHI:**
 Ministries of Power and Textiles have joined hands under SAATHI (Sustainable and Accelerated Adoption of Efficient Textile Technologies to Help Small Industries) initiative.
 Under this initiative, Energy Efficient Services Limited (EESL), under the Ministry of Power will procure energy efficient powerlooms and motors in bulk and provide them to small and medium powerloom units at no upfront cost.
- Paika Rebellion to be named as the 1st War of Independence:**
 The Union Human Resource Development Ministry has decided to name Paika Rebellion as the First War of Independence against British rule in the history books from the next academy session. Earlier, Revolution of 1857 (Sepoy Mutiny) was considered as the first war of Independence.
 Paika were the traditional landed militia under the Gajapati Rulers of Odisha.
- Start-up Sangam Initiative:**
 With an aim to develop new business models, technology and innovations in heavy oil and gas industry sector, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched Start-up Sangam Initiative by supporting 30 start-ups.
 For this 10 oil and Gas PSUs have set up Rs. 320 crore venture capital fund.
- Cabinet approval for the 2nd National Judicial Pay Commission:**
 With an aim to examine the present provisions of emoluments and service conditions of the Judicial officers in states and UTs, the Union Cabinet has approved the appointment of 2nd National Judicial Pay Commission.
 It will be headed by Justice (Retd) J P. Venkatrama.
- Cabinet approval for National Testing Agency:**
 The Union Cabinet has given approval for the creation of National Testing Agency (NTA) to conduct entrance examination for higher educational institutions.
 It will act as an autonomous and self-sustained premier testing organization that will conduct the entrance examinations presently conducted by CBSE
- Government celebrates Child Rights Week: ‘Hausla 2017’**
 The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) is going to celebrate Child Rights Week (Hausla 2017) from 16th to 20th November, 2017.
 Hausla 2017 will showcase the talent of children from Child Care Institutions (CCIs) across the country by providing them platform to express their dreams.
 International Child Rights Day is celebrated on 20th November each year.
- Cabinet approval for setting up 15th Finance Commission:**
 The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given approval for establishing the 15th Finance Commission.
 Article 280 (1) has made it a Constitutional obligation to constitute Finance Commission after every five years.
 It is constituted by the President.

ALL INDIA TOPPERS FROM IBT

SUBHOJIT CHAKRABORTY SBI-PO - 2016 Roll No: 38407295966  	VIPAN PRITMANI RBI ASSISTANT - 2016 Roll No: 2630701471  	LOVE GUPTA SSC CGL - INSPECTOR Roll No: 2201295176  	AASTHA SIHAG SSC CGL - INSPECTOR Roll No. 2201399971  	VIKAS MEENA DMRC Roll No. 1130709957  
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STATE NEWS

- **Rajasthan's first oil refinery at Barmer:**
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the first ever oil refinery of Rajasthan in Barmer district. The project is a joint venture of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Rajasthan Government.
- **Country's first Automatic Early Warning Dissemination System to be established in Odisha:**
Government has decided to commission India's first Automatic Early Warning Dissemination System (EWDS) in Odisha by March 2018.
EWDS will be implemented under National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project with the help of World Bank. It will be the first of its kind automatic public address system that aims to provide fool proof communication system to address the existing gaps in disseminating disaster warning upto the community level.
- **Tamil Nadu CM receives UNESCO Award:**
Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palanichamy has received UNESCO Award of Merit for the iconic Srirangam Ranganathaswamy temple in Tiruchirapalli.
- **Kolkata becomes first metro city to get floating market:**
West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee inaugurated the floating market in Kolkata. With this, Kolkata has become the first metro city in India to get the floating market. The market is located on lake at Patuli and aims to rehabilitate over 200 shopkeepers from nearby market that was demolished for widening the Eastern Metropolitan Bypass (EMB).
- **Punjab launches Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Vikas Yojna:**
Punjab Government has launched Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Vikas Yojna (MGSVY) for the welfare of distressed sections of the state.
The scheme will identify poor and distressed households which have been deprived of the benefits of various welfare schemes and provide them social and economic help.
- **India-Japan Smart Grid Pilot Project inaugurated in Panipat:**
Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has inaugurated Indo-Japan Smart Grid Pilot Project at Panipat, Haryana.
The project aims to make electricity distribution network smarter and disseminate Japanese technologies in India.
- **Maharashtra wins best tableau prize in Republic Day parade:**
Maharashtra has won the best tableau award during the 69th Republic Day Parade.
The best marching contingent award was given to Punjab regiment contingent.
Total 23 Tableaux (14 from states, Union Territories, 2 from Ministry of External Affairs and 7 from other ministries participated in the event).
- **Khaadi Haat inaugurated in New Delhi:**
The first ever Khaadi Haat was launched by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).
It was inaugurated by the Union Minister of State Giriraj Singh in Connaught Place.
- **Haryana announces free travel for Kashi pilgrims:**
Chief Minister of Haryana, Manohar Lal Khattar has announced that to provide free travel facility to pilgrims from Haryana to Kashi.
The facility will be available for 5000 people on the basis of first-come, first-serve in the Indian Railways.

- **Exhibition of rare coins in Pune:**

An exhibition of rare coins will be conducted in Pune from 15th-17th December with the name ‘Coinex Pune 2017’. In this exhibition, Lifetime achievement award will be presented to Arvind Athavale and Ran Vijay Singh, the two well-known coin collectors.
- **Third World Telugu Conference begins in Hyderabad:**

The third edition of the World Telugu Conference has been organized in Hyderabad to promote the rich heritage and culture associated with the language and its literature.
Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has formally inaugurated the conference.
- **Mumbai Metro launches SecuCare app:**

Mumbai Metro One has launched the first mobile security app named ‘SecuCare’ to make the commuters more secure.
Through this app, the commuter can send the pictures and videos along with the exact physical location of the train to the Metro Control Room.
The control room will immediately call the commuter to handle the situation.
- **Meghalaya launches India’s first social audit law:**

The Government of Meghalaya has launched ‘The Meghalaya Community Participation and Public Services Social Audit Act, 2017.’
With this, Meghalaya has become the first state in the country to do so.
The law will make the social audit of Government programmes and schemes a part of government practice.
- **Eastern India’s first CNG station inaugurated in Odisha:**

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated the eastern India’s first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations for scooters in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
The CNG station is a part of GAIL’s Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga and City Gas Distribution project in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.
- **Prime Minister inaugurates 60 MW Tuirial Hydro Power Project in Aizwal:**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 60 MW Tuirial hydropower project in Aizwal, Mizoram.
It is the Central Government’s first large hydropower project to be commissioned in Mizoram.
With this, Mizoram has become the third power surplus state in North-East after Sikkim and Tripura.
- **Andhra Pradesh signs MoU with Alphabet InC.’ X for FSOC technology:**

Government of Andhra Pradesh has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Alphabet InC.’ X to bring Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) technology to India.
The FSOC project aims to provide high quality and affordable digital services through internet under Fiber Grid Project.
- **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project gets environmental clearance:**

The Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) under the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has given the environmental clearance for Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) in Telangana.
The project, costing Rs. 80,499 crores is the costliest irrigation project to be taken up by any state in the country.
- **Mega Mock Drill for Earthquake in Haryana:**

A mega mock drill will be conducted in the West of Gurugram along the Jaipur Ridge and the Sohna Fault Line.
This is for the first time such exercise will be conducted involving six columns of Army.
Central agencies like Army, CRPF, NSG and ITBP will also become a part of the drill.

- **All India Young Writers Festival in Delhi:**
A 3 day long All India Young Writers Festival has been organized by the SAHITYA Akademi in New Delhi from 22nd-24th December.
24 persons were awarded with the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puruskar by Professor Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari.
- **UP assembly passes a bill for death penalty for illegal liquor trade:**
The Legislative Assembly of Uttar Pradesh has passed a bill to award death penalty and life imprisonment to those indulge in spurious liquor if its consumption leads to any death.
The Uttar Pradesh Excise (Amendment) Bill 201, provides for death penalty, life imprisonment and fine up to Rs 10 Lakh and not less than Rs 5 Lakh in case of death caused due to consumption of spurious liquor.
- **Odisha: Champion State for exports:**
The Central Government has recognized Odisha as a Champion State for achieving the highest growth in exports during 2016-17.
The state has witnessed a growth of 17.60 % in terms of shipments.
- **PM inaugurates Delhi Metro's Magenta Line:**
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently inaugurated the Magenta Line of Delhi Metro.
The Magenta line which is a 12.6 km long stretch between Delhi's Kalkaji Mandir and Noida's Botanical Garden, is equipped with communication-based train control technology.
- **1st AC local train in Mumbai:**
Mumbai got its first ever AC local train.
The train will initially operate only on Churchgate-Borivili section.
- **Bengaluru: 1st city to get its own logo:**
Bengaluru has become the first Indian city to have its own logo.
The logo is 'Bengaluru-Be U'.
With this, Bengaluru has joined the cities like New York, Melbourne and Singapore to have its own tourism logo.
- **Odisha Government to split tourism and cultural department:**
With an aim to promote Odia language by setting up an Odia Language Commission, the Government of Odisha has decided to separate the tourism and culture department.
The Government has also decided to set up a "Heritage Cabinet" which will take the necessary steps to preserve the rich culture, language and literature of the state.
- **J&K Government guidelines to employees on social media behaviour:**
The Jammu and Kashmir Government has issued a notification containing detailed guidelines for over 4.50 lakh employees about how to behave on social media.
The employees have been directed not to post, comment or share public information on matters related to their work or the department.
- **Uttarakhand madrasas to teach Sanskrit:**
With an aim to acquire skills related to Ayurveda and Yoga, the Madrasas in Uttarakhand are planning to teach Sanskrit to the students.
Sanskrit is the second official language in Uttarakhand.
- **India's second largest rooftop solar plant in UP:**
GAIL India Ltd has commissioned India's second largest rooftop solar power plant in Uttar Pradesh.
The 5.76 MW solar plant has been installed at GAIL's petrochemical complex at Pata in UP.
India's largest rooftop solar plant was commissioned at Amritsar in 2015.

- **Arunachal Pradesh declared open defecation free state:**
Under the Swachh Bharat Mission, Arunachal Pradesh has been declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF) state. With this, it has become the second north-eastern after Sikkim and overall 5th state after Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Sikkim and Haryana to be declared an ODF state.
- **New AIIMS in Himachal Pradesh:**
Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY), The Union Cabinet has given approval to establish a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh. PMSSY was launched in 2003 with an aim to correct regional imbalances in the availability of affordable and reliable tertiary healthcare services apart from providing quality medical education in the country.
- **Karnataka to host India's Biggest travel B2B event:**
The Karnataka Tourism Department has announced the inaugural edition of the Karnataka International Travel Expo (KITE), India's biggest B2B travel event in Bengaluru. The 3 day KITE will provide a Business-to-Business (B2B) platform to more than 400 delegates from 25 countries to explore new business opportunities in travel and tourism sector.
- **Government announces Hyderabad as open defecation free:**
The Union Government has granted the Open Defecation Free (ODF) status to Hyderabad under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Hyderabad has achieved this status after its Municipal Corporation has constructed 98 public toilets, including 24 toilets for women.
- **Maharashtra to form its own International School Board:**
The Maharashtra Government is going to form its own international school board in the state. The Maharashtra International Education Board will be an autonomous body which will design curriculum for schools and conduct exams.
- **Official Emblem of West Bengal unveiled:**
West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has unveiled the official emblem of the state government. The emblem, which was recently approved by the Centre highlights the Ashoka emblem at the top with the theme- "Biswa Bangla" at the centre.
- **UP Education Board to help Nepal to conduct school exams:**
UP Education Board will provide support and guidance to the newly established National Examination Board of Nepal in conducting high school and intermediate exams.
- **Kolkata airport gets CAT III B technology:**
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport at Kolkata has become the 5th airport in India to have CAT III landing system. Prior to this, the airports of Delhi, Chandigarh, Lucknow and Jaipur have achieved this status.
- **India's 1st park for differentially abled inaugurated in Hyderabad:**
Telangana Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao has inaugurated India's first park for differently abled people in Hyderabad. The park will have a speech therapist, a physiotherapist and a vocational training instructor for differently abled children.
- **World Book Fair in New Delhi:**
The 26th edition of the World Book Fair was recently organized by the National Book Trust (NBT) in association of India Trade Promotion Organisation in New Delhi. This year's theme is "Environment and Climate Change". European Union was the Guest of Honour Country this year.

- **International Kite festival in Gujarat:**

A week long International Kite festival has been launched at Ahmedabad in Gujarat.

149 kite fliers from 44 countries will participate this year.

More than 96 kite fliers from 18 states and 290 from Gujarat will also participate in the mega event.

- **‘Gudiya’ helpline in Himachal Pradesh:**

Jai Ram Thakur, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh has announced to set up a 24*7 ‘Gudia’ helpline for the safety of Women.

The Chief Minister’s Office (CMO) will directly supervise the helpline service and action will be taken mandatorily within 48 hours.

- **J&K to launch ‘Muhafiz’ scheme:**

With an aim to provide socio-economic security to the workers of unorganized sectors, the Jammu and Kashmir Government has decided to launch ‘Muhafiz’ (Guardian) scheme.

Around 3 lakh workers will be provided accidental, life and disability insurance apart from educational scholarships to their children under the scheme.

- **Haryana to give power subsidy to micro and small industries:**

Haryana Government has announced to provide power subsidy at Rs 2 per unit to the micro and small industries.

The facility will be given to the industries situated in C and D category blocks in terms of industrialization for 3 years from the date of release of power connection.

- **Delhi Common Mobility Card launched:**

Chief Minister of Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal has launched the Delhi Common Mobility Card to promote cash-less and convenient commuting for the daily commuters in Delhi.

With this, Delhi has become the first metro city in the country to launch such facility which can be used by the commuters in Delhi Metro and DTC buses.

- **Matunga Railway Station in Mumbai enters Limca Records for All Women Staff:**

Matunga Railway Station in Mumbai has entered the Limca Book of World Records as first all women station in India.

With a total staff of 41 women, the railway station aims to create an environment for women empowerment.

- **National Youth Festival held in New Delhi:**

The Union Ministry of Youth Affairs with Uttar Pradesh Government has organized the 22nd edition of the National Youth Festival in Greater Noida on the occasion of birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

The festival that aims to provide platform to the youth of the country to showcase their talents, is the biggest youth festival of its kind.

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- **India's First Wave-Powered Navigation Buoy launched in Chennai:**
India's First Wave-Powered Navigation Buoy has recently been launched in Chennai.
It has been developed by National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) to guide ships in and out of ports.
It will be powered by wave energy.
- **Haryana becomes the first state to treat Hepatitis-C patients with oral medicines:**
Haryana has become the first state of India to treat all categories of Hepatitis-C patients with oral medicines.
The oral medicine will be available free of cost for the permanent residents of all categories at the district level.
- **Punjab to organize Military Literature Festival:**
The Punjab Government is going to organize a Military Literature Festival in Chandigarh from 7th -9th December.
The festival aims to showcase the capabilities of Indian Army, Navy and Air-Force apart from holding seminars on defence, art, literature and music etc.
- **Delhi Government signs Twin City Agreement with Seoul:**
Delhi Government has signed a twin city agreement with the Government of Seoul for strengthening cooperation in the fields of e-governance, transportation, climate change and smart city infrastructure.
The agreement is known as 'Establishment of Friendship City Relationship'.
- **India's first Blackbuck conservation reserve approved in Uttar Pradesh:**
India's first Blackbuck conservation reserve has been approved by the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet in Trans-Yamuna belt near Allahabad.
Indian Blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*) is the only living species of genus Antelope.
Blackbuck has been categorized as least concerned in IUCN Red Data Book.
- **New district in Arunachal Pradesh- Kamle:**
Arunachal Pradesh State Assembly has passed the Arunachal Pradesh (Re-Organisation of Districts) Amendment Bill 2017 to create a new district named Kamle.
It will be the 23rd district of Arunachal Pradesh and has been created by bifurcating the present upper and lower Subansiri districts.
- **Madhya Pradesh Government launches Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojna:**
Providing a helping hand to the farmers, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan has inaugurated the ambitious Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojna.
With this initiative, Madhya Pradesh has become the first state to lend money to farmers at zero percent interest.
Under the scheme, the Government has approved a number of irrigation projects in the state
- **Rajasthan becomes first state to provide e-mail IDs in Hindi:**
Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to provide free email addresses in Hindi for its residents.
The aim of this step is to ensure and enhance the people participation towards e-governance and ensure that people must avail maximum government facilities in vernacular language.
- **Tripura Government introduces child care leave for women employees:**
The Government of Tripura has launched Child Care Leave (CCL) for women employees with minor children for 730 days in their entire service life.
The Child Care Leave will be granted to the women employees of the state having children less than 18 years for maximum period of 730 days in the entire service life.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- **Romania's PM Mihai Tudose resigns:**
Due to internal clashes and struggles within the party, the President of Romania, Mihai Tudose has resigned.
- **India becomes member of Australia Group:**
India has become the 43rd member of the Australia Group, a key export control regime that keeps a tight control over exports of substances used in making of chemical weapons.
This inclusion is expected to strengthen India's bid to enter 48-member Nuclear Supplier Group (NSG).
- **Mauritius was the largest source of FDI in India in 2016-2017: RBI**
According to the Census on Foreign Liabilities and Assets of Indian Direct Investment Companies 2016-17 released by RBI, Mauritius was the largest source of foreign investment in India.
Mauritius was followed by US, UK, Singapore and Japan.
- **WEF launches Global Center for Cyber-security:**
With an aim to protect the world from hackers and to curb the incidents of data breaches, the World Economic Forum (WEF) has announced a new Global Centre for Cybersecurity.
Its headquarters will be established in Geneva and will become operational from March 2018.
- **4th India-Australia-Japan Trilateral Dialogue in New Delhi:**
India hosted the 4th India-Australia-Japan Trilateral Dialogue in New Delhi.
India's Foreign Secretary S. Jaishankar, Australia's Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade Frances Adamson and Japan's Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Shinsuke J. Sugiyama participated in the dialogue.
The three sides confirmed their commitment for the peace and economic growth of the Indo-Pacific region and their support for ASEAN.
- **World's first camel hospital in Dubai:**
With an to conduct research and development of camel medicine, a hospital exclusively for camels has recently opened in Dubai.
This hospital has the operating theatres, state-of-the-art medical equipment and a mini race track.
- **Norway shut down national radio broadcasts on FM:**
Norway has become the first country in the world to shut down the national broadcasts of its FM radio network.
The country has completed its transition to digital radio.
- **WHO declares Gabon as polio free:**
The World Health Organisation (WHO) has declared Gabon, a Central African country as a polio free country.
The status has been accorded due to lack of new reported or suspected cases in the country.
Now Polio is endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- **Saudi Arabia allows women to drive:**
Ending the ban on women driving, Saudi Arabia has allowed women to drive trucks and motorcycles.
King Salman in September, issued an order according to which women will be able to drive from next June as a part of an ambitious reform push in the Kingdom.
- **World's steepest funicular railway line opens in Switzerland:**
World's steepest funicular railway line has been opened in Switzerland.
The railway line is 1300 meters above the sea level.
- **US makes world's strongest superconducting magnet:**
MagLab of USA has successfully tested the world's strongest superconducting magnet, producing 32 teslas which is 33% stronger than the previous record.

- India: Country with the largest diaspora population in the world- UN Report:**
 According to the UN World Migration Report released by the International Organisation for Migration, India has the largest diaspora population in the world.
 As per the report, more than 15.6 million Indian people live overseas.
- India and Sri Lanka finish the 2nd phase of joint oceanographic survey:**
 Indian and Sri Lankan Navy have successfully completed the second phase of joint oceanographic survey conducted off the South Western Coast of Sri Lanka.
 The survey aims to update all the navigational charts covering the southern Sri Lankan waters with the latest hydrographic data.
- India and Myanmar sign MoU for Rakhine's development:**
 India and Myanmar have inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to develop Myanmar's Rakhine state.
 The MoU aims to establish socio-economic development and livelihood initiatives in Rakhine state.
- France imposes ban on oil and gas production:**
 The Parliament of France has passed a bill prohibiting all the exploration and production of oil and natural gas by 2040 within the country and its territories.
 Under this, the existing drilling permits will not be renewed and new exploration licenses will not be granted.
- India-Switzerland Agreement on Tax Info:**
 Indian Government has signed an agreement with Switzerland that would allow the automatic sharing of tax-related information.
 The agreement was signed by the CBDT Chairman Sushil Chandra and Swiss Ambassador to India Andreas Baum in New Delhi.
- Belgium becomes first country to appoint female envoy to Saudi Arabia:**
 Dominique Minuer has been appointed as the envoy of Belgium to Saudi Arabia.
 With this, Belgium has become the first country in the world to appoint a female diplomat as its ambassador to Saudi Arabia.
- Trilateral talks between China, Afghanistan and Pakistan start in Beijing:**
 The first ever trilateral China, Afghanistan and Pakistan Foreign Minister's dialogue was recently conducted in Beijing.
 The 3 countries have agreed to enhance cooperation for counter-terrorism operations.



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- **India and Afghanistan launches 2nd Air Cargo route:**

The second air cargo route between India and Afghanistan, linking Kabul to Mumbai was officially inaugurated at the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul.

The first air corridor between the two countries, linking Kabul to New Delhi was inaugurated in June 2017.
- **India: Largest importer of LPG in the World:**

LPG imports in India has reached 2.4 million tons in December, surpassing the Chinese imports (2.3 million tons). With this, India has become the largest importer of LPG in the World.
- **WHO to classify Gaming Disorder as a mental health condition:**

The World Health Organisation (WHO) is going to classify gaming disorder as a mental health condition in its upcoming 11th edition of International Classification of Diseases (ICD) in 2018.

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-V, published by the American Psychiatric Association, has already classified gaming disorder as a mental health condition.
- **India and Pakistan exchange list of nuclear installations:**

Under the “Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations”, India and Pakistan have exchanged the list of their nuclear installations and facilities.

This is the 27th consecutive exchange of the list between the two countries after the first list was exchanged in 1992.
- **VAT introduced in Saudi Arabia and UAE for the first time:**

With an aim to increase their revenues, Saudi Arabia and UAE have recently introduced Value Added Tax.

With this, the two have become the only countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to introduce VAT.

The other 4 members of GCC- Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar have also committed to introduce VAT till 2019.
- **China develops underwater surveillance in Indian Ocean and South China Sea:**

China has successfully developed an underwater surveillance network to help its submarines get stronger and accurate hold on the targets.

The project is a part of China’s military expansion in the world’s oceans apart from protecting its interests along the maritime silk-road which also includes Indian Ocean.
- **Cabinet approval for Indo-Myanmar agreement on land border crossing:**

The Union Cabinet has given approval to the agreement on Land Border Crossing between India and Myanmar.

The agreement will allow the convenient movement of people across the border of both the countries.

The agreement will give a boost to the economy of the north eastern states as it will facilitate connectivity and enhanced interaction of the people of North Eastern states with Myanmar.
- **WHO approves Indian Typhoid vaccine for global use:**

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has given its pre-qualification to Typhoid Vaccine developed by Hyderabad based Bharat Biotech for global use.

Typbar Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine (TVC) is the world’s first typhoid vaccine clinically proven to be administered to children belonging to the age group of 6 months.
- **World’s largest ice festival in China:**

The 34th edition of the Harbin International Ice and Snow Sculpture Festival which is the world’s largest ice festival has started in China.

The festival has used nearly 2 lakh cubic metres of ice and 1.5 cubic metres of snow to feature various sculptures of the world including Moscow’s Red Square and Bangkok’s Buddha Temple.
- **Sri Lanka lifts ban on women drinking liquor:**

The Sri Lankan Government has confirmed that women over the age of 18 can buy alcohol legally.

The Government has amended a 1955 law ending more than 60 years of ban on women buying alcohol.

CENTRAL SCHEMES AND PROJECTS

- **Cabinet approves North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme:**

With an aim to develop infrastructure in North East, the Union Cabinet has approved North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme from 2017-18.

It will be entirely funded by the Central Government to create infrastructure in specified sectors till 2020.

The scheme will focus upon the Physical infrastructure that includes water supply, power and tourism and Social infrastructure including health and education.
- **Project DARPAN launched:**

With an aim to improve the financial inclusion of the rural India, the Union Ministry of Communications has launched Project DARPAN (The Digital Advancement of Rural Post Office for A New India).

It is an IT modernization project that aims to realizing financial inclusion of un-banked rural population.
- **MEA launches Programme SAMEEP to include students in the Foreign Policy:**

The Union Ministry of External Affairs has launched SAMEEP (Students and MEA Engagement Programme).

The Programme aims to engage the students across the country in the foreign policy of India and to encourage them to look at diplomacy as a career option.
- **Government launches Ganga Gram Project:**

With an aim to provide all round sanitation development in the villages on the banks of River Ganga, Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has launched Ganga Gram Project at the Ganga Gram Swachata Sammelan in New Delhi.

The Project has been launched under the Clean Ganga Programme also known as Namami Gange Programme.
- **President inaugurates Fiber Grid Project:**

President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the Andhra Pradesh Fiber Grid Project. The Project aims to provide affordable high speed internet service to every household in the state at a nominal rate.

The Project, also known as Triple Play2 Services will provide internet, television and telephone services to more than one lakh households in the state.
- **Strive Project:**

India has signed financial agreement with the World Bank for International Development Association (IDA) credit of \$125 million for Skill Strengthening and for the Industrial Value Enhancement Operation (STRIVE) Project.

The project will include improved teaching and learning to impart quality and market driven vocational training and apprenticeships.
- **Government unveils Electoral Bonds Scheme:**

With an aim to bring transparency in the election funding, the Government has unveiled the new electoral bonds that the donors can buy from SBI and the concerned political party can receive money through a designated bank account.

These bonds will be available at the specified branches of SBI for 10 days each in the months of January, April, July and October.

It has made India the first country in the world to bring such unique bonds for the electoral funding.
- **CCEA approves Jal Marg Vikas Project:**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has given approval to implement Jal Marg Vikas Project which aims to enhance the navigational capacity on 1380 km Haldia-Varanasi stretch of National Waterway-1 on Ganga River.

The project, supported by the World Bank is expected to be completed by March, 2023.

- **CCEA approves expansion of Beti Bachao Beti Badhao Scheme:**

After the successful implementation in 161 districts, Beti Bachao Beti Badhao Scheme has got approval for pan India expansion by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

It will cover all the 640 districts of the country to have deeper impact on Child Sex Ratio (CSR).

- **CCEA approves Pradhan Mantri Shakti Kendra Scheme:**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved Pradhan Mantri Shakti Kendra (PMMSK) Scheme for a period 2017-18 to 2019-20.

The scheme is a part of “Mission for Protection and Empowerment for Women”. It aims to promote empowerment of rural women through community participation.

PMMSK will provide the opportunities of skill development, digital literacy, health, nutrition and employment to women belonging to the rural areas of India.

- **Indian Railways launches Project Saksham:**

With an aim to upgrade the skills of its employees in a time bound manner, the Indian Railways has launched Project Saksham.

It is the country’s largest time bound exercise (9 months) which aims for the image makeover of the Indian Railways by enhancing the efficiency of its 13 lakh employees.

Five days on the job or classroom training module will be provided to the employees.

- **Government launches Saubhagya Web Portal:**

Union Ministry of Power has launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojna- ‘Saubhagya’ Web Portal which aims to ensure transparency and increased the pace of rural and urban household electrification in the country.

Through this portal every state will be able to fill the current status of the progress of electrification works which will ensure the accountability of the State DISCOMS.

- **Cabinet approval for increasing the carpet area of houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna:**

The Union Cabinet has given approval to increase the carpet area of houses under the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme for Middle Income Group (MIG) under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna.

The move aims to further enhance the outreach of the scheme to cover more families.

- The carpet area in MIG I category has been increased from the existing 90 square metre to 120 square metre whereas in case of MIG II Category, it has been increased from 110 sq mt to 150 sq mt.

- **Union Cabinet approves National Rural Drinking Water Programme:**

- The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation and restructuring of National Rural Drinking Water Programme to cover the entire rural population across the country.

The programme will be continued till 2020 and ensure the increased coverage of sustainable piped water supply. It will also focus upon water quality, coverage of Open Defecation Free (ODF) declared villages, Integrated Action Plan (IAP) and Border Out Posts (BOP) with a better monitored piped water supply.



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- **Government extends the period of Coastal Berth Scheme:**

The Union Government has decided to extend the period of Coastal Berth Scheme for three years i.e. upto 2020.

The scheme is an important part of the Union Government's flagship Sagarmala Programme and it aims to provide financial support to the ports or the State Governments to create infrastructure for the movement of cargo and passengers by sea or national waterways.

- **Government launches Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana to promote philately:**

The Union Ministry of Communication has launched Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana, an all India scholarship programme for school children to increase the reach of philately.

Under the scheme, children from 6th to 9th standard having good academic record and pursuing philately as hobby through competitive selection process will be provided annual scholarship of Rs. 6000 per annum.

Philately is defined as the hobby of collecting and studying postage stamps.

- **Bharat Mala Pariyojana**

With an aim to further enhance the efficiency of movement of goods and people across the country, the Union Government has decided to build 83677 km of roads, highways, expressways and bridges within a time span of 5 years i.e. till 2022.

The government has also decided to include the first phase of Bharat Mala Pariyojana that involves the construction of 34800 km of highways till 2022.

The project will include economic corridors, inter corridors, feeder route, National corridors, coastal roads and port connectivity.

- **Government gives LOI to 7 companies under Adopt a Heritage Scheme:**

The Union Ministry of Tourism has given Letter of Intent (LOI) to seven companies for adopting 14 monuments under Adopt a Heritage Scheme at the closing ceremony of 'Paryatan Parv' held in New Delhi.

These 7 companies will be the future 'Monument Mitras'.

The 14 adopted monuments are: Qutub Minar, Jantar Mantar, Purana Quila Safdarjund Tomb, Agrasen ki Baoli (Delhi), Ajanta Caves (Maharashtra), Sun Temple, Raja Rani Temple, Ratnagiri Monuments (Odisha), Leh Palace and Mt. Stok Kangri (J&K), Hampi (Karnataka), Mattancherry Palace Museum (Kerala), Gangotri Temple Area and Trail (Uttarakhand).

- **Phase 1 of the Bharat Net Project to be completed by December 2017:**

The Government has announced that the first phase of the National Optic Fibre Network (Bharat Net Project) that has been launched to provide internet access to 100,000 gram panchayats, will be completed by December 2017.

This was announced in 'i-Bharat 2017' Conference organized by FICCI in association with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology based on theme of "ICT Ecluciations for Unserved and Unsolved".

- **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna will Continue till 2019-20: CCEA**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the continuation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) with the name Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) till 2019-20.

The scheme will emphasize on the development of agricultural infrastructure, specially post-harvest infrastructure and assets, value addition and promoting agribusiness entrepreneurship.

- **Union Government is going to launch Khelo India Programme:**

Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore has announced that the Ministry is going to launch Khelo India Programme from 2017-18 to 2019-20.

He also announced that the year 2018 will be celebrated as the 'Year of Sports'.

The programme aims to impart comprehensive impact on the sports ecosystem including the infrastructure, talent identification, community sports, competition and sports economy.

- **#IamThatWoman campaign launched:**

The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched an online campaign #IamThatWoman with an aim to end gender bias in women against women.

It also aims to acknowledge the contributions made by women for women.

Under the campaign, Twitter and Facebook users will be encouraged to tag and share the stories of women helping women with photograph and post online with hashtag #IamThatWoman.

- **Ministries of Power and Textiles joint initiative-SAATHI:**

Ministries of Power and Textiles have joined hands under SAATHI (Sustainable and Accelerated Adoption of Efficient Textile Technologies to Help Small Industries) initiative.

Under this initiative, Energy Efficient Services Limited (EESL), under the Ministry of Power will procure energy efficient powerlooms and motors in bulk and provide them to small and medium powerloom units at no upfront cost.

- **Start-up Sangam Initiative:**

With an aim to develop new business models, technology and innovations in heavy oil and gas industry sector, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has launched Start-up Sangam Initiative by supporting 30 start-ups.

For this 10 oil and Gas PSUs have set up Rs. 320 crore venture capital fund.

- **Bharat Mala Pariyojana**

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- **Government has launched Sampoorna Bima Gram (SBG) Yojna**

Under which at least one village with a minimum of 100 households will be selected in each district of the country to cover all households of the identified village with minimum of one Rural Postal Life Insurance Policy.

President has laid the foundation stone of **Link-4 of Saurashtra Narmada Avataraan Irrigation Scheme (SAUNI)** in Rajkot district of Gujarat with an aim to fill 115 dams of the saurashtra region by diverting the overflow of water from Sardar Sarovar Dam on Narmada river.

- **Government has launched PradhanMantri LPG Panchayat Scheme**

To replace conventional fuel with the LPG connections in the rural areas.

The scheme will provide a back up to the existing PradhanmantriUjjwalaYojna.

- **Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har GharYojna:**

"**Saubhagya**" to provide last mile connectivity to all the households identified under Socio-Economic and Caste Census Data 2011.

- **Government has launched Wood is Good Campaign**

To promote wood as a climate friendly resource and a substitute for plastic and steel.

- PM Modi launched - Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana**
 ‘Saubhagya’ to provide electricity connections to over 4 crore families in rural & urban areas by December 2018. India will achieve the target of power for all by December 2018, while all villages will be electrified by the end of 2017.

Highlights of Saubhagya Scheme:

The scheme means Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana,
 It aims to provide access to electricity to all families in India.
 The scheme will provide free electricity connection to poor families of India,
 The total outlay for Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana is pegged at Rs 16,320 crore,
 The Centre will provide largely funds for the scheme to all States/UTs,
 Saubhagya Yojana will give access to electricity to all ‘willing’ households in India.
- The Government is committed to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5-3 billion tonnes of CO₂ by increasing the forest cover from 24% to 33% of the geographical area.
- Government has launched Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign**, a nationwide fortnight long sanitation campaign to highlight the NDA government’s flagship cleanliness initiative Swachh Bharat Mission.
- Swasth Bachche Swasth Bharat Programme** has been launched by Human Resource Development minister Prakash Javdekar as an initiative of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) to prepare a physical health and fitness profile card for more than 12 lacs Kendriya Vidyalaya students.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has given the approval for changing the name of existing SAMPADA** (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) scheme as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojna (PMKSY).
- NITI Aayog has launched Mentor India Campaign** to guide and mentor students at more than 900 Atal Tinkering Labs by engaging leaders who can spend one to two hours every week in such labs.
- Ministry of Rural Development has launched Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana** to provide an alternative source of livelihoods to members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) working under its parent scheme DAY-NRLM. GOI decided to launch a **new sub-scheme named “Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY)”** as part of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).
Self-Help Groups under DAY-NRLM will operate road transport service in backward areas. This will help to provide safe, affordable & community monitored rural transport services to connect remote villages with key services & amenities.
 This will also **provide an additional avenue of livelihood for SHGs.**
Community Investment Fund (CIF) provided to Community Based Organization (CBOs) under DAYNRLM will be utilized to support the SHG members in this new livelihood initiative. The beneficiary SHG member will be provided an interest free loan by the CBO from its Community Investment Fund upto Rs.6.50 lakh for purchase of the vehicle. Alternative, CBO will own the vehicle & lease it to an SHG member to operate the vehicle & pay lease rental to the CBO.
 AGEY will be initially implemented in 250 Blocks in the country on pilot basis with each Block provided upto 6 vehicles to operate the transport services.
- It will be done by facilitating them to operate public transport services in backward rural areas.
- Government has launched **Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour (PENCIL)** Portal. PENCIL is an electronic platform that aims at involving Centre, State, District, Governments, civil society & general public in achieving the target of child labour free society.
- Union Home Minister has launched **YUVA – a skill development program**. It is an initiative by Delhi Police under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana for providing mass job linked skill training for the selected youth.

STATE SCHEMES AND PROJECTS

- **Maharashtra approves Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjivani Yojna:**
 With an aim to promote climate-resilient agriculture, Maharashtra Government has approved Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjivani Yojna.
 The scheme has been named after social activist Nanaji Deshmukh and will be implemented in 5,142 villages across 15 districts.
 The scheme aims to improve soil quality and develop foodgrain varieties which can sustain climate variations.
 The total cost of the project is Rs 4000 crore, 70% of which will be given by the World Bank.
- **Maharashtra Government launches ‘Balasaheb Thackeray Shaheed Sanmaan’ scheme:**
 The Maharashtra Government has launched ‘Balasaheb Thackeray Shaheed Sanmaan’ scheme under which the family members of martyrs would be provided jobs in the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation.
 The widows of martyrs would also be provided with lifetime free bus passes.
- **Andhra Pradesh Government approves schemes for transgenders:**
 The Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has approved a scheme to provide a number of facilities to the transgenders.
 Under the scheme, a pension of Rs 1,500 will be provided.
 The will also be provide skill development, ration cards, plots and scholarships.
 They will also be entitled to apply for loans and special toilets will be built in public places like malls and cinema halls.
- **UP Government to set up Cow Sanctuaries in 75 Districts:**
 Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to establish cow sanctuaries in all the 75 districts of the state.
 A district level committee will be formed to operate in these sanctuaries.
- **Telangana wins SKOCH Award:**
 Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department of Telangana has won the SKOCH Award for bringing major reforms and using latest technologies for the accurate assessment of properties and the related taxes.
- **Uttar Pradesh Government launches “Prakash hai to vikas hai” Scheme:**
 Uttar Pradesh Government has launched a free household power connection scheme “Prakash hai to vikas hai”.
 The scheme was launched on the occasion of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayi’s birthday.
 Under the scheme, the Government has set a target of covering 16 million people by the end of 2018.
 Initially, two villages Lohban and Gausana in the Mathura district have been chosen for 100% electrification.
- **World Bank to provide loan for UP Pro-Poor Tourism Development Project:**
 The Union Government has signed a loan agreement of \$40 million with the World Bank for the Uttar Pradesh Pro-Poor Tourism Development Project.
 The 5 year long project will cost approximately \$57.14 million, of which \$40 million will be given by the World Bank and the rest of the amount will be funded out of the state budget.



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- **Odisha Government announces Fish Pond Yojna:**
The Odisha Government has launched the Fish Pond Yojna to increase the fish production in the state. The scheme aims to create additional 2,200 hectares of fresh water aquaculture with a budgetary provision of 96 crore rupees.
- **SAUBHAGYA Scheme launched in Manipur:**
Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojna (SAUBHAGYA), Under the Union Ministry of Power has been launched in Manipur.
The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Power in 2017 to provide universal household electrification in all the rural and urban areas of the country.
- **Reintroduction of Odd-Even Scheme in Delhi:**
The Delhi Government has announced to reintroduce the odd-even scheme in the national capital from 13th to 17th November 2017.
The step has been taken after the Environment Pollution Authority has declared that the pollution level has reached ‘Severe Plus’ level in the national capital.
- **Maharashtra Government to implement Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna:**
The Maharashtra Government has decided to implement Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna which is a maternity benefit program launched by the central government to reduce the incidents of maternal and infant mortality rate. Under the scheme, Rs 5,000 will be provided to pregnant women.
- **Bihar Government launches Safe City Surveillance Scheme:**
With an aim to control crime against women, the Government of Bihar has launched Safe City Surveillance Scheme. Under the scheme, all the major public places will be monitored under the close circuit television (CCTV) cameras. These cameras will be connected to the control room and monitored by the police round the clock.
- **West Bengal Government launches Life insurance scheme for pilgrims:**
West Bengal Government has launched a life insurance scheme of Rs.5 lakh for the pilgrims visiting the state for the upcoming Gangasagar Fair, the second biggest pilgrimage fair after Kumbh.
The premium will be taken care of by the State Government.
Around five to six lakh pilgrims will attend the fair on the occasion of Makar Sankranti during the second week of January.
- **Project ‘Prerna’ for Women Farmers:**
To promote and empower women working in the agriculture sector, Mahindra & Mahindra has launched a project Prerna by promoting efficient farm tools and equipment.
For this project, Mahindra & Mahindra has collaborated with the Central Institution for Women in Agriculture (CIWA).
Initially, the project will be launched in Odisha.
- **Madhya Pradesh Government launches BhavantarBhugtanYojna:**
Providing a helping hand to the farmers, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan has inaugurated the ambitious BhavantarBhugtanYojna.
With this initiative, Madhya Pradesh has become the first state to lend money to farmers at zero percent interest. Under the scheme, the Government has approved a number of irrigation projects in the state.
- **Maharashtra Government releases Rs 4000 crores in Loan waiver scheme:**
Maharashtra Government has released a sum of Rs 4000 crores in the first phase of the farm loan waiver scheme worth Rs 34,000 crore.
In the first phase of the scheme, more than 8 lakh farmers will be covered.

- **Himachal Pradesh government** implemented the **Senior Citizen Health Insurance Scheme** to provide easy access to curative geriatric health care services by way of additional cover. The scheme would provide top-up coverage of Rs 30,000 per senior citizen to all existing Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY) smart card holders.
- **Karnataka Government** has launched **Mathru Poorna scheme**, aimed at providing free mid-day meals to pregnant & lactating women in rural areas. The scheme aims to reduce child malnutrition and curb infant mortality.
- **'She Means Business'** program of Facebook has been launched for women entrepreneurs in **Odisha**. Under the scheme, 25000 women entrepreneurs and Self Help Group members will be given training on digital marketing skills.
- **Maharashtra Government** has approved a revised policy of **'Majhi Kanya Bhagyashree'** scheme, under which families having an yearly income of up to Rs 7.5 lakh will be benefited. It is aimed at improving the skewed girl child ratio, prevent sex determination & female foeticide and support female education.
- **Odisha Government** has launched **'Sampurna (Sishu Abond Matru Mrityuhara Purna Nirakaran Abhijan) Yojna'** for pregnant women. Under the scheme, Odisha government will provide Rs. 1,000 as transport cost for pregnant women to travel to the hospital.
- **Madhya Pradesh Government** has launched the **CM's Skill Promotion & Skills Scheme** to provide jobs by providing employment oriented training to the youth. Youth in the age group of 18-35 are being benefitted through **Mukhya Mantri Kaushal Samvardhan Yojana** and **Mukhya Mantri Kaushalya Yojana**.
- **Meghalaya Government** has launched an ambitious flagship program **"Livelihood Intervention & Facilitation of Entrepreneurship" (LIFE)** at Songsak. It will focus on capacity building.
- **Jharkhand Government launches Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojna** for developing the villages of freedom fighters in the state. These villages belonging to tribal freedom fighters were neglected for a very long time due to considerable presence of left wing extremism. Under the scheme, the Government will provide the basic amenities to the villagers apart from improving the infrastructure of the village.

Important Meetings, Summits and Conferences

- **International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure held in New Delhi:**
Home Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the International Workshop on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (IWDR) in New Delhi.
The workshop was organized by National Disaster management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).
The workshop aims to improve the Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and enhance the global cooperation further.
- **3rd Raisina Dialogue held in New Delhi:**
The 3rd edition of the Raisina Dialogue was recently inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu in New Delhi.
The geo-political conference was jointly organized by the Ministry of External Affairs and Observer Research Foundation.
- **Central Advisory Board of Education meeting held in New Delhi:**
The 65th edition of the Central advisory Board Education (CABE) meeting was recently held in New Delhi.
The meeting which was attended by Education Ministers of 20 states, Vice-Chancellors of Universities and CAB members was chaired by HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar.
It was decided to launch Operation Digital Board in all the schools in five years.

- ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit:**
The ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit was held in New Delhi to celebrate 25 years of the establishment of sectoral dialogue.
Delhi Declaration, a joint statement was issued focusing on counter-terrorism, military cooperation and bilateral financial support.
The theme for the occasion was- “Shared Values, Common Destiny”.
- India to host informal WTO Ministerial gathering in March 2018:**
India will host the informal Ministerial meeting of WTO in March 2018 in New Delhi.
It was announced during the informal Ministerial Meeting at Davos on the sidelines of World Economic Forum (WEF) annual summit.
- India will host the WTO member countries meeting on food security:**
India is going to host the meeting of World Trade Organisation (WTO) member countries in 2018 to discuss food security and other critical issues including investment facilitation, e-commerce, gender equality and reducing subsidy on fisheries.
- Indian Economic Association Summit held in Hyderabad:**
President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the Indian Economic Association Summit at the Acharya Nagarjuna University in Hyderabad.
- Indian History Congress at Kolkata:**
78th edition of the Indian History Congress was held at the Jadavpur University in Kolkata.
The 3 day congress aims to promote the scientific study of Indian History and publishing historic memorials.
- 18th All India Whips Conference:**
Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ananth Kumar will inaugurate the 18th edition of the All India Whips Conference in Udaipur on 8th January.
The Conference will be attended by the whips of the various political parties.
- 1st PIO Parliamentary Conference held in New Delhi:**
The first ever Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) Parliamentary Conference was recently held in the Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra in New Delhi on the occasion of Pravasi Bhartiya Divas.
Inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the conference aims to provide a platform to reach out to Indian community overseas by Central Government.
- 3rd Meeting of Council of Trade Development and Promotion in New Delhi:**
The 3rd Meeting of Council of Trade Development and Promotion (CTDP) was recently held in New Delhi.
It was chaired by the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Suresh Prabhu.
The meeting aims to enhance the centre’s cooperation with the states and union territories for boosting India’s exports.
- President inaugurates Economic Democracy Conclave:**
President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the Economic Democracy Conclave in Maharashtra.
The conference was organized with an aim to create a platform for the young entrepreneurs and self-employed individuals.
- 4th International Dharma-Dhamma Conference in Nalanda:**
President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the 4th International Dharma-Dhamma Conference on ‘State and Social Order in Dharma-Dhamma Traditions’ in Nalanda district, Bihar.
The conference was organized as a part of commemorative events to celebrate the silver jubilee year of ASEAN-India Partnership Dialogue.

- **4th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture & Forestry held in New Delhi:**
 The 4th edition of ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture & Forestry was held in New Delhi.
 The meeting which aims to promote joint research for increasing production and productivity of crops, livestock and fisheries was attended by the representatives of 10 ASEAN countries.
- **Haryana to make all buses visually impaired-friendly:**
 The Government of Haryana has announced that all the future private and public buses in the state will be prepared to make them easily accessible to the visually impaired people.
 These buses would equipped with wheelchairs and ramps would also be mounted.
- **Canada will be the Partner Country for 2017 Technology Summit:**
 Canada has been chosen as the partner country for the 23rd edition of the Technology Summit from 14th -15th November 2017 in New Delhi.
 The summit is India's largest technology conference which will be jointly organized by the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- **4th ASEAN Defence Minister's Meeting-Plus to be held in Philippines:**
 Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will represent India in the 4th edition of ASEAN Defence Minister's Meeting-Plus (ADMM)-Plus which will be hosted by Philippines.
 The representatives of the ASEAN countries will be expected to discuss different measures to enhance defence and security cooperation.
- **Second World Congress on Marxism to be held in Beijing:**
 The second edition of the World Congress on Marxism will be held in Beijing, China in May 2018.
 The theme of the conference will be: "Marxism and the current world and China"
- **14th SAARCLAW Conference held in Colombo:**
 The 14th edition of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in Law (SAARCLAW) Conference was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
 The Conference has been organized to provide platform to legal professionals to discuss the critical issues of mutual interests and emerging legal trends in the South Asian Countries.
- **12th Annual Convention of CIC inaugurated:**
 Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has inaugurated the 12th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
 The specific agenda of the convention was to maintain transparency and accountability by the Government.
- **11th Indo-US Trade Policy Forum Meeting held in Washington DC:**
 The 11th edition of Indo-US Trade Policy Forum meeting was recently held in Washington DC.
 The important issues discussed were: Bilateral Trade, areas of mutual cooperation, agriculture, non-agricultural goods and services and Intellectual Property Rights.
- **India to host UN Wildlife Summit in 2020:**
 The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has announced that India is going to host the next Summit on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals Conference of Parties 13 (CMS COP-13) in 2020.
 CMS COP is also known as the Global Wildlife Conference.
 The 12th COP to CMS was recently held in Manila, Philippines in October 2017.
- **India Disaster Response Summit inaugurated:**
 Kiren Rijju, the Union Minister of state for Home Affairs, has inaugurated the India Disaster Response Summit in New Delhi.
 The Summit was organized jointly by National Disaster Response Authority (NDMA) and Facebook.
 Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the Chairman of NDMA.

- **Vietnam hosts APEC Summit:**
The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit was recently held in Vietnam. The theme of the summit was- ‘Creating New Dynamism, Fostering a Shared Future’. Next year’s summit will be organized in Papua New Guinea.
- **1st Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit:**
National Institute for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog has organized India’s 1st Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit at Dantewada in Chhattisgarh. USA is the partner country for this event. The event has been organized to inspire and promote entrepreneurship in the tribal youth.
- **10th South Asia Economic Summit held in Nepal:**
The 10th South Asia Economic Summit was recently held in Kathmandu, Nepal. 3-day summit was jointly organized by National Planning Commission and Ministry of Commerce of Nepal. The theme of the summit is: “Deepening Economic Integration for Inclusive and Sustainable Development in South Asia”.
- **Hunar Haat 2017:**
The Union Ministry of Minority Affairs has organized Hunar Haat at the India International Trade Fair (IITF) at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. It has displayed the handicrafts and handloom prepared by the artisans from the different parts of the country.
- **India to organise Global Conference on Cyberspace:**
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Global Conference on Cyberspace on 23rd November. IT Ministers from 33 countries will participate in the conference. The conference will focus upon the threats associated with cyberspace, latest practices and mutual cooperation for cyber-security measures.
- **Vice President inaugurates AP AgTech Summit-2017:**
Vice- President M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated a three day AP AgTech Summit-2017 in Visakhapatnam. The summit has been organized by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in association of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Dahlberg advisors.
- **12th North East Business Summit inaugurated in New Delhi:**
The two-day long 12th edition of North East Business Summit was recently inaugurated in New Delhi. The Summit aims to increase the scope for business opportunities in the North Eastern states of India. The summit was organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) with Manipur which is the partner state for the summit.
- **SARTTAC Meeting held in New Delhi:**
Interim meeting of the Steering Committee of IMF’s South Asia Regional Training and Technical Assistance Centre (SARTTAC) was recently held in New Delhi. SARTTAC came into being in February 2017 with an aim to help the member countries to implement financial policies that promote growth and reduce poverty. The member countries are India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives and Sri Lanka.
- **First North East Development Summit held in Manipur:**
President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the first ever North East Development Summit in Imphal, Manipur. The summit aims to enhance the trade and investment opportunities in the underdeveloped regions of the North-East India. It was organized by India Foundation in collaboration with Union and the State Governments of Manipur.

- India to host 36th International Geological Congress in 2020:**
 India will host the 36th edition of the International Geological Congress in 2020.
 It will be jointly funded by the Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Earth Sciences with active support from the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and science academies of India's neighbouring countries Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
- 12th Meeting of Standing Committee of Inter-State Council:**
 The 12th meeting of the Standing Committee of Inter-State Council was recently held in New Delhi to discuss the recommendations of the Punchhi Commission on Centre-State relations.
 The meeting was chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh.
 Inter-State Council was established on the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission to facilitate coordination between centre and states.
- President inaugurates the International Ambedkar Conclave:**
 President Ram Nath Kovind has inaugurated the International Ambedkar Conclave, organized by the Forum of SC and ST Legislators and Parliamentarians in New Delhi.
- Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Hyderabad:**
 The 8th Annual Global Entrepreneurship Summit was jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Ivanka Trump in Hyderabad, Telangana.
 The summit was co-hosted by National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog and US Government in association with Telangana Government.
 The summit was held in South Asia for the first time.
- PM inaugurates HT Leadership Summit in New Delhi:**
 Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit in New Delhi.
 Former US President Barack Obama and Afghanistan's Chief Executive Abdullah Abdullah will also address the 2-day long summit.



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- **Agri-Business Consortium held in New Delhi:**

The 22nd meeting of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) was recently held in New Delhi. It was chaired by Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh.

SFAC was established in 1994 under the Societies Registration Act 1860 for small farmer's welfare by linking them to agricultural value chain.

- **International Storytellers Festival- Kathakar inaugurated in New Delhi:**

The 7th edition of the 3 day long 'Kathakar-International Storytellers Festival' has been inaugurated by the Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju in New Delhi.

It is the only oral storytelling festival in India and is a part of Ghummakkad Narain- the Travelling Literature Festival which was started under UNESCO in 2010.

The festival will be hosted in Delhi, Gurugram, Noida and Mumbai this year.

- **11th Annual MedTech Summit held in New Delhi:**

The 11th Annual MedTech Summit was recently held in New Delhi.

Department of Biotechnology and IIT Delhi have implemented a Bio Design Programme to develop affordable and innovative medical devices to fulfill the clinical needs.

- **Nepal to host International Conference on Climate Change:**

Nepal's President Bidya Devi Bhandari will inaugurate an international Conference to raise awareness on climate change and its adverse consequences on the people in the Hindu Kush mountain range.

The 4 day-long conference aims to provide a platform to over 200 delegates including scientists, environmental experts and policy makers to develop solutions for maintaining a sustainable climate.

- **AROGYA 2017:**

AYUSH Minister Shripad Naik has inaugurated the first International Exhibition and Conference on AYUSH and Wellness sector- AROGYA 2017 in New Delhi.

The theme was-'Enhancing the global potential of AYUSH'.

It was jointly organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Union Ministry of AYUSH, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council.

- **India to host South-East Asia Connectivity Summit:**

India will host the South-East Asia Connectivity Summit on December 11-12.

It will be a part of India's Act East Policy and will be very crucial as it comes ahead of the visit of the leaders of the 10 members of ASEAN.

ASEAN members are: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

- **7th International Ground Water Conference held in New Delhi:**

The Union Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has organized the 7th edition of International Ground Water Conference in New Delhi from 11th to 13th December 2017.

The theme of the conference was- 'Ground water vision 2030- Water Security, Challenges and Climate Change Adaptation'

- **5-member committee to select editor-in-chief of Rajya Sabha TV:**

- Prasar Bharti Chairman A Surya Prakash will head a 5-member committee constituted by the Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu to select candidate for the post of editor-in-chief of Rajya Sabha TV.

- Other members of the committee are- Swapan Das Gupta, Shashi Shekhar Vempati, PPK Ramacharyulu and Rahul Srivastava.

- Arun Jaitley Panel to oversee PSU Bank Mergers:
 - The Union Government has constituted a panel headed by the Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to consider and oversee the mergers among the country's 21 state-run banks.
 - The other members of the panel are Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Railway and Coal Minister Piyush Goyal.
- **9th BRICS summit held in Xiamen, China:**
 - With the theme- 'Stronger Partnership for Brighter Future', the 9th edition of BRICS summit was held in Xiamen, China.
 - China has hosted the summit for the second time, first time in 2011.
 - Four documents were signed during the summit:
 - Strategic Framework for Custom Cooperation
 - Action Plan for Innovation Cooperation
 - Economic and Trade Cooperation
 - MoU between BRICS Business Council and New Development Bank on strategic cooperation
 - Xiamen Declaration was adopted by the leaders at the end of summit:
 - BRICS members have agreed for comprehensive partnership with emerging markets with flexible trade practices and cooperation with non BRICS countries through BRICS Plus Cooperation. These countries are: Thailand, Mexico, Egypt, Kenya and Kajikistan.
 - There was also a consensus on the establishment of BRICS local currency bond markets.
 - Apart from focusing on counter-terrorism coalition, the member nations also discussed other crucial agendas like research, development and innovation in the field of Information, Communication and Technology, effective use of fossil fuels and cooperation on energy.
- **12th G-20 Summit concluded in Germany:**
 - The 12th edition of the G-20 Summit was organized in the Hamburg city of Germany with the adoption of Hamburg Action Plan.
 - Theme of summit was 'shaping an interconnected world'.
 - Key Highlights of the Summit:
 - Climate Change
 - Sharing the benefits of globalization
 - Sustainable Livelihood
 - Global Health
 - Next G-20 Summit 2018 will be held in Buneous Aires (Capital of Argentina)
- **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) 2017 meeting:**
 - The meeting of the Heads of State Council of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation was held in Astana.
 - President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev chaired the Meeting.
 - During the meet, India & Pakistan became full members of SCO. Beijing, China is the HQ of SCO.
 - It was founded in Shanghai in 2001.
 - The next meeting will be held in 2018 in China.
- **Indian Ocean Conference:**
 - The two days conference will start in Colombo from 31st August.
 - Delhi based think tank Foundation will host the conference in collaboration with RSIS and NIFS, the two research and study centers of Singapore and Sri Lanka.

- The Theme of the conference is: Peace, Progress and Prosperity.
- This will be the second such conference. The first was held in Singapore last year.
- **17th meeting of FSDC held in New Delhi:**
 - The 17th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council was recently held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.
 - Highlights of the meeting:
 - Macro-economic stability: FSDC claimed that India has macro-economic stability due to improvements in its macro-economic fundamentals, structural reforms and long term positive results of Demonetization.
 - CERT-Fin and FDMC: It also discussed the development and progress made in setting up of Computer Emergency Response Team in the financial sector (CERT-Fin) and Financial Data Management System (FSDC).
- **NITI Aayog has hosted Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017:**
 - The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog has hosted the 8th Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 (GES 2017) in Hyderabad from 28th to 30th November 2017.
 - The theme for this year was be- “Women First, Prosperity for All”.
 - This will be the first time GES being organized in South Asia.
 - GES 2017 will help the Indian Entrepreneurs to establish new partnerships, procure funding and create innovative products that will transform the society for better future.
 - Digital Economy and Financial Technology, Health Care and Life Sciences, Energy and Infrastructure and Media and Entertainment will be the four primary focus areas of GES 2017.
- **Indian-ASEAN Youth Summit in Bhopal:**
 - To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Indian-ASEAN Youth Summit was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
 - This year’s theme was- “Shared Values, Common Destiny”.
- **Canada will be the Partner Country for 2017 Technology Summit:**
 - Canada has been chosen as the partner country for the 23rd edition of the Technology Summit from 14th -15th November 2017 in New Delhi.
 - The summit is India’s largest technology conference which will be jointly organized by the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- **4th ASEAN Defence Minister’s Meeting-Plus to be held in Philippines:**
 - Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will represent India in the 4th edition of ASEAN Defence Minister’s Meeting-Plus (ADMM)-Plus which will be hosted by Philippines.
 - The representatives of the ASEAN countries will be expected to discuss different measures to enhance defence and security cooperation.



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- **Second World Congress on Marxism to be held in Beijing:**
 - The second edition of the World Congress on Marxism will be held in Beijing, China in May 2018.
 - The theme of the conference will be: “Marxism and the current world and China”.
- **First International Conference on Consumer Protection held in New Delhi:**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the First International Conference on Consumer Protection on empowering consumers in new markets for South, South East and East Asian Countries in New Delhi.
 - The theme of the conference was- “Empowering Consumers in New Markets”.
- **11th Indo-US Trade Policy Forum Meeting held in Washington DC:**
 - The 11th edition of Indo-US Trade Policy Forum meeting was recently held in Washington DC.
 - The important issues discussed were: Bilateral Trade, areas of mutual cooperation, agriculture, non-agricultural goods and services and Intellectual Property Rights.
- **India to host UN Wildlife Summit in 2020:**
 - The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has announced that India is going to host the next Summit on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals Conference of Parties 13 (CMS COP-13) in 2020.
 - CMS COP is also known as the Global Wildlife Conference.
 - The 12th COP to CMS was recently held in Manila, Philippines in October 2017.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **1st January: Global Family Day:**
Global family Day is celebrated each year on 1st January.
- **4th January: World Braille Day:**
World Braille Day is celebrated every year on 4th January to commemorate the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, the person who invented Braille script for helping blind and visually impaired people to read and write.
- **6th January: World Day of War Orphans:**
The World Day of War Orphans is observed every year on 6th January to enable the world to recognize the plight of war orphans.
- **9th January- Pravasi Bhartiya Divas:**
The Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated every year on 9th January to highlight the contribution and efforts of the Overseas Indian community in the development of India.
This year ASEAN- India partnership was celebrated during the event.
The theme for this year is ‘Ancient Route, New Journey: Diaspora in the Dynamic ASEAN-INDIA Partnership’.
- **10th January: World Hindi Day**
World Hindi Day is celebrated every year on 10th January for commemorating the first World Hindi Conference which was held in 1975.
The first World Hindi Conference was inaugurated by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
- **12th January: National Youth Day:**
The National Youth Day is observed every year on 12th January to mark the birth anniversary of the social reformer, philosopher and youth icon Swami Vivekananda.
This year, his 155th birth anniversary was celebrated.
On this day, his philosophy and ideals are propagated that act as a great source of inspiration for the Indian Youth.

- **19th January: National Disaster Response Force Raising Day:**
National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has celebrated its 13th Raising Day on 19th January.
The force was raised on 19th January 2006 as a specialized agency capable of responding to any type of disaster in the country and abroad.
- **25th January- National Voter's Day:**
The 8th National Voter's Day has been celebrated by the Election Commission of India (ECI) on 25th January across the nation.
The objective of this day is to increase enrollment of voters.
The theme for this year is- "Accessible Elections".
- **24th January: National Girl Child Day:**
National Girl Child Day is observed every year on 24th January.
The day is celebrated every year to highlight the inequalities faced by a majority of girls in India.
This year's theme is –"A girl is a flower, not a thorn".
- **26th January- International Customs Day:**
The International Customs Day is celebrated on 26th January every year to commemorate the very first official conference of the World Customs Organisation.
- **27th January- International Holocaust Remembrance Day:**
International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed every year on 27th January to commemorate the tragedy of the holocaust that occurred during the World War II.
- **28th January: World Leprosy Day:**
The World Leprosy Day is observed globally on 28th January to raise awareness about leprosy disease.
The day targets zero cases of leprosy related disabilities in children.
- **28th January- National Immunization Day:**
The National Immunization Day was observed on 28th January as a nationwide campaign to deliver supplement doses of oral polio virus vaccine.
- **28th January- Data Privacy Day:**
Data Privacy Day is observed on 28th January to raise awareness and promote privacy by adopting best data protection practices.
- **15th December- International Tea Day:**
International Tea Day is observed on 15th December every year.
The day is celebrated by the major tea producing countries like Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia since 2005.
- **Vijay Diwas celebrated:**
Vijay Diwas was celebrated on 16th December to commemorate the victory of Indian Army over Pakistan in 1971 war.
This was the 46th anniversary of India's victory over Pakistan in the Bangladesh Liberation War.
- **18th December: Minorities Rights Day:**
With an aim to promote and preserve the rights of religious and linguistic minorities, India celebrates Minorities Rights Day on 18th December every year.
The day was adopted by the United Nation's General Assembly.
- **18th December: International Migrants Day:**
International Migrants Day is observed every year on 18th December ensure the protection of migrants.

The day was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1990.

Theme for this year is “Safe Migration in a World on the move”.

- **20th December- International Human Solidarity Day:**

The day is observed annually on 20th December with an aim to create awareness about the importance of solidarity for working towards eradicating poverty.

The day was officially adopted by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

- **22nd December: National Mathematics Day:**

National Mathematics Day is celebrated in India every year on 22nd December to commemorate the birth anniversary of the famous Mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan.

The day was declared as the National Mathematics Day by the then Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in 2012.

- **23rd December: National Farmer’s Day:**

National Farmer’s Day or Kisan Diwas is observed every year on 23rd December to commemorate the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister of India Chaudhary Charan Singh.

Famous with the name of ‘Kisan Neta’, Chaudhary Charan Singh strived for the welfare of the farmers in the country.

- **25th December: Good Governance Day:**

The Good Governance Day is celebrated every year in India on 25th December to mark the birthday anniversary of the former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayi who always advocated the idea of accountability in the Government.

APPOINTMENTS

- **Anandiben Patel appointed as the Governor of MP:**

President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed former Gujarat CM Anandiben Patel as the Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

She will replace Om Prakash Kohli.

- **Sudeep Lakhtakia: New DG of NSG:**

1984 batch Senior IPS officer Sudeep Lakhtakia has been appointed as the new Director General of National Security Guard (NSG).

He has succeeded SP Singh.

- **Om Prakash Rawat appointed as new Chief Election Commissioner:**

President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Election Commissioner Om Prakash Rawat as the new Chief Election Commissioner of India.

He will succeed Achal Kumar Jyoti.

- **Dr Narayanan appointed as Director of ISRO’s Liquid Propulsion System Centre:**

Senior scientist Dr V Narayanan has been appointed as the Director of ISRO’s Liquid Propulsion System Centre (LPSC).

He has succeeded S. Somnath, who has assumed the charge of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).

- **Usha Ananthasubramanian- First woman IBA chief:**

Usha Ananthasubramanian has been selected as the first woman chairperson of the Indian Banks Association (IBA).

- **Sauli Niinisto re-elected as Finland’s President:**

Sauli Niinisto has been re-elected as Finland’s President by defeating Pekka Haavisto.

- **Vijay Keshav Gokhale- New Foreign Secretary:**
Vijay Keshav Gokhale has been appointed as the new Foreign Secretary of India.
He has succeeded S Jaishankar.
- **Manish Dawar: New CFO of Vodafone India:**
Manish Dawar has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer of Vodafone India.
He has succeeded Thomas Reisten.
- **Sebastian Pinera becomes new President of Chile:**
Sebastian Pinera, a billionaire businessman has won the Chile's presidency by defeating his opponent Alejandro Guillier.
- **Justice Salvi appointed as the Officiating Chief of the NGT:**
Justice UD Salvi has been appointed as the officiating chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) following the superannuation of Justice Swatantar Kumar.
- **Samiran Panda- New NARI Chief:**
India's renowned scientist and pioneer in the AIDS research programme, Dr Samiran Panda has been appointed as the Director of National AIDS Research Institute (NARI).
He will succeed Dr RR Gangakhedkar.
- **Kumi Naidoo: New Secretary General of Amnesty International:**
Kumi Naidoo has been appointed as the new Secretary General of Amnesty International.
The South African Human Rights activist will succeed Salil Shetty from India in August 2018.
- **Vijay Rupani reappointed as Gujarat CM:**
As BJP has retained power in Gujarat, Vijay Rupani has been reappointed as the Chief Minister of the state.
Nitin Patel will be the Deputy Chief Minister.
- **Jairam Thakur: New CM of Himachal Pradesh:**
As BJP has come in power in Himachal Pradesh, its veteran leader Jairam Thakur has been appointed as the Chief Minister of the State.
He has served five times as an MLA in the state.
- **Abhay: New DG of Narcotics Control Bureau:**
The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Senior IPS officer Abhay as the Director General of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB).
Currently he is working in CRPF.
- **Sumita Misra- Joint Secretary in PM-EAC:**
1990 batch IAS officer Sumita Misra has been appointed as the Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council (PM-EAC) for 5 years.
Bibek Debroy is the Chairman of the Council.
- **Amardeep Singh appointed as Director of SFIO:**
1993 batch senior IAS officer Amardeep Singh Bhatia has been appointed as the new Director of the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).
SFIO is the coordinating agency with the Income Tax Department and the Central Bureau of Investigation.
- **George Weah to become the new President of Liberia:**
George Weah will be the next President of Liberia.
It will be the first independently run election since the end of its continuous civil wars.

- P Singh: New DGP of UP:**
 Senior IPS officer Om Prakash Singh has been appointed as the new Director General of Police in Uttar Pradesh. He will succeed the incumbent Sul Khan Singh.
- Pankaj Jain appointed as IIFCL Managing Director:**
 Pankaj Jain, a 1990 batch IAS officer has recently assumed the charge of Managing Director in the India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL).
 IIFCL is a state owned company which focuses on infrastructure financing and development.
- Salil Parekh: New CEO of Infosys:**
 Salil Parekh has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of the leading IT firm Infosys.
- Rajinder Khanna appointed as Deputy National Security Advisor:**
 Former RAW Chief Rajinder Khanna has been appointed as the Deputy National Security Advisor by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
 The 1978 batch Officer will assist the National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.
- Ravi Menon: Central Bank Governor of the Asia Pacific Region:**
 Ravi Menon, an Indian origin banker in Singapore has been named as the best central bank governor in Asia Pacific for 2018.
- TS Tirumurti appointed as economic relations secretary:**
 TS Tirumurti has been appointed as the economic relations secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. He will succeed Vijay Keshav Gokhale.
- K. Sivan appointed as the new chairman of ISRO:**
 Rocket scientist K. Sivan has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
 He will succeed A.S. Kiran Kumar and will have a tenure of 3 years.
- Indu Malhotra becomes the first woman lawyer to be directly promoted as Supreme Court judge:**
 The Supreme Court collegium has unanimously recommended the name of senior advocate Indu Malhotra to be appointed as a judge of Supreme Court.
 With this, she becomes the first woman lawyer from the country to be directly elected for the post of judge of the apex court.
- IOA appoints Harjinder Singh as ‘Chef de Mission’:**
 The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has appointed Harjinder Singh as the ‘Chef de Mission’ for the 23rd Winter Olympic Games scheduled to be held at Pyeongchang, South Korea in February 2018.

Sr. No.	Post	Person
1.	Railway Board Members	Mahesh Kumar Gupta and D K Gayen
2.	CEO of HSBC in India	Jayant Rikhye
3.	Interlocutor in Jammu and Kashmir	Dineshwar Sharma
4.	CEO of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)	NS Venkatesh
5.	MD and CEO of India Post Payments Bank	Suresh Sethi
6.	Special Director, CBI	Rakesh Asthana
7.	ADG of CISF	Alok Kumar Pateria
8.	CEO, Bharti Axa Life	Vikas Seth
9.	Private Secretary to President	Vikram Singh

10.	First Woman Police Chief of Karnataka	Neelamani N. Raju
11.	High Commissioner to Pakistan	Ajay Bisaria
12.	First woman President of NASSCOM	Debjani Ghosh
13.	Director General of Doordarshan	Ira Joshi
14.	President, Press Club of India	Gautam Lahiri
15.	First woman Secretary of Lok Sabha	Snehlata Shrivastava
16.	Chairman, National Anti-Profiteering Authority	BN Sharma
17.	India's Sherpa for G20	Shaktikanta Das
18.	CMD, Air India	Pradeep Singh Kharola
19.	Chairman, Prasar Bharti	A Surya Prakash
20.	Chief Secretary of the Delhi Government	Anshu Prakash
21.	UN Environment Goodwill Ambassador for India	Dia Mirza
22.	Governor of Assam	Jagdish Mukhi
23.	Governor of Andaman & Nicobar	Devendra Kumar Joshi
24.	Governor of Arunachal Pradesh	BD Mishra
25.	Governor of Bihar	Satya Pal Malik
26.	Governor of Meghalaya	Ganga Prasad
27.	Governor of Tamil Nadu	Banwarilal Purohit
28.	Election Commissioner	Sunil Arora
29.	Comptroller and Auditor General	Rajiv Mehrishi
30.	India's Ambassador to Pakistan	Ajay Bisaria
31.	Director General of NIA	Y.C. Modi
32.	Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog	Rajiv Kumar
33.	Chairman of Railway Board	Ashwani Lohani
34.	45 th Chief Justice of India	Justice Dipak Misra
35.	Chairman of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)	Prasoon Joshi
36.	14 th President of India	Ram Nath Kovind
37.	Chief of the National Disaster Response Force	Sanjay Kumar
38.	Attorney General of India	KK Venugopal
39.	Chairperson of CBSE	Anita Karwal
40.	Chairman of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII)	Anupam Kher
41.	Chairman of Press Trust of India	Vivek Goenka
42.	Interim Chairman of GST Network	AB Pandey
43.	Interim Chairman of NPCI	B Sambamurthy
44.	WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Physical Activity in South-East Asia Region	Milkha Singh
45.	Secretary General of FICCI	Sanjay Baru
46.	CMD of United India Insurance	M. Nagaraj Sarma
47.	CMD of SIDBI	Mohammad Mustafa

Appointments : International

Sr. No.	Post	Person
1.	Chancellor of Germany	Angela Merkel
2.	President of Singapore	Halimah Yacob
3.	US Ambassador to India	Kenneth I. Juster
4.	Pakistan's High Commissioner to India	Sohail Mahmood
5.	First Female President of the Supreme Court of UK	Brenda Marjorie Hale
6.	President of US India Business Council (USIBC)	Nisha Biswal
7.	Deputy Director General Of WHO	Saumya Swaminathan
8.	Chairman of the Ethics Commission IOC	Ban Ki-Moon
9.	First UN special envoy for the oceans	Peter Thomson
10.	UNICEF's Global Goodwill Ambassador	Lilly Singh
11.	Director General of UNESCO	Audrey Azoule
12.	India's Ambassador to Switzerland	Sibi George
13.	High commissioner of India to the Republic of Zambia	N. J. Gangte
14.	Prime Minister of New Zealand	Jacinda Arden
15.	Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Cambodia	Manika Jain
16.	Indian Ambassador to Switzerland	Sibi George
17.	CEO of Malaysian Airlines	Izham Ismail
18.	High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Zambia	N J Gangte
19.	Consul General of Korea	Suresh Chukkapalli
20.	Members of US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum	Arvind Panagariya and Kanwal Sibal
21.	International Court of Justice	Dalveer Bhandari
22.	President of Zimbabwe	Emmerson Mnangagwa
23.	UK's first ever female ambassador to UN	Karen Pierce

Chief/Heads of International Organisations

Organisation	Chief/Head
United Nations Organisation (UNO)	Antonio Guterres
World Bank (WB)	Jim Yong Kim
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	Christine Lagarde
UN General Assembly (UNGA)	Miroslav Lajcak
World Trade Organisation (WTO)	Roberto Azevedo
World Health Organisation (WHO)	Tedros Adhanom
International Court of Justice (ICJ)	Ronny Abraham
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	Yukiya Amano
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Takehiko Nakao

International Olympic Committee (IOC)	Jacques Rogge
NATO	Jens Stoltenberg
ASEAN	Lee Luang Minh
SAARC	Amjad Hussain
ICC	Shashank Manohar
FIFA	Gianni Infantino

Index Ranking

Index	Conducted by	India's Ranking
Global Passport Power Rank 2017	Arton Capital	75 Singapore secured top rank
Ease of Doing Business Report 2018	World Bank	100 New Zealand top
Global Gender Gap Index Report 2017	World Economic Forum	108 Iceland
Global Business Optimism Index	Grant Thornton Business	7 Indonesia
IMD Talent Rankings		51 Switzerland
Global University Employability Ranking 2017	Times Higher Education	Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has achieved 29 th spot
Speedtest Global Index	Ookla	109 Norway



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ECONOMY AND FINANCE

- **New Rules for MDR charges:**

The Union Cabinet has declared that the Government will borne the Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charges on transactions up to Rs 2000 made through debit cards, BHIM UPI or Aadhaar-enabled payment system to promote digital transactions.

- **Power Finance Corporation to help 100 divyaang children under CSR:**

The Power Finance Corporation, under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), has decided to help 100 children under 6 years of age with hearing disability.

Under this, it will help the children under the Cochlear Implant Scheme of the Government of India.

- **Government to introduce first tranche of Bank Recapitalisation Bonds:**

The Union Government is going to bring first tranche of Rs 1.35 lakh crore bank recapitalization bonds in the upcoming batch of Supplementary Demand for Grants during the winter session of the Parliament.

Non-Performing Assets of banks has increased from Rs 2.75 lakh crore in March 2015 to Rs 7.33 lakh crore in June 2017.

- **Methanol Economy Fund:**

NITI Ayog is going to establish a Methanol Economy Fund to promote the production and use of clean fuel.

The fund worth Rs 4000-5000 crore will be utilized for producing cheaper, safer and pollution free methanol fuel by converting high ash content coal and stranded gas assets into methanol.

- **Government directs NGO's to open account in designated banks integrated with PMFS:**

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) under the FCRA, 2010 has directed all the NGOs receiving foreign funds to open accounts in any of the 32 designated banks within one month.

These accounts will be integrated with Central Government's Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

- **India's first home-grown high purity gold reference standard BND-4201 launched:**

India Government Mint (IGM) has launched India's first home grown high purity gold reference standard- Bhartiya Niradeshak Dravya (BND-4201).

The BND-4201 is reference material for gold of '9999' fineness (gold that is 99.99% pure with impurities of only 100 parts per million).

- **Small saving interest reduced by 0.2%:**

The Government has cut down the interest rate on small savings schemes such as Public Provident Fund (PPF) and National Savings Certificate (NSC) by 0.2% for the January-March quarter.

The saving account interest rate and Senior Citizen Saving scheme remains at 4% and 8.3% respectively.

- **SBI tightens the norms for credit rating agencies and mutual funds:**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has tightens the norms for credit rating agencies and mutual funds to reduce the conflict of interest.

It has increased the net worth of the rating agencies from 5 to 25 crores.

It has also made it mandatory for the promoter entity to maintain at least 25% stake in the rating agency for a period of 3 years.

- **Bandhan Bank to raise over Rs. 2,500 crore via IPO:**

Kolkata based Bandhan Bank has has approached the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for its Initial Public Offer (IPO) to raise an estimated amount of over Rs.2,500 crore.

- Allahabad Bank ties up with NeSL:**
Allahabad Bank has signed an agreement with National e-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL) for utilizing its Information Utility Services under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.
- KKR to start India's 1st Foreign-owned ARC:**
US based KKR & Company has received approval from RBI to become the first foreign investor to fully own an Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) in India.
- SBI cuts base rate by 30 basis points:**
India's largest public sector lender SBI has bring down its base rate by 30 basis points.
With this, the base rate becomes 8.65% for existing customers from 8.95%.
This will come into effect from 2nd January 2018.
- IT Department launches online chat service:**
With an aim to facilitate taxpayers to resolve their queries, the Income Tax Department has launched an online chat service on its national website.
The module can also be accessed through a mobile app called 'AayakarSetu' on android phones.
- RBI gives nod to TIHCL to operate as NBFC:**
Reserve Bank of India has given green signal to Telangana Industrial Health Clinic Ltd. (TIHCL) to function as a non-banking finance company (NBFC).
It will be the first state promoted and co-financing NBFC.
- AIIB to issue first US Dollar bonds:**
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is going to issue its first US dollar denominated bond with minimum worth of \$1 billion by June 2018.
The minimum size of the issuance will be one billion dollars but as the demand will increase, the bank may increase the size.
The maturity period will be between 3 to 5 years.
- World Bank projects India's growth rate as 7.3% in 2018:**
According to the World Bank's report, India's growth will be 7.3% for 2018 and 7.5% for the next two years.
Jim Yong Kim is the President of World Bank.
- BSE, NSE to launch new IRF contracts:**
BSE and NSE will launch new Interest Rate Futures (IRF) contracts offering 7.17% yield on the Government bonds.
The 10 year benchmark bonds will be mature on 8th January 2028.

DEFENCE

- Indo-US joint military exercise 'Vajra Prahar':**
With an aim to increase the military cooperation, a joint military exercise 'Vajra Prahar' between India and USA will be held in Seattle in third week of January.
The exercise will focus on special operations in urban areas.
- Agni-5 missile successfully test-fired:**
The indigenously developed long-range, surface to surface Agni-5 ballistic missile was successfully test-fired from Abdul Kalam Wheeler Island, Odisha.
The 3-stage, solid propellant, nuclear capable intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

- **ICG patrol vessel OPV Vijaya launched:**
Indigenously built Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) ‘Vijaya’ was recently launched at Kattupalli Shipyard, Tamil Nadu for Indian Coast Guard (ICG).
The vessel which has been built by Larsen and Toubro(L&T) Shipyard is expected to be inducted into the services by September 2018.
- **India-Maldives bilateral exercise ‘Ekuverin 2017’:**
The 8th edition of the bilateral military exercise ‘Ekuverin’ was recently held between India and Maldives in Karnataka.
The exercise aims to emphasize on counter insurgency and counter terrorism operations.
- **INS Kalvari inducted in Indian Navy:**
India’s first Scorpene class submarine (INS Kalavari) built under Project 75 was inducted into the Indian Navy in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
It is first of the six Scorpene class submarines built under Project 75 with assistance from France.
- **Two more women fighter pilots in IAF:**
Pratibha from Rajasthan and Shivangi from Varanasi were commissioned in the Indian Air Force as fighter pilots during the Combined Graduation Parade of Pilots and Ground Duty Officers at the Air Force Academy in Hyderabad.
With this, the total number of women fighter pilots has gone up to five in IAF.
- **India, Oman Joint Naval Exercise: Naseem-Al-Bahr 2017:**
The naval forces of India and Oman have participated in the 11th edition of Naseem-Al-Bahr (Sea Breeze) Exercise 2017 at Bin Sultan Naval Base in Oman.
HAMESHA Vijayee: Southern Command conducts major exercise in Rajasthan:
With an aim to evaluate the capabilities of armed forces during an integrated air-land battle, the Southern Command of the Indian Army conducted a major army exercise called Hamesha Vijayee in Rajasthan from 16th to 22nd December 2017.
- **Prithvi Missile successfully test fired:**
Advanced Air Defence supersonic interceptor missile ‘Prithvi’ has been successfully test fired from a test range in Odisha.
The indigenously developed missile is capable of destroying any incoming ballistic missile in low altitude range.
- **S-400 Missile loan deal between Turkey and Russia:**
Turkey and Russia have signed a loan agreement worth \$2.5 billion in which Russia will provide four batteries of S-400 surface to air missile system and Turkey in turn will pay 45% of the cost up front with Moscow.
- **Pakistan successfully test fires Harba missile:**
Pakistan has successfully test fired its indigenously built cruise missile ‘Harba’.
The missile, which has been inducted in the Pakistan Navy, is capable of hitting its target from surface to surface.
- **Defence Innovation Centre to be established in Coimbatore:**
With an aim to assist small industries in the manufacturing components for the defence sector, the Government is going to set up a Defence Innovation Centre in Coimbatore.
The Defence Ministry will provide an initial funding of Rs 20 crore to the Coimbatore District Small Industries Association to set up the innovation centre.
- **25th Raising Day of Army Air Defence Corps:**
The Corps of Army Air Defence has celebrated its 25th raising day on 10th January 2018.
The Corps of Army Air Defence which was established in 1939, is a part of Indian Army which is assigned with the task of protecting the Indian air spaces from enemy aircrafts and missiles, specially below 5000 feet.

- **ICG commissions new patrol vessel Charlie-435:**

Indian Coast Guard has commissioned Charlie-435, a state-of-the-art patrol vessel at Karaikal in Puducherry.

The patrol vessel is equipped with modern navigation and communication system and will enhance the coastal security between Chennai and Kanyakumari in the Eastern Coastal region.

- **Nirbhik, Nirghat decommissioned:**

Warships INS Nirbhik and INS Nirghat were decommissioned in Mumbai after a long and glorious service for Navy for 30 and 28 years respectively.

The two warships participated in many operations including 'Parakram' and 'Vijay'.

MoU's and Agreements

Sr. No.	Between Whom	Details
1.	Infrastructure Fund of India (NIIF) and Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)	Investment agreement of \$1 Billion. ADIA has become the first institutional investor in NIIF's Master Fund and shareholder in NIIF's investment management company
2.	India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In IBSA Fund, each country contribute \$1 million annually which is managed by United Nation's Development Program (UNDP). • It was signed at the 8th IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission Meeting in Durban, South Africa.
3.	Union Government and Asian Development Bank	To achieve targeted comprehensive fiscal consolidation program in West Bengal. \$300 million loan agreement
4.	India and Sri Lanka	India will build 1200 houses in the strategically located southern port city of Hambantota.
5.	Union Government and Asian Development Bank	A loan agreement of \$65.5 million to check the erosions on the western coast in Karnataka.
6.	Karnataka Government and Microsoft	To enhance the income of smallholder farmers by introducing technology oriented solutions.
7.	Indiana, a state in US and Karnataka	To establish sister-state ties for cooperation in the fields of economy, education and culture.
8.	India and Armenia	For providing cooperation and mutual assistance in custom matters.
9.	India and New Zealand	to avoid double taxation and preventing tax evasion
10.	India and Hong Kong	Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement
11.	India and Philippines	The MoU will help in building mutual cooperation in the field of rice production and processing, multi-cropping system, bio-organic farming, soil fertility, sericulture and water conservation management.

12.	Delhi Government and Seoul	Twin city agreement for strengthening cooperation in the fields of e-governance, transportation, climate change and smart city infrastructure. The agreement is known as 'Establishment of Friendship City Relationship'.
13.	India and Poland	Civil Aviation
14.	India and Russia	visa free entry of the crew of chartered and scheduled flights between the two countries.
15.	India-Russia	Combating terrorism and all other forms of organized crimes.
16.	India and Russia anti-terror agreement.	anti-terror agreement.
17.	India and Greece	New and Renewable Energy.
18.	India and UK	Urban transport sector by sharing expertize and latest technology to find out efficient mobility solutions.
19.	India and Italy	For increasing bilateral cooperation in health sector
20.	India and Singapore	Naval Cooperation
21.	India and Cuba mutual cooperation in the health sector.	Mutual cooperation in the health sector.
22.	India and Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Technical Intern Training Program b) To establish Liquid, Flexible and Global LNG Market c) To set up Japan Act-East Forum d) To upgrade Alang-Sosiya Shipyards in Gujarat e) Open Sky Agreement f) Silk Industry g) Civil Nuclear Energy h) Defence Cooperation i) Bullet Train
23.	India and Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) MoU on Maritime Security Cooperation b) Cultural Exchange Programme for the year 2017-2020. c) MoU on Enhancing the Cooperation of Upgradation of Women's Police Training Centre at Yamethin, Myanmar. d) MoU for Sharing White Shipping Information between the Indian Navy & Myanmar Navy e) Technical Agreement for providing Coastal Surveillance System f) MoU signed for Cooperation in Medical Products Regulation. g) Exchange of Letter for Extension of MoU on the establishment of MIIT h) Exchange of Letter for Extension of MoU on establishment of India-Myanmar Center for Enhancement of IT-Skill. i) MoU in field of elections between the Election Commission, India & Election Commission of Myanmar. j) MoU on Cooperation between Myanmar Press Council & the Press Council of India.

24.	India and Norway	Health
25.	India and Sweden	Intellectual Property
26.	India and Somalia	Transfer of sentenced persons
27.	India and Sri Lanka	To develop a village in Sri Lanka
28.	Andhra Pradesh Government and US	To build India's first Hyperloop system to connect Amravati and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh
29.	India and BRICS countries	To establish BRICS Agriculture Research Platform
30.	India and European Investment Bank	For Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II
31.	BSNL with US based company Coriant	For 5G and Internet of Things (IoT) in India
32.	DIPP with Punjab State Council of Science and Technology	To establish India's First Technology and Innovation Support Centre in Punjab
33.	India, Brazil and South Africa	IBSA Trust Fund Agreement to fight poverty.
34.	India and Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Fiscal Consolidation Program in West Bengal
35.	India and Sri Lanka	Housing project in Hambantota
36.	India and Asian Development Bank (ADB)	To protect the coastal areas of Karnataka
37.	Karnataka and Microsoft	To improve Price Forecasting practices

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- **SARAS PT1N makes successful maiden flight:**

SARAS PT1N, the new upgraded version of indigenous transport aircraft SARAS developed by National Aeronautics Laboratory (NAL), successfully made its first flight in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

- **Rotavac passes WHO test:**

Rotavac became the first indigenously developed vaccine from India to be pre-qualified by World Health Organisation (WHO).

Now the vaccine can be sold to several countries of South America and Africa.

The vaccine has been developed by Bharat Biotech Limited and will protect against childhood diarrhea caused by rotavirus.

- **China launches land exploration satellite:**

China has launched a land exploration satellite into a preset orbit for remote sensing operations.

It was launched by Long March-2D rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre.

China successfully launches remote sensing satellite to detect electromagnetic environmental probes:

China has successfully launched remote sensing satellites on a Long March-2C carrier rocket to conduct electromagnetic environmental probes.

- China Successfully tested its first Photovoltaic road:**
China has successfully tested its first photovoltaic highway.
The solar highway has the wireless charging system for electric vehicles.
With this, China has become second country in the world to construct a photovoltaic highway after France which has done the same in 2016.
- NASA to launch WFIRST in 2020:**
- NASA is going to launch the Wide Field Infrared Telescope (WFIRST) that will provide the largest picture of the celestial objects with the depth and clarity greater than the Hubble Space Telescope.
The telescope will be launched in mid 2020s.
- ISRO to launch 31 satellites in single mission in January 2018:**
Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced to launch 31 satellites in a single mission on 10th January 2018.
These satellites, including Cartosat-2 series will be launched by PSLV-C40 from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- NASA to launch Parker Solar Probe to explore sun's outer atmosphere:**
With an aim to explore the sun's outer atmosphere, NASA is going to launch 'Parker Solar Probe' in the honor of renowned astrophysicist Eugene Parker.
This is for the first time NASA has named a spacecraft after a living person.
It will be NASA's first mission to the sun and its outermost atmosphere corona.
- GOLD and ICON missions of NASA:**
The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is going to launch two missions- GOLD and ICON in 2018.
The Global-scale Observation of the Limb and Disk (GOLD) mission and Ionospheric Connection Explorer (ICON) will explore the ionosphere located 90 km above the earth's surface.
- India's fastest supercomputer Pratyush unveiled:**
India's fastest and first multi-petaflops supercomputer named Pratyush (meaning Sun) has been recently unveiled at Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) in Pune.
Pratyush will help the country to better forecast in terms of monsoon, cyclones, tsunamis, earthquakes etc.

Why IBT?

100+

Centers Across India

8000+

Selection in last year

13500+

**Selections in SSC
FCI/LIC & State Level**

3500+

**Selections in SSC
CGL Examination**

2000+

**Final Selections in
IBPS CLERK-2016**

500+

**Final Selections in
IBPS PO-2016**

- **ISRO launches its 100th satellite into space:**

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched weather observation satellite ‘Cartosat’ 2 into space.

Apart from Cartosat 2, 29 other spacecraft were onboard.

The successful orbiting of the satellites by PSLV C-40 comes four months after the ISRO’s mission to launch back up navigation spacecraft IRNSS-1H onboard PSLV-39 ended in a failure.

ART AND CULTURE

- **Losar Festival celebrated in Ladakh:**

The 10 day long traditional Losar Festival has been started in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir to mark the beginning of New Year in the Himalayan Region.

Losar is the Tibetan word for ‘new year’.

- **Ola Sunburn Festival in Pune:**

India’s legendary music festival ‘Sunburn’ will be hosted by Pune.

- **Flamingo festival in Andhra Pradesh:**

With an aim to promote tourism, Flamingo festival was recently organized at Pulicat lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh.

The 3 day annual festival attracts tourism as around 9,000 to 12,000 migratory birds from Siberia visit Pulicat and Nelapattu for breeding.

SPORTS

- **Brazilian Footballer Ronaldinho retires:**

The Brazilian legend and the world cup winner Ronaldinho has retired from International football.

- **ICC Awards 2017:**

Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for ICC Men’s Cricketer of the Year- Virat Kohli (India)

ICC Men’s Test Cricketer of the Year- Steve Smith (Australia)

ICC Men’s ODI Cricketer of the Year- Virat Kohli (India)

David Shepherd Trophy for ICC Umpire of the Year- Marais Erasmus

- **India wins Blind World Cup 2018:**

Indian Cricket team has won the Blind World Cup 2018 by defeating Pakistan by 2 wickets.

The final was held at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium in UAE.

- **Delhi clinches maiden Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy:**

Delhi has defeated Rajasthan by 41 runs at Eden Gardens to win their maiden Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.

- **Roger Federer wins Men’s Singles title in Australian Open 2018:**

Roger Federer has won the Australian Open 2018, thus retaining his Men’s Singles title.

In the final match, he defeated Croatia’s Marin Cilic.

- **Official Emblem for Beijing 2022 Winter Games unveiled:**
The emblems of the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games have been named as “Winter Dream” and “Flight” respectively.
- **England’s women cricket team: BBC Team of the Year:**
England’s women cricket team has won the BBC Team of the Year Award.
Britain’s Mo Farah has won the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Award.
- **Sushil Kumar and Sakshi Malik win gold at Commonwealth Wrestling Championship:**
Sushil Kumar has defeated New Zealand’s Akash Khullar in the men’s 74 kilogram freestyle category to win his first international wrestling gold medal since 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow where he had clinched Gold.
Sakshi Malik also won gold by defeating New Zealand’s Tayla Tuahine in the 62kg women’s freestyle category.
- **Indian Football Team ranks 105 in FIFA Rankings:**
According to the latest report, the Indian Football Team has ended the year at 105th spot in the FIFA rankings.
- **BCCI appoints Saba Karim as General Manager:**
The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has appointed the former Indian wicket-keeper Saba Karim as the General Manager, Cricket Operations.
Karim will take charge from 1st January 2018 and will be responsible for implementing operational plans, budgeting, monitoring the playing conditions for the match and the administration of the domestic programme.
- **Rohit Sharma hits fastest T20 century for India:**
Indian Opening batsman Rohit Sharma has scored the joint-fastest T20 Century in just 35 deliveries against Sri Lanka.
Earlier, David Miller of South Africa has scored a ton in 35 balls against Bangladesh in the same year.
- **India clinches 3 gold medals at Kazakh tournament:**
K Shyam Kumar (49 kg), Naman Tanwar (91kg) and Satish Kumar (91+ kg) have won the gold medal at the Galym Zharylgapov Boxing Tournament in Kazakhstan.
- **Washington Sundar: Youngest T20 debutant for India:**
Spin Bowler Washington Sundar has become the youngest debutant for India in T20s.
Sundar, who played his first match against Sri Lanka aged 18 years and 80 days is also the 11th youngest T20 player in the world.
- **World Chess Games in Saudi Arabia:**
Saudi Arabia is going to host a World Chess Tournament for the first time after the country’s top religious preachers issued a religious decree against playing the game.
There will be a women’s chess tournament alongside the open championship.
- **Viswanathan Anand wins World Chess Title 2017:**
Chess Grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand by defeating Russia’s Vladimir Fedoseev, has won the World Rapid Championship Title 2017.
The Championship was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- **Vidarbha wins 2017 Ranji Trophy Tournament:**
Vidarbha Cricket Team has won its first Ranji Trophy Title.
It has defeated Delhi in the final match of the 2017 Ranji Trophy Tournament.
- **Shiv Kapoor wins third Asian Tour Golf title 2017:**
Indian golfer Shiv Kapoor has won the Royal Cup, claiming his third Asian Tour Title of 2017.
He has won the European Challenge Tour twice and is the only Indian who has won three times on Asian Tour.

- **Gilles Simon wins Tata Open title:**
Gilles Simon from France has won the 1st edition of the Tata Open Maharashtra Tennis Trophy.
In the final, he has defeated Kevin Anderson.
- **1st ever Baby Olympics in Bahrain:**
Bahrain has announced to host the first ever ‘Baby Olympics’ in which 2-4 years old kids will participate.
There will be three events: medley relay for 4 years old, a hurdle toddle for 3 years old and a 15 meters freestyle race for 2 years old kids.
- **Aanchal Thakur- 1st Indian to win an International medal in skiing:**
Aanchal Thakur has become the first Indian to win an international medal in skiing.
He has won a bronze medal in the slalom race category at Alpine Ejder 3200 cup in Turkey.

RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD 2017:

S. No.	Name of the Awardee	Discipline
1	Devendra	Para-Athletics
2	Sardar Singh	Hockey

DRONACHARYA AWARDS 2017:

S. No.	Name of the Awardee	Discipline
1	Late Dr. R. Gandhi	Athletics
2	Roshan Lal	Wrestling (Lifetime)
3	G.S.S.V. Prasad	Badminton (Lifetime)
4	Heera Nand Kataria	Kabaddi
5	Brij Bhushan Mohanty	Boxing (Lifetime)
6	Sanjoy Chakraverthy	Shooting (Lifetime)
7	P.A. Raphel	Hockey (Lifetime)

ARJUNA AWARDS 2017:

S. No.	Name of the Awardee	Discipline
1	Khushbir Kaur	Athletics
2	V.J. Surekha	Archery
3	Arokia Rajiv	Athletics
4	Prasanthi Singh	Basketball
5	Laishram Debendro Singh	Boxing
6	Satyawart Kadian	Wrestling
7	Saketh Myneni	Tennis
8	A. Amalraj Table	Table Tennis
9	P. N. Prakash	Shooting
10	Jasvir Singh	Kabaddi
11	S.V. Sunil	Hockey
12	S.S.P. Chawrasia	Golf

13	Oinam Bembem Devi	Football
14	Cheteshwar Pujara	Cricket
15	Harmanpreet Kaur	Cricket
16	Mariyappan	Para-Athlete
17	Varun Singh Bhati	Para-Athlete

DHYAN CHAND AWARD 2017:

S. No	Name of the Awardee	Discipline
1	Syed Shahid Hakim Football	Football
2	Bhupender Singh Athletics	Athletics
3	Sumarai Tete Hockey	Hockey

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- **Mangalajodi Ecotourism Trust wins UNWTO Award:**

Mangalajodi Ecotourism Trust in Odisha has won the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Award for innovation in Tourism Enterprise at the 14th UNWTO Awards ceremony held in Madrid, Spain. The award has been given acknowledging the Mangalajodi's business model which economically viable and environmentally sustainable based on principles of community ownership and Eco-Tourism.

- **Filmfare Awards 2018: Hindi Medium named best film:**

Irrfan Khan starrer 'Hindi Medium' was named the best film at the 63rd edition of Filmfare Awards. Irrfan Khan and Vidya Balan won the best actor and actress awards. 'Newton' won the best film (Critics) Filmfare award.



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- Ashok Chakra to IAF Corporal Jyoti Prakash Nirala:**
India highest peacetime military decoration Ashok Chakra has been awarded posthumously to IAF Garud Commando Corporal Jyoti Prakash Nirala.
The award was given by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- N. Lokesh receives Innovation in Governance Award:**
N. Lokesh, the Panchayati Raj and IT Minister of Andhra Pradesh has received the “Kalam Innovation in Governance Award 2018.”
The award has been presented by the Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Centre in New Delhi as a part of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Memorial Summit and Awards on Innovation in Governance.
- Asha Bhonsle selected for 5th Yash Chopra Memorial Award:**
Veteran Playback Singer Asha Bhonsle has been selected for the 5th edition of Yash Chopra Memorial Award for outstanding contribution to the Hindi Film industry.
- Palestinian film Wajib won the Suvarna Chakoram Award:**
Palestinian film Wajib has won the Suvarna Chakoram Award at the 22nd International Film Festival of Kerala in Thiruvananthapuram.
The movie is based on father-son relation.
- Cristiano Ronaldo wins Globe Soccer Award:**
Cristiano Ronaldo has won the Globe Soccer best player of the year award by defeating Barcelona’s Messi.
Real Madrid has won the best team of the year award.
- Indian origin scientist receives top British honour:**
Pratibha Laxman Gai, an acclaimed expert on electron microscopy has been selected for Damehood, leading a number of people of Indian-origin in the Queen’s New Year’s Honor List of 2018.
She has been honored for services to chemical science and technology.
Damehood is the female counterpart of Knighthood.
- 1st Mufti Mohammed Sayeed Probity in Politics and Public Life Award to Bihar CM:**
Jammu and Kashmir Governor N N Vohra presented the 1st Mufti Mohammed Sayeed Probity in Politics and Public Life Award to Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.
- Sterling K Brown wins Golden Globe Award:**
Actor Sterling K Brown has created history as he has become the first African-American to win Golden Globe Award for the best actor in a drama television series.
He has won the award for his work in the drama series ‘This is Us’.
- Lifetime Achievement award for S.P. Balasubrahmanyam:**
Singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam was recently conferred with the Lifetime Achievement award at an event titled ‘Violin maestro Kalaimamani L. Vaidyanath-75-a celebration of his life and music’.

GALLANTARY AWARDS ON 71ST INDEPENDENCE DAY:

S.No	Kirti Chakra
1	Major Preetam Singh Kunwar
2	Major David Manlun (Posthumous)
3	Havildar Giris Gurung (Posthumous)
4	Shri Pramod Kumar (Posthumous)
5	Chetan Kumar Cheeta, Commandant, Crpf

S.No	Shaurya Chakra
1	Maj Satish Dahiya(Posthumous)
2	Maj Gosavi Kunal Munnagir

S.No	Nao Sena Medal
1	Jaskaran Singh
2	Lt Pushpinder Tyagi
3	Azhar Azharuddin

S.No	Vayu Sena Medal
1	Wing Commander Subhash Singh Rao
2	Wing Commander Ravinder Ahlawat

NOBEL PRIZE 2017:

Sr. No.	Person	Field	Description
1	Jeffrey C. Hall (USA) Michael Rosbash (USA) Michael W. Young (USA)	Medicine or Physiology	Discovered molecular mechanism to control the circadian rhythm.
2	Rainer Weiss (Germany), Barry C. Barish (USA) & Kip S. Thorne (USA)	Physics	LIGO detector and observation of Gravitational Waves
3	Jacques Dubochet (Switzerland), Joachim Frank (Germany) & Richard Henderson (Scotland)	Chemistry	For developing cryoelectron microscopy for the highresolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution
4	Kazuo Ishiguro (Japan)	Literature	In novels of great emotional force, has uncovered the abyss beneath our illusory sense of connection with the world
5	International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)	Peace	For its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons & for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons
6	Richard H. Thaler (USA)	Economic Science	Behavioral Economics

COUNTRY'S HIGHEST AWARDS:

Sr. No.	Award	Winner
1	Padma Bhushan (Recommended)	P V Sindhu
2	Global Diversity Award, Britain	Salman Khan
3	Cross of the Order of Merit, Germany	Rajesh Nath
4	Padma Bhushan (Recommended)	MS Dhoni
5	'Great Immigrants' annual award,USA	Shantanu Narayen and Vivek Murthy
6	Order of Australia	Guruswamy Jayraman
7	Ramon Magsaysay Award	Yoshiaki Ishizawa

LITERATURE/JOURNALISM AWARDS:

Sr. No.	Award	Winner
1	Saraswati Samman 2016	Konkani writer Mahabaleshwar Sail for his novel Hawthian
2	Hugo Award for Best Novel 2017	Nora K. Jemisin for 'The Obelisk Gate'
3	First Kesari Media Award	Veteran journalist T J S George

FILM AND MUSIC AWARDS:

Sr. No.	Award	Winner
1	Javed Akhtar	Hridayanath Mangeshkar Award
2	Sharmila Tagore	Lifetime Achievement Award
3	18th edition of the International Indian Film Academy Awards, New York	Awards, New York. Neerja won best film award. Shahid Kapoor earned the Best Actor award & Alia Bhatt won the Best Actor (Female) award for Udta Punjab
4	GQ Actor of the Year Award 2017	Rajkummar Rao
5	GQ Woman of the Year award 2017	Anushka Sharma
6	Golden Lion Award	Guillermo del Toro's 'The Shape of Water'
7	Indian Oscar Official Entry 2018	Newton

OTHER AWARDS:

Sr. No.	Award	Winner
1	TM Krishna	Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration
2	Hans Schellnhuber	Blue Planet Prize
3	George Saunders	Man Booker Prize
4	Gitanjali Rao	Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge
5	N. Chandrababu Naidu	Golden Peacock Award
6	ASSOCHAM Services Excellence Award	Gujarat International Finance-Tec City
7	UNHCR 2017 Nansen Refugees Award	Zannah Mustapha
8	Von Hippel Award	Professor C.N.R Rao
9	National Award for 'Excellence' in Energy Management	Hyderabad International Airport
10	Agriculture Leadership Award-2017	K Chandrashekhar Rao
11	First Miss TransQueen India	Nitasha Biswas
12	Golden Peacock Award	Danfoss India
13	Biju Patnaik Award for Scientific Excellence	Prof Digambar Behera
14	Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Award	Reliance Foundation
15	Anna Politkovskaya Award	Gauri Lankesh

OBITUARY

- **Cartoonist Chandi Lahiri passes away:**
Renowned Cartoonist Chandi Lahiri has passed away in Kolkata at the age of 86.
He was also called the creator of Pocket Cartoons in Bengal.
- **Jimmy Armfield passes away:**
Former England Football Team Captain Jimmy Armfield passed away at the age of 82.
- **A.E. Manoharan passes away:**
Pop Singer and actor A.E Manoharan, popularly known as ‘Ceylon Manohar’ passed away at the age of 73.
He was best known for the song Surangini.
- **Pioneer of Indian Green Revolution passes away:**
Dr Gurcharan Singh Kalkat, the pioneer of Green Revolution in India has passes away in Chandigarh.
He was 92 years of age.
- **Bruce McCandless, first person to fly untethered in space passes away:**
NASA Astronaut Bruce McCandless, the first person to fly freely and untethered in space, has died at the age of 80.
He travelled more than 300 feet away from the space shuttle Challenger during the spacewalk.
- **Actor Heather Menzies-Urich dies:**
Actor Heather Menzies-Urich, well known for her role in the 1965 Oscar-winning film “The Sound of Music” has died at the age of 68.
The film won 5 categories of Oscars.
- **Bengali actor Parth Mukhopadhyay passes away:**
Veteran Bengali Actor Parth Mukhopadhyay has passed away at the age of 80.
He has acted in many Bengali classics during the 1970s and 1980s.
- **Ashok Mattoo passes away:**
Veteran sports administrator Ashok Mattoo has passed away at the age of 75.
He has served as the President of the Indian Boxing Federation for 16 years.
He also served as the Head of the Hockey Federation and the Treasurer of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).
- **Renowned educationist M V Pylee passes away:**
Renowned educationist and Padma Bhushan M V Pylee passed away at the age of 98.
- **Radha Vishwanathan passed away:**
Renowned Carnatic singer Radha Vishwanathan has passed away at the age of 83.
She was the daughter of the legendary musician M.S. Subbulakshmi.
- **Baldev Raj passes away:**
Baldev Raj, Director of the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), has passed away in Pune.
The Padme Shri awardee was 71 years of age.
He was also the recipient of the Life Time Achievement Award of the Indian Nuclear Society.
- **Legendary moonwalker John Young passes away:**
John Young, the legendary astronaut of NASA who flew into space six times has passed away at the age of 87 in US.
He was NASA’s only astronaut to go into the space as a part of Gemini, Apollo and Space shuttle programme.
He was the 9th man to walk on moon.
- **Former WTO DG Peter Sutherland dies:**
Peter Sutherland, former Director General of the World Trade Organisation passed away in Dublin, Ireland.
He was 71 years old.

Upcoming Tournaments and Their Venues

FIFA (FOOTBALL) WORLD CUP

1. 2018: Russia
2. 2022: Qatar

ICC WORLD CUP CRICKET

ODI: (One Day International):

1. England - 2019
2. India – 2023

T20 World Cup:

Australia - 2020.

HOCKEY WORLD CUP 2018

1. Men's Hockey World Cup – India
2. Women's Hockey World Cup – England

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

1. 2018 – Gold Coast (Australia).
2. 2022: Birmingham (England)

OLYMPICS GAMES

1. 2018 winter: Pyeongchang (South Korea)
2. 2020 summer: Tokyo (Japan)
3. 2022 Winter: Beijing (China)
4. 2024 Summer: Paris (France)

ASIAN GAMES

1. 2018: Jakarta, Indonesia
2. 2022: Hangzhou, China

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New Currency : Important Facts

Denomination	Colour	Motif	Dimensions
50	Fluorescent Blue	Hampi with Chariot	66mm x 135 mm
200	Bright Yellow	Sanchi Stupa	66 mm x 146 mm
500	Stone Grey	Red Fort	66mm x 150mm
2000	Magenta	Mangalyaan	66mm x 166mm

Chief/Head of Indian Organisation

Organisation/Designation	Chief/Head
CBDT	Sushil Chandra
ISRO	AS Kiran Kumar
TRAI	Ram Sevak Sharma
CRPF	Rajiv Bhatnagar
ITBP	Krishna Chaudhary
NHAI	Deepak Kumar
CBSE	Anita Karwal
IRDAI	TS Vijayan
BSF	KK Sharma
SSB	RK Mishra
NGT	Justice Swatantra Kumar
ASSOCHAM	Sandeep Jajodia
NASSCOM	Raman Roy
PTI	Vivek Goenka
NCC	Hemant Nerurkar
Atomic Energy Commission	Shekhar Basu
UGC	VS Chauhan

MISCELLANEOUS

- **IIM launches centre for Teaching and Learning:**
The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore has established the Centre for Teaching and Learning. The centre has been established to improve the learning abilities of students and teaching inputs of the faculty members.
- **WhatsApp Business app launched:**
Facebook owned instant messaging platform WhatsApp formally announced the launch of a new business application called 'WhatsApp Business' which is free to download android app for business users. The app will help the users with useful information such as business description, email or store addresses and website.
- **Google got patent for Tencent:**
Tech giant Google has signed a patent licensing agreement with Tencent which is the leading provider of internet value added services in China.
According to Google, the agreement covers a broad range of products and technologies for long term.

- Facebook launches Marketplace to buy and sell goods in India:**
 Facebook has launched its Marketplace to buy and sell used goods and services in different categories such as electronics, entertainment and housing in India.
- Axis Bank launches 4th edition of “Evolve”**
 Private sector Axis Bank has launched the 4th edition of “Evolve”, an annual multicity knowledge series for Bank’s SME customers.
- Aadhaar- Hindi word of the year:**
 The Oxford Dictionaries has announced ‘Aadhaar’ as its 2017 Hindi Word of the Year at the Jaipur Literature Festival.
- ‘Youthquake’- word of the year:**
 Youthquake has been declared by the Oxford Dictionary as the word of the year.
 The dictionary defines the word as a significant cultural, political or social change arising from the actions or influence of young people.
- Woman performs non-stop yoga, creates world record:**
 Kavitha Bharanidaran has created a new Guinness World Record by performing yoga continuously for over 105 years.
 He has broken the previous record of 103 hours.

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Countries | Capital | Currency

S.No	Countries	Capital	Currency
1	Japan	Tokyo	Japanese Yen
2	Sweden	Stokholm	Swedish Krona
3	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Sri Lankan Rupee
4	Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka
5	Somalia	Mogadishu	Shilling
6	Iran	Tehran	Iranian Rial
7	Norway	Oslo	Norwegian Krone
8	South Korea	Seoul	South Korean Won
9	Germany	Berlin	Euro
10	Russia	Moscow	Ruble
11	China	Beijing	Renminbi
12	Indonesia	Jakarta	Indonesian Rupiah
13	Pakistan	Islamabad	Pakistani Rupee
14	Myanmar	Naypyidaw	Burmese kyat
15	Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Saudi Riyal
16	Kenya	Nairobi	Kenyan shilling
17	Kazakhstan	Astana	Kazakhstani tenge
18	Uzbekistan	Tashkent	Uzbekistani so'm
19	Australia	Canberra	Australian Dollar
20	Peru	Lima	Sol
21	Iceland	Reykjavik	Icelandic króna
22	Philippines	Manila	Philippine peso
23	Vietnam	Hanoi	Vietnamese dong
24	Indonesia	Jakarta	Indonesian Rupiah
25	Belarus	Minsk	Belarusian ruble
26	Iraq	Baghdad	Iraqi dinar

State | Capital | Chief Minister | Governor

State	Capital	Chief Minister	Governor
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad(<i>de jure</i>) Amaravati (<i>de facto</i>)	N.Chandrababu Naidu	E.S Lakshmi Narasimhan
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	Brigadier Dr BD Mishra
Assam	Dispur	Sarbananda Sonowal	Jagdish Mukhi
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Satya Pal Malik
Chattisgarh	Raipur	Dr. Raman Singh	Balram Dass Tandon
Goa	Panaji	Manohar Parrikar	Mridula Sinha
Gujarat	Gandhinagar	Vijay Rupani	Om Prakash Kohli
Haryana	Chandigarh	Manohar Lal Khattar	Kaptan Singh Solanki
Himachal Pradesh	Simla, Dharamsala(Second Capital in Winter)	Jai ram Thakur	Acharya Dev Vrat
Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar(Summer) Jammu(Winter)	Mehbooba Mufti	Narinder Nath Vohra
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Raghubar Das	Draupadi Murmu
Karnataka	Bangalore	Siddaramaiah	Vajubhai Vala
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	P. Sathasivam
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chouhan	Om Prakash Kohli
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Devendra Fadnavis	Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao
Manipur	Imphal	N. Biren Singh	Najma Heptulla
Meghalaya	Shillong	Dr. Mukul Sangma	Ganga Prasad
Mizoram	Aizawl	Lal Thanhawla	Nirbhay Sharma
Nagaland	Kohima	T. R. Zeliang	Padmanabha Balkrishna Acharya
Odisha	Bhubaneswar	Naveen Patnaik	S.C. Jamir
Punjab	Chandigarh	Amarinder Singh	V. P. Singh Badnore
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Vasundhara Raje	Kalyan Singh
Sikkim	Gangtok	Pawan Kumar Chamling	Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Edappadi K. Palaniswami	Banwarilal Purohit
Telangana	Hyderabad	K Chandrasekhar Rao	E.S Lakshmi Narasimhan

Tripura	Agartala	Manik Sarkar	Tathagata Roy
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Yogi Adityanath	Ram Naik
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Trivendra Singh Rawat	Krishan Kant Paul
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamta Benerjee	Keshari Nath Tripathi

Now let's have a look at the Union Territories. It is important to note that UT have a different governing structure. They are under direct control of the central government and the President of India appoints an Administrator or Lieutenant-Governor for each UT. Delhi and Puducherry are somewhat different as they get to choose their own elected legislative assemblies and the executive councils of ministers with partially state-like function. (Arvind Kejriwal and V. Narayanaswamy are the current Chief Ministers of Delhi and Puducherry respectively)

Union Territories	Capital	Head	Position
Andaman and Nicobar Island	Port Blair	Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi	Lieutenant Governor
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	V. P. Singh Badnore	Administrator
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvassa	Praful Khoda Patel	Administrator
Daman and Diu	Daman	Praful Khoda Patel	Administrator
Delhi	Delhi	Anil Bajjal	Lieutenant Governor
Lakshadweep	Kavaratti	Farooq Khan	Administrator
Puducherry	Puducherry	Kiran Bedi	Lieutenant Governor

Awards

- 1. Bharat Ratna** – It is the highest civilian award of the India. The award was given for outstanding achievements in the **arts, literature, science and public services** but the government expanded the criteria to include “**any field of human endeavour**”. The number of annual awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.
- 2. Padma Awards** – **Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan** and **Padma Shri** awards are for **exceptional and distinguished service in any field** including service rendered by Government servants.
- 3. Gallantry Awards** – **Param Vir Chakra (PVC), Ashok Chakra, Shaurya Chakra** are given for appreciating the **brave and gallant**.
- 4. Nobel Prize** – The Nobel Prize is widely regarded as the most prestigious award available in the fields of **literature, medicine, physics, chemistry, peace, and economics**.
- 5. Booker Prize** – **Literature** It is an annual award for the best original novel, written in the English language, and published in the UK literary award.
- 6. Vyas Samman** – **Literature** Vyas Samman is awarded annually by the K.K. Birla Foundation in recognition of the Hindi literary work published in past 10 years.
- 7. Moorti Devi Award** – **Literature** The Moortidevi Award is an annual literary award in India presented by the Bharatiya Jnanpith organization for a work which emphasizes Indian philosophy and culture.

8. Saraswati Samman – Literature The award was instituted in 1991 by the K. K. Birla Foundation. It is an annual award given for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any 22 Indian languages.

9. Jnanpith award – Literature The award was instituted in 1961 and it is presented by the Bharatiya Jnanpith, a trust founded by the Sahu Jain family, the publishers of the newspaper The Times of India. It is an annual award given for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any 22 Indian languages.

10. Bihari Puraskar – Literature Bihari Puraskar is a literary award instituted by K. K. Birla Foundation. The award is named after the famous Hindi poet Bihari and is awarded to an outstanding work published in Hindi or Rajasthani by a Rajasthani writer.

11. The Oscar/Academy Awards – Films This is an annual American awards ceremony honoring cinematic achievements in the film industry.

12. Dadasaheb Phalke Award – Cinema/Films The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest award in cinema. It is presented annually at the National Film Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals, an organisation set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

13. Arjuna Award – Outstanding performance from the sports persons in sports and games. The Government has modified the format of Arjuna Award very recently and as per the revised schematic guidelines a sports person must have very good consistent performances for the previous 3 years at the international level to be considered as eligible for the Award.

14. Dronacharya Award – Eminent coaches of any particular sport The award is named after the very famous archery coach, mentioned in the epic of India known as the Mahabharata. This very award is not related with the sports persons who are still playing in the field; instead this is related to those eminent coaches of any particular sport.

15. Dhyan Chand Award – The award that is given to the veteran sports persons of India for their lifetime achievement in their respective field of sport is named as the Dhyan Chand Award for Life Time Achievement in Sports and Games.

16. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award – The Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna is the highest honour bestowed to a sports person for his/her achievements in India.

17. Stirling Prize – Architecture The Royal Institute of British Architects Stirling Prize is a British prize for excellence in architecture.

18. Aga Khan Award – Architecture The Aga Khan Award for Architecture (AKAA) is an architectural prize established by Aga Khan IV in 1977. It aims to identify and reward architectural concepts that successfully address the needs and aspirations of Islamic societies in the fields of contemporary design, social housing, community development and improvement.

19. Pritzker Prize – Architecture The Pritzker Architecture Prize is awarded annually "to honor a living architect.

20. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize – Science & Technology The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology (SSB) is a science award in India given annually by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for notable and outstanding research, applied or fundamental, in biology, chemistry, environmental science, engineering, mathematics, medicine and Physics.

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- 21. Kalinga Prize – Science** The Kalinga Prize for the Popularization of Science is an award given by UNESCO for exceptional skill in presenting scientific ideas to lay people.
- 22. Grammy Award – Music** A Grammy Award, or Grammy, is an accolade by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences of the United States to recognize outstanding achievement in the music industry.
- 23. Abel Prize – Mathematics** The Abel Prize is an international prize awarded annually by the Government of Norway to one or more outstanding mathematicians.
- 24. International Gandhi Peace Prize** – This award is given to individuals and institutions for their contributions towards **social, economic and political revolution through non-violence and Gandhian philosophy**. The award carries Rs. 10 million in cash.
- 25. Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award** – This is for Excellence in **Public Administration, Academics and Management**.
- 26. Green Star Awards** – The Green Star Awards recognize those who have made extraordinary efforts to respond to **environmental disasters** around the world.
- 27. Magsaysay Award – Public Service, Leadership, Journalism, Literature, creative arts and international understanding.**
- 28. Pulitzer Prize** – The Pulitzer Prize is an award for achievements in **newspaper and online journalism, literature, and musical composition** in the United States.
- 29. Sahitya Akademi Award – Books in Indian Languages and English.**
- 30. Manthan Award** – It is an initiative in India to recognize the best practices in **e-Content and Creativity**.
- 31. FiFi Awards** – The FiFi Awards honor the fragrance **industry’s creative achievements**.
- 32. Sangeet-Natak Akademi Award – Music, dance and Drama.**
- 33. BAFTA Awards** – Television, Films, Video Games and Animation.

Indian Railways/Metro in India

- As per circular issued by the **railway board**, the passengers **in the reserved coaches can only sleep between 10 pm & 6 am** to allow others to sit in the seats for the rest of the time.
- **India** received its **first High Horsepower Locomotive** with the bodyshell of **12000 HP loco from Alstom France at Kolkata port**.
- **DMRC** declared as the world’s first green metro after it added a green certification for all its major buildings & installations.
- Indian Railways achieves major landmark in the field of Eco friendly fuel technologies at **Indian Railways**
- **Organization for Alternate Fuel (IROAF)** has been awarded the **coveted National level “Golden Peacock Award for the Year 2017 for Eco-Innovation” for substitution of fossil fuels (Diesel)** by environmentfriendly CNG in DEMU passenger train services.
- **Indian Railways** launched its **first 1,600 HP solar powered Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) train** with a unique facility of Battery Bank from Safdarjung station, New Delhi.
- **Indian Railways** launched an integrated **mobile application** to cater to various passenger requirements over & above ticket booking. **The app is called Rail SAARTHI & was launched by Railway Minister.**
- **Central Railway** taken a step towards **women empowerment by appointing an all-female workstaff** at the suburban Matunga station. Matunga station has now become the first such ladies special station.

Important Days

1	1 st October	International Day of Older Persons	Stepping into the Future: Tapping the Talents, Contributions and Participation of Older Persons in the Society
2	11 th October	International Day of the Girl Child	Empower Girls: Before, during and after the Conflict
3	13 th October	International Day for Disaster Reduction	Home Safe Home: Reducing Exposure, Reducing Displacement
4	15 th October	International Day of Rural Women/ National Students Day	Challenges and Opportunities in climate-resilient agriculture for gender equality and empowerment of rural women and girls.
5	16 th October	World Food Day	Change the future of migration. Invest in Food Security and Rural Development.
6	17 th October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	Answering the call of October 17 to end poverty: A path towards peaceful and inclusive societies
7	17 th October	2 nd Ayurveda Day	
8	24 th October	United Nations Day	
9	27 th October	World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	Discover, remember and share.
10	5 th November	World Tsunami Awareness Day	Reduce the Number of Affected People
11	11 th November	National Education Day	
12	13 th November	World Kindness Day	
13	14 th November	World Diabetes Day	Women and Diabetes- our right to healthy future
14	16 th November	National Press Day	
15	16 th November	International Day of Tolerance	
16	19 th November	National Integration Day	
17	19 th November	International Men's Day	
18	19 th November	World Toilet Day	
19	20 th November	Universal Children Day	Stop Violence Against Children
20	25 th November	International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women	Leave no one behind: End violence against women and girls
21	26 th November	National Constitution Day	
22	1 st December	World Aids Day	Right to Health
23	2 nd December	International Day for Abolition of Slavery	
24	2 nd December	National Pollution Control Day	

25	2 nd December	World Computer Literacy Day	
26	3 rd December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	Transformation towards sustainable and resilient society for all
27	4 th December	Navy Day	
28	5 th December	World Soil Day	Caring for the Planet starts from the Ground
29	5 th December	International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development	
30	9 th December	International Anti-Corruption Day	United against corruption for development, peace and security
31	10 th December	World Human Rights Day	
32	11 th December	International Mountain Day	Mountains under Pressure: Climate, Hunger, Migration
33	15 th December	International Tea Day	
34	9th January	NRI Day	
35	12th January	National Youth Day	
36	15th January	Army Day	
37	25th January	National voters Day	
38	26th January	India's Republic Day, International Customs Day	

Index / Report

S.No	Report/Index	Organisation
1	World Economic Outlook	IMF (International Monetary Fund)
2	World Happiness Report	Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
3	Ease of Doing Business	IBRD (World Bank)
4	Global Hunger Index report	IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute)
5	Global Innovation Index	Cornell University INSEAD & the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
6	World Intellectual Property Report (WIPR)	WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization)
7	Global Competitiveness Report (GCR)	WEF (World Economic Forum)
8	Global Environment Outlook	UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)
9	Global Corruption Report (GCR)	Transparency International
10	World Employment & Social Outlook	ILO (International Labour Organization)

11	World Development Report	IBRD (World Bank)
12	Asian Development Outlook	ADB (Asian Development bank)
13	Global education monitoring Report	UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization)
14	World Cities Report	UN-Habitat
15	World Energy Outlook (WEO)	International Energy Agency (IEA)

Important National Parks in India

State	National Parks
Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajiv Gandhi Orange National Park • Dibru-Saikhowa National Park • Kaziranga National Park • Manas National Park • Nameri National Park
Arunachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mouling National Park • Namdapha National Park
Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri venkateshwar National Park
Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valmiki National Park
Chattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guru Ghasi Das National Park • Indravati National Park • Kanger Valley National Park
Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bansda National Park • Blackbuck National Park • Gir Forest National Park • Marine National Park
Goa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bhagwan Mahavir National Park
Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pin Valley National Park • Great Himalayan National Park • Inderkilla National Park • Khirganga National Park • Simbalbara National Park
Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sultanpur National Park • Kalesar National Park
Jammu & Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hemis National Park • Kishtwar National Park • Salim Ali National Park • Dachigam National Park

Jharkhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betta National Park
Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anshi National Park • Bandipur National Park • Bannerghatta National Park • Kudremukh National Park • Nagarhole National Park
Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eravikulam National Park • Anamudi Shola National Park • Mathikettan National Park • Pampaclum National Park • Periyar National Park • Silent Valley National Park
Meghalaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balphakram National Park • Nokrek National Park
Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chandoli National Park • Navegaon National Park • Tadoba National Park • Gugamal national park
Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kanha National Park • Madhav National Park • Mandla Plant Fossils National Park • Panna National Park • Pench National Park
Mizoram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain National Park • Murlen National Park • Phawngpui Blue National Park
Manipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keibul Lamjao National Park
Nagaland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intanki National Park
Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bhitarkanika National Park • Simlipal National Park
Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sariska National Park • Ranthambore National Park • Darrah National Park • Desert National Park • Keoladeo National Park
Sikkim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khangchendzonga National Park

Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guindy National Park • Indira Gandhi National Park • Mukurthi National Park • Mudumalai National Park • Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park
Telangana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrugavani National Park
Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bison (Rajbari) National Park • Clouded Leopard National Park
Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dudhwa National Park
Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gangotri National Park • Jim Corbett National Park • Valley of Flowers National Park
West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neora Valley National Park • Singalila National Park • Buxa National Park • Sundarbans National Park

Important Power Plants in India

States	Power Plants
Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station
Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sri Damodram Sanjeevaian Thermal Power Station • Simhadri Solar Power Plant Station
Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Station • Barauni Thermal Power Station
Chattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sipat Thermal Power Plant • Hasdeo Thermal Power Station • Bhilai Expansion Power Plan
Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Akrimota Thermal Power Station • Mundra Thermal Power Station • Ukai Thermal Power Station
Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girinagar Hydrel Project • Binwa Hydrel Project • Rangtong Hydrel Project • Baner & Neugal Project
Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajiv Gandhi Thermal Power Station • Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Station • Gorakhpur Atomic Power Station

Jharkhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chandrapura Thermal Power Station • Koderma Thermal Power Station • Bokaro Thermal Power Station
Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brahmapuram Power Station • Kayamkulam Power Station
Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kakrapar Nuclear Power Plant • Raichur Thermal Power Station • Udupi Thermal Power Plant • Bellary Thermal Power Station
Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tarapur Atomic Power Station • Tirora Thermal Power Station • Amravati Thermal Power Plant
Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soran Ultra Mega Power project • Amarkantak Thermal Power Station • Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station • Sant Singaji Thermal Power Plant • Satpura Thermal Power Station
Nagaland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dikhu Hydro Electric Power Plant
Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talcher Thermal Power Station
Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guru Gobind Singh Super Thermal Power Plant
Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chhabra Thermal Power Station • Suratgarh Power Station
Sikkim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranjit Hydro electric Power Project
Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palatane Thermal Power Plant
Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kundakulam Nuclear Power Plant • Neyveli Thermal Plant • Tuticorin Thermal Plant
Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chibro Power Plant • Khodri Power Plant • Chilla Power Plant
Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narora Atomic Power Station • Rihand Thermal Power Station • Anpara Thermal Power Station
West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mejia Thermal Power Station • Farakka Super Thermal Power Station • Kolaghat Thermal Power Station • Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station • Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station

Classical Dances of India

Dance	State
Bharatnatyam	Tamil Nadu & Karnataka
Kathak	North India
Kuchipudi	Andhra Pradesh
Kathakali	Kerala
Odissi	Orissa
Manipuri	Manipur
Ghoomer	Rajasthan
Gaudiya Nritya	West Bengal
Sallriya	Assam

Folk Dances of India

Dance	State
Chhau	Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal
Bihu	Assam
Dandiya	Gujarat
Garba	Gujarat
Gatka	Punjab
Changu	Odisha and Andhra Pradesh
Gaur	Madhya Pradesh
Karagam	Tamil Nadu
Raas	Gujarat
Dumhar	Kashmir
Gair	Rajasthan

United Nations Headquarters

Organisations	Headquarters
UNO	New York
UNESCO	Paris
UNICEF	New York
ILO	Geneva
UNCTAD	Geneva
WHO	Geneva
IMF	Washington DC
WB	Washington DC
NATO	Brussels
SAARC	Kathmandu
ASEAN	Jakarta
OECD	Paris
ICJ	Hague
APEC	Singapore
World Intellectual Property Organisation	Geneva
IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)	Vienna
Amnesty International	London
UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Dev. Org)	Vienna

International Maritime Organization	London
Transparency International	Berlin
Commonwealth of Nations	London
WMO (World Meteorological Org)	Geneva
Food&Agricultural Organization	

Important Airports in India

Airport	City	State
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport	Kolkata	West Bengal
Indira Gandhi International Airport	New Delhi	New Delhi
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport	Hyderabad	Telangana
Swami Vivekananda Airport	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
Biju Patnaik International Airport	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport	Guwahati	Assam
Kempegowda International Airport	Bangalore	Karnataka
Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
Raja Bhoj International Airport	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
Maharana Pratap Airport	Udaipur	Rajasthan
Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport	Amritsar	Punjab
Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Airport	Patna	Bihar
Birsa Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
Bagdogra Airport	Bagdogra	West Bengal
Rajahmundry Airport	rajahmundry	Andhra Pradesh
Kandla Airport	Kandla	Gujarat
Tezu Airport	Tezu	Arunachal Pradesh
Lengpui Airport	Aizwal	Mizoram
Veer Savarkar International Airport	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar
Silchar Airport	Silchar	Assam
Zaruki International Airport	Shillong	Meghalaya
Sonari Airport	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand
Agatti Aerodrome	Agatti	Lakshadweep

Nick Names of Important Indian Places

Nick Name	City Name
City Of Seven Islands	Mumbai
Pink City	Jaipur
Space City	Bengalore
Golden City	Amritsar
Manchester Of India	Ahmedabad
Silicon Valley Of India	Bangalore
Gateway Of India	Mumbai
City Of Festivals	Madurai
Queen Of Arabian Sea	Cochin
Garden City Of India	Bangalore
Electronic City Of India	Bangalore
Deccan Queen	Pune
City Of Buildings	Kolkata
Egg Bowls Of Asia	Andhra Pradesh
Manchester Of The South	Coimbatore
City Of Nawabs	Lucknow
Venice Of The East	Cochin
Queen Of The Mountains	Mussoorie
Hollywood Of India	Mumbai
City Of Weavers	Panipat

Nick Name	City Name
Steel City Of India	Jamshedpur
City Of Temples	Varanasi
Boston Of India	Ahmedabad
Switzerland Of India	Kashmir
Pittsburg Of India	Jamshedpur
Abode Of The God	Allahabad
Garden Of Spices Of India	Kerala
Heaven Of India	J&K
City Of Lakes	Srinagar
State Of Five Rivers	Punjab
City Of Castles	Kolkata
Manchester Of The North	Kanpur
Dakshin Ganga	Godavari
Old Ganga	Godavari
Sorrow Of Bengal	Damodar
Sacred River	Ganga
Blue Mountains	Nilgiri
City Of Rallies	New Delhi
Soya Region	Madhya Pradesh
Sorrow Of Bihar	Kosi

Temples in India

Temple	Place
Badrinath Temple	Chamoli district, Uttarakhand
Golden Temple	Amritsar
The Konark Sun Temple	Puri district of Odisha
Gangotri Temple	Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand
Brihadeeswara Temple	Thanjavur city of Tamil Nadu
Siddhivinayak Temple	Prabha Devi, Mumbai
Somnath Temple	Saurashtra (Gujarat)
Vaishno Devi Mandir	J&K, near Katra
Kedarnath Temple)	Garhwal area (Uttarakhand)
Ramanathaswamy Temple	
Sanchi Stupa	Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh
Kashi Vishwanath Temple	Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)

Meenakshi Temple	Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
Lingaraja Temple	Orissa
Lord Jagannath Temple	Puri (Orissa)
Yamunotri Temple	Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand
Tirupati Balaji	Tirumala (Andhra Pradesh)
Khajuraho Temple	Madhya Pradesh
Akshardham Temple	Delhi
Dwarkadhish Temple	Dwarka city (Gujarat)
Shirdi Sai Baba Temple	Shirdi town of Maharashtra
Gomateshwara Temple	Shravanabelagola town of Karnataka

Important Revolutions in India

Revolution	Field
Green Revolution	Food grains
Blue Revolution	Fish Production
Black Revolution	Petroleum Production
Golden Revolution	Fruits/Overall Horticulture development/Honey Production
Grey Revolution	Fertilizer
Golden Fiber Revolution	Jute Production
Yellow Revolution	Oil Seeds production
Pink Revolution	Onion production/Pharmaceutical (India)/ Prawn production
White Revolution	Milk/Dairy production
Red Revolution	Meat & Tomato Production
Silver Revolution	Egg/Poultry Production
Silver Fiber Revolution	Cotton
Evergreen Revolution	Overall development of Agriculture.

Stadiums In India

Stadium	Location
Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium	New Delhi
Feroz Shah Kotla	New Delhi
Dhyan Chand National Stadium	New Delhi
Brabourne Stadium	Mumbai
Eden Gardens	Kolkata
Green Park	Kanpur
M.Chinnaswamy Stadium	Bangalore
Barabati Stadium	Cuttack

MA Chidambaram Stadium	Chennai
Madhavrao Scindia Cricket Ground	Rajkot
Rajiv Gandhi Port Silver Jubilee Stadium	Visakhapatnam
Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium	Hyderabad
Greenfield International Stadium	Thiruvananthapuram
Barkatullah Khan Stadium	Jodhpur
Barsapara Cricket Stadium	Guwahati
Sardar Vallabhai Patel Motera	Ahmedabad
Wankhede Stadium	Mumbai
Moin-ul-Haq Stadium	Patna
Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Cricket Stadium	Guwahati
Vidarbha CA Ground	Nagpur
Sawai Mansingh Stadium	Jaipur
Indira Gandhi Stadium	Vijayawada

Some Important Facts Related to Census

- **Slogan** - Our census, Our Future
- **India's 1st Census** - 1872
- **2011 Census** is - 15th Census
- **Total Population** - 1,21,01,93,422
- **India's Rank in population** - 2nd with 17.5% (1st China with 19%)
- **Most Populous State** - Uttar Pradesh
- **Least Populous State** – Sikkim
- **Most Literate State** - Kerala (93.9%)
- **Least Literate State** - Bihar (63.82%)
- **National Sex Ratio** - Female : Male (940 : 1000)
- **Highest Sex Ratio (State)** - Kerala (1084 : 1000)
- **Lowest Sex Ratio (State)** - Haryana
- **Highest Sex Ratio (UT)** - Puducherry
- **Least Sex Ratio (UT)** - Daman & Diu (61 : 1000)
- **Literacy of Male** - 82.14%
- **Literacy of Female** - 65.46%
- **Population Growth Rate** - 17.64%
- **Highest fertility Rate** - Meghalaya
- **Most literate Union Territory** - Lakshadweep (92.2%)
- **Least literate Union Territory** - Dadra Nagar & Haveli
- **Most Literate District** - Serechhip (Mizoram)
- **Least Literate District** - Dadra Naga & Haveli
- **Highest Density of Population** - Bihar (1102 sq.km)
- **Lowest Density of Population** - Arunachal Pradesh (17)
- **Total number of districts** - 640
- **Highest Populous District** - Thane (Mumbai)
- **100% Literacy District** - Palakkad (Kerala)
- **100% Banking State** - Kerala
- **100% Banking District** - Palakkad (Kerala)
- **Density of Population in India** - 382 sq. km
- **Increase in population (during 2001-2011)** - 181 million

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Important Wildlife Sanctuaries

State	Wildlife Sanctuary
Assam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amchang WLS • Chakrashila WLS • Dihing Patkai WLS • East Karbi Anglong WLS • North Karbi Anglong WLS • Nambor WLS
Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coringa WLS • Kolleru WLS • Nellapattu WLS • Pulicat Lake WLS • Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarjuna SagarSrisailem) WLS
Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gautam Budha WLS • Kaimur WLS • Pant (Rajgir) WLS • Valmiki WLS
Chattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badalkhol WLS • Bhairamgarh WLS • Bhoramdev WLS • Udanti Wild Buffalo WLS
Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jambugodha WLS • Jessore WLS • Kutch Desert WLS • Mitiyala WLS • Porbandar Lake WLS • Rampara Vidi WLS • Ratanmahal WLS • Shoolpaneswar (Dhumkhal) WLS • Thol Lake WLS Wild Ass WLS
Goa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bondla WLS • Madei WLS • Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) WLS • Netravali WLS

Himachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bandli WLS • Daranghati WLS • Dalra WLS • Dhauladhar WLS • Nargu WLS • Pong Dam Lake WLS • Shilli WLS Talra WLS
Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bhindawas WLS • Kalesar WLS • Khaparwas WLS
J&K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gulmarg WLS • Limber WLS • Nandini WL
Jharkhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawalong WLS • Palkot WLS • Parasnath WLS
Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arabithittu WLS • Attiveri WLS • Bhadra WLS • Bhimgad WLS • Brahmagiri WLS • Cauvery WLS • Nugu WLS • Pushpagiri WLS • Ranganathittu Bird WLS • Sharavathi Valley WLS • Someshwara WLS
Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aralam WLS • Chimmony WLS • Idukki WLS • Malabar WLS • Mangalavanam Bird WLS • Neyyar WLS • Periyar WLS • Thattekad Bird WLS
Maharashtra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aner Dam WLS • Bhamragarh WLS • Bhimashankar WLS • Great Indian Bustard WLS • Jaikwadi WLS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Koyana WLS • Nagzira WLS • Painganga WLS • Radhanagari WLS • Sagarashwar WLS • Tipeswar WLS • Tungarashwar WLS
Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bori WLS • Gandhi Sagar WLS • Ghatigaon WLS • Ken Gharial WLS • Narsighgarh WLS • National Chambal WLS • Orcha WLS • Kuno WLS • Sardarpur WLS • Son Gharial WLS
Manipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YangoupokpiLokchao WLS
Mizoram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dampa WLS (TR) • Ngengpui WLS • Pualreng WLS • Tokalo WLS
Meghalaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bagmara Pitcher Plant WLS • Nongkhyllem WLS Siju WLS
Nagaland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fakim WLS • Puliebadze WLS • Rangapahar WLS
Odisha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badrama WLS • Baisipalli WLS • Chilika (Nalaban) WLS • Hadgarh WLS • Khalasuni WLS • Satkosia Gorge WLS
Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abohar WLS • Harike Lake WLS • Jhajjar Bacholi WLS

Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bundh Baratha WLS • Darrah WLS • Jawahar Sagar WLS • Kailadevi WLS • Mount Abu WLS • Ramsagar WLS • Sariska WLS • Sawai Man Singh WLS • Shergarh WLS • Sitamata WLS
Sikkim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fambong Lho WLS • Maenam WLS • Pangolakha WLS
Telangana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kawal WLS
Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karikili WLS • Mudumalai WLS • Pulicat Lake WLS • Vaduvor WLS • Vedanthangal WLS • Vettangudi WLS • Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) WLS • Kalakad WLS • Karaivetti WLS
Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gumti WLS • Rowa WLS • Sepahijala WLS • Trishna WLS
Uttarakhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Askot Musk Deer WLS • Binsar WLS • Govind Pashu Vihar WLS • Kedarnath WLS • Sonanadi WLS
UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hastinapur WLS • Ranipur WLS • Sohagibarwa WLS • Sur Sarovar WLS • Chandraprabha WLS • National Chambal WLS
West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballavpur WLS • Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary • Haliday Island WLS • Lothian Island WLS • Mahananda WLS

12 Major Ports of India

Port	State
Paradip	Orissa
Vishakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
Kolkata	West Bengal
Mumbai	Maharashtra
Kandla	Gujarat
Jawahar Lal Nehru	Maharashtra
Cochin	Kerala
New Mangalore	Karnataka
Ennore	Tamil Nadu
Murmugao	Goa
Tuticorin	Tamil Nadu
Chennai	Tamil Nadu

Important Dams in India

Dam	River	State
Idukki Dam	Periyar	Kerala
Tehri Dam	Bhagirathi	Uttarakhand
Sardar Sarovar Dam	Narmada	Gujarat
Nagarjun Sagar Dam	Krishna	Telangana
Bhakra Dam	Satluj	Himachal Pradesh
Lakhwar Dam	Yamuna	Uttarakhand
Srisaillam Dam	Krishna	Telangana
Pakal Dul Dam	Marusudar	J&K
Salal Dam	Chenab	J&K
Madupetty Dam	Palar	Kerala
Indira Sagar Dam	Narmada	Madhya Pradesh
Rihand Dam	Rihand	Uttar Pradesh
Pong Dam	Beas	Himachal Pradesh
Ranjit Sagar Dam	Ravi	Punjab
Baglihar Dam	Chenab	J&K
Supa Dam	Kali Nadi	Karnataka
Koteshwar Dam	Bhagi Rathi Nadi	Uttra Khand
Pillur Dam	Bhavani	Tamil Nadu
Parbati Dam	Parbati	himachal Pradesh
ukai Dam	Tapi Nadi	Gujarat
Chakra Dam	Chakra	Karnataka

Important Boundaries

- **Radcliffe Line** - This boundary line is between India and Pakistan drawn by Sir Cyril Radcliffe in 1947.
- **Durand Line** - It is between Pakistan and Afghanistan
- **McMahon Line** - The boundary line between India and China to which China does not approve. It was demarcated by Sir Henry McMahon
- **24th Parallel** - The line which Pakistan claims should be the Demarcation line between India and Pakistan, not accepted by India.
- **Hindenberg Line** - Boundary line between Germany and Poland to which German retreated in 1917 during the First World War.
- **Oder-Neisse Line** - The boundary line between Poland and East Germany.
- **Mannerheim Line** - It is between Russia and Finland.
- **Maginot Line** - The boundary line is between France and Germany.
- **Siegfried Line** - The boundary line is between France and Germany.
- **17th Parallel** - The line which defines the boundary between North Vietnam and South Vietnam before the two were united.
- **38th Parallel** - The boundary line between North Korea and South Korea.
- **49th Parallel** - It is the boundary line between the United States of America and Canada.



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