CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY
Vellore

TNPSC GROUP – I & II
Prelims & Mains
MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS
SEPTEMBER - 2017

# 5, old by-Pass Road, National Theatre
(Near - opp - Benzz Park) Vellore- 4

Website: WWW.Chennaiiasacademy.com
Facebook chennaiiasacademy – vellore

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411

http://www.trbtnpsc.com/2013/09/tnpsc-group-2-group-4-vao-exam-study.html
Vice President releases commemorative coin on Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu on Tuesday unveiled commemorative coins of Rs 100 and Rs 10 coins on the birth centenary of noted musician M S Subbulakshmi. A nearly two-week-long exhibition, titled ‘Kurai Ondrum Illai’, is being held in the honour of Bharat Ratna awardee Subbulakshami.

Maryna Viazovska to receive 2017 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize

Maryna Viazovska of Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne, Switzerland, will receive 2017 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for her contribution to number theory. Viazovska is awarded the 2017 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for her stunning and elegant resolution of the celebrated sphere packing problem in dimension 8.

Tamilnadu bags 22 national award for teachers day:

Reserved: 20 awards are reserved for Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic teachers
Award carries: A Medal, Certificate and INR 50,000 as award money.
Honoured by: president (or vice president in absent of president)
Ministry: Human Resource and Development

- The National Award for Teachers is presented by the president to teachers, who have rendered exemplary service to the nation by exhibiting meritorious performance. The awards cover teachers working in primary, middle and secondary schools in the country.
- Vice-president Venkaiah Naidu honoured the 374 teachers. The award ceremony was also presided over by Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar and the newly-inducted Minister of State for HRD Satyapal Singh.
- India was once known as ‘Vishwa Guru’ with people from across the globe flocking to our ancient seats of learning like Nalanda and Takshashila.
- The vice-president also launched DIKSHA, a national digital infrastructure for teachers. DIKSHA is a customisable national digital infrastructure that states, Teacher Education Institutions (TEI) and private entities can use for their respective teacher-centric initiatives.

Ayyamittu Unn: Good response to ‘community fridge’

Under the banner of The Public Foundation, Dr Issa Fathima Jasmine called the community fridge, ‘Ayyamittu Unn’ it is a one-line poem from the collection Āathichoodi, written by Avvaiyar in Tamil. In English, it translates to ‘share the food with the needy before you eat’.

As part of this initiative, a community fridge has been placed near the tennis court at Besant Nagar, Chennai. The idea behind this is: People can place items in the fridge for the benefit of the underprivileged. There is also a charity counter...
along with the fridge where books, toys and other such items can be donated

125th anniversary of Madras HC heritage building:

- The 125th anniversary of the Madras High Court Heritage building will be celebrated here tomorrow.
- The Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra will inaugurate the renovated old Light House in the High Court campus on the occasion.

BACKGROUND:
- The court is one of the three High Courts in India established in the three Presidency Towns of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras by Letters patent granted by Her Majesty Queen Victoria, bearing date 26 June 1862.

Tamil Nadu govt begins distribution of free Set Top Boxes:

- Chief Minister Edapaddi K Palaniswami launched the service through government-owned Tamil Nadu Arasu Cable TV Corporation (Arasu Cable). He distributed STBs and also inaugurated MPEG-4 upgraded control room for digital signal transmission.

100 commemorative coin to mark birth centenaries of MGR
- The reverse of the Rs 100 coin shall bear the portrait of MG Ramachandran in the centre.
- It has inscription of Ramachandran in Devanagari on upper periphery and Dr MG Ramachandran birth centenary in English on the lower periphery of the coin.

The Reserve Bank of India will soon issue two series of 100 coins to mark the birth centenary of AIADMK founder MG Ramachandran and Carnatic music maestro MS Subbulakshmi. Both are Bharat Ratnas.
- The Finance Ministry has notified the new 100 coins along with special 5 coins to “commemorate the occasion of MG Ramachandran’s Birth Centenary”.

NATIONAL
Business and Climate Change Summit 2017 in New Delhi

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan, addressed the Business and Climate Summit (BCS) 2017
- Summit has brought the world came together in 2015 and agreed upon the Paris
Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. It came into force in November 2016 and till date, 160 Parties have ratified the agreement. India as a party to the Paris Agreement is committed towards its successful implementation.

PM Modi inaugurates annual conference 'Rajaswa Gyan Sangam' 2017 in New Delhi.

- The conference, jointly organized by the Central Board of Direct Taxes and the Central Board of Excise and Customs.
- Issues arising in implementation of policies and strategies to achieve targets in core functional areas will also be discussed. The main objective of the conference is to enable a two-way communication between the policy-makers and senior officers in the field offices with a view to increase revenue collection and facilitate effective implementation of law and policies in key result areas.

Eight core sectors growth slips to 2.4% in July

- The country's eight infrastructure sectors grew 2.4 per cent in July this year. The infrastructure sector had expanded 3.1 per cent in July last year, and had grown 0.8 per cent in June this year.

5.7% GDP growth rate in first quarter

- The rate has come down predominantly due to pre-GST effect as manufacturers were focusing more on clearing the existing stock.
- Service sector and investment have improved in this quarter but the down trend in manufacturing is essentially due to GST.

Rajiv Mehrishi is the Next CAG of India

- He will replace the present incumbent Shashi Kant Sharma.
- Ashwini Attri, Anita Pattanayak and Ranjan Kumar Ghose, three senior bureaucrats were appointed as Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General.

Sunil Arora appointed Election Commissioner

- Mr. Arora had been the Information and Broadcasting Secretary, and Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- After Nasim Zaidi retired as Chief Election Commissioner in July, there was a vacancy in the poll panel. While Achal Kumar Joti is the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Om Prakash Rawat is the other Election Commissioner.

India, China jointly oppose trade-distorting agri subsidies

- India and China have jointly submitted a proposal to the WTO, which has been called for ending the agricultural subsidies given by developed countries.
In this proposal, subsidy has been described as "the most distorted form of agricultural subsidy". This kind of subsidy is called 'Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS)' or 'Amber Box' subsidy in the WTO language.

Union Minister launches scheme for senior citizens belonging to BPL category
- Thaawarchand Gehlot has launched a scheme that provides for physical aids and assisted-living devices for senior citizens belonging to the BPL category in Gujarat
- The centrally-sponsored scheme, 'Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana', was unveiled on April 1 this year.

Environment Ministry to Launch ‘Prakriti Khoj’ - Environment quiz
- The quiz is being launched on September 5 on the occasion of Teachers’ Day. The objective of the quiz is to generate interest among school children about the science related to environment, interactions within it and the problems therein.
- Gujarat chief minister has launched “Gyankunj e-class project” on the occasion of Teachers Day on Sept 5.

Europe unveils world's most powerful X-ray laser
- It has begun operating at a facility where scientists will attempt to recreate the conditions deep inside the sun and produce film-like sequences of viruses and cells.
- The machine, called the European X-ray Free Electron Laser (XFEL), acts as a high-speed camera that can capture images of individual atoms in a few millionths of a billionth of a second.

Reliance Foundation Awarded Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar
- The Reliance Foundation was rewarded with the prestigious Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Award at Rashtrapati Bhawan. Chairperson of the foundation, Nita Ambani collected the award from President Ram Nath Kovind in New Delhi.
- Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) also received the Rashtriya Khel Protsahana Purushkar this year for its ‘Identification and Nurturing of Budding and Young Talent’ (IDCO) program.

Important Points to remember:
- Nita Ambani is the chairperson and founder of Reliance Foundation and a non-executive director of Reliance Industries.
• Sri Ram Nath Kovind is the 14th President of India.

Karnataka to merge health schemes, launch 'Arogya Bhagya'

- The Universal Health Coverage scheme would help the card holder get treatment in all the empanelled private hospitals besides government hospitals to get treatment without paying any cash.
- The main theme of the 'Arogya Bhagya' scheme is "Treatment First and Payment Next" (UNI).

Ahmedabad’s Walled City gets India’s First World Heritage City Certificate

- Ahmedabad in Gujarat was formally accorded the status of India's first World Heritage City with UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova handing over the certificate in this regard to Chief Minister Vijay Rupani.
- The honour makes the walled city of Ahmedabad the first city in India, and the third in Asia, to be on the list. India now has a total of 36 World Heritage Inscriptions -- 28 cultural, 7 natural and 1 mixed site.
- India is second after China in terms of number of world heritage properties in ASPAC (Asia and Pacific) region, and overall seventh in the world. (Business standard).

Cabinet Reshuffle: Nirmala Sitharaman Gets Defence, Piyush Goyal Gets Railways

- Nirmala Sitharaman is the new Woman Defence Minister of India (becoming only the second woman to hold the post after Indira Gandhi).
- Ms Sitharaman will now be part of the top 5 or the Cabinet Committee on Security, which also includes the Prime Minister, Home Minister, Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley.
- Nirmala Sitharaman was elected from Karnataka as Rajyasabha member.
- Commerce and Industries department which was held by Nirmala sitharaman is now transferred to Suresh Prabhu who exits as railway minister.
- The railway department which was held by suresh prabhu is now transferred to Piyush Goyal, and also retains the ministry of Coal.

Here are the 9 New Ministers, who take oath-

- Former IFS officer Hardeep Puri (is the President and Chairman of Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) think tank, and was the Vice President of International Peace Institute, New York).
- Former Mumbai Police chief Satyapal Singh (He is a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs and Chairperson of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.)

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411
Former IAS officer **Alphons Kannanthanam** (He is a Member of the Committee to prepare the final draft of the National Education Policy 2017).

Lok Sabha MP’s from Madhya Pradesh **Virendra Kumar** (he is the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour)

From Karnataka **Anant Kumar Hegde** (He is a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs and Human Resource Development.)

From Rajasthan **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** (He is a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance and Chairperson of the Fellowship Committee.)

From Bihar **Ashwini Kumar Choubey** (He is member of the Parliamentary Committee on Estimates and Standing Committee on Energy)

From Bihar **Raj Kumwar Singh** (He is a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committees on Health and Family Welfare, Personnel, Pensions and Public Grievances and Law & Justice.)

Rajya Sabha MP from Uttar Pradesh **Shiv Pratap Shukla** (He is a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development.)

**CABINET MINISTERS**

**Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari**
- Minister of Road Transport and Highways;
- Minister of Shipping; and Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

**Shri Suresh Prabu**
- Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Sushri Uma Bharat**
- Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

**Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**
- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurs (hold by Rajiv Pratap Rudy gave up recently).

**Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi**
- Minister of Minority Affairs

重要的点要记住
- Alphons Kannanthanam has authored a bestselling book “Making A Difference”
- Ashwini Kumar Choubey has authored a book “Kedarnath Trasadi” on the tragedy.
- Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore was appointed as Youth Affairs and sports minister.
- Rajiv Guaba Takes over as Union Home Secretary.
- Mr.Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore is the first sports person to become the Sports Minister in India

**Rajiv Kumar assumes charge as DFS Secretary**

- Rajiv Kumar, assumed office as the new Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance. He succeeded Anjuly chib Duggal.

**Anita Karwal appointed as CBSE chairperson**
Anita Karwal replaced Rajesh Kumar Chaturvedi (Now- Director General of “National Skill Development Agency”) as Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) chairperson.

Hyderabad airport bags energy efficiency award

Rajiv Gandhi international Airport Hyderabad has bagged the National Award for ‘Excellence’ in Energy Management at a conference hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

President lays foundation stone for Link-4 of SAUNI Scheme in Rajkot District

SAUNI project had been launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his tenure as Chief Minister of Gujarat aims to fill up 115 major dams by diverting overflow of water from the Sardar Sarovar Dam on Narmada River.


The battalion-level joint training between the two armies will focus on counter-terror operations in mountainous terrain by facilitating interoperability. Disaster management and joint operations for disaster relief will also be a part of the exercise.

National Nutrition Strategy Launched in New Delhi

Leader of the Green Revolution Dr.M.S.Swaminathan and Padma Shri Dr.H.Sudarshan launched the National Nutrition Strategy, along with Vice Chairman of Niti Aayog Dr.Rajiv Kumar and Member of Niti Aayog Dr.Vinod Paul.

The strategy calls for convergence between four proximate determinants of nutrition - food, health services, income and water.” Kuposhan Mukt Bharat”- linked to Swachh Bharat and Swasth Bharat is sought through the Nutrition Strategy framework.
Currently 50% of pregnant women and 60% of children in the country are estimated to be anemic.

National Nutrition Week celebrates on 1st to 7th September (Theme: “Optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices: Better Child Health”).

Important points to be remembered:
- Leader of Green Revolution in India is Dr. M.S. Swaminathan.
- The CEO of Niti Aayog is Mr. Amitabh Kant.
- The Vice Chairman of Niti Aayog is Mr. Rajiv Kumar.

Kenneth Ian Juster Nominated as American Ambassador to India

Juster would replace Richard Verma the position has been vacant since 20th of January after Mr. Verma submitted his resignation as Trump took over as the US President.

Task Force Constituted for Job Creation under the chairmanship NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar.

It will also propose a comprehensive plan of action to generate employment and alleviate under-employment in both goods and services sectors and low wages by boosting India's exports in key labour-intensive industries.

Rajiv Kumar Takes Charge as Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman of government think tank NITI Aayog. Mr. Kumar replaced Arvind Panagariya, an Indian-American economist who left the think tank to return to academia.

Important Points to remember-
- Amitabh Kant is the CEO of NITI Aayog.
- NITI stands for National Institution for Transforming India.
- Chairperson – Mr. Narendra Modi
- Vice Chairman – Mr. Rajiv Kumar

B N Sri krishna Committee to Identify Key Data Protection Issues

The committee will study various issues and make specific suggestions for consideration of the government on the principles to be considered for data protection.

UNESCO Announced Winners of Literacy Prizes

UNESCO has announced the winners of the 2017 International Literacy Prizes, which honors excellence and innovation in the field of global literacy. The awards will be handed out to five laureates from Canada, Colombia, Jordan, Pakistan and South Africa on the occasion of International Literacy Day, which falls on September 8.

The prizes are divided into two categories-
- The UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy sponsored by China, and
- The King Sejong Literacy Prize sponsored by South Korea.

This year’s Confucius Prize is given to the AdultICoProgram from Columbia, The Citizens Foundation from Pakistan, and the
FunDza project from South Africa. The King Sejong prize is shared by the Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance from Canada and the We Love Reading program from Jordan.

- The theme was ‘Literacy in a digital world’.
- In 1965, the World Congress of Ministers of Education met in Tehran for the first time to discuss about education at the international level.

Excellence Awards given in Delhi Book Fair

- Publications Division under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting bagged 11 Awards & two Certificates of Merit in various categories in Hindi, English & Regional languages.
- DPD’s journal Kurukshetra has won first prize while children books on swachhta: Swachh Jungle Ki Kahani – Dadi ki Jubani in Hindi & Assamese & Buddhopadesha in Kannada have won second prize.

Goa has launched an online Public Grievance Redressal System

- It is a single window online portal for citizens to register grievances towards any state government department.

Karnataka government will provide free education to girl’s upto graduation.

- The main objective is to provide free education to underprivileged girls who generally drop out of school after Class 10, especially in rural areas.
- Similar schemes have been launched in Telangana and Punjab. While Telangana has announced free education for girls from kindergarten to post graduation and Punjab recently fulfilled a key poll promise by extending the scheme till PhD.

Karnataka Bank bags IDRBT award

- Karnataka Bank has bagged the ‘best bank’ award among small banks for the use of technology for financial inclusion.

- Mahabaleshwara MS, MD & CEO of the bank had received the award from Sudarshan Sen, Executive Director of RBI, in Hyderabad.

First batch of 1000 E-rickshaws flagged off in Gurugram

- Nitin Gadkari has flagged off a fleet of first batch of 1000 E-rickshaws from Huda City Centre metro station in Gurugram.
- E-rickshaw fleet will provide cost effective and pollution free substitute in transport system of Gurugram.

Yudh Abhyas (13th edition) is a joint military training exercise will be conducted between India and United States in Washington, USA

- The prestigious Indo-US Joint Military Training Exercise, Yudh Abhyas – 2017 will be held from at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in the US. Over 200 Indian soldiers from the Gorkha Rifles will take part in the military exercise.
- The exercise will be the thirteenth in the Yudh Abhyas series, which started in the year 2004 under US Army Pacific Partnership Program. Over the years the two countries have decided to progressively increase the scope and content of the combined training. Yudh Abhyas 2016 which was conducted at Chaubattia Military Station, Ranikhet, Uttarakhand, India.

SLINEX is a joint maritime fleet exercise between India and Srilanka.
India and Sri Lanka begin Joint Naval Exercise SLINEX 2017(17th Edition) started near Visakhapatnam on the Bay of Bengal.

- Two ships of the Sri Lanka Navy, SLNS Sayura and SLNS Sagara left for India to take part in the Naval Exercise 'SLINEX 2017'. According to Navy media, the ships left home shores from Trincomalee to participate in the biennial joint Naval Exercise between the Sri Lankan and Indian Navies.

- The seventh edition of India-Sri Lanka joint maritime naval exercise SLINEX 2017 was held near Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) in Bay of Bengal. SLINEX 2017 focused on fleet work, seamanship, communication, replenishment at sea as well as helicopter operations. Sri Lanka Navy’s offshore patrol.

Assam government has recently set DBT cell for implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) across scheme in the country.

- It helps in coordinating efforts at the State Level in taking the DBT initiative forward with immediate effect.
- It will closely monitor and evaluate the progress of various Departments on DBT related indicators.

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Pune has developed an Artificial Leaf to create fuel from sunlight

- The researches develop an artificial leaf that absorbs sunlight to generate hydrogen fuel from water. The device consists of semiconductors, stacked in a manner to simulate the natural leaf system.
- When visible light strikes the semiconductors, the electrons move in one particular direction, producing electric current.
- CSIR ranked 9th Public Research Institution of the World

About CSIR:
- It was established by Government of India in 1942.
- Currently it operates as an autonomous body through the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- It is mainly funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- Director General: Girish Sahni.

Gujarat government and Gujarat Milk Marketing Federation “Amul” have recently signed the Memorandum of Understanding to save the childrens of angawadi from Malnutrition.
According to the MOU, under the ‘Take Home Ration’ district dairies in cooperation with the milk marketing federation will provide nutritive foods to more than 42-lakh children of 53029 anaganwadies, pregnant-mothers, foster mothers and young girls.

- Each child would get about 125 gms of Balbhog every day and pregnant-mothers, foster-mothers and young girls would get devibhog of about 145 gms daily in order to provide necessary, sufficient calories and proteins to the body.

Government launches DIKSHA portal to teachers

- M Venkaiah Naidu has launched national teacher’s portal diksha.gov.in.
- DIKSHA Portal is created to provide digital and advance technology to the teachers.
- The HRD ministry has also set up a slogan National Digital Infrastructure for Our Teachers Our Heroes for DIKSHA national teacher’s portal.

Parineeti Chopra – first Indian women ambassador for tourism Australia

GIFT City wins ASSOCHAM Services Excellence Awards

India’s first operational Smart City, Gujarat International Finance-Tec City (GIFT City), has won the prestigious Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) Services Excellence Award in New Delhi.

- GIFT City, India’s first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), is operational with approximately 10 leading banks, 2 international exchanges (India INX and NSE IFSC), around 100 capital market players and 8 insurance companies having established their operations here.

Karnataka has topped in “Manufacturing Excellence and Emergence In India. The state level analysis” according to ASSOCHAM.

India has won the 2017 U-16 South Asian Basketball (SABA) Championship by defeating Bhutan.

Kerala (India) is hosting the 2017 BWF World Senior Badminton Championship.

The book “How India Sees the World: Kautilya to the 21st Century” written by Shyam Saran launched.
The book records the crucial meeting of the CCS (Cabinet Committee on Security) on the eve of India-Pakistan Defence Secretary-level talks in May 2006.

Arunachal Pradesh and J&K are Fastest Growing Economies published by the Central Statistics Office (in 2015-2016 year).

The two states also reported the fastest rise in per capita income in same year. AP’s gross State domestic product expanded 16.5 percent and that of Jammu and Kashmir 14.7 percent at constant 2011-12 prices.

Immortal India book has announced to launch (non-fiction category) by Amish Tripathi

Amish who has entertained readers with his mythological series on Lord Shiva and Lord Rama has announced to launch his new book.

Sail Receives 2016 Saraswati Samman

Eminent Konkani Author Mahabaleshwar Sail Gets Saraswati Samman 2016

For his novel 'Hawthan' published in 2009, captures cultural lives of traditional potter community in Goa.

He was awarded the Sahitya Akadami Award in Konkani language for his short story collection ‘Taranga’ in 1993.

Important Points to remember-
- Mahabaleshwar Sail is a bilingual writer based in Goa.
- Harivansh Rai Bachchan was the first recipient of this award.

99% of demonetized notes back in system: RBI report

As per the data released by the RBI, old notes worth Rs 15.44 lakh crore were there in the market out of which 15.28 lakh crore have been received by the bank.

Maneka Gandhi gives national level awards to Anganwadi Workers in New Delhi.

Minister of Women & Child Development, Maneka Sanjay Gandhi has given the awards for the purpose to recognize their exemplary voluntary service in the field of child development and related areas under the ICDS Scheme.

The scheme for awarding anganwadi workers at the National and State levels was formulated in the year 2000-01. The Awards for the year...
2016-17 were given to 51 awardees and these awards are given annually.

ISRO’s IRNSS-1H navigation satellite launch was unsuccessful

- On August 31, 2017, India’s ISRO failed in its attempt to launch its eighth regional navigation satellite (IRNSS-1H) from Sriharikota using the PSLV C39 rocket. This happened after the heat shield failed to separate in the fourth stage, ISRO chief A.S. Kiran Kumar told.
- IRNSS-1H was sent to space to back up and replace the functions of India’s first navigation satellite IRNSS-1A which was launched 4 years back (in which all three rubidium atomic clocks failed around mid-2016).
- The Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) is an independent regional navigation satellite system developed by India on par with US-based GPS.
- This system was named as ‘NavIC’ (Navigation with Indian Constellation) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The NavIC system has many uses including for fishermen venturing into sea, guiding merchant ships to navigate, tracking of railway movement and alerting road users near unmanned level crossings.

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

SBI Launches SBI Intelligent Assistant (SIA) – Chatbot for Customer Care
- They have launched their first ever chatbot called SBI Intelligent Assistant or SIA, which would be powered by AI, and designed to assist customers. This special chatbot has been created & developed by Allincall.

The Code on Wages Bill 2017
- The Government (As part of labour law reforms) has undertaken the exercise of rationalisation of the 38 Labour Acts by framing 4 labour codes viz Code on Wages, Code on Industrial Relations, Code on Social Security and Code on
occupational safety, health and working conditions.

- The Code on Wages Bill 2017 was introduced in Lok Sabha by Mr. Bandaru Dattatreya. It subsumes 4 existing Laws, 
  - The Minimum Wages Act, 1948; 
  - The Payment of Wages Act, 1936; 
  - The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; and 

- After the enactment of the Code on Wages, all these four Acts will get repealed. The Codification of the Labour Laws will remove the multiplicity of definitions and authorities leading to ease of compliance without compromising wage security and social security to the workers.

Andhra CM Naidu announces new programme ‘Jala Siriki Haarat’ to offer prayers to water bodies.

- It is a programme offering prayers to water bodies and to create awareness among the public regarding water preservation announced on 6th sept. 2017.

Viveck Goenka elected as new Press Trust of India (PTI) Chairman, N. Ravi is Vice Chairman

- Goenka succeeds Riyad Mathew, who is Senior Assistant Editor and a member of the Manorama management and Ravi succeeds Goenka as Vice Chairman.

- Goenka runs the Indian Express, Financial Express, Marathi daily Loksatta, Hindi daily Jansatta.

To mark the first anniversary of Mother Teresa’s canonization, the Archdiocese of Kolkata will declare the saint a co-patroness of the local Church announced on 6th of sept.

First water ATM inaugurated in Hyderabad

- First water ATM has been inaugurated by Telangana State Home Minister N Narasimha Reddy at Nalgonda X Roads

Government introduces rules for No – Fly List

- On 8th September 2017, in New Delhi the Ministry of Civil Aviation introduced new rules for the formation of a national No – Fly list that bans unruly passengers from travelling in airplanes.

  - Category of unruly passengers:
    - Level I – behaviour that is verbally unruly
      - Debarment – upto 3 months
    - Level II – physical unruliness
      - Debarment – upto 6 months
    - Level III – life-threatening behaviour
      - Debarment – minimum of 2 years

- About Ministry of Civil Aviation:
  1. Headquarters – New Delhi
  2. Minister – Mr. Pusapati Ashok Gajapati Raju.

Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharam flags off INSV Tarini at INS Mandovi

Mother Teresa named as co-patron of Kolkata archdiocese
The Indian Navy’s woman team has embarked on a circumnavigation of the globe, with Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

The minister flagged off the first such expedition by the Indian Navy, ‘Navika Sagar Parikrama’, at a ceremony at the INS Mandovi naval training base, Panaji Goa.

The six-member women crew will circumnavigate the globe on an India-built sailboat, INS Tarani, which is being captained by Lt Commander Vartika Joshi.

New species of edible fish named as Labeo found in Pampa river

- The new species of edible freshwater fish has been discovered in Pampa River in Pathanamthitta district of Kerala.

MoS Jitendra Singh to inaugurate North East Calling festival in New Delhi

- Key Points: The objective of the fund is to promote entrepreneurship and Start up in the North Eastern Region.
  - The purpose of the event is to promote the art, culture, heritage, cuisine, handicrafts, business and tourism of North East India.
  - The Minister also launched North East Tourism Development Council with objective to promote sustainable tourism in North East India.

UIDAI Head A.B. Pandey Given Additional Charge as GSTN Chairman

- Ajay Bhushan Pandey, the chief executive of the Unique Identification Authority of India will take over as the chairman of the Goods and Services Tax Network from immediate effect.

- Unique Identification Authority of India is the body that administers Aadhaar.

West Bengal leads in new tax registration under GST regime

- According to the reports, the national average is 23%; Bengal leads the pack with as high as 77% in new tax registration under the GST regime in India.

- Key Points: As per the reports, about 245,000 people in the state are tax payers while the number in the country stands at around 8 million.
  - States such as Gujarat and Maharashtra are behind West Bengal in GST registration.
The figures were disclosed by Mr Arvind Singh, the new principal commissioner of GST & CX, eastern region.

Government to launch ‘School Chalo Abhiyan’ scheme to enroll 80 lakh kids

Union Human Resource Development Minister Mr.Prakash Javadekar announced that Government would implement ‘School Chalo Abhiyan’ scheme in 2018, in New Delhi.

School Chalo Abhiyan:
- The ‘School Chalo Abhiyan’ scheme was announced during a seminar on Literacy Day.
- This scheme has been introduced in order to enroll students who have dropped out from school.
- The scheme aims to enroll 70 to 80 lakh students around the country.
- If the scheme succeeds it would gain India 100% literacy status. India has already seen a good development in the field of literacy. Since Independence, literacy rate has increased from 18% to 81%.
- Many states have already taken the initiative

Tahir Mahmood bags N R Madhava Menon Best Law Teacher Award
- Tahir Mahmood has received the prestigious Prof N R Madhava Menon Best Law Teacher Award as part of the Law Teachers’ Day celebrations

DRDO successfully flight tested Anti Tank Guided Missile – NAG

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) twice successfully flight tested India's indigenously developed third generation Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) 'Nag' in Rajasthan.
- The ATGM Nag is one of the five missile system developed indigenously by DRDO under integrated guided missiles development programme (IGMDP). The other four missiles developed under this programme include Agni, Akash, Trishul and Prithvi.
- Principle: Fire and Forget

Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella Announces His First Book ‘Hit Refresh’
- Satya Nadella, CEO of software giant Microsoft, penned his personal and professional life.
- The book, titled ‘Hit Refresh’ and co-authored by Greg Shaw and Jill Tracie Nichols, will go on sale globally on 26 September.

Government to launch Project Insight
- The Union Finance Ministry, has announced that is has planned to launch ‘Project Insight’
from October, 2017, in a move to restrict black money holdings and transactions.

» **Project Insight:**
  - The Government has signed a contract with L&T Infotech Ltd., regarding ‘Project Insight’.
  - The aim of this project is to observe and check high value transactions, and track tax evaders with the help of technology to restrict black money holdings.

**West Bengal cabinet approves changing state’s name to Bangla**
- The West Bengal government cleared a proposal to rename the state as ‘Bangla’ and sent a proposal to the Centre for approval.
- The earlier proposal had three different names for the state – Bangla in Bengali, Bangal in Hindi and Bengal in English.

**Kochi to host summit on coastal shipping and waterways**

- During a ceremony at Germany’s Lagau on the occasion of the One World Festival Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling was honoured for his pioneering work in the field of organic farming.
- Key Points:
  - Chamling was conferred the Grand Prix Award during the One World Award ceremony on 8th September.
  - The award was given by Gerd Muller, the Federal Minister of Bavaria, and Joseph Wilhelm, German Organic Pioneer and Managing Director of Rupenzel.

**Sikkim CM Pawan Chamling honoured at international event for work in organic farming**

**IISC Bangalore** has been named as the Top University In India, according to 2018 Times Higher Education (THE) world University Rankings.
Globally, The University of Oxford has retained its first Place in the rankings.

**Netaji statue unveiled at West Bengal’s Naval Area Headquarters by Vice Admiral HCS Bisht**

Quick Facts about Netaji:
- Born in Cuttack (Orissa), he was an lawyer in Cuttack.
- He considered C.R das as his political guru, He started the newspaper ‘Swaraj’.
- He was a part of Indian National Congress; Forward Bloc; Indian National Army.

**World Congress of Optometry begins in Hyderabad**
- On September 11, 2017, the second World Congress of Optometry began in Hyderabad. It was inaugurated by State Health Minister C. Laxma Reddy. The theme of the conference is “Accessible, quality vision and eye health”.

**FSSAI launches online platform “FoSCoRIS” for food inspection & sampling**
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) launched an online platform named “FoSCoRIS”, in New Delhi.
- The purpose of this project is to be bring transparency in food safety inspection and sampling.

**National Pension System joining age limit rose to 65 years**
- The PFRDA chairman Hemant Contractor announced at a conference in Delhi that the upper age limit for joining the National Pension System (NPS) has been raised to 65 years from the current 60.
- NPS account can be opened by Indian citizens above 18 years and less than 65 years of age (earlier this was 60).

**Government constitutes Group of Ministers under Sushil kumar Modi & Hasmukh Adhia to resolve IT challenges faced in GST implementation**
- Ministry of finance has constituted a 5 member Group of Ministers (GoM) and a Committee on Exports to look into the difficulties faced on the implementation of GST.
  - **The Group of Ministers (GoM) :-**
    - **Purpose**: To monitor and resolve IT challenges faced in implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST).
    - It Chaired by Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Sushil Kumar Modi. The Members of the GoM are
      - Shri Amar Agarwal,
      - Shri Krishna Byregowda
      - Dr. T.M. Thomas Isaac.
      - Shri Etela Rajendar.
  - **Committee on Exports:**
    - **Purpose**: To look at the issues of export sector and to recommend to the GST Council suitable strategy for helping the export sector in the post-GST scenario.
    - It will be chaired by the Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia. Its members are
      - CBEC member (customs).
      - Director General, DGFT.
Govt launches hackathon ‘OpenGovDataHack’ to promote app ideas

The Ministry for Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched nationwide hackathon ‘OpenGovDataHack’.

The hackathon aims to enable participants develop their ideas into apps and infographics primarily by the use of open government data.

HDFC Bank becomes the second most valuable company on BSE

- Reliance Industries is in the 1st place currently.
- HDFC has replaced TCS in the 2nd position now.

About HDFC:
- Headquarters – Mumbai
- MD – Mr. Aditya Puri

Zoological Survey of India releases first compendium of animal species in Indian Sundarbans

- Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) has released its first compendium named ‘Fauna of Sundarban Biosphere Reserve in Indian Sundarbans’.

About the compendium:
- The compendium has been released in a motive to improve research and exploration activities in Sundarbans.
- The compendium details the fauna of Sunderbans. It contains information about the animal species living there.
- Sunderbans is a part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- It is the largest tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world.
- The compendium has listed 2,626 animal species of Sunderbans. In which there are 50 mammalian species, 356 bird species, 350 fish species and 753 insect species.

Chennai-Vladivostok sea route: India’s effort to counter China’s OBOR

- India is planning to launch major connectivity initiative, connecting Chennai with key Russian port Vladivostok via sea route with an aim to harness natural resources from Northeast Asia and Western Pacific region. This effort by government of India will counter china’s OBOR project.

- Rs 600-cr rail training centre for bullet train to come up in Vadodara

- Managing Director of National High-Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRC) Achal Khare informed that high-speed rail training centre worth 600 crore for the first bullet train project will be set up in Vadodara.

- This centre will come up on the five hectares of land inside the National Academy of Indian
Railways (NAIR). The training centre will have a sample track fitted with the overhead electrical systems to enable testing of bullet trains that will run on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route. This centre is expected to become operational by December 2020.

Sachin Tendulkar launches Mission 24 to develop the poorest ward in Mumbai

- Indian cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar launched Mission 24— to improve the quality of life in one of Mumbai’s poorest wards, in Mumbai.

- Mission-24:
  - The project is carried out by NGO Apnalaya and Mumbai’s Municipal body – BMC (Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation).
  - They would work for the next 24 months on M-East, Mumbai’s poorest ward. It has the maximum of the slum population in Mumbai.
  - BMC has already set its priorities for the next 2 years for various wards in Mumbai.

Karnataka Cabinet clears Electric Vehicle & Energy Storage Policy

- Karnataka Cabinet has cleared Karnataka Electric Vehicle & Energy Storage Policy 2017 with a clear plan to make Bengaluru the electric vehicle capital of India.

- Key Points:
  - The policy main aim is to reduce pollution. The policy was formulated by the Major and Medium Industries Department after consulting the stakeholders, including vehicle manufacturing industries.
  - The key objective of the Policy is to maintain the lead share of Karnataka as a preferred destination for attracting investments in manufacture of Electric Vehicle and to attract investments of Rs 31,000 crore and create 55,000 jobs.
  - Amendments will be made to building by-laws for providing mandatory charging infrastructure in all high-rise buildings.

Jaipur is hosting the first-ever National Ayurveda Youth Festival.

India’s GDP growth for Fiscal Year 2018 is likely at 7.1%: Nomura

- A report by Japanese financial services company Nomura said that India’s GDP growth is expected to be around 7.1% this fiscal year (2017 – 2018).

India ranked 103 on Global Human Capital Index 2017, Norway on top by WEF

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411
India has been ranked 103 on Global Human Capital Index 2017 released by World Economic Forum (WEF).

- India has scored the least among the BRICS countries when it comes to the employment gender gap, but has fared well when it comes to development of skills needed for the future with a rank of 65 out of total 130 countries surveyed.

Global Human Capital Index

Top3: Norway (1st), Finland (2nd), Switzerland (3rd)

- The Global Human Capital Index is prepared by WEF (World Economic Forum) for 130 countries based on the knowledge and skills people possess that would find value in the global economic system.
- The rankings are based on four criteria – capacity, deployment, development, and know-how.
- The rankings are classified under five age groups namely – 0-14 years, 15-24 years, 25-54 years, 55-64 years, and 65 years and above.
- In the overall ranking, India is in rank 103, which is the least among BRICS countries.

The list was topped by Norway with 1st rank in the overall ranking. It was followed by Finland in the 2nd position and Switzerland ranked 3rd.

About World Economic Forum (WEF):
- Motto – Committed to improving the state of the world
- Headquarters – Cologny, Switzerland
- Executive Chairman – Mr. Klaus Schwab

London retains top in 2017 Financial Centres Index; Mumbai ranked at 60th position

- Global Financial Centres Index 2017 was released, in which London has retained its 1st rank despite major issues regarding Brexit.
- Mumbai has managed to get 60th rank in the list.

Global Financial Centres Index 2017:

- The Global Financial Centres Index provides ranking of competitiveness for the major financial centres around the world.
- London has retained its 1st position this year.
- London is followed by New York in the second position and Hong Kong in the third.

Kiren Rijiju inaugurates first National Conference on “Uniformed Women in Prison Administration” in New Delhi

- Ms. Lalitha Kumaramangalam, Chairperson, National Commission for Women (NCW) addressed the Valedictory Session. She insisted on improving the prison infrastructure and 50% reservation for women in recruitment in prison and correctional services.

Home Minister launches “Swachhta Hi Sewa” campaign
This campaign will fulfill Prime Minister’s vision of making India Open Defecation Free (ODF) by October, 2019, toilet facility will ensure safety and dignity of women.

Swachhta Hi Sewa’ campaign will help in improving nutrition and productivity of our children.

Devendra Fadnavis launches ‘Maharashtra Mission 1 Million’
- Maharashtra Chief Minister Mr.Devendra Fadnavis launched the ‘Maharashtra Mission 1 Million’ initiative through which 10 lakh (1 million) students across the state would play football, in Mumbai.
- The FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017 is to happen for the first time in India and in Maharashtra.

International Day of Democracy (The National Engineers Day also) – September 15, 2017
- This year’s theme is “DEMOCRACY AND CONFLICT PREVENTION”

Assam government passes PRANAM Bill – Employees who dump parents will lose part salary
- The Assam state Assembly passed PRANAM (Parental Responsibility And Norms for Accountability and Monitoring) bill that makes it mandatory for state government employees to take care of their parents and needy siblings or face a cut in their income.
- Assam is the first state to approve such a legislation.

India’s first Centre for Animal Law comes up at NALSAR University of Law in Hyderabad
- Humane Society International (HSI), India, will work with NALSAR to steer and coordinate the activities of the centre.
- NG Jayasimha, Managing Director of HIS, India, has been appointed as the director of the centre

Unstopable: My Life So Far, Book by Maria Sharapova
- The book talks about how a seventeen-year-old Maria Sharapova became popular by defeating the two-time defending champion Serena Williams to win the prestigious Wimbledon.

PM Modi dedicates Sardar Sarovar Narmada Dam to the Nation
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the Sardar Sarovar dam built on the Narmada
river to the nation at Kevadia in the Narmada district, Gujarat. The project was accomplished by Gujarat government’s Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd (SSNL).

- This project is called as “Gujarat’s lifeline”.
- Four Indian states, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan will receive water and electricity supplied from the dam.

The Hindu wins the Best News Website award at WAN-IFRA awards

- The Hindu Group was awarded two gold and one silver at the South Asian Digital Media Awards at the WAN-IFRA (World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers) India 2017 conference, in Chennai.
- Best news website: www.thehindu.com won the Gold award.
- Following The Hindu, silver and bronze were won by www.thequint.com and www.ndtv.com respectively.

World’s Oldest Person Dies at 117

- The world’s oldest person Violet Mosse-Brown from Jamaica has died at the age of 117. She was born on March 10, 1900, in Jamaica

Marshal of the IAF and 1965 war hero Arjan Singh dies at 98

- Marshal Arjan Singh, who led the Indian Air Force during the 1965 India-Pakistan war, died.

India exempts import duty on goods for FIFA U-17 World Cup

- The government announced that it has exempted import duty for sports items and a wide range of goods for the upcoming FIFA U-17 World Cup India.
- The first FIFA event to be held in India will be spread over six cities including New Delhi, Kochi, Kolkata, Guwahati, Navi Mumbai and Margao.
- It starts on October 6 and have 52 matches. The final football match, on October 28, will be played at Kolkata’s Salt Lake Stadium.
- India, as the host country, is automatically qualified for the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017
- The 17th edition of the FIFA U-17 World Cup has the slogan ‘Football takes over’.

Y C Modi appointed as Director General of NIA

- Modi will replace Sharad Kumar, who will retire on 30th October.
- The order was issued by the Ministry for Home Affairs.
President’s medal for former DIG D Roopa who exposed alleged jail irregularities
- Former DIG Roopa was awarded the medal by Governor Vajubhai Vala at a ceremony at Raj Bhavan in the presence of Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Home Minister Ramalinga Reddy.
- In July 2017, D Roopa, DIG of Prisons (at that time), submitted a report to the Director General of Prisons mentioning that Sasikala, who was serving a 4 year sentence in the disproportionate assets case at Parapanna Agrahara Central Prison, was given preferential treatment and there was ‘a talk’ that Rs.2 crore was involved in the deal.

Airtel Payments Bank – First payments bank in India to integrate the UPI on its digital platform.
- It will help in making instant money transfers to any bank account in India and will add to customer choice and convenience for making secure digital payments to online and offline merchants.
- Customers can also use MyAirtel app (Bank section) to scan any UPI QR code for making merchant payments.

‘Father of nephrology in India’ Dr.K.S.Chugh dies of cancer at 85
- He has received the Padma Shri award.
- viii. The International Society of Nephrology listed him among 50 legends in nephrology.

Jharkhand Government launches Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana
- Jharkhand Government launched the “Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana” at Ulihatu Village, Khunti district of Jharkhand.

Tripura is first state to set up district family welfare committees
- To deal with the issue of fake and biased complaints by women against their husbands, in-laws and husband’s relatives.
- State Governor Tathagata Roy in the presence of Chief Minister Manik Sarkar and other high dignitaries formally launched the family welfare committees in all eight districts in Tripura.

International Yoga Festival starts in Kashmir

Pune NGO “Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP)” for women farmers wins UN Equator Prize
- Women farmers Ms.Godavari Dange and Ms.Kamal Kumbhar from Osmanabad district, received the 2017 UN Equator Prize, on behalf of SSP, at the UN General Assembly meeting in New York.
- About Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP):
  i. Purpose – Women Empowerment

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411
ii. Location – Pune  
iii. Chairperson – Mr. Adolph Furtado  
iv. Secretary – Ms. Prema Gopalan

S S Rajamouli receives ANR award

❖ He has received the award for his contribution to the Telugu film industry in Hyderabad.

Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief exercise “Pralay Sahayam” held in Secunderabad

❖ ‘Pralay Sahayam’ provides a common platform  
❖ For all agencies involved in search, rescue and relief operations during natural disasters, to interact and generate a better and optimized Disaster Management Strategy.

Zero Hunger Programme to be launched in three states on World Food Day

❖ ‘Zero Hunger’ programme will be launched in Gorakhpur of Uttar Pradesh, Koraput of Odisha and Thane of Maharashtra on World Food Day, 16th October 2017.  
❖ This programme is executed in line with India’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end hunger by 2030.  
❖ This programme will be initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)  

SBI launches India’s first bond index series in UK

❖ SBI launched the FTSE (Financial Times Stock Exchange) SBI Bond Index Series in alliance with FTSE Russell at the London Stock Exchange (LSE).

President Kovind launched nationwide campaign: "Swachhata Hi Sewa" from Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

❖ He will administer nation-wide Swachhta Hi Seva pledge initiating parallel action in all the two lakh 50 thousand plus Gram Panchayats and cities in India.  
❖ The fortnight-long campaign will conclude on 2nd of October, Gandhi Jayanti. Eminent personalities, community organizations, and private sector organizations will undertake shramdaan activities.

India’s First Centre for Animal Law Set up at NALSAR

http://www.trbtnpsc.com/2013/09/tnpsc-group-2-group-4-vao-exam-study.html
India's first Centre for Animal Law has been established at the city-based NALSAR University of Law in Hyderabad, Telangana. Union Minister for Women and Child Development Maneka Gandhi inaugurated the centre.

HSI-India Managing Director N G Jayasimha has been appointed as the honorary director of the Centre.

Dr. Harshvardhan launches Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhayay Vigyan Gram Sankul Pariyojana In Uttarakhand.

- This project has been inspired by teachings and ideals of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay.
- The main idea of this project is to acquire local resources and skill sets and transform them using science and technology.

Government launches ‘Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat’ to boost PMUY

- Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan launched the ‘Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat’ in Mota Ishanpur village of Gujarat.
- ‘Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat’ will focus on spreading awareness among LPG users about the proper use and benefits of LPG.

Odisha Government launched ‘Sampurna Yojana’

- Odisha Government launched ‘Sampurna (Sishu Abond Matru Mrityuhara Purna Nirakaran Abhijan) Yojna’ scheme for pregnant women, in Odisha.
- Under the ‘Sampurna Yojana’ scheme Odisha government will provide Rs.1,000 as transport cost for pregnant women to travel to the hospital from inaccessible areas arranging their own vehicles.

Indigenous Artillery Gun Sets New World Record in Range

- An indigenous artillery gun, Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), being
developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has set a new world record in range by hitting targets at a distance of 48 km.

**Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi inaugurates “Hunar Haat” in Puducherry**

- The ‘Hunar Haat’ is organised by Ministry of Minority Affairs at Craft Bazaar, Gandhi Thidal Beach, Goubert Avenue in Puducherry, from 24th to 30th September, 2017.
- Master artisans from 16 states showcase their traditional talent in “Hunar Haat”.

**Google launches digital payment app ‘Tez’ in India**

- The new Google payment App ‘Tez’ is powered by UPI. It is a payments protocol built by the Government-backed National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- Tez can be used to pay strangers through ‘Cash Mode’ without sharing personal information.
- Google also announced a programme called ‘Tez for Business’, which offers businesses new ways to unlock the potential of digital payments and engage their customers.

**Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian gets one-year extension**

- The government has extended the term of Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian by one year till October 2018
- His term was for three years, which was to end on 16th October.
- Subramanian’s predecessor was Raghuram Rajan, who quit the position in September 2013 after being appointed the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

**Scientists discovered first brainless creature that sleeps**

- Scientists, including one of Indian origin, have found that jellyfish go into a sleep-like state, making them the first animals without a brain or central nervous system to do so.

**Movie Newton is India’s Official entry to Oscar**
Hindi movie Newton has chosen as India’s official entry to OSCAR 2017.

Director Amit Masurkar’s (Sulemani Keeda) dark comedy, Newton, starring Rajkummar Rao, has been announced as India's official entry for the Oscars.

Angela Merkel wins 4th time as German Chancellor.

India to Conduct the First ‘BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise- 2017’

The First ‘BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise- 2017’ (BIMSTEC DMEx-2017) will be conducted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as the lead agency from October 10-13, 2017 in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR).

This Exercise will be a platform for sharing Best Practices on all aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), strengthening regional response and coordination for Disaster Management among the BIMSTEC member countries.

Three Indians Among World’s ‘100 Greatest Living Business Minds’

Three Indian entrepreneurial legends, Ratan Tata, Lakshmi Mittal and Vinod Khosla have been included in Forbes’s special list of the world’s ‘100 Greatest Living Business Minds.

Some of the notable honorees alongside Blank are- Warren Buffett, Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg, Ted Turner, Rupert Murdoch, Donald Trump and more.

Cabinet Approvals on September 27 2017

1 Cabinet approves Inter-bank Local Currency Credit Line Agreement & Co-operation Memorandum relating to Credit Ratings by Exim Bank.
2 Cabinet approves Umbrella Scheme of Modernisation of Police Forces:
3 Cabinet approves Enhancement of age of superannuation of doctors other than Central Health Service doctors to 65 years:
4 Cabinet approves revision of policy for providing Defence land to Communication Operators
5. Agreement on “Cooperation in the field of Information, Communication and Media” between India and Ethiopia.

Maharashtra secures top position in manufacturing; ASSOCHAM

- Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) conducted a study titled ‘Manufacturing excellence and emergence in India: The State-level analysis’.
- Gujarat has obtained the second position

About ASSOCHAM:
- Full form – Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India
- President – Mr.Sandeep Jajodia

Vice President inaugurates ‘Crusade for Toilets’ in Karnataka

- On 26th September 2017, Vice President, Mr.M.Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the ‘Shouchalayakkagi Samara’ (A Crusade for Toilets) Programme, in Karnataka.
- He also declared the rural areas of Naragund Taluk as an ODF (Open defecation Free) block.

About Karnataka:
- i. Capital – Bengaluru
- ii. Chief Minister – Mr.Siddaramaiah
- iii. Governor – Mr.Vajubhai Vala

World’s tallest bamboo ‘Maa Durga’ idol

- Artists constructed a 100 feet bamboo idol of Goddess Durga, world’s tallest bamboo idol, in Guwahati, Assam
It aims to break the Guinness World Records for the tallest bamboo sculpture.

Classical singer Manik Bhide chosen for Bhimsen Joshi award for her contribution to the field of music.
- The Bhimen Joshi Award is given by the Maharashtra government.
- ii. It is the highest award in the category of performing arts.

CISF wins ‘best airport security’ award for Mumbai airport
- The security cover provided by the CISF at the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport has bagged the best airport security award from the World Quality Congress (WQC) announced on 26th of Sept. 2017.
- The award will be given to CISF (Central Industrial Security Force) at an event to be held in Dubai next month.

Priyanka ($10 million) ranks 8th on World’s Highest-Paid TV Actresses list

Colombian actress Sofia Vergara tops the list again. She stars in the hit sitcom Modern Family.

Thaawarchand Gehlot launches ‘Divyang Sarathi’ Mobile App for the differently abled
- Divyang Sarathi:
  This mobile application would empower the ‘Divyangjans’ (differently abled) by providing easy access of information regarding schemes, scholarships, statutes, institutional support systems etc.

- The book titled “A to Z of Financial Management in Autonomous Institutions” is authored by Dr. Rajat Bhargava and Shri Deenanath Pathak. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has released the book which was written by senior IAS officer Rajat Bhargava.

Incredible India 2.0 Campaign; ‘Adopt a Heritage’ Project and New Incredible India Website Launched
The President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind presented the “National Tourism Awards” to various segments of the travel, tourism and hospitality industry.

Kandla Port Renamed as Deendayal Port

The Kandla Port, one of the top 12 major ports in the country, has been renamed as Deendayal Port in the name of Hindutva icon Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay.

Bilal Dar from Srinagar becomes an ambassador for Swachhata Hi Seva

Bilal Dar, a young boy from Srinagar has become the brand ambassador for Srinagar Municipal Corporation. Dar has been contributing to the ‘Swachhta Abhiyan’ since the age of 12.

RIL World’s 3rd Largest Energy Firm: Platts Rankings

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) is the world’s third-biggest energy company behind Russian gas firm Gazprom and German utility E.ON, according to Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company Rankings.

State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) climbed to 7th position in the 2017 ranking, up from 14th rank in 2016.

Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) was placed at 11th position in 2017 as against 20th in 2016.

Coal India Ltd, the world’s largest coal producer, was the only Indian firm to have slipped in the ranking.

Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour (PENCIL) Portal Launched
The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh launched the Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour (PENCIL) Portal at the National Conference on Child Labour organised by the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

The Minister of State for Labour and Employment (I/C) is Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan Launched “Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e-NWR) System and “Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e-NWR) System” in New Delhi.”

These initiatives would revolutionise the marketing of agricultural commodities and help farmers realize better price for their produce which will be a step towards doubling the farmers’ income by 2022 as well as Digital India mission.

CARA launches monthly ‘Jan Sampark’ Program to facilitate adoption in New Delhi.

The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) started a monthly ‘Jan Sampark’ program to enable the public to obtain information related to Adoption. Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is a statutory body of Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India

Karnataka Cabinet approves Bio-Tech Policy and Anti-Superstition Bill in Bengaluru.

The Karnataka Cabinet has cleared the Karnataka Prevention and Eradication of Inhuman Evil Practices and Black Magic Bill, 2017, popularly known as the anti-superstition Bill.

The Karnataka government has recently launched ‘Vision 2025’ project across the state with an aim to draft policy for the development of the state in next seven years by seeking the opinion of the public.

Tamil Nadu inks pact with German firm for land use planning project

Tamil Nadu signed a joint technical cooperation agreement with Germany-based GIZ, to carry out ‘land use planning and management project’, in Tamil Nadu.

Bathukamma festival celebrated in Telangana

This festival is celebrated for nine days days during the Durga Navaratri celebrations before Dussehra

Himachal Pradesh raises paid maternity leave to 180 days

The Himachal Pradesh Cabinet has raised paid maternity leaves for women employees from 135 days to 180 days

India’s GDP growth to fall to 6.7 % in the financial year 2017-18: India Ratings

India Ratings lowered the growth forecast for the current financial year to 6.7 % from 7.4 % estimated earlier.

India Ratings has pointed out the reasons for this downfall as demonetisation and GST (Goods & Services Tax) implementation.

ADB plans to raise lending up to $4 billion to India

Asian Development Bank (ADB) plans to raise its annual lending to India to a maximum of USD 4 billion to support the country to accelerate inclusive economic transformation toward upper middle-income status

10 young scientists selected for Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award 2017

The event was conducted by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). President Mr. Ram Nath Kovind presided over the function.
The winners of this year’s Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award are listed below:

About Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR):
- Purpose: largest research and development organisation in India.
- Location: New Delhi.
- Chairman: Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi.

Gujarat bags comprehensive development of tourism award
- Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh were named the best state for Comprehensive Development of Tourism at the National Tourism Awards.
- Kovind also launched key initiatives, they are:
  - Incredible India 2.0 Campaign, which will celebrate India worldwide.
  - Adopt A Heritage Project in which heritage sites will be entrusted to PSUs and the private sector for the development of tourist amenities.

Mridul Kumar appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Malaysia

World Maritime Day – September 28
- Railways working with ISRO to devise safety mechanisms to make train travel safer.
- Indian Railways and RailTel are working together with ISRO to explore the use of space technology for safety in railways.

VVPAT to be Used in all Booths of Gujarat Assembly Elections, first time with EVMs
Gujarat will become the second state after Goa to use the new VVPAT system for the Assembly elections in the entire state.

What is VVPAT?
- VVPAT stands for Voter-Verified Paper Audit Trail. VVPAT system maintains a physical trail of all votes cast. Small slips of paper records the details of the vote. The Election Commission (EC) first introduced VVPAT in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections.

How is it related to EVMs?
- When a vote is cast on the electronic voting machine, a small paper slip bearing the name and symbol of the candidate is generated. This paper appears for about 10 seconds. The slip will then automatically fall in a sealed safe box, attached to the EVM, thus maintaining a physical paper trail of all the votes cast.
- In the case of Subramanian Swamy vs Election Commission of India (ECI), the Supreme Court held that VVPAT is “indispensable for free and fair elections” and directed the ECI to equip EVMs with VVPAT systems.
- It is the first time to use Electronic Voting Machine (EVMs) equipped with Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT).

India International Science Festival 2017-Science for New India will be held in Chennai from October 13-16 at IIT-Chennai.

The festival is being organised by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry of Science and Technology and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA), an organisation linked to the RSS.
- The event will be jointly inaugurated by science and technology ministers of Nepal, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Portugal.
- The organisers will also attempt a Guinness World Record by holding a “largest biology class” of 1000 students.

Srinagar and Raipur Airports awarded as Best Airports under National Tourism Awards 2015-16
- Srinagar International Airport, Jammu & Kashmir and Swami Vivekananda Airport, Raipur, Chhattisgarh were jointly awarded the National Tourism Awards 2015-16, in New Delhi.
- This is the first time, two airports have been jointly selected as best airports for their innovative style of functioning, pro-environment initiatives and passenger friendly approach.

4th gravitational wave detected by LIGO, Virgo observatory
- Scientists have detected the gravitational waves for the fourth time, in the form of ripples, in the fabric of space and time.
The gravitational wave signal was formed by the collision of two massive black holes, located about 1.8 billion light-years away.
Findings from this event have been named as GW170814.
LIGO is a second-generation gravitational-wave detector. It consists of two identical interferometers, in Louisiana and Washington. It uses precision laser interferometry to detect gravitational waves.

About Virgo detector:
Purpose – Gravitational wave detection
Location – Italy

About LIGO detector:
Purpose – Gravitational wave detection
Location – US

India registers significant decline in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)
IMR has reduced to 34 per 1000 live births in 2016, compared to the 37 per 1000 live births in 2015.

About Infant Mortality Rate (IMR):
Definition – number of deaths of infants under one year old per 1,000 live births

India’s first Mobile Congress held in New Delhi
Main focus of the Mobile Congress was the idea of Digital India through privatisation and the advent of 5G.

Bengaluru ranked world’s most affordable tech hub.

President Ram Nath Kovind appoints five new Governors

PRESIDENT KOVIND APPOINTS
5 NEW GOVERNORS, 1 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Brigadier Dr BD Mishra (retired)
Governor of Arunachal Pradesh
Satya Pal Malik
Governor of Bihar
Banwarilal Purohit
Governor of Tamil Nadu
Jagdish Mukhi
Governor of Assam
Ganga Prasad
Governor of Meghalaya
Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi (retired)
Lieutenant Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

President Ram Nath Kovind appointed governors for the states of Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh.
Governors appointed for the 5 states are as follows:
- Tamil Nadu – Banwarilal Purohit.
  Banwarilal Purohit – He was the Governor of Assam till now.
- Arunachal Pradesh – Brigadier BD Mishra.
  Brigadier (Retd.) BD Mishra – He was a Commander of NSG
- Bihar – Satya Pal Malik.
• Assam – Jagdish Mukhi.
  Jagdish Mukhi – He was previously the Governor of Andaman & Nicobar islands.
• Meghalaya – Ganga Prasad.
• Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi was appointed as the Lieutenant Governor for Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
  Admiral Devendra Kumar Joshi – He served as the Chief of Naval Staff from August 2012 to February 2014.

International Translation Day – September 30 2017


❖ The year 2017 marks an historical milestone for all professional translators, interpreters and terminologists, with the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopting Resolution, recognising the role of professional translation in connecting nations and fostering peace, understanding and development. In the same resolution, the United Nations General Assembly declared 30 September to be UN International Translation Day, celebrated across the entire UN network.

❖ The Day was celebrated with an aim to pay tribute to the work of language professionals.

INTERNATIONAL

New Development Bank approved loan to China, India and Russia :

❖ New Development Bank (NDB) approved USD 1.4 billion loans for sustainable development projects in China, India and Russia. For India, the Bank has approved USD 470 million loan for Madhya Pradesh’s Multi-Village Rural Drinking Water Supply Scheme Project.

❖ China’s Hunan Green Area Watershed Environmental Development Project and Xiang River watershed will get a USD 200 million loan.

❖ Russian Federation get USD 460 million for the development of infrastructure and implementation of information technology systems of Russia’s judicial system in Russia.

❖ NDB: Also called BRICS Development Bank(established-2014)
❖ Headquarters: Shanghai, China
❖ President: K.V.Kamath

India and Switzerland signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) in the field of Railway:

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411
First MoU: Between Ministry of Railways and Federal Department of the Environment, Transport and Communications of the Swiss Confederation for technical cooperation in Rail Sector. Signed by: Ashwani Lohani, Chairman Railway Board and Andreas Baum, Swiss Ambassador to India in the presence of Prime Minister Modi and Swiss President Leuthard.

Second MoU: Between Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich. This was signed by Sanjay Gupta, CMD/KRCL and Prof. Sarah Springman, Rector, ETH Zurich. This will help Konkan Railway in establishing the George Fernandes Institute of Tunnel Technology (GFITT) at Goa.

Five banks of BRICS nations sign pact for credit lines:

Five banks of the BRICS Bank Cooperation Mechanism have agreed to establish credit lines in the national currencies and cooperate on credit ratings. The agreement to this effect was signed ahead of the BRICS Summit in China’s Xiamen city.
1) Brazilian Development Bank
2) Vnesheconombank (Russia)
3) Export-Import Bank of India (established in 1982)
4) China Development Bank
5) Development Bank of South Africa signed the agreement in Beijing.

9th BRICS Summit begins in Chinese city Xiamen

Established on: 2009
First summit: Yekaterinburg, Russia 2009
Previous summit: Panaji, India 2016
Theme: "Stronger Partnership for a better future"

9th BRICS Summit begins in Chinese city Xiamen

Theme “BRICS: Stronger Partnership for a Brighter Future”.

UNESCO International Literacy Prizes:

International Literacy Day is observed every year on 8th September to emphasize the importance of literacy to individuals, Society & communities.
On this day in 1965 the world congress of Ministers of Education met in Tehran for the first time to discuss the programme of education at the international level.

- Since 1967, UNESCO International Literacy Prizes have rewarded excellence and innovation in the field of literacy.

The UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize was awarded to:
1) *We Love Reading* for its Programme in Jordan
2) The Centre for the Study of Learning & Performance (CSLP) at Concordia University in Canada for its programme ‘Using Educational Technology to Develop Essential Educational Competencies in Sub-Saharan Africa’

The UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy was awarded to:
1) The Secretariat of Information and Communications Technologies of the city of Armenia in Colombia for its ‘AdulTICoProgram’
2) The Citizens Foundation in Pakistan for its ‘Aagahi Literacy Programme for Women and Out-of-School Girls’
3) ‘FunDza Literacy Trust’ in South Africa for its programme ‘Growing FunDza readers and writers’

**International Literacy Day:** 8 September

- Headquarters: Paris, France
- Founded on: 16 November 1945
- Theme: Literacy in a digital world-2017

**Joint Proposal by India & China in WTO on Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS):**

- India and China jointly submitted a proposal to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) calling for the elimination of farm subsidies by developed countries. In WTO context, this trade distorting farm subsidies is called Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS) or ‘Amber Box’.

- This is an important proposal by India and China in view of ongoing negotiations for the upcoming 11th Ministerial Conference of the WTO to be held in Buenos Aires in December 2017.

**Sushma Swaraj attended Indian Ocean Conference held in Colombo:**

- Theme: of the conference is *peace, progress and prosperity*.
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj travelled to Colombo to participate in the two-day Indian Ocean Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- About the Conference: –India Foundation, a Delhi-based think tank, will host the Indian Ocean Conference 2017 (IOC) in collaboration with Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Singapore, and National Institute of Fundamental Studies (NIFS), Colombo (both research and study centres).
- It will see participation from around 35 countries including USA, Australia, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Germany, Kenya, South Korea and Afghanistan.

**WCO to unveil norms for e-commerce trade:**

- World Customs Organization (WCO) established in 1952 as Customs Cooperation Council (CCC)
- Headquarter in Brussels, Belgium
- Responsible for processing 98% of global trade

---

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411
World customs organization (WCO) will soon bring out guidelines on ‘cross-border e-commerce’ which will focus on preventing illegal trade as well as addressing the challenges stemming from the ‘digital divide’.

**Formation:** 26 Jan 1952  
**Location:** Brussels, Belgium  
**Secretary General:** Kunio Mikuriya

**U.S approved gene therapy for cancer:**

This therapy turns a patient’s cells into a living drugs and trains them to recognize and attack the disease. Marketed as Kymriah and made by Novartis was approved for children and young adults for an aggressive type of leukemia **B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia**.

**China’s first civilian drone base:**

Civil Aviation Administration of China has announced the opening of the country’s first test-flight base for civilian drones in Qingpu, Shanghai. The base will provide service to thousands of unmanned aerial vehicles. China has approximately 500 drones manufacturers controlling almost 70% of market share.

**Union cabinet approved an MOU between India and Brazil:**

MOU signed in Oct, 2016 between India and Brazil for cooperation in the fields of **Zebu cattle Genomics and Assisted Reproductive Technologies** was approved by the cabinet. It will be done through joint projects in the fields of productivity Improvement of cattle and buffaloes for the purpose of broadening the existing knowledge base on sustainable dairy developing and institutional strengthening.

**India-origin J.Y. Pillay appointed as Singapore acting president:**

J Y Pillay, an Indian-origin veteran civil servant, was appointed as Singapore’s acting president until a new head of state is sworn. Mr. Pillay, was chairman of the Council of Presidential Advisers (CPA)

**India hands over off-shore patrol vessel to Sri Lanka:**

India Tuesday handed over an off-shore patrol vessel, **Varuna**, to Sri Lanka. India has earlier handed over two OPVs of the Indian Coast
Guard, Varaha in April 2006 and Vigraha in August 2008.

- “The handing over of the Indian Coast Guard Offshore Patrol Vessel to Government of Sri Lanka for training and surveillance purposes is a part of India’s continuing efforts for cementing the historical and cultural ties between the two countries,” the coast guard.

- The ship has been allocated pennant number SLCG-60 by Sri Lanka Coast Guard and will be commanded by Captain Neville Amara Ubayasiri.

India signs 11 MOU’s with Myanmar:

- The MOU’s were signed after prime minister Narendra Modi held wide-ranging talks with Myanmar’s state counselor Aung San Suu Kyi. The MOUs include one between the election commission and union election of Myanmar, the national level electoral commission of Myanmar.

- An MOU was also signed to organise cultural exchange programme for the period 2017-2020

- This is Modi first bilateral visit to Myanmar. He had visited the country in 2014 to attend the ASEAN-india summit.

UJALA scheme launched in Melaka, Malaysia:

- Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under Ministry of Power, Government of India has launched UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable Lighting for All) Scheme in the State of Melaka, Malaysia.

- Under this scheme, each household in Melaka will get 10 high quality 9-watt LED bulbs at a cost of only RM 10, which is a special price and is almost half of what in begin offered in the market.

- Under the extensive and ever-expanding idea of UJALA, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) plans to distribute about 1 million 9W LED bulbs, which will replace 18W CFLs.

India & Japan to step up Defence cooperation:

- Defence Minister Arun Jaitley and his Japanese counterpart Itsunori Onodera held wide-ranging talks, as part of the India-Japan annual defence ministerial dialogue in Tokyo during which issues relating to the US-2 amphibious aircraft.

- India plans to buy the US-2 ShinMaywa aircraft from Japan for its navy.

Uninhabited ‘Parali I’ island of Lakshadweep vanishes.

- Parali I island, part of Bangaram atoll, which was 0.032 km in 1968 has been eroded to an extent of 100%, resulting in its inundation.
A new study claimed that one of the biodiversity-rich uninhabited island of Lakshadweep ‘Parali I’ has vanished due to coastal erosion.

SpaceX launches first X-37B launch with a Falcon 9:

SpaceX launched its Falcon 9 rocket for the US military carrying the X-37B spaceplane to orbit for its fifth mission. The X-37B OTV-5 mission, the fifth flight of the US Air Force’s X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle (OTV), an unmanned reusable spaceplane capable of carrying out operations and experiments in low Earth orbit before returning to Earth.

INS Satura & INS Kadmatt departed from Visakhapatnam:

In pursuant of India's 'Act East Policy', two Indian Naval Ships (INS) INS Satpura commanded by Captain Rahul Shankar, and INS Kadmatt commanded by Commander Nithin Cariappa, departed from Visakhapatnam for a deployment of more than three months, to visit 12 ports in Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, South Korea, Japan, Brunei and Russia.

Assam govt signs MoU with Google to increase digital literacy:

Assam government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Google India. The MoU with Google, the state government would work to provide Internet connection to 26,000 villages and 1,500 tea garden areas to increase digital literacy.

Sonowal also attributed the ties with Google as a way forward to strongly pitch Guwahati as a natural gateway to the South East Asian countries.

ICAR to undertake major research works on agriculture with World Bank fund:

The Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) will be undertaking major research works on agriculture this year with the World Bank fund of 1100 crore rupees. The funds will be...
allocated to ten each of the premier agricultural and veterinary universities in the country.

**World Bank:**
- **Formation:** 1945
- **Established:** 1929
- **Headquarter:** Washington
- **President:** Jim Yong Kim

**ICAR:**
- **Formation:** 1945
- **Headquarter:** Delhi
- **President:** Radha Mohan Singh

**Nestle launches Food Safety Institute in India in association with FSSAI:**
- Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Nestle India inaugurated the first Nestle Food Safety Institute (NFSI) in India in Manesar, Haryana. NFSI will work closely with the Nestle R&D Centre India and Nestle Research Center in Lausanne, Switzerland.

**China, Pakistan air forces launch joint exercise:**
- The air forces of China and Pakistan began a joint training exercise and deployed their latest fighter jets and AWACS aircraft. China has dispatched J-11 fighters, JH-7 fighter-bombers, KJ-200 AWACS aircraft and ground forces including surface-to-air missile and radar troops.
- Pakistan has sent JF-17 Thunder fighter jets and early warning aircraft to join the exercise, named "Shaheen VI". AWACS is Airborne Warning And Control System, a mobile, long-range radar surveillance and control centre for air defence.

**Prince Charles becomes longest-serving Prince of Wales:**
- Charles, the heir to Britain's throne, became the longest-serving Prince of Wales in history. Prince Charles is the 21st Prince of Wales in the current line.

**OWA Grand Prix Award winner Pawan Chamling:**
- Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling was honoured for his pioneering work in the field of organic farming during a ceremony at Germany’s Lagau on the occasion of the One World Festival. Chamling was conferred the Grand Prix Award during the One World Award ceremony.

**Sanjeev Sinha Named Adviser for Ahmedabad-Mumbai Bullet Train Project:**
- Sanjeev Sinha, former Tata executive working in Tokyo and first IIT-ian from Barmer, has been appointed as the advisor for India’s long-awaited bullet train project between Ahmedabad and Mumbai.
project of **Bullet Train**. The project will be held at a ground near the *Sabarmati railway station* in the city where **Prime Ministers of India and Japan, Narendra Modi and Shinzo Abe** will flag off the project.

- Sinha will be the interface between govt of India and Japan.

**Second Indian Workers’ Resource Centre Inaugurated in UAE:**

- [Image]

- **Indian Ambassador in UAE Navdeep Singh Suri** inaugurated the second **Indian Workers’ Resource Centre (IWRC)** in UAE to provide support and counseling to Indians in distress.

- It provides counseling and support to the overseas Indian Community on legal, personal and financial matters, free of cost. The **first IWRC opened in Dubai in 2010**.

- **President of (UAE): Khalifa bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan**

**ADB to provide $152 mn to Nepal to enhance power transmission:**

- [Image]

- The Asian Development Bank will provide **a $152 million** to Nepal for the implementation and enhancement of its power transmission and distribution. Similarly, ADB has also agreed to provide **$21 million policy-based assistance to the government of Nepal**.

**Formation: 24 Nov 1966**

**Headquarter**: Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines.
**President**: Takehiko Nakao

**Indian economist wins prestigious Balzan Prize, US scientists among awardees:**

- Bina Agarwal was recognised in the gender studies category for her work on *women’s contributions to agriculture in India*.

- James Allison and Robert Schreiber were cited for their work on antibody treatments that has increased the survival of patients with *metastatic melanoma*.

**India, Belarus sign 10 pacts to expand cooperation:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Belarus President A.G. Lukashenko, during their extensive talks, also agreed to focus on ramping up economic engagement between the two countries, holding that there was a huge scope for boosting trade and investment.

- The pacts inked provided for enhancing bilateral cooperation in a variety of areas, including **oil and gas, education and sports**

**Jordan launches sahara forest project:**

- [Image]
Jordan in the first week of September 2017 launched Sahara Forest Project to turn its sand dunes into farming land to produce food using sun and sea water.

The ambitious project is funded by Norway and the European Union. In the first stage, the project aims to produce up to 130 tonnes of organic vegetables per year from an area the size of four football pitches.

India, U.S in talks for C-17:

India is in talks with the U.S. for buying another Boeing C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft to be added to its fleet of 10.

The aircraft will be handed over within a month of the contract having been signed after some routine checks and maintenance. The handover will be done in the U.S. itself, and it will be flown to India by Indian pilots,” Pratyush Kumar, president, Boeing India.

Turkey to buy s-400 from non-NATO Russia:

The preliminary agreement sees Turkey receiving two S-400 missile batteries from Russia within the next year, and then producing another two inside Turkey, according to the Turkish official. The S-400 is designed to detect, track and then destroy aircraft, drones or missiles. Russia has also agreed to sell them to China and India.

Pluto mountains named:

Tenzing Montes and Hillary Montes, names given to towering water-ice mountain ranges on Pluto in honor of Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary.

In 1953, Norgay and Hillary became the first people to reach the summit of Earth's highest peak, Mount Everest. The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has officially approved 14 names for surface features on Pluto, including "Tombaugh Regio" for the dwarf planet's famous heart and "Sputnik Planitia" for the huge, nitrogen-ice plain that makes up the heart's left lobe.

India, Afghanistan exchange four pacts:
India and Afghanistan exchanged four pacts in areas of health, transport, space and new development partnership.

The agreements were exchanged after delegation level talks between External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Salahuddin Rabbani in New Delhi, Mrs Swaraj said, development of Chahbahar Port in trilateral cooperation with Iran is being expedited and India will supply wheat to Afghanistan in coming weeks through Chahbahar port.

World’s most powerful X-ray laser:

The world’s largest and powerful X-ray laser-European X-ray Free Electron laser presented in Hamburg, Germany. The XEFL is a series of 3.4-kilometer tunnels up to 38 meters underground near the city of Hamburg.

It took 8 years to build 1.5 billion-euro facility. XEFL is the world’s third major X-ray laser facility.

Secretary-General Appoints Peter Thomson of Fiji Special Envoy for Ocean:

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has appointed Peter Thomson of Fiji as his Special Envoy for the Ocean, aiming at galvanizing concerted efforts to follow up on the outcomes of the United Nations Ocean Conference in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, maintaining the momentum for action to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Halimah Yacob named Singapore's first female president:

Madam Halimah Yacob is set to be Singapore's eighth president and its first woman head of state this week, in the country's first presidential election reserved for candidates from the Malay community. Madam Halimah is a double minority - not only is she a Malay-Muslim individual, but a female.

First global map of water on Moon created:

Scientists have created the first map of water trapped in the uppermost layer of the Moon’s soil which may prove useful to future lunar explorers using data from an instrument aboard India's Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft.

Scientists from Brown University in the US used a new calibration of data taken from NASA's Moon Mineralogy Mapper, which flew aboard Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft, to quantify how much water is present on a global scale.
Sushma Swaraj to attend Eastern Economic Forum in Russia:

- External affairs minister Sushma Swaraj arrived in Russian port city of Vladivostok on a three-day visit to attend the 3rd Eastern Economic Forum which will deliberate on pressing issues relating to global trade.
- The Eastern Economic Forum is considered as the biggest international communication platform for cooperation between businesses leaders and senior government representatives from Russia, the Pacific Region and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

India and Japan Inks 15 Agreement:

- India and Japan signed 15 deals in key areas, including civil aviation, trade, science and technology, and skill development. The one titled 'India-Japan Investment Promotion Road Map' envisages enhanced Japanese investments in India while the 'Japan-India special programme for Make In India' is on bilateral cooperation towards infrastructure development in the Mandal Bechraj-Khoraj region in Gujarat.

India starts Operation insaniyat:

- India is sending humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh to help with the influx of Rohingya refugees. The Ministry of External Affairs, "In response to the humanitarian crisis being faced on account of the large influx of refugees into Bangladesh, Government of India has decided to extend assistance to Bangladesh".
- 1st tranche will be brought to Chittagong by an Indian Air Force plane.

Rajbhasha Kirti Awards 2017:

- Punjab National Bank, HUDCO, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahayala(Bhopal), State Bank of India, Vijaya Bank, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has been awarded National level Rajbhasha Keerti Award for the this year.

World's most expensive office location: CBRE report:

- New Delhi's Connaught Place has slipped one position to become 10th most expensive office
location in the world with an annual rent of $111 per sq ft, according to property consultant CBRE.

➢ Mumbai’s Bandra Kurla Complex is at 16th rank while Nariman Point is at 30th position in the CBRE’s latest report Global Prime Office Rent H1 2017.

➢ Hong Kong's (Central) ranked 1st with overall prime office rent of $269 per sq ft per year, followed by Beijing (Finance Street) at $174 per sq ft and Hong Kong (West Kowloon) at $164 per sq ft.

Former UN leader Ban Ki-moon tabbed for IOC ethics chair:

➢ Former United Nations secretary general Ban Ki-moon has been elected chair of the International Olympic Committee’s ethics commission. The South Korean, who served as leader in the U.N. from 2007 through 2016, will take over for Youssoupha Ndiaye. Ban called his new task "a serious responsibility."

India’s first Lithium Ion battery:

➢ Suzuki Motor will invest more than Rs 11.5 billion along with Japanese partners Toshiba and Denso to set up India’s first lithium ion battery facility in Gujarat.

➢ Suzuki Motor chairman Osamu Suzuki also promised to invest Rs 38 billion more to expand capacity at its car manufacturing unit at Hansalpur near Ahmedabad, which is also the location for the factory that will make rechargeable batteries for electric and hybrid vehicles.

India favours first discussion at UNGA:

➢ India has favoured a discussion in the UN General Assembly, the first in 12 years, on ‘Responsibility to Protect’ and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

➢ As many as 113 countries, including India voted in its favour, while 21 others including Pakistan opposed the idea of having a debate. Seventeen countries registered their abstention.

➢ India’s Permanent Representative to the UN: Syed Akbaruddin.

➢ President of UN General Assembly: Miroslav Lajčak (Slovakia).

Least and Most Stressful cities Ranking:

➢ German city Stuttgart is the least stressed out city in the world. Three other German cities also rank amongst the top-five most stress-free cities across the globe, with Luxembour being 2nd in the list and Hanover and Munich at the 3rd and 5th spot respectively.

➢ Out of the 150 cities, Bengaluru stands at 130, Kolkata at 131 and Mumbai at 138 and Delhi

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411
is ranked 142. The most stressed city in the world is Baghdad.

Salman Khan honoured at Britain’s House of Commons:

- Bollywood star Salman Khan received a Global Diversity Award at Britain’s House of Commons. The Global Diversity Award is given to people of immense stature in terms of what they have done for diversity in the world, and he is certainly one of them.

'Shape-shifting' bacteria spotted on International Space Station:

- Bacterial cells treated with a common antibiotic have been spotted changing shape to survive while aboard the International Space Station (ISS). The way bacteria act in near-zero gravity environments could pose a serious problem for treating astronauts with infections.

International Day of Democracy September 15th across the world:

- The theme of the year 2017 is Democracy and Conflict prevention. This year's theme of democracy and conflict prevention focuses on the critical need to strengthen democratic institutions to promote peace and stability.

India, Japan sign open sky agreement:

- India and Japan today signed an agreement that will allow their airlines to operate unlimited number of flights between the two countries. The pact followed Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe holding strategic discussions on a wide range of issues. It opens skies between India and Japan (ie) Indian and Japanese carriers can mount now unlimited number of flights to the selected cities of each other's countries.

JICA loan to upgrade Alang-Sosiya ship recycling yards in Gujarat:

- India has signed a loan deal worth $76 million with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to upgrade the environment management plan at Alang-Sosiya ship recycling yards in Gujarat. The project will be executed by Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) and is likely to be completed by 2022.
Indian start-up wins award in Israel:

- Kheyti, a Hyderabad-based startup, was chosen among the ten finalists in the prestigious MassChallenge Israel contest that saw participation from over 500 companies in 40 different countries.
- The top ten finalists also included another Indian start-up ‘Sukriti’ which developed a smart toilet cabin employing hygiene maintenance systems to enhance user experience in sanitation.

Nepal to remeasure Mount Everest:

- The Himalayan country, home to Mount Everest and half of the world's 14 highest mountains, has never measured the peak on its own and uses its snow height of 8,848 metres that was measured by the Survey of India in 1954.
- Nepal will measure Mount Everest to settle a controversy over the height of the world's tallest peak, after some estimates suggested it became a little shorter in the wake of an earthquake two years ago.

Cassini spacecraft ends 20 years journey:

- Cassini was nearly out of fuel and had already been stretched years beyond its intended mission duration. Keeping it going risked potentially contaminating one of Saturn’s moons like Enceladus, an ice world that has some ingredients for life, or Titan, a dynamic moon where it rains methane with microbes from Earth. The spacecraft discovered whole new moons around Saturn, lakes of methane on Titan, jets of water erupting from Enceladus.

US and UAE to conduct joint military exercise in Abu Dhabi:

- Code-named Iron Union 5, the drill is an extension of a series of Iron Claw exercises, which the UAE organises with friendly countries to exchange and develop their skills according to the latest advanced military systems.

China opens dual-use highway to Nepal via Tibet:

- China has opened a strategic highway in Tibet to the Nepal border which could be used for civilian and defence purposes, a move that
Chinese experts say will enable Beijing to make forays into South Asia. The highway will shorten the journey from an hour to 30 minutes between the dual-use civil and military airport and Tibet's second-largest city.

**Japan releases postage stamps on Indian yoga experts:**

- **Yoga legend Bishnu Charan Ghosh** and his family members in spreading Indian postural yoga in Japan, the Japanese postal department has released postage stamps on four of Bengal’s famous exponents of the ancient Indian practice.
- The stamps on Bishnu Charan Ghosh, his son Biswanath Ghosh, daughter Karuna Ghosh and Karuna’s father in law Asutosh Ghosh, that were released recently in Japan.
- “This is the first time Japan has released postal stamps on any yoga experts. It is a result of the constant endeavour by the four yogis to create a close cultural linkage between the two countries by popularising the Indian form of yoga in Japan,”

**Petroleum Minister visits Kazakhstan for co-chairing the 13th Inter-Governmental Commission meeting:**

- Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, led a delegation to Astana, Kazakhstan.

**Bambawale new envoy to China:**

- India’s high commissioner to Pakistan Gautam Bambawale has been appointed the ambassador to China and India’s ambassador to Poland Ajay Bisaria. The reshuffle was necessitated by appointment of India’s ambassador to China Vijay Gokhale as Secretary (Economic Relations) in MEA.

**Singapore to set up Skill Center in Northeast:**

- The Government of Singapore will set up a Skill Center at Guwahati which will cater to the entire North-Eastern region. As far as Skill Centre at Guwahati, it was stated that an MoU has already been formalized between Singapore and the State Government of Assam. As a follow-up to this, a Skill Center is proposed to be
set up at Guwahati by the year 2019 and the Ministry of DoNER will coordinate in this initiative.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space: Dr Jitendra Singh.

Official emblem and slogan for FIFA Women's World Cup France:

- The slogan of the tournament "Dare To Shine" reflects the development of football, especially women's football.

UN Nansen refugee award-2017:

- A Nigerian, Mr. Zannah Mustapha, the Director, Future Prowess Islamic Foundation School, has won the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) 2017 Nansen Refugees Award.

WHO grants $175,000 for Rohingyas:

- The WHO South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) grant of $175,000 will support 20 mobile medical teams to provide essential services for at least two months to the "vulnerable population" in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar.

China’s fastest bullet train ‘Fuxing’ debuts

- China’s indigenous next generation bullet train, with a maximum speed of 400 kmph, made its debut today on the country’s busiest Beijing-Shanghai line. The new bullet trains, also known as electric multiple units (EMU), boast a top speed of 400 kilometres per hour and a consistent speed of 350 kilometres an hour.

India, Russia to collaborate on Bangladesh nuclear plant:

- India, Russia to collaborate on Bangladesh nuclear plant:

CHENNAI IAS ACADEMY – Vellore / 9043 211 311 / 411
India said today it is collaborating with Russia to build the Roppur nuclear power plant in Bangladesh, the first initiative under a Indo-Russia deal to undertake atomic energy projects in third countries. The Roppur project, which is being built by the Russians near Dhaka, will be Bangladesh's first atomic energy project.

**India gets first high-power electric locomotive for freight trains from France:**

India’s dream for high horse power locomotive moved closer to reality with the arrival of the first bodyshell of 12000 HP loco from Alstom France at Kolkata port. The bodyshell is to supply to Indian Railways was unloaded at Haldia, ready for delivery to the factory at Madhepura.

**Dynamic Monarch 2017:**

9, NATO Allies wrapped up a submarine search and rescue exercise, Dynamic Monarch 2017, off the coast of Marmaris in southwestern Turkey. Canada, France, Italy, Norway, Poland, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States took part in the exercise, which focused on Submarine Escape and Rescue (SMER) operations.

**India: NITI Aayog and IRF Geneva to cooperate in the field of ITS:**

The National ITS policy will cover various sectors including traffic management, parking management, electronic enforcement of traffic rules and regulations.

It would also cover fleet management and monitoring, and innovation and education in the field of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).

**India to host 11th World Congress on Adolescent Health:**

India will next month host the World Congress on Adolescent Health. Held once in every four years, the International Association for Adolescent Health's 11th World Congress on Adolescent Health, themed 'Investing in Adolescent Health the Future is Now' will be held here from October 27-29.

**Previous:** Istanbul, 2013

**India third in nuclear power installations:**

India is third in the world in the number of nuclear reactors being installed, at six, while China is leading at 20, the World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2017.
Pakistan, Russia hold two-week joint military exercise:

- Pakistan and Russia are holding two-week long joint military drill focussing on counter-terrorism operations to enhance military ties between the two countries.
- The joint exercise DRUZBA 2017 between special forces of Pakistan and Russia Armies started in Minralney Vody, Russia.

Japan election: Shinzo Abe calls snap vote

- Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has announced he will dissolve the country’s lower house of parliament and call national elections next month.

Australia announces new space agency:

- Australia will create its own space agency in an attempt to cash in on a $420 billion aeronautical industry and create thousands of new jobs.
- Most developed nations have a space agency, including New Zealand, and there are concerns Australia may be not be capitalising on the growing industry.

Railway line connecting India, Nepal to become functional from next year:

- After remaining non-functional for the last three years the Janakpur-Jayanagar Railway line connecting Nepal and India is expected to become functional by 2018.
- It is the only railway line that once used to link India with Nepal but after 2014 its service got discontinued.

India ranks 40th in 2017 Global Competitiveness Index:

- India was placed at 40th spot among 137 countries in World Economic Forum’s (WEF) Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) 2017-18. India has slipped by one position compared to 39th spot in 2016. Swiss top the list and US second place.
World Tourism Day 2017:

- This year’s World Tourism Day, held on 27 September, will be focused on Sustainable Tourism – a Tool for Development. Celebrated in line with the 2017 International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, the Day will be dedicated to exploring the contribution of tourism to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Angola swears in Joao Lourenco as president:

- Joao Lourenco has been sworn in as president of Angola, becoming the first new leader in the oil-rich southern African nation in almost four decades.

Russia launches ‘world’s biggest and most powerful’ nuclear icebreaker ship:

- Russia has floated out the world’s largest nuclear-powered icebreaker ship as the country moves to reinforce its leadership in the Arctic.
- Sibir is powered by two nuclear reactors and will be able to break ice fields up to three metres thick, clearing the path for Russian ships delivering gas to Asia.

Russia and US will cooperate to build moon’s first space station:

- Russia and the United States have agreed to cooperate on a Nasa-led programme to build the first lunar space station, part of a long-term project to send humans to Mars. The US space agency said earlier this year that it was exploring a programme called the Deep Space Gateway, a multi-stage project to push further into the solar system.

India bags 4 more medals in 5th Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games

- India grabbed the 11th spot with 9 gold, 12 silver and 19 bronze in the 5th Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games at Ashgabat in Turkmenistan after winning four more medals.

Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 to be Held in Hyderabad:

- President Trump and Prime Minister Modi in Washington that the United States and India will
co-host the 2017 Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES). The theme of the Summit will be Women First, Prosperity for All, highlighting the critical role women play in fostering global growth and prosperity.

$80-m ADB loan to Himachal Pradesh

- Multilateral lending agency ADB has approved a loan of $80 million for the modernisation of Himachal Pradesh’s technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions.

- The total cost of the project is $100 million, with the Centre contributing $20 million. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2022.

Govt approves signing agreement with Ethiopia:

- The Union Cabinet approved the signing of an agreement with Ethiopia to increase cooperation in the field of information, communication and media.
- The agreement would provide an opportunity to both the nations to share best practices and innovations in the field of information, communication and media.

India and Norway sign Letter of Intent to extend health cooperation:

- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India signed a Letter of Intent with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Norway to extend the cooperation within health sector through the Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) for a period of three years starting from 2018.

Green Masala Bonds in UK:

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency has launched new Green Masala Bond on London.
- The green ‘masala bond’ on London Stock Exchange’s International Securities Market is certified by Climate Bonds Initiative, an international, investor-focused not-for-profit that helps build robust and transparent assurance frameworks around green bond investment.
- Access India Programme will work as a market entry support system for smaller companies with a potential to expand into the Indian market.
China releases stamps to commemorate radio telescope, quantum satellite and astronautics pioneer:

- China's State Post Bureau has issued stamps to commemorate its 500 metre diameter radio telescope, the Quantum Science Satellite, and a Russian pioneer of modern rocketry.
- The Five-hundred-metre Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST) is located in a karst depression in Guizhou Province, and on its opening last year became the world's largest radio telescope.
- The Quantum Science Satellite, also known as Mozi (latinised as Micius) after the philosopher born around 470 BC, was launched in August 2016.
- Also commemorated was Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, the developer of the 'rocket equation'

which outlines the flight physics of rockets.

**SPORTS**

Saina & Srikanth climb up ladder in latest BWF world ranking

- Saina, who won a bronze at the World Championship, jumped four rungs to be placed at the 12th spot, while Kidambi Srikanth also improved two positions.

M S Dhoni becomes first wicketkeeper to effect 100 stumpings in ODI Cricket

- Dhoni achieved the feat in his 301st ODI in Colombo when he whipped off the bails to remove Sri Lankan batsman Akila Dananjaya.

Konsam Ormila Devi Won Gold at 2017 Commonwealth Youth Weightlifting Championship

- Konsam Ormila Devi won a gold medal in 44kg category. She bagged the gold medal by lifting 57kg in snatch and 76kg in clean and jerk for an overall effort of 133kg.
India’s Saikhom Mirabai Chanu and K Sanjita Chanu has bagged a gold medal in Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships.

The Commonwealth Youth Weightlifting Championship is being held at “Gold Coast, Australia”.

India will host the 2019 edition of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship.

Hyderabad girl Tejasvi Duduka wins U.S. Open women’s singles title

Tejasvi Duduka from Hyderabad won the women’s singles of U.S. Open Grand Slam Carrom tournament.

The U.S. Open Carrom tournament was won by former National Champion Radhakrishnan.

Ankur Mittal, Ahvar Rizvi Won Silver in senior men double trap at ISSF Shotgun World Championship held in Moscow

India’s Ankur Mittal won his first ISSF World Cup medal by clinching silver in the double trap event of the edition being held in Moscow while James Willett from Australia won gold medal.

Russia’s Vitaly Fokeev has won the gold medal at ISSF Shotgun World Championships.

In the junior category, Ahvar Rizvi also won a silver medal in the same event.

In the junior men’s double trap team event, India won the gold with a combined score of 401.

Italy tops in medals list, followed by Australia and Russia. India is in fourth spot with one Gold and two Silver medals.

Divya Deshmukh from India has won gold in the girl’s Under 12 category at the World cadets chess championship held at Brazil.

Rohan Kapoor and Kuhoo Garg has won the mixed doubles at 2017 Hellas Open International Badminton Series.

Joyciline Jepkosgei smashes 10 km road world record
Joycilline Jepkosgei of Kenya broke her own 10 km road world record in Prague, Czech Republic.

She has become the first woman to run 10 km distance under 30 minutes on road.

**Lewis Hamilton** has won the 2017 Italian Formula One Grand Prix Tournament.

Harinder Pal Sandhu has won the Malaysian Squash Tour. This is his 21st consecutive international match to win in a row.

He beat Malaysia’s Mohammed Syafiq Kamal to win the final match.

The tournament was held in in Kuala Lumpur.

**Waltherus Marijne** has been appointed as new chief coach of the Indian Senior Men Hockey Team.

**Harendra Singh** has been appointed as the High performance Specialist Coach for Indian Women Senior Hockey Team

**BWF World Senior Badminton Championships begins in Kochi**

The championship will be held in India for the first time.

**India’s Sonam Malik bags Gold in Cadet World Wrestling Championship,**

- **Key Points:** Sonam Malik is competing in the 56kg category and she defeated Japanese Sena Nagamoto in the final.
- Neelam bagged a bronze medal and competing in the 43kg category. She defeated Roxana Alexandra of Romania.
- It is held in Athens, Greece.

Sandhu wins Malaysian squash meet to make it 21st consecutive international victory.
A total of 175 players will represent India including Olympians. India was going to host 2018 Junior Asian Wrestling Championship.

US Open Tennis 2017

It was held from 22nd August 2017 to 10th September 2017, on hard courts at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, in New York.

Men’s singles: Rafael Nadal won the title:
- By defeating Kevin Anderson
- Rafael Nadal has won his 3rd US Open title and 16th Grand Slam title.
- Rafael Nadal is currently the world’s number one tennis player in men’s singles. He belongs to Spain. He is also referred as ‘The King of Clay’.

Women singles: Sloane Stephens of US won the title:
- By defeating Madison Keys in the finals

Men’s doubles: Jean-Julien Rojer and Horia Tecau won the title:
- By defeating Feliciano Lopez and Marc Lopez and won the 2017 US Open men’s double.

Women Doubles: Chan Yung-Jan and Martina Hingis won the title:
- By defeating Lucie Hradecka and Katerina Siniakova

Mixed Doubles: Martina Hingis and Jamie Murray won the title:
- By defeating Chan Hao-ching and Michael Venus.

Prakash Padukone to receive BAI’s first Lifetime Achievement Award

Badminton Association of India (BAI) announced that it would award its first Lifetime Achievement Award to Prakash Padukone, in Kochi Prakash Padukone is the only Indian male badminton player to have reach the world number 1 rank.
- He hails from Karnataka.
- He has been awarded the Arjuna Award and Padma Shri Award by the Government of India

About Badminton Association of India (BAI):
- Headquarters – Lucknow
- President – Dr.Himanta Bishwa Sarma

Goa to host 36th National Games
Goa’s Sports Minister Mr. Manohar Ajaokar said that Goa would host the 36th National Games, in Goa.

36th National Games:
- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has given the official rights to Goa to host the 36th National Games. The event would be held in November, 2017.
- The responsibility of arranging protocol, ceremonies, accommodation, games village, hospitality and co-ordination, transportation etc. are given to the host city.
- Budget to setup infrastructure for the National Games has been estimated as Rs.350 crore by Goa Chief Minister Mr. Manohar Parrikar.

About Goa:
- Capital: Panaji
- Governor: Ms. Mridula Sinha
- Chief Minister: Mr. Manohar Parrikar

India to Host Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in 2019

The Executive Board of Commonwealth Weightlifting Federation met at Gold Coast, Australia and decided to allot the 2019 edition of the competitions to India. The current edition of the tournament is being held at the Gold Coast, Australia.

PV Sindhu beats Japan’s Okuhara to clinch Korea Open title

Indian badminton player PV Sindhu won the women’s singles title at the Korean Open Super Series 2017 by defeating Japanese player Nozomi Okuhara, in Seoul, South Korea.

She had earlier lost to Okuhara in the BWF World Championship finals at Glasgow in August 2017.

Sindhu has become the first Indian to win the Korea Open Super Series title.

She is also the first Indian woman to win an Olympic silver medal.

Virat Kohli remains on top, Bumrah climbs up to second in ICC T20 rankings

In the latest ICC T20 rankings of batsmen Indian captain Virat Kohli has remained on top spot with 826 points.

The Indian skipper leads Australia’s Aaron Finch by 39 points, who is in second place.
In the bowlers’ list, Imad Wasim of Pakistan leads the table with 742 points.

In the bowlers’ table Indian pacer Jasprit Bumrah moved up to second place with 737 points.

Lewis Hamilton wins Singapore Grand Prix 2017

Lewis Hamilton finished the race first and won the Singapore Grand Prix.
He was followed by Red Bull’s Daniel Ricciardo in the 2nd position and Mercedes’ Valtteri Bottas in the 3rd.

Chris Gayle becomes first batsman to hit 100 sixes in T20Is

BWF World Senior Badminton Championships-First Time in India

The coastal city of Kochi is hosting the BWF World Senior Badminton Championships. The championship is been held in India for the first time. The week-long tournament will see a total of 665 players from 40 countries battle it out.

British cyclist Mark Beaumont sets world record by cycling around the world in 79 days

A British cyclist has broken the world record for cycling around the world in 79 days – 44 days shorter than the previous record. Mark Beaumont arrived at Paris one day ahead of schedule after cycling 18,000 miles and an average of 240 miles per day. He said he was inspired by Jules Verne’s adventure novel *Around The World In Eighty Days*.

Previous record New Zealander Andrew Nicholson’s 123 days set in 2015

Los Angeles gets official go-ahead to host 2028 Olympics
Los Angeles has received its official go-ahead to host the 2028 Olympics from the International Olympic Committee’s evaluation commission.

IOC will award the 2024 Games to Paris and the 2028 Games to Los Angeles.

Kuldeep becomes first Indian spinner to take ODI hat-trick

He became only the third Indian after Kapil Dev (1991) and Chetan Sharma (1987) to take a hat-trick in an ODI.

Kuldeep Yadav has become the first Indian spinner to take a hat-trick in ODI cricket during the second match of the ongoing series against Australia.

Ana Carrasco of Spain becomes 1st female biker to win a World Championship race

Ana Carrasco of Spain became the first female to win an individual World Championship motorbike race, in Portugal.

Mary Kom 1st Indian to represent world boxing at IOC Forum

The IOC (International Olympic Committee) Athlete’s Forum is to be held from 11th November to 13th November 2017 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Mary Kom is the first Indian to be chosen as a representative of AIBA in IOC Athletes’ Forum.

Indian Navy commissions INS Tarasa, a Water Jet Fast Attack Craft at Mumbai

INS Tarasa, a Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (FAC) was commissioned into the Indian Navy by Vice Admiral Girish Luthra in Mumbai.

The first two ships of the class i.e. IN ships Tarmugli and Tihayu were commissioned in 2016 and the third ship INS Tillanchang was commissioned earlier this year.

INS Tarasa was built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata. This is the last Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (FAC) built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE)
This is the second ship of the Indian Navy to be named INS Tarasa. The first INS Tarasa was in service of the Navy from 1999 to 2014.

Motto – May the Lord of the Water be auspicious unto us

Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) – Admiral Sunil Lanba

India to host South Asian boxing Championship in Guwahati

India will be hosting the South Asian boxing Championship for the first time in Guwahati from December 6 to 10, Boxing Federation of India. India will take on their arch-rivals Pakistan during the tournament, which will also see a host of other SAARC countries participating including Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

The India international tournament will also see countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine among other top boxing nations participating.

G Manoharan will be responsible for the Youth Men’s team; Bhaskar Bhatt will be in charge of the Youth (Women) squad and MS Dhaka will be in charge of junior men.

RK Sacheti has been unanimously elected as the new Executive Director of the federation.

14 year old Indian Rishabh Shah wins two bronze medals at Western Asia Youth Chess Championship held in Sri Lanka

Rishabh Shah of Mumbai, bagged two bronze medals in the Under-14 Rapid and Blitz formats of the 2nd Western Asia Youth Chess Championship in Sri Lanka.

The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has presented its 2017-18 calendar which includes the prestigious South Asian Championship to be held in Guwahati.