

CURRENT AFFAIRS JUNE-2017

List of Important Days

June 1 - World Milk Day.

June 1 - Global Day of Parents.

June 2 - International Sex Workers Rights Day.

June 4 - International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression.

June 5 - World Environment Day.

(Theme - "Connecting people to nature") This year's host country: Canada.

June 8 -

World Oceans Day. (Theme - "Our Oceans, Our Future")

June 8 -

World Brain Tumor Day. (Aim – “To spread awareness about this lethal disease”).

June 12 -

World Day Against Child Labour

June 13 -

International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD)

June 14 -

World Blood Donor Day. (Theme - “Give Blood. Give Now. Give Often”)

June 15 -

ASEAN Dengue Day. (Theme - “United Fight Against Dengue”)

June 15 -

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD). (Theme-“Understand and End Financial Abuse of Older People: A Human Rights Issue”)

June 17 -

World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought.

(Theme - “Our land. Our home. Our Future”)

June 18 -

(3rd Sunday of June) Father's Day.

June 19 -

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict

June 20 -

World Refugee Day. (Theme – “#WithRefugees”)

June 21 -

World Music Day (Fete de la Musique).

June 21 -

International Yoga Day.

June 21 -

marks the beginning of summer in Earth's Northern Hemisphere, referred to as the 'summer solstice', the year's longest day and shortest night.

June 23 -

International Olympic Day.

June 23 -

World Public Service Day. (Theme – “The Future is Now”)

June 23 -

International Widows Day. (Theme - "Empowering Women for Greater Achievements")

June 25 -

Day of the Seafarer. (Theme - "Seafarers Matter").

June 29 -

National Statistics Day.

Reserve Bank of India

· The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept the Repo Rate unchanged at 6.25% during its bimonthly monetary policy review.

- Policy Repo Rate - 6.25%

- Reverse Repo Rate - 6.00%

- Marginal Standing Facility Rate - 6.50%

- Bank Rate - 6.50%

- CRR - 4%

- SLR - 20.50%

· The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is going to introduce a new batch of 500 currency notes, which will have inset letter 'A'.

· The government has asked banks and post offices to deposit demonetized 500 and 1,000 notes collected by December 30, 2016, with the RBI within 30 days.

- Further, cooperative banks have also been allowed to exchange old notes collected by them by November 14, 2016.

· The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked banks to resolve 55 identified high value cases of bad loans within a period of six months.

· The new 1 note, which will be printed with a new design, is the only note to be printed by the Central government and not the RBI.

- It will have 'Bharat Sarkar' on its masthead. The notes will also have signatures of Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das and Rajiv Mehrishi, who was the Finance Secretary in 2015, when printing started.

· Public sector banks cannot be held responsible in case of theft of valuables from lockers, RBI declared.

- Banks have contended that the relationship they have with customers with regard to lockers is that of a lessee (landlord) and lessor (tenant), in which lessors are responsible for their valuables kept in lockers owned by banks.

· The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has started printing currency notes of Rs. 200 denomination, the third denomination notes to be printed after demonetization.

State Bank of India

· India's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) launched the country's largest institutional share sale programme, to rise up to 15,000 crore.

· The State Bank of India (SBI) has reduced rates for home loans above 75 lakh by 10 bps.

- The revised interest rates will be 8.55% per annum for salaried women and 8.60% per annum for others.

- The revised interest rate on home loans by the SBI was come into effect from June 15 this year.

Other Banks

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

Election Commission

· Chief Election Commissioner Nasim Zaidi announced that the last date for nomination of candidates for Presidential elections is June 28 and the polls (if needed) will be held on July 17.

- The vote counting for the elections will take place on 20th July 2017.
- MPs, MLAs to have color-coded ballot papers in Prez poll.
- Members of Parliament (MPs) will have green-colored ballot papers.
- Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) will have pink-colored ballot papers.
- The Election Commission announced that elections for the post of Vice-President will be held on August 5, and the counting will also take place on the same day.
- The Election Commission of India has joined hands with the social networking giant Facebook to launch nationwide voter registration reminder aimed at reminding eligible Indian voters to register themselves on the electoral rolls.

Central Government

- Employees who got jobs using forged scheduled or backward caste certificates will be dismissed, the Centre has announced.
- The government has made Aadhaar mandatory for opening bank accounts as well as for financial transactions of 50,000 and above. Existing bank account holders have been asked to furnish their Aadhaar number by December 31, 2017, failing which the account will become invalid.
- The Central Vigilance Commission has asked public sector banks not to report frauds below 1 lakh to local police, unless their staff is involved. Cases of up to 1 lakh and not below 10,000 are to be scrutinized by bank officials for further action, CVC said.
- The government has made it mandatory for the tuberculosis patients to submit their Aadhaar number for availing benefits under the Central government scheme. The move has been made to check fraud and corruption in government schemes.
- Victims of acid attacks and people with autism, mental illnesses, and intellectual disabilities will get 1% reservation for central government jobs and promotions.
- The government released a new list of 30 cities to be developed as smart cities under the Smart City Mission.
- Kerala's Trivandrum has topped the list, while Chhattisgarh's Naya Raipur and Gujarat's Rajkot bagged the second and third spots.
- This new list has four cities from Tamil Nadu (Tiruppur, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi and Tiruchirappalli) and three each from Uttar Pradesh (Jhansi, Allahabad and Aligarh) and Gujarat (Rajkot, Gandhinagar and Dahod).
- The central government is going to increase the speed limit on highways and expressways up to 120 kilometres per hour across India. Currently, all national highways in the country have a speed limit of 80 kilometres per hour, except the Yamuna Expressway that has a 100 kilometres per hour speed limit.
- The Indian government has approved the proposal for setting up a Greenfield airport in Jewar (Greater Noida).

- The Indian government has increased the visa fee for the foreign nationals visiting India by up to 50% across categories.
- The Union Cabinet approved the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission for higher allowances, including house rent allowance (HRA).

States

- Telangana has launched a digital wallet named TWallet for people to make public and private financial transactions.
- The state of Telangana was celebrating their 3rd anniversary of its foundation. Telangana is 29th state of India, which came into being on June 2nd 2014, after Andhra Pradesh was split into two states — Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- The Haryana government has changed the name of Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA) to Haryana Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran (HSVP).
- As a part of the government's anti-plastic drive and Green Kerala Mission, the Kerala State government has come out with a Green Protocol to make the weddings in the state more nature friendly.
- Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah has inaugurated the upgraded version of police helpline Namma 100, where police officials will be deputed within 15 minutes to the spot of emergency, for Bengaluru. Based on the model adapted in London, which has helpline 999, and USA, where 911 helpline operates, Namma 100 helpline allows the public to access several facilities on a single number.
- Arunachal Pradesh chief minister Pema Khandu has demand for a separate time zone for the northeastern states to improve work efficiency and save electricity in the region.
- The Telangana government launched the website 'PashuBazar' to facilitate online sale or purchase of cattle.
- The online platform has been developed to help farmers in selling their animals without physically taking them to weekly markets.
- The Goa Revolution Day was observed to recall the sacrifices of freedom fighters and martyrs of the Liberation struggle on June 18.
- For the first time in India, Indore has installed a 14-foottall robot to control traffic.
- Developed by Shri Venkateshwar Institute of Technology, the robot took two years and 20 lakh to complete.
- The Karnataka government has re-introduced garbage bins in Bengaluru after seventeen years.
- Bengaluru's municipal corporation will install 2,232 pairs of bins for wet and dry waste across the city at a cost of over 4 crore.
- Mumbai will get a suite of floating restaurants by 2018.
- These restaurants will be located on multiple decks of a ship sailing between Gateway of India and Girgaum Chowpatty.

- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has designed flags to be displayed on the state's IAS officers' cars after the central government banned beacons.
- The flags for chief secretary and additional chief secretaries will be rectangular, while those of secretaries will be swallow-tailed and junior administrative grade or selection grade officers will get triangular flags.
- In an attempt to prevent road accidents, police in Andhra Pradesh have launched a 'Face Wash and Go' initiative on national and state highways from 1 AM to 4:30 AM.
- Telangana Cabinet has approved an ordinance which will make online rummy illegal in the state.
- The ordinance, which will now need Governor E S L Narasimhan's approval, amends the Gaming Act to include and ban online gambling.
- For the first time in the history of Manipur, Chief Minister Biren Singh-led Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government has launched a toll-free 24/7 helpline number '181' for women.
- Odisha is set to become the first state in the country to open a blood bank for cattle.

Place in the News

- Habib ganj Railway Station (Bhopal) is going to become India's first railway station to be redeveloped in a Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.
- The National Board of Wildlife has approved Rutland Island in South Andaman to be the site for India's long range missile test facility.
- West Bengal's capital Kolkata will get India's first underwater metro system, which will pass through the Hooghly River.
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has named UAE's Sharjah as the World Book Capital for 2019.
- Sharjah, the 19th city to be named World Book Capital, has previously been named Capital of Islamic Culture and Capital of Arab Culture.

Personalities

- Barcelona forward Lionel Messi is going to launch Messi Experience Park, an Amusement park themed around him in China in 2019.
- Sachin Tendulkar joined stars from various fields including David Beckham, Hugh Jackman, Lewis Hamilton and Novak Djokovic among others for UNICEF's 'Super Dads' campaign.
- Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan has bought the Cape Town-based side in Cricket South Africa's new T20 league.
- The team, which will be called Cape Town Knight Riders, is Khan's third team in T20 leagues after IPL's Kolkata Knight Riders and Caribbean Premier League's Trinbago Knight Riders.

· PM Narendra Modi became the 1st foreign dignitary to have dinner at the White House with US President Donald Trump.

· Chinese Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo has been released from prison on compassionate grounds after being diagnosed with terminal liver cancer.

· Arnav Sharma, an 11-year-old Indian-origin boy in the UK has secured the top possible score of 162 on a Mensa IQ test, two points higher than Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking.

Defence and National Security

· The land version of the short range surface-to-surface ballistic missile Prithvi-II was successfully test fired from a defence base off Odisha coast.

· Japan's Navy and Air Force began a 3day military exercise with two US aircraft carriers in the Sea of Japan adding pressure on North Korea to block its ballistic missile program.

· US Defence Department Pentagon has signed a deal to sell domestically manufactured F15 fighter jets for \$12 billion to Qatar despite President Donald Trump criticizing the Gulf nation for allegedly supporting terrorism.

· Army Chief General Bipin Rawat announced that women will soon be inducted in combat roles in the Army, the process for which has started.

· India test fired its indigenously developed Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM) for the first time from Chandipur, Odisha.

- The QRSAM, developed jointly by DRDO and Bharat Electronics Ltd. for the Indian Army, is all weather, truck mounted missile system with a range of 30 kilometres.

· US Defence Department Pentagon has said that China is likely to establish additional military bases in Pakistan and other countries with which it has friendly relationships.

- This reflects China's growing influence and expansion of its armed forces, the Pentagon added.

· Israel is going to offer manufacturing of Spike hand held 'fire and forget' Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) to India under Make in India.

· The US Navy commissioned a new warship, USS Gabrielle Giffords, in the name of former Arizona congresswoman who was severely injured in a 2011 shooting, as a tribute to her perseverance.

· Indian warships have reached Australia's port city of Fremantle to take part in AUSINDEX, a weeklong naval exercise off the Western Australian coast. AUSINDEX17 was the second overall bilateral drill between Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy.

· The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully test fired anti-tank 'Nag' missile in Rajasthan. The four other missiles developed under this programme include Agni, Akash, Trishul and Prithvi.

· The United States of America (USA) has approved the sale of 22 Guardian drones India had sought for its navy.

· The Indian Army has received its first batch of modern bullet-proof helmets, two decades after initiating the process.

Committees/Commissions

· Market Regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has formed a Committee on Corporate Governance. Head of this Committee: Uday Kotak (MD of Kotak Mahindra Bank)

· Ministry of Home Affairs has constituted an expert committee to examine the rules which allow free movement of people near Indo-Myanmar border.

· BJP constitutes 3member high level committee to consult political parties for reaching consensus on Presidential candidate.

- Members: M Venkaiah Naidu, Rajnath Singh, and Arun Jaitley

· The HRD ministry has constituted a 9-member panel to frame a new National Education Policy (NEP). Head of this Committee : K Kasturirangan (space scientist)

· The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has constituted a special 7member committee to analyse the few contentious Lodha panel reforms which are being opposed by the state units.

- Head of this Committee : Rajeev Shukla

- Members: Sourav Ganguly, T.C. Mathew, Naba Bhattacharjee, Jay Shah, Anirudh Chaudhary, and Amitabh Choudhary.

· Saurashtra Cricket Association's former chief Niranjan Shah has been added as an invitee to BCCI's Special Committee.

Schemes/Initiatives

· The Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (ESSL) has initiated a French agency funded project to retrofit 10 lakh conventional street lights with LED lights in Gram Panchayats of 7 districts in Andhra Pradesh.

- This is the first project for rural LED street lighting in the country under the Centre's Street Lighting National Project (SLNP).

· Health Secretary C K Mishra has inaugurated the 'Vatsalya – Maatri Amrit Kosh', a National Human Milk Bank and Lactation Counseling Centre at the Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) in New Delhi.

· The President of India, Pranab Mukherjee has launched a mobile Application 'Selfie with Daughter' at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

- Aim: To motivate society to feel proud to be parents of a girl child which in turn is expected to have a positive impact in improving the child sex ratio.

· NITI Aayog has launched SATH 'Sustainable Action for Transforming Human capital' with the State Governments for furthering the agenda of cooperative federalism.

- The government approved the Interest Subvention Scheme for 2017-18 under which it will give an interest subsidy of 2% per annum to farmers for short term loans of up to 3 lakh.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs has launched a Twitter handle called BharatKeVeer for a fund to help the families of paramilitary personnel martyred while fighting extremists.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Kochi Metro, Kerala's first metro rail system.
- Modi, along with other dignitaries including 'Metro Man' E Sreedharan and Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan, took a ride on the 13-km long stretch inaugurated in the first phase.
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has inaugurated Know India Programme (KIP) for NRI and PIO youth (Person of Indian origin) with a view to provide them with an exposure to the country of their origin so that they can understand India better and more closely.
- Union Minister Hansraj Ahir announced that the Centre is planning to set up 'cow sanctuaries' and initiate 'Project cow' on the lines of Project Tiger.

- Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh has announced the following :
 - The government will establish wellness mohalla (ward) clinics across the state along with initiating the process of providing health insurance to all citizens.
 - Free education for girls in government schools and colleges in the state from Nursery to PhD, fulfilling a poll promise.
 - A waiver of more than 20,000 crore in farmer loans, in a move expected to benefit 10.25 lakh farmers.
- The amount is double the relief announced by Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- Minister for Science & Technology Dr. Harshvardhan has launched a Mobile App titled "Celebrating Yoga".
 - The aim of the app is to popularize Yoga and encourage people to practice yoga for a scientifically healthy living.
- Under Kaushalya Karnataka scheme, the Karnataka government is going to launch a skill development programme for providing vocational training to domestic workers, which includes people employed as cooks, house help and gardeners.
- The Delhi Metro has introduced its own smart watches, Watch2Pay. Watch2Pay will enable commuters' faster entry and exit at metro stations.
 - The watches, priced at Rs. 6,000 per year, made in partnership with an Austrian company, will have a sim card inside for recharging, but won't require mobile network to function.
- As part of its 'Power For All' scheme, the Uttar Pradesh government will be providing free electricity connections to all urban Below Poverty Line (BPL) families.
- Department of Science and Technology has launched VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research) Faculty scheme.

- This scheme enables NRIs and overseas scientific community to participate and contribute to research and development in India.

· Union Minister of State for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines Piyush Goyal has launched Weather Portal for Power Sector & Web Portal titled 'MERIT' (Merit Order Despatch of Electricity for Rejuvenation of Income and Transparency).

· Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the centenary celebrations of Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad.

· Bollywood Actress Preity Zinta has launched Kavach Safety, an emergency response service for women.

· The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has launched a web application for free Legal Services to Prisoners at the conference held at Indian Law Institute, New Delhi.

Summit/Conference

· Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 18th India-Russia annual Summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin at St Petersburg.

- He also attended the St Petersburg International Economic Forum.

· The 17th SCO Summit was held in Astana, Kazakhstan during 8th to 9th June 2017.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held bilateral meetings with the leaders of Kazakhstan, China and Uzbekistan, on the sidelines of this Summit.

- India and Pakistan signed the memorandum of obligations on 24 June 2016 at Tashkent, thereby starting the formal process of joining the SCO as full members

· Prime Minister Narendra Modi joined several global leaders at the inauguration of Kazakhstan's Astana World EXPO 2017 which showcases vital innovation and technological prowess of the resource rich central Asian country.

- Subtitle: "Solutions for Tackling Humankind's Greatest Challenge."

- Theme: "Future Energy"

- Aim: To create a global debate between countries, nongovernmental organizations, companies

and the general public on the crucial question: "how do we ensure safe and sustainable access to energy for all while reducing CO2 emissions?"

· The United Nations held its first ever Ocean Conference to renew member nations' commitment to combating rising sea levels, pollution, and harmful fishing practices for the protection of world's waterways.

- This conference ended with the adoption by consensus of a '14point Call for Action' to conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

· Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan inaugurated the 16th North East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (NERCPA) Conference at Imphal.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- India and Russia signed 5 MOUs.
- Nepal has signed a major deal with a Chinese company China Gezhouba Group Corporation (CGGC) to develop a 1,200 MW hydroelectric project, the biggest hydro project in the landlocked country that could resolve its perennial power crisis.
- Samsung India has signed a MoU with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for setting up two new Samsung Technical Schools in Bangalore and Jamshedpur as well as to renew the partnership for 10 existing schools being run across the country.
- India has signed an agreement with Sri Lanka to provide USD 318 million as line of credit for developing Sri Lanka's railway sector.
- The agreement was signed between Sri Lanka's Ministry of Finance and Mass media, and Managing Director of India's Export Import Bank in Colombo.
- India has signed the OECD multilateral convention that aims to check cross-border tax evasion by multinational companies.
- OECD - Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
- India and South Korea signed an agreement for \$10 billion assistance for infrastructure development projects in India, including smart cities.
- American global aerospace, defense, security and advanced technologies company Lockheed Martin and India's Tata Advanced Systems have signed an agreement to produce F-16 fighter planes in India.
- India and Portugal have signed 11 agreements after in-depth talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Portuguese counterpart Antonio Costa.
- UK PM Theresa May has signed a 'confidence and supply' deal with the Northern Irish Democratic Unionist Party, allowing her to officially form a minority government.

Meet/Visit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has visited Germany, Spain, Russia and France for a six-day tour, starting on 29 May and ending on 3 June.
- Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Ravi Karunanayake visited to India.
- He called on External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and discussed a number of key issues besides exploring ways to further ramp up bilateral ties.
- The Union Minister for Finance, Defence and Corporate Affairs, Arun Jaitley chaired the 16th Meeting of the GST Council held on 11th June, 2017 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.
- In a meeting with FIFA President Gianni Infantino, South Korean President Moon Jaein offered to co-host the 2030 World Cup with rival North Korea and other northeast Asian countries in an attempt to promote peace in the region.

- Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called up PM Narendra Modi, with both leaders discussing the Paris Climate Agreement.
- PM Narendra Modi was visited to USA, Portugal and Netherlands for a three nation tour.
- PM Narendra Modi, during his recent visit to Portugal, launched the India-Portugal International Startup Hub with his Portuguese counterpart Antonio Costa.
- PM Narendra Modi presented the Overseas Citizen of India card to Portugal's Indian-origin PM Antonio Costa during his visit to Lisbon.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had One-on-One and delegation level talks with US President Donald Trump.
- Trump has accepted Modi's invitation to visit India.
- Modi separately invited Trump's daughter Ivanka to the Global Entrepreneurship Summit in India.
- Ahead of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with US President Donald Trump, the United States designated Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin as a 'Specially Designated Global Terrorist'.
- India and the Netherlands have signed 3 MOUs after the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Dutch counterpart Mark Rutte.
- PM Narendra Modi will become the 1st Indian Prime Minister to visit Israel with his three-day visit to the country starting 4th July 2017.

Bills

- The Union Ministry of Law and Justice has cleared the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Bill 2017, and thus legalizing Kambala. The bill will now be sent to the President for getting his assent.
- The government has changed an over 50 year old rule by setting a deadline of six months to complete probes in corruption cases involving government employees.
- It has amended the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965, in order to speed up investigation in such cases.
- Canada has introduced a bill that will decriminalize practicing witchcraft and challenging people to duels.
- The nation is set to decriminalize 20 criminal offences, including telling fortunes and publishing crime comics.
- The Meghalaya Assembly passed a resolution against the Centre's ban on sale of cattle for slaughter.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the proposal to introduce a Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill, 2017 which will provide a comprehensive resolution framework for financial sector entities to deal with bankruptcy situation in banks, insurance companies, and other entities.

- The Puducherry Assembly passed a resolution, seeking curtailment of the powers granted to Lieutenant Governor Kiran Bedi.
- New York's Governor Andrew Cuomo has signed an anti-child marriage law to increase the marriageable age from 14 to 18.
- The Philippines' parliament passed a law where singing the national anthem shall be "mandatory and must be done with fervor".
- Germany legalized same-sex marriage, with 393 parliamentarians voting to approve "marriage for everybody" and 226 voting against.

Fund

- The BRICS grouping has established a 1 million dollar fund for boosting media cooperation.
- BRICS – Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa
- India and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation have launched a partnership fund to promote sustainable development projects across the developing world.
- The India-UN Development Partnership Fund was launched on occasion of the World Oceans Day at a special ceremony held at the Permanent Mission of India to the UN.
- Government has awarded a Rs 1,600crore contract for constructing 109km road connecting Paletwa river terminal to Zorinpui in Mizoram border as a part of the \$484 million Kaladan multimodal transport (KMTT) projects in Myanmar which will offer connectivity to Mizoram.
- Aiming to reduce emissions and promote sustainability to help India's smart city programme, France and the European Union extended a grant of €3.5 million (nearly 25 crore) to India.
- Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad will get the grant as part of the EU's commitment under the Paris Climate agreement for implementing the 'Mobilise Your City' (MYC) initiative.
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved \$150 million equity investment loan to the India Infrastructure Fund.
- The World Bank has cleared a USD 250-million loan to aid the Skill India mission.
- The World Bank has cleared a \$250million (over 1,610 crore) loan for making Indians more employable through reskilling, under the government's Skill India mission.
- India has voluntarily contributed \$100,000 to a UN fund to help developing countries actively participate in the discussion of tax issues.
- With this, India has become the first country to voluntarily contribute.

Economy

- The World Bank has projected 7.2 per cent growth for India this year against 6.8 per cent last year.

- China has overtaken India to become the World's Fastest Growing Economy after India reported slow economic growth for the fourth consecutive quarter.
- In the last quarter of the 2016-17 fiscal, India had a 6.1% growth, as against China which recorded a growth rate of 6.9% during the period.
- The GDP growth for the year also fell from 8% to 7.1%.
- South Africa's economy, one of Africa's biggest, falls into recession.
- A 0.7 percent decline in GDP in the first quarter of this year followed a 0.3 percent contraction in the last quarter of 2016.
- India's forex reserves surged by \$2.404 billion to reach lifetime high of \$381.167 billion in the week to June 2 on account of rise in foreign currency assets, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced.
- India's retail inflation in May cooled to a record low of 2.18% from 2.99% in April, according to government data.
- The Federal Reserve raised interest rates for the second time this year, citing continued economic growth.
- The US central bank voted to raise its key rate target to a range of 1% to 1.25%, the highest level since 2008 financial crisis.
- India is going to shift to a January to December financial year from 2018, thereby ending the 150-year-old tradition of an April to March fiscal.
- The government has given in-principle approval for the disinvestment of state-run carrier Air India, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced.
- The Malaysian Ringgit became the strongest Asian currency this quarter by climbing twice as much as the Chinese Yuan, according to Bloomberg.

Companies/Industry

- Bharti Airtel has got approvals from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) for the proposed scheme of merger with Telenor (India) Communications Private Ltd.
- Social media giant Facebook is developing a new app called 'Talk' for teenagers that would come with parent centric features.
- Anil Ambani announced that the merged entity of Reliance Communications and Aircel will be called Aircom.
- Technology major Apple announced that Safari will be the "world's fastest desktop browser" with its latest High Sierra OS for Mac.
- The company claims that its web browser will be 80% faster than its Google competitor, Chrome.

- Adani Group will proceed with its \$16.5 billion Carmichael coal project in Australia's Queensland after its board approved a final investment decision.
- Flipkart-owned fashion e-tailer Myntra has appointed former Amazon and Snapdeal executive Jeyandran Venugopal as its Chief Technology Officer (CTO).
- Wipro has become the first Indian IT firm to declare US President Donald Trump a potential threat to business, by officially mentioning it in its filings.
- US based aviation company Cirrus Aircraft has launched the world's smallest and most affordable private jet called 'Vision Jet' for 12.62 crore.
- Telecom giant Verizon has acquired Yahoo's core business for \$4.48bn (£3.51m), thus ending Yahoo's two decade long run as an independent company.
- The merger between Flipkart and eBay India has been approved by the Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- Internet search giant Google was hit with a record \$2.7 billion fine by European Union regulators for illegally favoring its shopping service in search results.
- Apple launched its first-ever iPhone on 29th June in the year 2007, after being introduced by Steve Jobs in January.

Fifteen iPhone models have been launched since then, with iPhone 7 being the latest.

- Facebook's drone 'Aquila', a solar-powered drone to bring the internet to rural places, completed its second successful test flight in the Arizona desert.

Exports/Imports

- India has moved the World Trade Organization (WTO) against the US as it has not yet complied with the rulings of the WTO pertaining to imposition of high import duty on certain Indian steel products.

Taxation/Trade

- Tax rates on various commodities under GST:
 - The GST Council cleared the pending rules, including transition provisions and returns, with all the states agreeing to roll out GST from July 1.
 - The Council has fitted over 1,200 goods and 500 services in four tax brackets. The Council announced that Gold, silver, and processed diamonds will be taxed at 3% under GST. The tax slab for footwear below 500 has been fixed at 5%, while more expensive footwear will be taxed at 18%.
 - Readymade garments will be taxed at 12%, while apparel costing below 1,000 will attract a tax of 5%. The Council has fixed the tax rate for biscuits at 18%. Yarn and fabric cotton will be under the 5% tax slab. Beedis will be put in the highest tax bracket at 28% without cess.

- Khadi yarn, Gandhi topi, and India's national flag will not attract any tax under the new GST regime, which is to be implemented from July 1. Further, chandan tika, unbranded honey, and wick for diya have also been exempted under the new indirect tax regime.
- Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced that the GST Council has decided to reduce tax levels of 66 items.
- The council has lowered tax rates on insulin from 12% to 5%, packaged food including some fruits and vegetables from 18% to 12%, and agarbatti from 12% to 5%. Additionally, tax rate on computer printers has been lowered to 18%.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) declared that Aadhaar will be a "must" for filing of Income Tax Returns or for obtaining a new PAN from July 1.
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council relaxed rules that require companies to file tax returns online under GST for the first two months of July and August.
- The council has set tax rate on state-run lottery at 12%, and government-authorized private lottery at 28%.
- Saudi Arabia has recently introduced a 'family tax' of 100 riyals (1,700 approx) on immigrants living there.
- Government issues notification for roll out of Goods and Services Tax, GST from July 1.
- To launch GST, the government has organized a special programme to be held in Central Hall of Parliament in the midnight of June 30.
- The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) announced that July 1st will be known as 'GST Day'.
- The government has prohibited dual maximum retail price (MRP) for some products including soft drinks and water bottles at multiplexes, airports, and malls.
- Further, it has also made it mandatory for all packaged commodities to have increased font size for "best before" and "date of manufacturing", among others.
- These amendments will be effective from January 1, 2018.

Space

- US Air Force's Lt Col Raja Chari has been selected by NASA from over 18,300 applicants for its 2017 Astronaut Class.
- The 39-year-old, whose father hails from India, is the 3rd Indian-origin NASA astronaut after Sunita Williams and late Kalpana Chawla.
- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is launching an unmanned spacecraft named 'Parker Solar Probe' to the Sun on 31st July 2018.
- The 'Stratolaunch' aircraft built by Microsoft Cofounder Paul Allen to launch rockets into space.

- NASA is all set to launch the world's first ever mission devoted for studying neutron stars.
- NASA will launch the Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer (NICER), aboard a Falcon 9 rocket.
- Elon Musk's aerospace startup SpaceX successfully launched a used Dragon spacecraft for the first time in the company's eleventh cargo resupply mission to the International Space Station (ISS).
- The mission marked the 100th launch from NASA's Kennedy Space Center, which was also used for the first moon landing missions.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) successfully launched India's heaviest rocket 'Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mark III' carrying the 3,136 kg communication satellite GSAT19.
- The 43.43 metre rocket that weighs 640 tonnes is capable of lifting payloads of up to 4,000 kg into the Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.
- In the first ever study of dating Jupiter's age, an international group of scientists have confirmed that Solar System's largest planet is also the oldest.
- Asgardia, the first-ever country planned to be floated in space would be launching its maiden satellite in August, billionaire founder Igor Ashurbeyli announced.
- China launched its first-ever X-ray space telescope, also its second space telescope, to study the evolution of black holes.
- NASA and US-based researchers have revealed plans detailing various missions that could be sent to Uranus and Neptune by mid-2030s.
- India's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) completes 1000 earth days in orbit, which is more than 5 times the number of days it was designated to last.
- China is going to send mini ecosystems comprising of potato seeds and silkworm eggs to the Moon by next year.
- NASA's Kepler space telescope has discovered 219 new planet candidates, 10 of which are Earth-like and orbit in their star's habitable zone, the distance at which liquid water can exist.
- India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) in its 40th flight successfully launched 31 satellites in one go into a 505 km polar Sun-Synchronous Orbit.
- The ISRO-made rocket carried a 712-kg Cartosat-2 series Earth-observing satellite and 30 co-passenger satellites together weighing 243 kg.
- NASA launched satellite 'KalamSat' which is developed by Indian teenagers hailing from Tamil Nadu.
- Made of reinforced carbon fibre polymer, the 64-gram satellite named after former Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam is the smallest and lightest satellite in the world.
- The European Space Agency has approved €1.05-billion Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA) mission that will search for minute ripples in space-time called gravitational waves.

- Elon Musk-led startup SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket has successfully launched 10 communication satellites into orbit.
- The satellites belonged to American company Iridium Communications, which is replacing its orbiting fleet with next-generation satellites.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) GSAT- 17 satellites was successfully launched aboard French rocket Ariane 5, making it the third satellite launch in a month.
- The other launches this month were with PSLV C-38 and India's heaviest rocket GSLV Mk III.
- The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has revealed plans to send its first astronaut to the Moon by 2030.
- The announcement comes as India and China develop their indigenous space programmes.
- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has successfully launched Terrier-Improved Malemute sounding rocket that created colorful artificial clouds visible in the skies of the US.
- The rocket was launched from its Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.

Science and Technology

- A Chinese malware named 'Fireball' has hit 25 crore computers worldwide, infecting them with malicious code designed to change the default search engine.
- The malware further tracks the infected computer's web traffic on behalf of a Beijing based digital marketing firm called Rafotech.
- IIT- Kharagpur has developed a wireless technology called 'AmbuSens' for remote monitoring of condition of those patients who are ferried in ambulances.
- The world's first hybrid 'Aeroboast' which has been built by an Indo-Russian joint venture has been unveiled at a startups event organized by Russia's state-run Skolkovo Foundation.
- The MCA21 portal of Ministry of Corporate Affairs, which is used by companies for making filings, was hit by the WannaCry ransomware attack last month, according to an official document.
- Two Chinese supercomputers Sunway TaihuLight and Tianhe2 have been declared the fastest machines in the world, according to a list released by researchers in the US and Germany.
- Switzerland's Piz Daint and the US' Titan took the third and fourth positions respectively.
- Social networking platform Facebook has announced India specific tools that will let users set up a 'guard' on their profile pictures to prevent others from downloading and sharing them.
- China has developed world's most powerful magnetic detector which can find hidden metallic objects, including minerals and submarines.
- A month after WannaCry attacked systems worldwide, a new ransomware called 'Petya' has hit computers in countries like Ukraine, Russia, India, and US.

- Operations at one of the terminals of Mumbai's Jawaharlal Nehru Port, India's largest container port, were disrupted by this ransomware, marking the first reported case of the ransomware in India.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

· The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has announced that it is working on a forecasting system that will give a 15 day warnings on the likelihood of Malaria or Chikungunya outbreak across different regions of the country.

· Union Health Ministry launches Intensified Diarrhea Control Fortnight (IDCF) across country to reduce child deaths due to Diarrhoea.

Energy/Gas/Oil

· State run NTPC announced that the company has forayed into electric vehicle charging business and has set up first such charging stations at its offices in Delhi and Noida.

· The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies, Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum signed an agreement to jointly set up the world's largest refinery and petrochemical complex in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra.

· Oil marketing companies extend the new pricing mechanism for fuel across India from June 16.

- The government is contemplating daily revision of CNG prices similar to daily fuel price revision, which was implemented across the country from June 16.

· Minister of State for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines has launched the Energy Conservation Building Code 2017 (ECBC 2017).

· In a bid to cut down air pollution in the area, Amritsar's Golden Temple will now use solar energy to prepare 'langar' instead of LPG and wooden sticks.

Environment

· The Centre has drafted a proposal to allow mercy killing of wild animals in order to control their population and also to save crops.

· From July, Odisha will commission the ambitious Early Warning Dissemination System (EWDS) to warn the vast population residing along its 480 km long coast in the event of the occurrence of natural disasters like a tsunami or a cyclone.

- Andhra Pradesh is also reportedly developing such system to alert the people in case of natural calamities.

· India saw its hottest winter in recorded history in 2016-17, with temperatures reaching 2.95°C above the 1901-1930 baseline, according to the Centre for Science and Environment.

· Nepal will measure Mount Everest over a period of two years, amid fears the April 2015 earthquake could have affected its stature.

- To combat rising pollution and climate change, China has officially started building the world's first 'Forest City'.

- The Liuzhou Forest City is expected to absorb nearly 10,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually and produce 900 tonnes of oxygen.

Education

- The government has directed all colleges and universities to stop accepting students' fees in cash and resort to digital modes from the next academic session.

- Tamil Nadu's Higher Education Minister KP Anbazhagan has announced that all transgender

students will get free education in the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in Tirunelveli.

A monthly stipend of 3000 for "meritorious students" was also announced.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu flagged off the Gandhi Darshan tourist train, being run to commemorate 100 years of Sabarmati Ashram.

- Bangalore became the 2nd Indian city after Delhi to get a fully fledged metro system, following the inauguration of the final section in the project's first phase.

- The Australian government announced that Indian nationals can apply for visitor visas online, starting July 1.

- The first cargo flight of the Afghanistan-India air freight corridor carrying Afghan goods to India landed in New Delhi.

- The first flight was operated by Ariana Afghan Airlines, which is the Afghanistan's national carrier.

- Delhi Metro Rail Corporation's first automated driverless metro trains are set to start operations from October this year on new Magenta Line from Janakpuri West to Botanical Garden.

Films and Film Festival

- Indian film Ralang Road has been chosen to compete for the top prize at the 52nd Karlovy Vary International Film Festival in the Czech Republic this year.

- The film has been nominated for the Crystal Globe Award along with eleven other films.

- Indian-American filmmaker Mira Nair won the Dorothy Arzner Directors Award for the film Queen of Katwe at this year's Women in Film Crystal + Lucy Awards.

- Elizabeth Banks won the Crystal Award for Excellence in Film and Tracee Ellis Ross won the Lucy Award for Excellence in Television.

- Filmfare Awards South 2017

- R Madhavan was named the Best Actor (Male) for his performance in the Tamil film 'Irudhi Suttru'.

- Ritika Singh won the Best Actor (Female) award (Irudhi Suttru).
- Sudha K Prasad was named the Best Director (Irudhi Suttru).
- AR Rahman was named Best Music Director for the film 'Achcham Yenbadhu Madamaiyada'.
- The Salman Khan and Anushka Sharma starrer 'Sultan' won the Best Action Movie award at the 20th Shanghai International Film Festival.
- Bollywood Actress Vidya Balan has been named the Ambassador of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne.

Festival

- As many as 65 countries will be celebrating 'Azadi ke 70 Saal', a festival marking 70 years of Indian independence this year.
- The celebrations will start with a Rasleela, storytelling about Lord Krishna and Gopis (his female friends), in Hungary.
- The celebrations featuring folk artists, traditional cuisine and literary exhibitions, will be held in USA, Brazil, Vietnam, etc.
- The annual Rath Yatra festival of Lord Jagannath began in Odisha's Puri.
- Eid-ul-Fitr celebrated with religious fervour and enthusiasm in various parts of the country on June 26.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Ganesh Kumar as Executive Director (ED) after the voluntary retirement of Chandan Sinha.
- The United Nations General Assembly picked Slovak Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak to be its next President.
- Shashi Shekar Vempati has been appointed as the CEO of Prasar Bharati. He will hold the post for a period of five years.
- Nepali Congress President Sher Bahadur Deuba (70) elected new Prime Minister of Nepal.
- Hoshier Singh, a 1994 batch officer of the Indian Telecom Service has been appointed as Registrar of Copyrights.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved the appointment of Vikram Limaye as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) subject to his resignation from India's cricketing body.
- Preet Kaur Gill has become the first Sikh to be elected to the British Parliament's House of Commons.

- Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi has become the first turban wearing Sikh to be elected to the House of Commons.
- Amit Sinha, the Vice President of business and human resources at Paytm's parent company One97 Communications, has been appointed as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Paytm Mall.
- Uber has appointed Wan Ling Martello, the Executive Vice President of Nestle in South Asia, as an independent board director.
- Law expert Neeru Chadha has been elected to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Seas (ITLOS).
- Ireland's Parliament voted 5750 to confirm Indian-origin minister Leo Varadkar as the country's new Prime Minister.
- Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic nominated Ana Brnabic as the Prime Minister of the country.
- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has appointed 19-year-old Muzoon Almellehan as its newest and youngest Goodwill Ambassador on World Refugee Day.
- Saudi Arabia has relieved Muhammad bin Nayef as Crown Prince, replacing him with Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud's son Mohammed bin Salman.
- India has re-nominated Justice Dalveer Bhandari for another term as a Judge at the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. Bhandari was elected in 2012 and his current term runs through February 2018.
- US President Donald Trump's top aide Kenneth Juster is set to be US' new ambassador to India.
- The UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has appointed Russian diplomat Vladimir Voronkov to head the newly established UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT), despite growing tensions between the US and Russia.
- Rajiv Gauba was appointed as the new Home Secretary. He is presently working as a Secretary in the Ministry of Urban Development.
- Palbinder Kaur Shergill has become the 1st turbaned Sikh woman to be appointed a Judge of Canada's Supreme Court of British Columbia.
- Anantha P Chandrakasan, an India-born professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), has been named Dean of the University's School of Engineering.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has appointed Imran Khawaja as its Deputy chairman.
- Canadian soldier Megan Couto has become the first female officer to captain troops guarding UK's Queen Elizabeth II at the Buckingham Palace in 180 years.
- Romanian President Klaus Iohannis has appointed outgoing economy minister Mihai Tudose as Prime Minister.
- Kaushik Basu has taken over as President of the International Economic Association (IEA).
- Dr Manoj Soni has taken Oath of Office and Secrecy as a Member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

- French President Emmanuel Macron's party has won a clear parliamentary majority.
- U.S. President Donald Trump has appointed an Indian-American named Krishna R Urs as the new US Ambassador to Peru.

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- Shuttler PV Sindhu will be appointed as a revenue divisional officer in Andhra Pradesh, after the AP State Public Service Commission approved her appointment.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- The upper house of the Japanese parliament passed a legislation paving the way for 83-year-old Emperor Akihito to abdicate.
- Oscar-winning Hollywood actor Daniel Day-Lewis, known for films like Lincoln, My Left Foot and Gangs of New York, has announced his retirement from acting.

Arrests/Jailed

- Brazilian prosecutors filed corruption charges against President Michel Temer, accusing him of receiving over 97 lakh in bribes.

Deaths

- Adam West (88), who played Batman in American Broadcasting Company's (ABC) 1960's television series, has died of leukaemia.
- Legendary Telugu poet and writer C Narayana Reddy (85), a recipient of the prestigious Jnanpith award, passed away.
- Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) PN Bhagwati (95), who is credited with introducing the concept of Public Interest Litigation (PIL), passed away.
- John Avildsen (81), the Oscar-winning director of 1976 boxing saga Rocky and 1984 karate drama The Karate Kid, passed away.
- Former German Chancellor and architect of Germany's reunification, Helmut Kohl (87), passed away.
- Padma Shri-awardee Predhiman Krishan Kaw (69), widely considered the father of India's nuclear fusion programme, has passed away.
- Italian fashion designer Carla Fendi (79), the former President of the luxury fashion brand Fendi, passed away.
- Veteran actor Amrit Pal (76) passed away. Pal, who made his Bollywood debut with the Jeetendra Sridevi starrer film 'Jaal', was known for his negative roles.
- Dr Desh Bandhu Gupta (79), Founder and Chairman of pharmaceutical giant Lupin, passed away.
- Malayalam filmmaker KR Mohanan (69) passed away.

- Mustafa Dossa, a convict in the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts case, died of a heart attack in Mumbai.
- Singer Sabita Chowdhury (72) passed away. She is the wife of late music composer Salil Chowdhury.

Awards/Honours

- Indian origin student Ananya Vinay won the 90th Scripps National Spelling Bee contest, held annually in the United States of America.

She spelled French word 'Marocain', a dress fabric made of silk or wool, to win the contest.

- Ganeshan Neelakanta Iyer has become the 1st Indian to be nominated as a member of the Umpires and Referees Committee (URC) by International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

- Indian shuttler Sai Praneeth won the Men's singles title at the Thailand Open, defeating Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in the final.

- Real Madrid became the first team to win back-to-back UEFA Champions League titles, defeating Juventus at the Principality Stadium in Cardiff.

- The Ministry of Rural Development has selected Vizianagaram (Andhra Pradesh) as one among the 17 districts for MGNREGA annual award.

- The award was given to Vizianagaram for its effective implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act during the time period 2015-16.

- 'Project Jal Sanchay', a water conservation model which is successfully adopted in Nalanda district of south-central Bihar, has been chosen for the National Award for excellence in MGNREGP (Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee programme) by the Ministry of Rural Development.

- Calvin Klein's creative director Raf Simons won both the Menswear Designer of the Year and Womenswear Designer of the Year at the CFDA Fashion Awards.

- CFDA - Council of Fashion Designers of America.

- A minor planet in the Milky Way galaxy would be named after 16-year-old Sahithi Pingali from Bangalore.

- The class 12 student represented India and finished second at ISEF, world's largest international precollege science competition, following which MIT decided to name a planet after her.

- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare J P Nadda has been conferred the WHO Director General's Special Recognition Award for global tobacco control.

- Bengali actor Soumitra Chatterjee will be honored with Legion of Honor, France's highest civilian award.

- Filmmaker Madhur Bhandarkar was honored with the Bharat Gaurav Award at the United Nations hall in New York.

- Spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and late astronaut Kalpana Chawla were among the other honorees this year.

· Israeli author David Grossman has won the Man Booker International Prize for his novel “A Horse Walks Into a Bar“

- He will share the award money with his translator Jessica Cohen.

· Noted writer Yeshe Dorjee Thongshi was honored with the 5th Bhupen Hazarika National Award 2017.

· Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar's mother-in-law Annabel Mehta has been awarded the MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) for her 40 years of work and service to the underprivileged communities in Mumbai.

- The award will be presented to her at an official ceremony at the Buckingham Palace in London later this year.

· Syama Sanju was declared the Queen of Dhwayah, the winner at Kerala's first ever beauty pageant for transgender women.

- Jaz D'souza was crowned the first runner-up while Harini Chandana came third from among fifteen participants.

· A total of 23 Guinness World Records were set at an International Yoga Day event in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on 21st June 2017.

- More than 54,000 people participated in the event, beating the earlier record of most people doing yoga by a margin of over 18,000.

· Ramamani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute, Pune has become the 1st recipient of the Prime Minister's Award for outstanding contribution to promotion and development of Yoga.

· The United Nations honored West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee with the highest public service award for her girl empowerment initiative Kanyashree Prakalpa.

· Nisha Dutt, Chief Executive Officer of Intellectap has received the “Social Entrepreneur of the Year” award at The 7th Asian Awards in London.

· Miss Haryana Manushi Chhillar was crowned as the 54th Femina Miss India World 2017 winner.
- Miss Jammu & Kashmir Sana Dua was crowned the first runner-up while Miss Bihar Priyanka Kumari was crowned the second runner-up.

· IIT Kanpur is set to confer an honorary doctorate on former sprinter PT Usha on June 16 to mark the 50th convocation of the institute.

· American singer Katy Perry became the 1st ever person to hit 100 million (10 crore) followers on micro blogging site Twitter.

· An anti-hunger activist, Ankit Kawatra, has been awarded the Queen's Young Leaders Award for 2017 by Queen Elizabeth II at a ceremony in London's Buckingham Palace.

Sports/Game

· The ICC Champions Trophy 2017 was started in London with hosts England facing Bangladesh in the Opening match.

- The West Indies cricket team has been officially renamed as 'WINDIES' while the West Indies Cricket Board has rebranded itself as 'Cricket West Indies' on its 90th anniversary.
- Manika Batra and Mouma Das become 1st Indian pair to reach quarterfinals of the World Table Tennis Championships in Dusseldorf.
- India defeated Pakistan by 124 runs (D/L method) in their opening encounter of the Champions Trophy 2017, achieving the biggest margin of victory by runs against the archrivals in an ICC tournament.
- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has officially included mixed gender relay racing and 3on3 men's and women's basketball as Olympic events for the Tokyo Games to be held in 2020. The committee has added a total of 15 events, including mixed gender relays in swimming, track and triathlon, mixed team events in archery and judo, and mixed doubles in table tennis.
- Mercedes' British Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton registered his Formula One career's 6th Canadian Grand Prix title in Montreal.
- Indian shooters Jitu Rai and Heena Sidhu won Gold in the 10-metre air pistol mixed team event at the ISSF World Cup.
- Rafael Nadal has won his 10th French Open Title in Men's singles category by beating Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland.
- Women's Singles : Jelena Ostapenko (Latvia)
- Men's Doubles : Ryan Harrison (United States) / Michael Venus(New Zealand)
- Women's Doubles : Bethanie Mattek-Sands (United States) / Lucie Safarova (Czech Republic)
- Mixed Doubles : Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) / Rohan Bopanna (India)
- Golden State Warriors have been crowned NBA Champions for the fifth time after defeating LeBron James led Cleveland Cavaliers in the best of seven NBA Finals.
- Virat Kohli has become the Top ranked ODI batsman, rising two places in the ICC ODI rankings after scoring 157 runs in three matches in the Champions Trophy.
- Yuvraj Singh has become the 5th Indian and the 19th overall to feature in 300 ODIs, after facing Bangladesh in the Champions Trophy semifinal.
- Kolkata is going to host an exhibition match between Real Madrid Legends and Barcelona Legends on September 15.
- This match will be a tribute to Barcelona legend Johan Cruyff.
- India's Skipper Virat Kohli has created a record by becoming the quickest batsman to score 8000 runs in one day international cricket beating South Africa's AB de Villier's record by seven fewer innings.
- Indian shuttler Kidambi Srikanth defeated Japan's Kazumasa Sakai to win the Indonesia Superseries Premier title.

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced that the ICC World T20 event scheduled for 2018 will be scrapped, with the next edition of the tournament being scheduled for 2020.
- India's hockey team registered its biggest win over Pakistan in the Hockey World League 2017 Semi Final.
- Pakistan won their first ever Champions Trophy title after beating defending champions India by 180 runs in the tournament final.
- Indian wrestler Jinder Mahal defeated 14time WWE champion Randy Orton to retain his WWE Championship at Smackdown's Money in the Bank event.
- India won six medals in the Wushu competition of the 1st ever BRICS Games, which concluded in Guangzhou, China.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced the Team of the Champions Trophy 2017, which includes 7 players from the finalists of the tournament, India and Pakistan.
- Anil Kumble stepped down as Team India coach amid reports of a rift with Virat Kohli Following his; BCCI has named its general manager MV Sridhar as the supervisor for the Windies tour.
- Meanwhile, Sanjay Bangar and R Sridhar are set to continue as the Batting Coach and Fielding Coach respectively.
- Pakistan's limited over captain, Sarfraz Ahmed, who led Pakistan to their maiden ICC Champions Trophy title, is set to be appointed as the captain of Pakistan's Test team.
- The Indian Olympic Association's (IOA) chief N Ramachandran has revealed that IOA has asked the government for permission to bid for the 2032 Olympics and 2030 Asian Games.
- Former power lifter Kavita Devi will become the first Indian woman wrestler in WWE, after getting selected for the company's first-ever tournament for women, Mae Young Classic.
- Kavita, who trained at The Great Khali's wrestling academy in Punjab, appeared at the WWE Dubai tryout this year where she was selected.
- She will compete at the 32-competitor event in Florida next month.
- India's Kidambi Srikanth has won the Australian Open Superseries title by beating Rio Olympics champion China's Chen Long.
- Haryana's Anish Bhanwala set a junior world record to win the Gold medal in the 25-metre standard pistol at the ISSF Junior Shooting World Championship in Germany.
- India also bagged the team silver, moving to second place in the medals tally.
- India opened their ICC Women's World Cup 2017 campaign with a 35-run win over hosts England in a match which saw Indian captain Mithali Raj break two world records.
- Raj scored her career's 47th fifty, overtaking England's Charlotte Edwards to record most fifties in women's ODI cricket.
- Raj also became the only woman player to score seven consecutive ODI fifties.

- Indian tennis player Leander Paes along with his Canadian partner Adil Shamasdin clinched the Men's doubles title at the Aegon Ilkley Challenger Trophy in Ilkley, England.
- Swiss tennis player Roger Federer registered his career's 100th title, winning the Halle Open in Germany.
- Indian boxer Ankush Dahiya clinched Gold Medal at the Ulaanbaatar Cup boxing tournament in Mongolia.
- Srinivas Gokulnath from Maharashtra created history by becoming 1st Indian to complete toughest cycle race in world 4,900km RAAM in solo category.
- Indian Men's and Women's throwball teams won Gold at the World Games in Kathmandu.
- Indian shooters Yashaswini Singh Deswal and Anish Bhanwala has bagged gold in the Women's 10m Air Pistol and Men's 25m Standard Pistol competition respectively in the ISSF Junior World Championship held in Germany.
- Indian origin cricketer (Telangana) Sindhuja Reddy is set to be a part of the USA women's cricket team in the World Twenty20 Qualifiers in Scotland.
- Kerala's traditional snake boat racing, which is held during Onam, is set to become an IPL like league based sport with the inaugural edition of the Kerala Boat Race League scheduled to start in August this year.
- The Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) is set to shift India's Under-17

World Cup matches from Mumbai to Delhi on request of India's sports ministry. – The first-ever FIFA event in India will be held across six cities from October 6.

Report

- Iceland has been named the World's Most Peaceful Country, topping the Global Peace Index for the tenth consecutive year.
- New Zealand stood at 2nd position and 3rd place was occupied by Portugal.
- Syria has been named the least peaceful country, followed by Afghanistan and Iraq.
- India is ranked 137 out of 163 (last year's rank 141).
- India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the 3rd most followed leader on Twitter in the world with over 3 crore 58 thousand followers, according to Twiplomacy Study 2017.
- While Pope Francis is the most followed world leader with over 3.37 crore followers across his nine language accounts.
- US President Donald Trump is ranked second with 3.01 crore followers.
- Top 10 in ESPN's 100 most famous active athletes in the world : Cristiano Ronaldo, Lebron James , Lionel Messi, Roger Federer, Phil Mickelson Neymar, Usain Bolt, Kevin Durant, Rafael Nadal, and Tiger Woods

- Indians in the List: Virat Kohli (13th), Mahendra Singh Dhoni (15th), Yuvraj Singh (90th), and Suresh Raina (95th)
- The 16th edition of the Global Retail Development Index (GRDI) titled 'The Age of Focus' has placed India at the top position among 30 developing countries on ease of doing business in the retail sector.
- China stood at the second place and Malaysia has been ranked third.
- Top 10: India (71.7), China (70.4), Malaysia (60.9), Turkey (59.8), United Arab Emirates (59.4), Vietnam (56.1), Morocco (56.1), Indonesia (55.9), Peru (54.0), and Colombia (53.6).
- Retail giant Walmart has topped Fortune's annual list of America's top 500 companies for the fifth consecutive year with revenue of \$485.8 billion.
- Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway emerged at the second position on the list followed by tech giant Apple.
- India ranked 15th in the global 4G availability list, according to Open Signal's State of LTE report, up nine places from its November 2016 rank of 24.
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi has surpassed the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore, to become the top ranked Indian institute according to Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings.
- With rankings of 172 (IIT-Delhi), 179 (IIT-Bombay) and 190 (IISc), three universities have found a place in the top 200 for the first time.
- Footballer Cristiano Ronaldo topped the list followed by American basketball player LeBron James and Argentine footballer Lionel Messi.
- Virat Kohli (89th Spot) is the only Indian and lone cricketer in Forbes' world's highest paid athletes list of 2017.
- Tennis player Serena Williams is the only woman in Forbes' 2017 list of world's 100 highest paid athletes.
- Top 10 in the List : Cristiano Ronaldo, LeBron James, Lionel Messi, Roger Federer, Kevin Durant, Andrew Luck, Rory McIlroy, Stephen Curry, James Harden, and Lewis Hamilton.
- According to a recently released Child Rights and You (CRY) Report on child labour, more than 8 lakh children between the age group of 5 and 6 years in India are engaged in child labour.
- Uttar Pradesh topped the number of child labourers (2, 50,672 children) in India followed by Bihar (1, 28, 087 children) and Maharashtra (82,847 children).
- Technology giant Google has topped the 2017 BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands list, with a brand value of over \$245 billion.
- Further, US tech giants Apple, Microsoft, and Facebook were also among the five most valuable brands.

· India has waived off a cumulative 3.1 lakh crore (\$49.1 billion) in farm loans till date, a report by data journalism firm India Spend has revealed.

· According to the 'One Family at a Time' study conducted by the UN International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Indians working across the world had sent home USD 62.7 billion in 2016 making India the top remittance receiving country surpassing China.

- Top Remittance Receiving Countries: India, China, Philippines, Pakistan

- Top Remittance Sending Countries: US, Saudi Arabia, Russia

· Mumbai is the most expensive Indian city for expatriates and is ranked above major cities like Paris, Canberra, Seattle and Vienna, a report by consulting firm Mercer revealed.

- Globally, Mumbai was ranked 57 on the list while New Delhi was ranked 99.

- Further, the capital of Angola, Luanda was named the costliest city globally for expats followed by Hong Kong.

· According to the United Nations' annual population survey, the Global population will hit 8 billion in 2023.

- According to this survey, India will overtake China to become the world's most populous nation by 2024.

· The urban development minister M. Venkaiah Naidu has launched 'City Livability Index', the 1st Livability index which will rank the country's 116 major cities on the basis of the quality of life.

- The rankings based on the index would be released in 2018.

· About 88 square km of land, almost the size of New Delhi, will be needed for waste disposal at landfills by 2050, according to a joint report by Assocham and PwC.

· Ecommerce major Flipkart has debuted on MIT Technology Review's 50 Smartest Companies list for 2017.

- Flipkart is the only Indian company on the list.

· Indo-Canadian YouTube personality Lilly Singh, also known as Superwoman, was ranked 1st in the Entertainment category of 2017 Top Influencers list by Forbes.

American YouTuber Tyler Oakley was ranked second.

National Parties/Regional Parties

· BJP chief Amit Shah announced that Bihar Governor Ram Nath Kovind would be BJPl'd NDA's candidate for the Presidential poll.

· The opposition led by Congress announced former Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar as its candidate for the Presidential polls.

General - National

- Responding to an RTI query on Subhash Chandra Bose, the Central government has announced that Netaji died in a plane crash in 1945.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs further clarified that man named Gumnamibaba or Bhagwanji, who was rumored to be Bose reportedly living incognito in Uttar Pradesh till 1985, was not the nationalist leader himself.
- The government is planning to introduce “Digital Unique Identification”, such as Aadhaar, PAN, or passport number for air travel, Union Minister Jayant Sinha announced.
- Air travelers are already required to carry a copy of their identity while entering an airport.
- Following the misuse of biometrics by a developer working for Aadhaar's parent body UIDAI, new security features have been added to make the enrolment process secure.
- The new system will eliminate this vulnerability by attaching the biometric reader's serial number with the fingerprint to generate an encrypted Personal ID.
- India wins Re-Election to United Nations Council On Economic, Social Issues.
- India obtained 183 votes, the second highest after Japan in the Asia Pacific category.
- India and Switzerland are going to start exchanging financial account information starting 2019, with the Swiss government formally ratifying the global convention for information exchange on tax matters with 38 countries.
- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority has introduced "APY@eNPS", providing a complete digital enrolment process for Atal Pension Yojana (APY).
- India has become the 71st nation to join the United Nations TIR (Transports Internationaux Routiers) Convention.
- India is Afghanistan's most reliable regional partner, the Pentagon has recently announced in its first Afghan report.
- India and Russia are celebrating 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.
- India will also be the Guest Country at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum in June 2017.
- Under the Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin (SBM-G), rural Uttarakhand and rural Haryana have been declared as the 4th and 5th Open Defecation Free (ODF) States of India.
- Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala have already been declared as Open Defecation Free.
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj announced that all passports from now on will be in English and Hindi languages as against the existing passports which are only in English.
- Swaraj also announced a 10% reduction in passport fee for applicants who are under 8 years of age and for those over 60 years of age.

- India is going to build the world's highest railway line connecting Leh in Jammu & Kashmir to parts of Himachal Pradesh including Manali.
- The 498-km-long line, to be built at an altitude of 3,300 metres will overtake the Qinghai-Tibet Railway.
- India's holdings in American government securities increased by \$7 billion in April to reach \$124.1 billion, the highest level since July 2016.
- Among the BRICS nations, India had the third largest exposure to the US government securities after China and Brazil.
- Japan had the maximum holding of \$1.106 trillion at the end of April.
- US President Donald Trump has reaffirmed the support of the United States for India's permanent membership on a reformed UN Security Council.
- India is drafting a policy to safeguard its interests in Antarctica and is going to present it at the winter session of the Parliament.
- Being a consultative member of the Antarctic Treaty, it is important for India to have clear directives to guide its activities in the region.
- Railways authorities have officially changed the name of Mumbai's biggest station from Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus.

General - International

- In a move honoring his campaign promise, US President Donald Trump pulled the country out of the Paris climate agreement.
- The US has granted emergency approval for a new questionnaire asking US visa applicants social media handles of the last five years and biographical information of the last 15 years.
- Officials can request prior passport numbers, addresses and employment history.
- The UN Security Council has unanimously voted to expand sanctions against North Korea in response to its repeated missile tests this year.
- The measures impose a travel ban and asset freeze on North Korean officials and state entities that deal with the country's nuclear program.
- Danish lawmakers have repealed a 334 year old blasphemy law that forbids public insults of a religion, such as the burning of holy books.
- Denmark was the only Scandinavian country with a blasphemy law.
- The UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Egypt broke off all diplomatic ties and land and sea contact with fellow Gulf Arab state Qatar, citing "terrorism" and "flagrant violation" of international law.
- Yemen and Libya have followed the decision by Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the UAE to cut diplomatic ties with Qatar, accusing it of supporting terrorism.

- For the first time, Pakistan's Sindh government has recruited 46 women in the police's counter terror department for combat operations and intelligence gathering.
- The United States warned that it might withdraw from the United Nations Human Rights Council unless reforms are ushered in including the removal of what it sees as an "anti-Israel bias".
- The UK elections ended in a hung parliament, as PM Theresa May lost her parliamentary majority after calling an election to strengthen it.
- The poverty-stricken unincorporated US territory of Puerto Rico voted in favour of becoming the 51st US state with 97% voters supporting the referendum.
- The final decision to accept Puerto Rico as a state lies with US Congress.
- Britain and France have announced a new joint campaign to stop the internet from being a safe space for terrorists as they plan tougher action to tackle online radicalization
- Israel has approved the construction of over 8,000 new homes in West Bank, making it the largest expansion of Jewish settlements in the area in 25 years.
- Panama has established formal diplomatic ties with China and broke all of its relationship with Taiwan in a move that is seen as a victory for China in its drive to isolate Taiwan from the rest of the world.
- Pakistan has claimed that its ally China will fund its long-delayed 77 crore mega dam project over the Indus basin in Pakistan occupied Kashmir.
- The United Nations General Assembly has approved the establishment of a new United Nations office of counterterrorism to help Member States implement UN's global counterterrorism strategy.
- UN will now transfer the relevant functions out of the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) into the new body.
- Swedish Parliament voted in favour of adopting a climate bill and pledged to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 to tackle climate change.
- A ceremonial Bat-Signal was lit up at Los Angeles' City Hall to honor late actor Adam West, known for his portrayal of Batman in American Broadcasting Company's (ABC) 1960's television series.
- France has named the medieval village of Kaysersberg as its favorite village of the year, beating 12 contenders.
- Nearly three months after Article 50 was triggered, Britain started negotiations on the terms on which UK will leave the and the European Union in Brussels bloc after 44 years of membership.
- The Royal Canadian Mint has unveiled a specially designed two-dollar coin, or 'toonie'.
- This is world's first glow-in-the-dark coin to enter circulation.
- The coin features two people paddling under the Northern Lights.

- The coin, created to mark the 150th anniversary of Canada's confederation, is also the world's first colored bimetallic coin.
 - Estonia will be opening the world's first-ever data embassy next year in Luxembourg, to keep backup files of its vital information on cloud servers and double secure its data digitally.
 - Aimed at minimizing the risk of injuries and casualties, Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte signed an executive order banning the private use of firecrackers in the country.
 - China announced plans to link its economic corridor in Pakistan to its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) involving India.
 - The BRI is a part of China's initiative to link Europe with Asia.
 - UK PM Theresa May has told European Union leaders that any EU citizen living in UK for five years will be given "UK settled status" after Brexit.
 - The Pakistan government has tasked the country's National Council of Arts with the responsibility to rearrange the musical rendition of its national anthem 'Qaumi Taranah' using a world class orchestra in order to represent cultural diversity.
 - The anthem, which is also called 'Pak Sarzamin', was written by Hafeez Jullundhri in 1952 and was officially adopted in 1954.
 - Egypt's parliament has approved President Abdel Fattah alSisi's proposal to extend the state of emergency in the country for three more months.
 - Pakistan has issued its 1st third-gender passport to a transgender activist.
 - The World Taekwondo Federation has changed its name to World Taekwondo after its acronym 'WTF' was found to have "negative connotations".
 - Italy has decided to wind up two failing regional banks at a cost of up to \$19 billion in its biggest rescue plan.
 - The "good" assets of the two lenders will be purchased by the country's largest retail bank Intesa Sanpaolo for €1 (72).
 - The United States is going to declare China as one among the world's worst offenders on human trafficking in its annual Trafficking in Persons Report.
 - The declaration would place China in the same category as North Korea, Zimbabwe and Syria.
 - Iraqi government troops declared an recapturing the Grand al-Nuri Mosque
- end of Islamic State's 'caliphate' in the country after where the militants proclaimed the creation of their state.
- The United States has dropped Iraq and Myanmar from a list of the world's worst offenders in the use of child soldiers, despite multiple reports of continuous usage of children in armies and militias in the two countries.

- Under the Child Soldiers Prevention Act, US must be sure that no children are in any way compelled to serve as soldiers.

· North Korea has issued a standing order for the execution of South Korea's former President Park Geun-Hye over reports that Park had planned to assassinate North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un.

Books and Authors

Book's Name Author's Name

- Yug Purush, Bharat Ratna, Atal Ji Ramesh Pokhriyal
- Indira Gandhi – A life in nature Jairam Ramesh

· A new Middle earth love story by JRR Tolkien ('Lord of the Rings' author) has been published 100

years after being written.

- 'Beren and Luthien' has been referred to as a "personal story" written after Tolkien returned from World War One's Battle of the Somme.

TO THE POINTS: JUNE-2017

· B K Manjunath has been appointed part-time chairman of Lakshmi Vilas Bank for tenure of three years.

· K G Karmakar and Gauri Shankar were appointed as Independent Directors of India Post Payments Bank.

· Haryana announced a 500 rupee increase in the monthly stipend of widows and destitute women and girls imparting training in tailoring.

· Tamil Nadu government has signed a MoU with the Union Civil Aviation Ministry for the implementation of the UDAN scheme in the state recently.

· India was ranked 15th in the global 4G availability list, according to Open Signal's State of LTE report.

· TCS has launched "BaNCS App Development Kit" (ADK) that will enable banks to fast design and build their own apps and deploy it across devices and desktops seamlessly.

· India's growth is likely to remain unchanged at 7.1% this financial year; report by HSBC.

· National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) of India has received prestigious International Award of Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) titled "APQN Quality Award 2017 for International Co-operation in Quality Assurance.

· Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) has appointed Sanjiv Singh as the new chairman of the company with immediate effect.

· Researchers at IIT – Kharagpur have developed a technology that has the potential to make bio fuel manufacturing cheaper, quicker and free of pollution.

- Punjab government has decided to collaborate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as part of its efforts to root out the drug menace in the State.
- Defence Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurated a grid-connected solar power plant of 16 MW capacity at the Ordinance Factory in Telangana.
- India and Russia have signed the pact for setting up the last two units nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu.
- NASA is launching an unmanned spacecraft named 'Parker Solar Probe' to the Sun on July 31, 2018.
- China has overtaken India to become the world's fastest-growing economy after India reported slow economic growth for the fourth consecutive quarter.
- India and Russia have vowed to develop a credit rating industry.
- Russia has reaffirmed its “strong support” to India’s candidature for a permanent seat in the reformed UN Security Council and a membership in the Nuclear Supplier Group.
- The 70th World Health Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- India successfully test-fired it’s indigenously developed nuclear-capable Prithvi-II missile from the Integrated Test Range in Odisha.
- Poet S. Abdul Rahman, popularly known as ‘Kavikko’ who passed away recently, he was the famous poet of Tamil language.
- Telangana Government has launched a digital wallet, named T-Wallet, which doesn’t charge transaction fee from consumers.
- The Indian Human Micro biome Project has been launched in the North eastern region to provide a fertile ground for discovery of new drugs and pharmaceuticals.
- Varanasi will get the country’s first ‘freight village’ spread over around 100 acres.
- Odisha is the first state to have first automatic coastal warning for disasters in India.
- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched INAM PRO+ an e-commerce platform for construction and infrastructure raw material for government and private procurement.
- State Bank of India and the World Bank announced that they had financed 100 MW of rooftop solar projects worth Rs.400 crore in India.
- USA withdraws from Paris Climate agreement recently.
- NASA has named the first mission to fly a spacecraft directly into the sun’s atmosphere in honor of Prof. Eugene Parker a pioneering physicist at the University of Chicago.
- Roberto de Vincenzo who passed away recently, he was a Golfer.
- Param Jit Mann has been appointed as the country’s next Ambassador to Slovenia.

- Uttarakhand Governor K K Paul has launched the Vidya-Veerta Abhiyan in the state by presenting Vice Chancellors of universities with the portraits of Param Vir Chakra recipients.
- National Stock Exchange will launch its international exchange in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- Telangana started the distribution of kits for new borns and mothers across the State.
- India has been ranked 45th in terms of competitiveness in the annual rankings compiled by Institute for Management Development.
- India test-fired it's indigenously developed Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QR-SAM) for the first time from Odisha.
- SpaceX successfully launched a used Dragon spacecraft for the first time in the company's eleventh cargo resupply mission to the International Space Station (ISS).
- The world's fastest elevator that can operate at a record speed of 1,260 meters per minute is set to be installed in China.
- T.S.V. Hari who passed away recently was a Journalist.
- Madhur Bhandarkar has conferred with Bharat Gaurav Award by NRI community of USA.
- State-run NTPC has set up first electric vehicle charging business and charging stations in New Delhi.
- The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated a two-day national level conference on "Capacity Building of SDRF-2017" in New Delhi.
- Telangana was the only government in the country to launch welfare schemes such as pension for single women for the betterment of society.
- West Bengal has decided to gift cows to the poor farmers across the state.
- Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has launched three new apps to help customer's rate quality of services, speed and performance. The three new apps — Mycall app, MySpeed app and 'Do not disturb (DND 2.0)' app are being launched so that there is more transparency between the consumers and the service providers.
- The Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Shipping, Shri Nitin Gadkari and Chief Minister of Maharashtra inaugurated the newly constructed in Savitri River.
- World Bank's Global Economic Prospects (GEP) has projected the India's growth rate for the financial year 2017 as 7.2%.
- ICICI Bank commissioned over 200 solar powered ATM sites in the last one year as part of its efforts to reduce carbon footprint and use more clean energy.
- The book "The Ministry of Utmost Happiness" is authored by Arundhati Roy.

· World Environment Day was observed on June 5, Theme of the year 2017 is Connecting People to

Nature.

· China has successfully tested a solid-fuel variable flow ramjet engine which could enhance the real combat ability of the country's stealth aircraft and boost firing range of missiles.

· Ramkumar Ramanathan won the ITF men's Futures tennis title 2017.

· Popular writer Anand Neelakantan, Odia poet Haraprasad Das and author Paramita Satpathy were announced winners of the Kalinga Literary Awards.

· Sher Bahadur Deuba is the new Prime Minister of Nepal.

· Hoshiar Singh has been appointed as Registrar of Copyrights.

· Trump has nominated Christopher Wray as the new FBI director.

· Cabinet approved MoU between India and Korea for export credit of USD 9 billion.

· Cabinet approved agreement between India and Cyprus on Merchant Shipping.

· Vijaya Bank is going to develop as many as 100 digital villages in various States of the country.

· The Union Cabinet has approved the Bilateral MoU between India and Iran in relation to mutual cooperation on matters pertaining to securities markets.

· Cabinet approved MoU between India and Mali for standardization and conformity assessment.

· The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing and subsequent ratification of the Agreement on Transfer of sentenced persons between India and Somalia.

· The Indian Certificate of Secondary Education has announced it will hold board exams for the students of Class fifth and eighth starting from 2018.

· The Union Cabinet has given its approval to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for entering into a MoU with Europe in relation to Mutual Co-operation.

· Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare launched the 'Skill for Life, Save a Life' initiative in New Delhi.

· The Union Cabinet has approved the initial public offer (IPO) of Indian Renewable Development Agency (IREDA) to issue 13.9 crore fresh equity shares of Rs. 10 each to the public on a book-building basis.

· Krishnan Sasikiran became the first Indian to win the 52nd Capablanca Memorial Chess tournament at Varadero, Cuba.

· Montenegro became the 29th member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

· Writer Juan Goytisolo who passed away recently, he was from Spain.

- Veteran Parliamentarian Era Sezhiyan who passed away recently, he was the politician of Tamil Nadu state.
- Civil Aviation Ministry is adding a digital experience for Air travelers through DigiYatra Platform in New Delhi.
- Axis Bank has announced biodegradable prepaid gift cards on the occasion of World Environment Day (5th June).
- A book titled “The Crisis Within” authored by Ganesh Devy was released in June 2017.
- The Union Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated new projects at Kamarajar Port in Tamil Nadu.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has divided the drugs into three categories; they are Access, watch and reserve.
- Muttiah Muralitharan became the first player from Sri Lanka and the 83rd overall to be formally inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.
- Basudev Chatterji who passed away recently, was an Historian.
- Soumitra Chatterjee has been conferred with the highest French civilian honor, the Legion d’Honneur.
- Indian Overseas Bank has launched the Retail Mart, a retail lending concept, in Kerala.
- Pranab Mukherjee was launched the “Selfie with Daughter” mobile application, aimed at raising awareness about female feticide and sex selection.
- India and Mauritius signed a MoU to institutionalize cooperation between the Parliaments of the two countries.
- Canara Bank and the New India Assurance Company have entered into a corporate agency arrangement for distribution of insurance products.
- Mehrunnisa Dalwai who passed away recently, she was an Author and Social Activist.
- T.S. John who passed away recently, he was a politician from Kerala state.
- Rajya Sabha MP, Palvai Govardhan Reddy who passed away recently, he was presently represent the Telangana State as a Member of Parliament.
- Kolkata will soon have an underwater Metro which will pass through tunnels several feet under the Hooghly.
- The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has entered into an agreement with the Metal Industries Development Institute (MIDI), Ethiopia to implement a twinning programme.
- TCS will collaborate with chipmaker Intel to design a reference architecture that could be used for rolling out Internet of things (IoT), cloud, 5G and AI by its customers.

- The government of India has launched Tele Law service to provide legal aid for the people living in rural areas through video conferencing.
- Aiming to reduce emissions and promote sustainability to help India's smart city programme, France and the European Union have extended a grant of 3.5 million Euros.
- Indian Naval Ship INS Sahyadri is on an overseas deployment to the South East Asia and Southern Indian Ocean.
- World's largest floating Solar Farm launched in China.
- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation is keen to buy fuel retailer Hindustan Petroleum (HPCL) in a Rs. 42,254 crore deal.
- Israel has approved plans for over 8,000 new homes in the West Bank, with over a third for "immediate" construction.
- Maharashtra announced a complete loan waiver for small farmers "with immediate effect".
- Shashikant Kutwal has won the gold medal at the 17th World Individual Chess Championship for differently-abled.
- Jeje Lalpekhlua has received the All India Football Federation's inaugural player of the year 2016 award.
- Eminent poet, litterateur and Jnanpith awardee C. Narayana Reddy who passed away recently, he was a famous poet of Telugu and Urdu language.
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur will confer a doctorate on former sprint queen PT Usha, who missed a medal by a whisker at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.
- 12 year old Padmalaya Nanda from Odisha has created history by becoming the youngest girl to bag the "Little Miss Universe Internet 2017".
- Arunachal Pradesh demand for a separate time zone for the northeastern states.
- The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has successfully test-fired Anti-tank Guided Missile (ATGM) 'Nag' in Rajasthan.
- India to be a co-partner in a global food and beverages trade ANUGA will held in Germany from October 7-11 this year.
- Haryana has framed a new Ayush policy under which dispensaries and hospitals upto 20 beds would be opened in rural and urban areas of the state.
- India has emerged as the Seventh largest exporter of agri-products globally.
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has taken over the administration of Sahara India Life Insurance, a first of its kind move in the insurance sector.
- A model of water conservation in Bihar has been selected for the national award for excellence in the Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee programme (MGNREGP).

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will introduce a new batch of Rs.500 currency notes, which will have inset letter A.
- Hungary parliament approved a crackdown on foreign-backed civil society groups despite an international outcry.
- Nguyen Duc Hoa won the 10th Mumbai Mayor's Cup International Open Chess Tournament.
- Golden State Warriors won the NBA Basketball Champions title 2017.
- Ariana Grande is to become the first honorary citizen of Manchester for helping to raise millions of pounds for victims of the Manchester Arena attack.
- Puducherry government has proposed to offer cement at subsidised rates to low- and middle-income groups people and name the scheme after Congress President Sonia Gandhi.
- The government approved the Interest Subvention Scheme for 2017-18 under which it will give an interest subsidy of 2% per annum to farmers for short term loans of up to 3 lakh.
- The World Bank has approved financing worth more than 500 million dollars for Afghanistan to support a string of projects to boost the economy.
- Union Cabinet approved MoU between India and Palestine on agriculture cooperation.
- Maharashtra decided that it will be giving up to Rs. 10,000 to small and marginal farmers as immediate relief.
- The book 'Yug Purush, Bharat Ratna, Atal Ji' authored by Ramesh Pokhriyal.
- Group of Seven (G7) Environment Ministers Meeting was held in Bologna, Italy.
- Sikkim has signed a MoU with the British Council to enhance quality of education in the state.
- Ramanathan Ramanan has been appointed as the Mission Director of the Atal Innovation Mission.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the Intensified Diarrhea Control Fortnight (IDCF) in order to intensify efforts to reduce child deaths due to diarrhea.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan inaugurated the 16th North East Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in Manipur.
- India ranked 75 in the global environmental impact survey report.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has approved USD 150 million equity investment loan to the India Infrastructure Fund, the bank's first such loan to fund private projects.
- The board of the Asian Infrastructure three countries to be members; they are
Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved the applications of Argentina, Tonga and Madagascar.
- The government has made Aadhaar card mandatory for opening bank accounts and for financial transactions of Rs. 50,000 and above.

- Researchers at IIT Kharagpur have used silk to develop an electronic fabric.
- A MoU was signed between Nalanda University and Academy of South Korea Studies in Patna for academic linkages and collaborations.
- Yes Bank has partnered with mobile payments switch TerraPay to enable real time money transfer to bank accounts in India.
- India and South Korea have decided to stimulate investments to push infrastructure development and bilateral trade.
- Sunil Chhetri became the fourth best active international football scorer in the world.
- The 106th session of the International Labor Conference (ILC) held in Switzerland.
- Margaret Atwood will receive a lifetime achievement award from one of the world's oldest literary organizations.
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has inaugurated Know India Programme (KIP) for young overseas Indians in New Delhi.
- A historic underground postal railway network in London is set to open on July 28.
- India has bagged 5 medals, including a gold in the 2017 Asian Junior Wrestling Championships in Taiwan.
- Harry Potter Actor Sam Beazley passed away recently.
- Arun Netravali won the \$100,000 Marconi Prize.
- Tata Communications received top honors at the 2017 Frost & Sullivan India Digital Transformation Awards.
- IMP Powers received top honors at the 2017 Frost & Sullivan India Digital Transformation Awards.
- Telangana cabinet has decided to issue four ordinances to amend existing acts. One of these ordinances will amend the Gaming Act to ban online gambling.
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has announced the launch of 149 new Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK).
- Bangalore has become the second city in the country, and the first in south India, to have a full-fledged Metro rail.
- Sweden has committed to becoming a net-zero carbon emission emitter by 2045.
- France President Emmanuel Macron launched 'French tech visa' program to woo tech industry, build 'startup nation'.
- State Bank of India has entered into a tie-up with Tirumala Milk Products, to provide loans to dairy farmers who supply milk to the latter.

- Scientists in China have successfully transmitted entangled photons farther than ever before, achieving a distance of more than 1,200 km (745 miles) between suborbital space and Earth.
- China is planning to send mini-ecosystems — containing potato seeds and silkworm eggs — to the Moon next year.
- Pakistan won the ICC Champions Trophy title 2017.
- Muzoon Almellehan has been appointed as goodwill ambassador for UN children's agency (UNICEF), she belongs to Syria.
- Union Minister Harshvardhan launched a Mobile App Celebrating Yoga developed by Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology in New Delhi.
- India became the 71st country to ratify the United Nations TIR (Transports Internationaux Routiers) Convention.
- The Union government has roped in actor Amitabh Bachchan to promote the Goods and Services Tax (GST), ahead of its implementation from July 1.
- Indore becomes the first city in India to have a traffic police robot.
- Afghan President Ashraf Ghani inaugurated the first Afghanistan-India air corridor at the Kabul International Airport.
- Hike Messenger has launched the new version of the app with a completely new interface and the addition of a mobile wallet, in partnership with Yes Bank.
- India has re-nominated Justice Dalveer Bhandari for another term as a judge at the International Court of Justice.
- IDBI Bank has started insolvency resolution process against Lanco Infratech Ltd. following a directive from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- A team of USA scientists has observed individual steps in the replication of a single DNA molecule for the first time ever.
- Punjab has announced that the government will establish wellness mohalla (ward) clinics across the state along with initiating the process of providing health insurance to all citizens.
- Union Textiles Minister Smriti Irani unveiled the world's largest cushion at an exhibition in New Delhi.
- China and the United States will hold their first diplomatic and security dialogue in Washington.
- Flipkart launched its first private label fashion brand Divastri.
- India won 6 medals in the Wushu competition at the inaugural BRICS Games, which concluded in Guangzhou, China.
- Amrit Pal who passed away recently was an Actor.
- Baldwin Lonsdale who passed away recently, he was a president of Vanuatu.

- Karnataka announced loan waiver worth Rs. 8,165 crores for over 22 lakh small farmers across the state.
- Rajesh Kotecha has been appointed as special secretary in Ayush Ministry.
- Karnataka is planning to launch a skill development programme for providing vocational training to domestic workers.
- Meghalaya has signed two MoUs with the State Bank of India as a part of an initiative towards migrating government transactions to digital mode.
- Qatar Airways has been rated the Best Airline of 2017 by aviation website Skytrax.
- Predhiman Krishan Kaw who passed away recently, was a Physicist.
- Shrihari Chandraghatgi has been conferred the Ministry of Environment Award for 2017 in Japan for developing cutting edge technologies to address burning environmental problems.
- A total of 23 Guinness World Records were set at an International Yoga Day event in Ahmadabad, Gujarat.
- Keshri Nath Tripathi took oath as Bihar Governor as additional charge.
- The Union Cabinet was apprised about a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space between India and Armenia.
- Union Cabinet approved MoU between India and Netherland for bilateral Cooperation in the field of water resources management.
- Union Cabinet approved MoU between India and Portugal on Cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance Reforms.
- Cabinet approved MoU on cooperation in the textiles, clothing and fashion sectors between India and Australia.
- Cabinet approved MoU for cooperation in Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy between India and Sri Lanka.
- Axis Bank in association with Kochi Metro Rail Corporation (KMRL) has launched KMRL Axis Bank 'Kochi1' Card, India's first open loop EMV contactless metro card.
- China has unveiled world's first train that runs on a virtual track using sensor technology instead of metal rails.
- Philippines ban private use of firecrackers.
- India's first underwater metro tunnel completed for Rs 9,000 crore in West Bengal.
- Free electricity connection for BPL families announced in Uttar Pradesh.
- Maharashtra has announced that a mobile app named 'My Plant', which would help in recording data on tree plantations in the state.

- Saudi Arabia has recently introduced a 'family tax' of 100 riyals (Rs.1, 700 approx) on immigrants living there.
- China has launched Research Project to compile data on disputed region.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved a loan assistance of 44 million dollars for the Assam State Public Finance Institutional Reforms (ASPIRe) Project.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched its Cartosat- 2 series satellite for earth observation along with 30 co-passenger satellites.
- Kavita Devi will become the first Indian woman to compete in the World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE).
- Afghanistan and Ireland were confirmed as 'Full Member' of ICC thereby granting them Test status.
- West Bengal government implemented Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme was awarded the first prize in United Nations Public Service Award for Asia Pacific.
- Azim Premji is among the recipients of this year's Carnegie Medal, considered the most prestigious prize in philanthropy, for his efforts to reform India's public school system.
- Anti-hunger activist Ankit Kawatra is all set to receive the prestigious Queen's Young Leaders Award with 60 others from all 53 Commonwealth countries.
- Bangalore has become the country's first city where one can have fuel delivered at one's doorstep, just like milk and newspapers.
- The Union Cabinet's appointments committee has appointed Rajiv Gauba as secretary in the union ministry for home affairs.
- Manipur has launched a toll free 24/7 helpline number 181 for women in the state.
- To provide free health services to the poor, the Haryana government will implement a health insurance scheme in the state, for which it will bear the cost of premium.
- India and Russia have agreed to a roadmap for the development of bilateral defense cooperation.
- Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has signed a MoU with the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) to enable members of its housing scheme to avail subsidy and interest subvention under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.
- Maharashtra announced to waive loans worth Rs. 34,000 crore for farmers.
- India and Portugal have announced a €4 million joint fund to bolster research in science and technology.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India-Portugal Intl Startup Hub in Lisbon.
- The 54th Femina Miss India World 2017 winner is Manushi Chhillar, she belongs to Haryana.

- Sunil Kakar has been appointed as MD and CEO of IDFC Bank for a period of 3 years.
- Bhumika Sharma has become the first Indian woman to win the Miss World Body Building Championship.
- Virat Kohli has overtaken Salman Khan to become the second most-liked Indian celebrity on Facebook.
- International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was observed on June 26.
- Venkaiah Naidu has launched the book which titled 'The Emergency - Indian Democracy's Darkest Hour' written by Surya Prakash.
- Aadhaar is not a valid identification document for Indians travelling to Nepal and Bhutan.
- Satellite-based chip systems developed by ISRO will be used to alert road users at unmanned level crossings about approaching trains.
- Roger Federer won the Halle Open Title 2017.
- Ankush Dahiya won gold in the championship tournament, he associated with Boxing.
- Kidambi Srikanth won the Australia Open Super Series Badminton men's singles title.
- Indian shooter Anish Bhanwala won a Gold medal at the ISSF Junior World Championship in the 25m Standard Pistol category.
- Desh Bandhu Gupta who passed away recently was a Businessman.
- Noted film director K R Mohanan who passed away recently, he was a famous director of Malayalam film industry.
- N N Vohra has been appointed the president of the India International Centre (IIC) – one of the premier cultural institutions in the country.
- K. Kasturirangan has been appointed as the Chairman of the committee to prepare the final draft of the National Education Policy.
- Vidya Balan has been appointed as ambassador of the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM), which will be held this year August 10-22.
- Srinivas Gokulnath became the first Indian to complete solo Race Across America (RAAM) cycle race of 5000 kms.
- Apollo Hospital has launched a round-the-clock dedicated Air Ambulance Service Network to bring in patients in emergency from various parts of the country.
- The government has cleared a proposal for setting up a Greenfield airport in Noida.
- Food regulator FSSAI has come out with a draft regulation for organic food products, Ashish Bahuguna is the present chairman of FSSAI.

- Ministry of Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises has signed memoranda of understanding with SAP India, Intel and HMT with the aim to digitally empower small businesses.
- Haryana has decided to set up 'One Stop Centres' (OSCs) in 15 more districts under the State's golden jubilee year programme.
- The 6th India – Myanmar Joint Trade Committee (JTC) Meeting held at New Delhi.
- The World Bank has cleared a USD 250-million loan for making Indian youth more employable through re-skilling, in a move that is seen to aid the Skill India mission.
- The Indian mens & womens throwball teams scripted history by bagging a gold medal each in the World Games, held in Nepal.
- Mihai Tudose is the new Prime Minister of Romania.
- Priyanka Chopra has been appointed as ambassador for Government's Skill India Campaign.
- Ministry of Women and Child Development is setting up cradles at police stations, hospitals, and orphanages across the country where parents can leave their child for adoption.
- Odisha is all set to become the first state in the country to have a blood bank for the cattle.
- Uttar Pradesh has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for a loan of 1950 crore rupees for strengthening of roads in different district.
- The Union Cabinet has approved signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Israel on National Campaign for Water Conservation in India.
- The Union Cabinet has approved signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between India and the USA on Homeland Security.
- China has officially started building the world's first 'Forest City', to combat rising pollution and climate change.
- The world's first floating wind farm is being put together on the north-east coast of Scotland.
- The Director-General of UNESCO Irina Bokova named the Sharjah the World Book Capital for 2019.
- China military has launched its biggest new generation destroyer weighing 10,000 tonnes as part of a massive expansion to become a global naval power.
- The Indian shooting squad has finished second at the ISSF Junior World Championship with three gold, two silver and three bronze medals in Suhl, Germany.

