China opens its first civilian drone base
The Civil Aviation Administration of China announced the opening of the country’s first test-flight base for civilian drones in Shanghai.

- The base, located in the district of Qingpu, will provide service to thousands of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) in a country where private drones have become very popular.
- Drones in China are required to fly at a height below 150 metres and all test flights to be monitored for safety reasons to avoid obstructing air operations.
- The use of UAV, initially used in videography, for recreational purposes, security and agriculture.

Business and Climate Change Summit 2017
The Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, addressed the Business and Climate Summit (BCS) 2017 in New Delhi.

- Summit has brought the world came together in 2015 and agreed upon the Paris Agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. It came into force in November 2016 and till date, 160 Parties have ratified the agreement. India as a party to the Paris Agreement is committed towards its successful implementation.
- It is also however, critical and necessary that equal focus is given to Pre-2020 actions by developed countries under Kyoto Protocol and that they fulfil their commitments of providing effective finance, technology transfer and capacity-building support to developing countries.

India, China jointly oppose trade-distorting agri subsidies
India and China have called for eliminating trade-distorting agricultural subsidies given by developed countries, in a joint proposal to the WTO.

- India and China have jointly submitted a proposal to the WTO, which has been called for ending the agricultural subsidies given by developed countries. In this proposal, subsidy has been described as “the most distorted form of agricultural subsidy”. This kind of subsidy is called 'Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS)' or 'Amber Box' subsidy in the WTO language.
- The proposal assumes importance in view of the ongoing negotiations for the ministerial conference of the WTO to be held in Buenos Aires in December.
- The joint letter cites the developed countries, including the US, EU and Canada, which are providing continuous turnover subsidy to their farmers, which is much more than the limit set for developing countries.

RICS Summit begins in Xiamen
The ninth summit of the BRICS countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - kicked off in the seaside Chinese city of Xiamen.

- The five emerging nations look to send a strong message on protectionism and globalisation at a time of global uncertainty.
- India will also emphasise its concerns on global terrorism, which will be reflected in the Prime Minister's interventions as well as in the final Xiamen declaration.

Political Transition Begins in Cuba
Cuba began a five-month political transition, expected to end with Raul Castro's departure from the presidency, capping his family's near-total dominance of the country's political system for nearly 60 years. Over the rest of this month, Cubans will meet in small groups to nominate municipal representatives.

- Cuban officials said 12,515 block-level districts will nominate candidates for city council elections on October 22.
- In the second electoral stage, a commission dominated by government-linked organisations will pick all the candidates for elections to provincial assemblies and Cuba's national assembly.
- The congress is expected to pick the President and members of the powerful Council of State by February. Castro has said he will leave the presidency by that date, though he is expected to remain head of the Communist Party.

First Diesel Consignment from India to Myanmar Dispatched
Symbolising the growing hydrocarbon engagement between India and Myanmar, the first consignment of 30 MT of High Speed Diesel was sent from India to Myanmar by land route.

- Numaligarh Refinery Ltd. (NRL), which has been supplying HSD to Bangladesh, despatched the first diesel consignment through NH 37 across the Moreh
Custom Check Point on the Indian side and Tamu Custom Check Point on the Myanmar side.

- Supply of diesel consignment to Myanmar is another step in realizing the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to enhance hydrocarbon synergy with neighbouring countries as well as promoting India’s Act East Policy.
- NRL has entered into an agreement with Parami Energy Group of Companies for the supply of diesel and collaboration in the retail petroleum sector of Myanmar. NRL refinery, situated at 420 km from the India-Myanmar border, is ideally suited to supply diesel to Northern Myanmar where connectivity is a challenge, particularly in the rainy season.

**BRICS Declaration Strongly Condemns Terrorism**

Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations is strongly deplored in the 9th BRICS summit held in Xiamen city of China.

- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa in a joint declaration condemned all terror attacks worldwide, including those in the member states.
- The countries expressed concern at the security situation and violence caused by the Taliban, Islamic state, Al-Qaeda and its affiliates.
- The declaration also reaffirmed BRICS support to the people of Afghanistan to achieve peace and national reconciliation.
- In spite of the increasing international pressures, Pakistan has rejected BRICS Declaration.

**India-Nepal Military Exercise Surya Kiran Begins**

India and Nepal have begun their joint military exercise Surya Kiran in Nepal. This is the 12th edition of Nepal-India joint military exercise. The exercise Surya Kiran is being participated by around 300 troops each side.

- The battalion-level joint training between the two armies will focus on counter-terror operations in mountainous terrain by facilitating interoperability. Disaster management and joint operations for disaster relief will also be a part of the exercise.
- The Surya Kiran series of Exercises are being conducted annually, alternatively in Nepal and India.

- The 11th edition of the joint exercise was held in Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand.

**Eastern Economic Forum Meet Begins in Vladivostok**

Third meeting of Eastern Economic Forum has started in Vladivostok, Russia and External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will attend the Forum as India’s representative.

- In the forum, there will be discussion on the prime and important issues relating to global trade.
- She will also hold bilateral talks with her Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov during which there will be discussion on various issues relating to trade, investment and defence cooperation.

**UJALA scheme launched in Malaysia**

UJALA, One of the successful schemes by the Government of India has been launched in Melaka, Malaysia. It aims to sell LED bulbs at affordable price through Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under Ministry of Power.

- Under this scheme, each household in Melaka will get 10 high quality 9-watt LED bulbs at a cost of only MYR 10 which is almost half the price offered in the market.
- Green Growth Asia, a non-profit organization will provide logistical assistance and facilitation support in the implementation of the scheme.
- Launching the scheme Melaka Chief Minister said, “In due course of time, the successful Indian model of UJALA scheme has become a sought-after example for the different nations of the world.

**China Bans Raising Funds through Crypto currencies**

China has banned individuals and organizations from raising funds through Initial Coin Offerings (ICO), or launches of digital currencies, saying the practice constituted illegal fundraising.

- ICOs have become a bonanza for digital currency entrepreneurs, globally and in China, allowing them to raise large sums quickly by creating and selling digital “tokens” with little or no regulatory oversight.

**Mongolian Cabinet Has to Resign**

Mongolian lawmakers have voted to dismiss the Prime Minister and his Cabinet for alleged incompetence and corruption related to the signing of government contracts with companies linked to three Cabinet members.

- A majority of lawmakers from the ruling Mongolian People's Party joined members of the opposition to pass the motion demanding that Prime Minister
Jargaltulga Erdenebat and his 14-month-old Cabinet resign over the granting of contracts worth 328 million US Dollars.

- The MPP controls 65 seats in the 76 member Great Hural, with the opposition Democratic Party and independents sharing the remainder. Out of 73 lawmakers present during the voting, 33 from the MPP and nine opposition and independent lawmakers voted for the dismissal.
- Parliament is expected appoint a new Cabinet and Prime Minister in 45 days, and the current officials will continue serving in the interim.

**Indo-US Exercise “YudhAbhyas 2017”**
A joint military exercise between India and the USA, “Yudh Abhyas-2017” will be held in Washington, USA from 14 to 27 September 2017.

- ‘YudhAbhyas’ is one of the largest joint military training and defense corporation endeavors between India and USA.
- This will be the 13th edition of the joint exercise hosted alternately between the two countries.

**World Congress of Optometry begins in Hyderabad**
The second World Congress of Optometry began in Hyderabad to discuss new ideas and share research and knowledge about various facets of optometry.

- It will be focused on the future of optometry, upgrading optometrists’ skills, as well as developing clinical and professional knowledge and skills.
- The conference theme is ‘Accessible, quality vision and eye health’.
- The biennial congress is a World Council of Optometry (WCO) initiative organised in partnership with the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry (APCO) and the India Vision Institute (IVI).

**Air Forces of Pakistan, China Begin ‘Shaheen VI’ Exercises**
The Pakistan Air Force and the Chinese People’s Liberation Army-Air Force (PLAÉAF) began joint training exercises dubbed ‘Shaheen VI’ in China.

- The exercises will run until September 27.

- According to Xinhua, China’s state news agency China had sent a wide range of aerial assets and troops.
- The Shaheen series of exercises between the two countries, who are close partners, began in March 2011 and has since gone through five major iterations.

**Third Eastern Economic Forum held in Russia**
India participated in the third Eastern Economic Forum (EEF), which was held in Vladivostok, Russia at the invitation of the Russian Federation.

- India’s External Affairs Minister Ms. Sushma Swaraj attended the meeting.
- She presented a clear vision of India’s role and support in the development of the Russian Far East region as a Strategic Partner of Moscow.

**Points to Remember**
- Russia, also officially known as the Russian Federation, is a country in Eurasia.
- Russia’s capital is Moscow while its currency is Ruble.
- Vladimir Putin is Russia’s President while Dmitry Medvedev is the Prime Minister.

**India up 2 spots on WEF Human Capital Index**
India has moved up two spots on the World Economic Forum’s (WEF) Human Capital Index 2017.

- The country ranks 103rd of 130 countries, up from 105th the year before.
- Norway leads the latest rankings, followed by Finland, Switzerland, the US and Denmark.
- India ranks even lower than Kenya (78th), Myanmar (89th) and Ghana (72nd).

**Points to Remember**
- The World Economic Forum (WEF) is a Swiss nonprofit foundation, headquartered in Cologny, Geneva.
- It was founded in 1971. Klaus Schwab is the Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum.
- The Forum is best known for its annual meeting at the end of January in Davos.

**Fifth EAS Economic Ministers’ Meeting held in Philippines**
5th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers Meeting was held in Pasay City, Philippines on 9th September 2017.

- Mr.Ramon M. Lopez, Secretary of Trade and Industry of Philippines, chaired the meeting.
- Minister of Commerce & Industry of India, Suresh Prabha Prabhu represented India in the Meeting.
Points to Remember
• The Philippines, officially the Republic of the Philippines is a unitary sovereign state and island country in Southeast Asia.
• Its capital is Manila while Currency is Peso.
• It also hosts the headquarters of the Asian Development Bank.
• Rodrigo Duterte is the President of Philippines.

TCS Features in Fortune 50 List of Companies That Changed the World
Tata Consultancy Services has been recognised in Fortune's annual list of the Top 50 companies that are changing the world.
• The Fortune 'Change the World' list acknowledges companies that are using the profit motive to solve a multitude of societal problems.
• Ranked 30, TCS is the only Indian company on the prestigious list.

Operation Insaniyat: India to send relief to B'desh to help with Rohingya influx
India is sending humanitarian assistance under Operation Insaniyat to Bangladesh to help with the influx of Rohingya refugees.
• India is sending basic amenities that the refugees are in urgent need of at the moment.
• These things include rice, pulses, sugar, salt, cooking oil, tea, ready to eat noodles, biscuits, mosquito nets etc.
• UN estimates claim that around 379,000 Rohingya Muslims have fled to Bangladesh after the clashes between Rohingya militants and Myanmar army.
• Rohingya villages have been burnt and people have been killed in large numbers since August 25.

Points to Remember
• The Rohingya people are stateless Indo-Aryan people from Rakhine State, Myanmar.
• There were an estimated 1 million Rohingya living in Myanmar before the 2016-17 crisis.
• Described by the United Nations in 2013 as one of the most persecuted minorities in the world, the Rohingya population are denied citizenship under the 1982 Burmese citizenship law.

World's most and least stressful cities 2017
Based on a new study by Zipjet, Stuttgart Germany is the least stressful city in the world.
• The study has revealed the world's most and least stressful cities of 2017, and ranked cities globally based on factors that cause stress, such as unemployment, physical and mental health, public transport, security, and even the lack of sunshine hours per year.
• Baghdad, Iraq is the most stressful city in the world while Delhi is the 9th most stressful city.

International Day of Democracy: 15 September
In 2007 the United Nations General Assembly resolved to observe 15 September as the International Day of Democracy.
• The purpose of International Day of Democracy is to promote and uphold the principles of democracy.
• This year's theme is ‘Democracy and Conflict prevention’.

30th Anniversary of Montreal protocol and 23rd World Ozone Day Celebrated
30th anniversary of the Montreal Protocol and 23rd World Ozone Day was observed on 16th September 2017.
• The theme for the year 2017 is ‘Caring for all life under the Sun’.
• The year 2017 marks the 30th Anniversary of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

Points to Remember
• The Montreal Protocol is one of the most successful global environmental treaties, the implementation of which has not only led to the phase-out of around 98% of ozone depleting chemicals, but also averted more than 135 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions.
• The Montreal Protocol is the only environmental treaty which enjoys universal ratification of 197 UN member countries.

German citizenship is ranked the most valuable in the world
Not only do Germans have the most powerful passports in the world, they also have the highest quality of citizenship, according to a new report.
• The consultancy Henley & Partners’ first Quality of Nationality Index (QNI) ranks the value of 161 nations’ citizenship on a scale of 0 to 100%.
• European nations dominated the top 20 spots.
**Tunisia lifts ban on Muslim women marrying non-Muslims**

The Tunisian government has lifted a ban on Muslim women marrying non-Muslims on the recommendation of the president, who says Tunisia needs to modernise.

- Muslim men were allowed to marry non-Muslim women, but not the other way around.
- A government official said such marriages can now be freely registered.

**India ranks 128th in meeting UN’s 2030 Health Target**

India ranks 128th in terms of meeting the UN’s health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, with low scores on air pollution, sanitation, hepatitis B and child wasting, according to a global health review published in The Lancet.

- The Global Burden of Disease study provides new estimates on where the world currently stands in terms of meeting health goals.
- Singapore, Iceland and Sweden were the highest performing countries in terms of the overall health-related SDGs.
- Somalia, Central African Republic, and Afghanistan ranked lowest.

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

Acknowledging the role played by yoga legend Bishnu Charan Ghosh and his family members in spreading Indian postural yoga in Japan, the Japanese postal department has released postage stamps on four of Bengal’s famous exponents of the ancient Indian practice.

- The stamps on Bishnu Charan Ghosh, his son Biswanath Ghosh, daughter Karuna Ghosh and Karuna’s father in law Asutosh Ghosh, that were released recently in Japan, were official showcased here by the Japanese Consul General in Kolkata, Masayuki Taka.

**WHO grants $175,000 for Rohingya’s healthcare**

The WHO has released its first tranche of emergency funding of $175,000 to provide lifesaving healthcare to the ‘vulnerable population’ in Bangladesh’s Cox’s Bazar.

- Though the World Health Organisation (WHO) did not specifically mention the Rohingya refugees, over 410,000 of them have arrived in Cox’s Bazar since August 25 after escaping Myanmar’s military crackdown.
- The WHO South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) grant of $175,000 will support 20 mobile medical teams to provide essential services for at least two months.

**India ranks third among countries that faced most natural disasters**

India ranked third among the countries that have faced the most natural disasters in the last half century, UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres said pleading for unwavering international action on climate change.

- The United States, followed by China, India, the Philippines and Indonesia, have experienced the most disasters since 1995.
- Climate change was among the seven global threats that he listed needing immediate global action.

**First ‘BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise- 2017’**

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

- This Exercise will be a platform for sharing Best Practices on all aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), strengthening regional response and coordination for Disaster Management among the BIMSTEC member countries.
- All seven nations of the ‘Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation’ (BIMSTEC) Group Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand are participating in the event.

**India assists upgradation of Thondaman Vocational Training Centre in Hatton**

India and Sri Lanka signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), to upgrade Thondaman Vocational Training Centre(TVTC), Hatton located in Nuwara Eliya District of Sri Lanka.

- The MoU was signed by High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka Taranjit Singh Sandhu and Secretary,
Ministry of Hill Country New Villages, Infrastructure and Community Development Mrs. R. Nadarasapillai.

- The upgradation of the center will be done using a grant of SLR 199 million from the Government of India.

**International Day of Peace: 21 September**
The International Day of Peace, sometimes unofficially known as World Peace Day is observed annually on 21 September.

- It is dedicated to world peace, and specifically the absence of war and violence.
- The theme for International Day of Peace 2017 is “Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All.”

**World Alzheimer’s Day: 21 September**
World Alzheimer’s day is the international an international day observed on 21 September to raise awareness and challenge the stigma that surrounds dementia.

- World Alzheimer’s day was launched in 2012.
- World Alzheimer’s Day 2017 Theme is “Remember me”.

**New Zealand ‘top in world’ for preparing students for future**
New Zealand and Canada have been singled out as the countries that best prepare students for the future, in a major study that assesses the “effectiveness” of education systems.

- The Worldwide Educating for the Future Index, produced by the Economist Intelligence Unit for the Yidan Prize Foundation, evaluates education systems in 35 economies across 16 indicators.
- The five highest ranked countries are New Zealand, Canada, Finland, Switzerland and Singapore.
- The two countries supplying the largest pool of workers in the world, India and China, are also below average (at 29th and 31st respectively).

**US to give $32mn in aid to Rohingya**
The US will provide a humanitarian aid package worth $32 million to the Rohingya Muslim minority who have fled violence in Myanmar and crossed into neighbouring Bangladesh.

- The aid package comes a day after Secretary of State Rex Tillerson spoke with Myanmar de facto leader of Myanmar Aung San Suu Kyi.
- Some 415,000 Rohingya have fled to Bangladesh since the ongoing violence broke out on August 25 when Rohingya rebels attacked police checkpoints in Rakhine resulting in the deaths of 12 security personnel.

**Saudi Arabia allows women into stadium for first time**
Saudi Arabia has invited women to a sports stadium for the first time to attend the kingdom’s 87th National Day celebrations with their families.

- This marks a shift from previous celebrations in the kingdom where women are effectively barred from sports arenas.
- Saudi Arabia has strict restrictions for women, including barring them from driving.

**7th ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting**
The 7th ASEM Economic Ministers’ Meeting (ASEM EMM7) was held on 21-22 September 2017 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

- The ASEM was established in 1996 as an economic cooperation council of 53 Asian and European countries.
- The organization is evaluated as an important regional cooperation body that accounts for more than 60% of global trade as of 2015.

**India third in nuclear power installations**
India is third in the world in the number of nuclear reactors being installed, at six, while China is leading at 20, the World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2017, released this month, shows.

- The number of nuclear reactor units under construction is, however, declining globally for the fourth year in a row.

**World Tourism Day: 27 September**
Since 1980, the United Nations World Tourism Organization has celebrated World Tourism Day on September 27.

- This date was chosen as on that day in 1970, the Statutes of the UNWTO were adopted. The adoption of these Statutes is considered a milestone in global tourism.
- World Tourism Day 2017 is celebrated on the theme ‘Sustainable Tourism – a Tool for Development’.

**72nd session of United Nations General Assembly**
72nd Regular Session of UN (United Nations) General Assembly (UNGA 72) was held at
UN Headquarters, in New York.

- Mr. Miroslav Lajcak presided over the 72nd session of the UNGA.
- External Affairs Minister of India Ms. Sushma Swaraj addressed the 72nd session of United Nations General Assembly.
- During this session, 50 countries signed a treaty to ban nuclear weapons, which was first signed by Brazil.
- The countries that have signed the treaty would not develop, test, produce, manufacture, acquire, possess or stock nuclear weapons under any circumstances.

India ranks 40th in Global Competitiveness Index

India ranks 40th among 137 countries in World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) 2017-18 although it is one position lower than last year.

- Switzerland continues to be the world’s top competitive economy, while China (27th) and Russia (38th) outshine India among the BRICS group.

The World Maritime Day: 28 September

The World Maritime Day is celebrated across the world on 28 September.

- The theme for 2017 World Maritime Day is ‘Connecting Ships, Ports and People’.
- World Maritime Day focuses on the importance of shipping safety, maritime security, environment and emphasises aspects of IMO’s work.

India jumps to 14th rank as best country for expats: HSBC

India leapt up the global rankings by 12 places to take the 14th spot in terms of best country for expats to live and work in, says a HSBC survey.

- The list, which is topped by Singapore, is part of HSBC’s latest ‘expat explorer survey’ that covered 27,587 expats from 159 countries and territories in March and April this year.
- According to survey, about 71 per cent expats in India reported high levels of confidence in the local economy, while 58 per cent exuded optimism on political stability.

Palestine joins Interpol as full member

Interpol, the international police organization, has voted to admit Palestine as a full member, thereby advancing the latter’s goal of statehood.

- This development is a diplomatic blow to Israel, which has been opposing Palestine moves to join international bodies.
- About 75 countries voted in favor, with 24 voting against and 34 abstaining in a secret vote held during 86th Interpol General Assembly on Sept. 26-29 in Beijing.

Points to Remember

- Established in 1923, Interpol is the world's largest intergovernmental organization facilitating international police cooperation among member countries.
- Interpol headquarters in Lyon, France.

World Rabies Day: 28 September

World Rabies Day is celebrated annually on September 28 to raise awareness about rabies prevention.

- The 2017 World Rabies Day theme is ‘Rabies: Zero by 30’.
- This day also marks the anniversary of Louis Pasteur’s death, the French chemist, and microbiologist, who developed the first rabies vaccine.

12. PM Modi inaugurates annual conference ‘Rajaswa Gyan Sangam’

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the annual conference - Rajaswa Gyan Sangam, 2017 in New Delhi.

- The objective of the Conference is to enable a two-way communication between the policy-makers and the senior officers in the field offices with a view to increase revenue collection and facilitate effective implementation of law and policies in key result areas.
- Issues arising in implementation of policies and strategies to achieve targets in core functional areas will also be discussed. Crucial issues like Tax Evasion, GST, Customs Reforms and Modernisation will also come up for discussion.

National Nutrition Week: 1st to 7th September
The National Nutrition Week will be observed throughout the country from 1st to 7th September. The theme of the National Nutrition Week for 2017 is "Optimal Infant & Young Child Feeding Practices: Better Child Health".

- The basic objective of this annual event is to intensify awareness generation on the importance of nutrition for health which has an impact on development, productivity, economic growth and ultimately National development.
- The Food and Nutrition Board of Ministry of Women & Child Development, through its 43 Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs) located in 30 States/UTs, will coordinate with concerned Department of the State/UT Governments, National Institutions, NGOs and organize State/UT Level Workshops, Orientation Training of Fields Functionaries, Awareness Generation Camps, Community meetings during the week on the specified theme.

**Union Minister launches scheme for senior citizens belonging to BPL category**

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Thaawarchand Gehlot has launched a scheme that provides for physical aids and assisted-living devices for senior citizens belonging to the BPL category in Gujarat.

- This ambitious scheme, is expected to benefit 5, 20,000 senior citizens over a period of three years.
- The centrally-sponsored scheme; 'Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana', was unveiled on April 1 this year and since then it has already been launched in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- Under the scheme, devices will be distributed to senior citizens free of cost.

**Sports Ministry approves constitution of 13- ESC**

The Sports Ministry has approved constitution of a 13-member Empowered Steering Committee (ESC). It will shape and influence India's preparation for multi-disciplinary events, including 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

- The decision to form the Committee has been taken on the basis of recommendations made by the Olympic Task Force in its interim report, which was submitted to the government on the 22nd of May. The Steering Committee will have the mandate to work till December 31st, 2020 with clearly defined terms and references.
- These include review of the core probable list of each High Priority and Priority disciplines for the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and Olympic Games.
- The Committee will also have power to recommend specific plans or packages for beneficiaries of Target Olympic Podium Scheme.

**Environment Ministry to Launch ‘Prakriti Khoj’ – An Environment Quiz**

The Environment Ministry will launch an environment awareness initiative, under which an online environmental quiz competition named “Prakriti Khoj” – an Environment Quiz to be conducted at the national level.

- The quiz is being launched on September 5 on the occasion of Teachers’ Day. It will be an ideal medium to reach out to young minds through a fun-filled interactive learning mode to trigger their sensitivity towards environment protection and conservation.
- The objective of the quiz is to generate interest among school children about the science related to environment, interactions within it and the problems therein. This will help in sensitizing the children/youth to issues related to environment and development and motivate children towards environment conservation-oriented lifestyles.

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

In a move to ensure medical benefits to entire population of Karnataka, the State government has decided to merge various health schemes and launch unified 'Arogya Bhagya' to cover all the 1.4 crore households.

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

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

Ahmedabad in Gujarat was formally accorded the status of India's first World Heritage City with UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova handing over the certificate in this regard to Chief Minister Vijay Rupani. Ahmedabad was selected out of 250 cities in the race for the coveted status.
• The honour makes the walled city of Ahmedabad the first city in India, and the third in Asia, to be on the list.
• India now has a total of 36 World Heritage Inscriptions -- 28 cultural, 7 natural and 1 mixed site.
• India is second after China in terms of number of world heritage properties in ASPAC (Asia and Pacific) region, and overall seventh in the world.
  (Business standard)

President lays foundation stone for Link-4 of SAUNI Scheme
President Ramnath Kovind laid foundation stone for link - 4 of Saurashtra Narmada Avataran Irrigation Scheme -SAUNI-Yojana in Rajkot district.
• SAUNI project had been launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his tenure as Chief Minister of Gujarat aims to fill up 115 major dams by diverting overflow of water from the Sardar Sarovar Dam on Narmada River.
• Gujarat Governor Mr. O.P.Kohli, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani and Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel were present on this occasion.

Real-time satellite info to help border forces
The government is mulling a dedicated satellite bandwidth for the Border Security Force (BSF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) for better border surveillance.
• The idea is to enable the border guarding forces to monitor the movement of Pakistani and Chinese troops in real time, track terrorist infiltration, map terrain and communicate effectively in remote areas, besides assessing the strength of soldiers and artillery deployed by neighbours near the border in case of a stand-off.
• India shares over 15,000km of borders with Pakistan, China, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar. The armed forces currently use 13 ISRO satellites to watch land and maritime boundaries.
• The Navy has a dedicated military satellite, Gsat-7 or ‘Rukmini’ which monitors the Indian Ocean Region.

Teacher’s Day Celebrated On September 5
Today Teacher’s Day is being celebrated across the nation to commemorate the birth anniversary of the first Vice President Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan who was an academician, statesman and philosopher.
• President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have greeted the teachers on this occasion.
• The National Award to the meritorious teachers working in primary, middle and secondary schools will be conferred by the Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu as public recognition.
• These awards were instituted in 1958, and each award carries a medal, certificate and rupees 50 thousand. Special awards also have been instituted for special educators who promote inclusive education in schools.
• World Teacher’s Day is observed every year on October 5.

Lucknow Metro Becomes Operational
The first commercial run of Lucknow Metro starts today. The Metro train has been flagged off by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and governor Ram Naik.
• Metro trains will be available from tomorrow morning to the general public. Each train comprises four-coaches and has a capacity to accommodate nearly 1,100 passengers at a time, with a seating capacity for 200 people. The coaches have been equipped with LED lights and CCTV cameras.
• The metro will run from Transport Nagar to Charbagh, which is part of the Phase 1 of the project, and has 8 stations in between will be operational for the public from 6 am to 10 pm everyday.
• Cost of this phase is around Rs. 2600 crores and it took almost 3 years to complete.

National Nutrition Strategy Launched
National Nutrition Strategy that lays the roadmap for targeted action to address India's nutritional needs has been launched in New Delhi by Leader of the Green Revolution, Dr M S Swaminathan and Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog Dr Rajiv Kumar. Now, nutrition will come at the centre-stage of the National Development Agenda.
• The strategy calls for convergence between four proximate determinants of nutrition - food, health services, income and water. Currently, there is also a lack of real time measurement of these determinants, which reduces the capacity for targeted action among the most vulnerable mothers and children.
• Kuposhan Mukt Bharat - linked to Swachh Bharat and Swasth Bharat is sought through the Nutrition Strategy framework.
Task Force Constituted for Job Creation
To provide a major thrust to job creation by enhancing India’s exports, NITI Aayog has constituted an Expert Task Force under the chairmanship NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar.
The task force will submit its report by November 2017.
- NITI Aayog said that to address India’s unemployment and under-employment issues, an urgent and sustained expansion of the organized sector is essential.
- The panel will give recommendations on sector-specific policy interventions in key employment sectors and measures to enhance trade in services with high employment potential.
- It will also propose a comprehensive plan of action to generate employment and alleviate under-employment in both goods and services sectors and low wages by boosting India's exports in key labour-intensive industries.

BN Srikrishna Committee to Identify Key Data Protection Issues
An expert committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of former apex court judge Justice BN Srikrishna to identify key data protection issues in India and recommend methods to address them.
- The committee will study various issues and make specific suggestions for consideration of the government on the principles to be considered for data protection.
On the basis of the Committee’s report, a law regulating data protection will be passed, if

Myanmar Visit of the PM
Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Myanmar's capital Naypyidaw on September 6-7 and met Myanmar President Htin Kyaw. They discussed the issue of rising violence in Myanmar's western state of Rakhine.
- PM Modi also pushed for greater progress on Indian infrastructure projects.
- Keeping his promise of 'Act East' policy, it was PM Modi's first bilateral visit to Myanmar where he cemented ties, especially with China strengthening its influence on the country.
- PM Modi met Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi and visited the heritage city of Bagan and a Hindu temple.

Narmada Mahotsav Started in Gujarat
Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani flagged off statewide 'Narmada Mahotsav Yatra' from Surendranagar district. The aim of this Narmada Mahotsav Yatra - is to create awareness about the importance of increased water supply from Narmada canal-based projects to different parts of the state.
- The 10 days long Narmada Mahotsav Yatra has also been flagged off in other districts, which will end at Dabhoi- in Narmada district where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address the gathering.

Successful Flight Test of 3rd Generation Anti Tank Guided Missile – NAG
India’s indigenously developed 3rd generation Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM), Nag has been successfully flight tested twice by DRDO against two different targets in the ranges of Rajasthan.
- The ATGM Nag missile has successfully hit both the targets under different ranges and conditions with very high accuracy as desired by the Armed Forces.
- With these two successful flight trials, and the flight test conducted earlier in June in the peak of summer, the complete functionality of Nag ATGM along with launcher system NAMICA has been established and marked the successful completion of development trials of Nag Missile.

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Flags off Navika Sagar Parikrama
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri flagged-off Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Tarini (INSV Tarini) with an all women crew from INS Mandovi boat pool, Goa.
- This is the first-ever Indian circumnavigation of the globe by an all-women crew and shall attempt to circumnavigate the globe on Indian Navy's sailing vessel INSV Tarini.
- The crew is expected to return to Goa in April 2018, on completion of the voyage.
- The expedition will be covered in five legs, with stopovers at 4 ports viz. Fremantle (Australia), Lyttleton (New Zealand), Port Stanley (Falklands), and Cape Town (South Africa).

Telangana Home Minister inaugurates water ATMs
Safe Water Network, an international NGO has partnered with Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) to launch water ATMs, providing affordable, 24x7 safe water access in Hyderabad.
- The first of the ATMs was inaugurated by Telangana State Home Minister N Narasimha Reddy at Nalgonda X Roads.
• A total of 200 ATMs will be set up to reach a targetted 150,000 people. In the first phase 50 water ATMs will be operationalised by next year.

Points to Remember
• Telangana is one of the 29 states in India, located in southern India. It was formed on 2 June 2014 as the youngest state in India.
• It is the twelfth largest state in India, and the twelfth most populated state in India.
• K. Chandrashekar Rao is the Chief Minister while E. S. L. Narasimhan is the Governor of Telangana.
• Hyderabad is the Capital of Telangana.

Centre allots Rs 60,000 cr to interlink rivers in Maharashtra
Union Water resources minister Nitin Gadkari and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced a Rs 60,000 crore plan to link rivers in the state.
• Fadnavis and Gujarat CM Vinay Rupani will be soon signing a pact for river water sharing too to improve the water crisis situation in Maharashtra.
• Gadkari said that the Centre will provide financial assistance to the tune of up to Rs 60,000 crore in the next two years to the state for developing river-linking and irrigation projects under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

Points to Remember
• Maharashtra is a state in the western region of India and is India's second-most populous state and third-largest state by area.
• Mumbai is the capital of Maharashtra. Nagpur is Maharashtra's second capital as well as its winter capital while Pune is regarded as its Cultural Capital.
• The major rivers of the state are Godavari, and Krishna.
• C Vidyasagar Rao is the governor of Maharashtra.

80 lakh students to get enrolled under countrywide ‘school chalo abhiyan’
Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar said the government will undertake a programme from next year to enrol “70-80 lakh” students in the country who are out of schools.
• “There are about 70-80 lakh children who are not going to schools. We have thought of a plan to address the problem. It will be known as ‘school chalo abhiyan’, “ Javadekar said.

West Bengal leads in new tax registration under GST regime
While the national average is 23%, West Bengal leads the pack with as high as 77% in new tax registration under the GST regime in India.
• The figures were disclosed by Mr Arvind Singh, the new principal commissioner, GST & CX.
• According to him, even states such as Gujarat and Maharashtra are behind West Bengal in GST registration.

Second State Start Up Conference inaugurated in New Delhi
The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Government of India is organizing the Second State Startup Conference on 12 September, 2017 in New Delhi.
• The conference shall be inaugurated by the Minister of State, Shri C.R. Choudhary and shall be attended by senior functionaries from State/Union Territory Governments, Incubators/Accelerators, Funding agencies, VCs, Angel investors and Startups.
• The conference is expected to provide a significant impetus to the creation of an enabling Startup Ecosystem in the country.

7th International Conference on Cost Effective Use of Technology in eHealth Care
Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, inaugurated the 7th International Conference and Workshop on Cost Effective Use of Technology in eHealth Care at AIIMS, New Delhi.
• Speaking at the function, Shri Choubey underscored the urgency for harnessing Information Technology for better and effective healthcare delivery in the country.
• Referring to the Digital India initiative of the Honourable Prime Minister, he emphasised on the need for making optimal use of technology for delivering healthcare services to the people.
• The Minister further stated that that e-application in healthcare will reduce cost and save time for doctors and patients.

Modi, Abe to lay foundation for bullet train project
Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart from Japan Shinzo Abe laid the foundation for the country’s first high-speed train project — Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train — on September 14th in Ahmedabad.
• The 508-km-long project to be built with estimated investment of ₹1,08,000 crore will be funded up to 81% by Japan with soft loan of ₹88,000 crore at interest rate of 0.1% with repayment period 50 years.
Venkaiah Naidu lays foundation for smart city project in Ranchi
Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu laid the foundation for building the nation’s first Greenfield smart city project in HEC of Ranchi.
• Speaking on the occasion, he said for the bright future, smart cities are a must where people get all the amenities of life including houses, roads, public transport, cleanliness along with medical and educational and employment facilities.
• He said the city which would come up in HEC would be a no carbon zone.

Kochi to host summit on coastal shipping and waterways
Kochi will host the fifth edition of Coastal Shipping and Inland Water Transportation Business Summit 2017 on September 22.
• The summit will be an initiative to explore the immense potential of coastal shipping and waterways.

Karnataka stands tallest in manufacturing excellence: Assocham
Karnataka stands at top among the states of the country in terms of manufacturing excellence, according to a study by industry chambers Assocham.
• Karnataka has the best manufacturing process ratio of 2.63, with maximum value of goods being converted into finished goods valuing over Rs 2,000 crore.
• The study was conducted by Assocham's Economic Research Bureau.

Points to Remember
• The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is one of the apex trade associations of India.
• The goal of this organisation is to promote both domestic and international trade and reduce trade barriers.
• It was founded in 1920 and headquartered in New Delhi. Sandeep Jajodia is its current President.

Assam to provide skill development training to surrendered militants
In a positive move, Assam government will empower as many as 30 thousand surrendered militants with the much needed skills to tread the journey of life the legal and lawful way.
• Mission Director of Assam Skill Development, A P Tiwari said that training will also be given to jail inmates.

• He said that another 24 thousand youths in Assam will be trained under the Prime Minister Kaushal Vikash Yojna.

Points to Remember
• Assam is a state in northeastern India, south of the eastern Himalayas along the Brahmaputra and Barak Valley.
• Assam is known for Assam tea and Assam silk.
• Sarbananda Sonowal is the Chief Minister of Assam while Banwari Lal Purohit is its Governor.
• Dispur is the capital of Assam.
• Kaziranga National Park and Manas National Park are situated in Assam.

India’s first advanced Homoeopathy Virology lab inaugurated in Kolkata
The Union Minister of State for AYUSH (Independent Charge) Shri Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated India’s first State of art virology laboratory at Dr. Anjali Chatterjee Regional Research Institute for Homoeopathy in Kolkata.
• The laboratory, established at a cost of Rs. 8 crore is the only one in India for conducting basic and fundamental research in Homoeopathy for viral diseases like influenza, Japanese encephalitis, dengue, chikunguniya and swine flu.
• New drugs and technologies would also be developed here to combat emerging challenges of viral diseases.

Cabinet approves the scheme ‘Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund’
The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved a Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund” (DIDF) with an outlay of Rs 10,881 crore during the period from 2017-18 to 2028-29.
• Consequent to the Union Budget 2017-18 announcement, Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund will be set up as a corpus of Rs 8004 crore with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).
• Initiation and setting up of Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF) at a total scheme outlay of Rs 10881 crore.
• Out of Rs 10881 crore of financial outlay for project components of DIDF, Rs 8004 crore shall be loan from NABARD to National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and National Dairy Development Cooperation (NCDC), Rs 2001 crore shall be end borrowers contribution, Rs 12 crore would be
NDDB/NCDC’s share and Rs 864 crore shall be contributed by DADF towards interest subvention.

Ravi Shankar Prasad launches the Nation-Wide Hackathon #OpenGovDataHack

Union Minister for Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad launched a nation-wide hackathon #OpenGovDataHack.

- As part of the Startup Eco-system Development program, NIC and IAMAI have collaborated to conduct Nation Wide Hackathon #OpenGovDataHack across seven states of India.
- It aims to Support & Showcase potentially great Ideas/Talent from Inner India by reaching out in their own State/City (7 Cities).

Conference on ‘Sustainable Landscapes & Forest Ecosystems: Theory to Practice’

Inaugurating a two-day conference on ‘Sustainable landscapes and forest ecosystems: Theory to Practice’, the Environment Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan urged the gathering to deliberate and come out with out-of-the-box ideas and solutions on increasing the forest cover much beyond the stipulated 33 per cent.

- ‘Innovation is the need of the hour. Innovation coefficient now is more important than any other coefficient’, Dr. Harsh Vardhan said.

2-day National Conference on ‘Uniformed Women in Prison Administration’

The Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju will inaugurate the 2-day National Conference on “Uniformed Women in Prison Administration” on 14 September.

- The Conference is being organised for women officers of the rank of Jailors to Dy. Superintendents of Prisons.
- The Conference is expected to benefit the participants being in their impressionable stage of service, by implementation of the knowledge gained through the Conference.

NTPC’s commercial power generation capacity to cross 50 GW

State-run power giant NTPC has said that two of its units will begin commercial operations this month, enhancing the generation capacity of NTPC Group to 50,108 MW.

- Unit-2 of 660 MW of Mouda Super Thermal Station, Stage-II (2 X 660 MW) will be declared on commercial operation from September 18, 2017.
- Besides, Unit-1 of 660 MW of Solapur Super Thermal Station (2 X 660 MW) will also be declared on commercial operation from September 25, 2017.
- With this, the commercial power generation capacity of NTPC would become 42892 MW and that of NTPC Group, over 50 GW or 50108 MW.

High-speed rail training centre to come up in Vadodara

The ₹600-crore high-speed rail training centre for the first bullet train project will be set up in Vadodara, a senior official of the National High Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRC) said.

- The training centre will have a sample track fitted with the overhead electrical systems to enable testing of bullet trains that will run on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route.

Karnataka first state to roll out electric vehicle policy

Karnataka is looking to attract investments to the tune of Rs 31,000 crore from companies looking at R&D and manufacturing of electric vehicles in the state.

- Karnataka is the first state to roll out an Electric Vehicle and Energy Storage Policy.
- The state estimates that it will be able to create employment for 55,000 individuals over the next few years through the electric vehicle industry.

Modi to inaugurate world’s second biggest dam on September 17

Fifty-six years after the foundation stone for the Sardar Sarovar Dam was laid by then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in Narmada district’s Kevadia, the dam, one of India’s biggest, will be finally inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 17.

- The Narmada Control Authority had ordered the gates of the Sardar Sarovar Project be shut on June 16.
- After closure of the gates the height of the dam was increased to 138 metres, with storage capacity raised to 4.73 million cubic metres (MCM) from the existing 1.27 million cubic metres.
- Earlier, the height of the dam was 121.92 metres.

President Ram Nath Kovind launches 'LILA Mobile App'

On the occasion of Hindi Diwas, President Ram Nath Kovind has launched a new ‘LILA Mobile App’ for Hindi lovers.

- Kovind launched the ‘LILA Mobile App’ in the presence of Union Minister of Home Affairs Rajnath Singh and Minister of...
State (Home) Hansraj Gangaram Ahir and Ministers of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju.

Prakash Javadekar Announces Swachhta Ranking 2017

Ministry of Human Resource Development announced the Swachhta Rankings 2017 for Higher Education Institutes.
- In the rankings for this year, about 3500 institutes participated out of which 25 were selected for the awards in four different categories.
- The four categories are University, Colleges, Technical Institutes, and Government Institute.

The complete list of award recipients in the University category is:
- O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana
- Manipal University, Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Chitkara University, Kalu Jhanda, Solan, Himachal Pradesh
- K.L.E. Academy of Higher Education and Research, Belgaum, Karnataka
- Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra, UP

In the Colleges category, the awardees are:
- Kongu Arts and Science College, Erode, Tamil Nadu
- Vidya Pratishthans Arts, Commerce & Science College, M.I.D.C. Baramati, Pune, Maharashtra
- Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda College, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- S N R Sons College, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- K.G. College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

The 7 awardees in the Technical Institutes category are:
- Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh
- Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- Vivekananda College of Engineering for Women, Tiruchengode, Tamil Nadu
- R.M.D. Engineering College, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- R.M.K. Engineering College, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- ABES Institute of Technology, Ghaziabad, UP

The top 7 institutes in the government institute category are:
- G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand
- Madurai Kamraj University, Madurai, Tamil Nadu
- Alagappa University, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu
- NIT, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh
- IIT, Guwahati, Assam

- Govt. Post Graduate College for Girls, Chandigarh
- Panjab University, Chandigarh, Punjab

The awards are mostly dominated by institutes from down south and especially from Tamil Nadu which bagged 4 out of 5 places in colleges category and 5 out of 7 places in the Technical Institute category.

Connaught Place World’s 10th costliest office location

New Delhi’s Connaught Place is the world’s 10th most expensive office location with an annual prime rent of $111 per sq ft, reveals CBRE South Asia’s Global Prime Office Rents survey.
- The ranking has fallen by one position, moving down to tenth from ninth in March 2017.
- Hong Kong has emerged as the world’s costliest office location.

Dr Harsh Vardhan launches ‘Wood is Good’ campaign in New Delhi

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Dr Harsh Vardhan launched the ‘Wood is Good’ campaign in New Delhi.
- He said, wood is a climate-friendly material, as it is a renewable resource, having zero carbon footprint.
- The Minister advocated the balancing of environmental and developmental concerns and also urged the scientists and foresters to devise a solution to the problem of weeds.

India's first centre for Animal Law opens in Hyderabad

Nalsar University of Law in Hyderabad has established India’s first Centre for Animal Law.
- Union minister for Women and Child development Maneka Gandhi inaugurated the centre at the Shamirpet campus.
- Humane Society International will also play an important role in the functioning of the centre by steering and coordinate its activities.

Assam govt passes PRANAM Bill

Assam Assembly has passed a first of its kind Bill that has made it mandatory for Assam government employees to look after their aged and dependent parent/s and physically challenged siblings, if any, who don’t have their own source of income.
- The Assam Employees Parental Responsibility And Norms for Accountability and Monitoring (PRANAM) Bill was passed unanimously, with almost all the ruling and opposition MLAs backing it.
• The parents or needy siblings who feel neglected can lodge complaints with the head of the department of the person who, after hearing both sides, may deduct 10-15 percent of the salary of the employee and give it to the parents for their survival.

**Indigenous Development of Trawl System by DRDO**

R&DE (Engrs), a premier system engineering laboratory under Armament & Combat Engineering (ACE) cluster of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has recently undertaken the design and development of Trawl System for the minefield area in the battle zone to meet the operational requirements of Indian Army.

• The Trawl System developed by DRDO is capable of breaching a variety of land mines including passive and active influence mines.

**Devendra Fadnavis launches 'Maharashtra Mission 1 Million'**

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has launched the 'Maharashtra Mission 1 Million' initiative under which over 10 lakh students across the state will play football.

• According to Fadnavis, the Mission will not only create football players and lovers of the game, but will also help in overall development of the state.

• Under the initiative, the state government aims to ensure that children come out in open spaces and play.

**Opening Ceremony held for INDO-USA Joint Exercise Yudh Abhyas – 2017**

Exercise Yudh Abhyas - 2017, a joint military exercise between Indian and US armies commenced at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington, USA with a brief and impressive opening ceremony.

• The US contingent was represented by Company of 5th Infantry Battalion from 20 Infantry Regiment of the US Army while the Indian side was represented by soldiers of Gorkha Rifles from the Surya Command.

**India will soon grant citizenship to Chakma, Hajong refugees**

The Centre will soon grant citizenship to nearly one lakh Chakma and Hajong refugees, who came from the erstwhile East Pakistan five decades ago and are living in camps in the northeast.

• In 2015, the Supreme Court had directed the Central government to grant citizenship to the Chakma and Hajong refugees, mostly staying in Arunachal Pradesh.

**Points to Remember**

• Chakmas and Hajongs were originally residents of Chittagong Hill Tracts in the erstwhile East Pakistan.
• They left their homeland when it was submerged by the Kaptai dam project in the 1960s.
• The Chakmas, who are Buddhists, and the Hajongs, who are Hindus, also allegedly faced religious persecution and entered India through the then Lushai Hills district of Assam (now Mizoram).

**Nation’s first Govt. mobile vet clinics launched**

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao flagged off a hundred mobile veterinary clinics for as many Assembly constituencies in the State.

• The clinics, like 108 for people which are serviced by GVK-EMRI, will also be aided by the same combination on toll free number 1962.
• Billed as the first in the country, the programme won the appreciation of former Prime Minister Deve Gowda.

**Scheme to provide meal to labourers launched in C’garh**

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh launched ‘Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Shram Anna Sahayata Yojna’ under which nutritious meal for Rs 5 will be provided to labourers in the state.

• Under the scheme, first Shram Anna Sahayata centre was inaugurated in Telibandha area where around 1,000 labourers will be served meal daily between 8 am to 10 am.
• The centre has been constructed at a cost of Rs 20 lakh.
• Meanwhile, a skill development centre set up in the same premises was also dedicated by the chief minister on the occasion.
• Girls and women from the families engaged in rag picking will be given skill development training in varied disciplines including stitching, cooking and others there.

**Amit Shah launches ‘Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana’ in Jharkhand**

BJP president Amit Shah launched the ‘Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana’ during a programme at Ulihatu in Khunti district of Jharkhand.

• Ulihatu is the birthplace of Jharkhand’s tribal icon Birsa Munda.
• The programme launched by Shah would provide 136 pucca houses to the dwellers of Ulihatu and a couple of other hamlets around it.

Maharashtra to be the first state to have DNA databank in India
A major IT firm along with Maharashtra Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) is building a tool for storage of DNA profile of criminals to help police investigations dealing serious crimes against women and children.
• Maharashtra will be the first Indian state to start DNA database which will also help law enforcement agencies in tracking maoists as well as terrorists besides repeat offenders.
• Almost all developed countries including the USA, Canada, Australia, UK, NZ as well as majority of the European countries have DNA database.

Bandhan Tod: An Android app to fight child marriage in Bihar
In a unique initiative, Gender Alliance Bihar, a collective effort of over 270 civil society organisations backed by the UN Population Fund, has come up with a mobile application to fight the rampant social evil of child marriage in the state.
• Launched by Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi, the ‘Bandhan Tod’ app will try to create awareness on resisting child marriage and will also provide round-the-clock help to adolescent girls saying no to the practice in the form of an SOS button.
• The Gender Alliance is an initiative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and was started to bring together civil societies, activists, academicians, researchers, media, and others on a common platform to advocate gender equality.
• Bandhan Tod is part of Gender Alliance’s strategy to support the state government’s efforts to end child marriage and dowry.

National Conference on ‘Mission Mode to address Under-Nutrition’
The Ministry of Women and Child Development will hold the first ever National Conference in New Delhi tomorrow on Mission Mode to address Under-Nutrition in the country.
• Secretary WCD, Shri Rakesh Srivastava said that this conference is being organized by the Ministry of Women & Child Development in collaboration with Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, keeping in mind the goal of “Malnutrition Free India-2022”.

Tripura is first state to set up district family welfare committees
Tripura has became the first state in the country to set up family welfare district committees to deal with the issue of fake and biased complaints by women against their husbands, in-laws and husband's relatives.
• State Governor Tathagata Roy in the presence of Chief Minister Manik Sarkar and other high dignitaries formally launched the family welfare committees in all eight districts in Tripura at a function in Tripura High Court.
• Tripura is the first state to have formed such committees, Tripura High Court Chief Justice T. Vaiphei said.

International Yoga Festival starts in Kashmir
Jammu and Kashmir governor N N Vohra inaugurated the second International Yoga Festival and International Yoga Sports Championship 2017 in which about 300 people from across the world are participating.
• The festival is being organized by the Yoga Society of Kashmir at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre.
• About 300 participants from various parts of India, Vietnam, Taiwan, Canada, Bulgaria, USA and Nepal are participating in the festival.

Tata Steel, TERI launch ‘Green School Project’ in Odisha
Tata Steel has in association with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) launched an initiative to create awareness about environment issues in school campuses in Odisha’s Jajpur district.
• They started the first series of workshops for the students at their Sukinda Chromite Mine (SCM) in Jajpur under the “Green School Project”.
• The workshop will run till September 23 in all identified schools across raw material locations of Tata Steel.
• The ‘Green School Project’ was launched in April this year in schools across the operational sites of Tata Steel in Odisha and Jharkhand.

Fifth North East Festival to be held in Delhi
The fifth edition of the North East Festival, which brings together the numerous colours and talents of the region, will begin in New Delhi on November 3.

- The three-day festival, to be held at IGNCA, Janpath, will present Naga warrior dance, Thang ta of Manipur, Hojagiri of Tripura, Bamboo dance of Mizoram, Wangala dance of Meghalaya, Lion dance of Arunachal Pradesh and much more.
- It will also give a platform to around 150 weavers/artisans to show their handloom products and handicrafts.
- Tourism is the main focus of the festival. Around 30 tour operators are expected to come from the northeast that will exhibit various destinations of the region.

Centre to set up inter-ministerial committee on financial cybercrimes
The government has decided to set up an inter-ministerial committee to monitor implementation of measures to check rise in financial cybercrimes.

- The decision was taken at a meeting chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh where he reviewed measures being taken to arrest the growing trend of cybercrime in the financial sector.
- He expressed concern over the disturbing rise in cyber frauds using cards and e-wallets in particular.

Singapore to set up Skill Center in Northeast
The Government of Singapore will set up a Skill Center at Guwahati which will cater to the entire North-Eastern region.

- This was stated by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh.
- As far as Skill Centre at Guwahati, it was stated that an MoU has already been formalized between Singapore and the State Government of Assam.
- As a follow-up to this, a Skill Center is proposed to be set up at Guwahati by the year 2019 and the Ministry of DoNER will coordinate in this initiative.

Dr Jitendra Singh to inaugurate first ‘Pension Adalat’
The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh will inaugurate the first ‘Pension Adalat’ on 20th September.

- He will also award the Pensioners for their outstanding contribution towards ‘Anubhav’ – a platform for retiring employees for sharing their experience of working with Government.
- Moving ahead from e-governance to m-governance, a Mobile App has been created to avail the services of Pensioners’ Portal which will also be launched by Dr Jitendra Singh.
- As a measure of welfare to the pensioners of Government of India, a workshop on Pre-Retirement Counseling (PRC) of 300 retiring Central Government employees is also scheduled to be held. The event is being organized by Department of Pension & Pensioners’ Welfare, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India.
- The objective of this workshop is to create awareness about the post-retirement entitlements as well as an advance planning for life after retirement.

Vice President releases Commemorative Coin on Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi
The Vice President of India Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu released a Commemorative Coin on Bharat Ratna Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi and inaugurated an exhibition entitled “Kurai Onrum Ilai-MS: Life in Music” on the occasion of Birth Centenary Commemoration of Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi.

- Minister of State (Independent charge) for Culture Dr. Mahesh Sharma was the Guest of Honour.
- Addressing on the occasion, the Vice President said that Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi was a legendary and iconic figure who mesmerized everyone from Mahatma Gandhi to common man.

13th Inter-Governmental Commission meeting at Astana, Kazakhstan
Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan will be visiting Astana, Kazakhstan from 19 - 20 September 2017 to co-chair the 13th Meeting of Inter-Governmental Commission (IGC) with Kazakhstan.
Mr Kanat Bozumbayev, Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan will co-chair the meeting from Kazakhstan side.

The IGC meeting aims to follow up on the agenda set between India and Kazakhstan during the two visits of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Kazakhstan in July 2015 and June 2017.

**Union Textiles Minister to inaugurate VASTRA 2017**
The 6th Edition of the 4-day international textile and apparel fair, 'VASTRA' will be organized in Jaipur during September 21 – 24, 2017 at Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre (JECC), Sitapura.

- The fair will be inaugurated by the Union Minister for Textiles and Information & Broadcasting, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani and Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Smt. Vasundhara Raje, on September 21, 2017.
- The expo is an all-encompassing trade fair and conference on Textiles and Apparel which will present a fusion of the finest and the latest in textile products – from fiber to fashion, services and technology.

**Andhra CM releases ’People First’ mobile app for grievance redressal**
Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu released ‘People First’ mobile application for grievance redressal at the Collectors' conference in Vijayawada.

- Chairing a Collectors’ Conference, Chandrababu Naidu said that under this application, people of Andhra Pradesh can dial 1100 to register complaints about government services and schemes.

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

- Naidu said that all districts must come under the purview of the flagship programme that will help the government make real-time governance.
- The Chief Minister also inaugurated the Andhra Pradesh Sports Policy 2017.

**Mazagon Dock Ltd delivered 1st scorpion class submarines to Indian Navy**
The state-owned Mazagon Dock Limited in Mumbai delivered the first of six scorpion class submarines to the Indian Navy. The submarine, INS Kalvari will be commissioned soon.

- A senior Navy official said, the development marks a major milestone in Indian Navy's submarine programme as the vessel is expected to bolster India's maritime prowess.
- The six submarines designed by French naval defence and energy company DCNS, will replace the Indian Navy's aging Sindhughosh and Shishumar class of submarines.

**Andhra Pradesh to be declared ODF by March 2018**
Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, announced that Andhra Pradesh will be declared ODF by March 2018.

- This was announced during a Collectors’ Conference in Vijaywada, as a part of the Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign.
- Adding momentum to this drive more than 2 lakhs toilet pits were dug on 17th September in Madhya Pradesh. These are targeted to be converted into one lakh toilets by 2nd October.

**NHRC National Seminar on Good Governance, Development and Human Rights**
The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh said that in Indian culture, the focus has always been on duties and not on rights; if everybody attends to his duties, the rights of all automatically get protected.

- He was addressing at a National seminar on Good Governance, Development and Human Rights, organized by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).
- He said that the concept of Human Rights in the centuries old Indian ethos is rooted in peace, unlike the West where it shaped up with conflict post- World War-II.

**Himachal Pradesh: Country’s first electric bus service launched**
In a boost for green transport in Himachal Pradesh, Transport Minister G S Bali flagged off the country’s first electric bus service for Rohtang Pass, a tourist destination near Manali.

- HRTC, which will run the electric bus service, will make 10 vehicles available in Kullu and later the facility would be extended to other areas.
- The minister also laid the foundation stone for a Rs 30-crore modern bus stand at Kullu.
India to host World Congress on Adolescent Health next month

Home to around 253 million adolescents, India will next month host the World Congress on Adolescent Health, billed as the biggest global event in adolescent health this year.

- Held once in every four years, the International Association for Adolescent Health’s 11th World Congress on Adolescent Health be held in New Delhi from October 27-29.
- This year’s theme is ‘Investing in Adolescent Health - The Future is Now’.

PM launches various projects in Varanasi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, dedicated to the nation, the Deendayal Hastkala Sankul – a trade facilitation centre for handicrafts – at Varanasi.

- The Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone of this Centre in November 2014.
- Shri Narendra Modi flagged off the Mahamana Express through a video link. This train will connect Varanasi with Surat and Vadodara in Gujarat.
- The Prime Minister dedicated a Jal Ambulance service, and a Jal Shav Vahan service to the people of Varanasi, through a video link.
- He distributed tool-kits and solar lamps to weavers and their children.

Empowering the Soldier by Project Yash Vidya

A MoU was signed by Lt Gen Ashwani Kumar and Prof. E Vayunandan, Vice Chancellor, Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University (YCMOU), Nasik on 21 Sep 2017 at New Delhi.

- The Bachelor’s degree Programme designed for the Army Personnel gives special recognition to the in-service training/Army courses completed and by providing exemption from studying certain courses.
- The University will award Diploma in Self Empowerment and a Bachelors Degree in Arts or Commerce under PROJECT YASH VIDYA enabling them with academic qualifications for better future.

Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Vigyan Gram Sankul Pariyojana

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

- Addressing the press, the Minister said that this project has been inspired by teachings and ideals of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay whose birth centenary is being celebrated this year.

NITI Aayog and Govt. of Assam launches SATH programme

The Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Assam and NITI Aayog organized a state consultative workshop in Guwahati.

- The consultation marked the launch of program called SATH- Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital, a joint initiative of Government of Assam and NITI Aayog, which aims to provide structured support to Assam in identifying key health priorities and implement the solutions towards transforming the health and improving the well-being of people of Assam.
- NITI Aayog selected the three states Assam, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka through a three stage challenge-process – expression of interest, presentations by the states and assessment of commitment to health sector reforms.

Multi-Agency Exercise ‘Pralay Sahayam’ Held

A multi-agency exercise was conducted on the banks of Hussain Sagar Lake as the final event of ‘Pralay Sahayam’ in Hyderabad.

- The event demonstrated efforts of all central and state agencies, National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF) and the Armed Forces towards jointly tackling an urban flooding scenario in Hyderabad.
- The exercise brought out the role and function of the State Emergency Operations in coordinating conduct of the joint operations.

Pradhan to host first LPG Panchayat in Gandhinagar

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan will inaugurate one of the ambitious programmes of the Centre — LPG Panchayat, aimed at encouraging rural communities to turn to clean fuel.

- The Centre plans to organise one lakh LPG Panchayats across the country, where discussions will take place between officials of fuel companies and villagers on awareness and uses of the LPG.
- The first LPG Panchayat will be held in Gandhinagar, where Pradhan will preside over the interaction between women using LPG under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) and the companies.
PM Modi to launch 24x7 electricity-for-all scheme
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will announce a scheme for providing 24X7 electricity to all on September 25, Power Minister R K Singh said.

- September 25 is also the birth anniversary of RSS ideologue Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.
- Though Singh did not divulge further details about the scheme, it is touted to cover all rural families after expected electrification of all villages by December end this year.
- According to government sources, the scheme will be named ‘Saubhagya’ and provide subsidy on equipment like transformers, meters, and wires.

Govt plans ‘lab on boat’ for analysing Brahmaputra river
A new project of the Department of Biotechnology aims at starting a lab on boat on Brahmaputra river for biological analysis of the river system.

- The ambitious project also proposes to have multiple mobile laboratories on the river and its tributaries along with providing access to local research institutions.
- The first laboratory under the Brahmaputra Biodiversity Biology Boat (B4) initiative will cover Pasighat, Dibrugarh, Neemati, Tejpur and Guwahati in Assam.

Points to Remember
- The nearly 3,800 kms long river, one of the longest in the world, traverses three countries China, India and Bangladesh to empty itself in the Bay of Bengal.
- Its origin is in the Angsi glacier.
- It flows southwest through the Assam Valley as Brahmaputra and south through Bangladesh as the Jamuna (not to be mistaken with Yamuna of India). In the vast Ganges Delta, it merges with the Padma, the popular name of the river Ganges in Bangladesh, and finally the Meghna and from here it is known as Meghna before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.

Neighborhood Action Plan in cities for better Solid Waste Management
Noting that people have a better connect with immediate neighborhood, Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep Singh Puri unveiled ‘My Home-My Neighborhood’ (Ghar Bi Saaf-Pados Bhi Saaf) campaign with the following six components:

- Segregation of waste at source.
- Compost making from wet waste within the premises/neighborhood/area.

- Recycling of dry waste.
- Freeing the neighborhood from open defecation and open urination.
- Motivating the residents of neighborhood against throwing garbage in open spaces.
- Adopting a nearby park or open place for collection and waste segregation.

Government launches Saubhagya scheme for household electrification
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana or ‘Saubhagya’, to supply electricity to poor households. The scheme will cover all rural families after electrification of all villages by December end, this year.

- The government said that states will be required to complete the household electrification by March 31, 2019.
- The total outlay for the Saubhagya scheme will be Rs 16,320 crore. The outlay for the rural households is Rs 14,025 crore while the GBS is Rs 10,587.50 crore. For the urban households the outlay is Rs 2,295 crore while GBS is Rs 1,732.50 crore.
- The scheme will be funded by a 60 per cent grant from the government, with the states contributing 10 per cent and the remaining amount will be covered by loans.
- For special category states, the government will grant 85 per cent of the outlay, with the states contributing just 5 per cent.
- The gross budgetary support for the scheme will be Rs 12,320 crore.
- Electricity connections will be given to APL families for Rs 500, payable in 10 equal monthly installments, while BPL families will be given free connections.

PM Narendra Modi forms Economic Advisory Council
Over three years after coming to power, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has formed an Economic Advisory Council (EAC) amid the government's endeavour to give a push to the growth which has witnessed a slowdown.

- The five-member EAC will be headed by NITI Aayog member Bibek Debroy and will include NITI Aayog's Principal Advisor Ratan Watal as its member and economists Surjit Bhalla, Rathin Roy and Ashima Goyal as part-time members.
Rajnath Singh to launch PENCIL Portal at the National Conference on Child Labour

“PENCIL”: an electronic platform for effective enforcement for no child labour developed by Ministry of Labour and Employment is going to be launched by Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh on 26th September 2017 in the National Conference on Child Labour at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi.

- Nobel Laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi will be the guest of honour while the Labour and Employment Minister, Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar will preside over the conference.

Israel to boost ‘White Revolution’ in Haryana

The ‘White Revolution’ in Haryana is set to get an Israeli boost.

- A leading state in milk production, Haryana would now benefit from the techniques and experience of Israel, leader in milk production in the world, for increasing the average milk production.
- The average milk production of milch animals in Israel is 32 kg per day and it leads the world in milk production.

Manoj Sinha to launch the first ever India Mobile Congress 2017

The Minister of Communication Shri Manoj Sinha announced DoT’s first ever Mobile, Internet and Technology event in India - India Mobile Congress 2017, which is beginning from 27th September till 29th September 2017 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

- Led by Department of Telecom as the nodal ministry, the India Mobile Congress is being organised by Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), the industry association of mobile and telecom operators and internet companies will be a congregation to display, discuss, unveil, imbibe, educate and recognise the importance of the global and Indian telecommunications, mobile, internet, connectivity and digital services sector to the world.
- The largest and first ever event also has the support of the other ministries like the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Skill Development and Entrepreneurship amongst others and will see participation from senior government representatives from the centres as well as various states.

Paswan launches “Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e-NWR) System”

Ram Vilas Paswan, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution launched the Web Portal of Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) & “Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e-NWR) System” in New Delhi.

- Shri Paswan informed that the e-NWRs would have no chances of any tempering, mutilation, fudging, loss or damage and with no possibility of any multiple financing.
- Hence, these NWRs will not only facilitate an easy pledge financing by banks and other financial institutions but also smooth trading on various trading centres like commodity exchanges, electronic National Agriculture Markets (e-NAM) and other electronic platforms.

Kandla Port renamed as Deendayal Port

The Ministry of Shipping has issued a notification renaming Kandla Port Trust as Deendayal Port Trust with effect from 25th of September, 2017.

- Kandla Port, located on the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat, is one of the twelve major ports in the country.
- As per the Ministry’s notification, the Central Government, in exercise of powers conferred on it under Indian Ports Act, 1908, made the amendment to replace “Kandla” with “Deendayal”.

Thaawarchand Gehlot launches ‘Divyang Sarathi’

Thaawarchand Gehlot, Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment launched the Beta version of ‘Divyang Sarathi’—The accessible and comprehensive mobile application for easy dissemination of information to ‘Divyangjans’.

- This mobile application aims at providing all relevant information pertaining to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, including its various acts, rules, regulations and guidelines, schemes, information about the various outreach institutions, employment opportunities, and the disability market in an accessible format.
- This application has been developed by the two Assistant Secretaries (Shri Anunaya Jha and Smt. B. Susheela) in the DEPwD.
Cabinet approves umbrella scheme of Modernisation of Police Forces

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for implementation of umbrella scheme of “Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF)” for years 2017-18 to 2019-20.

- The financial outlay for the scheme over the three year’s period is Rs. 25,060 crore, out of which the Central Government share will be Rs.18,636 crore and the States’ share will be Rs.6,424 crore.
- Special provision has been made under the Scheme for internal security, law and order, women security, availability of modern weapons, mobility of police forces, logistics support, hiring of helicopters, upgradation of police wireless, National Satellite Network, CCTNS project, E-prison project etc.
- Under the umbrella scheme, central budget outlay of Rs. 10,132 crore has been earmarked for internal security related expenditure for Jammu & Kashmir, North Eastern States and left wing extremism affected States.
- Scheme of Special Central Assistance (SCA) for 35 worst LWE affected districts has been introduced with an outlay of Rs. 3,000 crore to tackle the issue of underdevelopment in these district.
- An outlay of Rs.100 crore has been earmarked in the North Eastern States for police infrastructure upgradation, training institutes, investigation facilities etc.

IBBI registered National E-Governance Services Limited as Information Utility

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) registered National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) as an Information Utility (IU) under the IBBI (Information Utilities) Regulations, 2017.

- This registration is valid for five years from the date of registration.
- IU stores financial information that helps to establish defaults as well as verify claims expeditiously and thereby facilitates completion of transactions under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 in a time bound manner.
- It constitutes a key pillar of the insolvency and bankruptcy ecosystem, the other three being the Adjudicating Authority (National Company Law Tribunal and Debt Recovery Tribunal), the IBBI and Insolvency Professionals.

- NeSL becomes the first IU registered by the IBBI. According to the information submitted for registration, its Board of Directors comprises:

CARA launches monthly “Jan Sampark” Program to facilitate adoption

The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) of the Ministry of Women & Child Development has started a monthly “Jan Sampark” program to enable the public to have interaction with its officials and staff for seeking information related to Adoption as well as flagging their concerns.

- The first of its kind programme was held in New Delhi. Nearly 150 Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs), Adoptive Parents and representatives of agencies participated in the session, which lasted for more than four hours.
- The event will now be a regular feature every month apart from the quarterly Facebook live chat by CEO CARA.

President Ram Nath Kovind launches ‘Adopt a Heritage’ project

President Ram Nath Kovind launched the ‘Adopt a Heritage’ initiative on World Tourism Day, under which heritage sites will be entrusted to public and private enterprises and individuals for maintenance.

- The initiative — launched along with ‘Incredible India 2.0 Campaign’ — is an attempt to boost Indian tourism with “greater focus on digital presence and social media”.
- Under the ‘Adopt a Heritage’ Project, those entrusted with the development of tourist amenities at the adopted sites would be known as ‘Monument Mitras’.

India International Science Festival 2017

The Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) have come together to organize The India International Science Festival (IISF) every year, since 2015 to encourage scientific temper among the masses and showcasing Indian contribution in the field of S&T over the years.

- The previous two editions of IISF held at New Delhi have been a great success.
- The 3rd edition of IISF 2017 will be held in Chennai during 13-16 October, 2017 at various venues.
• Emphasizing the role of technologies and innovation, India has declared 2010-20 as the ‘Decade of Innovation’.

14th India-EU Summit to be held in New Delhi on 6 October
India will host the 14th India-European Union (EU) Summit in New Delhi on 6 October that will see the two sides declaring their resolve to combat terrorism and intensifying economic cooperation.
• The summit will be attended by European Council President Donald Franciszek Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.
• The 13th India-EU Summit was held in Brussels on March 30, 2016.

Business

Eight core sectors growth slips to 2.4% in July
The country's eight infrastructure sectors grew 2.4 per cent in July this year. The infrastructure sector had expanded 3.1 per cent in July last year, and had grown 0.8 per cent in June this year.
• Coal production increased 0.7 per cent in July this year, natural gas output grew 6.6 per cent, steel production rose 9.2 per cent, and electricity generation climbed 5.4 per cent.
• Crude oil output decreased 0.5 percent in July, petroleum refinery output declined 2.7 per cent, fertilizer production fell 0.3 per cent, and cement production dropped 2 per cent during the month.

5.7 percent GDP growth rate in first quarter
Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley has said, the 5.7 percent GDP growth rate in first quarter of this fiscal is a matter of concern and it throws up a challenge to the economy.
• The rate has come down predominantly due to pre-GST effect as manufacturers were focusing more on clearing the existing stock. Service sector and investment have improved in this quarter but the down trend in manufacturing is essentially due to GST.
• The manufacturing has actually bottomed down from 3.1 percent in the last quarter it has gone down to 1.6 percent

• The country’s GDP growth slowed to a three-year low of 5.7 per cent during the first quarter of the current fiscal.

Ministry of Railways Signs two MoUs with Switzerland
The first MoU is between Ministry of Railways and Federal Department of the Environment, Transport and Communications of the Swiss Confederation for technical cooperation in Rail Sector.
• The MoU aims at cooperation in the areas of traction rolling stock, electric multiple unit and train sets, traction propulsion equipments, freight and passenger cars, tilting trains, railway electrification equipments, tunnelling technology among other things.
• The second MoU was signed between Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology which will help the former in establishing the George Fernandes Institute of Tunnel Technology (GFITT) at Goa especially for assimilation and dissemination of knowledge in the field of tunneling.

Saab, Adani join hands for defence manufacturing
Swedish defence giant Saab and Indian conglomerate Adani group have announced collaboration in defence manufacturing entailing billions of dollars of investment, mainly eyeing a contract for single-engine fighter jets for the Indian Air Force.
• The government is set to procure a fleet of single-engine fighters for the IAF and US defence firm Lockheed Martin will be a major competitor for Saab for the deal.
• The two companies said the collaboration will combine the technical and product excellence of Saab, along with the industrial engineering, system integration and mega project execution capabilities of Adani with the intention to manufacture defence systems locally in India.

Five banks of BRICS nations sign pact for credit lines
Five banks of the BRICS Bank Cooperation Mechanism have agreed to establish credit lines in the national currencies and cooperate on credit ratings.
• The agreement to this effect was signed ahead of the BRICS Summit in China’s Xiamen city.
• Brazilian Development Bank, Vnesheconombank, Export-Import Bank of India, China Development Bank and Development Bank of South Africa signed the agreement in Beijing.
• The agreement on credit ratings enables them to share information about internal credit ratings and rating assessment.

• Ahead of the BRICS summit, the New Development Bank (NDB) of the BRICS countries has approved 1.4 billion US dollar loans for sustainable development projects in India, Russia and China.

• For India, the Bank has approved 470 million US dollars loan for Madhya Pradesh’s Multi-Village Rural Drinking Water Supply Scheme Project.

Fiscal deficit touches 92.4% of budget estimates at July-end
The government's fiscal deficit at the end of July this year touched 92.4 per cent of the budget estimate.

• This was mainly because of front loading of expenditure by government departments.

• In the same period last year, the fiscal deficit was 73.7 percent of the budget estimate of the whole year. During the fiscal year 2017-18, the government has set a target to bring fiscal deficit to 3.2 percent of GDP.

• The fiscal deficit is the difference between the government’s expenditure and revenue.

Banking Operations started by Fincare Small Finance Bank
Fincare Small Finance Bank has started its functioning with 25 operational branches in four states of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

• Earlier it was known as Disha Microfin Limited.

• RBI has granted small finance bank license to this bank in May 2017.

• CEO: Rajeev Yadav

• Headquarter: Bengaluru

Rs. 20K Penalty on Banks without Aadhar Centres
One additional month has been given to banks to open Aadhar enrolment centres. The extra time has been granted as many banks sought additional time for setting up such facility on their premises.

• Earlier in July, The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) had asked private as well as public banks to open Aadhaar enrolment and updation facility in 10 percent of their total number of branches by the end of August 2017.

• Non opening of Aadhar Centres will attract a fine of Rs. 20000 per branch per month and is calculated on the minimum stipulated number of branches.

Assam govt signs MoU with Google to increase digital literacy
In a bid to take Internet connectivity to the remotest part of the state, Assam government signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Google India.

• Through the MoU with Google, the state government would work to provide Internet connection to 26,000 villages and 1,500 tea garden areas to increase digital literacy.

• The MoU signed with the Google would be the latest addition to various initiatives of the state government to make technology-driven development a reality.

Amazon India opens largest fulfilment centre, in Hyderabad
Amazon opened its largest fulfilment centre in India on the outskirts of Hyderabad, near the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Shamshabad.

• The 400,000 sq feet centre with close of 2.1 million cubic feet of storage space is the 5th such centre in Telangana.

• With this, the US major has ramped up its storage capacity to 3.2 million cubic feet in the State alone.

Bharat Petroleum set to get Maharatna status
State-run Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) is all set to become a Maharatna company. The oil marketing company is at present a Navratna firm.

• The decision to elevate BPCL to Maharatna status was taken by a panel headed by the Cabinet secretary.

• Maharatna and Navratna state-owned units operate in strategic fields such as coal, petroleum, steel, heavy engineering, power supply, telecommunications and transportation services.

BSNL join hands with PNB, launches mobile wallet Speedpay
State-run telecom operator Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has tied up with Punjab National Bank (PNB) to roll out open mobile wallet Speedpay across 10 states in the country.

• “SpeedPay” is an Open Loop Prepaid wallet which allows users to withdraw money from authorized retail points.
• India is now second largest market in the world with 120 crore mobile users.
• SpeedPay can be used by customers of any mobile network operator and is not limited to BSNL alone.

HDFC Bank pips TCS to become 2nd most valuable company of India
HDFC Bank surpassed Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to become the country’s second most valued firm in terms of market valuation.
• Shares of HDFC Bank have surged nearly 53 per cent so far this year, while that of TCS rose nearly 5 per cent.
• Reliance Industries Ltd is the country’s most valued firm with a market cap of Rs 5,33,818.72 crore followed by HDFC Bank, TCS, ITC (Rs 3,35,993.75 crore) and HDFC Ltd (Rs 2,84,580.02 crore) in top five list.

Cabinet nod for separation of BSNL’s tower business
The Cabinet approved hiving off the mobile tower assets of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) into a separate company, fully owned by BSNL.
• It has authorised BSNL to monetise its telecom tower infrastructure with the formation of a separate subsidiary, said an official release.
• BSNL owns 66,000 of the 4.42 lakh towers in the country.
• The government is looking at external tenancies and garnering revenues for the new, ‘dedicated’ tower company of BSNL, the government release said.

Habib Bank to Wind Up From USA
US banking regulators ordered Pakistan's Habib Bank to shut its New York office on the issue of not heeding concerns over possible terrorist financing and money laundering.
• Habib Bank, Pakistan's largest private bank facilitated billions of dollars of transactions with Saudi private bank, Al Rajhi Bank, which reportedly has links to al Qaeda and failed to do enough to ensure that the funds were not laundered or used for terrorism.
• A fine of 225 million Dollars is also imposed on the bank.

MRF inks deal with EPL clubs
English Premier League (EPL) clubs Newcastle United, West Ham and West Brom announced sponsorship deals with MRF. The Newcastle and West Ham jerseys will feature the tyre major’s logo as part of the sleeve sponsorship, while West Brom has signed up the Indian manufacturer as its official tyre sponsor.
• The 2017-18 season is the first year since the inception of the Premier League in 1992 that the Football Association has allowed sleeve sponsorships.
• Earlier, sponsor brand names could feature only on the front of the shirts.

Nestle sets up food safety institute in Manesar
Swiss food major Nestle set up a food safety institute to help develop standards in food safety and quality.
• Inaugurating the Nestle Food Safety Institute (NFSI) in Manesar, Haryana, Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) CEO Pawan Agarwal, told mediapersons that unlike its counterparts in the developed world, the food regulator in India faces many challenges. “No country has such a diverse food ecosystem in the world like India. Ensuring food safety and quality in India is a huge task, considering we have such a diverse range of food operators,” Agarwal said.

Amazon opens country’s largest fulfilment centre in Hyderabad
American e-commerce company Amazon opened its largest fulfilment centre (FC) in the country at the GMR-led Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad.
• The new facility has a carpet area of around 4 lakh square feet, along with a storage space of close to 2.1 million cubic feet. This is Amazon's fifth fulfilment centre in Telangana, thereby increasing the firm's overall storage capacity to 3.3 million square feet in the state.
• Founder of Amazon: Jeff Bezos

Age limit to join National Pension Scheme raised to 65 years
The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has announced that the upper age limit for joining the National Pension Scheme (NPS) had been raised to 65 years, from the current 60.
• NPS is currently open for people between 18 and 60, and the Board has approved raising the age limit for joining to 65.
HDFC Bank retained its No 1 position in the BrandZ India top 50, doubling its brand value since 2014 with a sustained focus on improving services.

- The bank has retained the top slot for the fourth year in a row.
- Telecom provider Reliance Jio ranks at No 11, months after its launch.
- Airtel is on second spot while and State Bank of India is on third spot.

**London Retains Its Crown as World’s Top Financial Center**

London retained its crown as the world’s top financial center in a ranking that surveys industry professionals.

- The index has been released twice yearly since 2007.
- It ranks 92 cities on a 1,000-point scale.
- London has extended its lead over New York and Hong Kong despite ongoing uncertainty about the implications of Brexit.

**India FY18 GDP growth likely at 7.1 percent**

India’s GDP growth is expected to be around 7.1 per cent this fiscal following a likely pick up in industrial production as firms resort to ‘restocking’ post GST especially ahead of festive season, says a Nomura report.

- According to the Japanese financial services major, post-GST restocking is likely to drive a faster pace of industrial output growth in the coming quarters.

**Google to launch mobile payment service in India**

Tech giant Google is slated to unveil a digital payment service in India next week that has been developed for the local market.

- In July, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) had said Google had completed the testing of its UPI payment service and was awaiting Reserve Bank of India’s approval to launch its service in the country.
- According to the website, Google is launching "Tez" which is more like Android Pay.

**Japanese industrial townships to come up in four states**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that four locations have been finalized for development of Japanese industrial townships in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

- India and Japan signed 15 agreements, including one to give a fillip to India’s Act East policy by enhancing connectivity and developmental projects in India’s northeast, and for more flights between the two countries.
- The agreements were inked after the annual bilateral summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe.

**India Signs 76 Million US Dollar Loan Deal with JICA**

The Government of India signed a loan deal worth $76 million with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), for a project to upgrade the environment management plan at Alang-Sosiya ship recycling yards.

- The total cost of the project will be $ 111 million, out of which $76 million will be provided as soft loan from JICA.
- Out of the remaining amount, $25 million as taxes and fees will be borne by Government of Gujarat and the balance $10 million will be shared by Ministry of Shipping & Government of Gujarat.
- The project will be executed by Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) and is likely to be completed by 2022.

**Amazon India ties up with Bank of Baroda for micro lending**

E-commerce giant Amazon India has tied up with Bank of Baroda to offer unsecured micro loans as small as Rs 1 lakh up to Rs 25 lakh in a short span of three-five days.

- The interest rates would be competitive and would help small and medium businesses or sellers on the Amazon platform get access to easy loans, which will help boost their working capital and also help in the growth of their business.

**Points To Remember**

- Bank of Baroda (BoB) is an Indian state-owned International banking and financial services company headquartered in Vadodara (earlier known as Baroda) in Gujarat.
- It was founded in 1908.
- Ravi Venkatesan is its chairman while PS Jayakumar is the MD and CEO.
- ‘India’s international bank’ is the tagline of Bank of Baroda.

**IndusInd Bank secures $200 mn loan from ADB for microlending**

IndusInd Bank has secured up to $200 million (about Rs 1,282 crore) loan from Asian Development Bank (ADB) to serve low-income women borrowers in rural areas.
The seven-year senior loan will go towards IndusInd Bank’s micro-finance activities, the private players said in a statement.

As per the loan agreement, about 95 per cent of the ADB funding will go towards credit for women borrowers.

At least 70 per cent of the number of loans will be deployed to less developed states.

### Points to Remember
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank established on 19 December 1966, which is headquartered in Mandaluyong, Manila, Philippines.
- It has 67 member countries,
- Takehiko Nakao is the president of Asian Development Bank.

### Govt considering its own cryptocurrency
The Central government is considering a proposal to introduce its cryptocurrency similar to Bitcoin.

- Sources also said the government might name its cryptocurrency “Lakshmi”.
- Proposal was discussed by a committee of government officials, and the panel found the idea of setting up and running blockchain for financial services useful.

### Points to Remember
- A cryptocurrency is a digital asset designed to work as a medium of exchange using cryptography to secure the transactions and to control the creation of additional units of the currency.
- Cryptocurrencies are classified as a subset of digital currencies.
- Bitcoin became the first decentralized cryptocurrency in 2009.

### India likely to be 3rd largest economy by 2028: HSBC report
India is likely to overtake Japan and Germany to become the third largest economy in the next 10 years but needs to be consistent in reforms and focus more on the social sector, British brokerage HSBC has said.

- Social capital is insufficient in the country and spending on aspects like health and education is not just desirable for its own sake, but is also central to economic growth and political stability, it said.
- India also needs a lot of focus on ease of doing business and related aspects like contract enforcements.

### India replaces China as top retail destination in 2017: Study
India has replaced China as the numero uno retail destination in 2017 as part of the global retail development index, according to industry experts.

- With increasing global participation in Indian retail, the sector will further evolve and become more organised and competitive in providing better assortment to the consumer.

### India gets its first high horse power loco from France
India’s dream for high horse power locomotive moved closer to reality with the arrival of the first bodyshell of 12000 HP loco from Alstom France at Kolkata port.

- This first-of-its-kind high-power electric locomotive will be used to haul freight trains at twice the existing speed by next year.
- In November 2015, the public transporter inked a contract with the French company to manufacture 800 such train engines over the next 11 years in a joint venture at the Madhepura locomotive factory in Bihar.
- This is the first major FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) project in the rail sector.

### State-run PSUs sign MoU to form Khanij Bidesh India Ltd
National Aluminium Company (Nalco), Hindustan Copper (HCL) and MECL, three state-run PSUs, have signed an MoU to form a joint venture Khanij Bidesh India Ltd (Kabil).

- The proposed JV will identify, explore, acquire, develop and process strategic minerals overseas for commercial use and to meet domestic supply needs.
- The JV will deal in 12 strategic minerals that are either not available in the country or the quantity available is lower than requirement.

### OECD cuts India's FY18 growth outlook
The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has trimmed India’s growth forecast for the current financial year, citing the temporary impact of the rollout of the goods and services tax and demonetisation.

- OECD said India’s economy will likely grow 6.7% in FY18, lower than its estimate of 7.3% in June.
In contrast, China’s economy gets a 0.2% lift from its earlier assessment to 6.8% for 2017.

**SBI tops trust and popularity charts**

State Bank of India (SBI) is India’s most trusted and most popular bank according to a survey conducted by Brand Finance, a business valuation and strategic consultancy headquartered in London.

- On the trust charts, SBI is followed by HDFC Bank and Central Bank of India whereas on the popularity charts, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank take the second and third spots respectively.

**SBI launches Indian bond index series in London**

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched the FTSE SBI Bond Index series in partnership with global index provider FTSE 100, which it is hoped will give tools to investors from India, the UK and globally to analyse India’s government bond market, and drive growth in this market.

- This index, launched in collaboration with the London Stock Exchange, will ensure that international investors have an international benchmark.

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

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

- The board of Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a loan of USD 300 million to continue a comprehensive series of fiscal reforms in West Bengal to bring about more accessible, affordable, and high quality public services.
- West Bengal, for the first time in 2012 had received a USD 400 million from ADB.

**Nabard sanctions Rs 119 cr loan for Haryana**

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) has sanctioned a loan of about Rs 119 crore to construct seven bridges and improvement of one rural road project in five districts of Haryana.

- Under rural bridges and road project, construction of seven bridges and one road would be undertaken in Ambala, Panchkula, Sonepat, Yamunanagar and Panipat districts of Haryana involving RIDF (Rural Infrastructure Development Fund) loan of Rs 28.25 crore.
- Besides, the loan has been sanctioned for construction of 167 government veterinary hospitals and dispensaries in all districts and one drinking water supply project in Rewari district.

**Points to Remember**

- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is an apex development financial institution in India, headquartered at Mumbai.
- The Bank has been entrusted with matters concerning policy, planning and operations in the field of credit for agriculture and other economic activities in rural areas in India.
- NABARD was established on the recommendations of B.Sivaraman Committee, (by Act 61, 1981 of Parliament) on 12 July 1982.
- Harsh Kumar Bhanwala is the present Chairman of NABARD.

**SBI to teach bankers from South East Asian countries**

State Bank of India is planning to throw open its new banking personnel training institute for employees of other banks in India and other South East Asian countries.

- The institute will impart leadership training to people in the mid-management level and above with thrust on risk mitigation, banking regulation and technology.
- The focus will be on action-based and result-oriented research and capacity building, Chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya said.

**SBI revises service charges on maintaining monthly average balance**

The country’s largest lender State Bank of India has brought down service charges on not maintaining monthly average (MAB) balance by a whopping 20-50%.

- The bank has also decided to treat the metro and urban centres in the same category and the requirement of monthly average balance in metro centres stands reduced to Rs 3000 from Rs 5000 earlier.

**Reliance Industries world’s third largest energy firm: Platts rankings**

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has jumped five places to rank as the world’s third-biggest energy company behind Russian gas firm Gazprom and German utility E.ON, according to Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company Rankings.
State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC) broke into the top 10 club, climbing to 7th position in the 2017 ranking, up from 14th rank in 2016.
The other Indian firms in the ranking included Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (39), Coal India Ltd (45), Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (48), Power Grid Corp (81) and GAIL India Ltd (106).

IDBI Bank initiates 'Project Nishchay' to improve financial performance
Public sector lender IDBI Bank has initiated a turnaround plan - 'Project Nishchay' in consultation with The Boston Consulting Group (BCG).
- The project aims to accelerate the struggling lender's turnaround programme and improve financial performance.
- The project will be led by senior management at IDBI Bank along with BCG.
- The bank is under the Reserve Bank of India's prompt corrective action framework which means that the bank has to conserve capital and find ways to return to profitability.
- The bank is also not allowed to open new branches or lend to potentially risky companies.

Facebook joins Apple, Google in top 10 most valuable brands list
The technology sector dominated the annual Interbrand Best Global Brands Report, released on Monday with half of the top ten brands being technology firms.
- Apple topped the list while Google sealed second spot in the 18th edition of global rankings.
- Another tech major Microsoft knocked off beverage brand Coca-Cola to grab the third spot in the list.
- It is for the first time social media giant Facebook made it to the top 10 brands list.

Nooyi, Kochhar, Shikha on Fortune’s most powerful women in business list
Two Indians — Chanda Kochhar and Shikha Sharma — have made it to the rankings of most powerful women in business outside the United States drawn up by the Fortune magazine while Indra Nooyi featured in the top three on the US edition list.
- The Most Powerful Women in Business Outside the US list, which was topped by Banco Santander group executive chairman Ana Botin, placed ICICI Bank’s Kochhar at the fifth spot while Axis Bank’s Sharma has been ranked 21st.

PepsiCo chairman and CEO Indra Nooyi came in at No. 2 on the US Most Powerful Women in Business list, led by General Motors chairman and CEO Mary Barra.

ADB trims India's FY18 growth forecast to 7%
The Asian Development Bank (ADB) lowered India's growth forecast to 7 per cent owing to weakness in private consumption, manufacturing output and business investment.
- ADB said that inflation, however, is expected to average 4 per cent in the current year and 4.6 per cent in 2018-19, significantly lower than the previous estimates of 5.2 per cent and 5.4 per cent, respectively.

PNB, IndusInd Bank to provide AI with over Rs 3,000 cr loans
Banking majors Punjab National Bank and IndusInd Bank have won the bid to provide national passenger carrier Air India with over Rs 3,000 crore government guarantee backed “Short Term Loans” (STLs).
- Earlier, Air India had called for financial bids from leading lenders by September 19.
- The government-backed loans are expected to help the airline in settling dues of various vendors like oil companies and airport operators.

ICICI Bank launches ‘cashback’ home loans
India’s largest private sector lender by consolidated assets, ICICI Bank announced a new home loan scheme that offers borrowers the benefit of 1% cashback on every EMI, for the entire tenure of the loan.
- The offer will be valid for home loans with a minimum tenure of 15 years and maximum tenure of 30 years.
- Customers can choose to adjust the cashback against principal outstanding of their home loan or they can get it as direct credit in their bank account.

ADB to increase annual lending to India to $4 billion
The Asian Development Bank said it will increase its annual lending to India to a maximum of $4 billion between 2018 and 2022 to help fasten inclusive economic transformation towards upper middle income status.
- The new lending programme, which includes private sector operations, is much higher than the average
$2.65 billion a year in loans extended during 2012 and 2016.

**HDFC Bank partners top education institutes for fintech ideas**

In a first of its kind efforts in the domestic banking sector, second largest private sector lender HDFC Bank said it will be partnering with 50 technology and business schools to tap into emerging fintech ideas.

- It announced a tie-up with IIT-Bombay and IIT-Roorkee as part of the industry-academia partnership effort.
- In the first phase of the initiative, 50 such partnerships are envisaged. The bank will use its domain expertise to mentor start-ups on customer experience, reduce time to market and costs.

**PFC to provide Rs 4,000 crore for 4 GW power plant in Telangana**

State-run Power Finance Corp (PFC) has committed financial assistance of Rs 4,009 crore to Telangana for setting up a 4,000 MW thermal power plant in Nalgonda district.

- PFC has sanctioned a term loan of Rs 4,009 crore to TSGENCO (Telangana Power Generation Corporation Ltd) for setting up 5X800 MW, coal based Yadadri Thermal Power Plant using super-critical technology in Nalgonda district of Telangana.
- The Yadadri Thermal Power Plant will generate approximately 29,784 million units of energy to meet the future power requirement of Telangana.

**EESL to procure 10,000 Electric Vehicles from TATA Motors**

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under the administration of Ministry of Power, Government of India (GoI), will procure 10,000 electric vehicles from Tata Motors Limited.

- The company was selected through an international competitive bidding aimed at increased participation.
- Tata Motors won the tender and will now supply the Electric Vehicles (EVs) in two phases – first 500 e-cars will be supplied to EESL in November 2017 and the rest 9,500 EVs will be delivered in the second phase.
- The tender floated by EESL is the world’s largest single electric vehicle procurement.

**ADB approves $80 million loan to Himachal Pradesh**

Multilateral lending agency ADB has approved a loan of $80 million (about Rs 524 crore) for modernisation of Himachal Pradesh’s technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions.

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

**Rajiv Mehrishi Appointed as Next CAG**

Former home secretary Rajiv Mehrishi is to be the next Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.

- He will replace the present incumbent Shashi Kant Sharma who completes his term on 30th September.
- Ashwini Attri, Anita Pattanayak and Ranjan Kumar Ghose, three senior bureaucrats were appointed as Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General.

**Sunil Arora appointed Election Commissioner**

Former bureaucrat Sunil Arora has been appointed Election Commissioner of India.

- Mr. Arora had been the Information and Broadcasting Secretary, and Secretary in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- A 1980-batch IAS officer of the Rajasthan cadre, Mr. Arora has worked in ministries such as Finance, Textiles and Planning Commission.

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

Nirmala Sitharaman will be the country’s new Defence Minister while Piyush Goyal will be the new Railways Minister after a cabinet reshuffle.
- Nirmala Sitharaman is the first woman Defence Minister; Indira Gandhi held the department twice when she was Prime Minister.
- Ms Sitharaman, 58, will now be part of the top 5 or the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), which also includes the Prime Minister, Home Minister Rajnath Singh, Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj and Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. It's for the first time that the CCS will have two women members.
- Apart from Railways, Piyush Goyal retains the ministry of Coal.

### Changed and New Ministers

#### CABINET MINISTERS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shri Nitin JairamGadkari</td>
<td>Minister of Road Transport and Highways;</td>
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<td>Minister of Shipping; and</td>
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<td>Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Shri Suresh Prabhu</td>
<td>Minister of Commerce and Industry.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sushri Uma Bharati</td>
<td>Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Shri Dharmendra Pradhan</td>
<td>Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas;</td>
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<td>Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Shri Piyush Goyal</td>
<td>Minister of Railways; and</td>
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<td>Minister of Coal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman</td>
<td>Minister of Defence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi</td>
<td>Minister of Minority Affairs.</td>
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#### MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore</td>
<td>Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Shri Raj Kumar Singh</td>
<td>Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Power; and Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Shri Hardeep Singh Puri</td>
<td>Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Shri AlphonsKannanthanam</td>
<td>Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Tourism; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.</td>
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#### Rajiv Kumar assumes charge as DFS Secretary

Rajiv Kumar, IAS (JH:84) assumed office as the new Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance. Rajiv Kumar was Special Secretary and Establishment Officer, Ministry of Personnel Public Grievances & Pension, D/o Personnel & Training in his immediate preceding posting. Rajiv Kumar has widespread administrative experience in more than 30 years of service during which he held various important assignments including the Administrative postings in his home State of Jharkhand.

#### IGCAR nuclear scientist U. Kamachi Mudali appointed Heavy Water Board chief

Nuclear scientist U. Kamachi Mudali has been appointed the Chief Executive of the Heavy Water Board, one of the industrial units under the Department of Atomic Energy, the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) said.

- The Heavy Water Board has plants at Kota, Thal, Talcher, Hazira, Vadodara, Manuguru and Tuticorin and produce heavy water required for pressurised heavy water reactors operating in India.
- The plants also develop other materials relevant for Department of Atomic Energy and others, like Boron, Sodium, Oxygen-18, Potassium, and organic solvents.

#### Anita Karwal replaces RK Chaturvedi as CBSE chairperson
Anita Karwal replaced Rajesh Kumar Chaturvedi as Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) chairperson. Chaturvedi was transferred to the National Skill Development Agency.

- 1988-batch Gujarat cadre officer Karwal, was the Gujarat Chief Electoral officer during the Lok Sabha election in 2014. She is currently posted as additional secretary in HRD Ministry.
- Chaturvedi was appointed as Chairman of CBSE in July last year. He was a 1987 batch IAS officer of Madhya Pradesh and was appointed for a period of five years.

**Kenneth Ian Juster Nominated as American Ambassador to India**
President Donald Trump has nominated Kenneth Ian Juster as the next American ambassador to India.
- Juster plays a key role in the Indo-US ties under the Bush Administration. He served as the Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security from 2001 to 2005.
- Juster would replace Richard Verma the position has been vacant since 20th of January after Mr Verma submitted his resignation as Trump took over as the US President.

**Hockey Coach Appointed**
The Joint Committee Meeting of SAI and HI appointed Shri Harendra Singh, Dronachary Awardee, Hockey Coach as High Performance Specialist Coach for Indian Senior Women Hockey Team.
- Under his coaching the junior men team won the Junior Men World Cup in 2016 at Lucknow.
- The present Chief Coach of Indian senior women Hockey Team, Mr. Waltherus Norbertus Maria Marjine will take over as Chief Coach of Indian Senior Men Hockey Team on his return from the ongoing Europe tour.

**Viveck Goenka elected new PTI Chairman**
Viveck Goenka, Chairman and Managing Director of the Express Group was unanimously elected Chairman of Press Trust of India, the country’s largest news agency.
- Mr. Goenka (60) succeeds Riyad Mathew, who is Senior Assistant Editor and a member of the Manorama management. Mr. Goenka, an engineer by qualification and a publisher by profession, is also a director of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS).

**UIDAI chief A B Pandey gets additional charge as interim chairman of GSTN**
Ajay Bhushan Pandey, chief executive officer of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has been given additional charge as the chairman of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Network.
- Navin Kumar, chairman of GSTN retired in August last week.
- The country rolled out its most ambitious tax reform till date GST in July this year.
- GSTN is a not-for-profit entity owned by the Centre, states and non-government financial institutions, and is responsible for building and running the technology backbone for new tax regime.

**Sanjeev Sinha named adviser for Rs 1.1 lakh crore bullet train project**
Sanjeev Sinha, former Tata executive in Tokyo and the first IIT-ian from Barmer, Rajasthan, has been appointed as adviser for the Ahmedabad-Mumbai High Speed Rail project by Japan Railways.
- The project, largely funded by low-cost financing from Japan, is planned to be built based on Japanese technology.

**Jaitley sets up a Group of Ministers and a Committee on Exports**
In pursuance of decision taken in the 21st Meeting of GST Council held on 9th September, 2017 at Hyderabad, the Union Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley constituted a Group of Ministers and a Committee on Exports.
- The Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted under the convenorship of the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Sushil Kumar Modi, in order to monitor and resolve the IT challenges faced in the implementation of GST.
- The GoM will be assisted in its work by the Chairman, Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) and the Chief Executive Officer, GSTN.
- The Committee on Exports has been constituted under the convenorship of the Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia to look at the issues of export sector and to recommend to the GST Council suitable strategy for helping the export sector in the post-GST scenario.

**Halimah Yacob elected Singapore’s first woman President**
Halimah Yacob became the first woman President of Singapore, being the only candidate who met the requirements for the presidential elections.
• However, Yacob’s selection was overshadowed by criticism that it was undemocratic to give her the top post without a vote.
• Yacob, a 63-year-old Muslim of Malay descent, will take her oath of office in a ceremony due to be held in Istana, the presidential residence and office, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong’s office said.

**Points to Remember**

- Singapore, officially the Republic of Singapore, sometimes referred to as the "Lion City", the "Garden City" or the "Little Red Dot", is a sovereign state in Southeast Asia.
- Singapore is the Capital of Singapore state. Its currency is Dollar.

**UN chief appoints first UN envoy for oceans**

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed the outgoing president Peter Thomson of the General Assembly as the first special envoy for the oceans, seeking to galvanize efforts to protect the world’s seas.

- Peter Thomson played a leading role at the first-ever UN conference on oceans in June.
- The 193 UN member states issued an urgent call for action to reverse the decline in the health and productivity of the world’s oceans.

**Jain appointed India’s ambassador to the Slovak Republic**

Shri Harsh Kumar Jain, (IFS: 1993) has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Slovak Republic.

- He is expected to take up the assignment shortly. He is presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of Kazakhstan.

**Akshay Kumar Appointed Brand Ambassador For Swachh Bharat Mission In Uttarakhand**

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat announced the appointment of Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar as the brand ambassador of the Swachh Bharat Mission in the state.

- Akshay was also appointed as the brand ambassador for the cleanliness campaign in Uttar Pradesh last month and his film "Toilet: Ek Prem Katha" was made tax free in the state.
- The movie stresses on the importance of building toilets and ending open defecation in the country.

**Y.C Modi named NIA chief**

Senior IPS officer Y.C Modi, who was part of the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team that probed the 2002 Gujarat riot cases, was named chief of the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

- The federal probe agency is tasked with probing terrorism and terror-financing related cases.
- Another senior IPS officer, Rajni Kant Misra, has been appointed Director General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

**Economist Mercedes Araoz sworn in as Peru’s new prime minister**

Peru’s Second Vice President, Mercedes Araoz, an economist, was sworn in as the new head of the Council of Ministers - known as the prime minister - formed by 13 members of the cabinet.

- Araoz, 56, took the oath of office before President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski at a ceremony held at the Government Palace in Lima, where five other new ministers were also sworn in and another 13 such appointments were confirmed by the president.

**Points to Remember**

- Peru, officially the Republic of Peru, is a country in western South America.
- Its capital is Lima while currency is Sol.

**India TV chairman Rajat Sharma elected NBA president**

India TV chairman and editor-in-chief Rajat Sharma will be the new president of the News Broadcasters Association (NBA) for 2017-18.

- Mathrubhumi Printing & Publishing Co Ltd's joint managing director M V Shreyams Kumar will be the vice president of the association.
- News24 Broadcast India Ltd chairperson-cum-managing director Anurradha Prasad is the honorary treasurer.
- Sharma was also earlier NBA president from 2014 to 2016.

**Ajay Bisaria new Indian envoy to Pakistan**

India has appointed Ajay Bisaria as the new high commissioner to Pakistan replacing Gautam Bambawale.

- Bisaria was presently serving as the Indian ambassador to Poland and the new high commissioner will reach Pakistan in October.
- Bambawale has been appointed as India's ambassador to China.
Sambamurthy appointed as NPCI interim Board chairman

He Board of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the umbrella organisation for all retail payment systems in the country, announced the unanimous appointment of B Sambamurthy as interim Chairman of the Board.

- Sambamurthy replaces retiring Chairman, Balachandran M.
- Sambamurthy was formerly Director and CEO of Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT) and Chairman and Managing Director of Corporation Bank.

Balraj Joshi takes charge of NHPC Ltd as CMD

State-owned NHPC said Balraj Joshi has taken over as its Chairman and Managing Director.

- Prior to his elevation as Chairman and Managing Director, Joshi was Director (Technical) of the state-owned firm.
- During his career of over 35 years, he looked after various projects of the hydro major including Salal, Dul Hasti and Kurichu.

Rajiv Mehrishi to take over as next CAG

Former home secretary Rajiv Mehrishi will take over as the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) tomorrow succeeding Shashi Kant Sharma.

- Mehrishi, 62, would be administered the oath of office and secrecy by President Ram Nath Kovind at Rashtrapati Bhavan tomorrow.
- His appointment has been cleared by the government.
- Mehrishi, a 1978 batch (retired) Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Rajasthan cadre, completed his two-year fixed term as the home secretary last month.

Arvind Subramanian to get extension as CEA for one year: FM Arun Jaitley

The government will extend the term of Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian by one year till October 2018, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said.

- Subramanian, a Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, was appointed India's Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) in October 2014.
- His term was for three years, which was to end on October 16.

Angela Merkel elected German Chancellor for fourth term

The German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, has been elected for a fourth term.

- Ms. Merkel’s party, Christian Democrats, polled the largest percentage of votes with 32.9 per cent.
- Ms. Merkel, who has been in office for 12 years, has reacted to her victory saying she had hoped for a better result.

An 18 year old from Srinagar becomes an ambassador for Swachhata Hi Seva

Bilal Dar, a young boy from Srinagar has become the brand ambassador for Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

- Dar has been contributing to the ‘Swachhta Abhiyan’ since the age of 12.
- He found a mention in the Hon'ble Prime Minister’s recent Mann Ki Baat.

Mohammad Mustafa is SIDBI’s new CMD

The Centre has appointed Mohammad Mustafa, a 1995 batch IAS officer, as Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

- Prior to this appointment, Mustafa was Joint Secretary in the Department of Financial Services (DFS) in the Finance Ministry.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment for a period of three years.

Mridul Kumar appointed High Commissioner of India to Malaysia

Shri Mridul Kumar, (IFS: 1992), has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to Malaysia.

- He is presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs He is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

ISRO’s IRNSS-1H Launch has failed

ISRO launched the IRNSS-1H into orbit using the PSLV C39 rocket, but failed. IRNSS-1H is India’s 8th navigation satellite in the IRNSS series.
• This happened after the heat shield failed to separate in the fourth stage. The satellite had blasted off in the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh. The launch took place from the Second Launch Pad (SLP) of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR.

• IRNSS is a part of NavIC or Navigation Indian Constellation. NavIC is designed to provide accurate position information service to users in India as well as a region extending up to 1500 km from its boundary.

Europe unveils world’s most powerful X-ray laser
The world’s most powerful X-ray laser has begun operating at a facility where scientists will attempt to recreate the conditions deep inside the sun and produce film-like sequences of viruses and cells.

• The machine, called the European X-ray Free Electron Laser (XFEL), acts as a high-speed camera that can capture images of individual atoms in a few millionths of a billionth of a second.

India gets its first Indigenous sniper rifle from West Bengal
The indigenous sniper rifle was launched at the Rifle Factory, Ishapore, near Kolkata. The research and development for the sniper was done at Ishapore itself, since a year.

• The biggest advantage of an indigenous sniper is, it will never run short of ammunition and spares.

• Kolkata Police has decide to get its own Indian-made sniper rifles that will come at one-third the price and the quality, at par with the best in the world. (IBT)

Locky ransomware hits Indian cyberspace
Locky, a deadly “ransomware” has hit India. State-run Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-in) has issued an advisory on the spreading of Locky ransomware in the country, urging users to not open any emails with attachments from unknown senders.

• CERT-in advised both the citizens and large organizations to not open emails with subjects like “please print”, “documents”, “photo”, “images”, “scans” and “pictures”.

Excellence Awards given in Delhi Book Fair
Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (Independent charge) for Culture and Tourism gave away awards for excellence in book production in various categories at the Delhi Book Fair.

• Federation of Indian Publishers (FIP) gives these awards every year during the Delhi Book Fair.

• Publications Division under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting bagged 11 Awards & two Certificates of Merit in various categories in Hindi, English & Regional languages.

• DPD’s journal Kurukshetra has won first prize while children books on ‘swachhata: Swachh Jungle Ki Kahani – Dadi ki Jubani in Hindi & Assamese & Buddhopadesha in Kannada have won second prize.

Reliance Foundation Awarded Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar
The Reliance Foundation was rewarded with the prestigious Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Award at Rashtrapati Bhawan. Chairperson of the foundation, Nita Ambani collected the award from President Ram Nath Kowind in a glittering ceremony in New Delhi.

• For its contribution to the promotion of sports, the award went to Reliance Foundation.

• Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) also received the Rashtriya Khel Protsahana Purushkar this year for its ‘Identification and Nurturing of Budding and Young Talent’ (IDCO) program.

Hyderabad airport bags energy efficiency award
Hyderabad International Airport Ltd has bagged the National Award for ‘Excellence’ in Energy Management at a conference hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

• SGK Kishore, CEO, GHIAL, in a statement said, “GHIAL is committed to exploring energy efficient solutions. As a part of our Passenger is Prime initiative, we have deployed eco-friendly vehicles such as electricity powered buggys, ground handler vehicles, trolley movers, and have even commissioned e-cars.”

Punj Lloyd-Varaha Awarded NHAI Project in Myanmar
The National Highway Authority of India has awarded its first international project in Myanmar to a joint venture of Punj Lloyd-Varaha. This is for the upgradation of the Yagyi-Kalewa section in Myanmar to two lanes.

- The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1177 crore and it will be completed within 36 months.
- Punj Lloyd-Varaha’s bid was identified as the most competitive among four qualified bidders.

Sikkim CM Pawan Chamling honoured at international event
Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling was honoured for his pioneering work in the field of organic farming during a ceremony at Germany’s Lagau on the occasion of the One World Festival.

- Chamling was conferred the Grand Prix Award during the One World Award ceremony on September 8 at a mega event attended by nearly 700 guests who had arrived from different countries.

Points to Remember
- Sikkim is a northeastern state of India.
- Sikkim accounts for the largest share of cardamom production in India, and is the world's second largest producer of the spice after Guatemala.
- Sikkim has the highest share of agricultural land dedicated to organic farming in India.
- Gangtok is the capital of Sikkim. Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil is the Governor of Sikkim.

JNPCT wins “Container Terminal of the Year” Award, 2017
Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPCT) was awarded “Container Terminal of the Year” Award for the above 0.6 million TEUs category at The Gateway Awards 2017 held at Mumbai.

- The Jawaharlal Nehru Port owned JNPCT won the award for its proactive strategies to ease congestion, smooth delivery of containers and revamping of infrastructure to support trade amidst adverse conditions.

Raghunandan Money Honoured With Krishi Pragati Awards 2017
National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX), the only commodity exchange in the country promoted by national level institutions, has awarded Raghunandan Industries Pvt Ltd with Krishi Pragati Awards 2017.

- With the honour of Krishi Pragati Awards to Raghunandan Money, NCDEX has acknowledged the outstanding contribution made by Raghunandan Industries in the area of Agri Commodities.

Vijaya Bank bags Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar
Vijaya Bank has bagged the first prize under the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (Region C) for the year 2016-17.

- It got the award for active implementation of Hindi in its day-to-day activities.
- President Ram Nath Kovind gave away the award to the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, R. A. Sankara Narayanan.

Points to Remember
- Vijaya Bank is a public sector bank with its corporate office in Bangalore, Karnataka.
- It is one of the nationalised banks in India. It was founded in 1931.
- ‘A friend you can bank on’ is the tagline of Vijaya Bank.

Indian economist Bina Agarwal wins Balzan Prize
Two U.S. scientists, whose work has contributed to creating immunological treatments for cancer, and an Indian economist are among the winners of this year’s Balzan Prizes by International Balzan Prize Foundation.

- Indian economist Bina Agarwal, a professor at the University of Manchester, is recognised in the gender studies category for her “heroic” work studying women’s contributions to agriculture in India.

Salman Khan honoured with Global Diversity Award
Bollywood star Salman Khan has received a Global Diversity Award at Britain’s House of Commons.

- Salman received the award from Keith Vaz, British Parliament’s longest-serving Asian MP.
- Keith Vaz praised Salman Khan for being not just a megastar for Indian and world cinema, but also someone who has done so much for humanitarian causes.

Vice President presents ANR award to S S Rajamouli
Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu felicitated film-maker S S Rajamouli with the prestigious ANR National Award for his contribution to the Telugu film industry.

- Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, also present at the function, recalled the contribution of A
Nageswara Rao, popularly known as ANR, to the Telugu film industry.

Nigerian lawyer gets top UN peace prize
A Nigerian lawyer who helped secure the release of more than 100 schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram was awarded one of the United Nations’ top prizes.
- The UNHCR said Zannah Mustapha was given the annual Nansen award for his ‘crucial mediating’ role as well as his work helping children affected by the long-running conflict.
- Mr. Mustapha set up The Future Prowess Islamic Foundation School 10 years ago, which has since proved a lifeline for children in conflict-riven and impoverished northeast Nigeria.

Riz Ahmed becomes first Asian man to win an acting Emmy
Riz Ahmed has become the first man of Asian descent to win an acting award at the Emmys. He is a British actor of Pakistani descent.
- The two actors of Asian descent who have won at the Emmys earlier are British-Indian Archie Panjabi and Iranian-American actress Shohreh Aghdashloo.
- Riz won at the 69th Emmy Awards in the Outstanding Lead Actor in a Limited Series or Movie category for his role in "The Night Of".

IIM Ahmedabad awarded with the Rajbhasha Keerti Award
The Indian Institute of Management- Ahmedabad (IIM-A) has been awarded by President of India, Ramnath Kovind with Rajbhasha Keerti Award 2016-17.
- This honour was awarded on September 14 on the occasion of Hindi Divas Celebration at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.

Pune NGO for women farmers wins UN Equator Prize
Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), a Pune-based non-governmental organisation working among women farmers, has won this year’s UN Equator Prize.
- SSP is the only Indian organisation among the 15 winners that were chosen from 800-odd entries.
- The award recognises SSP’s initiative to empower over 20,000 women farmers from the impoverished Marathwada region in Maharashtra.

Bollywood film Newton is India’s official entry to 2018 Oscars
Bollywood film ‘Newton’ is India’s official entry in the Foreign Language Film category at the 2018 Oscars.
- Rajkummar Rao, who played the lead role in ‘Newton’, shared the news.
- ‘Newton’, directed by Amit Masurkar, revolves around a government clerk who tries his best to conduct free and fair voting in a Naxal-controlled town.

Prof CNR Rao receives Von Hippel Award for materials research
Eminent Scientist and Bharata Ratna Prof CNR Rao has been honoured with prestigious Von Hippel Award for materials research.
- This international award is the highest honour in materials research.
- Prof. Rao is the first Asian to receive the award.

Banaj Devi to receive Sarala award for 'Kathapua'
Noted Odia poet and short story writer Banaj Devi will be honoured with the 38th edition of prestigious Sarala award for her short story compilation "Kathapua”.
- The annual Sarala Puraskar, recognised as one of the foremost literary awards of the state, comprises a cash award of Rs 5 lakh along with a citation.
- Besides Banaj Devi, two more prominent personalities of Odisha will be honoured for their valuable contribution in the field of music and art.
- While Pandeet Guru Dr Ghasiram Mishra will be awarded 'Ila Panda Sangeet Samman', Dr Durga Prasad Das will receive 'Ila Panda Chitrakala Samman'.
- Sarala Puraskar is given away every year by Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPaCT).

Madhur Bhandarkar, Hema Malini to be felicitated in Russia
National Award-winning filmmaker Madhur Bhandarkar and veteran actress Hema Malini will be felicitated at the 4th Indian Film Festival of Russia, for their contribution to Indian cinema.
- Bhandarkar’s latest film "Indu Sarkar" will also be screened at the festival following the opening ceremony.
- They will be honoured by Indian Ambassador to Russia Pankaj Saran, and Russian Deputy Culture Minister Sergei Obrivalin.
National Tourism Award 2017

- Hall of fame award for Best State / UT Comprehensive Development of Tourism: Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh
- Swachhata Award: Telangana
- Best Maintained and Disabled Friendly Monument: Chowmahalla Palace, Hyderabad, Telangana
- Best Tourist Friendly Railway Station: Ujjain Railway Station, Madhya Pradesh
- Best Heritage City: Chanderi and Warangal
- Best Tourist Guide: K Kasinath Rao, Telangana
- Excellence in Publishing – English: “The Heart of Incredible India” (Coffee Table Book) by Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board

Srinagar and Raipur Airports awarded as Best Airports

The Airports Authority of India’s Srinagar International Airport, Jammu & Kashmir and Swami Vivekananda Airport, Raipur, Chhattisgarh have been jointly conferred with the prestigious National Tourism Awards 2015-16.

- The President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind, presented the award for Best Airport under ‘rest of India’ category at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on the occasion of World Tourism Day on 27th September, 2017.

Swiss professor to get 2017 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize

Maryna Viazovska of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne, Switzerland has been selected for the 2017 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize.

- The prize will be awarded during December 21-22, 2017 at the International Conference on Number Theory at SASTRA University in Kumbakonam, Ramanujan’s hometown.

Point to Remember

- The SASTRA Ramanujan Prize was established in 2005 and is awarded annually for outstanding contributions by young mathematicians to areas influenced by the genius Srinivasa Ramanujan.
- The age limit for the prize has been set at 32 because Ramanujan achieved so much in his brief life of 32 years.

Indian shuttlers Saina Nehwal and Kidambi Srikanth climbed up the ladder in the latest BWF world ranking. Saina, who won a bronze at the World Championship, jumped four rungs to be placed at the 12th spot, while Kidambi Srikanth also improved two positions.

- Among others, Ajay Jayaram and B Sai Praneeth also improved by one and two places respectively to be placed at 16th and 17th spots.
- Mixed doubles pair of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N Sikki Reddy improved a place to be at the 19th spot, while women's doubles combo of Ashwini Ponnappa and Sikki were static at 24th.
- World Championship silver medallist, P V Sindhu, retained her 4th position.

Hockey India sacks chief coach Oltmans

Hockey India sacked national coach Roelant Oltmans after a string of unimpressive outings at the international level. High Performance Director David John will be in charge till a suitable replacement is found for a smooth transition of the men’s team.

- The decision was taken during the three-day meeting of the Hockey India High Performance and Development Committee.
- While Roelant Oltmans role as Chief Coach in improving the teams’ overall fitness and cohesiveness has been appreciated, the results are what matter and the performance of the team has not been consistent or up to the desired levels.
- This move comes before critical tournaments including the Asian Games & World Cup in 2018 and 2020 Olympic Games.

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

Former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni became the first wicketkeeper in world cricket to affect 100 stumpings in One Day Internationals.

- Dhoni achieved the feat in his 301st ODI in Colombo when he whipped off the bails to remove Sri Lankan batsman Akila Dananjaya off leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal's bowling.

IPL Media Rights To Star India

Indian Premier League (IPL) media rights for the next five years have been awarded to Star India.

- Star India won the bid held in Mumbai for various media rights of the league at Rs. 16,347.50 crore for the period of 2018 – 2022.
• For each IPL match BCCI will get Rs. 55 crore compared to Rs. 43 crore for each international match that India plays.

• Media rights consist of TV and digital rights for various segments namely India, Middle East, Africa, Europe and America.

• The previous bid was won by Sony in 2008 for 10 years at Rs. 8200 crore.

Konsam Ormila Devi Won Gold Commonwealth Youth Weightlifting
On the very first day of the Commonwealth Youth weightlifting championships Konsam Ormila Devi won a gold medal in 44kg category.

• She bagged the gold medal by lifting 57kg in snatch and 76kg in clean and jerk for an overall effort of 133kg.

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

India Beat Macau in Football Asia Cup Qualifier
India beat host Macau by 2-0 in a group league match in the qualifying round of the Asian Cup Football played at Macau.

• Both the goals were scored by substitute striker Balwant Singh.

• It is eleventh consecutive victory for India in the international football matches.

India Beat Sri Lanka in All Formats of Cricket
India beat Sri Lanka by seven wickets in the T-20 International cricket match in Colombo

• Set to score 171 runs for a win, Team India surpassed the target by making 174 for 3.

• It was the first time that an Indian cricket team registered an all-win record across formats in an overseas tour.

Ankur Mittal Wins Silver at ISSF World Cup
India’s Ankur Mittal won his first ISSF World Cup medal by clinching silver in the double trap event of the edition being held in Moscow.

• Mittal scored 74 points in the final round while the gold medallist James Willett from Australia scored 75 points with a new world record.

Duleep Trophy Begins in Lucknow
Duleep Trophy has begun with the opening match played between India Green and India Red at the newly constructed Ekana International Stadium, Lucknow.

• A big cricket tournament like Duleep Trophy is being played in Lucknow after a gap of 12 years.

• Final match will also be played at the same stadium.

• India Blue won the Duleep Trophy in 2016.

India Tops in ICC Test Rankings
India continues to be at the top in the latest ICC Test rankings released in Duba.

• India Topped the rank with 125 points after sweeping the Sri Lanka Test series by 3-0.

• Australia slipped by one rank to fifth after drawing the Test series against Bangladesh by 1-1.

• South Africa is placed second at 110 points while England is third with 105 points.

Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships 2019 in India
India will host the 2019 edition of the Commonwealth (Youth, Junior and Senior) Weightlifting Championships.

• The current edition of the Championship is being held at the Gold Coast, Australia.

US Open 2017: Sloane Stephens beats Madison Keys to win women’s title
Unseeded Sloane Stephens has won US Open women’s singles title by beating fellow American Madison Keys.

• Stephens, ranked 83rd, beat 15th seed Keys 6-3 6-0 in the final.

• The 24-year-old was ranked as low as 957th six weeks ago.

• She becomes only the fifth unseeded woman to win a major title in the Open era.

Murray, Hingis win mixed doubles title at US Open
Top seeds Jamie Murray of Britain and Swiss Martina Hingis won their second successive Grand Slam mixed doubles tennis title with a 6-1, 4-6, 10-8 victory over Michael Venus of New Zealand and Chinese Taipei’s Chan Hao-Ching in the final.

• Murray and Hingis had already won Wimbledon in July while this triumph took their record as a team to a perfect 10-0.

Rafael Nadal wins US Open with straight-set win over Kevin Anderson
Rafael Nadal won his third US Open and 16th Grand Slam title with a one-sided victory over South Africa's Kevin Anderson in New York.

- The world number one powered to a 6-3 6-3 6-4 victory in final at Flushing Meadows.
- The Spaniard, 31, has now won two Slams in the same year for the first time since 2013, having won the French Open in June.

Hingis, Chan capture US Open women’s doubles crown
Swiss star Martina Hingis captured her second US Open doubles title as many days, partnering with Taiwan’s Chan Yung-Jan to win the women’s doubles crown.

- Hingis, who shared the mixed doubles title with Britain’s Jamie Murray, won her 13th Grand Slam women’s doubles title and Chan took her first as they defeated Czechs Lucie Hradecka and Katerina Siniakova 6-3, 6-2.
- Jean-Julien Rojer of the Netherlands and Romanian Horia Tecau beat Feliciano Lopez and Marc Lopez 6-4, 6-3 to claim US Open men’s doubles.

Points to Remember
- The United States Open Tennis Championships is a hard court tennis tournament.
- The tournament is the modern version of one of the oldest tennis championships in the world, the U.S. National Championship.
- Since 1987, the US Open has been chronologically the fourth and final tennis major comprising the Grand Slam each year.

Kochi to host BWF Senior World Championships
The coastal city of Kochi is all set to host the BWF World Senior Badminton Championships from September 11 to 17.

- The week-long tournament will see a total of 665 players from 40 countries battle it out in eight different age groups.
- The championship will be held in India for the first time.

India bags 2nd SABA U-16 Championship title
India clinched the 2nd South Asian Basketball, SABA, Under 16 Championship title after registering a commanding win over Bhutan.

- Indian team dominated their opposition in the whole tournament and remained unbeaten in its all four matches and accumulated 8 points.

Maharashtra wins Chief Minister’s cup
Maharashtra has won the Chief Minister’s cup with 45 gold medals at the National kickboxing championship held in Raipur.

- Chhattisgarh secured second position with 27 gold and Haryana third with 15 gold medals.
- Nearly two thousand players from 27 states participated in the four-day event.

Goa to host 36th National Games
The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has formally awarded to Goa the rights to host the 36th National Games, the coastal state’s Sports Minister Manohar Ajaonkar said.

- IOA Secretary General Rajeev Mehta, in a letter to Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar, had formally conferred the rights to the state to host the sporting event in November this year.

Paris and Los Angeles confirmed as hosts of 2024 and 2028 Olympic Games
After three failed attempts and 12 years after the demoralizing and disheartening loss to the London bid in 2005, Paris has finally been awarded the Olympic Games it has craved.

- International Olympic Committee (IOC) confirmed that the French capital would host the 2024 Olympics, while Los Angeles was awarded the 2028 Games.
- Tokyo, Japan will host 2020 Olympic Games.

TOP athletes to get monthly stipend of Rs 50,000
Elite athletes preparing for Tokyo Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games will receive a stipend of Rs 50,000 per month to meet their pocket expenses, sports minister Rajyavardhan Rathore announced.

- Rathore’s announcement meant that the sports ministry has accepted the recommendation of the Olympic Task Force, headed by Abhinav Bindra, in this regard.
- The government has selected 152 elite athletes under the Target Olympic Podium scheme. The stipend will be paid with effect from September 1.

PV Sindhu wins Korea Open Super Series title
PV Sindhu won the Korea Open Super Series title with a 22-20, 11-21, 21-18 win over Japan’s Nozomi Okuhara.

- With the win, Sindhu exacted revenge for last month’s defeat to the same opponent in the final of the world championship in Glasgow.
This is Sindhu's second Super Series title of the year, having earlier won the India Open, beating Spain's Carolina Marin in the final.

India exempts import duty on goods for FIFA U-17 World Cup
The government has exempted from import duty sports items and a wide range of goods for the upcoming FIFA U-17 World Cup India, which will see 24 nations vying for the coveted trophy.
- The first FIFA event to be held in India will be spread over six cities starting October 6 and have 52 matches.
- The final football match, on October 28, will be played at Kolkata's Salt Lake Stadium.
- These goods will also be exempt from the integrated tax levied under the GST.

Points to Remember
- The 17th edition of the FIFA U-17 World Cup will be held under the slogan ‘Football takes over’.
- India, as the host country, is automatically qualified for the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017.

Lewis Hamilton wins Singapore Grand Prix
Lewis Hamilton win the Singapore Grand Prix and extend his championship lead, while title rival Sebastian Vettel lost huge ground after crashing out on the first lap.

Purnima clinches pentathlon gold
India won its first athletics gold, through Purnima Hembram in women’s pentathlon, in the fifth Asian indoor and martial arts games at Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.
- India also got two silvers, through Sanjivani Jadhav in women’s 3000m and Tejinder Singh Toor in men’s shot put, and a bronze through Kerala’s V. Neena in women’s long jump.

Official emblem and slogan for FIFA Women’s World Cup France unveiled
With less than two years to go, the official emblem and slogan for FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019 were unveiled at the Musee de l'Homme.
- The slogan of the tournament "Dare to Shine" reflects the development of football, especially women's football.

MC Mary Kom to be AIBA representative at IOC athletes' forum
Five-time world champion and Olympic bronze-medallist M C Mary Kom has become the first Indian to be picked as the International Boxing Association’s (AIBA) representative for the IOC Athletes’ Forum scheduled in November.
- The 33-year-old, who is also an active parliamentarian, has been invited to attend the 8th International Olympic Committee’s (IOC) Athletes’ Forum in Lausanne from November 11 to 13.
- Among the most decorated athletes in Indian sports, Mary Kom is an Asian Games gold-medallist besides being a multiple-time Asian champion.
- She was conferred the AIBA Legends award at the annual gala of the world body last year.

Sasi Kumar Mukund wins title in ITF Futures
Top-seed Sasi Kumar Mukund of India won his second straight Futures title, beating compatriot Arjun Khade 6-3, 6-4 in the singles final of the LMW ITF Men's Futures tennis tournament.
- The 20-year-old Mukund, ranked 501 in the ATP list currently, quelled the challenge of the big-serving Khade, who had done well in the two previous Futures events in Chennai.

East Bengal hold Mohun Bagan to win 39th CFL title
East Bengal clinched their eighth successive title, and a record 39 times overall, in the Calcutta Football League after holding arch-rivals Mohun Bagan 2-2.
- Both teams finished the league with 23 points each from nine games, but East Bengal clinched the tournament with better goal difference (+21 against +15).

National Open Athletics to begin in Chennai
The country's top track and field athletes will be seen in action in the four-day 57th National Open Athletics Championships 2017, beginning at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai on 25 September.
- Around 1200 athletes from various states and departments/public sector undertakings would be taking part in the meet.
- The focus would be on Govindan Lakshmanan, who recently won a gold in Asian Indoor Games in
Ashgabat, Turkmenistan and javelin thrower Davinder Singh Kang, who qualified for the final round at the World Championships in London recently.

India to host South Asian boxing Ch’ship in Guwahati
India will be hosting the South Asian boxing Championship for the first time in Guwahati from December 6 to 10.
- Boxing Federation of India, BFI, after its executive committee meeting said, the country will also host the ‘India International Open tournament’ in New Delhi in the third week of January.
- Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh will participate in the Championship with other SAARC countries.
- The India international tournament will also see countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine among other top boxing nations participating.

Eminent Dhrupad singer Ustad Dagar passes away
58. US poet John Ashbery dies
John Ashbery, an enigmatic giant of modern poetry whose energy, daring and boundless command of language raised American verse to brilliant and baffling heights, died at age 90.
- Ashbery, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and often mentioned as a Nobel candidate, died at his home in Hudson, New York.
- His 1975 collection, “Self—Portrait in a Convex Mirror,” was the rare winner of the book world’s unofficial triple crown— the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle prize. In 2011, he was given a National Humanities Medal.

Trinamool Leader Sultan Ahmed Is No More
Former Union minister and sitting Trinamool Congress MP Sultan Ahmed has died following a cardiac arrest.
- He was elected to the Lok Sabha from Uluberia constituency from Trinamool Congress party.
- He was the Union Minister of State for Tourism in the UPA government.

Arunachal Minister Jomde Kena Is No More
Jomde Kena, BJP leader and Health and Family Welfare Minister of Arunachal Pradesh died at a private hospital in Guwahati after prolonged illness.
- 52-year old Kena was admitted at the hospital for the last one month.

Journalist Gauri Lankesh Is No More
Gauri Lankesh, a fearless and outspoken journalist was shot dead in Bengaluru while she was returning to her home. She was known for her secularist criticism of right-wing and Hindu nationalists, including members of the BJP
- She worked for The Times of India and later ran an independent newspaper Gauri Lankesh Patrike.

Former Cong MP Shyama Singh passes away
Congress leader and former Lok Sabha MP from Aurangabad in Bihar, Shyama Singh, died after a prolonged illness.
- Singh (74), the wife of former Kerala governor Nikhil Kumar. She was also the daughter-in-law of former Bihar chief minister Satyendra Narayan Sinha.
- Singh entered Parliament in 1999 from the Aurangabad Lok Sabha seat of Bihar. She was also the vice president of Bihar Congress.

Arjan Singh, India's first ever IAF Marshal, passes away
Marshal of the Indian Air Force Arjan Singh, one of Independent India’s most celebrated soldiers, passed away in the national capital on Saturday. He was 98.
- One of the heroes of the 1965 war with Pakistan, Arjan Singh became the chief of IAF when he was just 44. Born on 15 April 1919, in Lyalpur, now called Faisalabad, in today’s Pakistan, Singh was selected for the Empire Pilot training course at RAF Cranwell, at the age of 19 in 1938.
- On August 1, 1964, Singh took over as the Chief of Air Staff (CAS) in the rank of Air Marshal.
- After his retirement in July 1969, he was appointed Indian ambassador to Switzerland.

BJP MP Mahant Chand Nath dies of cancer at 61
BJP MP from Alwar and Baba Mastnath Matth head Mahant Chand Nath passed away after a prolonged illness at a private hospital in New Delhi.
- The 61-year-old Mahant, who headed Baba Mastnath Matth, Rohtak, had won the Alwar seat in the 2014 parliamentary elections after defeating Congress candidate and former union minister Jitendra Singh.
Jamaica’s Violet Brown dies at 117; Japan woman now oldest
The world’s oldest person has died in Jamaica. Violet Brown was 117 years and 189 days old.
- With her death, the Gerontology Research Group lists Nabi Tajima of Japan was the oldest surviving person. She was born on Aug. 4, 1900.

Dr Kirpal Chugh, India’s father of nephrology, dies at 85
Dr Kirpal Singh Chugh, fondly called father of nephrology in India, has passed away. He was 85.
- Belonging to Patti in Tarn Taran, he was awarded the Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award, in 2000.
- He is the first Indian to receive the Bywaters Award by the International Society of Nephrology (ISN).
- Nephrology is the study of normal kidney function and kidney problems, the preservation of kidney health, and the treatment of kidney problems.

Yesteryear actor Shakila passes away
Yesteryear Bollywood actor Shakila, known for her work in films like Aar Paar and CID, died at her residence after a heart attack. She was 82.
- Besides her roles in Guru Dutt classics like Aar Paar and CID, Shakila also starred with Shammi Kapoor in Shakti Samanta’s hit China Town.
- She also featured opposite Raj Kapoor in the 1960 social drama Shriman Satyawadi.

Acclaimed Assamese film, theatre personality Abdul Majid dead
Veteran Assamese film and theatre personality Abdul Majid died following protracted illness.
- Born at Jorhat in 1931, Majid made his film debut with Ronga Police in 1957 and went on to make the National award winning Chameli Memsahab, for which Bhupen Hazarika also won the best music composer’s award.

Actor Tom Alter passes away at 67
Veteran theatre and film personality Tom Alter lost his battle against skin cancer and passes away. He was 67.
- Tom Alter was battling stage four skin cancer at a Mumbai hospital, where he was admitted earlier in September.
- Known for starring in television shows like Bharat Ek Khoj, Junoon, Zabaan Sambhalke and Betaal Pachisi, Tom Alter was an American-origin actor settled in India.
- In 2008, he was recognised with the Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian honour of India.

Neighbours in Arms: - Larry Pressler
As chairman of the US Senate’s Arms Control Subcommittee, Larry Pressler advocated the now-famous Pressler Amendment, enforced in 1990 when President George HW Bush could not certify that Pakistan was not developing a nuclear weapon.
- In Neighbours in Arms, Senator Larry Pressler reveals what went on behind the scenes in the years when the Pressler Amendment was in force, through a cast of characters that includes presidents, prime ministers, senators and generals in the US, India and Pakistan.

India’s Most Fearless: True Stories of Modern Military Heroes: A book on Surgical Strike
In a book named “India’s Most Fearless: True Stories of Modern Military Heroes”, Major Tango has admitted that the return of the troops after completing the operations was the most onerous part.
- Written by Journalists Shiv Aroor and Rahul Singh, book “India’s Most Fearless: True Stories of Modern Military Heroes” reveals every detail about the surgical strike by Indian Army to avenge the killing of 17 soldiers in Uri.

Satya Nadella announces his first book ‘Hit Refresh’
Tech giant Microsoft’s India-born CEO Satya Nadella’s first book in which explores his personal journey, the company’s ongoing transformation and the wave of technological change will hit the stands later this month.
- The book titled ‘Hit Refresh’ carries a foreword by Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates and will go on sale globally on September 26.
- Nadella, 50, said he hoped that the book, which tells the story of Microsoft’s quest to rediscover its soul, will inspire people to discover more empathy.
Unstoppable: My Life So Far': Maria Sharapova’s autobiography
The book titled 'Unstoppable: My Life So Far' authored by tennis star Maria Sharapova was released recently.
- In this gripping autobiography, the five-time Grand Slam winner recounts the story of her phenomenal rise to success.
- Unstoppable is an inspiring tale of persistence, pulsing with fearlessness and candor.

‘Evolving with Subramanian Swamy - A roller coaster ride’: Book by Roxna Swamy
A mathematician by training and a lawyer by profession, Roxna Swamy has written a book, ‘Evolving with Subramanian Swamy – A roller coaster ride’.
- It chronicles the maverick academician turned anti-corruption crusader Subramanian Swamy’s political life till 1990.

Book “Bhartiya Kala Mein Salil Kridayen Evam Sadyahsnata Nayika” released
Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (Independent charge) for Culture released the book entitled “Bhartiya Kala Mein Salil Kridayen Evam Sadyahsnata Nayika” authored by Dr. Kshetrapal Gangwar and Shri Sanjib Kumar Singh.
- This is an Art Book based on original research, written in Hindi and published by National Museum after few decades.

The Shershah of Kargil: Book by Deepak Surana
The biography of Captain Vikram Batra "The Shershah of Kargil" has been written by 21-year-old Deepak Surana.
- The Shershah of Kargil takes you through the life and times of the Late Captain Vikram Batra P.V.C, who was one of the greatest Indian soldiers.

Union Finance Minister releases book on Financial Management
The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Shri Arun Jaitley along with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu released a book on financial management in New Delhi on September 26, 2017.
- The book titled “A to Z of Financial Management in Autonomous Institutions” is authored by Dr. Rajat Bhargava and Shri Deenanath Pathak.
- This book covers almost all aspects of financial management in Autonomous Institutions and offers an insightful perspective on the challenges of managing public money.

Current Affairs Question
1. Which of the following is not included in eight core sectors of secondary sectors?
   (A) Coal Production
   (B) Natural Gas
   (C) Electricity Generation
   (D) Fertilizer Production
   (E) Mobile Production

2. What is the GDP growth rate of Indian Economy in first quarter?
   (A) 5.40%
   (B) 5.20%
   (C) 6.10%
   (D) 5.70%
   (E) 6.20%

3. In which city China opens its first civilian drone base?
   (A) Beijing
   (B) Shanghai
   (C) Tianjin
   (D) Hangzhou
   (E) Xiamen

4. In which of the following city Business and Climate Summit (BCS) 2017 held?
   (A) Paris
   (B) Tokyo
   (C) New Delhi
   (D) Sydney
   (E) Durban

5. Consider the following statements:
   2. Objective of the Conference is to enable a two-way communication between the policy-makers and the senior officers.
   3. It is jointly organised by Central Board of Direct Taxes and Central Board of Excise and Customs.
   Which of the following statement/statements is/are not correct?
   (A) Only 1
   (B) Only 2
   (C) Only 3
   (D) Only 1 & 2
   (E) Only 1 & 3

6. National Nutrition week is celebrated by which of the following ministry?
   (A) Ministry of Drinking water and Sanitation
   (B) Ministry of Women & Child Development
   (C) Ministry of Urban Development
   (D) Ministry of Food and Public Distribution
7. Who among the following is appointed as Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India?
   (A) Sashikant Sharma
   (B) Ashwini Attri
   (C) Anita Pattanayak
   (D) Rajiv Mehrishi
   (E) Ranjan Kumar Ghose

8. Who among the following is appointed as Election Commissioner of India?
   (A) Sunil Arora
   (B) Omita Paul
   (C) Alok Joshi
   (D) Nilanjan Sanyal
   (E) Ashish Bahuguna

9. IRNSS -1 H was launched by which vehicle?
   (A) SLV G-23
   (B) ASLV B-38
   (C) PSLV C-36
   (D) PSLV C-39
   (E) GSLV A-12

10. Which of the following countries opposes the trade-distorting agricultural subsidies given by developed countries in WTO?
    (A) South Africa & Brazil
    (B) India & Australia
    (C) China & South Africa
    (D) South Africa & India
    (E) India & China

11. Blue Box, Amber Box, Red Box is related to which of the following organization?
    (A) World Bank
    (B) International Monetary Fund
    (C) World Trade Organization
    (D) Asia Development Bank
    (E) United Nation Organisation

12. Who among the following is the Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment?
    (A) Uma Bharti
    (B) Thaawarchand Gehlot
    (C) Meneka Gandhi
    (D) Piyush Goyal
    (E) None of these

13. The centrally-sponsored scheme, ‘Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana’ is related to:-
    (A) Financial inclusion
    (B) Secure the future of girl child
    (C) Provide life insurance cover to all Indian citizens
    (D) Senior citizens belonging to the BPL category
    (E) None of these

14. Consider the following statements:
   1. Sports Ministry has approved constitution of a 13-member Empowered Steering Committee (ESC).
   2. Committee will shape and influence India's preparation for multi-disciplinary events, including 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.
   3. Committee have power to recommend specific plans or packages for beneficiaries of Target Olympic Podium Scheme.
   Which of the above statement/statements is/are not correct?
   (A) Only 1
   (B) Only 3
   (C) Only 1&2
   (D) Only 2& 3
   (E) None of these

15. The Environment Ministry will launch an environment awareness initiative, named “Prakriti Khoj” at the national level. It will be launched on which occasion?
    (A) Hindi Diwas
    (B) Gandhi Jayanti
    (C) Teacher’s Day
    (D) Republic Day
    (E) Environment Day

16. With which country Ministry of Railways Signs two MoUs for technical cooperation in Rail Sector?
    (A) France
    (B) Switzerland
    (C) Japan
    (D) United State of America
    (E) Germany

17. Saab and Adani join hands for defence manufacturing. Saab is Company of which of the following country?
    (A) Israel
    (B) USA
    (C) Sweden
    (D) Japan
    (E) Russia

18. Which of the following entities awarded with the prestigious Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Award?
    (A) Reliance Foundation
    (B) Adani Group
    (C) Tata consultancy services
    (D) Infosys
    (E) Sun Pharma

19. In which city ninth summit of the BRICS countries organized?
    (A) Durban
    (B) Mumbai
20. SAUNI project has been built on which of the following river?
(A) Chambal  
(B) Narmada  
(C) Tapti  
(D) Krishna  
(E) Godavari

21. Navy has a dedicated military satellite ____________, which monitors the Indian Ocean Region.
(A) Rukmini  
(B) Aryabhatt  
(C) Bhaskar  
(D) Rohini  
(E) None of these

22. Which of the following bank has been constituted by BRICS Nations?
(A) Asia Development Bank  
(B) African Development Bank  
(C) Brazilian Development Bank  
(D) New Development Bank  
(E) None of these

23. Consider the following statements:-
1. Fiscal deficit touches 92.4% of budget estimates at July-end.
2. Fiscal deficit was mainly because of front loading of expenditure by government departments.
3. During the fiscal year 2017-18, the government has set a target to bring fiscal deficit to 3.4 percent of GDP.
Which of the above statement/statements is/are not correct?
(A) Only 1  
(B) Only 2  
(C) Only 3  
(D) Only 2 & 3  
(E) Only 1 & 3

24. Which of the following ransomware has hit Indian Cyberspace?
(A) Locky  
(B) Helsinki  
(C) WannaCry  
(D) Cryptol Locker  
(E) None of these

25. Who among the following is the author of book “Neighbours in Arms”?
(A) Lavinia Greenlaw  
(B) Larry Pressler  
(C) Sergey Lavrov  
(D) Salman Rushdie  
(E) Sashi Tharoor

26. Who among the following national Hockey Coach has been sacked by Hockey India?
(A) Gururaja Singh  
(B) Vasudevan Baskaran  
(C) Surinder Singh Sodhi  
(D) Roelant Oltmans  
(E) None of these

27. Who among the following became the first wicketkeeper in world cricket to affect 100 stumpings in One Day Internationals?
(A) Andrew Flower  
(B) Brendon McCullum  
(C) Kumar Sangakkara  
(D) MS Dhoni  
(E) Alec Stewart

28. Which of the following state has launched 'Arogya Bhagya' health scheme?
(A) West Bengal  
(B) Rajasthan  
(C) Gujarat  
(D) Punjab  
(E) Karnataka

29. Who has been appointed the new Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance?
(A) Rajiv Kumar  
(B) R.K. Singh  
(C) Anita Karwal  
(D) U. Kamachi Mudali  
(E) Ashish Kumar

30. How many total number of world heritage sites are in India?
(A) 28  
(B) 32  
(C) 36  
(D) 38  
(E) 30

31. Who has been appointed the Chief Executive of the Heavy Water Board, one of the industrial units under the Department of Atomic Energy?
(A) Rajagopala Chidambaram  
(B) Pattipati Ramaiah Naidu  
(C) M. R. Srinivasan  
(D) V. S. Ramamurthy  
(E) U. Kamachi Mudali

32. Which airport has bagged the National Award for ‘Excellence’ in Energy Management at a conference hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)?
33. Who is the new railways minister?
(A) Suresh Prabhu
(B) Nitin Jairam Gadkari
(C) Piyush Goyal
(D) Nirmala Sitharaman
(E) Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi

34. In which factory India’s first indigenous sniper rifle has been developed?
(A) Ishapore
(B) Jabalpur
(C) Mumbai
(D) Chennai
(E) Chandrapur

35. Who has been appointed chairperson of Central Board of Secondary Education?
(A) Rajiv Kumar
(B) R.K.Singh
(C) M. R. Srinivasan
(D) V. S. Ramamurthy
(E) Anita Karwal

36. Which company has been awarded IPL media rights for the next five years?
(A) Set Max
(B) Zee Sports
(C) Star India
(D) ESPN
(E) None of these

37. In which category of Commonwealth Youth weightlifting championships Konsam Ormila Devi has bagged a gold medal?
(A) 44 kg category
(B) 56 kg category
(C) 76 kg category
(D) 57 kg category
(E) None of these

38. When World Teacher’s Day is observed?
(A) 5-Sep
(B) 5-Oct
(C) 5-Nov
(D) 5-Aug
(E) None of these

39. The National Award to the meritorious teachers has been awarded for the first time in which of the following years?
(A) 1962
(B) 1952
(C) 1954
(D) 1958
(E) None of these

40. How much amount has been spent on completion of phase 1 of Lucknow Metro?
(A) Rs. 2250 crore
(B) Rs. 3625 crore
(C) Rs. 2600 crore
(D) Rs. 4350 crore
(E) None of these

41. Who is Raul Castro?
(A) President of Brazil
(B) President of Egypt
(C) President of Syria
(D) President of Nigeria
(E) None of these

42. Disha Microfin Limited has been rechristened as

(A) Lakshmi Vilas Bank
(B) AU Finance
(C) Nainital Agri Finance Bank
(D) Fincare Small Finance Bank
(E) None of these

43. In which of the following states Fincare Small Finance Bank has not started its operation?
(A) Karnataka
(B) Kerala
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Gujarat
(E) Andhra Pradesh

44. Which of the following countries has rejected BRICS Declaration?
(A) North Korea
(B) Iran
(C) Pakistan
(D) Iraq
(E) None of these

45. Who is Sergei Lavrov?
(A) Finance Minister of South Africa
(B) External Affairs Minister of Russia
(C) Commerce Minister of the USA
(D) Defence Minister of North Korea
(E) None of these

46. Who is the Chairman of NITI Aayog who has launched National Nutrition Strategy?
(A) Rajiv Kumar
(B) Arvind Panagariya
47. How much additional time has been given to banks to open Aadhar enrolment centres?
   (A) Six months
   (B) One month
   (C) Three month
   (D) One year
   (E) None of these

48. Who has been nominated by the Trump Administration as the US ambassador to India?
   (A) Richard Verma
   (B) Kenneth Ian Juster
   (C) Michael Arthur
   (D) John Austin
   (E) None of these

49. Surya Kiran is a joint military exercise between the army of India and __________.
   (A) Myanmar
   (B) Bangladesh
   (C) Bhutan
   (D) Nepal
   (E) None of these

50. Where was the 9th Summit of BRICS held?
   (A) Cape Town
   (B) Vladivostok
   (C) Rio de Janeiro
   (D) Xiamen
   (E) None of these

51. Macau is situated in which of the following continents?
   (A) Europe
   (B) Africa
   (C) Asia
   (D) North America
   (E) None of these

52. Which of the following countries has launched UJALA scheme?
   (A) Nepal
   (B) Myanmar
   (C) Malaysia
   (D) Indonesia
   (E) None of these

53. Which country has recently banned fund raising through crypto currencies?
   (A) India
   (B) China
   (C) USA
   (D) France
   (E) None of these

54. Task Force under the chairmanship of NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar has been constituted -
   (A) On GST reforms
   (B) For job creation
   (C) On black money
   (D) For manufacturing growth
   (E) None of these

55. Punj Lloyd-Varaha joint venture has been awarded NHAI Project in which of the following countries?
   (A) Myanmar
   (B) Indonesia
   (C) Afghanistan
   (D) Nepal
   (E) None of these

56. Who will head the committee that will identify key data protection issues?
   (A) R C lahoti
   (B) Deepak Mishra
   (C) B N Srikrishna
   (D) Raghuram Rajan
   (E) None of these

57. Indian cricket team registered an all-win record across formats in an overseas tour against which of the following teams?
   (A) England
   (B) Sri Lanka
   (C) Bangladesh
   (D) Zimbabwe
   (E) None of these

58. Ankur Mittal is a player of which game?
   (A) Shooting
   (B) Boxing
   (C) Wrestling
   (D) Weight lifting
   (E) None of these

59. Duleep Trophy is related to which of the following sports?
   (A) Hockey
   (B) Football
   (C) Baseball
   (D) Cricket
   (E) None of these

60. Gauri Lankesh who was shot dead in Bengaluru is a
   (A) Player
   (B) Journalist
   (C) Musician
   (D) Film producer
   (E) None of these
61. Htin Kyaw is the President of which of the following countries?
   (A) Mongolia
   (B) Haiti
   (C) China
   (D) Myanmar
   (E) None of these

62. What is the name given to the joint military exercise between India and the USA?
   (A) Surya Kiran
   (B) Yudh Abhyas
   (C) Operation Parakram
   (D) Yudh Parakashtha
   (E) None of these

63. Where Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships 2019 will be organized?
   (A) India
   (B) Australia
   (C) Pakistan
   (D) South Africa
   (E) None of these

64. Habib Bank which has been ordered by the US Govt. to wind up its branch from New York, belongs to which of the following countries?
   (A) Saudi Arabia
   (B) Israel
   (C) Iran
   (D) Pakistan
   (E) None of these

65. The Parliament of Mongolia is called as
   (A) Majlis
   (B) Dumas
   (C) Tsongdu
   (D) Great Hural
   (E) None of these

66. Which country is ranked third in the ICC Test ranking?
   (A) India
   (B) South Africa
   (C) England
   (D) Australia
   (E) None of these

67. Which state has been celebrating Narmada Mahotsava?
   (A) Madhya Pradesh
   (B) Gujarat
   (C) Chhattisgarh
   (D) Both Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh
   (E) None of these

68. In which state American e-commerce company Amazon has opened its largest fulfilment centre (FC)?
   (A) New Delhi
   (B) Mumbai
   (C) Bangalore
   (D) Hyderabad
   (E) Belgaum

69. Who is CEO OF Food Safety Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)?
   (A) Harendra Singh
   (B) Pawan Agarwal
   (C) Viveck Goenka
   (D) RN Sagarshan
   (E) Narendra Singh

70. Who has been appointed Indian Senior Women Hockey Team Coach?
   (A) Harendra Singh
   (B) Waltherus Norbertus
   (C) Viveck Goenka
   (D) Jugraj Singh
   (E) Aman Puri

71. Which of the following company has inked sponsorship deals with English Premier League (EPL) clubs?
   (A) TATA
   (B) Infosys
   (C) MRF
   (D) Amazon
   (E) Nestle

72. Where Nestle Food Safety Institute (NFSI) has been set up?
   (A) Rohtak
   (B) Manesar
   (C) Noida
   (D) Mumbai
   (E) Chandigarh

73. Which of the following is an anti-tank guided missile?
   (A) Prithvi
   (B) Astra
   (C) Nag
   (D) Agni
   (E) None of these

74. Which state govt. has signed MoU with Google to increase digital literacy?
   (A) Gujarat
   (B) Assam
   (C) Kerala
   (D) Punjab
   (E) None of these

75. Which of the following petroleum company will get Maharatna status?
   (A) IOC
76. BSNL joins hands with which of the following banks to launch mobile wallet ‘Speed pay’?
(A) State Bank of India
(B) Union Bank of India
(C) Punjab National Bank
(D) Central Bank of India
(E) None of these

77. Who is the chief executive officer of Unique Identification Authority of India?
(A) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
(B) Aniruddh Singh
(C) Bikram Bajaj
(D) Anmol Shekhar
(E) None of these

78. Where is the headquarters of the Punjab National Bank?
(A) Ludhiana
(B) New Delhi
(C) Mumbai
(D) Chandigarh
(E) None of these

79. In which city second World Congress of Optometry organized?
(A) New Delhi
(B) Hyderabad
(C) Mumbai
(D) Chennai
(E) Bengaluru

80. Under which scheme Centre allots Rs 60,000 crore to interlink rivers in Maharashtra to improve the water crisis situation?
(A) Irrigation Water Management Plan
(B) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna
(C) Jal Jyoti Shivar
(D) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchar Yojana
(E) None of these

81. Who among the following is Union Human Resource Development Minister?
(A) Prakash Javdekar
(B) Smriti Irani
(C) Hardeep Singh Puri
(D) Narendra Singh Tomar
(E) Manoj Sinha

82. Consider the following statements:
1. The Second State Startup Conference is organized by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.
2. Second State Start up Conference held in Mumbai.
3. Objective of this conference is to provide significant impetus to the creation of an enabling Startup Ecosystem in the country.
Which of above statement/statements is/are correct?
(A) Only 2
(B) Only 3
(C) Only 1 & 2
(D) Only 1 & 3
(E) All of the above

83. In which city 7th International Conference and Workshop on Cost Effective Use of Technology in eHealth Care organized?
(A) Lucknow
(B) Gurugram
(C) New Delhi
(D) Jaipur
(E) Chandigarh

84. Which of the following country funded India’s first high-speed train project — Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train?
(A) China
(B) France
(C) USA
(D) South Korea
(E) Japan

85. In which of the following city Nation’s first Greenfield smart city project started?
(A) Jaipur
(B) Ranchi
(C) Lucknow
(D) Bengaluru
(E) Hyderabad

86. What is the upper age limit to join the National Pension Scheme (NPS)?
(A) 45 years
(B) 58 Years
(C) 60 Years
(D) 62 Years
(E) 65 Years

87. Who among the following is author of Hit Refresh?
(A) Sundar Pichai
(B) Satya Nadela
(C) Indra Nooyi
(D) Jiddu Krishnamurti
(E) Nandan Nilekani

88. Which of the following joint training exercise held between Pakistan Air Force and the Chinese People’s Liberation Army-Air Force (PLAAF)?
(A) Red Flag V
89. Third Eastern Economic Forum held in which country?
   (A) South Korea
   (B) India
   (C) China
   (D) Japan
   (E) Russia

90. Human capital Index report is released by
   (A) World Bank
   (B) UNDP
   (C) IMF
   (D) World Economic Forum
   (E) UNESCO

91. Which of the following state government has decided to provide skill development training to surrendered militants?
   (A) Assam
   (B) Jammu & Kashmir
   (C) Punjab
   (D) West Bengal
   (E) Andhra Pradesh

92. India’s first advanced Homoeopathy Virology lab set up in which city?
   (A) Thiruvananthapuram
   (B) Kolkata
   (C) Bengaluru
   (D) Pune
   (E) Hyderabad

93. Consider the following statements:
   1. Union government launched Nation-wide hackathon #OpenGovDataHack.
   2. NSDC and IAMAI have collaborated to conduct it across seven states of India.
   3. It aims to Support & Showcase potentially great Ideas/Talent from Inner India by reaching out in their own State.
   Which of the above statement/statements is/are correct?
   (A) Only 1
   (B) Only 2
   (C) Only 2 & 3
   (D) Only 1 & 3
   (E) All of the above

94. Which of the following bank surpassed Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to become the country’s second most valued firm in terms of market valuation?
   (A) ICICI
   (B) IDBI
   (C) HDFC
   (D) Union Bank of India
   (E) Canara Bank

95. Who among the following is convener of the Group of Ministers (GoM), which is constituted to monitor and resolve the IT challenges faced in the implementation of GST?
   (A) Narendra Singh Tomar
   (B) Sushil Kumar Modi
   (C) R. K. Singh
   (D) Keshav Prasad Maurya
   (E) Vasundhra Raje

96. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved a Dairy Processing & Infrastructure Development Fund, Which will be funded by
   (A) IDFC
   (B) World Bank
   (C) New Development Bank
   (D) NABARD
   (E) International Monetary Fund

97. Which of the following Indian entities has been recognised in Fortune’s annual list of the Top 50 companies that are changing the world?
   (A) Infosys
   (B) Maruti
   (C) Tata Consultancy services
   (D) Wipro
   (E) Larsen & Turbo Infotech

98. Regional Conference on Good Governance and Replication of Best Practices is organized by which of the following Institution?
   (A) Department of Industrial policy and promotion
   (B) Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances
   (C) Stock Exchange board of India
   (D) Department of Personnel and Training
   (E) Department of Investment and Public Asset Management

99. High speed rail training centre for the first bullet train project will be set up in which of the following city?
   (A) Ahmedabad
   (B) Jaipur
   (C) Guru gram
   (D) Delhi
   (E) Vadodara
100. National Hindi Divas is celebrated on ____________ in India.
(A) 13th September
(B) 14th September
(C) 5th September
(D) 11th September
(E) None of these

101. Who among the following became the first woman President of Singapore?
(A) Solina Chau
(B) Aang San Suu Kyi
(C) Cher Wang
(D) Halimah Yacob
(E) Zhang Xin

102. Which of the following port was awarded by “Container Terminal of the Year” at The Gateway Awards 2017?
(A) Kandla
(B) Paradip
(C) JNPCT
(D) Visakhapatnam
(E) Tuticorin

103. Which of the following state won the Chief Minister’s cup at the National kickboxing championship held in Raipur?
(A) Haryana
(B) West Bengal
(C) Rajasthan
(D) Madhya Pradesh
(E) Maharashtra

104. Under which operation India is sending humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh to help with the influx of Rohingya refugees?
(A) Maitri
(B) Sharnarthi
(C) Insaniyat
(D) Parakram
(E) Sankalp

105. Which of the following app has been launched by president On the occasion of Hindi Diwas for Hindi lovers?
(A) LILA
(B) SUMITRA
(C) MAHA
(D) NIRALA
(E) MEERA

106. Which of the following player has launched Mission-24, a programme aimed at improving the quality of life?
(A) Mahendra Singh Dhoni
(B) Sachin Tendulkar
(C) Virat Kohli
(D) Gautam Gambhir
(E) Rohit Sharma

107. Who among the following minister launched the ‘Wood is Good ‘campaign in New Delhi?
(A) Prakash Javadekar
(B) Ananth Hegday
(C) Smriti Irani
(D) Dr. Harsh Vardhan
(E) Suresh Prabhu

108. Which of the following mobile payment service will be launched by Google in the country?
(A) SMART
(B) TEZ
(C) World Wide Payment
(D) UPS
(E) None of these

109. Which of the following state is not in the list in which development of Japanese industrial townships have been finalized?
(A) Gujarat
(B) Rajasthan
(C) Andhra Pradesh
(D) Madhya Pradesh
(E) Tamil Nadu

110. Who among the following has been appointed as first special envoy for the oceans by united Nation?
(A) Peter Thomson
(B) Kurt Waldheim
(C) Alison Smale
(D) Dr Milan Brglez
(E) Pawel Aleksander Kupis

111. Which of the following bank awarded with Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar for the year 2016-17?
(A) Canera Bank
(B) UCO Bank
(C) Vijya Bank
(D) UBI
(E) PNB

112. Which of the following state got nod to host the 36th National Games?
(A) Maharashtra
(B) Punjab
(C) New Delhi
(D) West Bengal
(E) Goa

113. In which of the following state water ATMs has been launched with the help of Safe Water Network, an international NGO?
114. Who has been appointed as adviser for the Ahmedabad-Mumbai High Speed Rail project?
(A) Sanjeev Sinha  
(B) Rajiv Sinha  
(C) Rajiv maharishi  
(D) Ashok lavasa  
(E) Santosh Sharma

115. Who has been honoured for his pioneering work in the field of organic farming during a ceremony at Germany’s Lagau on the occasion of the One World Festival?
(A) Pawan Chamling  
(B) Biju patnayak  
(C) Vijay rupani  
(D) K. Chandrashekar Rao  
(E) Siddaramaiah

116. Who is the winner of US Open 2017?
(A) Roger Federer  
(B) Kevin Anderson  
(C) Andy Marry  
(D) Rafael Nadal  
(E) Stan Wawrinka

117. In which city the BWF World Senior Badminton Championships is being held?
(A) Panji  
(B) Guwahati  
(C) New Delhi  
(D) Mumbai  
(E) Kochi

118. Which country won the 2nd South Asian Basketball, Under - 16 Championship?
(A) Bhutan  
(B) China  
(C) Nepal  
(D) India  
(E) Pakistan

119. A book on Surgical Strike “India’s Most Fearless: True Stories of Modern Military Heroes” has been written by……
(A) Shiv Aroor and Rahul Singh  
(B) V S Naipaul and arvind adiga  
(C) Amish Tripathi and Anita Desai  
(D) Amitav Ghosh and Anita Nair  
(E) Arun Joshi

120. What is the name of Indian Naval Sailing Vessel that flagged-off for Navika Sagar Parikrama?
(A) INSV Dharma  
(B) INSV Mhadei  
(C) INSV Sahas  
(D) INSV Tarini  
(E) INSV Chakra

121. Based on a new study by Zipjet, Which of the following is the least stressful city in the world?
(A) Saint Petersberg  
(B) Vienna  
(C) Rome  
(D) Delhi  
(E) Stuttgart

122. On which date International Day of Democracy is celebrated by United Nations?
(A) 14-Sep  
(B) 15-Sep  
(C) 16-Sep  
(D) 13-Sep  
(E) None of these

123. In which city India’s first Centre for Animal law established?
(A) Bengaluru  
(B) Hyderabad  
(C) Cochin  
(D) Bhopal  
(E) Chennai

124. Which of the following state government has passed PRANAM Bill that has made it mandatory for its state government employees to look after their family member, who don’t have their own source of income?
(A) Madhya Pradesh  
(B) West Bengal  
(C) Rajasthan  
(D) Assam  
(E) Himachal Pradesh

125. Consider the following statements:-
1. India signed a loan deal with JICA for a project to upgrade the environment management plan.
2. This project will upgrade Alang-Sosiya ship recycling yards.
3. The project will be executed by Maharashtra Maritime Board (MMB).
Which of the above statement/statements is/are correct?
(A) Only 1  
(B) Only 2  
(C) Only 1 & 2  
(D) Only 2 & 3
126. Amazon India has tied up with which bank to offer unsecured micro loans in a short span?
(A) HDFC  
(B) ICICI  
(C) Canara Bank  
(D) Bank of Baroda  
(E) IDBI

127. Which of the following bank has secured loan from Asian Development Bank (ADB) to serve low-income women borrowers in rural areas?
(A) IndusInd Bank  
(B) Canara Bank  
(C) Punjab National Bank  
(D) Union Bank of India  
(E) HDFC

128. Who among the following has won this year’s Balzan Prizes by International Balzan Prize Foundation?
(A) Amartya Sen  
(B) Bina Agarwal  
(C) Jagdish Bhagwati  
(D) Arvind Subramanian  
(E) Bibek Debroy

129. Who among the following was head of the Olympic Task Force which recommended stipend of Rs 50,000 per month to Elite athletes?
(A) Abhinav Bindra  
(B) Sushil Kumar  
(C) Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore  
(D) Renjith Maheswary  
(E) Pullela Gopichand

130. What is the theme for 30th anniversary of the Montreal Protocol and 23rd World Ozone Day?
(A) Ozone Layer Protection: The Mission Goes On  
(B) Caring for all life under the Sun  
(C) Ozone and climate: Restored by a world united  
(D) Preserve Ozone Layer  
(E) Ozone: the mission to protect world

131. Which of the following country stood at first rank in the consultancy Henley & Partners’ first Quality of Nationality Index (QNI) ranks?
(A) England  
(B) France  
(C) Germany  
(D) United State of America  
(E) Australia

132. Which of the following joint exercise held between Indian army and US army?
(A) Mitra Shakti  
(B) Hand in Hand  
(C) Surya Kiran  
(D) Yudh Abhyas  
(E) Sampriit

133. The Centre will grant citizenship to Chakma and Hajong refugees, they came from which of the following country?
(A) East -Pakistan  
(B) Pakistan  
(C) Myanmar  
(D) Nepal  
(E) Sri Lanka

134. In which state Nation’s first Govt. mobile vet clinics launched?
(A) Gujarat  
(B) Haryana  
(C) Karnataka  
(D) Uttar Pradesh  
(E) Telangana

135. Consider the following statements:
1. The Central government is considering a proposal to introduce its cryptocurrency named as Lakshmi.
2. Bitcoin became the first decentralized cryptocurrency in 2013.
3. Cryptocurrency is a digital asset designed to work as a medium of exchange using cryptography to secure the transactions.
Which of the above statement/statements is/are correct?
(A) Only 1  
(B) Only 2  
(C) Only 3  
(D) Only 1 & 3  
(E) Only 2 & 3

136. Who among the following has been appointed India’s ambassador to the Slovak Republic?
(A) Mr.Navdeep Suri  
(B) Harsh Kumar Jain  
(C) Sanjay Rana  
(D) Jaideep Sarkar  
(E) Vijay Gokhale

137. Who among the following actors received a Global Diversity Award 2017?
(A) Salman Khan  
(B) Amir Khan  
(C) Akshay Kumar  
(D) John Ibrahim  
(E) Arjun Kapoor

138. Who among the following badminton shuttlers won the Korea Open Super Series title 2017?
139. Which of the following Muslim country has lifted a ban on Muslim women marrying non-Muslims?
(A) Libya
(B) Saudi Arab
(C) Tunisia
(D) Qatar
(E) Lebanon

140. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Shram Anna Sahayata Yojna has been launched by which of the following state government?
(A) Telangana
(B) Madhya Pradesh
(C) Uttar Pradesh
(D) Bihar
(E) Chhattisgarh

141. In which state BJP president Amit Shah launched the ‘Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana’?
(A) Bihar
(B) Jharkhand
(C) Orissa
(D) Madhya Pradesh
(E) Chhattisgarh

142. Which of the following state will be the first Indian state to start DNA database for storage of DNA profile of criminals to help police investigations?
(A) Andhra Pradesh
(B) Karnataka
(C) West Bengal
(D) Maharashtra
(E) Gujarat

143. Which of the following entities has said in its report that India likely to be 3rd largest economy by 2028?
(A) Standard & Poor’s
(B) Moody’s
(C) CRISIL
(D) HSBC
(E) IMF

144. Who among the following film-makers won the prestigious ANR National Award for his contribution to the Telugu film industry?
(A) Surender Reddy
(B) Adurthi Subba Rao
(C) S S Rajamouli
(D) R. Narayana Murthy
(E) Priyadarshan

145. Who among the following won Singapore Grand Prix and extend his championship lead?
(A) Lewis Hamilton
(B) Sebastian Vettel
(C) Daniel Ricciardo
(D) Valtteri Bottas
(E) Sergio Perez

146. Book “Evolving with Subramanian Swamy – A roller coaster ride” is written by ____________.
(A) Roxna Swamy
(B) Vikram Seth
(C) Kapil Sibbal
(D) Anita Desai
(E) Shobha De

147. The world’s oldest person Violet Brown has died. She belonged from which country?
(A) Jamaica
(B) Japan
(C) South Korea
(D) United State of America
(E) Singapore

148. Which of the following country’s postal department has released postage stamps on four of Bengal’s famous exponents of the ancient Indian practice?
(A) Nepal
(B) South Korea
(C) France
(D) Singapore
(E) Japan

149. Consider the following statements:-
1. “Bandhan Tod” is an android app, which is launched by Bihar Government.
2. This app will try to create awareness on resisting child marriage.
3. Bandhan Tod is part of Gender Alliance which is an initiative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
Which of the above statement/statements is/are correct?
(A) Only 1
(B) Only 2
(C) Only 1 & 2
(D) Only 2 & 3
150. In which city The Ministry of Women and Child Development will hold the first ever National Conference on Mission Mode to address Under-Nutrition in the country?
(A) Bhopal  
(B) New Delhi  
(C) Patna  
(D) Ahmedabad  
(E) Bhubaneswar

151. Which of the following state has became the first state in the country to set up family welfare district committees to deal with the issue of fake and biased complaints by women?
(A) Assam  
(B) West Bengal  
(C) Tripura  
(D) Sikkim  
(E) Manipur

152. Second International Yoga Festival and International Yoga Sports Championship 2017 started in which of the following state?
(A) Maharashtra  
(B) Jammu & Kashmir  
(C) Haryana  
(D) Madhya Pradesh  
(E) Himachal Pradesh

153. Who among the following actors appointed Brand Ambassador For Swachh Bharat Mission in Uttarakhand?
(A) Salman Khan  
(B) Ranbeer Kapoor  
(C) Akshay Kumar  
(D) Amitabh Bachhan  
(E) Vidya Balan

154. Who among the following won UN peace prize helped secure the release of more than 100 schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram?
(A) Desmond Mpilo Tutu  
(B) Zannah Mustapha  
(C) Yasser Arafat  
(D) Mohamed Elbaradei  
(E) Leymah Gbowee

155. World Health Organization has granted how much amount for Rohingyas’ healthcare?
(A) $250,000  
(B) $125,000  
(C) $175,000  
(D) $200,000  
(E) None of these

156. What is India’s rank among countries that faced most natural disasters?
(A) First  
(B) Second  
(C) Third  
(D) Fourth  
(E) Fifth

157. Tata Steel and TERI has jointly launched ‘Green School Project’ in which of the following states?
(A) Odisha  
(B) Jharkhand  
(C) Gujarat  
(D) Maharashtra  
(E) Rajasthan

158. Singapore will set up a Skill Center in North East at which of the following place?
(A) Shillong  
(B) Gangtok  
(C) Kohima  
(D) Imphal  
(E) None of these

159. Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi is related to which field?
(A) Politics  
(B) Singing  
(C) Public service  
(D) Medicine  
(E) None of these

160. Who is the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North-Eastern Region?
(A) Dr. Jitendra Singh  
(B) Dr. Mahesh Sharma  
(C) Dr. Harshvardhan  
(D) Mr. Radhamohan Singh  
(E) None of these

161. Where 13th Inter-Governmental Commission meeting is being held?
(A) Dushanbe  
(B) Moscow  
(C) Bishkek  
(D) Astana  
(E) None of these

162. Who has been elected president of News Broadcasters Association?
(A) Prannoy Roy  
(B) Dibang  
(C) Ravish Kumar  
(D) Rajat Sharma  
(E) None of these

163. Consider the following statements:-
1. The First ‘BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise-2017’ (BIMSTEC DMEx-2017) will be organized in New Delhi.
2. It will be conducted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as the lead agency.
3. BIMSTEC is an international organisation involving a group of countries in South Asia and South East Asia.

164. Which of the following statements are correct?
   (A) Only 1 & 2
   (B) Only 2 & 3
   (C) Only 1 & 3
   (D) All of the above
   (E) None of these

165. With which country India has signed an MoU to assists in upgradation of Thondaman Vocational Training Centre in Hatton?
   (A) Myanmar
   (B) Bangladesh
   (C) Thailand
   (D) Nepal
   (E) Sri Lanka

166. In which city union textiles minister has inaugurated the 6th Edition of the international textile and apparel fair, ‘VASTRA’?
   (A) Jaipur
   (B) Ahmedabad
   (C) Kanpur
   (D) New Delhi
   (E) Hyderabad

167. Which of the following state government has launched ‘People First’ mobile application for grievance redressal?
   (A) Uttar Pradesh
   (B) Rajasthan
   (C) Andhra Pradesh
   (D) Telangana
   (E) Karnataka

168. India gets its first high horse power locomotive engine from which of the following countries?
   (A) USA
   (B) France
   (C) Japan
   (D) Russia
   (E) South Korea

169. Which of the following State run PSUs has not signed an MoU to form a joint venture Khanij Bidesh India Ltd (Kabil)?
   (A) SAIL
   (B) HCL
   (C) NALCO
   (D) MECL
   (E) None of these

170. Who among the following has been appointed as the new high commissioner to Pakistan?
   (A) Gautam Bambawale
   (B) Ajay Bisaria
   (C) Sushil Kumar Singhal
   (D) Pankaj Saxena
   (E) Vijay Gokhale

171. Which of the following Institution has been awarded with Rajbhasha Keerti Award 2016-17?
   (A) Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
   (B) Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
   (C) Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
   (D) Indian Institute of Management, Indore
   (E) Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow

172. What was the theme of the World Peace Day 2017?
   (A) Partnerships for Peace -- Dignity for All
   (B) Peace and Democracy: Make Your Voice Heard
   (C) Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All
   (D) Stand-Up For International Peace
   (E) The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace

173. World Alzheimer’s day is celebrated on which of the following date?
   (A) 20-Sep
   (B) 21-Sep
   (C) 22-Sep
   (D) 19-Oct
   (E) 24-Sep

174. Who among the following Chief Minister declared the year of 2017 as e-pragati year?
   (A) Vijay Rupani
   (B) Nitish Kumar
   (C) N. Chandrababu Naidu
   (D) Mehbooba Mufti
   (E) Adityanath Yogi

175. Consider the following statements:
   1. Mazagon Dock Ltd delivered 1st scorpion class submarine INS Kalvari to Indian Navy.
   2. The six submarines designed by US naval defence and Energy Company DCNS.
   3. It will replace the Indian Navy's aging Sindhughosh and Shishumar class of submarines.
   Which of the above statement/statements is/are correct?
   (A) Only 1
   (B) Only 2
   (C) Only 1 & 2
176. National seminar on Good Governance, Development and Human Rights was organized by which of the following institution?
(A) National Human Right commission
(B) National Commission for Women
(C) National Commission for Scheduled Castes
(D) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
(E) National Commission for Backward Classes

177. According to Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) India’s economy will likely grow __________ in FY18.
(A) 7.20%
(B) 7.40%
(C) 6.80%
(D) 6.40%
(E) 6.70%

178. Which one of the following banks is India’s most trusted and most popular bank according to a survey conducted by Brand Finance?
(A) Union Bank of India
(B) State Bank of India
(C) Punjab National Bank
(D) Central Bank
(E) Bank of India

179. Who among the following has been appointed as interim Board chairman of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?
(A) B. Sambamurthy
(B) Balachandran M
(C) N K Raghupaty
(D) J.S. Garewal
(E) M.N. Prasad

180. What is the official slogan for FIFA Women’s World Cup?
(A) Dare to Shine
(B) For the Game-For the World
(C) ALL IN ONE RHYTHM
(D) Trigger the Fever
(E) None of these

181. Which of the following state has launched country’s first electric bus services?
(A) Rajasthan
(B) Uttarakhand
(C) Himachal Pradesh
(D) Haryana
(E) Telangana

182. Consider the following statements:-
1. India will host the World Congress on Adolescent Health.
2. This is the 11th World Congress on Adolescent Health organized by International Association for Adolescent Health.
3. This year’s theme is ‘Investing in Adolescent Health-The Future is Now’.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Only 1 & 2
(B) Only 2 & 3
(C) Only 1 & 3
(D) 1, 2 & 3
(E) None of these

183. In which city “Deendayal Hastkala Sankul – a trade facilitation centre for handicrafts” will be opened?
(A) Surat
(B) Ahmedabad
(C) Varanasi
(D) Jaipur
(E) New Delhi

184. Which of the following project will enable the soldiers with academic qualifications for better future?
(A) Yash Vidya
(B) Jeevan Jyoti
(C) Vidyanjali Yojna
(D) Vidya Shree
(E) None of these

185. In which state “Pt Deen Dayal Upadhayay Vigyan Gram Sankul Pariyojana” has been launched to formulate and implement appropriate S&T Interventions for Sustainable Development through cluster approach?
(A) Uttarakhand
(B) Himachal Pradesh
(C) Gujarat
(D) Uttarpradesh
(E) Rajasthan

186. Consider the following statements:-
1. NITI Aayog and Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh launched SATH programme.
2. SATH is stands for Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital.
3. Its aims to provide structured support in identifying key health priorities and implement the solutions towards transforming the health.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Only 1 & 2
(B) Only 2 & 3
(C) Only 1 & 3
(D) 1, 2 & 3
(E) None of these
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| 187. Which of the following Bollywood film has been nominated officially in the Foreign Language Film category at the 2018 Oscars? | (A) Rustom  
(B) Newton  
(C) Ek tha Tiger  
(D) Bajirao Mastani  
(E) Toilet Ek Prem Katha |
| 188. In which river or lake multi-agency Exercise ‘Pralay Sahayam’ held? | (A) Chilka Lake  
(B) Vular Lake  
(C) Sharavati River  
(D) Hussain Sagar Lake  
(E) Mandvi River |
| 189. In which of the following cities Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan will inaugurate first LPG Panchayat? | (A) Gandhi Nagar  
(B) Bengaluru  
(C) Jaipur  
(D) Bhubaneswar  
(E) Patna |
| 190. Prime Minister will announce a scheme for providing 24x7 electricity to all on the birth anniversary of RSS ideologue Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya. | (A) Sabko Mile Ujala  
(B) Saubhagyat  
(C) Roshni  
(D) Prakash  
(E) None of these |
| 191. In which of the following states State Bank of India (SBI) has launched the FTSE SBI Bond Index series in partnership with global index provider FTSE 100? | (A) Singapore  
(B) Paris  
(C) Switzerland  
(D) London  
(E) New York |
| 192. Which of the following state gets $300 million ADB loan to carry forward fiscal reforms? | (A) Rajasthan  
(B) Haryana  
(C) West Bengal  
(D) Bihar  
(E) Maharashtra |
| 193. Who among the following has been honoured with prestigious Von Hippel Award for materials research? | (A) Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan  
(B) Jayant Narlikar  
(C) G. Madhavan Nair  
(D) Narendra Karmarkar  
(E) CNR Rao |
| 194. Who among the following has become the first Indian to be picked as the International Boxing Association’s (AIBA) representative for the IOC Athletes’ Forum? | (A) Sarjubala Devi  
(B) Mary Kom  
(C) Pinki Rani  
(D) Aruna Mishra  
(E) Nikhat Zareen |
| 195. Who among the following won his second straight Futures title in LMW ITF Men’s Futures tennis tournament? | (A) K Srikant  
(B) Sasi Kumar Mukund  
(C) Arjun Khade  
(D) Zeeshan Ali  
(E) Prema Bhambri |
| 196. Who among the following is chief economic advisor of India? | (A) Jagdish Bhagwati  
(B) Arvind Subramanian  
(C) Kausik Basu  
(D) C. Nagarajan  
(E) Subramanian Swamy |
| 197. Who among the following has taken over charge of Comptroller Auditor General of India? | (A) Sashikant Sharma  
(B) O.P. Ola  
(C) Nandini Malhotra  
(D) Rajiv Mehrishi  
(E) P K Sinha |
| 198. Which one of the following gulf countries has invited women to a sports stadium for the first time? | (A) Qatar  
(B) Yemen  
(C) Saudi Arabia  
(D) United Arab Emirates  
(E) Oman |
| 199. For which river system’s biological analysis Government plans ‘lab on boat’ project? | (A) Yamuna  
(B) Krishna  
(C) Godavari  
(D) Brahmaputra  
(E) Ganga |
| 200. Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs unveiled ‘My Home-My Neighborhood’ Plan in cities for better Solid |
Waste Management. Who among the following is Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs?
(A) R K Singh
(B) Hardeep Singh Puri
(C) Ashwini kumar Choube
(D) Dharmendra Pradhan
(E) Manoj Tiwari

201. Which of the following bank has sanctioned a loan to construct seven bridges and improvement of one rural road project in five districts of Haryana?
(A) New Development Bank
(B) State Bank of India
(C) ICICI
(D) World Bank
(E) NABARD

202. Which among the following banks will open its new banking personnel training institute for employees of other banks in India and other South East Asian countries?
(A) Reserve Bank of India
(B) Asian Development Bank
(C) State Bank of India
(D) World Bank
(E) New Development Bank

203. German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, has been elected for a fourth term. From which party she belonged?
(A) Christian Democratic Union
(B) Social Democratic Party
(C) Liberal Conservative Reformers
(D) Christian Social Union
(E) National Democratic Party

204. Who among the following will be honoured with the 38th edition of prestigious Sarala award for her short story compilation “Kathapua”?
(A) Mahasweta Devi
(B) Anita Nair
(C) Mridula Koshy
(D) Meghana Pant
(E) Banaj Devi

205. In which city 57th National Open Athletics Championships 2017 held?
(A) Bhubaneswar
(B) Ranchi
(C) Bengaluru
(D) Chennai
(E) Delhi

206. In which city 7th ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting (ASEM EMM7) was held?
(A) Shanghai
(B) Seoul
(C) Germany
(D) Copenhagen
(E) New Delhi

207. According to World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2017, India stood at which position?
(A) 1st
(B) 2nd

208. Consider the following statements:
1. Government has launched Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana or ‘Saubhagya’, to supply electricity to poor households.
2. The scheme will cover all urban families after electrification of all cities by December end, this year.
3. Electricity connections will be given to APL families for Rs 500, payable in 10 equal monthly installments, while BPL families will be given free connections.
Which of the above Statements are correct
(A) Only 1 & 2
(B) Only 1 & 3
(C) Only 2 & 3
(D) 1, 2 and 3
(E) None of these

209. Prime Minister has formed an Economic Advisory Council (EAC). Who among the following will be head of this Council?
(A) Ashima Goyal
(B) Bibek Debroy
(C) Ratan Watal
(D) Surjit Bhalla
(E) Rathin Roy

210. Which of the following portal has been launched by Home Minister at the National Conference on Child Labour?
(A) PUSTIKA
(B) PENCIL
(C) KALAM
(D) KHUSHI
(E) None of these

211. Which of the following bank has brought down service charges on not maintaining monthly average (MAB) balance by a whopping 20-50%?
(A) Punjab National Bank
(B) Canera Bank
(C) ICICI Bank
(D) State Bank of India
(E) Union Bank of India

212. The biography of Captain Vikram Batra "The Shershah of Kargil" has been written by which of the following authors?
(A) Vikram Seth
(B) Arundhati Roy
(C) Deepak Surana
(D) Arvind Adiga
(E) Amish Tripathi

213. According to Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company Rankings, which of the following Indian company has become world’s third-biggest energy company?
(A) Indian Oil Corp (IOC)
(B) Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd
(C) Power Grid Corp
(D) Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd
(E) Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)
214. What is the theme of the World Tourism Day 2017, which is celebrated on 27 September?
(A) Tourism for all – promoting universal accessibility
(B) Sustainable Tourism – a Tool for Development
(C) One billion tourist’s one billion opportunities
(D) Tourism and Water: Protecting our Common Future
(E) None of these

215. Consider the following statements:-
1. 73rd Regular Session of UN (United Nations) General Assembly (UNGA) was held at UN Headquarters, in New York.
2. Miroslav Lajcak presided over this session of the UNGA.
3. During this session, 50 countries signed a treaty to ban nuclear weapons, which was first signed by Brazil.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Only 1&2
(B) Only 2&3
(C) Only 1&3
(D) All of the above
(E) None of these

216. According to World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) 2017-18, India stood at which position?
(A) 40th
(B) 54th
(C) 63rd
(D) 79th
(E) 98th

217. Which of the following country will give a boost in white revolution in Haryana?
(A) Switzerland
(B) New Zealand
(C) Australia
(D) Israel
(E) Canada

218. Consider the following statements :-
1. Government has constituted High Level 5G India 2020 Forum with three Secretaries of key Ministries/Departments.
2. Evaluate, approve roadmaps & action plans for 5G India 2020 will be Term of Reference of the High Level Forum.
3. The primary goals of the forum is to achieve globally competitive product development and manufacturing ecosystem.
Which of the above statements are wrong?
(A) Only 1&2
(B) Only 2&3
(C) Only 1&3
(D) All of the above
(E) None of these

219. Consider the following statements:-
1. Union Minister of Communication launched “Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e-NWR) System.
2. e-NWRs would have no chances of any tempering, mutilation, fudging, loss or damage and with no possibility of any multiple financing.
3. NWRs will not only facilitate an easy pledge financing by banks and other financial institutions but also smooth trading on various trading centers like commodity exchanges, e-NAM.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Only 1&2
(B) Only 2&3
(C) Only 1&3
(D) All of the above
(E) None of these

220. Which of the following port has been renamed as Deendayal port?
(A) Cochin Port
(B) Nhava Sheva Port
(C) Vishakhapatnam Port
(D) Paradip port
(E) Kandla Port

221. Which of the following bank has initiated a turnaround plan - 'Project Nishchay'?
(A) ICICI Bank
(B) HDFC Bank
(C) Canara Bank
(D) IDBI Bank
(E) UCO Bank

222. Which of the following company is top in the list Global Brands Report?
(A) Facebook
(B) Google
(C) Yahoo
(D) Apple
(E) Coca Cola

223. Which of the following international bank lowered India’s growth forecast to 7 per cent owing to weakness in private consumption, manufacturing output and business investment.
(A) Asian Development Bank
(B) New Development Bank
(C) International Monetary fund
(D) World Bank
(E) African Development Bank

224. Who among the following filmmakers will be felicitated at the 4th Indian Film Festival of Russia, for their contribution to Indian cinema?
(A) Bhandarkar Madhur
(B) Sanjay Lila Bhansali
(C) S S Rajamouli
(D) Karan Johar
(E) Farhan Akhtar

225. Which of the following BRICS Country is top in the list of World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Index (GCI)?
(A) Brazil
(B) Russia
(C) China
(D) South Africa
(E) India
227. Which of the following scheme has been approved by cabinet for Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF)?
(A) Saarthi
(B) Umbrella
(C) Dastak
(D) Netritva
(E) Aadhunik

228. Consider the following statements:
1. Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) registered National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) as an Information Utility (IU).
2. Information Utility (IU) stores financial information that helps to establish defaults as well as verify claims expeditiously.
3. NeSL becomes the third IU registered by the IBBI.
Which of the above statements are correct?
(A) Only 1 & 2
(B) Only 2 & 3
(C) Only 1 & 3
(D) 1 & 2 & 3
(E) None of these

229. Central Adoption Resource Authority has started a monthly “Jan Sampark” for seeking information related to Adoption as well as flagging their concerns. Under which Ministry CARA come?
(A) Ministry of Labour and Employment
(B) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
(C) Ministry of Law and Justice
(D) Ministry of Women and Child Development
(E) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

230. Under the ‘Adopt a Heritage’ Project, those entrusted with the development of tourist amenities at the adopted sites would be known as ________________.
(A) Monument Mitras
(B) Art Lovers
(C) Heritage premi
(D) Heritage Mitra
(E) Guard of Monuments

231. Which of the following pair of Banks have won the bid to provide government guarantee backed “Short Term Loans” (STLs) to national passenger carrier Air India.
(A) SBI & PNB
(B) PNB & UBI
(C) PNB & Canara
(D) PNB & IndusInd
(E) IndusInd & Canara

233. Which of the following pair of states have won Hall of fame award for Best State / UT Comprehensive Development of Tourism?
(A) Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh
(B) Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan
(C) Gujarat & Rajasthan
(D) Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh
(E) Maharashtra & Kerala

234. In which city India will host the South Asian boxing Championship for the first time?
(A) Imphal
(B) Guwahati
(C) Kolkata
(D) Gangtok
(E) Shillong

235. Who among the following are the authors of the book titled “A to Z of Financial Management in Autonomous Institutions”?
(A) N. Chandrababu Naidu & Arun Jaitley
(B) Rajat Bhargava & Deenanath Pathak
(C) P. Chidambaram & Mannmohan Singh
(D) Subramanian Swamy & Rajat Bhargava
(E) Yashwant Sinha & Subramanian Swamy

236. According to the QS World University Rankings for the year 2017, Which of the following two cities in the list of top 100 cities favoured by students?
(A) Mumbai & Bengaluru
(B) Mumbai & Chennai
(C) New Delhi & Chennai
(D) New Delhi & Mumbai
(E) New Delhi & Bengaluru

237. World maritime day is celebrated on which of the following date?
(A) 28-Sep
(B) 26-Sep
(C) 3-Oct
(D) 24-Sep
(E) 27-Sep

238. 3rd edition of IISF 2017 will be held in which of the following city?
(A) Gandhi Nagar
(B) Bhopal
(C) Chennai
(D) Bengaluru
(E) New Delhi
239. Which of the following bank announced a new home loan scheme that offers borrowers the benefit of 1% cashback on every EMI, for the entire tenure of the loan.
(A) ICICI Bank
(B) HDFC Bank
(C) DENA Bank
(D) YES Bank
(E) CANARA Bank

240. Which of the following bank will increase its annual lending to India to a maximum of $4 billion between 2018 and 2022 to help fasten inclusive economic transformation?
(A) Asian Development Bank
(B) New Development Bank
(C) IMF
(D) World Bank
(E) None of these

241. Consider the following airports:
1. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport, Nagpur
2. Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna
3. Srinagar International Airport, Jammu & Kashmir
4. Swami Vivekananda Airport, Raipur
Which of the above airports have been jointly conferred with the prestigious National Tourism Awards 2015-16?
(A) Only 1&2
(B) Only 2 &3
(C) Only 3 & 4
(D) Only 1,3 & 4
(E) All of the above

242. Who among the following has been selected for the 2017 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize?
(A) Maryna Viazovska
(B) Peter Scholze
(C) James Maynard
(D) Jacob Tsimerman
(E) Manjul Bhargava

243. Recently, which of the following country joined Interpol as full member?
(A) Israel
(B) Russia
(C) Palestine
(D) Egypt
(E) Turkey

244. Where is the headquarters of international police organization, Interpol?
(A) Lyon
(B) Venice
(C) Rome
(D) Berlin
(E) Geneva

245. What is theme of the world Rabies Day 2017?
(A) End Rabies Together
(B) Rabies: Zero by 30
(C) Rabies: Educate. Vaccinate. Eliminate.
(D) Together Against Rabies
(E) None of these

246. Consider the following statements:
1. India will host the 14th India-European Union (EU) Summit in Gandhi Nagar.
2. The summit will be attended by European Council President Donald Franciszek Tusk and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.
3. The 13th India-EU Summit was held in Brussels on March 30, 2016.
Which of the above statement/statements is/are correct?
(A) Only 1&2
(B) Only 2 &3
(C) Only 1&3
(D) 1,2 & 3
(E) None of these

247. Which of the following bank will be partnering with technology and business schools to tap into emerging fintech ideas?
(A) Canara bank
(B) UCO bank
(C) ICICI Bank
(D) HDFC bank
(E) Allahabad Bank

248. State-run Power Finance Corp (PFC) has committed financial assistance of Rs 4,009 crore to which state for setting up a 4,000 MW thermal power plant?
(A) Andhra Pradesh
(B) Maharashtra
(C) Telangana
(D) Karnataka
(E) Tamil Nadu

249. Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under the administration of Ministry of Power, Government of India (GoI), will procure 10,000 electric vehicles from which of the following company?
(A) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.
(B) Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.
(C) Ashok Leyland Ltd.
(D) TATA Motor Company Ltd.
(E) Force Motors Ltd.

250. Which of the following bank has approved a loan for modernization of Himachal Pradesh’s technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions?
(A) Asian Development Bank
(B) New Development Bank
(C) World Bank
(D) European Bank
(E) IMF
### Answer Key

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