

Current Affairs Of October 2017

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National

India opens two border crossing points with Myanmar, Bangladesh

i. India has opened two immigration check posts along the borders with Myanmar and Bangladesh. In a gazette notification, the Home Ministry stated the Central government has designated Zorinpui land check post in Lawngtlai district of Mizoram as an authorized immigration check post for entry into or exit from India with valid travel documents for all classes of passengers to or from Myanmar.

ii. The Central government has also designated Kawrpuichhuah land check post in Lunglei district of Mizoram as an authorized immigration check post for entry into or exit from India with valid travel documents for all classes of passengers to or from Bangladesh.

Madurai's Meenakshi Temple Named Best 'Swachh Iconic Place' in India

i. The Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple has been adjudged best 'Swachh Iconic Place' in India.

ii. A total of 63 compact bins have been placed and four compactor trucks do the rounds around the temple premises. There are 25 e-toilets and 15 water ATMs for tourists to use. There are two road sweepers and battery operated vehicles specifically purchased to clean this stretch.



Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Chief Minister and Governor of Tamil Nadu is Edappadi K. Palaniswami and Banwarilal Purohit, respectively.

Ministry of Health Adjudged Best for 'Swachhta Pakhwada'

i. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been adjudged as the best department for its contribution during Swachhta Pakhwada, an inter-Ministry initiative of Swachh Bharat Mission of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

ii. The Health Ministry observed the Swachhta Pakhwada in February 2017. The award was presented to the Ministry on 2nd October, the third anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission. Shri C K Mishra, Secretary (HFW) received the award on behalf of the Ministry.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Jagat Prakash Nadda is the present Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 to be Held in Hyderabad

i. A high-level delegation from the Government of India and the United States met NITI Aayog



to plan the 2017 Global Entrepreneurship Summit. The summit will be held on November 28-30 at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre in Hyderabad, India.

ii. This year's theme is "Women First, Prosperity for All" to celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit in all its strengths and diversity. The Summit will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Advisor to the President, Ivanka Trump, who leads the U.S. delegation.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Donald John Trump is the 45th and current President of the United States.

Vice President to lay foundation stone for the development of Muktyala to Vijaywada stretch of Krishna River

i. The Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu will lay the foundation stone for the development of Muktyala to Vijayawada stretch of Krishna River (National Waterways – 4) at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

Mukhya Mantri Kaushal Samvardhan and Kaushalya Yojana flagged off in MP

i. Madhya Pradesh Government has implemented the Chief Minister's Skill Promotion and Skills Scheme to provide jobs by providing employment oriented training to the youth.

ii. All the youth who are in the age group of 18-35 are being benefitted through Mukhya Mantri Kaushal Samvardhan Yojana and Mukhya Mantri Kaushalya Yojana. The Madhya Pradesh government has permitted Rs 30 crores for constant execution of the scheme from year 2017-18 to 2019-20.



India, Nepal to Conduct First Joint Tiger Count

i. For the first time, Nepal and India will undertake a joint tiger census in their national parks, forests and protected areas adjoining the two countries using a globally-recognised method. The counting of tigers will begin from the second week of November.



ii. Tiger is an endangered animal listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

- The 13 tiger range countries include Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Russia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Rajghat gets Mahatma Statue, for the first time

i. Rajghat, the Samadhi of the Father of the Nation in the national capital, has for the first time acquired a new feature that could appeal to the large number of visitors. Vice-President of India Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu today unveiled a 1.80 metre tall bronze

statue of Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of the 148 Birth Anniversary of the champion of country's independence.

ii. The statue, sculpted by the renowned Shri Ram Sutar is installed in the Parking Area of Rajghat Samadhi Complex at a cost of Rs.8.73 lakhs. It is mounted on a two feet high pedestal clad with granite. The famous message of Gandhi ji "Be the Change You Wish to See" is inscribed on the front side of the pedestal. Installation of the Statue is a part of a large number of improvement works at Rajghat undertaken during the last three years.

Karnataka Launches mid-day Meals Scheme for Pregnant Women

i. The Karnataka government launched the Rs. 302-crore **Mathru Poorna scheme**, aimed at providing free mid-day meals to pregnant and lactating women in rural areas.



ii. The meals, which will be provided in Anganwadi centres, will include an egg, rice, pulses, vegetables, and milk. This is aimed at reducing child malnutrition and in turn curb infant mortality.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The Governor of Karnataka is Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala.
- The Chief Minister of Karnataka is Siddaramaiah.

Forbes India Rich List 2017: Mukesh Ambani Richest With \$38 Billion

i. **Forbes Magazine** has released its **India Rich List for 2017**, with Reliance Industries Limited chairman **Mukesh Ambani** **topping the charts** for the 10th consecutive year with a net worth of \$38 billion.

ii. Mr Ambani is followed by tech czar **Azim Premji** who jumped two places with the net worth of \$19 billion. Ranked third are the **Hinduja brothers** who added \$3.2 billion to their net worth.

iii. According to Forbes, the combined net worth of the 100 richest Indians stood at \$479 billion, a jump of 26% from \$374 billion in 2016. Acharya Balkrishna, CEO of Patanjali Ayurved, figures at No. 19 with net worth of \$6.55 billion.

PM Modi Lays Foundation Stone for Bridge in Dwarka, Gujarat

i. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** laid the foundation stone of a **four-lane cable-stayed bridge between Okha and Beyt Dwarka**.

The bridge is a link between old and new Dwarka. The 2.32 km bridge, including 900 metres of central double span cable-stayed portion, will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 962.43 crore.



ii. The four-lane 27.20-metre wide bridge will have 2.50 metre wide footpaths on each side. Solar panels installed on the roof of footpath will produce 1 MW power for street lights on the bridge.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Shri Vijaybhai R. Rupani is the present CM of Gujarat.
- Shri Om Prakash Kohli is the present Governor of Gujarat.

Cabinet approves renaming of Kandla Port as Deendayal Port

i. By renaming Kandla Port as "Deendayal Port, Kandla", a grateful nation would be remembering the invaluable contributions made by one of the greatest sons of India, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay.

Important Takeaways from Above News- Kandla port is situated in kutch district of Gujrat

Turtle Sanctuary to be set up in Allahabad.

i. In order to protect the rich aquatic biodiversity of river Ganga from escalating anthropogenic pressures, development of a Turtle sanctuary in Allahabad along with a River Biodiversity Park at Sangam have been approved under Namami Gange programme.

Prime Minister launches Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)

i. "Let no child suffer from any vaccine-preventable disease". This was stated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as he launched the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) at Vadnagar in Gujarat, today. Through this programme, Government of India aims to reach each and every child under two years of age and all those pregnant women who have been left uncovered under the routine immunisation programme.

PM lays Foundation Stone of Barrage over Narmada, addresses public meeting at Bharuch.

i. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today unveiled a plaque to mark the laying of Foundation Stone of Bhadbhut Barrage over the River Narmada. At a public meeting in Bharuch, the Prime Minister also flagged off the Antyodaya Express between Udhna (Surat, Gujarat) and Jaynagar (Bihar). He also unveiled a plaque to mark the laying of Foundation Stone, and Inauguration of various plants of Gujarat Narmada Fertilizer Corporation Ltd.

Mother language should be made mandatory for school education: Vice President Inaugurates International Conference on 'The Journey of Indian Languages: Perspectives on Culture and Society'

i. Mother language should be made mandatory for school education in all States. Vice-President was addressing the inaugural session of a 2-day International Conference on 'The Journey of Indian Languages: Perspectives on Culture and Society' jointly organized by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University (BAOU) and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), in Ahmedabad.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) has been started to provide a permanent solution from drought

i. Government is investing Rs 50,000 crore for a period of five years to develop complete irrigation supply chain, water resources, distribution network and farm-level application solutions to achieve the target of providing water for every farm.

ii. PMKSY aims not only to create irrigation sources but also to create protected irrigation by harnessing rainwater at micro level through 'Jal Sanchay' and 'Jal Sinchan'. At the concluding session of India Water Week-2017 organized at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The theme of the program at the concluding session was "Water and Energy for Inclusive Growth".

Important Takeaways from Above News-

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister is Shri Radha Mohan Singh

Bureau of Indian standards (BIS) Act 2016 brought into force with effect from 12th October, 2017

A new Bureau of Indian standards (BIS) Act 2016 which was notified on 22nd March, 2016, has been brought into force with effect from 12th October, 2017. The Act establishes the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) as the National Standards Body of India. The Act has enabling provisions for the Government to bring under compulsory certification regime any goods or article of any scheduled industry, process, system or service which it considers necessary in the public interest or for the protection of human, animal or plant health, safety of the environment, or prevention of unfair trade practices, or national security. Enabling provisions have also been made for making hallmarking of the precious metal articles mandatory.

A mission to unite India and its excellence- Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat through Paryatanparv

i. The Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme was launched by the Prime Minister on 31st October, 2016 to promote engagement amongst the people of State/ UTs in the country so as to enhance mutual understanding and bonding between people of diverse cultures, thereby securing stronger unity & integrity of India.

President of India Presents 18th Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration, Academics & Management-2017

i. The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, presented the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration, Academics and Management for the year 2017 to Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak at Rashtrapati Bhavan (October 10, 2017).
ii. Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak is the founder of Sulabh International and has developed and implemented, on a pan India scale, a low cost and appropriate toilet technology popularly known as the Sulabh Shauchalaya system.

Uttarakhand Government Launched 'Solar Briefcase' to Provide Electricity in Remote Areas

i. Uttarakhand State Government and a charitable funding agency named Swan Cultural Center and Foundation launched 'Solar Briefcase' in Kedarnath Dham.

ii. The initiative was taken to provide electricity to far-flung areas in the hill state.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Trivendra Singh Rawat is the present CM of Uttarakhand.
- Krishna Kant Paul is the present Governor of Uttarakhand.

India Slips to 8th Rank in Valuable Nation Brand List

i. India is ranked the eighth most valuable nation brand while the United States retained its top position and China took the second spot in the league of nations according to **Brand Finance's Nation Brands 2017**.

ii. India went down one spot over the previous year because the economy grew at its slowest pace. India switched places with Canada and its brand value dropped by one percentage point while that of Canada's rose 14 percent. China, the fastest growing nation brand in 2017, saw valuation grow 44 percent.

The Top 3 Valuable Nation brands are:

1. United States
2. China
3. Germany

'Sex With Minor Wife is to be Considered Rape': Supreme Court

i. In a landmark verdict, the Supreme Court of India ruled that sex with a wife who is under 18 years of age is rape and therefore a crime. The top court did not rule on 'marital rape', which is sexual intercourse forced upon a spouse no matter what their age.

ii. Before SC ruling, there was an exception in Section 375 rape law provisions that protected a man who had sexual relations with his wife even if she was under 18, which is the age of consent. Exception 2 in Section 375 of IPC (Indian Penal Code) granting protection to husband is violation of the constitution and fundamental rights of minor bride, according to the Supreme Court.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The top court's verdict upholds the rights of 2.3 crore child brides in the country.
- A Bench of Justices Madan B. Lokur and Deepak Gupta read down exception 2 to Section 375 (rape) of the Indian Penal Code.

'Global Wizards set to Converge in New Delhi for the 5th Global Conference on Cyber Space'

i. The Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS) 2017 is getting bigger and better. The 5th edition, being hosted by India is to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi on November 23, 2017. It will see participation of ministers, officials, industry leaders and academia engaged in the global cyber ecosystem.

India's first Sewage Treatment Plant under Hybrid Annuity Mode to come up in Haridwar and Varanasi



India is Second Largest Market for Pharma: LinkedIn Report

i. With 13.7 percent contribution to the global pharmaceuticals and biotechnology workforce, India has emerged as the second largest market for the industry, a report by professional networking giant LinkedIn has revealed. ii. The report, detailed in the newly released e-

book "**The Indian Pharma and Biotech Industry**", showed that while New Delhi, Kolkata, and Chandigarh are thriving grounds for talent in this sector in India, **talent migration is highest to the US.**

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Jeff Weiner is the CEO of LinkedIn.

Arun Jaitley Attends G-20 Finance Ministers Meeting

i. The Union Minister for Finance Arun Jaitley participated in the G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) Meeting in Washington D.C.

ii. The discussion focused on the agenda items pertaining to Global Economy and Framework for Growth, Compact with Africa and International Financial Architecture.

Global Hunger Index: India Ranks 100 Among 119 Countries

i. India, which has more than a fifth (21 percent) of its children wasted (weigh too little for their height), **slipped three places to 100th in the 2017 Global Hunger Index (GHI).** The ranking of India in the list was **97th in 2016.**



ii. The 2017 GHI released by the **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)** termed India's hunger levels 'serious' problem at hand. The data from the report showed that India ranked lower than all its neighboring countries - Nepal (72), Myanmar (77), Bangladesh (88), Sri Lanka (84) and China (29) - except Pakistan, which has been placed at 106th in the global hunger list.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The hunger report index of 119 countries also showed that in three years' time India has seen a fall of 45 ranks from 55th in 2014.

Safe Cities Index 2017: Tokyo Safest, Delhi 43rd

i. Japanese capital city Tokyo has topped The Economist Intelligence Unit's **Safe Cities Index 2017**, which ranked **60 cities** on parameters including personal and health security.

ii. Singapore and Japanese city Osaka have ranked **second and third**, while Indian cities **Delhi and Mumbai** have ranked **43rd and 45th** respectively.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

Pakistani city Karachi has been ranked the least safe city in the list.

Union Minister Launched Sampoorna Bima Gram Yojana

i. Communications Minister Manoj Sinha launched the **Sampoorna Bima Gram (SBG) Yojana** and an initiative for expansion of clientele base of **Postal Life Insurance (PLI).**

ii. Under Sampoorna Bima Gram (SBG) Yojana, at least one village (with min. 100 households) will be identified in each of the



revenue districts of the country. Coverage of all households is the primary objective of this scheme.

iii. Under the scheme for expansion of PLI, benefits of Postal Life Insurance (PLI) will no more be confined to government and semi-government employees, but will also be available to professionals such as doctors, engineers, management consultants, chartered accountants, architects, lawyers, bankers etc.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The PLI, introduced in 1884, is one of the oldest life insurance schemes for benefit of government and semi-government employees.

Smriti Irani Opens World Largest B2B Handicraft & Gifts Fair

i. The 44th edition of world largest B2B handicraft and gifts fair entitled **IHGF-Delhi Fair (Autumn) 2017** was inaugurated by Smriti Zubin Irani, Union Minister of Textiles in a ceremony at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida.



ii. It is the 4 Day long fair at state-of-the-art India Expo Centre, Greater Noida. This initiative will give opportunities to overseas buyers to bring technical know-how investment and marketing network to form joint ventures for promoting Indian Handicrafts in the world market.

World's Largest Combustion Research Centre Inaugurated at IIT Madras

i. The world's largest combustion research center was inaugurated at the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) in Tamil Nadu.** The National Centre for Combustion Research and Development (NCCRD) was inaugurated by NITI Aayog member VK Saraswat.

ii. The establishment of the center will give a major boost to the Indian scientific community and will provide an impetus to research in '**Alternative Energy and Environmental Protection**'.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- IIT-M was established in 1959.
- Pawan Kumar Goenka is the Chairman of IIT-M.

HPCL, First Indian OMC to Launch Lubricants in Myanmar

i. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has become the **first Oil Marketing Company (OMC) from India** to mark its presence in the lubricant market in Myanmar and to lend more visibility and awareness to the brand.

ii. Having achieved the number one position in the domestic market, HP Lubricants sought to prove itself in foreign shore by venturing into Myanmar.

PM lays Foundation Stone for Infrastructure Projects in Bihar

i. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone for four sewerage projects under the Namami Gange programme; and four National Highway projects, at Mokama in Bihar. The total outlay of these projects is over Rs. 3700 crore.



ii. The four sewerage projects include Sewage Treatment Plant at Beur, Sewerage System with Sewer Network at Beur, Sewage Treatment Plant at Karmalichak and STP and Sewer Network at Saidpur. These projects together will create new STP capacity of 120 MLD and upgrade the existing 20 MLD for Beur.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Nitish Kumar is present Chief Minister of Bihar.
- Satya Pal Malik is the current Governor of Bihar.

Rajasthan Assembly First in India to Call Motions Online

i. Going digital, the Rajasthan assembly has become the first in India to call attention and adjournment motions and proposals online from legislators to send them to the state government. Speaker Kailash Meghwal has inaugurated the new system by sending a call for an attention motion to the state government with a click of the mouse.



ii. The system is expected to save time, labour and use of paper in the functioning of the assembly, and also help legislators in bringing attention to urgent public issues.

New Guinness Record at IISF Chennai 2017

i. Day two of the India International Science Festival (IISF) in Anna University campus at Chennai saw the making of a new Guinness World Record for the Largest Biology Lesson. One thousand forty-nine (1049) students participated in the record-breaking session. Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Science, Dr Harsh Vardhan stated that PM Narendra Modi to encourage and promote science and the Govt. of India has launched many Flagship Programmes in this regard.



ii. World Record attempts have been a key part of India International Science Festival since 2015, which leads to encouragement and popularizing of Science through public participation. In IISF 2015, students took a successful shot at the Guinness World record for the world's largest science Lesson at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- The 1st IISF was held at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) New Delhi in December 2015.

GDP May Grow at 7% in Financial Year 2017-18: NITI Aayog

i. According to NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar, the economic slowdown that began in 2013-14 has bottomed out and the GDP is likely to grow at 6.9-7 % this fiscal (2017-18) and 7.5% in 2018-19. The economic growth slowed to 7.1% in 2016-17, the year in which 87% of the currency was demonetised, despite a very good show by the agricultural sector.

ii. On a quarterly basis also, the growth in the first quarter of the current fiscal had slipped to 5.7%. In the next fiscal year, the growth would be about 7.5%.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- The National Institution for Transforming India, also called NITI Aayog, was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on January 1, 2015.
- Dr Rajiv Kumar has recently appointed as the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog. Kumar replaced Arvind Panagariya.
- The Government of India, in keeping with its reform agenda, constituted the NITI Aayog to replace the Planning Commission instituted in 1950.

The Coalition Years 1996-2012: Pranab Mukherjee's Political Autobiography

i. Former President Pranab Mukherjee has released the third part of his memoir 'The Coalition Years: 1996-2012', speaking candidly about believing he could have been the Congress choice for the Prime Minister's post.



ii. Mukherjee's memoir is the third in the series. The other two are -- The Dramatic Decade: The Indira Gandhi Years and The Turbulent Years: 1980-1996.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Pranab Kumar Mukherjee is served as the 13th President of India from 2012 until 2017.
- Pranab Mukherjee's first stint as the Finance minister of India was during the Indira Gandhi government in 1982.

PM Modi Inaugurates 1st ever All India Institute of Ayurveda

i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first ever All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) in New Delhi, on the occasion of the 2nd Ayurveda Day.

ii. It is the first institute under the Ministry of AYUSH with a National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) accreditation. The institute will have separate Yoga, Panchakarma, and Kriya Kalpa units, among others.



Important Takeaways from the above News:

- Shripad Yasso Naik is the Minister of AYUSH.

Footwear Design & Development Institute Act 2017 Comes into Force

i. Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI) has been declared an 'Institute of National Importance' under Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. The FDDI bill was passed by the Parliament in July 2017.



ii. The Provisions of FDDI Act 2017 have come into force. Presently FDDI is imparting skill based graduate and postgraduate courses in the fields of footwear, leather goods, retail, and management to around 2,500 students across eight campuses spread over India.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- FDDI was established in 1986.
- The Headquarters of FDDI is located in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

Hema Malini's Biography 'Hema Malini: Beyond the Dream Girl' Launched

i. Actress Deepika Padukone launched Hema Malini's biography 'Hema Malini: Beyond the Dream Girl' on the occasion of Hema's 69th birthday.



ii. The biography has been penned by journalist turned writer Ram Kamal Mukherjee and also contains a short foreword written by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Launches 'Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana'

i. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated the ambitious 'Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojna' for the farmers of the state.

ii. Madhya Pradesh is the first state to lend money to farmers at zero percent interest. The government has approved a web of irrigation projects across the Sagar District which will cover 96-hectare fields.

Jaipur and Srinagar Airports rated Best Airports in the World in 2-5 million Passenger category in ACI-ASQ Survey

i. The Jaipur and Srinagar Airport got First and Second rank respectively in the category of 2-5 million passengers in ACI-ASQ Survey. Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra, Chairman, Airports Authority of India along with his team received the ACI-ASQ Award at a function held in Mauritius on 17th October 2017.



ii. This is for the second consecutive time that Jaipur Airport has been rated the Best Airport in the World in the traffic volume of 2 to 5 million passengers per year.

Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates 1st phase of PNG Supply System in Bhubaneswar

i. Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has inaugurated the first phase of Piped Natural Gas supply system in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. In the first phase, 255 houses in Nalco Nagar in Chandrasekharapur of Bhubaneswar were supplied with environment-friendly PNG.

ii. As part of the City Gas Distribution project, around 25 thousand households in twin-city Bhubaneswar and Cuttack would get PNG connection by end of next year. The overall capital expenditure for the Bhubaneswar and Cuttack gas distribution projects will cost around Rs. 1700 crore.

Banks to Provide Funds at 7% to Women SHGs under DAY-NRLM: RBI

i. The RBI has issued guidelines to banks will provide funds to women self-help groups, SHGs, in rural areas at 7 percent under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) in the current fiscal (2017-18).

ii. The central bank has revised guidelines on interest subvention scheme under DAY-NRLM, as received from the Ministry of Rural Development for implementation by 21 public sector banks and 19 private banks.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is a poverty alleviation project implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.
- NRLM is focused on promoting self-employment and organization of rural poor.
- Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana or DAY is a Government of India scheme for the helping the poor by providing skill training.

Hirasar Greenfield Airport Project in Gujarat gets Green Clearance

i. The Centre has given green clearance for a greenfield airport project at Hirasar, about 28 km from Rajkot in Gujarat, at a cost of over Rs. 1,400 crores.

ii. The state government has proposed a new airport in Rajkot district as the existing one is small and the earlier plan to extend the current runway could not materialise because of high land cost. The Environment Ministry has given the environment clearance to the Gujarat State Aviation Infrastructure Company Ltd (GSAICL) for development of a greenfield airport at Rajkot.

Most Pollution-linked Deaths Occur in India

i. With 2.51 million deaths in 2015, India has been ranked No. 1 in pollution-related deaths, according to a report by The Lancet Commission on pollution and health. China recorded the second highest number of such deaths (1.8 million). India accounted for about 28 percent of an estimated nine million pollution linked deaths worldwide in 2015.



ii. The Lancet Commission on pollution and health is a two-year project in which more than 40 international health and

environmental authors led by environmental scientist Philip Landrigan were involved.

PM Modi Inaugurates the first phase of Ghogha-Dahej RORO ferry service in Gujarat

ii. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the first phase of ambitious Ghogha-Dahej Roll-on Roll-off ferry service at Ghogha in Bhavnagar district in Gujarat.



ii. With the opening of this 615-cores rupees ferry service, the distance between Saurashtra and South Gujarat regions could be covered in less than an hour via-sea route. This passenger movement service reduced the distance between the Ghogha and Dahej from 310 kilometres by road to just 30 kilometres, which can be covered in one hour.

Honda overtakes Bajaj to seal No 2 spot in domestic bike sales

i. Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India (HMSI) has raced past Bajaj Auto to become the second biggest bike seller in India during the first half of the ongoing fiscal. Market leader Hero MotoCorp continued its hold on the segment selling 33,44,292 units in the first half of the fiscal as against 30,34,504 units in the year-ago period, a growth of 10.2 percent.

ii. During the April-September period this fiscal, HMSI sold a total of 10,48,143 motorcycles in the domestic market registering a growth of 19.8 percent. On the other hand, Bajaj Auto sold 10,10,559 units witnessing a decline of 10.45 percent, according to the latest data from Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM). In the comparable period last fiscal, HMSI sold 8,74,852 units as against Bajaj Auto's 11,28,425 units.

India's First Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra Launched

i. The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh along with Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated India's first Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) for Skilling in Smart Cities, in collaboration with New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).

ii. It is launched under skill India Mission. The ministers also laid the foundation for a Skill Development Centre at Moti Bagh and a Centre of Excellence at Dharam Marg, New Delhi.

Schedule for the General Election to the Legislative Assembly of Gujarat, 2017.

i. The term of the Legislative Assembly of Gujarat is normally due to expire on 22.01.2018. Gujarat Assembly election 2017 dates: 2-phase poll to be held on December 9, 14; counting on 18th.

ii. By virtue of its powers, duties and functions under Article 324 read with Article 172(1) of the Constitution of India and Section 15 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Commission is required to hold general election to constitute the new Legislative Assembly in the State of Gujarat before expiry of its present term.

Himachal Pradesh election 2017 dates: Voting on November 9, counting on December 18

i. The Election Commission of India on Thursday said that elections to the 68-seat Himachal Pradesh Assembly will be held on November 9 and counting of votes will be done on December 18 this year.

Tamil Nadu Government Laid Foundation Stone for Rs. 198 cr Aerospace Park

i. The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, Edappadi K Palaniswami, laid the foundation stone for an aerospace park at Kanchipuram district to be set up by the State Government in 245 acres and at an estimated cost of Rs 198 crore.



ii. When fully ready, the park will attract a total investment of nearly Rs 1,000 crore and create job opportunities for nearly 30,000, according to the State government.

Madhya Pradesh Tops in Digital Initiatives: Survey

i. Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the top state in terms of digital initiatives undertaken, with a maximum score of 100.1 on the performance index, followed by Maharashtra at 99.9 and Andhra Pradesh at 99.8, according to a report by Coeus Age Consulting.



ii. Chhattisgarh (97.4) and Karnataka (95.3) occupied the fourth and fifth positions in the list, respectively. The report is based on a comparative assessment of digital initiatives by 36 states and Union Territories.

PM Modi Inaugurates Global Conference on Consumer Protection

i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a global conference on consumer protection in New Delhi. This is the first time that an international conference on consumer protection is being organized by India for countries of the region.

ii. Twenty-two countries from East, South and South-East Asia are participating in the international conference. These include China, South Korea, Singapore, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Madras HC Bans Photos of Living Persons on Banners in Tamil Nadu

i. The Madras high court has banned the use of pictures of living persons on banners and hoardings in Tamil Nadu.

ii. Tamil Nadu's top officials were asked to maintain a clean environment and also ensure that there were "no unnecessary drawings" on buildings and residential places. The order states that pictures of the chief minister, ministers or politicians cannot be used in posters or hoardings. It has also banned the use of photos of people sponsoring the pictures.

3rd Global Investors' India Forum Held in New Delhi

i. Union Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri R. K. Singh addressed the 3rd Global Investors' India Forum in New Delhi.

ii. The theme of the event was 'Ideate, Innovate, Implement and Invest in India' and it was attended by global industry stalwarts. In the forum, major focus was given on generation of

electricity and its distribution across the country. The event was organized by the ASSOCHAM.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- ASSOCHAM stands for Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India.

Rajasthan CM Launches Rajiv Mehrishi's 'India 2017 Yearbook'

i. Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje launched an e-book titled 'India 2017 Yearbook', compiled by the present Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Rajiv Mehrishi.

ii. The e-book includes a plethora of information on important dignitaries, state policy, public schemes and important data about demographics, trade, economy and many other topics.

India Overtakes US to Become Second Largest Smartphone Market: Report

i. India overtakes the US to become the world's second-largest smartphone market, trailing only China, according to a new report by analyst firm Canalis.

ii. In the second quarter of 2017, India's smartphone market recovered quickly with shipments growing 23% year-on-year in the third quarter to reach just over 40 million units. Low smartphone penetration and the explosion of LTE (long-term evolution, or 4G) are the main drivers behind this.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- The top five vendors Samsung Electronics, Xiaomi Inc., Vivo Electronics Corp., Oppo Electronics Corp. and Lenovo Mobile Communication Technology Ltd now accounting for 75% of total shipments in India.
- Samsung and Xiaomi accounted for almost half of the total market in Q3 2017.

Cabinet Approves Rs 7,000 crore for Construction of Six IIT Campuses

i. The Union Cabinet has approved over Rs 7,000 crore for construction of permanent campuses of six new Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) across the country.

ii. Each of the permanent campuses to be established at **Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Palakkad (Kerala), Dharwad (Karnataka), Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir), Bhilai (Chhattisgarh) and Goa** will have a facility for housing 1,200 students from the academic year 2020-2021.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Human Resource Development Minister is Prakash Javadekar.
- Currently, these institutions are functioning from temporary campuses with a total strength of 1,530 students.

- IIT Kharagpur was the first in India to be established in 1951.

UP Declares Vrindavan, Barsana as Sacred Sites

i. The Uttar Pradesh government issued an order notifying **Vrindavan and Barsana towns in Mathura district** as "pavitra teerth sthals (sacred pilgrimage sites)". No meat and liquor shops will be allowed in these towns anymore.



ii. Principal Secretary (Religious Affairs) Avinish Kumar Awasthi instructed to prohibit meat and liquor shops in these notified areas. Vrindavan and Barsana are the first two places to be notified as teerth sthal in government records.

India to Host UN Wildlife Summit in 2020

i. India will host the next United Nations (UN) global wildlife conference in 2020. India will host the next CMS Conference of the Parties CMSCOP13. It was officially announced at the closing CMSCOP12 plenary, in **Manila, Philippines.**

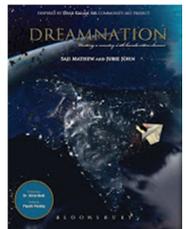
ii. The six-day 12th Meeting of the **Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS COP12)** is the only international treaty devoted exclusively to migratory animal species. The theme of the Conference was 'Their Future is Our Future - Sustainable Development for Wildlife and People'.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- CMS COP is a triennial summit that brings together States through which migratory animals pass through.
- The CMS COP is held once in three years.

Book on Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's Inspirational Words Released

i. An illustrative book containing inspiring words of Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was released online by **Indian women cricket team captain Mithali Raj** on the 86th birth anniversary of the former President.



ii. Titled "Dreamnation: Uniting a Country with Handwritten Dreams", the book includes a collection of 200-plus handcrafted and handwritten postcards from across India. The book is **Co-authored by Saji Mathew and Jubie John** and **published by Bloomsbury.**

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was the 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007.
- Other important books of Dr. Kalam includes My Journey(Book of Poems) and Wings of Fire.

India tops list of new tuberculosis cases in 2016: WHO

i. According to a new report by the World Health Organisation, India topped the list of seven countries, accounting for 64 per cent of the 10.4 million new tuberculosis (TB) cases worldwide in 2016.

- ii. The Global TB Report 2017 released by the WHO said that India was followed by Indonesia, China, Philippines, Pakistan, Nigeria and South Africa.
- iii. The report said, an estimated 1.7 million people died from TB in 2016, including nearly 400,000 people who were co-infected with HIV, recording a drop by 4 per cent as compared to 2015.

Nation pays homage to former PM Indira Gandhi on her 33rd death anniversary

i. The nation is paying homage to former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on her 33rd death anniversary on 31 oct.

SC to frame comprehensive guidelines for safety of kids in schools

i. The Supreme Court has said, it would frame comprehensive guidelines to ensure safety and security of school children, and ordered compilation of norms formulated by the Centre and states for its consideration.

ii. A bench, headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra, was hearing several pleas including the one filed by the father of a seven-year-old boy who was found dead at Ryan International School in Gurugram last month.

RIL, First Indian Company to Cross Rs 6 Trillion Market Capital

i. Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) became the first Indian company to cross **Rs 6 trillion market capitalization** after its shares surged over 75% so far this year and hit a fresh lifetime high.

ii. Currently, its market cap is at Rs 6.02 trillion. The recent rally in the stock was due to tariff hike by its telecom arm Reliance Jio which, analysts expect, will improve the company's profitability.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Mukesh Ambani is the CEO of Reliance Industries Limited.

India's bullet train project has a logo, and it has a cheetah

i. Chakradhar Aalla, a 27-year-old from Hyderabad now studying at National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad, who whose logo of a cheetah on a train engine was selected as the official logo of the bullet train project and National High Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRCL), the company overlooking the project, was on Wednesday felicitated for his winning entry.



International

Woman named to head sports federation in Saudi first

i. In Saudi Arabia, a princess has been named to head a sports federation, in a first for women in the conservative Muslim kingdom where men dominate all sports. Princess Rima bint Bandar bin Sultan will lead a federation covering sporting activities for men and women.



ii. Last year, the princess was named by the cabinet to a senior post in the kingdom's equivalent of a sports ministry. Daughter of a former Saudi Prince, Princess Rima is a graduate from an American university. Saudi Arabia does not allow women to practise sports in the public sphere and even the introduction of private sports centres for women has aroused criticism among religious conservatives in the Gulf state.

Pak withdraws Hafiz Saeed's detention request under anti-terrorism law

i. Pakistan government today withdrew its request for extending the detention of Mumbai attack mastermind and JuD chief Hafiz Saeed under the anti-terrorism law. On January 31, Saeed and his four aides were detained by the Punjab government for 90 days under preventative detention under the Anti-Terrorism Act 1997. They have been under house arrest since then.



ii. Explaining as to why the government withdrew its application, a senior official of the Punjab government told a news agency that since all five of them are detained under the public order there was no binding on the government to produce them before the review board to seek extension to their detention. The JuD has already been declared as a foreign terrorist organisation by the United States in June 2014.

China Marks 68th National Day: 01st October 2017

i. China marked the **68th National Day** on **01st October 2017** with more than 115,000 people from across the country gathering at the **Tian'anmen Square** to watch the raising of the National Flag in Beijing. The National Day is celebrated with a week-long holiday. Major parks in **Beijing** have been decorated with around 1.6 million potted flowers of 150 different species.



Important takeaways from the above News:

- **Xi Jinping** is the current president of China.
- **Li Keqiang** is the current Premier China.

India to be Guest Country at the World Government Summit

i. The World Government Summit announced that India is a guest country in its upcoming gathering. The Annual Gathering is scheduled from February 11 to 13, 2018.

ii. Honorary guests from India will join the notable list of speakers synonymous with the World Government Summit to showcase the country's emerging economic growth, highlight valuable knowledge, skills, and capabilities and elaborate on the country's unique culture.

About World Government Summit:

- Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates,
- Chairman: Mohamed bin Abdullah Al Gergawi.

World Space Week Observed Globally

i. The World Space Week is organized across the World from 4 to 10 October. In 1999, The United Nations General Assembly declared that World Space Week will take place from 4th October to 10th October every year, in commemoration and celebration of two key dates in the advancement of space technology and exploration.

ii. World Space Week theme for 2017 is 'Exploring New Worlds In Space'. The 4th October 1957 when Sputnik, the first human-made Earth satellite was launched, and October 10th when the Treaty on Principle Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration of Space and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other Celestial Bodies including the Moon, was signed.

Hurricane Nate moves Toward the second Landfall on Gulf Coast in the USA

i. In the United States, hurricane Nate has made landfall near the mouth of the Mississippi River in Louisiana. According to the US National Hurricane Center, the storm with maximum sustained winds of 137 kilometres per hour is moving north and a second landfall is expected on the Mississippi coast later.



ii. A state of emergency has been declared in four southern US states with Hurricane Nate gathering strength. Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and parts of Florida have issued hurricane warnings and evacuation orders. The measures apply to parts of the city of New Orleans, which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina 12 years ago.

Mastercard Launched its First Innovation Centre in India

i. US-based fintech company Mastercard has announced the launch of its global research and development arm Mastercard Labs in Pune, India.

ii. After Singapore, this will be the second Mastercard Labs in Asia-Pacific, and ninth in the world. The initiative aims to bring and harness new commerce, payment and technology ideas at a fast pace in the country.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Ajay Banga is the CEO of Mastercard.

US and Israel Withdraws from UNESCO

i. The US and Israel announced their withdrawal from the UN's cultural agency UNESCO after Washington accused it of anti-Israeli bias. The withdrawal of the United States, which is meant to provide a fifth of Unesco's funding, is a major blow for the Paris-based organization.

ii. UNESCO is best known for designating World Heritage Sites such as the ancient city of Palmyra in Syria and the Grand Canyon National Park.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Irina Bokova is the Present Director-General of UNESCO.

Vanuatu Becomes First Nation to Accept Bitcoin in Exchange for Citizenship

i. The South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu has become host to the world's first government to accept bitcoin in exchange for citizenship. Vanuatu's citizenship program costs \$200,000 USD, meaning that at current prices the residency program costs less than 41.5 bitcoins.



ii. The Chairman of the Vanuatu Information Center (VIC)—which oversees Vanuatu citizenship applications - Geoffrey Bond, had sent an official request earlier this month seeking permission to accept bitcoin as a form of payment.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Vanuatu is a South Pacific Ocean nation made up of roughly 80 islands that stretch 1,300 kilometres.
- Port Vila is the capital city of Vanuatu.

Nicaragua Signs Paris Climate Agreement

i. Central American country Nicaragua has signed the Paris Agreement on climate change, leaving the United States and Syria as the only two countries holding out to sign this global climate pact.



ii. According to Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega, the Paris Agreement is the only international mechanism that offers the conditions to face global warming and its effects. Previously, Nicaragua refused to sign the agreement on the grounds that it did not require to combat global warming.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- President Donald Trump on 1 June 2017 withdrew the United States from the landmark 2015 Paris agreement to fight climate change.
- Till June 2017, 195 UNFCCC members have signed the agreement, 148 of which have ratified it.

State of World Population 2017 Report Launched

i. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Director **Dr. Natalia Kanem** has launched the 2017 State of World Population report in London, UK. The new UNFPA report has been entitled as **“Worlds Apart: Reproductive Health and Rights in an Age of Inequality.”**

ii. As per the report, economic inequality goes hand in hand with inequality in reproductive health. As of 2017, half of 1.6 billion women of reproductive age living in developing regions want to avoid a pregnancy.

The new UNFPA report warns-

- Only about half of the world’s women hold paid jobs
- Globally, women earn 77 percent of what men get
- Three in five women worldwide lack maternity leave, many pay "motherhood penalty"

About The United Nations Population Fund:

- It was formed in the year 1969.
- Headquarters of UNFPA is located in New York, US.
- In October 2017, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed Dr. Natalia Kanem Executive Director of UNFPA.

2nd World Congress on Marxism to be Held in Beijing

i. The 2nd World Congress on Marxism is scheduled to be held at Peking University in Beijing, China in May 2018.

ii. The theme of this conference is **"Marxism and the Current World and China"**. The congress coincides with the 200th anniversary of Karl Marx's birth and 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up.

11-Year-Old Gitanjali Rao Named America’s Top Young Scientist

i. Gitanjali Rao, an 11-year-old Indian-American schoolgirl, was named as **“America’s top young scientist”** for inventing a cost-effective, quick lead-contamination detector in water.



ii. The seventh-grade student was inspired by the large-scale lead contamination in water in Flint, Michigan, that came to light recently. Rao won \$25,000 for taking the top position at the 2017 Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge.

Singapore Passport Named 'Most Powerful', India Ranks 75

i. Singapore's passport has become the **most powerful in the world** with a Visa-Free Score of 159, according to the Passport Index developed by advisory firm Arton Capital. This is the **first time an Asian country** has been announced as having the most powerful passport.



ii. India secured the 75th rank in the index with a Visa-Free Score of 51. Historically, the top 10 most powerful passports in the world were mostly European, with Germany having the lead

for the past two years. **Afghanistan was on bottom most position (94th)** with the score of 22. Pakistan was on 93rd Position with Iraq with the score of 26.

The Top 3 countries with score are-

1. Singapore (159)
2. Germany (158)
3. Sweden, South Korea (157)

Indian Origin Activist Gina Miller Named UK’s Most Influential Black Person of the Year

i. Indian origin campaigner Gina Miller was named **UK’s most influential black person of the year.**

Gina won a legal challenge seeking Parliamentary approval for triggering Brexit.



ii. 52-year-old Miller, ranked on top in the 2018 **'Powerlist' of 100 people of African and African Caribbean** inheritance published in London by Powerful Media.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Gina Miller is an investment fund manager and philanthropist.
- She took a legal action against British Prime Minister Theresa May demanding that individual members of the Cabinet have no legal power to trigger Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty.

Chile Named Best Country to Visit in 2018

i. The travel guide company Lonely Planet has ranked **Chile as the number one country to visit in 2018** in its Best in Travel 2018 list.

ii. The guide has published the 13th edition of its annual list of the top 10 countries every traveler should have on their bucket list for 2018.



Top 3 Countries in the list are:

1. Chile
2. South Korea
3. Portugal

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Santiago is the Capital of Chile.

Qatar Introduces Minimum Wage for First Time

i. Qatar has committed that it will introduce a minimum wage for workers in the country. The announcement was made by labour and social affairs minister Issa Saad al-Jafali al-Nuaimi. The announcement came a day before a meeting of the UN’s **International Labour Organisation (ILO).**



ii. Other reforms to labour laws include stopping employers from preventing workers from leaving the country, a new central authority to ensure that work contracts are being adhered to and bilateral agreements with 36 countries to protect the legal rights of those who head to the Gulf for work.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Doha is the Capital of Qatar.
- Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani is the Prime Minister of Qatar.
- Qatar is the host of 2022 football World Cup.

Saudi Arabia, First Country to Grant Citizenship to a Robot

i. Saudi Arabia has become the first country to give a robot citizenship. The move is an attempt to promote Saudi Arabia as a place to develop artificial intelligence and, presumably, allow it to become a full citizen. The Robot is named as 'Sophia'.



ii. Sophia was confirmed as a Saudi citizen during a business event named Future Investment Initiative in Riyadh. It is historic to be the first robot in the world to be recognized with citizenship.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Riyadh is the capital city of Saudi Arabia.
- Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud is the crowned Prince of Saudi Arabia.

Jacinda Ardern Officially Sworn in as Prime Minister of New Zealand

i. Jacinda Ardern was officially sworn in as the Prime Minister of New Zealand. At the age of 37, Ardern is the youngest New Zealand PM in 150 years.



ii. She is also the country's third woman leader. This was the first time New Zealand adopted proportional voting since 1996.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Dame Jenny Shipley was the first woman Prime Minister followed by Helen Clark.

Burundi, First Nation to Leave International Criminal Court

i. Burundi became the first nation ever to leave the International Criminal Court (ICC), set up 15 years ago to prosecute those behind the world's worst atrocities. ii. Burundi is the only one of three African



nations to go ahead with its withdrawal after making moves last year to leave amid accusations that the court focuses too much on

the continent.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- The ICC was established in 2002.
- It is based in the Hague, the Netherlands.
- Bujumbura is the capital of Burundi and Burundian franc is its currency.

Jeff Bezos Replaces Gates as World's Richest Person with \$90.6-bn Fortune

i. According to Forbes magazine, Jeff Bezos surpassed Bill Gates as the richest person in the world. The fortune of Amazon's founder reached some \$90.6 billion, compared with the \$90.1 billion that the online edition of the magazine attributes to Gates.



ii. This is not the first time that Bezos has outpaced Gates - it previously happened in July 2017 when Amazon shares hit a historic high, though Gates took back the lead hours later.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Jeff Bezos has been on the Forbes list of the richest billionaires since 1998, a year after his e-commerce giant went public.

World's First Hydrogen Tram Begins Operation in China

i. The world's first hybrid electric tram powered by hydrogen fuel cells has started running in China, marking a big step in the application of green energy in public transport.



ii. The tram was put into commercial operation for the first time in Tangshan, north China's Hebei Province. With water being its only emission, the tram emits no pollutants. No nitrogen oxides will be produced as the temperature of the reaction inside hydrogen fuel cells is controlled under 100 degrees Celsius.

US court largely blocks Trump's military transgender ban

i. A US court has largely blocked President Donald Trump's controversial ban on transgender people serving in the military. Mr Trump had, in August, signed an executive order banning transgender people from serving openly, reversing former President Barack Obama's directive allowing them to do so. The move prompted a flood of lawsuits, many of them filed on behalf of transgender service members or veterans. US District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly sided in part with a group of transgender service members who sued to block



the change, halting Mr Trump's ban on service.

China hints at no change in policy of blocking efforts to list Masood Azhar as global terrorist

i. China today hinted at no change in its policy of blocking efforts to list JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist during the second tenure of President Xi Jinping.

ii. A veto-wielding permanent member of the Security Council, China has repeatedly blocked India's move to put a ban on the Jaish-e-Mohammed chief under the Al-Qaeda Sanctions Committee of the Council. JeM has already been in its banned list.

iii. India has identified Azhar as the mastermind of the Pathankot terror attack on January 2, last year. It has also blamed his brother Rauf and five others for carrying out the attack in which seven Indian soldiers were killed.



Uhuru Kenyatta wins controversial Kenyan poll rerun

i. Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta has been declared the winner of a controversial re-run of the Presidential election. The country's Election Commission said, he won 98 per cent of the votes with a turnout at just under 39 per cent - less than half that was recorded in August's vote. Mr Kenyatta was also declared the winner in August which was annulled because of irregularities.

Defence

Russia Launches 'World's Biggest & Most Powerful' Nuclear Icebreaker

i. Russia has launched the world's largest nuclear-powered icebreaker ship in a bid to expand its strategic presence in the resource-rich, terrain of the Arctic.

ii. The massive vessel, named **Sibir (Siberia)**, was developed as part of a huge push by the **Rosatom State Atomic Energy Corporation** to open up crucial shipping lanes in the icy Northern Sea Route.

India-Sri Lanka JTE 'MITRA SHAKTI 2017' Started

i. The fifth **India-Sri Lanka Joint Training Exercise (JTE) MITRA SHAKTI 2017** started with a grand Opening Ceremony conducted at Aundh Military Station, Pune. The exercise is 14 Day long.

ii. The exercise is based on Counter Terrorist Operations and an Infantry company from both the countries is participating in the same.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- General Bipin Rawat is the 27th Chief of Army Staff of the Indian Army.

- Nirmala Sitharaman is the Present Defence Minister of India.

“Exercise INDRA - 2017: Indo-Russian Joint Exercise”

i. Giving the Indo-Russian defence cooperation a major boost, Exercise INDRA-2017, the first ever Tri Services Joint Exercise between Indian and Russian Armed Forces will be conducted in the Eastern Military District of Russia from 19 to 29 Oct 2017. Exercise INDRA in its previous nine avatars has been conducted as a single service exercise alternately between the two countries. The year 2017 marks a major milestone as this Exercise has been upgraded to involve all the three Services of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy & Air Force)

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Commissions INS Kiltan ASW stealth corvette

i. INS Kiltan (P30), third Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) stealth corvettes built under Project 28 (Kamorta Class) was commissioned into the Indian Navy by Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman at an impressive ceremony held at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam on, 16 October 2017. Admiral Sunil Lanba, the Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral HCS Bisht, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral VK Saxena (Retd), was present on this occasion.

Shri Rajnath Singh attends 56th Raising Day Parade of Indo-Tibetan Border Police

i. The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh attended the 56th Raising Day Parade of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) at 39th Bn, ITBP, Lakhnawali Camp, Surajpur, Greater Noida today. The Minister of State for Culture (I/C) and Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, DG, ITBP Shri R K Pachnanda and senior officers were also present on the occasion. Shri Rajnath Singh took the salute and inspected the Raising Day Parade.

30th Edition of CORPAT Begins Between Indian-Indonesian Navy

i. **Indian Navy Ship Sukanya** under the command of Commander SA Deodhar has arrived at Belawan Indonesia to participate in the **30th edition of CORPAT (Coordinated Patrol) and 3rd Bilateral exercise between the Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy.**

ii. The exercise is aimed to foster closer maritime ties with countries located on the rim of the Indian Ocean. The two navies have been carrying out CORPAT on respective sides of the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) **twice a year since 2002.**

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Jakarta is the Capital of Indonesia.
- Joko Widodo is the President of Indonesia.

Indian Navy to get 111 utility helicopters worth Rs 21,738 crore

i. The defence Ministry approved procurement of 111 utility helicopters for the Indian Navy at a cost of 21,738 crore rupees

under strategic partnership model. The proposal was cleared at a meeting of the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi.

ii. 16 helicopters will be procured at a fly away condition while 95 will be manufactured under make in India programme.

India, Japan Begin Three-Day Anti-Submarine Drill

i. Navies of India and Japan began a three-day anti-submarine warfare exercise in the Indian Ocean region to deepen their operational coordination in the strategically important sea lanes around the two countries.



ii. Indian Navy's two P-8 I long-range maritime reconnaissance anti-submarine warfare aircraft and two P-3C Orion jets of the Japanese Navy will be part of the exercise.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Tokyo is the Capital of Japan.
- The current Chief of Naval Staff is Admiral Sunil Lanba.

Appointment/Resign

President Appoints Commission to Examine Sub Categorization of other Backward Classes under Article 340 of the Constitution

i. Decision will ensure more Backwards among OBC Communities to Avail benefits of Reservation. It Reinforces Government's effort to Achieve Greater Social Justice And Inclusion for all through Sub Categorization of the OBCs. ii. This decision, taken on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, reinforces, in the spirit of his teachings, the Government's efforts to achieve greater social justice and inclusion for all, and specifically members of the Other Backward Classes. Sub categorization of the OBCs will ensure that the more backward among the OBC communities can also access the benefits of reservation for educational institutions and government jobs.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

(i) Chairperson - Justice (Retd.) G. Rohini

Mongolian Parliament Confirms New Prime Minister

i. The Mongolian Parliament confirmed Ukhnaa Khurelsukh as the country's new Prime Minister. His confirmation comes after Jargaltulga Erdenebat was voted out of office over allegations of corruption and incompetence.



ii. Khurelsukh previously served in the army and joined the

parliament as a member in 2000. He is the 30th Prime Minister of Mongolia.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Ulaanbaatar is the Capital of Mongolia.

Zafar Mahmood Abbasi, Pakistan's New Navy Chief

i. Pakistan appointed Vice-Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi as new Chief of Naval Staff. He will replace Admiral Muhammad Zakaullah who will retire on 6 October.

ii. President Mamnoon Hussain approved the appointment of Abbasi on the advice of Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi. In Pakistan, all services chiefs are appointed by the president at the recommendation of the prime minister who has final say in such appointments.

Brenda Hale, First Female President of UK's Supreme Court

i. Brenda Hale, the first female president of the supreme court, and Sir Ian Burnett, the youngest lord chief justice for 50 years, have been sworn in at the opening of the legal year.



ii. Hale, 72, was born in Yorkshire. She succeeds David Neuberger.

Soumya Swaminathan, New Deputy Director General at WHO

i. The World Health Organization (WHO) appointed Soumya Swaminathan one of two Deputy Directors General. This is the first time such a post has been ever created within the organisation. The position is also the highest post held by an Indian in the WHO.



ii. Dr Swaminathan is currently the Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). She has been appointed as Deputy Director General for Programmes and Ms Jane Ellison, who was Special Parliamentary Adviser to the UK's Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been appointed as a Deputy Director General for Corporate Operations (DDC).

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is the WHO's Director General.
- WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

Government Names Rajnish Kumar as SBI's Next Chairman

i. The Government named Rajnish Kumar as the new chairman of State Bank of India, for a three-year term. Kumar will succeed Arundhati Bhattacharya.

ii. At present, Rajnish Kumar is one of the managing directors of SBI. The Banks Board Bureau (BBB) had interviewed four managing directors for the post at the end of June and had recommended a name to the government. The government had extended Bhattacharya's tenure for a year, with



effect from October 7, 2016 **Important Takeaways from Above News-**

- SBI is headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Param Shah Appointed as FICCI UK Director

i. The apex industry body, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) announced the appointment of Param Shah as the new Director for the United Kingdom (UK) operations.

ii. Shah will succeed Pratik Dattani whose tenure with FICCI ended recently.

PepsiCo India Chairman and CEO D Shivakumar Resigns

i. PepsiCo India Holdings Pvt. Ltd's Chairman and Chief Executive officer D. Shivakumar has resigned. He will be joining Aditya Birla Group as president (corporate strategy and business development).



ii. Ahmed El Sheikh, currently senior vice-president and general manager for PepsiCo Egypt and Jordan, will succeed Shivakumar as PepsiCo India CEO.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- PepsiCo entered India in 1989.
- PepsiCo headquarters in New York, United States.

Anupam Kher Succeeds Gajendra Chauhan as FTII Chairman

i. Actor Anupam Kher has been appointed the new chairman of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), located in Pune. He succeeds former television actor Gajendra Chauhan.



ii. Mr Kher has appeared in over 500 films and has been part of the theatre circles. He has previously held the post of chairman of the Central Board of Film Certification and the National School of Drama.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Mr Kher is a recipient of the Padma Shri in 2004 and the Padma Bhushan in 2016.

Nisha Desai Biswal Appointed as President of USIBC

i. Nisha Desai Biswal, former Indian-American assistant secretary of state for South and Central Asia has been appointed as the new president of US India Business Council (USIBC).



ii. As Assistant Secretary for South and Central Asian Affairs in the US Department of State from 2013 to 2017, Biswal oversaw the US-India strategic partnership

during a period of unprecedented cooperation, including launching the US-India Strategic and Commercial Dialogue.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The Council aims to create an inclusive bilateral trade environment between India and the United States by serving as the voice of the industry, linking governments to businesses, and supporting long-term commercial partnerships.

Gautam Bambawale Appointed as India's Ambassador to China

i. Gautam Bambawale was appointed as India's new Ambassador to China. Bambawale is an Indian Foreign Service Officer of the 1984 batch.



ii. He will succeed Vijay Gokhale. He is currently serving as India's High Commissioner to Pakistan.

Audrey Azoulay to be next UNESCO chief

i. Audrey Azoulay has been elected to become the next chief of UNESCO - the UN's education, science and culture agency. Azoulay, 45, a former French culture minister, defeated Qatar's Hamad bin Abdulaziz al-Kawari in the final 30-28 vote after she won a runoff with a third finalist from Egypt earlier yesterday.



ii. If confirmed by UNESCO's 195 member-general assembly next month, Azoulay will succeed outgoing Director-General Irina Bokova of Bulgaria.

Government Appoints MK Gupta, DK Gayen as New Railway Board Members

i. The government of India has appointed Mahesh Kumar Gupta and D K Gayen as the two new members in the Railway Board. D.K. Gayen, presently posted as General Manager East Central Railway, has been appointed as new Member (Staff) Railway Board and ex officio Secretary to the Government of India.

ii. Meanwhile, M K Gupta, presently General Manager, Modern Coach Factory Raibareli has been appointed as new Member (Engineering) Railway Board and ex officio Secretary to the Government of India.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- The Railway Board is the apex body of the Indian Railways.

- Ashwani Lohani is present Chairman of Railway Board.

Solicitor-General Ranjit Kumar Resigns

i. Within months after the Centre gave him an extension, Solicitor-General of India Ranjit Kumar, the second highest ranking law officer of the government, resigned with immediate effect.



ii. Mr Kumar, a successful senior advocate who joined the government's team of law officers in the Supreme Court in 2014, cited personal reasons and family commitments for his decision to opt out. His tenure of three years as Solicitor General had ended on June 6, 2017, but the government had extended the tenure on an ad hoc basis.

HSBC Appoints Jayant Rikhye as CEO India

i. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) has announced the appointment of Jayant Rikhye as the Chief Executive Officer for India. The appointment would be effective from December 1 subject to regulatory approvals.

ii. He succeeds Stuart Milne. Mr. Rikhye is currently Head of International, Asia-Pacific, responsible for 11 markets in the region.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- HSBC Headquarters in London, UK.
- Stuart Gulliver is the Group CEO of HSBC.

IPPB Appoints Suresh Sethi as its MD & CEO

i. India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has appointed Mr. Suresh Sethi as its Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer. Mr Sethi was the former MD of Vodafone M-Pesa Ltd

ii Mr. Sethi takes over from the dynamic leadership of Mr. A.P. Singh who had been the interim MD & CEO of IPPB since January 2017.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Aapka bank, aapke dwaar is the Tagline of IPPB.
- IPPB is Headquartered in New Delhi.

Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar Assumes Charge as the Vice Chief of Naval Staff

i. Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar P, AVSM, VSM has assumed charge as the Vice Chief of Naval Staff (VCNS) from Vice Admiral Karambir Singh AVSM at a formal ceremony held in New Delhi.

ii. Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar P, AVSM, VSM is an alumni of the National Defence Academy. The Flag Officer was commissioned in the Indian Navy on 01 Jul 81 and is a specialist in Missiles & Gunnery.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Sunil Lanba is the present Chief of Naval Staff of Indian Navy.

Awards/Honours

Announcement of the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

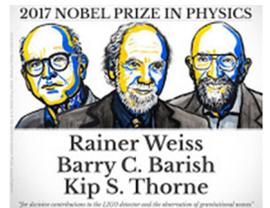
i. The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet has decided to award the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to the American trio of Jeffrey C. Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W. Young for their discoveries of molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm. All three winners are from the US.



ii. It is the 108th time the prize has been awarded and was announced at the Nobel Forum at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. The winners will share a prize of 9m Swedish kronor (£825,000), and each receives a medal engraved with their name.

2017 Nobel Physics Prize Awarded to Gravitational Wave Detectors

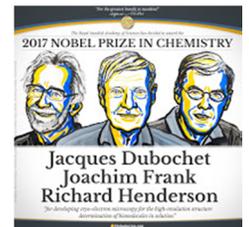
i. The 2017 Nobel Physics Prize has been awarded "for decisive contributions to the LIGO detector and the observation of gravitational waves" to Rainer Weiss, Barry C. Barish and Kip S. Thorne of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory.



ii. The Prize announced by Sweden's Royal Academy of Sciences comes with 9 million kronor (\$1.1 million). For the past 25 years, the prize has been shared among multiple winners.

2017 Nobel Prize in Chemistry Announced

i. The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2017 to Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson "for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution".

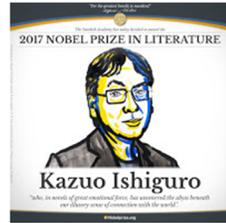


ii. About three winners-

1. Jacques Dubochet is from University of Lausanne, Switzerland
2. Joachim Frank is from Columbia University, New York, USA
3. Richard Henderson is from MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, UK.

Kazuo Ishiguro Wins 2017 Nobel Literature Prize

i. Kazuo Ishiguro, "who, in novels of great emotional force, has uncovered the abyss beneath our illusory sense of connection with the world", has been awarded the **2017 Nobel Prize in Literature**, the Swedish Academy announced.



ii. Sixty-four-year-old Mr. Ishiguro was born in Japan and his family moved to the United Kingdom when he was five. His most renowned novel, **The Remains of the Day (1989)**, was turned into film with Anthony Hopkins as the butler Stevens.

2017 Nobel Peace Prize Announced

i. The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the **Nobel Peace Prize for 2017** to the **International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)** "for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons".



ii. The 2017 Peace Prize calls upon nuclear-armed states to initiate negotiations to the gradual elimination of the world's 15,000 nuclear weapons adding that ICAN has in the past year given the efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons a new direction and new vigour.

2017 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences Announced

i. The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2017 was awarded to **Richard H. Thaler** "for his contributions to behavioural economics". **Important Takeaways from Above News-**



- In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) established the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize.

Brief History of the Nobel Prize-

On 27 November 1895, Alfred Nobel signed his last will and testament, giving the largest share of his fortune to a series of prizes in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature and Peace - the Nobel Prizes. The Nobel Prize distribution was first done on 1901. In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) established The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

Gauri Lankesh, First Indian Journalist to win Anna Politkovskaya Award

i. Journalist-activist Gauri Lankesh, who was shot dead by unknown assailants recently, has



been posthumously accorded with the prestigious **Anna Politkovskaya Award**, instituted by Reach All Women (RAW) in War.

ii. It was honoured to award the annual Anna Politkovskaya Award for women human rights defenders from war and conflict zones jointly to **Gauri Lankesh posthumously** and to a brave Pakistani activist Gulalai Ismail, who similarly is fighting against Islamic extremism.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Anna Politkovskaya, a Russian journalist was killed in 2006 in Moscow for her courage to speak out on behalf of the suffering of the civilians in the war in Chechnya.
- Gauri was awarded Periyar Award posthumously by the Thinkers Forum on September 17 in Bengaluru.

Banwarilal Purohit Sworn-in as Governor of Tamil Nadu

i. Tamil Nadu Governor Banwarilal Purohit was sworn-in by Madras High Court Chief Justice Indira Banerjee at the Raj Bhavan in Chennai.

ii. He entered the Maharashtra Assembly for the first time in 1978 from the Nagpur east seat. Mr. Purohit was appointed as Governor of Assam State by the President of India on August 17, 2016.



Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami is the present Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Rajesh Nath Gets Germany's Highest Civilian Honour

i. Rajesh Nath, Managing Director of VDMA India, has been conferred the 'Cross of the Order of Merit', the **highest civilian honour awarded** to individuals for their services to Germany.

ii. The award, also known as **Bundesverdienstkreuz** or **Federal Cross of Merit** was instituted in 1951 and is Germany's only honour that is awarded to both Germans and foreigners for achievements in the economic, social, political or intellectual realms.



Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The President of Germany is Frank-Walter Steinmeier.
- Berlin is the capital of Germany.

GCMMF Awarded Best FMCG in Food Sector by IAA

i. The Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which manages brand AMUL, has been awarded as the best FMCG in the food sector at the **5th International Advertising Associations (IAA) Leadership Awards in Mumbai**

ii. Amul is India's largest food brand with the annual brand turnover of Rs 38,000 crore. It is a cooperative milk federation of 3.6 million



milk producers of Gujarat.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Headquarters of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) is in Anand, Gujarat.

US Author George Saunders Wins 2017 Man Booker Prize

i. US author George Saunders has won the 2017 Man Booker Prize. He became only the second American writer to win Britain's renowned Prize, which was awarded for his first full-length novel "**Lincoln in the Bardo**".

ii. The prize was announced at a ceremony in London. Judges for the prestigious English-language literary award praised the book as utterly original that chronicles the death of Abraham Lincoln's 11-year-old son Willie using the accounts of hundreds of narrators.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The 2016 Man Booker Prize went to 'The Sellout' by Paul Beatty.

Alka Yagnik and Udit Narayan to Get Lata Mangeshkar Award

i. The playback singers Alka Yagnik and Udit Narayan and music composers Usha Khanna, Bappi Lahiri, Anu Malik have been selected for the Madhya Pradesh government's prestigious National Lata Mangeshkar Award.

ii. The artists will be honored for their contribution in the field of music composition and singing. Each award winner will get a cash prize of Rs. two lakh, shawl, shreephal (coconut) and a citation.

Important Takeaways from Above News

- Lata Mangeshkar had received Bharat Ratna award in 2001.

Indian-Origin Couple Gets US Award For AIDS Research

i. Indian-origin South African researchers were honored with a prestigious award for their exceptional contributions in the field of HIV/AIDS. Professors Salim



Abdool Karim and Quarraisha Abdool Karim received the award from the Institute for Human Virology (IHV) in Baltimore, US.

ii. The award was presented to them by Robert Gallo, who discovered HIV as the cause of AIDS, at the 19th international meeting of the IHV.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) is a syndrome caused by a virus called HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus).
- The disease alters the immune system, making people much more vulnerable to infections and diseases.

L&T Technology Services Conferred with CII Industrial Innovation Award

i. L&T Technology Services Ltd (LTTS), a leading global pure-play Engineering Services Company was conferred with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Industrial Innovation Award, 2017.



ii. This award recognized it as one of the most innovative Indian companies in the services category at the CII Industrial Innovation Awards ceremony in New Delhi.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- L & T was founded in 2009
- The Chairman of L & T is A. M. Naik.

Andhra Pradesh CM Receives Golden Peacock Award in London

i. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has received the Golden Peacock Award under the category 'Global Leadership in Public Service and Economic Transformation' at a convention in London at 17th London Global Convention.



ii. Mr. Naidu received the award for his excellence in public service. In the 1st quarter of 2017-18, Andhra Pradesh has registered a growth rate of 11.72 percent double the country's average.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- The Golden Peacock Award is instituted by the Institute Of Directors (IOD) of India in 1991.

Sharmila Tagore Honoured With Lifetime Achievement Award

i. Veteran actor Sharmila Tagore has received the Lifetime Achievement Award. The 72-year-old actor was bestowed with the recognition by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi for her contribution in the field of cinema.



ii. Minister of State for Prime Minister's Office Jitendra Singh and Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari presented the award to Tagore.

iii. The celebrated actor debuted in movies with legendary director Satyajit Ray's Bengali film Apur Sansar in 1959. Her breakout role in Hindi cinema was Shakti Samanta's 1964 film Kashmir Ki Kali.

Important takeaways from the above News

- She received the National Award for Best Actress for the film.
- The actor also received National Award for Best Supporting Actress for 2003 Bengali film, Abar Aranye.

Sports

Jagan Wins Sixth Title in a Row at National Motorcycle Racing

i. TVS Racing's mascot **Jagan Kumar** notched his sixth straight title in the premier Super Sport Indian class on a rain-affected day to bring down the curtain on the **MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship** in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

ii. The event was organised by Madras Motorsports Club. It was sponsored by MRF Tyres.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Jagan Kumar is the first Indian to win Asia Road Racing.

2018 Commonwealth Games Baton Arrived in New Delhi

i. The **Queen's Baton for the 2018 Commonwealth Games** arrived in New Delhi, India. The 2018 Commonwealth Games will be held in Australia. The Baton was received by **Indian Olympic Association (IOA) joint secretary Rakesh Gupta** and it will travel to Agra.

ii. It will then be taken to Nainital in Uttarakhand on October 5. The main CWG Baton Relay event will be held on October 8 at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The Baton reached India from Pakistan. From India, the Baton will be taken to Bangladesh on October 9.

India wins its First Ever Wushu World Championship Gold

i. **Pooja Kadian** became the first ever Indian sportsperson to win a gold medal at the **Wushu World Championship in Kazan, Russia**.

ii. Kadian, who competed in the women's **75kg Sanda**

category, defeated Russia's Evgeniya Stepanova in the final. Pooja, a head constable in the CRPF, had earlier won gold in the South Asian Games and silver in the 2013 World Championship.



Rafael Nadal Wins China Open Title

i. **World number one Rafael Nadal (Spain)** won his sixth title of this year. He defeated **Nick Kyrgios (Australia)** at the China Open 2017.

ii. Nadal, a 16-time Grand Slam winner, came to the Chinese capital Beijing on the back of **winning his third US Open**.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- In US Open 2017 Rafael Nadal defeated Kevin Anderson (South Africa) in Men's Singles.

Iceland, Smallest Country to Qualify for Football World Cup 2018

i. **Iceland created history** by qualifying for the **2018 World Cup**. This is the first time that Iceland qualified for the World Cup.

ii. Iceland became the smallest country to clinch a position at the 21st FIFA World Cup. The previous smallest country to have reached the World Cup was Trinidad & Tobago.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- 21st FIFA World Cup will be held in 2018 in Russia.
- This is the first time when Iceland and Panama will be participants.

FIFA Suspends Pakistan Football Federation

i. **FIFA** has decided to suspend the **Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) with immediate effect** in accordance with the decision of the Bureau of the FIFA Council on account of undue third-party interference.

ii. The national and club teams will not be allowed to take part in international competitions till the suspension is lifted. FIFA suspended PFF since its accounts were in control of a court-appointed administrator, which is against FIFA rules. The suspension will be lifted when the body becomes independent.



National Award for Boxing Coach Sandhu & Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak

i. **President Ram Nath Kovind** gave away the **National award for senior citizens to Indian boxing coach Gurbax Singh Sandhu and Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public**

Administration, Academics and Management for 2017 to Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak.

ii. Gurbax Singh Sandhu has been coaching both the men and women boxers. Sandhu was India's longest-serving men's national coach, for two decades. Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak is the founder of Sulabh International.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- President Ram Nath Kovind is the 14th President of India.

Indian Pacer Ashish Nehra has Announced Retirement

i. **Indian pacer Ashish Nehra** has confirmed his retirement from International Cricket. He will play his last match against New Zealand on November 1, 2017.

ii. The 38-year-old has represented India for 18 years. He has played 17 Tests, 120 ODIs and 26 T20Is for



India, taking 235 international wickets.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Ashish Nehra has picked up 235 wickets across all three international formats so far.

Yuvraj Singh Named Laureus' First Indian Ambassador

i. Indian Cricketer Yuvraj Singh was announced as the Laureus' first Brand Ambassador.

ii. The left-hander becomes Laureus' first Indian ambassador and joins a host of cricket legends in the Laureus Family, including Indian Academy members Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid and Kapil Dev.

Arjen Robben Retires from International Football

i. Netherlands captain Arjen Robben announced the end of his international career after his country failed to reach the 2018 World Cup finals despite a 2-0 win over Sweden.

ii. The 33-year-old Robben scored 37 times in 96 appearances for The Netherlands and helped them reach the 2010 World Cup final where they lost 1-0 to Spain after extra-time.

India Beat Macau to Qualify for 2019 AFC Asian Cup

i. Indian football team has qualified for the **2019 Asian Cup** after they had a convincing 4-1 win over Macau with two matches still to go in the qualifying round. This is the third time the country has qualified for the continental showpiece.

ii. India has qualified for the AFC Asian Cup finals only twice in the past 37 years. The last time it happened was in 2011 and their only appearance before that was way back in 1984.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The 2019 FC Asian Cup will be held in the United Arab Emirates.

New Test Championship, ODI League Gets ICC's Nod

i. The International Cricket Council Board has given an in-principle nod to the proposed nine-team **Test Championship** and a 13-team **One-Day International league** at the end of the meeting in Auckland.

ii. The Test competition will begin after the 2019 World Cup and the 50-over event sometime in 2020. The Test Championship will have nine teams play six series over two years – three at home and three away.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Dave Richardson is the chief executive officer of ICC.

Esther Staubli, First Female Referee to Officiate at U-17 World Cup

i. Switzerland's Esther Staubli has become the **first female referee to officiate a match at the FIFA U-17 World Cup**. She was the referee in the match between Japan and New Caledonia in the final round group E match.



ii. This is in line with FIFA's objective to further develop

women's football as the 38-year-old is one of seven women referees invited to the tournament in India.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The final Match of FIFA U-17 World Cup will be held in Kolkata, West Bengal.

Jackson Singh Scored India's First World Cup Goal

i. Jackson Singh Thounaojam created history at Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium by scoring India's first goal in a FIFA U-17 World Cup during India's match against Colombia.

ii. The moment for which the entire country was waiting with baited breath, came in the 82nd minute of the match when Jackson headed home from a corner and the 48000 odd-crowd erupted in sheer joy.

Roger Federer Cruises to Shanghai Masters Title

i. Roger Federer has brushed aside world number one Rafael Nadal 6-4 6-3 to win the Shanghai Masters and register his fourth victory of the year over his Spanish rival. The Swiss world number two beat Nadal in the finals of the Australian Open and Miami Masters and in the last 16 at Indian Wells earlier this year, and never looked like losing to his long-time rival in Shanghai, firing 10 aces as he cruised to victory.



Important takeaways from the above News:

- Rafael Nadal is a Spanish professional tennis player, currently ranked World Number 1 in men's singles.
- Roger Federer has also won a record eighth Wimbledon title & became the tournament's oldest champion with a straight-sets victory over Marin Cilic. Federer claimed his 19th Grand Slam title in Wimbledon title 2017.

Shakib first from Bangladesh in MCC World Cricket Committee

i. Premier all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan became the first cricketer from Bangladesh to be inducted in the MCC World Cricket Committee under the chairmanship of Mike Gatting. Also added to the committee are Suzie Bates, Ian Bishop and Kumar Dharmasena.

ii. Shakib Al Hasan is regarded as one of Bangladesh's finest players since they were awarded the Test status in 2000, with the all-rounder having played 51 Test matches and 177 one-day internationals.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Michael Gatting is an English former Cricketer.
- Suzie Bates is a New Zealand woman Cricketer.
- Kumar Dharmasena is a Sri Lankan cricket umpire and former international cricketer, who played Tests and ODIs for Sri Lanka.

Maria Sharapova Wins Tianjin Open, Claims First Title Since Drugs Ban

i. Five-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova was made to fight by 102nd-ranked teenager Aryna Sabalenka at the Tianjin Open before winning her first title since her 15-month doping ban.

ii. The former world number one, who returned to action in April, came from behind in both sets and needed four championship points in the tie-breaker before beating the 19-year-old 7-5, 7-6 (10/8).

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Maria Sharapova is a Russian professional tennis player.
- Aryna Sabalenka is a professional tennis player from Belarus.

Legendary Brazilian Sailor Robert Scheidt Retires from Olympics

i. **Atlanta 1996 and Athens 2004 gold medal-winning sailor Robert Scheidt (44 years old) has announced his retirement from Olympic competition**, ending a career that spanned a quarter of a century.

ii. He would continue to participate in non-Olympic events and support Brazil's elite sailors as they prepare for the 2020 Tokyo Games. Scheidt won Olympic gold in the laser class in 1996 and 2004.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Robert Scheidt claimed bronze in London in 2012 and finished fourth in Rio 2016.

Meet Kavita Devi, India's First Woman Wrestler to Sign for WWE

i. **Kavita Devi**, a former competitive powerlifter, has become the **first ever Indian woman to be signed by the World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE)**.



ii. Hailing from Haryana, Kavita underwent training to be a professional wrestler under the guidance of The Great Khali (Dalip Singh Rana) at his Punjab based wrestling promotion and training academy. She also won a gold medal at the 2016 South Asian Games.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Kavita Devi also has the distinction of being the first Indian woman to compete in a WWE ring, as she was a featured participant in the Mae Young Classic women's tournament.

India's Selena Clinches Triple Gold at Egypt Junior and Cadet TT

i. India's young paddler **Selena Selvakumar** completed a golden sweep in the **Egypt Junior and Cadet Table Tennis Open**, adding the junior girls' singles and doubles titles at Sharm El Sheikh in Egypt.

ii. The 17-year-old Chennai had claimed the Girls' Team gold

earlier to make it three out of three. She remained unbeaten all through this elite 2017 ITTF World Junior Circuit event.

Amjyot Singh Becomes Third Indian in NBA

i. **The 6-foot-9-inch Chandigarh hoopster Amjyot Singh** became the **third Indian - after Satnam Singh and Palpreet Singh Brar** to walk into the **National Basketball Association (NBA) league**.



ii. Amjyot made it to the NBA's minor league - the G-League. The Indian skipper was picked by Oklahoma City Blue. The OKC Blue is NBA development league affiliate of the Oklahoma City Thunder, an American professional basketball team.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- The Managing Director for India of NBA is Yannick Colaco.

Cristiano Ronaldo Tops the Forbes Rich List of Sport Star

i. **Cristiano Ronaldo** is the richest sports personality in the world, according to the latest **Forbes' Rich List**.

ii. The Real Madrid striker has earned an incredible £70million in the last year, along with picking up another Champions League medal and becoming the inaugural winner of The Best FIFA Men's Player award.

The Top 3 Sports Stars in the List are-

1. Cristiano Ronaldo – football
2. LeBron James – basketball
3. Lionel Messi – football

Asia Cup Hockey 2017: India Beat Malaysia To Lift Their 3rd Continental Title

i. **India beats Malaysia 2-1** in the finale to win the **2017 Asia Cup Hockey tournament held in Dhaka, Bangladesh**. This was India's third continental title. Ramandeep Singh scored the opening goal in the third minute while Lalit Upadhyay extended India's lead in the 29th minute of the game.

ii. India had reached the final after defeating Pakistan 4-nil in the semi-finals. **Lalit Upadhyay** won the goal of the match award while **Akashdeep Singh** was adjudged the **Man of the match**.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- India last won the title in 2007.
- India is now tied with Pakistan as the second most successful team in the tournament, behind South Korea.
- The Koreans have won it four times.

Gaganjeet Bhullar Clinches Macao Open Golf Title 2017

i. Gaganjeet Bhullar had completed a wire-to-wire victory and lifted his **eighth Asian Tour title at the Macao Open**. He drained five birdies on the front nine and won by three shots despite a nerve-jangling double bogey.



ii. The 29-year-old fired rounds of 64, 65, 74 and 68 for an aggregate score of 13-under 271, **lifting his first Asian Tour trophy of the year.**

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Bhullar is also the 2012 champion in Macau.
- Macau is a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China.

Kidambi Srikanth Lifts Denmark Open Superseries Trophy 2017

i. In Badminton, ace Indian shuttler **Kidambi Srikanth** has lifted the **Denmark Open Superseries trophy** at Odense, Denmark.

ii. In the title clash, Srikanth, seeded 8th, defeated **South Korea's Lee Hyun-il in straight games**, 21-10, 21-5 to bag his third Super Series title of the year and fifth overall.



Important takeaways from the above News:

- Kidambi Srikanth has recently (June 2017) won Australia Open Super Series title.

Cristiano Ronaldo Named Best FIFA Men's Player

i. **Real Madrid star Cristiano Ronaldo** has beaten Lionel Messi and Neymar to win the **Best FIFA Men's Player award** for the second year running. Ronaldo was presented the award at The Best FIFA Football Awards ceremony in London, UK.



ii. The award, which covers the period from November 2016 to July 2017, is voted by national team coaches, captains, selected media, and fans.

Other Awards presented in the ceremony are as follows-

1. **Netherlands' Lieke Martens** won The Best FIFA Women's Player award.
2. **Arsenal forward Olivier Giroud** won the Puskas Award for the year's best goal after his acrobatic scorpion kick.
3. Juventus' **Italian goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon** was named the best goalkeeper of the year.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Cristiano Ronaldo is the Captain of Portugal.
- Gianni Infantino is the Chairman of FIFA.

Scott Fleming Joins NBA India as Head of Basketball Operations

i. The **National Basketball Association (NBA)** announced that former India men's national team head coach **Scott Fleming** has joined **NBA India** as Head of Basketball Operations.

ii. Scott Fleming will oversee the league's youth and elite basketball development in India, including the Reliance Foundation Jr. NBA program, NBA Academy India and NBA Basketball School.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- He served as India men's head coach from 2012-2015.
- NBA Headquarters in New York City, USA.

Jitu Rai and Heena Sidhu Strike Gold in ISSF World Cup

i. **Jitu Rai and Heena Sidhu** combined to give India their first gold medal of the **International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup Final in New Delhi.**



ii. They clinched the top honors in the 10m air pistol mixed team event on the opening day of competitions. Rai and Sidhu picked up their third gold together in the mixed team event, being held officially for the first time at an ISSF World Cup.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Jitu Rai is a Commonwealth and Asian Games gold medalist.
- Hina Sidhu is also a Commonwealth Games gold-winner.

Virat Kohli Overtakes Lionel Messi in Forbes List by \$1 Million

i. According to the list released by Forbes, **Virat Kohli ranks ahead of Barcelona superstar Lionel Messi** when it comes to brand value. The captain of the Indian cricket has a **brand value of \$14.5 million** which puts him ahead of Messi on the **7th spot in the top 10 list revealed by Forbes.**



ii. The brand value is an athlete's earnings (excluding salary and bonus from their sport and all investment income), minus the average income of the top 10 athletes in the same sport.

Here is the list of top 4 athletes with highest brand value:

1. **Roger Federer \$37.2m**
2. **LeBron James \$33.4m**
3. **Usain Bolt \$27m**
4. **Cristiano Ronaldo \$21.5m**
7. **Virat Kohli \$14.5m**
9. **Lionel Messi \$13.5m**

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Kohli is already the World's Highest Paid Cricketer and among the highest paid athletes in the world.
- He recently went past former Australian captain Ricky Ponting to score 31st ODI century and is now only behind Indian great Sachin Tendulkar (49).

Puducherry Becomes an Associate Member of BCCI

- i. The Cricket Association of Puducherry (CAP)** was chosen by the **Committee of Administrators (CoA)** as an associate member of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- ii.** This means Puducherry will be allowed to play the Ranji Trophy in 2018.

Amanpreet Wins Bronze at ISSF World Cup Final

- i. India's Amanpreet Singh clinched a bronze medal** in his maiden appearance in an **ISSF World Cup Final**, in New Delhi. Jitu Rai fizzled out to finish seventh on the fourth day of competition.
- ii.** World Cup silver medallist Amanpreet shot 202.2 to win the bronze in the final of **men's 50m pistol**. Rai could manage only 123.2 to finish last in the seven-man final. This was India's first individual medal in the ongoing edition of the prestigious tournament.

England beat Spain 5-2 to Win First-ever U-17 Title

- i. England** scripted a dramatic turnaround in Kolkata to **win the 2017 FIFA U17 World Cup** for the very first time after a 5-2 win over European U17 champions Spain.
- ii. Spain** appeared to throw in the towel after letting slip a commanding lead, and their woe was compounded by further strikes from Marc Guehi and Foden to round off a comprehensive 5-2 victory.

Patna Pirates Clinched Third Pro Kabaddi Successive Title

- i. Pardeep Narwal** scored incredible 24 points to steer **Patna Pirates to third consecutive Pro Kabaddi** title. Pardeep, who had scored 76 points in three playoffs, helped Patna come from behind and thump Gujarat Fortunegiants 55-38 in the summit clash of **Pro Kabaddi season 5**.
- ii. Gujarat's Sachin Tawar** was the only player who had managed to break through Patna defence and scored 11 points. The 20-year old raider finishes the 2017 edition as the highest raider with 369 raid points and 19 Super 10s.

ISSF World Cup Final: Sangram Wins Silver in Double Trap

- i. Sangram Dahiya** won a silver in the **ISSF World Cup Final, in New Delhi**. Double trap exponent Sangram clinched his first-ever senior medal in International Shooting Sports Federation tournament.
- ii.** He was taking part in the prestigious event for the first time.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Jitu Rai and Heena Sidhu have won the gold in 10m mixed air pistol on the opening day.
- Amanpreet Singh clinched a bronze medal in the final of men's 50m pistol.

Virat Kohli Becomes Fastest Batsman to Score 9000 ODI Runs

- i. Virat Kohli** became the sixth Indian to complete **9000 ODI runs** during the third game against New Zealand. He went on to score his 32nd ODI century off 96 balls.
- ii. Mahendra Singh Dhoni** had reached the milestone in 2016 while other Indians who have done so are Sachin Tendulkar,

Rahul Dravid, Sourav Ganguly and Mohammad Azharuddin. Overall, Kohli, who played his 202nd match and 194th innings has become the 19th batsman to breach the 9000-run mark, making him the fastest to get there.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Kohli had recently surpassed Australian great Ricky Ponting in the list of most ODI hundreds with his 31st ton.
- Kohli has broken de Villiers' record of the the fastest cricketer to reach the milestone, with the South African batsman taking 205 innings.

Kidambi Srikanth Wins French Open to Clinch 4th Super Series Title of 2017

- i. India's Kidambi Srikanth** created history as he became the **first Indian player to win four Superseries titles in a year** after he won the **men's singles title at the French Open**.
- ii.** He defeated **Japan's Kenta Nishimoto** 21-14, 21-13 in the final to achieve this feat. This win was another addition to the Indian's list of firsts as he also became the only Indian to win the French Open since it became a Superseries event in 2007.



Important takeaways from the above News:

- Other three sports Championship won this year (2017) by Kidambi Srikanth are as follows-
1. Denmark Open Superseries Trophy
 2. Australia Open Super Series
 3. Indonesia Open Super Series

Johor Cup Hockey: Indian Junior Team Win Bronze Medal

- i. Indian Junior Men's Hockey team beat hosts Malaysia 4-0** in the Bronze medal match of the **7th Sultan of Johor Cup 2017** at the Taman Daya Hockey Stadium, in Malaysia
- ii.** Goals from Vishal Antil (15', 25'), Vivek Prasad (11') and Shilanand Lakra (21') were enough for India to finish their tournament with the Bronze medal.



Mithali Raj and Virat Kohli Tops ICC Ranking

- i. India captain Mithali Raj** moved up one place to occupy the number one spot in the **latest ICC ODI rankings for batswomen**. Ellyse Perry of Australia and Amy Satterthwaite of New Zealand also jumped one place each to be at second and third spots. Mithali has 753 points.
- ii.** Also, Indian captain, **Virat Kohli returned to the top of the ICC ODI rankings for batsmen** after logging **career-high rating points**, going past the iconic Sachin Tendulkar in the process. The 28-year-old Delhi batsman has reached 889 points, which is the best ever by an India batsman.



Important takeaways from the above News:

- The previous highest points tally of 887 was managed by Sachin Tendulkar in 1998.
- The list for bowlers continues to be led by Pakistan pace bowler **Hasan Ali** while India fast bowler **Jasprit Bumrah** has reached a career-best third.

Jasprit Bumrah Secures Top Spot in ICC T20 Rankings

i. Indian fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah climbed to the **number one spot in the latest ICC T20 rankings** while his fifth-ranked team could go as high as second if it beats New Zealand in the three-match series beginning.

ii. Bumrah, who attained a career-best third position in the ODI rankings, has regained the T20 top spot after Pakistan spinner Imad Wasim slipped one place.

Important Takeaways from above News -

- India captain Virat Kohli edged AB de Villiers to claim the top ranking in ODIs.
- New Zealand are the top-ranked side in the shortest format with 125 points.

Heena Sidhu Wins Air Pistol Gold at Commonwealth Shooting Championships

i. Ace Indian shooter Heena Sindhu has bagged gold in **women's 10m Air Pistol event** at Commonwealth Shooting Championships in **Brisbane, Australia.**

ii. Heena shot a score of 240.8 in the finals to beat Australia's Elena Galiabovitch, who has to settle for silver after posting 238.2. Kristy Gillman of Australia picked up the bronze medal with a score of 213.7. India also picked up their **second medal through Deepak Kumar as he won bronze** in men's **10m Air Rifle event.**

Important Takeaways from above News -

- **Heena and Jitu Rai** has recently won the first gold medal of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Final in the 10m Air Pistol mixed team event.

John Hastings Retires From Test and ODI Cricket

i. Australian fast bowler John Hastings has called it quits from **Test Match and ODIs**, citing recurring injuries as the reason. The 31-year-old wants to solely focus on T20 cricket. He has represented Australia in one test, 29 ODIs and 9 T20Is. **ii.** In 2016 Hastings was the world's leading ODI fast bowler after picking up 29 wickets in 15 matches, the equal second-most dismissals alongside South Africa's Imran Tahir.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- John Hastings last represented the national side in an ODI against New Zealand in June 2017.

All About FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017

i. The 17th edition of FIFA U-17 World Cup took place for the first time in India (**Delhi and Mumbai**).

ii. It is a biennial international football tournament of men's under-17 national teams **organized by Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA).** **Quick Facts-**



1. The **official Mascot** for the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017 was clouded leopard named '**Kheleo**'.
2. The official ball for Under-17 football World Cup is called '**Krasava**'.
3. The final match of the event was held in **Salt Lake Stadium, Kolkata** on 28 October 2017..

First in U-17 World Cup 2017-

1. This was the first time **India hosted U-17 FIFA World Cup.**
2. **Switzerland's Esther Staubli** became the first female football referee to officiate a match.
3. **Jeakson Singh** creates history by scoring India's first ever goal in FIFA World Cup.
4. FIFA U-17 WC in India becomes **most attended in event's history** for the first time.
5. **USA-Based Namit Deshpande** becomes the **First NRI** to Play for India's U17 World Cup Team.

Winners and Awards-

1. **England** has won the FIFA U-17 World Cup by defeating **Spain** by 5-2.
2. **Phil Foden of England** has been adjudged tournament's best player and has been awarded '**Golden Ball**'.
3. **Rhian Brewster from England** has scored the most goals in the tournament (8 goals) and has been awarded, '**Golden Boot**'.
4. **Gabriel Brazao** the goalkeeper of Brazil's national football team has won the '**Golden Glove**'.
5. **Brazil** has won the Fair Play Award.

Yonex French Open Badminton 2017: Complete List of Winners

i. Yonex French Open 2017 Badminton tournament was held in Paris. French Open Badminton Tournament is held annually since 1909 in France.



Important Highlights-

- **Indian shuttler Kidambi Srikanth** became the first Indian to win the men's singles title at French Open badminton tournament.
- Srikanth defeated Kento Nishimoto of Japan by 21-14, 21-13.

- Tai Tzu Ying of Chinese Taipei has won women's singles title at Yonex French Open Badminton 2017.
- She defeated Akane Yamaguchi of Japan.

ISSF World Cup 2017- Highlights

i. Hosts India finished seventh overall with one gold, one silver, and a bronze, while Italy pipped China in the medals tally, as the ISSF World Cup Final, in New Delhi.

ii. Important wins from India side are as follows-

1. India won through Jitu Rai/Heena Sidhu (gold in mixed team 10m air pistol),
2. Sangram Dahiya (silver in men's double trap), and
3. Amanpreet Singh (bronze in men's 50m pistol).



iii. This was India's best ever result in the annual ISSF shooting centerpiece. China's Rio 2016 10m air pistol women's champion, **Mengxue Zhang and Gengcheng Sui**, were crowned **Champion of Champions** in pistol and rifle respectively.

Some of the concluding points of the events-

1. India finish seventh on the medals tally overall with one Gold, one Silver and one Bronze medal.
2. 20 out of 45 participating nations win medals at annual ISSF season-ender.
3. Spain's Alberto Fernandez Wins Men's Trap.
4. Alexis Renauld of France Wins Men's 50M Rifle 3 Positions.
5. Keith Sanderson of USA claims Men's Rapid Fire Pistol Gold.

Federer Wins 8th Basel Title, 95th Overall

i. The Swiss superstar won his eighth Basel title, after defeating **Juan Martin del Potro**, 6-7(5), 6-4, 6-3 to clinch his ATP World Tour-leading seventh title of the year.

ii. It was Federer's first success against the Argentine in a Basel final, after the South American beat him in both 2012 and 2013. Federer moved ahead of Ivan Lendl into standalone second place on the Open Era titles list, only trailing Jimmy Connors, who owns 109 trophies.

Obituaries

Historian Satish Chandra Passes Away

i. Veteran and one of India's eminent historian Satish Chandra passed away the age of 95. Satish's important works include **Mughal Empire and its downfall**. He was also the **author of NCERT's leading history book 'History of Medieval India'**.



ii. Chandra has founded JNU's Centre for Historical Studies. He was also the chairman and vice chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India during the 1970s.

Shamsher Khan, India's First Olympic Swimmer Passes Away

i. India's first Olympic swimmer Shamsher Khan passed away in Andhra Pradesh's Guntur district. He was 87. Mr. Khan had represented India in 1956 Melbourne Olympics. He was the first swimmer to represent India in Olympics.



ii. He narrowly missed a medal, finishing fourth in 200-meter butterfly and breaststroke events in Melbourne Games.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Shamsher Khan took part in the 1962 war against China and the 1971 war against Pakistan.

Veteran British Actor Roy Dotrice Passes Away

i. Roy Dotrice, a veteran British actor, died in London. He was 94. Dotrice was known for his role as Leopold Mozart in the Oscar-winning film *Amadeus* and his many theater and TV roles. **ii.** He won many accolades throughout his lengthy career including a Tony Award in 2000 for his role in the Broadway revival of *A Moon for the Misbegotten*.



Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Dotrice is remembered for his role in the CBS TV series *Beauty and the Beast* and won a BAFTA best TV actor award in 1969 for his role in *Misleading Cases*.

Legendary Filmmaker I V Sasi Passes Away

i. Veteran Malayalam director I V Sasi, best known for his films "*Avalude Ravukal*" and "*Devasuram*" died. He was 69.

ii. His debut directorial venture was "*Ulsavam*", which released in 1975.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- I V Sasi won the Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration in the year 1982 for his movie "*Aaroodam*".

Padma Vibhushan Thumri Singer Girija Devi Passes Away

i. Eminent classical singer and Padma Vibhushan awardee Girija Devi died in Kolkata. She was 88 years old.



ii. She was considered as the "Queen of Thumri" and fondly called **Appa Ji**. She was from the "Benaras Gharana".

Important takeaways from the above News:

- Girija Devi received the Padma Shri in 1972, the Padma Bhushan in 1989 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2016.
- She was born in a zamindar family at a village near Banaras on May 8, 1929.

Malayalam Writer Punathil Kunjabdulla Passes Away

i. Renowned Malayalam writer Punathil Kunjabdulla passed away in Kozhikode following a prolonged illness. He was 77.

ii. Kunjabdulla is regarded as one of the major figures of modernism in Malayalam literature. He won the Sahitya Akademi award for his novel Smarakasilakal in 1980 and the Kerala Sahitya Akademi award twice for the same novel in 1978 and for Malamukalile Abdulla in 1980.

Important takeaways from the above News:

- In 2013, he was honored with Mathrubhumi Literary Award, the biggest literature award in Malayalam.

Day and Date with theme

International Day of Non-Violence: 02nd October

i. The International Day of Non-Violence is marked on 2 October, the birthday of **Mahatma Gandhi**, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.

ii. According to General Assembly of United Nations resolution of **15 June 2007**, which established the commemoration, the International Day is an occasion to "disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness". The resolution reaffirms "the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence" and the desire "**to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence**".

International Day of Older Persons: 01st October

1. In 1991, the General Assembly (by resolution 46/91) adopted the United Nations Principles for Older Persons. **The theme of the International Day of Older Persons 2017 is "Stepping into the Future: Tapping the Talents, Contributions and Participation of Older Persons in Society."**

World Teachers' Day: 05 October

i. World Teachers' Day is held annually on **5 October** since 1994 to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the 1966 UNESCO/ILO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.

ii. The theme of 2017 World Teachers' Day is "**Teaching in Freedom, Empowering Teachers**".

08th October 2017: Indian Air Force Celebrates the 85th Anniversary

i. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is celebrating its 85th anniversary on 08th October 2017. The celebrations would be marked by a stellar show in the skies by various aircraft at the Hindon Air Force Station in Ghaziabad. President Ram Nath Kovind has greeted the Indian Air Force on its 85th Anniversary.



World Mental Health Day: 10 October

i. World Mental Health Day is observed on **10 October** every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health.

ii. 'Mental health in the workplace' is the theme of World Mental Health Day 2017.

International Day of the Girl Child: 11 October

i. Since 2012, 11 October has been marked as the **International Day of the Girl Child**. The day aims to highlight and address the needs and challenges girls face while promoting girls' empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights.

ii. This year's theme is "**The Power of the Adolescent Girl: Vision for 2030.**"



16th October: World Food Day

i. FAO celebrates World Food Day each year on 16 October to commemorate the founding of the Organization in 1945.

ii. The Theme for World Food Day 2017 is "**Change the future of migration. Invest in food security and rural development**". World Food Day is a chance to show our commitment to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 – to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030.

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty: 17 October

i. International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (IDEP) is observed globally on 17 October. The theme of this year's IDEP is '**Answering the Call of October 17 to end poverty: A path toward peaceful and inclusive societies**'.

ii. This year's celebration also marks the 25th anniversary of the declaration of the day by the UN General Assembly, which had adopted the resolution on 22 December 1992.

2nd Ayurveda Day: 17 October

i. This year's 2nd Ayurveda Day is celebrated on 17 October in New Delhi by the Ministry of AYUSH. PM Modi was the Chief Guest and had also inaugurated the country's first All India Institute of Ayurveda, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi.

**21st October 2017: The National Police Commemoration Day**

i. The National Police Commemoration Day is observed every year on 21st October remembering the brave policemen who sacrificed their lives while discharging their duties. Rich tributes are paid to the martyrs on this day.

ii. On October 21st, 1959, twenty Indian soldiers were attacked by the Chinese troops in Ladakh. This altercation between the troops led to the death of ten policemen. Seven of the others who were also imprisoned managed to escape from the Chinese troops.

United Nations Day: 24th October

i. United Nations Day is observed globally on 24 October.

ii. UND 2017 marks the 72nd anniversary of the UN Charter's entry into force and celebrates everything that the UN represents and has achieved since its establishment in 1945.

**World Day for Audiovisual Heritage: 27 October**

i. World Day for Audiovisual Heritage is observed globally on 27 October. "Discover, remember and share" is the theme of this year's celebration of the WDAH.

ii. The General Conference of UNESCO approved the commemoration of a World Day for Audiovisual Heritage in 2005 as a mechanism to raise general awareness of the need to preserve and safeguard important audiovisual material for future generations.

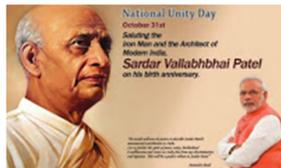
Important Takeaways from Above News -

- UNESCO stands for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- Irina Bokova is the Director-General of UNESCO.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day): October 31

i. India celebrates October 31 as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day). This day marks the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who played an instrumental role in the integration of princely state with Indian Union post-independence.

ii. Prime Minister Modi also flagged off the 1.5 km 'Run for Unity' event at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi.

**Important Takeaways from Above News -**

- The Celebration of October 31 as 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014.