

INTERNATIONAL

UNICEF launches 3.3 bln USD to aid millions of Children

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on 31 January launched an appeal of 3.3 billion US dollars to provide emergency assistance in 48 countries around the globe, against the backdrop of ever increasing number of children driven from their homes due to conflicts, disasters and climate changes. The United States is by far the top donor to UNICEF, followed by Germany, Britain and the European Commission.

Ireland became the world's first country to stop investing in fossil fuels

Ireland has voted to be the world's first country to fully divest public money from fossil fuels. The Irish Parliament passed the historic legislation in a 90 to 53 vote in favour of dropping coal, oil and gas investments. Independent MP Thomas Pringle, who introduced the bill, said the bill would send a message to climate change deniers and lobbyists.

Alibaba made app helps find 611 missing Children in China

In today's world where Child trafficking is rampant, a mobile app in China helped recover hundreds of missing Children last year. The ministry of public security has said that the app helped to find 611 missing Children in China. The mobile app named "Tuan Yuan", or "Reunion" in Chinese was developed by Alibaba group holding Ltd was launched in 2016. This has allowed the police officers to share information work together.

Federal Judge temporarily blocks Trump's travel ban

A federal Judge in Washington state on 3rd February temporarily blocked enforcement of president Trump's controversial ban on entry to the U.S, and airlines planned to begin allowing passengers from banned countries to board, according to a person familiar with the matter. The president's order is intended to protect the homeland and he has the constitutional authority and responsibility to protect the American People.

World's smallest Pacemaker unveiled in U.S.

The World's smallest pacemaker, which is about as big as a large vitamin capsule and provides the most advanced pacing technology, has been successfully implanted for the first time in a patient in the U.S. The pacemaker is for patients with bradycardia, a condition characterized by a slow heartrate, usually fewer than 60 beats per minute. The device is the size of a large vitamin and unlike traditional pacemakers, it does not require cardiac wires or a surgical pocket under the skin to deliver a pacing therapies.

Queen Elizabeth – II marks Sapphire Jubilee

Queen Elizabeth II, the world's longest reigning sovereign, on 6th February set a new record as the first British Monarch to reach her Sapphire Jubilee, with 65 years on the throne. The Queen, now 90, rose to the throne in 1952 at the age of 25 upon the premature death of her father, King George VI. Despite her reluctance to celebrate publicly, the occasion will be marked in Britain.

Qatar Airways launches world's longest commercial flight

The world's longest commercial flight launched Qatar Airways. It was travelled from the United Arab Emirates Doha to Auckland in New Zealand in 16 hours, 5 minutes and in 17 hours, 20 minutes on her return Journey. This has made Qatar Airways the new title holder for the world's longest commercial flight.

China Becomes the World's Largest Solar Power Producer

Besides being the World's most populous country, China is now also the World's largest producer of solar energy. The National Energy Administration (NEA) noted that the nation officially claimed the label after doubling up its installed photo voltaic (PV) capacity last year. With the increased capacity China has surpassed Germany to become the World's largest producer of solar energy.

UK's House of Commons Pases Brexit Bill

House of Commons, the lower house of British parliament passed legislation on 8 February 2017. Authorising Prime Minister Theresa May's govt to initiate Brexit talks with the European Union. The historic legislation witnessed 494 Members of the Parliament Voting in favour of Brexit and just 122 against. Among the MPs who voted against the bill, 52 were labour MPs, the leading opposition party, who went against their party leader Jeremy Corbyn's orders of backing the bill.

Sudarsan Pattnaik Creates World Record with Tallest Sand Sculpture

Sand artist Sudarsan Patnaik on 10 February created a Guinness World Record by sculpting a more than 48 feet tall sand castle at Puri beach. Sudarsan along with 45 students of his sand Art Institute created this 48 feet 7 inch tall sculpture which beat the previous record which was in the name of a sand artist from USA. The record-breaking sculpture was built with a message of world peace and featured sculptures of Mahatma Gandhi, Gautama Buddha, and Nelson Mandela.

Neelu Rohmetra becomes first Woman Director of an IIM

The Govt has appointed heads of 10 Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) including the first woman to head one of the 20 premier B-School in the Country. Professor Neelu Rohmetra of Jammu University is the first woman to be appointed Director of an IIM at Sirmour. She specializes in HRD and cross-culture management professor.

Diego Maradona Gets Ambassador Role at FIFA 2017

The FIFA governing body has named Argentina's former soccer player Diego Maradona as the new Ambassador of the FIFA. The 55 year old will have major role in FIFAs activities to promote the game across the globe and will also be involved in relevant development projects. The FIFA is the international governing body of association football, futsal and beach.

Yo-Yo Ma and His ensemble win Best world Music Grammy

Cello Virtuoso Yo-Yo Ma on 12 February Won a Grammy with his Silk Road Ensemble for "Sing Me Home", an exploration of the musical connections across Eurasia. The French -born Chinese American cellist had previously won an impressive 17 Grammys but his latest is his first for Best World Music Album.

The International Aero India 2017 begins at

Air Force Station, Yelahanka in Bengaluru on 14 February 2017. The 5-day show will conclude on 18 February 2017. It is the 11th edition of the biennial International Aero India Show. It is Considered as

Asia's premier air show. Aero India 2017 will act as a significant platform to bolster business opportunities in International aviation sector.

India's first dedicated heliport in New Delhi

The National Capital will soon get India's first dedicated "Heliport" for flying in and out of Delhi to nearby areas in choppers. The heliport, built by state-owned Pawan Hans India, consists of a terminal building, nine parking bays and four hangers with a parking capacity of 16 helicopters and having capacity of 150 passengers. It will inaugurate the new facility on February 28 at Rohini in New Delhi.

Dustin Johnson dominates Genesis Open to overtake World No.1

American professional golfer Dustin Johnson has claimed No-1 Position in Official World Golf Ranking for the first time in his career in the world. This feat comes after he ended up with a world-class performance by winning Genesis Open 2017 at Riviera Earlier the Golfer bagged the 2016 U.S. open at oakmont country club.

Mumbai Named Richest Indian city with Total Wealth \$ 820bn

According to the New World Wealth report released on February 21, 2017, Mumbai. The financial capital of India has been named as the Richest Indian City with a total wealth of \$820 billion. The South African based market research group, New World Wealth has reported that Mumbai is home to 46,000 millionaires and 28 billionaires. Mumbai is followed by Delhi at second place with total wealth of \$ 450 billion and having 23,000 millionaires and 18 billionaires.

INDIA & WORLD

H1B and L1 reform Bill introduced in US House of Representatives

A legislation was introduced in the US House of Representatives on 03-01- 2017 which mandates the minimum salary of H-1B visa holders to be doubled to \$130,000. This is more than double of the current salary of \$60,000 which was established in 1989. The Lofgren bill, titled "High-Skilled Integrity and Fairness Act of 2017," has been introduced at a time when there are reports that President Donald Trump might come up with an executive order to clamp down H-1B and L1 Visas.

India ranks 43rd in USCC's IP Index

India ranked at 43rd position out of 45 countries in the 5th Annual International Intellectual property (IP) Index of the US Chamber of Commerce (USCC). The 2017 International IP Index, named as "The Roots of Innovation", was released on 8 February. India was ranked just above Pakistan and Venezuela. The top four positions of the Index were fetched by US, UK, Japan and European Union.

Shawna Pandya Third Indian origin woman to go to space

A general physician, 32-year- old Shawna Pandya is one of two candidates shortlisted from 3,200 people enrolled in the Citizen Science Astronaut (CSA) program. She will fly with eight other astronauts in space missions slated to take off by 2018. After Kalpana Chawla and Sunitha Williams. Here is the 3rd Indian Origin Woman will go to space.

Indian cycle tourist establishes a Guinness World Record

Prasad Erande from Pune travelled 14,576 Kilometers on a bicycle India, establishing a Guinness World Record for the longest journey by bicycle in a single country. He covered the distance between June 22-November 9 in 2014. It increased by inner strength and taught me how to survive when conditions are not in my favour.

India to host maiden ITTF World Tour event in February

India is set to host ever International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) world Tour Event in New Delhi from February 16 to 19. India has previously hosted on ITTF event in 2010. The 2017 world Tour will be played in 12 countries excluding the Grand Finals, points earned from the World Tour Finals will see the top 16 players qualify for the Grand Finals to be held from December 2017.

India, UK signed bilateral MoU to allow more flights to boost tourism and trade

India and United Kingdom in February 2017 signed a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to allow more flights to boost tourism and trade in both the countries. The agreement was signed by Puspapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju and Lord Ahmad in New Delhi, while Raju is the Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Lord Ahmed is representative of UK Government.

Union Govt signs agreement with Croatia on economic Cooperation

The Union Government on 14 February 2017, signed agreement with the Republic of Croatia on economic Cooperation in Zagreb, Croatia. The agreement was signed by Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce and Industry Minister and Martina Dalic, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Economy of the Republic of Croatia.

Norman Isaac became first Indian to be FIBA's Technical Delegate

Norman Isaac in February 2017 became the first Indian to be promoted by the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) as the Technical Delegate. He is appointment/ Promotion was confirmed by the sport's worldwide governing body. Prior to this appointment he was worked as FIBA Commissioner.

Govt appoints 5 new Judges to Supreme Court

Five new judges are appointed to the Supreme Court by the President Pranab Mukherjee. Now the total number of judges in the Supreme Court raised to 28 from 23. New judged are Madras HCCJ Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Rajasthan HCCJ Naveen Sinha, Kerala HCCJ Mohan M.Shantanagouder, Chhattisgarh HCCJ Dipak Gupta, Karnataka HCCJ S. Abdul Nazeer. Supreme Court consisting of the Chief Justice of India (CJI) and other 30 Judged.

IMF opens technical centre in New Delhi

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has opened a first of its kind South Asia Training and Technical Assistance centre (SARTTAC) in New Delhi for economic capacity building in South Asia. It will work to support local member countries of South Asia via India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka to build human and institutional capacity and implement policies for growth and poverty reduction.

India as the World's Largest Arms Importer

India was the world's largest importer of major arms between 2012-16, according to a new data released by Stockholm International peace Research Institute (SIPRI) According to the data in Asia, India

increased its arms imports by 2007-11 and 2012-16 which is far greater than the imports by its rivals China and Pakistan. Major arm suppliers to India include Russia, USA, European Union, Israel and South Korea.

India, Japan ink pact on Rail Safety

India Signed an agreement with Japan for enhancing railway safety in the Indian Railways with focus on railway track and rolling stock safety. The Memorandum of Corporations was signed between Railway Board Chairman A.K. Mittal and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan Vice-Minister Hiroshi Tarata. Under this agreement, the areas of cooperation include rail inspection, rail wielding automatic railway track safety inspection.

India clears a mega missile deal with Israel

A Rs.17,000 crore deal has been cleared by the government for jointly developing with Israel a Medium Range Surface-to- Air Missile (MR-SAM) for the army, reflecting India's fast growing defence ties with the Jewish country. The project will be implemented by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Israel Aircraft Industry.

World's First Robot Table Tennis Tutor sets new Guinness World Record

FORPHEUS, the world's first robot table tennis tutor has created a new Guinness World Record with its extraordinary technological intelligence and educational capabilities. The Japanese technology has been given the Guinness title for being able to play table tennis way better than most humans. FORPHEUS is short for "Future Omron Robotics Technology for Exploring possibility of Harmonised automation with Sinic Theoretics"

NATIONAL

E-paathsala launches technology-backed services for higher education institutions in India

E-paathsala, a Bangalore based start-up, launched its first-of- its-kind, end to end integrated accreditation and ERP technology solution for managing colleges and universities with multiple accreditation s for standards such as NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) and NBA (National Board of Accreditation) etc.

Jaitley unveils education reforms, to set up National Testing Agency

The government unleashed measures to revamp the country's education system, including setting up of a National Testing Agency to conduct all entrance examinations for higher education institutions.

Rail Museum celebrates 40th anniversary

The National Rail Museum in New Delhi celebrated its 40th anniversary on 01st February 2017. The museum, which houses a large collection of life-size rail exhibits, allows visitors to take a tour on a toy train. Its attractions include the saloons of the Maharajas of Indore and Mysore and Fairy Queen, the oldest working steam locomotive still in operation.

Govt, forms panel to improve Haj Policy

The Centre has formed a six-member committee to give a report on ways to improve India's Haj Policy and also look into issue of subsidy to the pilgrimage in light of 2012 Supreme Court order on gradually reducing abolishing it by 2022. Former Consulate General of India (CGI) Jeddah, Afzal Amanullah has been appointed as high-level panel, Union Minister of state for Minority Affairs (Independent Charge) Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said that.

Health Ministry launches Measles-Rubella Vaccine (MR) Campaign

With an aim to eradicate Measles and Rubella from India. The Union Health Ministry on 5th February launched Measles- Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign in Bengaluru, targeting 41 crore children in India. After the campaign the MR vaccine will be introduced in routine immunisation, replacing the two doses of measles vaccine given to children at 9`12 months and 16-24 months of age.

Chief Minister Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana (MSGUY) launched in Assam

In a move to bring about paradigm shift towards holistic development of villages, Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the Chief Minister Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana (MSGUY) in Guwahati. This Scheme is a mega mission with a financial outlay of Rs.30,000 crore and it will be implemented in all the village the state.

Muslim Organisations to oppose triple Talaq as is practiced now low panel

Law Commission Chairperson Justice B.S. Chauhan said that, a majority of those who had responded to its questionnaire on a uniform civil code, including many Muslim Organisms have opposed spontaneous triple talaq. Justice Chauhan said the larger consensus was that spontaneous triple talaq, as is currently practiced, was not keeping with what was stated in the Shariat, which mandates a three-month iddah period meant for reconciliation and arbitration.

Indian Railways Approves Rail Project in Andaman and Nicobar

The Narendra Modi Govt has given a green signal for the laying of a 240 KM broad-gauge railway line connecting port Blair, the capital of the union territory located in the southern part, with the northern population centres in Andaman's. Connectivity is an issue because the only reliable ways to travel from north to south is a 350 km bus and ferry service that takes more than 14 hours. The railway link, among the other things, will boost tourism, defence and business in the region.

Indian Navy launches Underwater Harbour Defence and Surveillance system

Indian Navy has launched and Integrated Under water Harbour Defence and Surveillance System (IUHDSS) in Mumbai, Maharashtra to enhance the security of valuable naval assets against asymmetric threats. It was inaugurated by vice Admiral Girish Luthra, Flag officer Commanding in Chief, Western Naval Command.

SC Clears plan to Verify mobile phone users through Aadhar

The Supreme court approved the government's plan to record the identification details of mobile users through an e-KYC (Know Your Customer) mechanism linked to Aadhaar in a bid to enhance national security and prevent fake users. The mechanism could cover at least 100 crore mobile phone subscribers, 90% of whom use prepaid cards.

Cabinet approves Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan

The Union Cabinet Chaired by the Prime Minister has approved “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan” (PMGDISHA) to make 6 crore rural households digitally literate. This is in line with the announcement made by Finance Minister in the Union Budget 2017-17 PMGDISHA is expected to be one of the largest digital literacy programmes in the world,. Under the scheme 25 lakh candidates will be trained in the FY 2016-17, 275 lakh in the FY 2017-18, and 300 lakh in the Fy 2018-19. The Digitally literate persons would be able to operate computers/ digital access devices send and receive emails.

RBI setup panel on strengthening cyber security

The Central Bank (RBI) said it will form an inter-disciplinary standing committee on cyber security. It will review threats inherent in existing and emerging technology, study adoption of various security standards and protocols, interface with stakeholders and suggest appropriate policy interventions to cyber security and resilience.

Govt appoints 3 directory to RBI Central Board

Govt on 9th February appointed three part time non-official directory on the all powerful Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Ashok Gulati, Manish Sabharwal and Rajiv Kumar as part time non-official directory on the Central Board. Stating this, the Department of personnel and Training said the appointments are for a period of four years. The RBI’s affairs are governed by the Central Board of Directors.

Govt to make “Aadhar” compulsory to ration from PDS shops

The Govt of India on 9 February announced that people who have ration cards under the National Food Security Act need to undergo Andhar Authentication Process to receive their further subsidies. This notification comes into effect from today. This condition will also be applicable for all the new beneficiaries and in all States and Union Territories except the States Assam, Meghalaya, and Jammu & Kashmir.

Govt to open 56 Post Office passport Seva Kendra facilities

Head Post Offices as Passport Seva Kendras, the government has now decided to scale up this programme by opening 56 such facilities across the country. The Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Posts had earlier decided to join hands to deliver passport – related services to the citizens. The pilot project of the post office passport Seva Kendras have been running successfully to Mysore and Dahod.

Kerala’s Nilambur teak to get GI tag

Kerala’s Nilambur teak known internationally for its superior timber quality and elegant appearance will be added to the list of Kerala Produces with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. Due to its superior mechanical and physical properties as well as aesthetic appearance, the teak was exported to England and other parts of the world.

GMR Hyderabad Airport bags CAPA award

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL), which operates Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, has own the centre of Asia Pacific Aviation (CAPA) Chairman’s order of Merit for its focus on environmental sustainability and becoming the first airport in Asia Pacific to become carbon neutral. GHIAL received the award during the CAPA 12th Annual India Aviation Summit in Mumbai earlier this week.

China releases theme, priorities of BRICS

China has released the theme and the cooperation priorities of the 2017 BRICS Summit, which is scheduled to begin in September. The Summit will be held under the theme BRICS "Stronger Partnership for a Brighter Future". It will also feature five key priorities such as deepening cooperation, strengthening global governance, carrying out people-to-people exchanges, making institutional improvements and building broader partnerships.

INS sarvekshak installs solar Power System

Indian Navy's survey vessel INS Sarvekshak has gone green by installing a solar power system on board. Which equipped on the ship works on sunlight and hence is 100 percent reliable for power source that can be used for communication equipment, battery charging and general lighting on board round the clock with battery outputs.

Sachin Tendulkar adopted Donja Village for Development

Being the Rajya Sabha MP Sachin Tendulkar continued his service for the nation. Previously he adopting a village in Andhra Pradesh Sachin changed the village totally. Now, it may be the turn of Donja Village of Maharashtra. The 2016 in November sachin adopted Puttamraju Kandrika Village of A.P under sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana. Now the village dazzles with concrete roads and continuous supply of electricity.

Food grain Production to reach record 272 million tonnes in 2016-17

It is higher by 6.94 million tonnes than the previous record production of 265 million tonnes in 2013-14. Agriculture Ministry in its 2nd advance estimates of production of major crops for 2016-17. The record is going to be made due to good rainfall and various policy initiatives taken the Government.

'Science Express' Train Flagged off from New Delhi

A "Science Express Train" named "Science Express Climate Action Special" was flagged off Safdarjung Railway Station in New Delhi on February 17, 2017 on a seven-month journey to spread awareness about climate change. The train was flagged off jointly by two Union Ministers Suresh Prabhu, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and a Delhi Minister Anil Madhav Dave flagged off event through video conferencing.

UAE Unveils Plan to Build First City on Mars by 2117

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has unveiled plans to build the first city on Mars by 2117. The announcement was made by Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai and Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces. This is the 100-year National Project for the UEA Govt, The team would to develop action plan to facilitate the transport of people to and from the planet.

Delhi AIIMS wins first prize for sanitation

Premier health institute AIIMS New Delhi, has won the first prize, and a cash award of Rs.5 crore for maintaining high standards of sanitation and hygiene under the Govt Kayakalp awards. AIIMS was followed by North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences. Shillong which got a cash prize Rs. 3 core. Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh received the third Prize of Rs. 1 crore.

INSV Tarini inducted into Indian Navy

Indian Navy's second ocean going sail boat Tarini was inducted on 18 February 20147 at a ceremony held at the INS Mandovi Boat Pool. INSV Tarini is a sloop built by M/S Aquarius Shipyard PVT Ltd at Divar Goa. The boat draws her origin from the famous Tara Tarini Temple of Orissa's Ganjam District. The Word Tarini means a Boat and is also a sanskrit word for savior.

Virat Kohli first Indian sports person to ink Rs.110-crore deal with Puma

Virat Kohli became the first Indian sports personality to strike a Rs.110-crore endorsement deal with a single brand. Kohli signed an eight-year deal with sports apparel brand puma worth Rs.110 crore. The Indian cricket captain is now set to join the likes of Usain Bolt, Asafa Powell and Thierry Henry among others, as global ambassador for the brand.

Ravi Shanka Prasad launches Cyber Swachhta kendra in New Delhi

Union Minister of Electronics and IT Ravi Shankar Prasad launched Cyber Swachhta Kendra in New Delhi on February 21,2017. It was launched for Botnet cleaning and Malware analysis as a part of Digital India Initiative. He also launched two mobile apps "M-kavach" to protect smartphones and tablets from hackers and "Samvid" to protect desktops from suspicious applications.

SC Judge appointed as Chairman of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal

Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre has been appointed as the Chairman of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT) He was nominated for the post by Chief Justice J.S. Kehar. The post full vacant following the resignation of Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan. The Govt also proposed to introduce some benches to look into disputes as and when required. Unlike the tribunal, the Benches will cease to exist once the disputes are resolved.

Union Government launches Bharat QR code

The Union Govt has launched "Bharat QR Code" a quick response (QR) code to enable digital payments without card swiping machines. It is world's first interoperable payment acceptance solution launched by Indian Government to move towards less-cash economy. Bharat QR code has been developed by jointly National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), Visa, MasterCard and American Express under instructions from Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Govt doubles maternity leave for women workers in Industries

The Government doubled the maternity leave for women Working in industries from the existing three months to six months. However, the benefit will be restricted to women who make a monthly contribution to the employees state insurance corpus from their salaries. About 29 lakh Women Working across various industries will be benefitted by the move.

Suresh Prabhu Unveils Antyodaya Rail Coaches

Equipped with cushioned seats, aluminium composite panels, LED lights of the Antyodaya Express, a newly unreserved train for the common man with specially designed colour full coaches unveiled by Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu, ready to be pressed "into service on busy routes, the first Antyodaya Express will be launched between Mumbai and Tatanagar, and the second will be between Ernakulam and Howrah shortly.

STATES

Telangana, Rajasthan bag eGov awards

2017 under the State category, Rajasthan and Telangana emerged Winners of Excellence while the Award of Recognition went to Odisha and Nagaland. The Center's intense focus on Digital India seems to have drawn greater response this year to the CSI -Nihilent e Governance Awards. Instituted by the Computer Society of India's (CSI) Special Interest Group with sponsorship from Nihilent Technologies, these awards help recognize the efforts of e Governance practitioners from across central and state departments, projects and in district administrative units as well.

2% reservation to sports persons in Govt Jobs CM. Raghubar Das

Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghubar Das on 6th February said the state will give two percent reservation to sports persons in government jobs and nutritious food to them. Mr.Das said to promote football, Kamal Clubs are being set up and for this the government would give kits to players and competitors would be held at mandal block, district and state.Previously 2% reservation was given in police department. The CM said that the state Govt is committed to promote sports persons on national and international level.

Telangana launches India's first social innovations hub

The Telangana government has launched India's first Social innovation center. The Kakatiya Hab for Social Innovation in Nizamabad. This hub was funded by the Telangana Govt and implemented through Kakatiya Sandbox will function like a rural incubator to encourage entrepreneurship at the grassroots level. The rural incubator in Telangana will be run exactly in the same as any other high-end incubator like the T-Hub, the country's biggest, located in Hyderabad.

First smart Police Station inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh

First smart police station of the country inaugurated by CM of Andhra Pradesh N. Chandrababu Naidu in the state. The Model Police Station in Andhra Pradesh in build like a corporate office building with plush interiors and green environment. The First Smart Police Station opened at Nagarampalem in the capital region Amaravathi. The Model Police Station will work on smart policing system that will make the police process much transparent.

Gujarat becomes first cashless state for PDS

Cashless system was introduced in the Gujarat. There by Gujarat becomes first in India for introduce cashless system in PDS. From now onwards the beneficiaries of National Food Security Act carry only Aadhar Cards to get their food grains in Gujarat.

National Women's Parliament begins in Andhra Pradesh

India's First National Women's Parliament (NWP) began on 10 February 2017 in Amaravathi, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh. The three day conference, which is the first of its kind, is being organised by the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly. The theme of the conference is "Empowering Women-Strengthening Democracy". This inaugural session was attended by spiritual Buddhist leader Dalai Lama and Andhra Pradesh CM. N. Chandrababu Naidu.

NCS and Jeevan Pramaan Facility for EPFO Pensioners Launched in Hyderabad

The Union Minister of state for labour and Employment Bandaru Dattatreya launched the National Career Service (NCS) for youths and Jeevan Pramaan Facility to EPFO pensioners through post offices at Dak sadan in Hyderabad. The post offices will serve as an Employment Registration Centers for Unemployed rural youth on behalf of the NCS.

Supreme Court convicted Sasikala in disproportionate assets case

The Supreme Court of India (SC) on 14 February 2017 convicted Sasikala disproportionate assets case. It over ruled a Karnataka High Court's Judgement in a disproportionate assets case related to Sasikala. The ruling of the SC renders Sasikala ineligible to contest Assembly elections. The Judgement was delivered by a bench of the apex court comprising Justices PC Ghose and Amitava Roy.

Kerala Govt gave approval for Airport in Sabarimala

The Kerala Cabinet gave its approval for construction of an airport in Hindu Pilgrimage Centre Sabarimala. The approval was given by the cabinet at a meeting Chaired by the State Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on 15 February 2017 in Thiruvananthapuram. The airport is expected to reduce the heavy traffic on the roads leading to Sabarimala during the Pilgrim season.

Palaniswami takes oath as TM CM along with 30 ministers

K. Palaniswami was sworn in as the 13th Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu by Governor Vidyasagar Rao. Palaniswami took oath first, followed by 30 ministers in four batches. The swearing in ceremony was held at Raj Bhavan. This is the third ministry in the last 10 months since AIADMK won the assembly elections in May 2016.

Maharashtra Approves Rs. 250 crore Cloud Seeding Programme

The State Govt of Maharashtra has approved a Rs.250 crore Cloud Seeding Programme to experiment whether cloud seeding produces sufficient rain. Seeding is a technique which involves spraying chemicals into clouds. Under this programme the weather scientists will fly Aeroplanes loaded with Silver Iodide and Dry ICE over clouds. The programme is coordinated by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology.

31st State Hood Day of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram 20 February

On 20 February 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has greeted people of two states Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram on their 31st state hood day. Conveying his best wishes and prayed for the two states progress immensely in the years to come. Union Minister Rajnath Singh greeted the states. Rajnath is expected to attend the 'Arunachal Pradesh statehood day' function in Itanagar.

Germany Opens Consulate Office in Hyderabad

Federal Republic of Germany on 21 February opened an Honorary Consulate Office at Madhapur in Hyderabad. Achim Fabig German Consul General for Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry and BVR Mohan Reddy Honorary Consul of Germany for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh opened Honorary Consulate Office in Hyderabad. The office of the Honorary Consul will also provide limited consular assistance in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

National Biodiversity Congress 2017 in Kerala

The Third National Biodiversity Congress (NBC) 2017 held at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala on February 22,2017. The NBC is hosted by the Kerala State Biodiversity Board. This year event is comprises programmes including conference, Exhibition, capacity building workshops and Children Biodiversity

Congress. National Biodiversity Conference, governed by a national advisory committee comprising biodiversity experts on 23rd and 24th February as a part of NBC.

Rajasthan becomes 2nd Largest Crude Oil Producer in India

Rajasthan Governor Announced that Rajasthan has become the second largest crude oil producer in India. The oil fields in the state were producing nearly 90 lakh tonnes oil annually which accounted for 24% of the total domestic crude oil production. On the other hand, The Bombay High, an offshore oil field of Mumbai is the largest producer of crude oil in India which accounts for 50% of the total domestic crude oil production.

Vasundhara Raje inaugurates Medical project RAHAT

Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje recently inaugurated a medical project Rajasthan Heart Attack Treatment Programme (RAHAT). The programme is a ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI), a very serious type of heart attack, management Tele medicines platform that captures and transmits patient's EKG along with clinical history from remote geographical locations to heart command center hub.

CONFERENCES

A 3-day global nuclear security meet in New Delhi

India is host a key meet on nuclear security in New Delhi on 8th February from February 8-10 which us attended by delegates from over 100 countries, including Pakistan. Foreign Secretary S.Jaishankar inaugurated the meet organised by Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Atomic Energy. India's commitment to global nuclear nonproliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Indian seed congress-2017 in Kolkata

The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, Shri Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the Indian Seed Congress 2017 in Kolkata. The theme of Seed Congress is "Seed of Joy" 2017 Indian seed congress in Kolkata iii. The theme is in line with vision of PM Modi Govt to bring happiness and prosperity in the lives of farmers by doubling their farm income by 2000.

2017 Mobile World Congress (MWC) Begins in Barcelona

The 2017 Mobile World Congress (MWC) began in Mobile World Capital Barcelona on February 27, 2017 and will conclude March 2, 2017. Some of the leading industry participating in the event includes Blackberry, Motorola, Google, Nokia, Sony, Samsung, Huawei, LG, ZTE and HTC among others. And also participate prominent executives representing mobile operators, device manufacturers, technology providers, vendors and content owners across the world.

AWARDS & HONOURS

Alastair Cook awarded Order of the British Empire

England Test Captain Alastair Cook has been honoured with Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE). The 30-year old is the only England Player to have scored over 10,000 runs in Tests and has also led England in the most number tests. It is very proud moment to be awarded for him in his cricket career.

Indian – Origin British Sculptor Anish Kapoor wins \$ 1 Million Israeli Prize

Renowned Indian – Origin British Sculptor Anish Kapoor was honoured with the prestigious \$1 million 2017 Genesis Prize on 6th February 2017 by Israel for his utmost contribution for Jewish Community. The 62 year old Anish was chosen by the prize committee headed by Jewish Agency Chairman Natan Sharansky.

Hyderabad Surgeon Raghu Ram Honoured with BC Roy Award

Hyderabad based Surgeon Dr.P. Raghu Ram, President of Association of Breast Surgeons of India (ABSI) has been honoured with the prestigious “Dr. BC Roy National Award” for outstanding service in the field of socio medical relief for the year 2016. The award will be conferred upon Ram by President Pranab Mukherjee on July 1,2017 which is also observed as National Doctors Day. He is the youngest Surgeon ever from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to have been selected for the award.

Indian Tabla player Sandeep Das wins 2017 Grammy Award

Indian Tabla player Sandeep Das on 13 February 2017 won the 59th Annual Grammy Award for the Best Global Music Category. He won the award for Yo-Yo Ma’s Silk Road Ensemble “Sing Me Home” Yo-Yo Ma’s ‘Sing Me Home’ features tunes composed by different artists at global level. Apart from Sandeep Das and Yo-Yo Ma, there were other musicians as well as who contributed in the album.

Adele sweeps top prizes at 2017 Grammy Awards

The queen of pop, Adele dominated the 59th annual Grammy Awards by picking up all the top awards including Album of the year, Record of the year, Song of the year, Best pop solo performance and Best pop vocal album. The legendary singer took away the album, record and song of the year categories in 2012. Adele is the first singer to take all the top three awards from Grammy twice.

Usain Bolt wins Laureus “Sportsman of the year” award

Usain Bolt and Simone Biles, the 2016 Rio Olympic Champions won world Top Awards of ‘Sportsman of the year’ and ‘Sportswoman of the year’ at Laureus World Sports Awards 2017, held in Monaco. Bolt was conferred with the top honour for the fourth time equalling the record set by Roger Federer, Serena Williams and Kelly Slater, who are all four-time Laureus winners, with this Bolt created a new record.

Jawaharlal Nehru University Won Visitor’s Award

Jawaharlal Nehru University has won the Visitor’s Award 2017 for the best Central University in India. President Pranab Mukherjee Presented the award to Vice-Chancellor M.Jagadesh Kumar. This is the third edition of the awards which were instituted in 2015 to prime healthy competition among the Universities.

Hindi Scholar and Writer Surendra Verma selected for Vyas Samman 2016 Award

Surendra Verma, a well known Hindi scholar and writer, was selected for Vyas Samman 2016 Award. He was chosen for the prestigious award for his novel “Katna Shamika Vriksha”. Verma will be the 26th

recipient of this prestigious award. Vyas Samman was instituted in 1991 by the KK Birla Foundation and carries a cash award of Rs.3.50 lakh, a citation and a logo.

Corporation Bank Bags 2017 National MSME Excellence Award

Mangalore based public sector lender Corporation Bank was awarded the 2017 National MSME Excellence Award at a function in New Delhi. DV Subramanya Varma, General Manager of Corporation Bank received the award from Union Minister of state for MSME, Haribhai P. Chouday. The award is instituted by the Federation of Industry, Trade and services (FITS).

Lata Mangeshkar honoured with Legendary Award

Indian melody queen Lata Mangeshkar has been honoured with the Legendary Award, 2017 by Brand Laureate. The Brandlaureate Awards recognize world-class achievement in branding amongst individuals and companies. The legendary singer has already been bagged almost all of the music awards in home and abroad. Now this award will add an extra feather in her crown of success.

'Newton' wins top honour at Berlin Awards

Rajkumar Rao and Anjali patel Starrer Political Comedy "Newton". It had its world premiere at 67th Berlin International Film Festival, won the "Art Cinema Award" in the Forum segment. Directed by Amit Masurkar, "Newton" revolves around a clerk placed on election duty in a conflict ridden area of Chhattisgarh.

Katamati Iron Mine Wins Best Green Award

Katamati Iron Mine, owned by Tata Steel was conferred with the "Best Green organization of the year Award. It was given at the Global Green Future Leadership Awards held in Mumbai. The Global Green Future Leadership Awards, Organized by World Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Day, was honoured to Katamati Iron Mine in recognition of its environmental protection measures.

Milind Soman gets the title Ultraman

Milind Soman an Indian Supermodel and the national level swimmer successfully completed a 517.5 km race, an extremely high endurance event called "Ultraman" recently held in Florida. The race that was divided into three days included swimming, cycling and running. The 51-year-old man completed the whole event barefoot and gaining the title Ultraman.

Oscar Awards 2017 Lala Land won maximum awards

The 89th Academy Awards, popularly called Oscar Awards, were conferred on 27 February 2017 as per the Indian Time. The Award ceremony was held at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. Los Angel Comedian Jimmy Kimmel hosted the awards ceremony. The nominees for the 89th Oscar Awards were announced on 24 January 2017, Via global live stream from the Academy. Movie LaLa Land received the most nominations with a record tying fourteen.

Shooting World Cup India bag 1Gold, 1 Silver Medals

India on 27th February bagged two medals, a gold and silver, at the Shooting World Cup in New Delhi. In the 10m mixed team air pistol event, duo of Jitu Rai and Heena Sidhu clinched the Gold for India, making it the first Gold in this event for the country. Jity teamed up with Heena to finish ahead of Japan's Yukari Konishi and Tomoyuki Matsuda 5-3. Slovenia's Naphaswan Yangpaiboon and Kevin Venta were placed third.

SPORTS & GAMES

Pankaj Advani wins National Snooker Championship title

Sixteen-time world champion Pankaj Advani ended the year on a high by bagging the National title in 6-red Snooker, the shorter format of the game in Mumbai on Friday. With only a few days to switch to snooker after winning the IBSF World Billiards Championship (point format) in Bangalore last week, Advani proved once again why he is the absolute authority in cue sports.

Lakshya Sen becomes World No.1 Junior Badminton player

India's Lakshya Sen has become the World No 1 Junior Badminton player. He achieved the distinction in the latest rankings of the Badminton World Federation (BWF). Fifteen-year-old is the first shuttler from Uttarakhand to attain the numero uno spot at the international level.

Virat Kohli features on Wisden 2017 cover

Indian Skipper Virat Kohli, who led his side to victory against England in all three formats of the game recently, has featured in the latest cover star of the bible of cricket – Wisden Cricketer's Almanack. Kohli becomes only the third Asian Origin Player after Tendulkar and England all rounder Moeen Ali to be featured on the cover of the magazine. The cover image shows Kohli playing a reverse sweep, a shot which he rarely plays in Tests or ODIs Cricket. Wisden editor Lawrence Booth said it underlines the fact that he is a very modern Cricketer.

Iran Lifts ban on American Wrestling team

Iran has lifted a ban on U.S. wrestlers, allowing them to take part in the Freestyle World Cup later this month in the Iranian city of Kermanshah. The wrestlers were originally banned on 4th February from the February 16-17 competition after America President Donald Trump temporarily suspended travel from seven Muslim majority countries, including Iran.

Sourabh Varma Clinches Men's Single title in NBC

There was huge buzz ahead of the men's final of the 81st National Badminton Championship (NBC) at the Patliputra sports complex in Patna. On 7th February the competition was between Lakshya Sen, the 15-year old and an experienced Sourabh Varma, the third seed. Finally Sourabh Clinched the title with 21-13, 21-12. Earlier, Rituparna Das of Telangana, the second seed bagged the women's single title by beating Reshma Karthik.

India to host FIBA Women's Asia Cup

India will host two international events in 2017, the FIBA Women's Asia cup and FIBA under – 16 Women's Asian Championship, the Basketball Federation of India (BFI) said that. The FIBA Women's Asia Cup will be held from July 23 to 29 in Bengaluru and FIBA U-16 Women's Asian Championship will be held from October 23 to 28 in Hyderabad.

India's first centre for disabled sportsmen in Gandhinagar

India's first ever centre of Excellence for differently abled sportsmen will be established in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The centre will be built on 7.5 acres of land belonging to the Sports Authority of India (SAI). It will train the Para athletes for various international sporting competitions including Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. Which will be the first-ever training facility in the country dedicated to Para athletes.

Delhi Mohit Ahlawat becomes first batsman to score 300 in T-20 Cricket

Delhi cricketer, 21-years Mohit Ahlawat smashed an incredible unbeaten 300 off just 72 balls hitting an unbelievable 39 sixes, 14 fours in a Twenty-20 match. He was playing for Maavi XI against Friends XI in the Friends Premier League. A wicketkeeper-batsman, Ahlawat has played three first class games for Delhi, making his debut in 2015. He got only 5 runs in three games. Now, he got the World Record 300 runs in a T-20 match.

Kohli get a new record for most Test 150 s by an Indian Captain

Virat Kohli recorded his sixth test 150, against Bangladesh at Hyderabad on 10 February 2017, to set the record for most 150 plus scores by an Indian captain in Tests. Kohli went past Sunil Gavaskar and Mohammad Azharuddin, who both have five 150 plus Test scorers each as captain. Notably, all of Kohli's last five Centuries have been of 150 + runs.

Mission XI Million launched to promote football among school Children

The Union Government on 10 February 2017 launched Mission XI Million initiative to promote football awareness among school children. The Programme was launched by the Union Minister of State for youth Affairs and Sports Vijay Goel in the presence of the President of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) Praful Patel in New Delhi.

Official mascot of FIFA U-17 World Cup Kheleao

The Official mascot of the FIFA U-17 World Cup India 2017, "Kheleao" was on 10 February unveiled at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, It was unveiled, with just 238 days remaining for the start of the tournament. In a glittering ceremony attended by Sports Minister Vijay Goel, the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee and AIFF president Praful Patel.

India win T-20 Blind World Cup – 2017

Defending Champion India thrashed arch rivals Pakistan by 9 wickets in the final to be crowned champions of T-20 Blind Cricket World Cup 2017 in Bengaluru. Chasing a target of 198 runs, India (200/1) achieved it in 17.2 overs comfortably at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. The two teams had already clashed in the 2012 edition final as well with India emerging triumphant.

R. Ashwin becomes Fastest Bowler to claim 250 wickets

Indian off spin specialist Ravichandran Ashwin became the world's fastest cricketer to take 250 wickets in Test Matches. He achieved this feat in his 45th test match against Bangladesh on 12 February 2017, when he dismissed captain of Bangladesh team Mushfiqur Rahim at the Rajiv Gandhi International stadium in Hyderabad.

Joe Root Becomes New Test Captain of England

The England and Wales cricket Board named Joe Root as England's Test Captain on 13 February 2017 who will take over Alastair Cook. Durham all-rounder Ben Stokes has been named as the Vice-Captain.

Root will become England's 80th Test Skipper with his first game to be held against South Africa at Lord's on July 6.

De Randamie Crowned First Women's Featherweight Champion

Germaine De Randamie was Crowned the UFC's first female featherweight Champion after defeating Holly Holm via Unanimous decision. All three judges scored the fight 48-47 in De Randamie favour against her American opponent, who is a former bantamweight Champion.

Jehan Daruvala wins New Zealand Grand Prix

Young Indian racer Jehan Daruvala created history by winning the New Zealand Grand Prix, 2017 at Chris Amon Circuit. With the win, Jehan became the first and only Indian to win a Grand Prix in Motorsport and has joined the elite list of Grand Prix Winners including KeKe Rosberg, Bruce McLaren, John Surtees and si Jackie Stewart.

Indian Hockey player To Get Honorary Doctorate

Indian Professional Hockey Player Sandeep Singh has been honoured with an Honorary Doctorate Degree by Desh Bhagat University, a private educational institution in Amloh, Fatehgarh Sahib District of Punjab. He is the second Indian hockey player to receive this award after Dileep Tirkey, former hockey captain and present Member of Parliament.

PV Sindhu Attains Career-Best Rank at No.5

Indian ace shuttler PV. Sindhu achieved her career best Badminton World Federation (BWF) Women's single ranking by being placed at 5th spot. Previously the top seeded player was placed at sixth position. She was moved a place ahead of Akane Yamaguchi of Japan to attain her career best ranking. Saina Nehwal who has been placed at No.9

22 Football Players & Officials Gets life Ban

Twenty-two players and Officials from Laos and Cambodia gets life ban punishments for match-fixing. The action followed an investigation that started in 2014, and that it will seek to have the bans extended world wide. Fifteen of those banned are current or former players of the Laos national side or Vientiane based Lao Toyota FC.

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga wins 2017 Rotterdam Open

France's Jo-Wilfried Tsonga on 19 February defeated David Goffin 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 to win the 43rd ABN AMRO World Tennis Tournament final held in Rotterdam, Netherlands. with the title came an end to Tsonga's two-year title drought. He had last won a title in the year 2015. As of 13 February 2017, he is ranked world No.13 position.

India win Silver at Asian Women's Rugby Sevens Trophy

The Indian Women's team won a silver at the Asian Women's Rugby Sevens Trophy tournament at Vientiane, Laos, A total of seven countries from across. Asia including South Korea, Philippines, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, India and hosts Laos vied for to honours in the tournament. In the last match, India was beaten by South Korea by 29-0.

Ben Stokes gets highest bidding at IPL auction

Ben Stokes becomes the most expensive overseas acquisition in the history of the Indian Premier League. The Rising Pune Supergiant priced him away for a massive Rs.14.5 crore. Tymal Mills is the second most expensive overseas player. He is sold to Royal Challengers Bangalore for a whopping Rs.12 crore in the IPL auction.

India to host 2019 combined World Cup for Shooting

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) announced that India will be hosting the Combined World Cup for Shooting in 2019 during the meeting held in New Delhi. The Combined World Cup will be a qualifying event for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. It will comprise all the three categories shotgun, rifle and pistol.

Mithali Raj, Harmanpreet Kaur in top -10 ICC rankings

India's one-day captain Mithali Raj and top-order batswoman Harmanpreet Kaur were placed 2nd and 10th in the batswomen's rankings released after World Cup qualifier that ended on 21st February. Meg Lanning of Australia leads the chart with 804 points, while Mithali Raj with 733 points is second in the list. Harmanpreet Kaur, known for her towering innings, has 574 points and is last of the list.

Dohmen, Navami named best hockey players of 2016

Belgium's John-John Dohmen and Netherlands' Naomi van der Meer as male and female Hockey Federation's player of the year award. In an event hosted in Chandigarh on 23rd February, the Olympic silver medalists Dohmen and Naomi were handed these awards. Great Britain's Olympic gold medalist Maddie Hinch won the Hockey star 2016 female Goalkeeper of the year award. While, Ireland's David Harte was crowned the best in the world for the second year in a row as he received the male Goalkeeper of the year award.

ISSF World Cup Pooja Ghatkar gets Bronze

Indian shooter Pooja Ghatkar made the country proud on 24 February as she clinched the bronze medal in the women's 10 m Air Rifle event in New Delhi at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup. The 28-year-old woman shot a score of 228.8 to finish third in the finals and clinch her first medal at a Shooting World Cup. China's Meng Yang Shi bagged gold medal and set a new world record with a score of 252.1. While Dong Lijie settled for silver with a score of 248.9 in the finals.

R Ashwin Breaks Kapil Dev's Record to become Highest Test Wicket Taker

Indian off-spinner R. Ashwin surpassed India's former legendary all-rounder Kapil Dev to become the highest wicket-taker in Test matches. Ashwin has scored 67 wickets from 10 tests in the 2016-17 season played in India. Former Indian Captain Kapil Dev took 63 wickets from 13 matches in the 1979-80 season. Ashwin achieved the feat when he dismissed Mitchell Starc of Australia in their first innings on the second day in Pune.

Saina Nehwal to represent Olympic Committee in BWF

Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal, who was appointed a member of the International Olympic Committee's Athletes' Commission in 2016. Now she would be representing the Olympic Committee's panel in the Badminton World Federation (BWF). Currently, ranked world number 10 in BWF rankings, Saina is aiming to win in the All England Championship in next month.

Kalinga Lancers crowned Hockey India League

Kalinga Lancers beat Dabang Mumbai 4-1 in a thrilling final to lift their first Hockey India League title in Chandigarh on 26 February 2017, Skipper Moritz Frusta 30th, 58th converted two penalty corners and Glenn Turner 18th minute scored a field goal, as last year's runners-up won the fifth edition of the tournament.

ECONOMY

Arun Jaitley introduced Economic Survey 2016-17 in Parliament

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on 31 January tabled the Economic Survey 2016-17 in Parliament budget session. The survey projects the economy to grow in the range of 6.75% to 7.50 in the next fiscal year 2017-18 in the post-demonetization year. The survey was prepared by chief economic adviser in the finance ministry Arvind Subramanian said the adverse impact of demonetization on GDP growth will be transitional.

Highlights of Union Budget 2017-18

1. For quick refund of tax returns time-frame reduced to 12 months
2. Of 76 lakh individuals who reported income of over Rs 5 lakh, 56 lakh are salaried
3. No transaction over Rs 3 lakh will be permitted in cash
4. To cut presumptive turnover threshold for companies w/turnover up to Rs 2 cr to 6%
5. Basic customs duty on LNG cut to 2.5% from 5%
6. Propose to reduce tax for small companies with turnover of < Rs 50 cr to 25%
7. Govt proposes carry-forward of MAT to 15 years from 10 years
8. Post demonetisation deposits between Rs 2.80 lakh made in 1.09 crore accounts
9. FY18 revenue deficit pegged at 1.9% of GDP
10. Fiscal deficit for 2017-18 pegged at 3.2%, in-line with market expectations
11. Defence capital expenditure: Rs 86,000 core
12. New FDI policy under consideration
13. Aadhaar Pay will be launched shortly
14. Propose revised mechanism for time-bound listing of PSUs
15. Govt doubles lending target of banks to Rs 2.44 lakh cr
16. Amend Negotiable Instruments Act to protect payees of dishonoured cheques

17. Govt to take steps to promote digital payments at petrol pumps, hospitals
18. Propose to create a payment regulatory board at RBI
19. Propose to create an integrated oil major
20. Budget 2017: Focus on welfare, infra with fiscal prudence
21. Service charges on e-tickets booked via IRCTC to be withdrawn
22. New Metro Rail policy to be announced; will open up new job possibilities.
23. New rules for pricing medical devices should benefit common man.
24. Railways to implement end-to- end solutions for some commodities.
25. Propose to feed 7000 solar railway station in medium term
26. 2000 km of coastal roads have been identified for development.
27. AAI Act to be amended to enable monetisation of land.
28. Cash less reservation have improved to 68% from 58%.
29. National highway allocation at Rs 64,000 crore
30. Affordable housing to be given infra status
31. Have hiked allocation for women skill development to Rs 1.84 lakh crore in FY18.
32. Mahila Shakti Kendras will aim for Woman Empowerment
33. Govt to set up 100 India-International skill centres
34. Mahila Shakti Kendra will be set up at village level; allocation Rs 500 crore
35. 5 special tourism zones to be set up in partnership with states
36. Unmanned Rail level crossing will be eliminated by 2020
37. At least 25 stations re-development contracts will be awarded in 2017-18.
38. Propose to invest Rs 1.31 lakh crore in Railways in 2017-18.
39. Total capital development outlay for Railway at Rs 1.3 lakh cr.
40. Railways to implement end-to- end solutions for some commodities
41. Propose to feed 7000 solar railway station in medium term

42. Railway throughput to be enhanced by 10%.
43. Pilot project for Aadhar cards containing health details for senior citizens.
44. Govt to undertake reforms in UGC to improve higher education.
45. New rules regarding medical devices will be formulated; will attract investment in sector, will reduce cost of the devices
46. Outcome-based monetary measures to SC, ST by NITI Aayog
47. Allocation to scheduled castes upped to Rs 52,393 crore
48. Govt to set up 100 India-International skill centres
49. Outcome-based monetary measures to SC, ST by NITI Aayog
50. Govt committed to ensuring conducive labour environment
51. Will take legislative reforms to simplify labour laws in India
52. Govt committed to take structural reform in medical education & practice
53. Propose to amend drug rules to ensure drugs available at reasonable prices
54. 1.5 lakh health sub-centres to be transformed to health wellness centres
55. Will encourage reputed hospitals to start courses
56. Affordable housing to be given infra status
57. Bank lending rates for housing loans coming down in wake of demonetisation, says FM
58. Innovation fund for secondary education to be created
59. Sanitation coverage in rural areas risen to 60% vs 42% earlier
60. On our way to achieve 100% village electrification by 1st May 2018
61. Govt to achieve 100% rural electrification by May 1, 2018
62. Rs 4,800 crore allocated under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana
63. Propose to finish 1 crore houses by 2019 for those living in kachcha houses
64. To up crop insurance coverage to 50% in FY19
65. Pace of construction of roads has increased to Rs 133 km/day in 2017
66. Long-term irrigation fund set up in NABARD, additional corpus Rs 20,000 cr

67. MNREGA target at 48000 cr in FY18
68. Participation of women in NREGA has increased to 55% from 48% in the past.
69. Govt to set up dairy processing fund
70. Pace Of Construction Of Roads Has Increased To Rs 133 Km/Day In 2017
71. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana construction at 133 km per day now against 73 km per day earlier
72. Increased allocation to Rs 23,000 crore for PM Awas Yojana,
73. 19000 cr allotted for PM Rural road plan in FY18
74. Will undertake reforms in UGC to improve higher education
75. Total allocation for rural sector up by 24% at Rs 1,83000 cr.
76. Allocation for rural, agri & allied industry at Rs 1.87 lakh crore, up 24% YoY
77. Coverage of national agriculture market will be expanded.
78. Dairy processing infra fund will be created with corpus of Rs 8,000 crore in 3 yrs
79. Long term irrigation fund set up in NABARD, additional corpus Rs 20,000 cr
80. Will support NABARD to digitise 63,000 primary agri co-operatives
81. 5000 cr worth dedicated micro irrigation fund to be set up by NABARD
82. Will take steps to make sure farmers get better prices for harvest
83. Sowing farmers should feel secure against natural calamities
84. To up crop insurance coverage to 50% in FY19
85. Will ensure flow of adequate credit to under privileged areas
86. Committed to double farmer income in five years
87. Propose to present Budget under 10 district themes
88. Agriculture expected to grow at 4.1% in the current year
89. Target for agri credit fixed at Rs 10 lakh crore this year
90. Overall approach has been to spend more with fiscal prudence
91. Looking to spend more on rural infrastructure and social spending

92. Overall approach in Budget has been to spend more in rural areas
93. Have done away with planned & unplanned allocation
94. Merger of Rail & General Budget is a historic step
95. IMF estimates world GDP will grow by 3.4% in 2017
96. Govt reduces existing tax rate for personal income of Rs 2.5-5 lakh to 5% from 10%

Govt proposes Payments Regulatory Board in RBI

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today proposed creation of a six-member Payments Regulatory Board in the RBI, headed by its Governor, as part of bringing about structural reforms in the payment Eco-system. For the purpose, necessary amendments are proposed in the Finance Bill 2017 to create a Payments Regulatory Board in the Reserve Bank of India by replacing the existing Board for Regulation and Supervision of Payment and Settlement Systems.

Rs.10,000 penalty for late filing of IT returns

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley made it easier for the small tax-payers, the budget has however proposed a fee for delayed filing of income tax return. If the income tax return is furnished after the due date but on or before the December 31 of the assessment year, there will be a fine of Rs 5,000 imposed. In other cases, there will be an imposition of a fine of Rs 10,000. However, in a case where the total income does not exceed Rs 5 lakh, the Budget proposed that the fee amount shall not exceed Rs 1,000.

Sunil Mehta has been appointed as the Non Executive Chairman in Punjab National Bank

According to order issued by Personnel Ministry, the Appointments Committee of Cabinet has cleared his appointment as Non-Executive Chairman for a period of three years. His appointment is subject to a condition that he needs to resign from the board of state Bank of India before joining the new post.

RBI increases with drawal amount Rs.50,000 per week

The Reserve Bank of India issued on January 30, 2017 and announced the weekly limit on withdrawal of cash from savings bank accounts will be increased to Rs.50,000 from the current Rs.24,000 from February 20, 2017. The limit will be removed from March 13, till there is no limit on current account and there is a cap of 50,000 for farmers a week and 2.5 lack for marriage.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SAARC programming committee meeting Held in Kathmandu

The 53rd meeting of SAARC Programming Committee meeting held on 01-02- 2017 and could mark revival of the regional bloc following the postponement of the 19th Summit that was scheduled in Pakistan in November last year after India and some others members expressed their inability to participate. During the two day meeting they will discussions about the budget allocation of five SAARC regional centres, some specialized bodies and their annual programme. It will definitely set appositve tone to reduce tensions between India and Pakistan and for resumption of the SAARC process.

Scientists confirm multiple therapeutic properties of Neuro Calyx Calycinus

Neurocalyx Calycinus is a shrub endemic to South West India, found in evergreen forests. Recent researches suggest this plant has wound healing, burn-healing, analgesic, anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, platelet-augmentation and antioxidant effects. The Southern parts of Western Ghats and Sri Lanka could offer scientists the key to new herbal formulations and modern drugs for the treatment of cancers, wounds and burns.

Horse Antibodies may effectively treat Ebola

In a first, scientists have developed an effective rapid and economical treatment for the deadly Ebola Virus using antibodies from horses. This is a cost effective treatment that can be used in low-income countries like Africa where equine production facilities are already in operation for producing snake-bite antivenom. The largest recorded outbreak of Ebola Virus occurred primarily in West Africa from 2014 to 2016.

Earth like planet “Proxima b” Unlikely to host life

As the search for life beyond Earth, continues the just discovered Earth-sized planet Proxima b Unlikely to hold life despite it being in the habitable zone or the Goldilocks region of its host star. The reason for the planet not holding any possibility of life is due to the effects of frequent stellar eruptions. This information was given by NASA scientists who have been investigating the possibility of life on the planet.

ISRO creates a World record With 104 Satellites in One go

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on 15 February create a World record in the space arena by sending 104 satellites in a single rocket. In these satellites 96 belongs to Israel, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Switzerland and United Arab Emirates respectively. Three satellites belong to India, in these CaboSat-2 Weighs 714 kgs, INS-1A and INS – 1B each one weighs with 15kgs.

Scientists Are Getting Really Close to a Malaria Vaccine

A new malaria vaccine candidate has proven up to 100 percent effective in clinical trials. The Potential vaccine introduces live malaria parasites into patients paired with medication needed to combat them. The highest dose were 100% protected against the disease for at least after Vaccination.

Scientists Create Graphene from Soybeans

A group of Scientists from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) created a strongest material graphene. Graphene is a carbon material that is the atom thick. It is made by soybean. Its composition and high conductivity, it is used applications ranging from miniaturized electronics to biomedical devices. It was used in computers, solar panels, batteries, sensors, and soon.

Scientists discover a Continent Zealandia

A group of scientists have claimed to discover a continent two-thirds the size of Australia beneath the south west Pacific Ocean. The newly proposed continent is about 1.74 million square miles in size and 94 percent submerged. However, the continent protrudes above the ocean surface in the form of New Zealand and New Caledonia.

7 New Earth – Like Exoplanets Discovered

Nasa Astronomers have discovered not one, not two, but seven earth sized planets orbiting a star called TRAPPIST-1 and announced the discovery of 60 other potentially habitable planets. Three of them have habitable zone where liquid water can exist on the surface of the rocky planets like Earth. "The discovery gives us a hint that finding a second Earth is not just a matter", said Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator of the Science Mission Directorate of NASA.

7 Tiny New Frogs are Discovered in India

After 5 years of extensive explorations in the Western Ghats in India, researchers have discovered seven tiny new frog species, known as Night Frogs. The Adorable creatures are among the smallest in the World, and four of the new species are tiny enough to fit on a fingernail. Despite only just being discovered, the researchers warn that five of the new species are under direct threat of extinction, and urge environmentalists to set up conservation programmes immediately.

NASA may send robotic spacecraft to sun in 2018

The America's National Aeronautics and space Administration (NASA) plans to send its first robotic spacecraft to the Sun in 2018. The "Solar Probe Plus Mission", which is going to be NASA's first spacecraft to the sun, is expected to get within 6 million kilometers of the sun to probe its atmosphere. The Sun is about 149 million kilometers from the Earth.

PERSONS IN NEWS

A). APPOINTMENTS

Ashok Amritraj Appointed as UN in India Goodwill ambassador

Award winning Hollywood film producer and Wimbledon tennis player, Ashok Amritraj has been appointed United Nations in India Goodwill Ambassador for sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Mr. Amritraj is first ambassador for UN in India. He was also the former CEO of National Geographic Films. He is responsible to generate momentum and commitment to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

Alok Verma joined as the new CBI Director

Alok Verma joined as the new CBI Director. As a director he will hold in this post for a period of two years. A three member committee comprising Prime Minister, Chief Justice and opposition leader in the Lok Sabha selected Mr. Alok Verma for this post.

Arun Kumar elected as Chairman and CEO of KPMG in India

KPMG India board has elected Arun M Kumar as Chairman and CEO to lead the India operations of the consulting and accounting major. He succeeds Richard Rekhy, who stepped down in November last year following a large scale exodus of Key people from the advisory team. Kumar, who spent the majority of his career with KPMG in the US, will take charge from February 5 for a five-year term.

Jovenel Moise Sworn in as Haiti's new President

Jovenel Moise has been sworn in as Haiti's new President, opening a new chapter in the country's history after a long-running political crisis. The 48 year old entrepreneur took the oath of office in a Parliament

Chamber packed with Haitian lawmakers and foreign dignitaries from countries including the U.S, Venezuela and France. A business man from northern Haiti, Moise had never run for office until he was hand picked in 2015 to be the Tel Kale Party candidate by Martelly.

Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo elected as Somalia's New President

Somalia's Ex-Prime Minister Mohamed Abdullahi "Farmajo" Mohamed beat President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in a surprise result. The vote was held at the heavily guarded airport complex in the capital Mogadishu, as the rest of the country is too dangerous. Traffic was banned and no-fly zone imposed over the city to prevent attacks by militant Islamists.

Hemant Bhargava appointed LIC's MD

Hemant Bhargava was appointed as LIC's Managing Director on 10 February, 2017. He is at present worked as LIC's Zonal Manager, Delhi. The Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) has approved Bhargava's appointment to the post till his superannuation i.e., July 31, 2019. The top LIC management consists of the Chairman and three Managing Director.

Govt Appoints Ajay Tyagi As New SEBI Chief

The Govt on 10 February appointed Ajay Tyagi, an additional secretary in the finance ministry, as chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Tyagi, who will be the ninth sebi Chairman, will take over U.K.Sinha the second longest serving chief of the capital markets regulator after D.R. Mehta.

Frank-Walter Steinmeier elected President of Germany

Frank Walter Steinmeier was elected as the new President of Germany on 12 February 2017 by a Special Parliamentary Assembly. He became the 12th person to hold the post in the post-war era. The special assembly comprised 630 Federal Members of Parliament and unequal number of representatives from Germany's 16 Federal States.

Sandeep Jajodia takes over as ASSOCHAM President

Sandeep Jajodia, CMD of Monnet Ispat Energy Ltd, has taken over as President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM). Similarly Bala Krishan Goenka, Chairman of Welspun Group, and Kiran Kumar Grandhi, Vice-Chairman of GMR Infrastructure Ltd have taken over as senior Vice-President and Vice President of the ASSOCHAM respectively. It play a leading transformational role both Nationally and Internationally.

Narinder Chauhan appointed as Ambassador of India to the Republic of Philippines

Former IAS officer Narinder Chauhan has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of the Philippines on 11 February 2017. Currently Narinder is working as the Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia.

Jean-Pierre Lacroix appointed as new UN Peacekeeping Chief

France's Jean-Pierre Lacroix has been appointed as the Under-Secretary- General for the United Nation's Peacekeeping Operations. He has been appointed for the period of one year beginning 1 April 2017. In his new position, Jean-Pierre Lacroix will be replacing Herve Ladsous, who will step down in March 2017 after six years of service. The announcement was made by the United Nations New secretary General Antonio Guterres, who took over from Ban Ki-moon on 1 January 2017.

Nilesh Shivji Vikamsey as new ICAI President

Nilesh Shivji Vikamsey was appointed as new President of "Institute of Chartered Accountant of India." (ICAI) for the year 2017-18. Prior to this appointment, he was the Vice President of the CA institute in 2016-17 since 1985.

Justice Vikramjit Sen takes charge of DDCA

Justice Vikramjit Sen, former Supreme Court Judge, on 15 February 2017 took charge of the Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA). He officially took the charge from justice Mukul Mudgal. The association is affiliated to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

K. Palaniswami to Be Sworn in as Tamil Nadu Chief Minister

V.K. Sasikala loyalist Edappadi K.Palaniswami is all set to be the new Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Governor Vidyasagar Rao invited him today (16 February) to form a government at the earliest. He is expected to take an oath of office at 4.30 pm today and prove his majority within 15 days.

Vikas Swarup as High Commissioner of India to Canada

Vikas Swarup was appointed as the High Commissioner of India to Canada. A decision in this regard was taken by the Union Ministry External Affairs (MEA) on 16 February 2017. At the time of elevation Swarup was working as the spokesperson of the MEA. In his nearly over three-decades long career, he represented India in various positions.

Neelam Damodaran is Bank of India new ED

The Govt has appointed Neelam Damodaran as Executive Director of Bank of India. His tenor is up to November 30, 2019. Prior to his elevation as ED, Damodaran was General Manager with Bank of Baroda. With this appointment Bank of India now has two E.Ds. R.A Sankara Narayanan has been ED of the bank since May 15, 2015.

Nanda Kumar Sai Appointed as Chairman of NCST

BJP veteran and tribal leader from Chhattisgarh, Nanda Kumar Sai, has been appointed as Chairman of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST). Sai will take oath on February 28 at New Delhi. A veteran tribal leader, who was state BJP president during undivided Madhya Pradesh, was the first leader of the opposition in the Chhattisgarh assembly after the state was carved out in the year 2000.

Trump Appoints HR McMaster as National Security Adviser

The White House announced on 20th February that Lieutenant General H.R. McMaster will become new National Security Adviser, replacing Michael Flynn, who was resigned last week. President Trump announced the pick at his Palm Beach Club, Mar-a-Lago, saying McMaster is a man of tremendous talent and tremendous experience.

Turbohelize Liezietsu as Nagaland New CM

Nagaland People's Front (NPF) leader Shurhozelie Liezietsu was on 20 February 2017 elected the new legislature party leader of the ruling Democratic Alliance to be the new Nagaland Chief Minister. Shurhozelie was elected after Chief Minister TR Zeliang resigned on 19 February. Shurhozelie has been unanimously elected the legislature party leader of the NPF and as CM.

Chandrasekaran takes the Chairmanship of TATA Sons Ltd

Natarajan Chandrasekaran has become the Chairman of TATA Sons Ltd, the holding company of Tata Sons Ltd announced in January, 2017 the appointment of Chandra, who joined the tata Group in 1987 after obtaining a Masters Degree in Computer Applications from the Regional Engineering College Trichy in Tamil Nadu.

Abhijit Sarkar appointed Vice President of AHF

Malaysia headquartered Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) has appointed Abhijit Sarkars as Vice President and also the Chief of AHF commercial and TV Committee> He led the group in promoting various sports in India by sponsoring both the Indian National Cricket Teams as well as Indian Hockey Team. Sarkar has served as the Head of Corporate Communications, Corporate Affairs and Relations and the Sports Division at Sahara India Pariwar since 2004.

Shilpa Shetty as Swachh Bharat Brand Ambassador

Indian Film actress, producer, former model Shilpa Shetty appointed as the Brand Ambassador for cleanliness initiative Swachh Bharat Mission by the Central Govt, It was announced by Director of Swachh Bharat Mission and Urban Development Ministry Joint Secretary Praveen Prakash. Swachh Bharat Mission's aim is to make India open defecation free by 2019.

Former CM TR Zeliang Appointed Finance Advisor To Nagaland Govt

Nagaland State Governor, PB Acharya on 26 February appointed former Chief Minister, TR Zeliang as Finance Advisor to Government of Nagaland in the rank and status of Cabinet Minister with immediate effect. He will be entitled to pay and allowances and all other facilities admissible to a Cabinet Minister. This was stated by Cabinet Secretary Pankaj Kumar.

Khursheed A Ganai appointed as CIC of Jammu & Kashmir

Retired IAS Officer Khursheed A Ganai was appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of Jammu & Kashmir on 27 February 2017. Ganai's appointment to the post was approved by the state Governor NN Vohra in the exercise of the powers vested under section 12 (3) of Jammu & Kashmir Right to Information Act, 2009. His name was recommended to the Governor on 21 February 2017 by a selection panel headed by the Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti.

Gopal Baglay Appointed External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson

India's Senior Diplomat Gopal Baglay was appointed as External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson on 27th February, 2017. He was succeeding Vikas Swarup, who was made India's new High Commissioner to Canada. A 1992-batch officer of Indian Foreign Service, Baglay was handling the sensitive PAI (Pakistan – Afghanistan – Iran) division in the ministry till now.

B). RESIGNS

Alastair Cook steps down as England Test Captain

Alastair Cook has resigned as England Test Captain after a record 59 matches in the role. He was resigned for his captaincy on 5 February. Cook, England's leading scorer in Tests with 11,057 runs,

became the captain in August 2012 and led his country to Ashes glory on home soil in 2013 and 2015 as well as series wins in India and South Africa. He has been the country's most capped Test Skipper and has scored more test centuries than any previous English captain.

US National Security Adviser Michael Flynn resigns

Michael Flynn has resigned as national security adviser over his contact with Russian Officials before US President Donald Trump took office. His resignation on 14 February followed reports a day earlier that the Department of Justice warned the Trump Administration weeks ago that such communications could leave him in a compromised position.

Nagaland CM TR Zeliang resigned

Nagaland CM TR Zeliang resigned as Chief Minister of State on 17 February 2017. He resigned against the backdrop of widespread protests in the state, which was triggered due to Govt's decision to reserve 33 percent seats for women in urban local bodies. Zeliang resignation was accepted by the Governor PB. Acharya. Asper reports, the governor has asked zeliang to continue till further arrangements were made.

BCCI General Manager RP. Shah resigned his post

RP Shah one of the three General Managers of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), has resigned from his post citing his age reason. Shah was serving as the General Manager (Commercial). The reason is that I am 61-years old. I had taken the decision back in October. There was no pressure or query from the COA.

C). DEATHS

Veteran Journalist Dileep padgaonkar died at 72

Senior journalist Dileep Padgaonkar died in a Pune hospital on 27 January. A former editor with the Times of India. Padgaonkar had diabetes and Kidney-related problems. He had began his career in journalism at the age of 24 as the Paris correspondent of The Times of India. He was also the part of a three-member interlocutor's team selected by the Centre in 2010 to hold talks with people in Jammu & Kashmir.

Former Minister E Ahamed Dies After Suffering Cardiac Arrest

Former Union minister and Indian Union Muslim League leader E Ahamed has passed away after he suffered a cardiac arrest. Ahamed was put on life support at the hospital and died at 2.15 am on 01-02-2017. Mr Ahamed, who has served as Minister of State for External Affairs in Dr Manmohan Singh's government, represented Kerala in the Lok Sabha.

Ex-CBI Director Joginder Singh passes away

Former CBI chief Joginder Singh, who oversaw investigation of several high-profile cases including Bofors scam and Bihar's fodder scam, died on Friday(03-02-2017) aged 77 years. The cremation would be held on 4th Feb at electrical Crematorium, Lodhi Road, New Delhi at 1 pm.

Renowned Urdu Author Bano Qudsia Passes away

Renowned Urdu novelist and short story writer Bano Qudsia has died after a protracted illness. Bano Qudsia, 88 was under treatment over the past 10 days at a Lahore hospital. Bano was a writer, playwright and spiritualist. She is best known for her novel Raja Gidh. she was also wrote for television and stage in both Urdu and Punjabi languages.

Veteran freedom fighter Racharla Samrajyam passes away

Racharla Samrajyam, a veteran freedom fighter, passed away on 6 February 2017 following age-related illness at Visakhapatnam. She was 98, She is survived by her only son Saranga Rao. She was inspired by the Quit India Movement at the time when she was undergoing hindi pracharak training at Anantapur in 1942. It was at this point of time, she had quit the training programme and joined the Quit India Movement. At that time she was arrested in Bezawada and was sent to Raya Vellore Jail for six months.

Netaji's driver Colonel Nizamuddin passes away

Colonel Nizamuddin, former driver and bodyguard of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, passed away on 6th February morning aged 116. Nizamuddin was a member of the Bose's Azad Hind Fauj during the freedom struggle. Bose Changed his name to Nizamuddin from his original Saifuddin as he was working as secret service agent.

Japanese manga legend Jiro Taniguchi dies at 69

Jiro Taniguchi, a legend in Japan's comic art of manga, died in Tokyo on Saturday (11th February) at the age of 69, leaving behind an international following for his exquisite line drawing of scenes from everyday life. Just over a decade later after starting this art, he hit the International Magna Scene with "A Distant Neighbourhood," about a Japanese salary man who travels back to his Childhood.

Eminent Journalist and Laughter Persona Pandit Dharmasheel Chaturvedi Dies

The Eminent thinker, writer, Journalist Pandit Dharmasheel Chaturvedi passed away on February 11, 2017 in Sir Sundarlal Hospital, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. The Hindi Kavi Pt. Dharmasheel Chaturvedi was considered as "Swayan Mein Banaras" means 'Banaras in Himself' in elite circle. Pt Dharmasheel Chaturvedi was nicknamed as AKKhad Banarasi' all over India for being the star at the Hasya Kavita Enthusiasts.

Nobel Laureate Sir Peter Mansfield Passes away

Sir Peter Mansfield received the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 2003 for advances in using MRI for medical science. The high-tech scan (MRI) allow doctors to see detailed images of the internal organs without the use of X-rays. Sir Peter was shared with Paul Lauterbur, for discoveries concerning Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). He was a Professor at the University of Nottingham. He was passed away on 8 February in London, at 83.

Veteran Indian Journalist T.V. Parasuram passes Away

Veteran Journalist T.V. Parasuram, who served for long as the Washington Correspondent to the Indian Express, died on 13 February 2017. Parasuram passed away in his sleep in Bethesda, the family said. He is survived by his wife Anantha Lakshmi, son Ashok Parasuram, and daughter Anitha. Parasuram who won a Harvard Nieman Fellowship in journalism.

Former CJI Altamas Kabir passes away

Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) Altamas Kabir passes away on 19 February at the Kolkata Hospital. In March 2005, Justice Altamas Kabir was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court. After that he was being elevated as a judge in the supreme court in September the same year. Justice Kabir appointed as the CJI on September 29 in 2012. He held the office till July 18, 2013.

Celebrated Hindi Novelist Ved Prakash Sharma Passes away

Celebrated Hindi Novelist Ved Prakash Sharma, who was 176 Novels to his credit. The 62-year old was not keeping well for the last few months and had developed some infection and complications which led to his demise. His famous novels which broke many records and added to his popularity included "Qaidi No-100" and "Vardi Wala Gunda" Sharma had also written scripts for about half-a-dozen Hindi Movies.

Former Union Minister P.Shiv Shankar passes away

Former Union Minister P.Shiv Shankar Passed away in Hyderabad on February 27, 2017. He was 89. He represented the congress as Rajya Sabha member from Gujarat from 1985 to 1993. He has served as External Affairs and Human Resource Development Minister. He has also served as Law Minister in the Indira Gandhi cabinet in 1980. After some allegations with congress party, in 2008 he was joined in the Praja Rajyam Party floated by actor Chiranjeevi.

Nobel Winning Economist Kenneth J.Arrow dies at 95

Nobel winning economist and mathematician Kenneth J. Arrow passed away at his home in Palo Alto, in the San Francisco in USA. He was 95. He was the joint winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics with John Hicks in 1972. To date he is the youngest person ever to have received this award, at the age of 51. He spent most of his career at Stanford University. Five of his former students went on to become Nobel Winners.

D). VISITORS

Shahabuddin Ahmed invited as in Residence guest

Well Known Painter and Freedom fighter Shahabuddin Ahmed of Bangladesh will be the first foreign artist to live in Rashtrapati Bhavan as a guest of Pranab Mukherjee. The renowned painter will stay as an Artist in- Residence from February 18 to 22. He was a platoon commander who fought in the Liberation War of Bangladesh when he was 21 years old.

E). MISCELLANEOUS

India's first floating elementary school inaugurated on Manipur's Loktak Lake

India's first floating elementary school named "Loktak Elementary Floating School" was on 13 February 2017 inaugurated at Langoslabi Leikai of Champu Khangpok floating village on Loktak Lake in Manipur. It will provide educations around 40 children from class 1-111 by engaging two local teachers.

Indian Panorama Film Festival Organised in Port Blair

The Five-day, Indian Panorama Film Festival got underway on 15 February, with its inauguration by the Chief Secretary, A & N Administration, Mr. Anindo Majumdar at DBRAIT Auditorium in Port Blair. Smt. Rupa Ray Padmashree Awardee, Mr. Naresh Chander Lal, secretary IP, Dr. A.K. Singla IP & T, Mr. Amit Anand were Present on the occasion.

PLACES IN NEWS

Khajuraho Dance Festival to be begin in Madhya Pradesh

One of the famous cultural events of India, Khajuraho Festival grabs attention of every traveller in the month of February. Khajuraho Festival is Organized by the "Kala Parishad" under the Madhya Pradesh Government, where by many popular classical dancers from all over India perform. The aim to hold this festival is to promote the cultural, heritage of India.

Books in News

Salman Rushdie's novel "The Golden House" announced

The renowned Author Salman Rushdie's new novel titled "The Golden House" is slated to release in September 2017. The announcement was made by Penguin Random House. The book will be published in India by Penguin Random House, which acquired the subcontinent rights from the Wylie Agency. Salman Rushdie is a British Indian novelist and essayist.

COMMITTEES

Norway Nobel Committee Chairwoman Kullmann Dies At 65

Norwegian Nobel Committee Chairwoman, Kaci Kullmann Five, died on February 19, 2017. She was 65, Norwegian Nobel Committee is responsible to select the peace Prize Laureates. Former businesswoman of Norway, Kullmann served as trade and shipping minister from 1989-1990. In 2003, Kullmann became a member of the Norwegian Nobel Committee while was elected Chairwoman in 2015.

IMPORTANT DAYS & DATES

World Cancer Day 2017: 04 Feb 2017

World Cancer Day (WCD) 2017 was observed across the world on 4 February 2017. The theme for the World Cancer Day 2016-2018 is 'We can. I can.' It also aims at saving millions of preventable deaths

each year. Currently, 8.2 million people die from cancer worldwide every year, out of which, 4 million people die prematurely (aged 30 to 69 years).

International Day of Women and Girls in Science

The International Day of Women and Girls in science was observed across the globe on 11 February 2017. The day comes as an opportunity for all to take a stand for girls and women in science. Science and gender equality are vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development. In 2016, the UNESCO launched a Manifesto "For Women in Science", with the L'oreal Foundation.

13th February-World Radio Day

World Radio Day was Celebrated across the world on 13 February 2017. The day is observed every year to celebrate radio as the medium of entertainment, the mode of communication and information. Themed "Radio is You", this year the calls for a greater participation of the both the audiences and communities in the policy and planning of radio broadcasting.

International Mother language Day-February 21

The United Nations (UN), International Mother Language Day annually celebrated on February 21 to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism, International Mother Language Day is announced by UNESCO on 17 November 1999. It was formally recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution Establishing 2008 as the International year of Languages.

74th Central Excise Day Celebrated on 24 February

The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) on 24 February 2017 celebrated the the central Excise Day across the country. To mark occasion, the Central Excise Officers all over the country Organized seminars, workshops, trade interactions and cultural events. The central Excise and salt Act, which was enacted on 24 February 1944.

Chandra Shekhar Azad's martyrdom day observed on 27 February

Chandra Shekhar Azad, the Indian revolutionary freedom fighter was in news on 27 February 2017. He came in news on his 86th martyrdom day. On this day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to Chandra Shekhar Azad. Modi said, we can never forget his valour and ultimate sacrifice for our nation.

National Science Day 28th February

The Science day is celebrated to honour the Nobel laureate- Sir C.V. Raman for his invention of the Raman Effect on 28th February 1928. For this he got Nobel Prize in Physics in the year 1930. Various activities are organized on the day, like debates, quiz competitions, exhibitions and so on. Whole Nation takes honour of thanking all the scientists for their remarkable contributions and dedication on this occasion. The theme of the year 2017 is "Science and Technology for specially abled persons".