

## CURRENT AFFAIRS JANUARY WEEK FOUR

### Awards and Honours

1. Who on January 24 presented the National Bravery Awards to 25 children  
**Prime Minister Narendra Modi**
2. Saina Nehwal, Sania Mirza, Vinod Rai and Anupam Kher will be conferred with  
**Padma Bhushan**
3. Rajinikanth, Shri Shri Ravi Shankar and late Dhirubhai Ambani were selected to be conferred with  
**Padma Vibhushan**
4. Ajay Devgn, Priyanka Chopra, SS Rajamouli, Deepika Kumari and late Saeed Jaffrey will be conferred with  
**Padma Shri**
5. Who has approved the conferment of Jeevan Raksha Padak Series of Awards – 2015 on 50 persons  
**President of India**
6. Veteran Bollywood actress Rekha on 25 January 2016 was honoured with the  
**Third Yash Chopra Memorial Award in Mumbai**
7. A Kerala dentist Sajeev Koshy settled in Melbourne on 26 January 2016 was honoured with the highest civilian honour,  
**The Order of Australia**
8. President Pranab Mukherjee has conferred the country's highest peacetime gallantry award Ashok Chakra to  
**Lance Naik Mohan Nath Goswami posthumously**
9. The PEN/Allen Foundation Literary Service Award will honor which novelist for how her work embodies the principles of free expression, and for her support of various causes including Multiple Sclerosis research, eliminating social exclusion and fighting censorship  
**J.K. Rowling**
10. Australia has awarded its highest civilian honour, the Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) to India-origin scientist and professor  
**Chennupati Jagadish**
11. Who was chosen for Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) for his extraordinary services to Indian Navy - **Vice Admiral Ashok Subhedar**
12. Australia's highest civilian award conferred on 3 Indian-origin persons - **Chennupati Jagadish, Jay Chandra, Sajeev Koshy**
13. Who has been selected for Amnesty human rights award? **Henri Tiphagne**

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## Appointments

1. The senior revenue service officer who has been appointed as the Chairman of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the apex policy-making body of the income tax department  
**Atulesh Jindal**
2. Who has been appointed Chairman and Managing Director of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re), the National Reinsurer  
**Alice Vaidyan**
3. Supreme Court of India appointed Justice whom as new Lokayukta of Uttar Pradesh recalling its previous decision in this regard - **Sanjay Mishra**
4. Who has been named as the brand ambassador of a newly-launched pleasure cruise?  
**Sachin Tendulkar**

## Banking and Economy

1. RBI has also allowed banks to sell Ashok Chakra-embossed gold coins manufactured by government-owned MMTC under the scheme  
**'India gold coin'**
2. The RBI has asked banks to provide loans of up to Rs 3 lakh at 7 per cent interest rate to Women Self-Help Group (SHG) under the scheme  
**National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) Aajeevika**
3. Government will pay banks how much per cent commission for mobilising gold under the gold monetisation scheme and depositors will be permitted premature withdrawal of the deposited metal  
**4.5 per cent**
4. India's fourth-largest software services firm, which has agreed to acquire UK-based Point to Point Ltd and Point to Point Products Ltd (jointly referred to as Point to Point or P2P) for £8 million (around Rs 78 crore or around \$11 million)  
**HCL Technologies Ltd**
5. In order to attract investments in infrastructure sector, the Finance Ministry will organise a two-day India Investment Summit from  
**February 4**
6. The World Economic Forum (WEF) has created a new task force with Bank of England Governor and his counterpart at the Reserve Bank of India, Raghuram Rajan. Who is Bank of England Governor  
**Mark Carney**
7. The Bank of America Chairman and CEO Brian Moynihan and HSBC Chairman Douglas Flint, met for the first time at the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting in  
**Davos**
8. A Protocol to amend the existing Double Taxation Avoidance Convention was signed by the Government of India and the - **Government of Armenia**
9. RBI to issue Rs 10 coins on whose 125th birth anniversary? **B R Ambedkar**

10. India and ADB Sign \$80 Million Loan Agreement to continue improving infrastructure in two North Eastern State Capital cities. - [Agartala and Aizwal](#).

### **National Round-up**

1. India has been ranked which position on an inaugural list of the world's best countries, which was released on the sidelines of WEF Annual Meeting  
**22nd**
2. Who topped the world's best countries, which was released on the sidelines of WEF Annual Meeting  
**Germany**
3. In the 14th edition of the travel site's Trip Advisor's 2016 Travelers' Choice Awards, Jodhpur's Palace was named the best hotel of 2016  
**Umaid Bhawan**
4. United Nations (UN) World Economic Situation and Prospects 2016 Report, India will be the fastest growing big economy in the world in  
**2016**
5. The scheme which was launched for the first time in Jammu and Kashmir  
**Nai Manzil**
6. Google India and who has launched free Rail Wire Public Wi-Fi service for railway passengers at the Mumbai Central Station  
**Indian Railways' telecom arm RailTel**
7. What is India's Global Human Development Report (HDR) rank which was released by UN Development Programme (UNDP)  
**130**
8. The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has decided to extend the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme to how many more districts in 2016 to improve the declining child sex ratio  
**61**
9. The International Development Association (IDA) signed a financing agreement with the Government of India for the 'Jhelum and Tawi flood recovery Project' worth  
**US\$ 250 million in J & K**
10. Which state has topped in the country in implementing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act for the 2014-2015 in category of transparency and accountability  
**Andhra Pradesh**
11. India's largest tricolour hoisted atop the tallest pole at Pahari Mandir in  
**Ranchi**
12. Who will make its debut at the Auto Expo 2016 on February 3, 2016  
**UM Motorcycles**
13. The Finance Ministry gave in-principle approval for buying nearly how many new electronic voting machines(EVMs)  
**14 lakh**

14. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has sought an additional Rs 26,000 crore from the government to be injected into state-run banks by **2018**
15. India is all set to build a satellite tracking and imaging centre in **Southern Vietnam**
16. The Union Minister of Human Resource Development Smriti Zubin Irani launched a series of books on Param Veer Chakra awardees in New Delhi namely **'Veer Gaatha'**
17. State-owned ONGC has got environmental clearance for drilling 45 development wells and other related infrastructure involving a cost of over Rs 53,000 crore in the Krishna-Godavari basin in **Andhra Pradesh**
18. To make laws tougher to tackle atrocities against the most vulnerable sections of the population, the Centre has announced that The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015, which came into effect on **January 26, 2016**
19. Petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan on January 24 launched the online payment facility for consumers at the time of booking their LPG refill cylinder at [www.mylpg.in](http://www.mylpg.in) which can be accessed in **13 Indian languages**
20. The Government of India has imposed the President' Rule in **Arunachal Pradesh**
21. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) launched an initiative to provide an opportunity for the children to experience the border environment and to foster patriotism and nationalism among the students named **SEEMA DARSHAN**
22. Who was the Chief Guest at 67th Republic Day parade **President of France Francois Hollande**
23. Which becomes the first centre in Karnataka for conducting the MRCP practical assessment of examination skills (PACES) mock exam in collaboration with UK-based Royal College of Physicians Federation **Manipal Hospitals Bangalore**
24. Teabox, the global speciality tea company, is the latest to received funding from Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons and this is the fourth start-up in **2016**
25. Social Justice and Empowerment minister, Thaawarchand Gehlot has launched an exclusive job portal for **Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)**
26. The Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the raising of 17 India Reserve Battalions (IR Bns) by **Jammu & Kashmir and Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected States**
27. Railtel Corporation's broadband will reach 500,000 households through its Railwire network providing a host of services at the block level in the next **Two years**

28. All India Radio has launched a non-conventional audio broadcast channel through Internet and 'free dish' with easy accessibility to it for connoisseurs of art, specially classical music- both Carnatic and Hindustani. The Channel, known as **'RAAGAM'**
29. The recently released Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2015 shows that India has moved up in rank from 85 position to **76**
30. The government on 27 Jan 2016 approved which model for building roads to fast-track highway projects, revive the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode and attract more investments in the sector  
**Hybrid annuity model**
31. India's first blind friendly train, from **Mysuru to Varanasi**
32. Who has tied up with Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) to upskill rural secondary school students in four states using digital interactive tools  
**Tata Trusts**
33. A permanent memorial of India's first aircraft carrier INS Vikrant has been unveiled by Vice Admiral S.P.S. Cheema, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command, and Municipal Commissioner Ajoy Mehta in **Mumbai**
34. The Union Cabinet headed by the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi approved to increase the Authorized Share Capital of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) from Rs. 1000 crore to **Rs. 1200 crore.**
35. A permanent memorial of India's first aircraft carrier INS Vikrant has been unveiled in which city? **Mumbai**

### International Round-up

1. A US-based think-tank, released the 2016 Nuclear Security Index with the theme Building a Framework for Assurance, Accountability, and Action  
**Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI)**
2. Who lifted sanctions on Iran, falling in line with major world powers  
**Japan**
3. Who has maintained its high ranking in 2015 human development index (HDI) in the South Asia Region which ranked 73<sup>rd</sup> with an HDI value of 0.757  
**Sri Lanka**
4. Joint Working Groups on Sub-Regional Cooperation between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) on Water Resources Management, Power, Connectivity and Transit reviewed progress under the BBIN at **Dhaka**
5. Who on 24 January 2016 won the Presidential election of Portugal  
**Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa**

6. Microsoft co-founder and one of the richest people in human history, who once again comes out on top, with a net worth of \$87.4 billion which has been released by Wealth-X, a wealth-tracking website **Bill Gates**
7. On January 27, 2016 United Nations launched an appeal for a humanitarian aid of USD 393 million to **Afghanistan**
8. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon criticised Israel's new plans for Jewish settlements in the **West Bank**
9. Who stated that more than 8 million children living in conflict zones and crisis torn area will receive an access to education in 2016 **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**

### India and the world

1. India and France on January 25 signed a Memorandum of Understanding towards an Inter-governmental agreement (IGA) over the purchase of **36 Rafale jets from Dassault Aviation**
2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the President of France Mr François Hollande, has jointly laid the foundation stone of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Headquarters and inaugurated the interim Secretariat of the ISA in **National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Gwalpahari, Gurgaon**
3. India has donated ambulances and eight buses to various hospitals, non-profit charitable organisations and educational institutions in which country to strengthen the education and health services in the Himalayan nation **Nepal**
4. India and the Arab League have vowed to combat terrorism and called for developing a strategy to "eliminate" its sources and extremism, including its funding as External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj while addressing the 1<sup>st</sup> Ministerial Meeting of Arab-India Cooperation Forum in **Manama, Bahrain**
5. India and France inked how many Agreements/MoUs in Delhi **14**
6. The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi was apprised about signing of an agreement between India and which country in May 2015 **Russia**
7. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has apprised of the Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) signed between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) with its counterparts in **Malaysia, Singapore and Japan**
8. Which country remained at the top of Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, a closely watched global barometer, for the second consecutive year as the country perceived as least corrupt? **Denmark**
9. India and Armenia signed Protocol amending the India-Armenia Double Taxation Avoidance Convention in New Delhi. What is the capital of Armenia? **Yerevan**

## Science and technology

1. The New tree frog genus which was discovered in NE India and scientists believe they could also be living across a wide swath of Asia from China to Thailand has been named **Frankixalus**
2. World's fifth largest watchmaker Titan Company Ltd, of the Tata Group has unveiled a smartwatch in partnership with global technology giant HP Inc  
**JUXT**
3. Digital payment startup TranServ has entered the mobile wallet segment which is Known as the first Social Mobile Wallet  
**Udio**
4. Twenty-nine years after the demise the birdman of India, an international group of ornithologists named a newly discovered species after him as  
**Dr. Salim Ali**
5. Who has received US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) approval to manufacture and market Voriconazole tablets (50 mg and 200 mg) that are used to treat fungal infections  
**Aurobindo Pharma**
6. Astronomers discovered the largest known solar system, consisting of a large planet that takes nearly a million years to orbit its star. A team of astronomers in UK, USA and Australia found a lonely planet which was designated as  
**2MASS J2126**
7. New Shepard rocket of aerospace company who became the first reusable rocket which was reused and landed back successfully on earth - **Blue Origin**
8. Which place to get World's first 5G Network? – **Stockholm**
9. Which country has approved Terminal Sedation, Not Euthanasia? - **France**

## Sports

1. Roger Federer Wins 300th Grand Slam Singles Match at the Australian Open and who stands in front of him  
**Martina Navratilova (306)**
2. After more than two decades and 164 Test matches, one of West Indies' finest batsmen, who has retired  
**Shivnarine Chanderpaul**
3. Which India's Ace Shuttler has won the Malaysia Masters Grand Prix Gold Badminton title  
**PV Sindhu**
4. India defeated which country in the first ever championship of Blind T20 Asia Cup  
**Pakistan**
5. Veteran West Indies batsman and the seventh highest Test match run maker in history, who has announced his international retirement, 22 years after his debut  
**Shivnarine Chanderpaul**

6. Kolkata cueist who put up a dominating display on the green baize to outplay Siddharth Parekh 5-2 in the final of the National Billiards Championship  
**Sourav Kothari**
7. Which Indian Cricket player jumped eight spots to claim a career-best fifth position in the ICC batsman ranking  
**Rohit Sharma**
8. The International Hockey Federation or FIH has named which two persons of Netherlands as the 2015 Players of the Year in the men's and women's categories  
**Robert Van der Horst and Lidewij Welten**
9. The West Indies batsman who on 22 January 2016 announced his retirement from international cricket almost 22 years after making his debut  
**Shivnarine Chanderpaul**
10. India's top pistol shooter who has secured an Olympic quota for the country after she led from start to finish and claimed the gold medal in women's 10-m air pistol on day one of competition at the Asia Olympic Qualifiers for Shooting  
**Heena Sidhu**
11. Japan's Izumo Takuto and Zhu Chengzhu of Hong Kong emerged the boys and girls' champions in the 11Even Sports 2015 ITTF World Junior Circuit Finals at the  
**Abhay Prashal**
12. Who continued to hold on to the top spot in the all-rounders' table and also retained his second position in the bowling list in the latest ICC Test rankings  
**Ravichandran Ashwin**
13. Who defeated Australia by 37 runs in the first encounter of the three-match Twenty20 International series  
**India**
14. Cricket legend and Rajya Sabha MP Sachin Tendulkar has been named as the brand ambassador of a newly-launched pleasure cruise along with his former Australian opponents,  
**Shane Warne and Brett Lee**

### Important Days

1. January 24 - 9<sup>th</sup> 'National Girl Child Day'
2. January 25 – National Voters Day
3. January 26 – International Customs Day
4. January 28 – 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai

### Obituary

1. Former Deputy Speaker of Gujarat Assembly and Social Activist who passed away in Rajkot, Gujarat  
**Nirmala Gajwani**
2. Eminent Tabla player who passed away in Kolkata following a prolonged illness  
**Pandit Shankar Ghosh**

3. Which versatile actress in both Tamil and Malayalam films, passed away on January 25 in Hyderabad hotel  
**Kalpana**
4. The pioneer of artificial intelligence, who died at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital due to cerebral hemorrhage  
**Marvin Minsky**
5. Actor who is known for his work in The Godfather and on the television series Barney Miller, passed away on 26 January 2016 in New Jersey following natural causes **Abe Vigoda**
6. **Arindam Sen Gupta**, the managing editor of The Times of India, lost his battle against cancer and passed away.

### Tit-bits

1. Union Government has notified stricter environment norms for sugar industries operating in various states in the country to minimise water pollution by limiting the wastewater discharge to 200 litre per tonne of crushed cane, as against the previous limit of  
**400 litre per tone**
2. The state Government which launched Giriputrika Kalyana Pathakam Scheme to support the tribal women in their quest for livelihood  
**Andhra Pradesh**
3. In coming month, Delhiites would be picking up their products from  
**Delhi Railway station**
4. Who finally won the Bigg Boss 9  
**Prince Narula**
5. Beverages major Coca-Cola has announced its foray into value-added dairy drinks segment in the Indian market with  
**Vio brand**
6. Toyota has kept the title of world's biggest automaker for the fourth straight year after saying it sold 10.15 million vehicles globally in 2015, driving past Volkswagen and  
**General Motors**
7. The 46th Statehood Day of Himachal Pradesh was celebrated with great gaiety on  
**25 Jan 2016**
8. Uttar Pradesh CM Akhilesh Yadav launched a dedicated helpline for journalists with number  
**1880**
9. In which state the first Solar Power operated Mini-Water Supply Plant in the state has been commissioned in **Hingna village of Mouda Taluka in Nagpur district**  
**Maharashtra**
10. An unidentified balloon-like object was shot down by a fighter aircraft of Indian Air Force in Barmer district,  
**Rajasthan**

### Did You Know??

- May babies are on average 200 grams heavier than babies born in other months.
- Leonardo da Vinci was dyslexic, and he often wrote backwards.
- Children laugh about 400 times a day, while adults laugh on average only 15 times a day.
- There is cyanide in apple pips.
- The best time for a person to buy shoes is in the afternoon. This is because the foot tends to swell a bit around this time.
- The electric chair was invented by a dentist.
- The elephant is the only mammal that can't jump.
- The world's smartest pig, owned by a mathematics teacher in Madison, WI, memorized the multiplication tables up to 12.
- Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.
- In ancient Greece, children of wealthy families were dipped in olive oil at birth to keep them hairless throughout their lives.

THANK YOU 😊😊😊