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**Category Wise Current Affairs from January 2015 to June 2015**

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## AWARDS AND HONOURS

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Key Points
Business Person of the Year	Larry Page	Given by Fortune Magazine
State Pre-Eminent Science and Technology Award	Yu Min – Nuclear Scientist	Given by Chinese President Xi Jinping
2015 Space Pioneer Award	ISRO's Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) Team	Given by National Space Society
Asian Tour's Players Player of the Year	Anirban Lahiri	He is a Golfer
Ballon d'Or 2014 Award	Cristiano Ronaldo	Wins for II consecutive time
Governor of the Year	Raghuram Rajan	Given by Central Banking Awards
National e-Governance Award	Jammu and Kashmir	Given for the best District Level Initiative in India
Vyas Samman Award 2014	Kamal Kishore Goyanka	For his book 'Premchand Kee Kahaniyo Kaa Kaalkramanusar'. Given by KK Birla Foundation
National Tiger Conservation Authority Award	Periyar Tiger Reserve	Given for encouraging local public in managing reserve
Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Award	MYS Prasad	Given by Indian Science Congress Association
Sahitya Akademi Award	Prabhu Nath Dwivedi	Given for his work called 'Kanakalochanaha'
NSC Award for Best Electoral Practices	CV Anand	Given by Election Commission of India
Social Media Person of the year 2015	Amitabh Bachchan	Given by Internet and Mobile Association of India
Giraffe Hero Award	Subash Chandra Agarwal	He is RTI Activist
Best Indian Language Website in India	Navbharattimes.com	Given by Internet and Mobile Association of India
Hindu Literary Prize 2014	Ashok Srinivasan	Given for his book "Book of Common Signs"
Martin Luther King Award	Frank Islam	Given for his contribution in international service and civil engagement.
DSC Prize for South Asian Fiction	Jhumpa Lahiri	Given for her novel "The Lowland"
Kushwant Singh Memorial Prize	Arundhati Subramaniam	Given for her work "When God is a Traveller"
Sanjay Chopra Award	Devesh Kumar	Given by PM Modi Ji
Bapu Gaidani Award	Monika, Rumoh Meto, and Riya Chaudhary	Given by PM Modi Ji
Geeta Chopra Award	Gunjan Sharm	Given by PM Modi Ji
Bharat Award (These 4 are National Bravery Awards)	Resham Fatma	Given by PM Modi Ji

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Key Points
Bharat Gaurav Award	Nasrin Ejner	Given by Indian International Friendship Society
Yash Bharti Award	Vinod Mehta (Journalist)	Given by Government of UP
King Faisal International Award	Zakir Naik	Given by Saudi Arabia. Given for Zakir's services to Islam
Hayek Prize	Hindol Sengupta	Given by US for Sengupta's book named Recasting India: How Entrepreneurship is Revolutionizing the World's Largest Democracy
2014 Jnanpith Award	Bhalchandra Nemade	Fourth Marathi Writer to win the literary honour.
Charleston-EFG John Maynard Keynes Prize 2015	Amartya Sen	Given by United Kingdom
National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER award	Gurpreet Singh	Given by US National Science Foundation
ESPN Cricinfo Award	Rohit Sharma	Given for his record breaking 264 against Sri Lanka
Honorary life membership of Marylebone Cricket Club	Saurav Ganguly	Dada retired from all forms of cricket in 2012.
National Award for Renewable Energy Popularisation	Himachal Pradesh	Given by Prime Minister Modi to Power minister Sujan Singh Pathania
Y Nayudamma Memorial Award 2014	Tessy Thomas and Geeta Vardhan	Given for their contribution in the fields of missile technology and remote sensing
J Calvin Giddings Award 2015	Purnendu Dasgupta	Given by American Chemical Society Division of Analytical Chemistry
The Grand Prix of the Generation Kplus International Jury	Nagesh Kukunoor's film "Dhanak"	Given at the 65 <sup>th</sup> Berlin International Film Festival
Honorary doctorate by the Clemson University	Ratan Tata	Given for his contribution to the Automotive Industry.
International Cricket Council's Cricket Hall of Fame	Martin Crowe	He is the 111 New Zealander and 79th Cricketer to be inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame
National Award for creating awareness about the child trafficking	Rani Mukherjee	Given by the National Institute of Gender Justice (NIGJ)
Mo Ibrahim prize for African leadership 2014	Namibian President Hifikepunye Pohamba	This is the world's most valuable individual award

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Key Points
Golden Gate Award	Kerala Tourism Dept	Presented at the Internationale Tourismus-Borse Berlin (ITB-Berlin) 2015, Germany.
Best Wedding and Honeymoon Destination	Goa Tourism Dept	Given by Pacific Area Travel Writers Association.
Top Employer in Europe	Tata Consultancy Services	Won the award for Third Consecutive Time
Saraswati Samman Award	Veerappa Moily	For his literary work Ramayana Mahanveshanam
Stockholm Water Prize	Environment activist Rajendra Singh	He is also known as India's Water Man
International Women of Courage Award 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Captain Niloofar Rahmani from Afghanistan Air Force</li> <li>2. Nadia Sharmeen- Journalist and women's rights activist from Bangladesh</li> <li>3. Tabassum Adnan- founder of Khwendo Jirga from Pakistan.</li> </ol>	Given by United States for demonstrating exceptional courage and leadership in advocating for peace, justice, human rights and gender equality.
National Photography Awards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Life-Time Achievement Award- Surendra R Patel</li> <li>2. Best Professional Photographer of the Year- Swarup Duta</li> <li>3. Best Amateur Photographer of the Year- Sasikumar.</li> </ol>	<p>The theme for Professional Photographer category – "Hamara Bharat Swachh Bharat".</p> <p>The theme for Amateur Category – "Mother and Child".</p>
Voice of the Century Award	Lata Mangeshkar	Awarded at the sixth edition of the National Laadli Media and Advertising Awards
New South Wales (NSW) Woman of the year 2015	Minoti Apte (Indian Pancreatic Cancer Researcher)	Given for her enormous contributions to medical research
France's Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters	Bharti Kher	Given for her contribution in contemporary art landscape.
National Kavi Pradeep Samman Award	Gopaldas Neeraj	Given by Madhya Pradesh Culture Minister Surendra Patwa.
Foilo Prize for Fiction	Akhil Sharma	Given for his book named "Family Life"
Women in Parliaments Award	Bangladesh	Given for regional leadership in the South and Southeast Asia category for closing the gender gap in politics

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Key Points
Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award	Balbir Singh	Given by Hockey India
Dada Saheb Phalke Award	Bollywood Actor Shashi Kapoor	46th winner of this highly celebrated award
Bharat Ratna	Atal Bihari Vajpayee Madan Mohan Malviya	It is India's highest Civilian Award
Gandhi Peace Prize 2014	ISRO	Given for ISRO's contribution in nation's development
Abel Prize 2015	Dr. John Forbes Nash and Louis Nirenberg	Abel Prize – Considered as Nobel Prize in Mathematics
Bishwaratna Dr Bhupen Hazarika International Solidarity Award	Adoor Gopalakrishnan	Given by Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi
Femina Miss India 2015	Aditi Arya	2014 Miss India – Koyal Rana
Sir Richard Hadlee Medal	Brendon McCullum	It is the highest cricketing honor of New Zealand
Golden Peacock National Quality Award 2015	Delhi International Airport Ltd	Given by the UAE Minister Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan
Kumaran Asan World Prize for Poetry	Arab Poet Adonis	Kumaran Asan - Famous Malayalam poet
Institute of Physics Prize	Pratap Singh	Given by United Kingdom
Hevesy Medal Award	Susanta Lahiri	Lahiri was the co-creator of super heavy element 117
Indians among the Time's 100 most Influential People	1. PM Narendra Modi 2. Microsoft CRO S Nadella 3. ICICI CEO Chanda Kochar 4. Metal Health Expert Prof Vikram Patel	Time Magazine releases Top 100 People in many categories every year.
Champions of Change award	Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella	Given by Barack Obama
Orwell Prize	Rana Dasgupta	Given for his Literary Work "Capital"
Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation Award 2015	Shah Rukh Khan	Given for his performance in Happy New Year
Asian Banker Achievement Award 2015	Bharatiya Mahila Bank	Presented for Technology Implementation
e-Panchayat Puraskar Award	Tamil Nadu	Given for developing many applications
Outstanding Service Award	Gopinath Pillai (Indian Origin Diplomat)	Given by the National University of Singapore
Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2015	Anil Kapoor	This was the 73rd edition of the awards
Heinz award	Sangeeta N. Bhatia	Indian-origin scientist at MIT
Officier de la Légion d'Honneur	Yashwant Sinha	Given by the French Government

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Key Points
Chaplin Award	Hollywood Actor Robert Redford	Robert Redford founded the Sundance Institute in 1981 to help emerging film makers.
2015 Commonwealth Short Story Prize in Asia region	Siddhartha Gigoo	Given for his novel "Umbrella Man"
Sayyidina Imam Al Hassan Ibn Ali Peace Award	Maulana Wahiduddin Khan	He is well known for his knowledge and efforts in keeping peace
2015 RedInk Award for Lifetime Achievement for Excellence in Journalism	Prannoy Roy	He is the Executive Co-Chairman of NDTV
Journalist of the Year	Sreenivasan Jain	For his Truth versus Hype
Impact Editor of the Year	Arnab Goswami	For his The News Hour show
Japan's highest civilian award	CNR Rao	Given for his huge contributions to science and Indo-Japanese science co-operation
Man Booker International Prize 2015	Laszlo Krasznahorkai of Hungary	He is the sixth recipient to win this eminent award
World's best airport	Indira Gandhi International Airport	Given under the category of handling 25 to 40 million passengers per annum
UNESCO press freedom prize	Syrian journalist and rights activist Mazen Darwish	He has been jailed by the regime for more than three years
PEN Award for freedom of expression	Charlie Hebdo	Charlie Hebdo - Famous satirical magazine of France
Whitley Award or Green Oscar Award	Pramod Patil	Given for his work on the conservation of the Great Indian Bustard
2015 United Nations Public Service Award	Nadia District in West Bengal	Given for improving delivery of public services
UNC Board of Governors 2015 Award for Excellence in Teaching	Dr. Sivanadane Mandjiny	He is Indian-American Professor in US
National Geographic Bee Championship	Karan Menon of New Jersey	The Championship held at Washington, D.C.
Intel Foundation Young Scientist Award	Karan Jerath	Given for his device that shuts down the undersea oil spills in a speedy manner
Pt. Haridutt Sharma Award	Anuradha Prasad	She is the editor-in-chief of News-24 Channel
Top Civilian Supervisor of the Year	Harkeert Singh Saini	He is an Indian-American policeman and the award was given by Houston Police department

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Key Points
Most Reputed Company in India	Aditya Birla Group	Based on Nielsen's Corporate Image Monitor (CIM) 2014-15 survey
England Men's Cricketer of the year	Joe Root	Given by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)
England Women's Cricketer of the year	Charlotte Edwards	Given by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)
England Development Programme Cricketer of the Year award	Saqib Mahmood	He is Lancashire's right-arm seamer
Disability Cricketer of the Year	Luke Sugg	He belongs to England's Visually Impaired team
Indians - Radcliffe Fellowship	Shivani Agarwal and Maharaja Pandit	The Fellowship is given by Harvard University for 50 scholars every year
United Nation's Dag Hammarskjold Medal	Lance Naik Nand Ram & Raju Joseph	A total of 126 police, military and civilian personnel were awarded the UN medal
Oxford University Award	Gurnimrat 'Nimmy' Sidhu	Sidhu is currently the head of science at Oaks Park High School in north-east London.
Lifetime Achievement Award	Filmmaker and writer Subhash Ghai	Presented at the 16th edition of International Indian Film Academy (IIFA)
Indians in Forbes' World's 100 most Powerful Women	1. SBI Chief Arundhati Bhattacharya 2. ICICI bank head Chanda Kochhar 3. Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar- Shaw 4. HT Media Chair Shobhana Bhartia	Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel topped the list.
US spelling bee competition	Vanya Shivashankar and Gokul Venkatachalam	The winners will each receive over USD 37,000 in cash and prizes
Bangladesh Liberation War award	Atal Bihari Vajpayee	Given for his outstanding support for the country's independence from Pakistan in 1971
Norway's The Bjornson Prize for freedom of expression	Edward Snowden	The Bjornson Prize is named after a Norwegian Nobel literature laureate
King and Queen of Social Media	Shah Rukh Khan and Priyanka Chopra	Given by a leading Bollywood digital portal.

Name of the Award	Award Winner	Key Points
South African Cricketer of the Year	AB De Villiers	He won the award for a second consecutive time
Professor Honoris Causa Award	President Pranab Mukherjee	Given by the Belarus State University at a ceremony in Belarus
Lifetime achievement award in UAE	R Seetharaman	He is the CEO of Doha Bank
Asian Athletics Association (AAA) President's award	Suresh Kalmadi	Awarded for his contribution towards the development of athletics in the continent
Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction	Ali Smith	The Award was given for her novel "How to be Both"
Space Pioneer Award	ISRO	Given for ISRO's Mangalyaan
ICC Cricket Hall of Fame	Wesley Hall	80th player in the World to be inducted in Hall of fame
Pride of Community Award	Vivek Murthy	He is the present Surgeon General in US
Ludovic Trarieux Prize	Saudi Arabian Lawyer Waleed Abu al-Khai.	He has campaigned for reforms via his organization called Monitor of Human Rights in Saudi Arabia.
Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire	SA Hasan	He was the Former UK-based Managing Director of Tata Limited
Japan's Fukuoka Prize 2015	Ramachandra Guha	Given for his contribution to academia, arts and culture throughout Asia
Best Welfare Organization of the Year 2015 Award	National Union of Seafarers of India	Given by the United Kingdom-based International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network.
Best Test Player of 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	Sachin Tendulkar	Based on online poll conducted by Cricket Australia's website
Orden de la Democracia Simon Bolivar en el grado de cruz Caballero	Sri Sri Ravi Shankar	It is Columbia's Highest Civilian Award
Sangita Kalanidhi Award	Sanjay Subrahmanyam	Given by Music Academy
Viswanath Tripathi	MoorthiDevi Award	Given for his book "Vyomkesh Darvesh"

**For Awards and Honours – Group Awards – Check Study Materials Section at [www.DayTodayGK.com](http://www.DayTodayGK.com). Download option available.**



## APPOINTMENTS

Name of The Persons	Posts/Departments
R K Srivastava	Chairman of Airports Authority of India (AAI)
A.K. Mittal	Chairman of Railway Board
Arvind Panagariya	First Vice Chairman of the newly-created National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog
Sindhushree Khullar	First CEO of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog
Aziz Qureshi	Governor of Mizoram
AS Kiran Kumar	Secretary of the Dept of Space and also the Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
Hari Shankar Brahma	Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India
Pahlaj Nihalani	Chairperson of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).
Sunil Sood	India CEO of the telecom giant
Atul Khare	UN Under Secretary-General for Field Support, Department of Field Support (DFS).
Prof Kaptan Singh Solani	Governor of Punjab
Divya Prakash Sinha	Security Secretary in the Union Cabinet Secretariat.
Durga Prasad	Special Director General of Central Reserved Police Force (CRPF).
Kalyan Singh	Governor of Himachal Pradesh
Subrahmanyam Jaishankar	30th Foreign Secretary of India
Shekhar Sen	Chairman of Sangeet Natak Akademi
Ashton Carter	New US secretary of defence
Dr. Nandita Chatterjee	Secretary in the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA).
Suvarna Raju T	Chairman of the state-run Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL).
Sergio Mattarella	Italian president
LC Goyal	Secretary of India
MO Garg	Director General of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)
Ajaypal Singh Banga	member of the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations
Balasubramaniam Venkataramani	MD & CEO of Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX)
Dhanurjay Patil	Chief Data Scientist and Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Data Policy
Maheshwar Sahu	Independent Director on the board of Mukesh Ambani led Reliance Industries Limited (RIL).
Tapan Misra	Chairman of ISRO's Space Applications Centre (SAC)
Nitish Kumar	Chief Minister of Bihar

Name of The Persons	Posts/Departments
Rashad Hussain	Special Envoy and Coordinator of Centre Strategic Counter-terrorism Communications
Punit Renjen	CEO of US-based accounting company Deloitte Global Operations
Takahiro Hachigo	President and CEO of Honda
Ravi Chaudhary	Executive Director for Regions and Center Operations at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
Amitava Roy	Judge of the Supreme Court
Gopinath Pillai	Special envoy to Andhra Pradesh
Arvind Kejriwal	Chief Minister of Delhi
Mufti Mohammed Sayeed	Minister of Jammu and Kashmir
Jagmohan Dalmiya	Board for Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) president
Arun Singh	Ambassador to United States
Baldev Sharma	chairman of National Book Trust
Sunil Sabharwal	Alternate Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)
R M Vishakha	Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of IndiaFirst Life Insurance.
Kewal K Sharma	Secretary of Delhi
MC Mary Kom	Ambassador for north-east India
Ashu Suyash	MD & CEO of CRISIL
Abid Ali Neemuchwala	Group President and Chief Operating Officer of Wipro
Ruth Porat	Chief Financial Officer of Google Inc
Vikas Swarup	Spokesperson in the External Affairs Ministry
Gulshan Rai	India's first Cyber Security Chief
Keshari Nath Tripathi	16th governor of Mizoram
Rajeev Shukla	Chairman of the highly influential Indian Premier League (IPL) governing council by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)
Dr Mysamy Annadurai	Director of ISRO Satellite Centre (ISAC), Bengaluru
Sumit Mazumder	President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
Dr Nasim Zaidi	Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)
Arun Kumar Jha	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
Shamina Singh	Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.
Dr Mohan Kumar	Ambassador to France
Raja Rajeswari	Criminal court judge in New York City
Vivek Priyadarshi	Head a new investigating team to further investigate the IPL-6 spot-fixing and betting scandal
Sitaram Yechury	Fifth general secretary of CPM
Rishad Premji	Wipro board
Vivek Murthy	US Surgeon General

<b>Name of the Persons</b>	<b>Posts/Departments</b>
Jyoti Prashad Rajkhowa	Arunachal Pradesh Governor
Sanjay Gupta	Chairman of Engineers Ltd
K Sivan	VSSC Chief
Sachin Tendulkar, Saurav Ganguly, VVS Laxman	Advisory Panel of BCCI
Ameenah Gurib-Fakim	First Woman President of Mauritius
Meena Hemachandra	Executive Director of RBI
Air Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa	IAF's new Vice Chief
Pawan Munjal	Chairman of HERO Motocorp
R Seshasayee	Executive Chairman of Infosys
Rahul Dravid	Coach of India A and Under 19 Teams
KV Chowdary	Central Vigilance Commissioner
Vijai Sharma	Chief information Commissioner
RC Tayal	Director General of National Security Guard
MK Sharma	Non-Executive Chairman of ICICI Bank
Nikhil Seth	Head of UNITAR
Anuj Mathur	CEO of Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance
Srivari Chandrasekhar	Director of CSIR-IICT
Nokesh Arora	Softbank President
Jack Dorsey	Twitter CEO
Steffi Graf	Brand Ambassador of Kerala's Ayurveda
Anshula Kant	Deputy Managing Director and CFO of SBI
Zaheer Abbas	President of International Cricket Council
Dennis Muilenburg	CEO of Boeing
Vindo Rai	Independent Director of IDFC
Mukesh Khanna	Chairperson of Children Film Society of India

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**I Hated Every Minute Of Training, But I Said, “Don’t Quit. Suffer Now And Live The Rest Of Your Life As Champions” - Muhammad Ali**

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## BANKING AND FINANCE

<p>1. SEBI framed new set of rules for listing and trading of municipal bonds on stock exchanges to boost the centre's 'smart cities' initiative and also helps to channel the household investments into urban infrastructure development.</p> <p>2. The Government of India has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) for \$75 million loan to improve water resource management in three towns of Karnataka namely, Byadagi, Davanagere and Harihar in the Upper Tungabhadra sub-basin. The project is named as Karnataka Integrated Urban Water Management Investment Program (KIUWMIP).</p> <p>3. The RBI has signed an information sharing agreement with US banking regulators for better coordination with them in supervising financial institutions.</p> <p>4. ICICI Bank has launched its own version of Digital Village Project by adopting entire Akodara Village in Sabarkantha district of Gujarat. This project will provide services ranging from cashless banking to digitised school teaching.</p> <p>5. The Reserve Bank of India has relaxed the Know Your Customer (KYC) norms for existing clients of Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) based on risk their profile.</p> <p>6. ICICI Bank has launched country's first 'contact less' debit and credit cards, that would work on the Near-Field Communication (NFC) technology.</p> <p>7. Kotak Mahindra Bank approved the merger with ING Vysya Bank with a share exchange ratio of 725:1000.</p>	<p>8. HDFC Bank is the only Indian bank among the world's 50 most valued lenders in 2014 with a market capitalization (M-Cap) of \$41 billion. The State Bank of India (SBI) has been ranked at 51st position with M-Cap of \$36.40 billion and ICICI Bank is at 55th position with M-Cap of \$33.42 billion.</p> <p>9. According to the International Monetary Fund, India is expected to grow at 6.3% in 2015 and 6.5% in 2016, crossing China's projected growth rate.</p> <p>10. The UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) 2015 report states that India's growth in terms of GDP is expected to reach 5.9% in 2015 and 6.3% in 2016.</p> <p>11. The State Bank of India (SBI) has signed a loan agreement for €100 million with the European Investment Bank (EIB) to support the private sector's development in India</p> <p>12. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed an MoU on Supervisory Cooperation and Exchange of Supervisory Information with Brazil's Central Bank- Banco Central do Brasil (BCB).</p> <p>13. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gave more power to banks to restructure external commercial borrowings (ECBs) of companies. RBI has allowed the banks,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To modify the draw-down and repayment schedules of the ECBs.</li> <li>b) To change the ECB loan from one company to another in case of re-organization or merger.</li> <li>c) To reduce the amount of ECB along with any changes in draw-down and repayment schedules.</li> </ul>
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14. IMF raises India's growth forecast to 7.2%

15. IAG to raise stake in Indian joint venture with SBI to 49%

16. Reliance Industries Limited has become the India's largest company in terms of asset with the asset worth Rs. 3.68 Lakh Crore.

17. Reserve Bank of India has eased the norms for home loans for up to 10 lakh rupees by authorizing the banks to include stamp duty, registration, and other documentation charges to the cost of a unit.

18. Reserve Bank of India to put One Rupee note in Circulation.

19. RBI barred Macau and Hong Kong citizens from buying property in India.

20. HDFC Bank launched mobile app Chillr to instantly transfer money to any person in India.

21. Life Insurance Corporation of India to invest Rs.1.5 Lakh Crore in Railways

22. Swachh Bharat may add 1% extra service tax to 5-star Bills

23. The Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India have signed a monetary policy agreement that will fix a target for consumer price inflation of 4% for the 2016/17 fiscal year to bring retail inflation below 6 percent by January 2016.

24. RBI signs \$400 million currency swap pact with Sri Lanka.

25. Union Government approves 10 FDI proposals worth Rs.2857.83 crore.

26. SEBI approved guidelines to govern international financial services centres (IFSC).

28. GOI approves 17 Mega Food Parks for food processing across the country

29. MUDRA (Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Ltd) Bank Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi aimed at "funding the unfunded". Jiji Memon is the CEO of Mudra Bank. Mr Menon is the chief general manager with Nabard.

30. World Bank predicts India's GDP to be 8% by 2017.

31. WEF released a report on Urban Development Recommendations for India.

32. ICICI Bank launches Tap n Pay Payment Service in collaboration with Tech Mahindra.

33. Asian Development Bank to give \$31 million for water resource management in Karnataka.

34. State Bank of India launches RuPay Platinum Debit Card. The card would be initially issued free to customers maintaining a quarterly balance of Rs 50,000.

35. HDFC among the World's Top-10 List of Consumer Finance Firms

36. Reserve Bank of India has asked all public sector banks, some private and foreign sector banks to appoint internal ombudsman

37. SBI launches contactless debit and credit card with Rs 1 lakh fraud cover.

38. ICICI Bank launched an app named eftCheque to replicate cheque book

39. HDFC Bank launches pre-paid medical card with Apollo Hospitals

40. SBI extends overdraft facility against FD for online customers.

41. According to the UN WESP report, India's economic growth is expected to surpass China's economic growth, with GDP projected to zoom by 7.7% in next year.

42. State Bank of India partners with PayPal and Amazon.

43. National Payments Corp of India gets RBI nod to tie-up with China UnionPay.

44. The Reserve Bank of India has doubled the eligibility limit for FOREX remittances to \$250,000 per person per year under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS)

45. The government of India has decided to infuse Rs 6,990 crore in nine public sector banks (PSBs) out of the current year's budget to strengthen their capital base. The government had allocated Rs 11,200 crore in the Budget for 2014-15 for capital infusion.

46. ICICI Bank launched a mobile payments wallet for Android phones called Pockets, which integrates a digital wallet, a physical prepaid card and a basic savings bank account.

47. Apple Inc becomes First Company worth over \$700 bn in Global Market Value

48. The Reserve Bank of India, the foreign exchange reserves of India has raised to USD 333.169 billion

50. FDI in India doubles to 2.16 Billion USD. The top sectors which received the maximum FDI are

- Telecom Industry – 2.67 billion dollars
- Services – 2.29 billion dollars
- Automobile – 1.58 billion dollars
- Pharmaceuticals – 1.21 billion dollars
- Software – 971 million dollars

51. India received maximum FDI from,

- Mauritius – 5.89 billion dollars
- Singapore – 4.31 billion dollars
- Netherlands – 2.57 billion dollars
- United States – 1.48 billion dollars
- Japan – 1.42 billion dollars

52. RBI allows banks to tie up with e-Commerce Companies

53. ICICI links with UAE bank Emirates NBD for rapid money transfers

54. The Reserve Bank of India has revised the priority sector lending norms and directed banks to give 8 per cent of the extended loans to small and marginal farmers.

55. Yes Bank to be listed in American Stock Exchanges

56. Bank of Baroda signs agreement UAE Exchange for instant money transfer

57. The Reserve Bank of India has penalized Bank of Maharashtra, Dena Bank and Oriental Bank of Commerce for violation of KYC norms (know your customer) and anti money laundering (ALM) norms. The RBI has put a fine of Rs 15 lakhs on each banks

58. World Bank Predicts India to grow at 7.5% in 2015-16 and 8% in 2017-18

59. GOI retains interest rate for GPF at 8.7% for current fiscal

60. FDI soars 63 per cent to USD 3.28 billion

61. CEA Arvind Subramanian to head panel to fix data issues

62. Reserve Bank of India allocated Rs 10 K Crore to SIDBI

63. ICICI Bank opened its first Chinese branch in Shanghai

64. PM Modi to launch three Social Security Schemes.

- Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)
- Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)
- Atal Pension Yojana (APY).

65. India's Fortis Healthcare Ltd has decided to sell its stake in Singapore based healthcare unit RadLink-Asia Pte Ltd to Fullerton Healthcare group Pte Ltd for S\$111 million (\$83.47 million or Rs 530 crore).

66. GOI approves revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement with South Korea

67. RBI signs MoU with Central Bank of Seychelles on info exchange

68. Government of India relaxes FDI norms for NRIs, PIOs, and OCIs

69. SEBI ropes in Narayana Murthy to head panel on start-ups

70. The Reserve Bank of India has decided to set up a Central Fraud Registry to check out the impact of frauds on banks' financials

71. Bank of India tied up with MasterCard to launch three new cards and also two new banking solutions for its card holders. The bank launched Business Debit MasterCard, Platinum Credit MasterCard and International Travel MasterCard to improve customers' payment experiences.

72. ICICI launches voice password facility for users

73. Singapore's DBS Bank seeks RBI nod to set up arm in India

74. Bank of China may open first India branch in Mumbai

75. RBI plans IT wing to deal with cyber crime

76. State Bank of India launched Online Customer Acquisition Solution

77. The Reserve Bank of India is in discussions with the central government for the reduction of cash usage. RBI is looking at various ways to incentivise cashless transactions. The government as well as the RBI are doing many things to promote cashless transactions. At present, a commission of up to 2 per cent is charged for card transactions.

78. The Reserve Bank of India has decided to ease the provisioning norms relating to losses arising out of sale of bad loans to asset reconstruction companies (ARCs). The RBI has now allowed banks to spread losses on sale of bad loan to such ARCs up to March 2016. Previously it was up to March 2015.

79. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced the repo rate by 25 basis points from 8.0% to 7.75% with immediate effect. The Cash Reserve Ratio has been kept unchanged at 4%. Subsequently the reduction in the repo rate made the reverse repo rate adjust to 6.75% and the marginal standing facility rate and Bank Rate to 8.75%.

80. GOI's Expenditure Management Commission will submit its final report by December 2015. The announcement was made by the commission's Chairman Bimal Jalan. GOI had set up the Commission under the former RBI Governor in August 2014 to suggest steps to reduce subsidies on food, fertiliser and oil and narrow the fiscal deficit. Former finance secretary Sumit Bose and former RBI deputy governor Subir Gokarn are members of the Commission.

81. The world's first facial recognition ATM has been unveiled by China. The ATM will not allow users to withdraw cash unless their face matches their IDs. The machine was created by Tsinghua University and Hangzhou-based technology company Tzekwan.

82. The proposal of Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in his Budget to increase service tax from 12.36 percent (including education cess) to 14 percent takes effect from June 1. Some of the important services that will attract higher tax and hence become costlier are railways, airlines, banking, insurance, advertising, architecture, construction, credit cards, event management and tour operators.

83. The Reserve Bank of India has slashed the repo rate by 25 basis points. The new repo rate will be 7.25%. Consequently the new reverse repo rate will be 6.25%. A rate cut by RBI would need to be accompanied by steps to boost liquidity.

#### Current Rates

- Repo Rate – 7.25%
- Reverse Repo Rate – 6.25%
- Marginal Standing Facility – 8.25%
- Bank Rate – 8.25%
- CRR – 4%
- SLR – 21.5%

84. RBI has allowed banks to invest in infrastructure bonds (long term) of other banks. This will give a boost to the infrastructure development. Currently banks are not allowed to cross-hold long-term bonds issued specifically for the purpose of financing of infrastructure and affordable housing loans among themselves.

85. HDFC MF or HDFC Mutual Fund has retained its position as the most profitable fund house in 2014-15, with a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 416 crore. HDFC's rival Reliance MF remains at the second place, with a PAT of Rs 357 crore during the last fiscal.

86. Maharashtra leads the mutual fund landscape or MF Chart in India with an assets base of Rs 1.21 lakh crore at the end of April in equity-oriented schemes. The Marathi state is followed by Delhi with Rs 28,058 crore, Karnataka with Rs 27,625 crore, Gujarat with Rs 25,402 crore, and West Bengal with Rs 21,189 crore.

87. Bangladesh has given permission to the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to run its business in the insurance market. LIC become the second foreign insurance company to operate in the country after the US-based MetLife-ALICO.

88. India has signed a Legal Agreement with the World Bank for International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) Loan of US\$ 400 Million for Tamil Nadu Sustainable Urban Development Project.

89. World Bank has approved a loan of \$250 million for Jhelum and Tawi Flood Recovery Project for reconstruction of flood-affected public infrastructure in Jammu & Kashmir.

90. Reserve Bank of India is all set to issue first set of Small and Payment bank licences in the next two months. The RBI had received a total of 72 applications for small finance bank licences and 41 applications for payment bank licences. The main objective behind the introduction of Small and Payment Bank is to promote Financial Inclusion.



91. Mauritius has gained its place as top source of foreign direct investment or FDI into India. It has pushed Singapore to the second slot in 2014-15. Mauritius accounted for about 29 per cent of the country's total FDI inflows last fiscal. In 2013-14, Singapore had replaced Mauritius as the top source of FDI into India.

92. HDFC Bank launched Pay Zapp. PayZapp is a complete digital payment and purchase solution, a one-stop online portal offering customers 'great deals at one place'. It is a two factor authentication. Customers don't have to enter their information again and again. It is one click app. PayZapp will help its customers do multiple transactions.

93. According to the recent World Bank report, India has figured in top five emerging economies for highest investment commitments in private sector, infrastructure sectors – energy, transport and water. Clive Harris of World Bank said that the top five countries with the highest investment commitments in 2014 are Brazil, Turkey, Peru, Colombia and India.

94. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that non-resident Indians (NRIs) can make investments in chit funds in India on a non-repatriation basis without any ceiling. This implies that an NRI can get back the proceeds of such investments only in rupee. The Chit funds for NRI will encourage flow of capital into the country.

95. India's financial markets regulation framework stood up at the highest ratings from the global bodies of banking and capital market regulators, with RBI and SEBI being rated better than their competitors in China and the US. The 'Rating Level 4' means that the financial market regulators like the Reserve Bank of India and the Securities and Exchange Board of India have all regulatory measures "fully in force.

96. According to Paris-based think tank OECD, Indian economy saw the "strongest growth" in the first quarter of 2015 among large economies, including China, the US, Germany and Canada. India recorded the strongest growth in the first quarter of 2015 (2.1 per cent, up from 1.4 per cent in the previous quarter).

97. Singapore has emerged as one of the top three locations attracting India's outbound investments during June, 2013 – May, 2014 period. Singapore has ranked third, accounting for 13.3 per cent of India's outbound investments during June 2013-May 2014 period. Netherlands ranked first in the chart with 26.1 per cent, followed by Mauritius with 15.9 per cent of outbound investments.

98. The Reserve Bank has issued final guidelines for the 6-year and 13-year cash settled interest rate futures (IRF).

99. India is in dialogue with Cyprus for sharing tax information. The island nation was blacklisted by India in 2013 for not sharing tax information under the Taxation treaty. The finance Ministry classified Cyprus as a notified jurisdictional area on grounds that the country was not providing information requested by tax authorities under the taxation treaty.

100. The Government of India has approved proposals for FDI in Pharma Sector amounting to around Rs 4,000 crore by four pharma and medical devices firms.

101. India's Banking Giant, the State Bank of India (SBI) has launched SBI eforex, an Internet-based platform that enables customers to book their foreign exchange transactions online. By using this platform, the bank customers can obtain forex rates without having to physically visit the branch. SBI eforex is an advanced platform with highly robust security features.

102. HDFC Bank has launched instant paperless personal loan plan for its existing customers under which the bank will disburse personal loans in just 10 seconds. The users can simply log into their bank account via net-banking or mobile banking and avail of this loan at a click. The quick disbursal of funds will help customers, particularly in medical or other types of emergencies.

103. According to global financial major Bank of America-Merrill Lynch report, global investors have reduced their exposure to emerging market equities due to weak earnings prospects, weak Chinese economic growth and a strong dollar. India topped the global emerging market investors' country preference chart followed by China and Poland in the second and third place, respectively.

104. ICICI Bank has announced an association with Alibaba.com to provide easier trade finance to India-based sellers on the portal. Indian micro, small and medium entrepreneurs (MSME) who are members of Alibaba.com will also get access to ICICI Bank's other banking facilities such as cash management, foreign exchange, bank guarantees and cross-border remittances.

105. Deposits of non-residents (NRs) in Kerala banks have crossed Rs 1 lakh crore in the last fiscal, said a State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) report released. From Rs 66,190 crore in March 2013, these climbed to Rs 93,883 crore by March 31, 2014, and further to Rs 1,09,603 crore in the last fiscal.

106. According to the report by United Nations, India leads regional inflow of Foreign Direct Investment or FDI in South Asia accounting for \$ 34 billion investment during 2014. The report has placed China as the world's largest FDI recipient.

107. Australia on 24th June 2015 announced that it will join the new China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB) as a founding member, contributing about 930 million dollars to the financial institution of which India will be the second-largest shareholder. Australia will be the Sixth largest shareholder.

108. RBI has Eased norms for accessing foreign funds. These norms had been updated on 25th June 2015 and they allowed banks to borrow from international financial institutions for general banking business without seeking its permission.

109. Currency notes of Rs. 100 denomination would now come with extra security feature-numerals in ascending size in the number panels. RBI has issued Rs. 100 denomination banknotes in Mahatma Gandhi Series – 2005 with this type of new numbering pattern.

### New Pattern

- the numerals in both the number panels of these banknotes will be in ascending size from left to right.
- the first three alphanumeric characters (prefix) will remain constant in size.
- the new numbering pattern will be introduced in a phased manner in all other denominations.

110. SBI will install 10 lakh payment card swipe machines (point of sales, or PoS, terminals) across the country, which will double the number of places where card payment is accepted. The bank is also launching a huge campaign to promote cash withdrawal of up to Rs 1,000 at these PoS terminals

## Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)

- PMJJBY will offer a renewable one year life cover of Rs 2 lakh.
- Age group – 18-50 years (must be savings bank account holders).
- It covers death due to any reason.
- Annual Premium – Rs 330 per annum.
- The scheme would be administered through LIC or other Life Insurance companies.

## Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)

- PMSBY will offer a renewable one year accidental death-cum-disability cover of Rs 2 lakh for partial/permanent disability.
- Age Group – 18-70 years (must be savings bank account holders)
- Annual Premium – Rs 12 per annum.
- The scheme would be administered through public sector general insurance companies or other general insurance firms.

## Atal Pension Yojana (APY)

- The pension scheme will focus on the unorganised sector.
- The scheme provide subscribers a fixed minimum pension of Rs 1,000, 2,000, 3,000, 4,000 or Rs 5,000 per month starting at the age of 60 years.
- The minimum pension amount is depend on the contribution option exercised on entering at an age between 18 and 40 years.
- The period of contribution by any subscriber under APY would be 20 years or more.
- The fixed minimum pension would be guaranteed by the government.

111. India has emerged as the second biggest stakeholder in the 57-nation Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank after a meeting of its chief negotiators in Singapore. China, which sponsored the bank, will have 30.85 per cent share followed by India with 10.85 percent.

112. United Bank of India is on the top of the list of public sector lenders with maximum bad loans including restructured assets as a percentage of total advances. According to the data provided by the RBI, United Bank of India's 21.5 per cent assets are either bad or non-performing assets (NPAs).

113. Infosys has launched a mobile-based financial and business management solution called Finacle SME Enable to help Small and Medium business Enterprise customers.

114. NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Arvind Panagariya said India's growth rate is expected to accelerate to 8 per cent in the current financial year and the economy will surpass USD 3 trillion mark in less than five years. Indian economy, which is little more than USD 2 trillion, recorded a growth rate of 7.3 per cent in 2014-15. India is presently the third largest economy in Asia after China and Japan.

115. According to the US Embassy, India is one of the fastest growing FDI sources for the United States with investors from the country more interested in US' aerospace and textile sectors. Officially India is the fourth fastest growing source of FDI into the United States. The total stock of FDI from India to the United States is USD 11 billion.

## INDIAN AFFAIRS

<p>1. Government of India has renamed Planning commission as National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NITI Aayog will serve as a 'Think Tank' of the government</li> </ul> <p>2. GOI blocks 32 websites for ISIS Propaganda and Anti-Indian views.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action was taken following an advisory given by an Anti Terrorism Squad (ATS).</li> </ul> <p>3. GOI launched women safety mobile app – "Himmat".</p> <p>4. Operation Smile – An Initiative to Trace Missing Children launched by Cyberabad Police.</p> <p>5. Sales of loose Tobacco and Cigarettes Banned in Punjab – First Indian state to ban.</p> <p>6. PM Narendra Modi Inaugurates Dandi Kutir Museum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>inaugurated in Gandhinagar of Gujarat.</li> <li>inaugurated the museum on the occasion of the 13th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD)</li> </ul> <p>7. India Celebrates National Youth Festival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 19th National Youth Festival has begun in Guwahati (Assam) with the theme Youth for <i>Clean, Green and Progressive India</i>.</li> </ul> <p>8. Mobile App for Safety of Women Passengers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mobile app called "m-Indicator" was launched by the Union Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu for the safety of women passengers who are using Mumbai's suburban trains.</li> </ul>	<p>9. Odhisa's Sun Temple gets ASI's Adarsh Monument tag</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sun Temple at Konark, Odhisa has been the coveted with Adarsh Monument tag by the Archaeological Survey of India.</li> </ul> <p>10. GOI has commissioned India's first Hi-speed rural broadband network using the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) in the Idukki district of Kerala.</p> <p>11. The first-ever Buddha Heritage Walk introduced by the Bihar Tourism Development Corporation (BSTDC).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More than 500 people had walked in 13 kilo meter long forest trail which Lord Gautama Buddha had once walked to reach Rajgir from Bodh Gaya around 2,543 years ago.</li> </ul> <p>12. Union Government merges PIO and OCI cards</p> <p>13. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley adopts four villages in Gujarat under 'Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana'. The villages are Karnali, Pipaliya, Valida, and Baglipura.</p> <p>14. International Kite Festival was celebrated at Gujarat</p> <p>15. India provides a fund of Rs 1500 crore to Nepal's Pancheshwar multi-purpose project on Mahakali river for countering the Kheri floods in Uttar Pradesh.</p> <p>16. Adani Enterprises and Sun Edison Inc signed an MoU to establish a Joint Venture to build India's largest, vertically integrated solar photovoltaic (PV) manufacturing facility in Mundra, Gujarat with an investment of around \$4 billion.</p>
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17. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu flagged off the India's first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) based two trains (Rewari to Rohtak and Rewari to Bikaner station) from Haryana's Rewari station.

18. The annual 'Flamingo Festival' began at Sullurupeta near the Pulicat lake bird sanctuary in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh.

19. Indian Air Force gets LCA Tejas after 32 years. Was handed over to the Indian Air Force by the Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar

20. IIT and ONGC signed an MoU to develop indigenous technologies to enhance oil exploration.

21. HRD Minister laid Foundation stone for IIM-Visakhapatnam at Gambheeram village of Andhra Pradesh.

22. Probability of death by Non Communicable Diseases such as cancer, diabetes, heart and respiratory diseases in India is 26% : WHO

23. Global Talent Competitive Index 2014

- India ranked 78th globally out of 93 countries. The top 5 are Switzerland, followed by Singapore, Luxembourg, Denmark, and United States.

24. Modi's Jan Dhan Yojana entered into Guinness Records for most bank accounts opened in one week.

25. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued draft regulations to facilitate full mobile number portability (MNP).

26. Censor Board Chief Leela Samson quits  
21. Red Sari – a Controversial Book on Sonia Gandhi is out in India (Author – Javier Moro)

27. President Pranab Mukherjee has launched Pulse Polio Immunization programme

28. The Government of India set up a High Level committee chaired by Shanta Kumar on restructuring the Food Corporation of India (FCI) on August 20, 2014. Committee gave its recommendations.

29. Kerala Culture Minister K C Joseph announced the setting up of India's first International Institute of Music in Kerala.

30. Kerala Government slaps Rs 54 crore fine on 4 Online Trading Companies - Vector e-commerce, Flipkart, Robemall Apparels and Jabong.

31. India and United States sign three MoUs on smart cities.

- Vishakapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.
- Ajmer in Rajasthan.
- Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh.

32. India celebrated its 66th Republic Day on January 26'2015. US President Barack Obama was the Chief Guest of this day.

- Theme for the 66th Republic Day Parade was Nari Shakthi which means Women Empowerment.
- Wing Commander Pooja Thakur has become the first woman officer to lead the ceremonial Guard of Honour at Rashtrapathi Bhavan.

33. Make in India: Suzuki to invest Rs.8,000 crore in Gujarat

34. Supreme Court directs search engines to block sex determination advertisements

35. Himachal Pradesh has succeeded in reducing Poverty – World Bank

36. PM Narendra Modi Launches “Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao”

- aims to improve the child sex ratio and also to save & empower girl child.
- The scheme was launched from Haryana, which has the lowest Child Sex Ratio in country (879 girls per 1,000 boys).
- The national child sex ratio is 918 girls per 1000 boys.

37. The 14th edition of the World Toilet Summit organized by the World Toilet Organization was held in New Delhi (Jan 19 to Jan 20).

38. The Jaipur Literature Festival, famously referred as Asia’s biggest literary festival has began at the Diggi Palace Hotel of Jaipur.

39. India and United States have signed a Joint Declaration of Intent for cooperation in the field of Information & Communications Technology and Electronics (ICTE)

40. The 15th Sustainable Development Summit was held in New Delhi.

- The summit was organised by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)
- The Theme was *Sustainable Development Goals and Dealing with Climate Change*.

41. The event "Udyanotsav" was inaugurated by President Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

42. 18th National Conference on e-Governance concluded in Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat. Theme of this conference was Digital Governance-New Frontier.

42. Madhya Pradesh won the 10th National Award for excellence in MGNREGA.

43. CM Manohar Lal Khattar launches e-registration of properties in Haryana

44. Chhattisgarh CM declares Valentine's Day as 'Matru-Pitru Diwas'

45. The XIII Ishara International Puppet Festival was held in Gurgaon (February 3 to February 11, 2015).

46. India has ranked 136th position out of 180 nations in the recently released World Press Freedom Index (WPFI), released by The Reporters Without Borders (RWB). The Top five are Finland, Norway, Denmark, Netherlands, and Sweden.

47. The Finance Ministry of India has imposed anti-dumping duty on all imports of graphite electrodes from China based on recommendations of the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping Duty for the next five years.

48. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 10th Aero India show at the Yelahanka Air Force Station, Bengaluru. The first edition of the air show was held in 1996.

49. India’s first National Tribal Festival ‘VANAJ’ was concluded on 18 February 2015 in New Delhi. More than 900 folk and tribal artists from many Indian states participated in it.

50. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a “Soil Health Card scheme” in Suratgarh, Rajasthan. The card will carry crop-wise recommendation of fertilizers required for farm lands.

51. IRCTC introduces Cash on Delivery for Train Tickets

- Anduril Technologies via their website and their mobile application – BookMyTrain.com is authorised for providing CoD services.

52. Kolkata becomes India's First Wi-Fi Metro City. It was inaugurated by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in the City's Park Street Area.

53. The state Government of Odisha has appointed Justice Madan Mohan Das as Chairman of the Commission of Inquiry probing chit fund scam in Odisha.

54. According to the Research Firm Canalys, the budget smartphone maker Micromax overtook Samsung Electronics as the leading supplier in India's smartphone market.

55. Indian Coastal Guard Commissioned ICGS Amogh at Paradip Port (Odisha). Amogh is a fast patrol vessel (FPV) built by the Kerala-based Cochin Shipyard Limited.

56. In a clean sweep, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) led by Arvind Kejriwal has defeated the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress Party by recorded a historical victory, securing 67 of the 70 seats in the Delhi assembly elections.

57. The third Tortoise Festival was organized by Assam's Dima Hasao Environment and Forest Department on the banks of Hajong lake.

58. Union Cabinet has approved the implementation of the solar scheme for setting up of 15,000 Mega Watt Grid-connected Solar Photo Voltaic Power projects under the National Solar Mission.

59. The third edition of 'Aqua Aquaria India', the largest aquaculture-cum-aquariculture show in Asia, is held in Vijayawada Andhra Pradesh.

- The three-day event was inaugurated by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

60. Hyderabad hosted its annual Hyderabad International Auto Show (HIAS). It is the flagship event under the Vista Entertainments, which was established in the year 2008.

61. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has flagged off the first ever express train from Naharlagun to New Delhi on the State's 29th foundation day (February 20' 2015).

62. The Government of India launched a new portal (website) known as 'Madad'.

- This website will provide a platform for Indian citizens living abroad to file consular grievances online.
- The portal 'Madad' was launched by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.

63. Indian Railways has launched a smart card scheme called "Go India" on a pilot basis on two sectors – *New Delhi-Mumbai* and *New Delhi-Howrah*. The card currently enables the railway passengers to pay for reserved and unreserved tickets that can be used at ticket counters.

64. India has signed an agreement with Spain on 'Mutual Protection of Classified Information' to provide the framework for enhanced cooperation in the defence sector. The agreement was signed between Spanish Defence Minister Pedro Moremes and Indian defence Minister Manohar Parrikar.

65. National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) said that it has linked 15 crore bank accounts with Aadhaar number, the unique identification number to the citizens of India.

66. A large scale Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) exercise was conducted on the Lakshadweep Islands (Karavati, Aggatti, Kalpeni and Androth). More than 20 ships from the Western and Eastern Fleet of the Indian Navy were involved.

67. Union government launched an initiative to hold live chats with people on social media. The initiative named 'talkathon' and will be held fortnightly and will address live and spontaneous questions from the people on social media including YouTube.

68. The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) has signed an MoU with Gujarat Forest Department for the conservation of Asiatic lion and its habitat.

69. The Indian Navy concluded its month-long annual Theatre Level Readiness and Operational Exercise (TROPEX) in the Arabian Sea and Northern Indian Ocean.

70. The Election Commission of India has launched NERPAP – National Electoral Roll Purification and Authentication Programme, all over India with the objective of bringing a totally error free and authenticated electoral roll.

71. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akilesh Yadav has flagged off the 'Indo-Nepal friendship' bus service that will link Kashi and Kathmandu directly with two buses. The Varanasi to Kathmandu Bus service is called the "Bharat-Nepal Maitri Bus Seva" (India-Nepal Friendship Bus Service).

72. British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) has released the controversial documentary – India's Daughter, which is about the 16th December Delhi gang-rape despite Government's ban.

73. The first India-Nepal Friendship Motor Rally was concluded at lawns of India Gate. The rally was flagged off at Puri, Odisha on February 27. A total of twenty four teams and about 90 riders were participated from both the countries.

74. The Union Heavy Industries Minister Anant Geete said that Government has decided to close the 5 sick Public Sector Undertakings that include HMT and its three units, and Hindustan Shipyard.

75. Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Ananth Kumar launched Pharma Jan Samadhan Scheme, which is a web enabled system created by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), for redressal of consumers' grievances relating to pricing and availability of medicines.

76. Delhi government has decided to enforce ban on the storage, sale, and purchase of all kinds of raw chewable tobacco products such asgutkha, khaini and zarda in the National Capital.

77. The Supreme Court has struck down the controversial decision to grant reservation to Jats Community in jobs and educational institution terming it Negative and retrograde governance.

78. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore [MoS for Information and Broadcasting] inaugurated the first national workshop on photography and videography at New Delhi.

79. Industrialist Ratan Tata will head "Kaya Kalp", a new innovative council of Indian Railways, which is formed to turn around the ailing state-run rail network.

80. The Union Cabinet of India gave its approval to the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (outcome-based skill training scheme). The total fund allocated for PMKVY is Rs. 1500 Crores.



81. Union Government brought 52 new drugs under National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) control to keep check on prices of essential medicines. The decision was notified by NPPA on 11 December 2014.

82. The SC has confirmed that the Aadhar card is not compulsory, and further, officials who insist on them will be taken to task.

83. MoS for Information and Broadcasting Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore has inaugurated the Vividh Bharati Service in FM mode of All India Radio in Mumbai.

84. India's Air to Air missile, ASTRA has been successfully test fired from a Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter aircraft at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha. Astra is 3.8 meter long and it can engage and destroy enemy aircraft at supersonic speed.

85. IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launched Bharatniti.in, a public policy portal that attempts to put into perspective policy matters using an "ancient yet contemporary" approach.

86. After Polio, the government has again roped Mr. Amitabh Bachchan to be the brand ambassador of its campaign against Hepatitis B.

87. The BJP government in Maharashtra has decided to rename the area at Girgaum Chowpatty as "Swaraj Bhoomi" to honor the veteran freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

88. The Government of India launched a dedicated portal called 'Grahak Suvidha Kendra' in Delhi, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Jaipur, Kolkata and Patna to help consumers register their grievances against misleading advertisements.

89. India's first conference on Counter-Terrorism was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan for three days (March 19 to March 21). The conference was named as International Counter-Terrorism Conference 2015.

90. IRCTC launched the debit card service for the passengers. Railway passengers can now book their tickets, do shopping and pay service bills using RuPay pre-paid cards.

91. The Government of India launched Twitter Samvad, a new platform to facilitate direct communication between leaders and citizens. It is launched in association with social networking service Twitter.

92. The Ministry of Railways appointed Ajay Shankar committee to review the performance of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) cell functioning under the Railway Board.

93. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu flagged off the first goods train from Lumding to Silchar in Assam. The gauge was completed at a cost of 3500 crore rupees.

94. Himachal Pradesh Government launched part one of E-Vidhan Mobile apps, that will enable all 68 members of state assembly to get the entire House business on their smartphones and tablets. HP vidhaan sabha became the first state assembly in India to launch this app to facilitate smart-working.

95. India will host the seventh Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in 2016. The conference in 2016 will be held in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). The Sixth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was held in Thailand

96. India has become the third-largest steel producer in the world by overtaking United States (US) in first two months of year 2015.

97. Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) named Anagh and Two Interceptor Boats named C-430 and C-417 were commissioned into Indian Coast Guard's Eastern Fleet. They were commissioned by Lieutenant General Ajay Kumar Singh (retd).

98. Glenmark Pharmaceuticals has been barred by the Delhi High Court (HC) from making, marketing or selling its anti-diabetes medicines on the ground that it had prima facie infringed the patent of US drug giant Merck Sharp and Dohme (MSD).

99. Andhra Pradesh government, National University of Singapore (NUS) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) have signed MoU to work on Ease of Doing Business in the state. It was signed for cooperation in relation to 'Masterplan on Ease of Doing Business in Andhra Pradesh (MEDBAP): Vision 2020'.

100. The ruling BJP has become the largest political party in the world in the past five months taking its membership to 8.80 crore. The Communist Party of China was until now considered the largest party with about 8.60 crore members.

101. The telecom regulatory of India (TRAI) has proposed a single emergency number '112' for all kind of emergency phone calls across India, including for police, fire and ambulance, similar to the all-in-one emergency number '911' in the United States of America.

102. The fifth SAARC Health Ministers Meeting was held in New Delhi. The two-day summit was attended by the health ministers from all member countries of SAARC.

103. The nuclear Industry of India has reached the new milestone in its journey. The industry has set a record in production of nuclear fuel. ie uranium bundles. The number closes to 1,252 MT of uranium bundles, which is close to double the annual fuel requirement of atomic reactors in India.

104. Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar has undocked the India's first Scorpene submarine at Mazagon Dock Limited. This is built under a venture called Project 75, in collaboration with a French firm called DCNS.

105. The National Green Tribunal has put a ban on all diesel vehicles which are more than 10 years old in the Capital city New Delhi to improve the ambient air quality. Diesel is prime source of air pollution in Delhi.

106. Nirmala Sitharaman, the minister of State for Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has unveiled Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-2020.

107. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu announced that Amaravati will be the name of the new capital city of Andhra Pradesh. The new capital is being built in Vijayawada-Guntur region and Amaravati, the ancient town on the banks of the Krishna river, is part of the region.

108. The Government of India has launched a scheme called FAME-India to promote the eco-friendly vehicles by offering incentives on electric and hybrid vehicles. FAME stands for Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric vehicles.

109. Union government has allowed the pharmaceutical companies to hike the rates of 509 essential medicines by 3.84%. These medicines used for treating various ailments like hepatitis B and C, fungal infections, diabetes, and cancer.

110. India successfully test-fired its nuclear-capable Dhanush ballistic missile with a strike range of 350 km from a naval ship off the Odisha coast. The ship-based Dhanush missile was launched from an Offshore Patrolling Vessel (OPV), deep inside the Bay of Bengal to test its full range.

111. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has instructed the Real Estate Sector in the National Capital Region to look over the air pollution caused by dust discharging from construction sites. An NGT bench headed by Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar ordered an immediate pull up to all construction activity in the NCR that do not follow the rules and regulations.

112. India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at GIFT City in Gandhinagar, Gujrat became operational on 10th April 2015. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley unveiled rules and regulations for this global financial hub.

113. FM transmission of Vividh Bharati Service was launched by Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Arun Jaitley on 14 April 2015. It was launched at function held at New Broadcasting House of All India Radio (AIR) in Delhi.

114. The GOI has constituted a task force comprising experts and senior officials to overcome the hurdles in interlinking of rivers and also on establishing unity among different States for speedy implementation of the Modi government's ambitious project. The task force will be chaired by B.N. Navalawala and take up all issues for expediting the work on interlinking of rivers in the country.

115. India has successfully test fired its indigenously developed surface-to-surface missile Agni-III, the nuclear capable ballistic missile having a range of more than 3,000 km from Wheeler Island off Odisha coast.

116. India and United States (US) have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on transportation between both countries. The MoC was signed by Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Nitin Gadkari and US Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx in New Delhi.

117. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), India's largest engineering and manufacturing company has commissioned the fourth 600 MW unit of the OP Jindal Super Thermal Power Project (STPP) ExtensionPP located at Tamnar in Raigarh district of Chhattisgarh.

118. India's second largest state-owned oil explorer, Oil India Limited has commissioned a 54 MW wind energy project in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. The project has been hampered between the two states.

119. Venkadarath Saritha, 30 year old woman from Telangana has been inducted as the first woman driver of Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC).

120. IRCTC is planning to offer a new service of 'baggage insurance' for passengers'. Under this, a customer will be offered additional services like insurance coverage for baggage while booking e-tickets on the IRCTC website. The tie-up is being formalized with New India Assurance

121. The Finance Minister of India, Mr Arun Jaitley has informed the members of the BRICS nations that, India will soon nominate the candidate for the Presidential post of the 100 billion USD New Development Bank, which will be headquartered at Shanghai.

122. AS per UN report India is the V biggest producer of e-waste in the world. India had discarded 1.7 million tonnes of electronic and electrical equipment in 2014 alone. The top 5 countries are, United States of America, China, Japan, Germany, India.

123. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu has launched an online monitoring mechanism called E-Samiksha, that will monitor the implementation of ongoing railway projects on real-time basis, infrastructure target and board meeting follow-up. E-Samiksha is designed by National Informatics Center.

124. Bayer CropScience, the world's leading innovative crop science company, has inaugurated a multi-crop breeding station at Karnal in Haryana.

125. The annual Chardham yatra commenced on 21st April 2015 with the opening of the sacred portals of the Himalayan shrines of Gangotri and Yamunotri after a six-month winter break. Char Dham are the names of four pilgrimage sites in India that are widely visited by Hindus. They are Badrinath, Dwarka, Puri, and Rameswaram.

126. Instant messaging and calling Mobile Application Viber has said that the company has more than 40 million Viber users in India and the company has achieved this feat in less than two years after starting operations in India in December 2013. Now globally India has become the largest base for the company.

127. The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has granted approval of two national parks to be declared as tiger reserves. The Kudermukh national park in Karnataka and Rajaji National Park in Uttarkhand have been finally got the approval to be declared as Tiger Reserves.

128. According to the report released by Symantec, the leading security solutions provider, India ranks second among the nations that were targeted with cyber attacks through social media in 2014, following the United States of America.

129. Indian Navy's new stealth destroyer, Visakhapatnam, designed indigenously and fitted with advanced features, was launched in Mumbai. The Kolkata-class warship, the first of P15-B stealth destroyers, was launched by Minu Dhowan, wife of chief of Naval Staff Admiral R K Dhowan, at Mazagaon Docks Ltd (MDL).

130. Indian PM Narendra Modi Ji laid the foundation stone of the Dr. Ambedkar International Center in New Dlehi and promised that the NDA government at the center would complete the work within 20 months.

131. The GOI has approved three highway projects with a total cost of Rs 5,150 crore in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra with the total length of more than 300 km and with an approximate cost of Rs 5,150 crore.

132. India would become fourth largest infrastructure projects market in the world by 2030 as real estate and construction sector is continuously evolving in the country, according to a RICS report. At present, India is at sixth position with 5.3 per cent share in the global infrastructure market.

133. GOI said 350 drugs had been brought under price control, and it will provide additional benefit of over Rs 3000 crore to customers.

134. PM Modi has inaugurated India's Healthcare Tourism Portal at the "SAARC Trade Mart" in the Global Exhibition on Services at Pragati Maidan, Delhi.

135. Government approved a proposal from Tesco Overseas Investment Ltd (Tesco), a UK company, for foreign investment of not less than USD 110 million to carry out business of multi-brand retail trading in India.

136. Following the action from the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has also suspended the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI). The reason for the suspension is gross negligence and poor management of the 15th National Para Athletics Championships, which was held from March 20-22 in Ghaziabad.

137. The National Green Tribunal has imposed a complete ban on burning waste in open including garbage, leaves, plastic and crop residues in Delhi-NCR region. Those who violate will be fined with Rs. 5,000. The NGT has taken this step to tackle the heavy air pollution in Delhi-NCR.

138. PM Narendra Modi raised 14000 crore for his Project, named, Bharat Mala like Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee built the Golden Quadrilateral. Bharat Mala is the name given to a ambitious programme of the Modi government — a road built along India's vast west-to east land border, from Gujarat to Mizoram, linking that to a road network in coastal states, from Maharashtra to Bengal.

139. Already rated an unhappy place in 2014 with a ranking of 111, India dropped six places to 117 out of 158 countries ranked in the Global Happiness Index 2015, and was as usual was dominated by wealthy countries. Switzerland, Iceland, Denmark, Norway, and Canada occupied the top five.

140. A 10-day naval exercise 'Varuna' between India and France began on 23 April 2015 off the Goa coast. It is the fourteenth edition of this naval exercise which hosted naval assets of both countries.

141. Ratan Tata has become the first Indian to pick up a stake in China's largest smartphone maker, Xiaomi. The 78-year-old has invested an undisclosed amount in the company.

142. The Aadhaar card has emerged as probably the world's largest biometric identification programmes in the world with the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) issuing nearly 82 crore cards. Uttar Pradesh had the highest number of enrolments with 10.48 crore cards.

143. The Indian Army has named its rescue operation in Nepal as "Operation Maitri". India has deployed advanced helicopters and choppers for rescuing people and was also undertaking a "big evacuation" through the road route.

144. The Indian Army has conducted a defense exercise named Akraman II in Rajasthan to test the latest generation of weaponry and platforms employed in the desert region. The exercise was conducted by the Chetak Corps, a part of South Western Command based in Bhatinda, Punjab.

145. Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has held a security exercise, Theera Vetta, in the Arabian Sea. The exercise was intended to augment the preparedness of the security agencies in protecting the porous maritime borders of Kerala, Lakshadweep, Minicoy Islands and Mahe (part of Puducherry) from external attacks.

146. United States' Ambassador to India Richard Rahul Verma and Indian Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh have agreed to initiate steps to renew the 2010 agri pact between the two big democracies of the World.

147. The Rajasthan Government has allocated more than Rs 12 crore for Project Great Indian Bustard, a bird conservation program. A financial support of Rs 3 crore will be given by a Japan Bank. The Great Indian Bustard is also known locally as Godawan is also the state bird of Rajasthan.

148. The Government of India has extended e-Tourist Visa scheme to 31 more countries with an effect from 31 May 2015. With this the total number of countries under the scheme has gone up to 76.

149. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has declared Nadia District as the first Open Defecation Free (ODF) district in India. The district has achieved this feat due to its collaborative effort with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Bank.

150. India has sought China's cooperation in the agriculture sector to improve the bilateral trade in products like basmati rice, beef and fish between the two super powers of Asia.

151. Thaawar Chand Gehlot, Union Ministry for Social Justice & Empowerment, has launched the Credit Enhancement Guarantee Scheme for Scheduled Castes (SCs). The scheme will be properly implemented by Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) Ltd.

152. In a shocking ranking, India has slipped down by three ranks to 140 from last year in Mother's Index rank. A total of 179 countries were ranked. India is one of the 10 countries in the world with the greatest survival divide between wealthy and poor urban children. India is among Rwanda, Cambodia, Nigeria, Vietnam, Bangladesh..etc. The US ranked 33rd and the UK 23rd.

153. The Union Cabinet has given its nod for the amendment of Whistle Blowers Protection Act 2011. The Bill seeks to provide protection to the whistleblowers, who disclose sensitive information related to act of corruption, misuse of power, or criminal offence by a public servant.

154. Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar has announced that the defence ministry has cleared procurement worth Rs. 1,10,000 crore. He also announced that of the total procurement, around 90% is coming under PM Modi's "Make in India" campaign.

155. Doordarshan is going to telecast a serial on Modi's community to highlight the eminent and successful people from the oil-pressers community. The serial named as 'Diye Jalte Hain' will be telecast on Doordarshan by October.

156. A cow-urine refinery has been inaugurated at Jalore, Rajasthan by the state's medical and health minister Rajendra Rathore. The refinery will prepare cow-urine extract for use in the formulation of various products.

157. Mahesh Sharma, the MoS for Culture (Independent Charge), Tourism (Independent Charge) and Civil Aviation has inaugurated the first ever Science Centre and Planetarium set up by the National Council of Science Museums in the Union Territory of Puducherry.

158. The Indian Army has inducted the surface to air missile Akash into its arsenal. The max range is 25 kilometres and capable of operating upto an altitude of 20 kilometers.

159. PM Modi has inaugurated the upgraded steel plant of IISCO that has India's largest blast furnace plant and has been expanded and modernized at a cost of Rs.16,000 crore.

160. The Government of India has decided to provide free diagnostic tests, which include several blood tests, x-rays and advanced CT scans, for those visiting public health facilities. This scheme will be available for anyone who is visiting public health facility (all village and district hospitals).

161. The Road Transport Ministry has set a deadline for new model cars to pass frontal and side crash tests. The deadline is October 2017. As per the notification, the frontal crash tests will be at 56 kmph, while the norm set for side crash tests is 50 kmph.

162. Gujarat Chief Minister Anandiben Patel has commissioned INS Sardar Patel Naval Base in Porbandar, Gujarat. The naval base at Porbandar is strategically important and it will boost security of Gujarat's 1600-km coastline.

163. The National Green Tribunal has put an order to every household in Delhi to pay Environmental Compensation every month for cleaner Yamuna. The payment is for all households irrespective of having a sewage connection. This order is applicable for unauthorized colonies too.

164. Sixth edition of National Conference on Nuclear Energy was held in New Delhi. The theme of this edition was Nuclear Energy: a Clean Energy option. It was organized by Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).

165. Gujarat State Government has decided to set up a high level task force to observe and study the growing habitat of Asiatic Lions in the state. The recent report states that the population of lions has been increased outside the protected area of Gir National Park and Sanctuary.

166. The Government of India has planned to launch an agri training programme in 593 villages under Modi's ambitious scheme Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, to boost the agriculture sector in India. The training program will commence on July.

167. Union Communication and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has launched a dedicated E-Commerce Centre of India Posts, a postal system fully operated by Government at Safdarjang, New Delhi.

168. The Government of India has approved two new projects at a cost of Rs 217.87 crore in Sonapat and Panipat towns for reducing the pollution of river Yamuna.

169. The Supreme Court has released the instructions for publication of government advertisements. As per the new guideline, only the photographs of the President, Prime Minister and the Chief Justice of India (CJI) are allowed on government advertisements.

170. The Union Cabinet has given its approval for the ambitious Namami Gange Program which integrates the efforts to clean and protect the Ganga river in a comprehensive manner. The total budget for the program is Rs. 20,000 crore for the next 5 years.

171. According to the study conducted by Indian and British biologists, the population of 'Humpback Mahseer', a freshwater fish, which is found only in Cauvery Basin of Tamil Nadu, has been reducing drastically. The major reasons behind the population reduction of the orange-finned fish are pollution, sand extraction and hydel power projects.

172. Union Ministry of HRD gave an in-principle approval for setting up an Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) in Nagpur, Maharashtra. It will be the first IIIT to be set up in the state.

173. The National Hydroelectric Power Corporation has received the environmental clearance for setting up of multipurpose hydropower cum flood moderation project in Dibang, Arunachal Pradesh. The total estimation of the project is Rs 25,000 crore.

174. India's defence Ministry has cleared a proposal that could give impetus to the first joint defence development project between India and United States for new, lightweight, protective clothing for soldiers. The project has been named as Defence Trade and Technology Initiative.

175. INS Kavaratti, Indian Navy's latest anti-submarine warfare class stealth corvette was launched on 19 May 2015 in Kolkata. Kavaratti is the last of the four anti-submarine warfare class stealth corvettes being built for India under Project 28.

176. Government of India has sanctioned proposals for launching 30 new cold chain projects in India with a total investment of Rs 724.9 crore. The Food Processing Ministry provides financial assistance of up to Rs 10 crore for these projects.

177. The Government of India has allocated a total of Rs. 5,000 crore for the growth of Department of AYUSH. Union Minister of State for AYUSH Sripad Naik has launched an independent National AYUSH Mission aimed at capacity building for the sector.

178. The Law Commission of India has submitted a draft law to the central government proposing amendments to the existing guardianship and custody laws. The proposed amendment gives joint custody rights of a child to both parents in case of divorce.

179. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has finally purchased the prestigious Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) and Bar from a London Auction house. The award was presented to Wing Commander Karun Krishna 'Jumbo' Majumdar, the first Indian officer to be awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

180. Meghalaya has achieved 100 percent success in implementing Union Government's flagship scheme for financial inclusion-Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY). In the state, all eleven districts have been able to open at least one bank account of every household.

181. The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully carried out the landing of IAF's Mirage 2000 combat jet on Yamuna expressway near Mathura. This test was conducted as a part of trials to use national highways for emergency landing.

182. India is going to partner with Israel in a mega military project, which will further strengthen the already expansive but secretive defence cooperation under way between India and Israel.

183. India has ranked 24th in Environmental Democracy Index. The top five countries are, Lithuania, Latvia, , Russia, US, and South Africa.

184. The central government has withdrawn the nomination of Delhi for UNESCO's World Heritage City tag. The government has taken the decision without any proper explanation and abruptly ended the long quest.

185. The government of India has launched a web portal named [khoyapaya.gov.in](http://khoyapaya.gov.in) to track the missing child in India. Anyone can upload visuals and details of missing children and help track them. The website will act as an enabling platform for Indians to report missing children.

186. The Cabinet has granted the permission to continue Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) programme for fifteen operational flights (PSLV-C36 to PSLV-C50). The total fund requirement for the cost of 15 PSLVs, programme elements, programme management and 'launch campaign' are estimated to be Rs 3090 crore.



187. India and Vietnam have signed a Joint Vision Statement on defence cooperation for 2015-2020. The statement was witnessed by Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar and the Vietnamese Minister for National Defence Phùng Quang Thanh in New Delhi.

188. AIADMK general secretary Jayaraman Jayalalitha has sworn in as the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for the fifth time. The party cadres and supporters are all celebrating all over the state. Jayalalitha returns to power after eight months as she was forced to quit over corruption charges.

189. India and Germany have decided to strengthen their bilateral defence ties. Germany's defence Minister Ursula von der Leyn, who is on three day tour to India, has held talks with Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar.

190. E-Naga Summit, an initiative of the Nagaland department of Information Technology and Communication in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has been conducted in Kohima, Nagaland. The theme of the summit is "Ideas and Solutions to transform North East India through Information Communication Technology".

191. Prime Minister Modi Ji has launched a television channel for farmers named DD Kisan to mark the completion of his government's first year in office. DD Kisan would provide information about best agricultural practices and related content.

192. According to World Justice Project's (WJP) report, India has been ranked 37 out of 102 countries in Government Transparency Index. The Top three are Sweden, New Zealand, and Norway.

193. FM Global has released the Global Business Resilience Index 2015. India has been ranked 119th out of 130 countries.

194. The state government of Tripura has withdrawn the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) as insurgency is on the wane in the State. The announcement was made by Chief Minister Manik Sarkar after a meeting with his Council of Ministers.

195. According to the United Nations annual Hunger Report, India is home to the highest number of hungry people in the world. It is estimated that India's hunger people is around 194 million. India has surpassed China in hunger list.

196. India ranked at 100th position on a global Human Capital Index, compiled by World Economic Forum (WEF), which measures the countries in terms of the economies leveraging their human capital. Finland is on the top among 124-nation list.

197. India assumed the presidency of the 68th World Health Assembly (WHA) held in Geneva after a Leap of 19 years. The 68th WHA session began on 18 May 2015 and it will conclude on 27 May 2015.

198. Google is in discussions with the Arunachal Pradesh government for deploying Chromebook laptops for school students. The pilot is proposed to be introduced in schools in two cities, namely, Itanagar and Ziro.

199. India has been ranked at 44th position in the Annual Global Competitiveness report prepared by a Switzerland-based International Institute for Management Development.

200. India has launched a virtual memorial wall to honour the United Nations peacekeeping heroes who died in service as the first step towards building a permanent monument at the UN headquarters.

**JUNE 2015**

1. On US defence secretary Ashton Carter's visit to India, the two countries are going to ink their new 10-year defence framework. Carter will talk with top leadership in Delhi on joint development of defence technology. The signing of new defence framework was decided during Barack Obama's visit to India in January.

2. According to the U.S.-based World Justice project named The Rule of Law Index 2015, India ranks 59th among 102 countries worldwide. The survey includes categories like government powers, absence of corruption, open government, fundamental rights, order and security, regulatory enforcement, civil justice, and criminal justice.

3. Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan has launched a BIS App that will allow consumers to register complaints against sub-standard quality of ISI marked products and Hallmark jewellery.

4. India's fastest train, the Gatimaan Express has finished its sixth and final trial. The first semi high-speed train runs between Delhi and Agra. The train covered the 195-km journey in 115 minutes and reached a maximum speed of 160-plus kmph.

5. President Pranab Mukherjee, who is on two nation's tour viz Sweden and Belarus, has witnessed the signing of six agreements between India and Belarus to enhance bilateral co-operation. The President has said that India is fully committed to deeper and a more diversified relationship with Belarus.

6. Noida is all set to get an international-level cricket stadium-cum-sports city with a capacity of 50,000 people. The Noida Authority has invited developers to plan a concept across 125 acres of land in Sector 152 of the city. Noida is planning to host international and national IPL, ODI and test matches in the venue.

7. The world's largest digital mass education programme to address malnutrition in women and children has been launched by Union Government minister, Maneka Gandhi, New Delhi. It is an initiative of Indian Academy of Pediatrics in partnership with Women and Child Development, UNICEF and also Supported by Vodafone India. Aamir Khan is brand ambassador of this programme.

8. Shell, an Anglo-Dutch multinational oil and gas company is setting up its largest captive unit or offshore delivery centre globally in Bengaluru. This unit will lead to generation of more than 5,000 jobs in the city.

9. India has lost a long-pending poultry import case against the US at the World Trade Organization (WTO)'s dispute settlement body. The body clearly said that India broke international trade rules by blocking US poultry and egg with out any scientific risk assessment. The imports were banned because of unsubstantiated bird flu fears.

10. Government of India has launched a nationwide Jal Kranti Abhiyan, a scheme aimed at transforming one water scarce village in each district of the country to water surplus village. The ambitious scheme was launched by Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

11. India's first green police station has been inaugurated at Maurice Nagar in north Delhi. It was opened on the occasion of World Environment Day by Delhi Police Commissioner Bhim Sain Bassi. The police station has various provisions for preservation and safety of the environment.

12. Doordarshan is going to launch a weekly news programme in Sanskrit on June 28. The program will coincide with the World Sanskrit Conference starting in Bangkok the same day. The Sixteenth World Sanskrit Conference is being organised in Bangkok from June 28 to July 2.

13. Government of India is going to sign a contract worth over \$2.5 billion for 22 Apache attack helicopters and 15 Chinook heavy-lift chopper deals with United States based aviation giant Boeing.

14. The finance ministry has imposed anti-dumping duty on certain stainless steel products imported from China, Malaysia and South Korea. N C Mathur, President Indian Stainless Steel Development Association (ISSDA) said the duty has been imposed on hot rolled (HR) flat products of stainless steel grade with all its variants originating from China at \$309 per tonne \$316 a tonne from Malaysia and from Korea at \$180 a tonne.

15. The Kadapa airport in Andhra Pradesh will be named after 'Annamayya', the famous poet, Union Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapati Raju said. Raju along with Union urban development minister Venkaiah Naidu, minister of state for science and technology YS Choudhary and AP chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated the airport.

16. Indian Oil Corporation has planned to invest about Rs 15,000 crore to increase the capacity of Haryana's Panipat refinery by 34% to 20.2 million tonnes (MT) by 2020.

17. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on 8th June 2015 ordered testing of various noodles, pasta and macaroni brands, including Top Ramen, Foodles and Wai Wai, manufactured by seven different companies to check compliance of norms.

18. The Foreign Exchange Earnings(FEEs) from tourism in the country have grown by 23.6% year-on-year during the month of May 2015. Government's e-visa facility was launched in November 2014, has led to a huge growth in tourist arrivals to the country.

19. In the recently released EDU-RAND 2015 rankings, IIT Delhi has been ranked as the best engineering college in India. It is followed by the IITs in Kharagpur, Mumbai, Chennai, Guwahati, and Kanpur. Kolkata's Jadavpur University (JU) is ranked the best government engineering college in India and BITS Pilani occupies the first place amongst private colleges.

20. National Capital Region (NCR) Has increased its arena as the nod has been given for the inclusion of Muzaffarnagar district of Uttar Pradesh and the Jind and Karnal districts of Haryana as part of the NCR. Urban Development Minister M Venkaiah Naidu announced the news for including the three districts in NCR in a meeting of the National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) here.

21. Indian maritime expert Chirag Bahri has won a prestigious international award for his efforts to rescue and support victims of piracy on the high seas.

22. Cochin Shipyard has launched the sixteenth of the 20 Fast Patrol Vessels (BY 516) of the Indian Coast Guard. The name of the vessel is 'ICGS ARNVESH' and was launched by K Belina, wife of R-Admiral K Ravikiran.

23. India has reached a historical milestone in defence shipbuilding by undocking the first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant at the Cochin Shipyard. The carrier is slated for induction in end-2018. will undergo a series of fitment and trial processes before it is ready for propulsion and inducted into the Navy.

24. The Union Cabinet of India has approved the signing of the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicle Agreement. The main objective of the The BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement is to regulate passenger, personal and cargo vehicular traffic amongst BBIN.

25. Indian army conducted a cross border operation against militant groups along the Myanmar border in the country's northeast. The special forces of the Indian Army entered Myanmar and performed "surgical strikes". The troops are believed to have neutralized a high number of militants.

26. The Union Cabinet, headed by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its nod for the proposal to promulgate the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Ordinance, 2015. The proposed amendments to the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 has been done to focus on clarifying the jurisdiction related issues for filing cases for offence committed under section 138 of the NI Act.

27. People of Chandigarh are happiest in the country while those of Guwahati are least happy, LG survey reported. "Chandigarh is the happiest city of all and Guwahati is the least happy. Among metros, Delhi is the happiest and Mumbai is least happy," said the 'Life is Good' Happiness Study.

28. The Tourism Ministry along with the Petroleum Ministry has decided to observe the 'Nabakalebar Rath Yatra' in Odisha as an international tourism event this year, It will take all possible measures for its global branding and promotion.

The 2015 Rath Yatra has been named Nabakalebar Rath Yatra as this comes after 19 years.

29. In a unique initiative to save a girl child in Haryana, where the sex ratio has been shockingly low, a village panchayat in Jind has made an effort to increase the ratio by started a contest for clicking "selfie with daughter". Selfie with daughter have been launched by Bibipur village panchayat.

30. As per the rules of Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act (CLND) the government of India has launched a Nuclear Insurance Pool with a sum of Rs. 1,500 crore to offset financial burden of foreign nuclear suppliers.

31. On the occasion of World Blood Donors Day today, the GOI has launched a Mobile Application for easy access of information regarding the nearest blood bank in the country. The National Blood Transfusion Council has made available directory of all 2760 licensed blood banks at National Health Portal.

32. Coal India (CIL) has become the sixth-largest mining company in the world in terms of market capital, says a recent PwC report. Another state-run company, NMDC, the country's top iron ore miner which also figures in the list, has improved its position by coming to the 21st slot from 24th earlier.

33. Adani Group has signed an agreement with the government of Rajasthan to set up a joint venture solar power park of 10,000 MW. On completion, this will emerge as the largest such integrated facility in India.

34. Indian Railways has decided to make its tracks on two routes viz Kanalus-Dwarka-Okha and Porbunder-Wansjalya routes in Gujarat, free from discharge of waste from toilets. The railways is going to install environment-friendly zero discharge toilet system in the coaches of the trains running on these sections by October 2. This will be a unique milestone in the 'Swachh Bharat' mission.

35. Vistara, a JV between Tata and Singapore Airlines, has added Bengaluru to its network. The Domestic carrier is all set to introduce two daily flights connecting the city to New Delhi and Mumbai, starting from June 16' 2015. Bengaluru will be the 10th destination for Vistara.

36. The government of India has launched an online portal for job seekers in the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector. The portal – [www.eex.dcmsme.gov.in](http://www.eex.dcmsme.gov.in) – will also help the industry to find skilled manpower.

37. The Supreme Court has scrapped the All India Pre-Medical Test (AIPMT) 2015 and ordered re-conduct of the examination within four weeks. Now more than 6.3 lakh students will have to take fresh test. The top court has also ordered the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to conduct fresh exams within four weeks. The apex court directed the re-examination in view of large-scale cheating in the test with students getting answers in the examination hall at many places.

38. The Gujarat government inaugurated a 5 MW solar rooftop project in the state capital city of Gandhinagar. The Gujarat Finance Minister Saurabh Patel, who inaugurated the project, stated that it is not a single large project connected at a single point, but a tiny capacity ranging from 1 KW to 100 KW, placed on unused roofs of buildings in Gandhinagar.

39. The Union Minister for Communications Ravi Shankar Prasad launched half-an-hour free Wi-Fi Internet facility in the Taj Mahal. Anyone wishing to remain logged in for more than half-an-hour can do so by paying Rs 30 an hour.

40. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) plans to launch mobile wallet (m-wallet) over the next two months with State Bank of India as its banking partner. The m-wallet will be different from others as money can be withdrawn for any unutilized fund and allow withdrawal from SBI ATMs.

41. Software Giant Tata Consultancy Services has launched a centre of excellence (CoE) dedicated to Research and Development at its campus in Hyderabad. The 10,000-square feet facility can accommodate 200 engineers who would be researching on futuristic technologies.

42. The Mahindra Group have clinched a multi-million dollar aerospace contract with European consortium Airbus at the Paris Air Show, marking a major milestone in the Make in India initiative. Mahindra Group subsidiary Mahindra Aerospace bagged the multi-year aero-components manufacture and supply contract.

43. Charles Correa, the face of contemporary architecture and India's greatest architect, died on June 16, 2015 following a short illness.

44. The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh launched an Augmented Reality (AR) application named 'Sakaar' to highlight the achievements of the Department of Space during one year in office of the present Government.

45. The Election Commission of India has suspended the recognition of the PA Sangma's National People's party for its 'failure' to file the election expenditure statement for the 2014 Lok Sabha elections. In a first-of-its-kind action a recognised state party in Meghalaya has lost its recognition as a State Party.

46. The government of India has raised the generation of solar power target by five times under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) to 1,00,000 MW by 2022. According to the statement, the target will principally comprise of 40 GW (solar) rooftop and 60 GW through large and medium scale grid connected solar power projects. This will entail an investment of around Rs. 6 lakh crore.

47. Senior IAS officer G Gurucharan was has given additional charge of Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for three months. Gurucharan, a 1982-batch IAS officer of karnataka cadre, is presently Additional Secretary in Department of Food and Public Distribution.

48. Goa airport to issue E-Tourist visas to 31 new countries: The facility is now available for citizens from nearly 75 countries, while the Union Government plans to extend this to 150 by 2016.

49. The government approved a new bill to replace the 29 year-old Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Act with an aim to bring in more products under the mandatory standard regime and end the 'inspector raj'. New BIS Bill envisages mandatory certification regime to protect health, safety, environment etc.

50. The government of India has approved Rs 7,528.74-crore highway projects in Maharashtra for widening of stretches of NH 6 under its flagship road building programme NHDP.

51. Indian Railways has renamed Haridwar Mail as Yoga Express. A release from Indian Railways issued in New Delhi said the train No 19031/19032 Ahmedabad-Haridwar-Ahmedabad which is also known as 'Haridwar Mail' will be named as 'Yoga Express' with immediate effect.

52. Micro-lender Bandhan Financial Services said it has received final nod from the Reserve Bank to set up a universal bank and will commence operations from August 23. The entity will be named as Bandhan Bank.

53. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has announced that it will provide navigational support to the Indian Railways through 'GAGAN' (GPS-aided geo-augmented navigation) system. ISRO's Chairman AS Kiran Kumar said the space technology-based tools that will provide safety at unmanned level crossings.

54. According to the report by Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), violence had impacted the economy of India to the tune of \$341.7 billion in 2014. The country has been ranked at a lowly 143 out of 162 nations in this year's Global Peace Index (GPI). This is equivalent to 4.7 per cent of India's GDP, or \$273 per person.

55. The Ministry has entrusted IIT Kharagpur with the responsibility of implementing the project Digital Library. Digital Libraries have the ability to enhance access to information and knowledge.

56. Soon international and domestic tourists thronging Qutub Minar, Red Fort and Humayun's tomb will be able to avail free Wi-Fi service. The Wi-Fi facility will be free for first 30 minutes and post that usage, any browsing will be chargeable and the tourists will have to buy vouchers.

57. According to Mercer's Study, Mumbai continues to be India's most expensive city and is ranked above Dallas, Frankfurt and Vancouver, according to a recent survey. Angola's capital Luanda has been rated the world's costliest city to live in, for the third consecutive year, as per Global HR firm Mercer's "Cost of Living Survey 2015".

58. According to the Global Doping report by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Report for 2013, the test reports from 91 Indian athletes showed positive results and it is confirmed that they had used banned substances in that year. Russia has maximum number of dope offenders with 212 testing positive and Turkey stays second with 155 dope offenders.

59. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has given its nod for inclusion of Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand under the National Dairy Plan- I (NDP-I). The CCEA also extended the implementation period to achieve key outputs NDP-I upto 2018-19. Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh were included in NDP-I because it has substantial milch animal population and primarily inhabited by tribal population.

60. Punjab has celebrated the 350th year of foundation of Sri Anandpur Sahib on June 19' 2015. The holy city, which is also the birth place of Khalsa, was founded by the Ninth Guru Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji in 1665.

61. India has inked a total of eight MoUs with Tanzania in various fields including Agriculture, Tourism and Hydrography to expand engagement in different sectors. These important pacts were signed after delegation level talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of Tanzania Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, who is on India visit.

62. SAARC Satellite is a proposed communication-cum-meteorology satellite by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for the SAARC region. Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi mooted the idea of a satellite serving the needs of SAARC member nations. It will be a 2 ton class communication satellite that will cover the entire region after being launched from the Indian spaceport at Sriharikota.

63. Agriculture minister Radha Mohan Singh launched an insurance portal for farmers that will help with queries and getting cover. The Mission Mode Project in Agriculture under National e-Governance Plan (NeGP-A) aims to achieve rapid development of agriculture in India through the use of ICT by ensuring timely access to agriculture related information for the farmers of the country.

64. The Haryana Government launched a Village Mentoring Project (VMP) on 20th June 2015 to improve healthcare and education of the villagers with a special attention on girl child.

65. The first One-Stop Crisis Centre for women in distress out of the proposed 660 is all set to be inaugurated in Chhattisgarh by the end of June month under the Nirbhaya Fund. This is the initiative of Women and Child development ministry. In the one-stop facility services like medical help, counselling, legal and police assistance, ensuring anonymity of the victim..etc will be provided.

66. Nagpur is all set to conduct a three-day long 'World Bangla Sammelan' (World Bengali Literary meet) from June 26. It is expected that around 130 well known personalities will participate in the event.

67. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu has flagged off India's first diesel electric multiple unit (DEMU) train service with an air-conditioned coach in Kochi, Kerala.

68. RBI opposes finance ministry plan to use gold deposits as bank CRR and said banks may hoard excess gold if it is included in CRR (Cash Reserve Ratio) existing rules do not permit usage of gold as bank CRR. This will weaken its effectiveness as monetary policy tool and may expose RBI's reserves to risk from commodity prices, the central bank has told the finance ministry.

69. Online retail major Snapdeal partnered with the Himachal Pradesh government to launch a 'special e-commerce zone' in Dharamshala that will facilitate sale of local handicraft and other products through its marketplace. Snapdeal will set up an online store dedicated to local handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans of the area.

70. West Bengal's IIT-Kharagpur would be the first engineering institute in India to venture into medical education. The hospital-cum-medical college, named Dr B.C. Roy Institute of Medical Science and Research, is likely to become operational by 2017.

71. Two of the BRICS Nations, India and South Africa have renewed an agreement to extend cooperation in the field of social innovation, astronomy, agriculture, biotechnology and indigenous knowledge systems for the next three years.

72. Rajasthan has topped the list of states commissioning grid connected solar power projects in India with an installed capacity of 1147 megawatt. The list was released by the Union ministry of New and Renewable Energy. Gujarat came second with an installed capacity of 1000 MW.

73. The Employees Provident Fund Organisation has notified an order to make Universal Account Number mandatory for all employers covered under the EPF and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

74. Payment company iKaaZ, which specializes in near-field communication (NFC), has developed a low-cost point-of-sale (PoS) terminal which enables customers to 'tap and pay' even without an NFC-enabled card or phone.

75. The Controller-General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (CGPDTM) have recently released its annual report. According to the report, Maharashtra has topped in Patent filing in India during year 2013-14. While, the Bengaluru was the top city in IPR filing in the country.

76. The GOI has extended the ban on imports of milk and its products from China for one more year till June 2016. The notification has clearly said that the prohibition on import of milk and milk products (including chocolates and chocolate products and candies/ confectionery/ food preparations with milk or milk solids as an ingredient) from China is extended for one more year, i.e., till June 23, 2016.

77. The Indian Army has formulated a joint security strategy with Police forces of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir to manage any kind of untoward situation along border districts of the two states.

78. The GOI has approved the signing of an agreement with Japan to increase cooperation in the field of intellectual property (IP). The decision regarding this was taken by the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Memorandum of Cooperation will be signed between the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO).

79. The Defence Ministry is implementing a plan to credit Rs 51,000 crore worth of pensions directly into the accounts of ex-servicemen.



80. Union Government has launched Bhuvan Ganga Mobile Application and Web Portal to Clean Ganga. The app and webportal was launched by Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti in New Delhi.

81. Union Government has launched the first modernised Anganwadi centre of India at Hasanpur village. The centre was inaugurated by Maneka Gandhi, the Union Minister for Women and Child Development (WCD).

82. India and US have signed a series of agreements on health, cooperation in areas such as cancer research, infrastructure development, training, capacity building and better assessment and application of new diagnostic technologies.

83. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Smart Cities Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and Housing for All. The main aim of these three ambitious schemes is to develop Indian cities and towns as new engines of growth. The Housing for All is now named as Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and altogether these three schemes costs Rs 4 lakh crore

84. Doordarshan will be launching a weekly news programme in Sanskrit on June 28. It will launch half an hour News Mag in Sanskrit from June 28, Sunday, 12 noon. Coincidentally, June 28, World Sanskrit Conference is being started. The channel already has a five minute Sanskrit news bulletin — 'Varta' — which is telecast at 6.55 pm every day.

85. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu will inaugurate the Integrated Security System (ISS) in Mumbai. Four ISS have been installed with a total cost Rs 21.72 crore at four railway stations in the metropolis comprising CST, Dadar, Kurla and LTT. He will also inaugurate the modified foot over bridge (FOB) to facilitate passenger movement.

86. Chennai Metro Rail has been launched and the city has finally joined the league of cities like Delhi, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Jaipur which have metro rail systems. Tamil Nadu chief minister J Jayalalithaa inaugurated Chennai Metro Rail Limited's passenger services between Alandur and Koyambedu. She flagged off a train through video conferencing from the secretariat.

87. According to the World Economic Forum's report with respect to World's Biggest Employers, two Indian organisations – Army and Railways – are among the world's biggest employers, together employing a whopping 2.7 million people. The Indian Railways is ranked at the eighth place in the list of world's biggest employers. Indian Armed Forces ranked at ninth position with 1.3 million people.

88. Social networking giant Facebook's userbase has touched 125 million in India, its second-biggest market globally. The giant has added 13 million users in last six months. As of March 2015, it has 1.44 billion monthly active users globally, with the US as its biggest market. Facebook also launched a 2G-friendly mobile app 'Facebook Lite' here to cater users with slow internet connectivity.

**For More Detailed updates, Click [Indian Affairs](#)**

**Beautiful Things Happen When You Distance Yourself From Negative.**

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. Indian-origin J Y Pillay was re-appointed as the Chairman of the Presidential Council of Advisers (CPA) for a period of four years. He will be the top advisor to Singapore's President Tony Tan Keng Yam.

2. In 2015 Presidential election at Sri Lanka, President Mahinda Rajapaksa conceded defeat to his opposition challenger Maithripala Sirisena of United National Party after a bitterly fought presidential election.

3. AirlineRatings.com has released the ranking of the World's safest airlines and also the budget carriers. Out of 449 airlines, Qantas Airlines of Australia ranked first.

4. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic has won the Presidential election of Croatia and she became the first woman to hold this post in the country.

5. Nepal Government named Nepali Congress leader Deep Kumar Upadhyay as Nepal's new ambassador to India. This post has been lying vacant for more than three years.

6. The US President Barack Obama and UK Prime Minister David Cameron announced joint measures in combating cyber threats in the bilateral summit held in Washington DC.

7. The government of Mali and the United Nations have declared the nation free of Ebola following a 42-day period without a new case of the deadly virus. A total of 7 people have died in Mali in the past one year outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus.

8. Due to the pressure from the US, Pakistan has banned the Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) and the Haqqani network.

9. Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz has passed away on Friday (23rd of January, 2015). Abdullah's brother Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud will be his successor and the new King of the World's largest Oil exporter.

10. The World Economic Forum annual meeting for 2015 is being conducted in Davos, Switzerland.

11. The European Union has lifted the ban imposed on the import of India's Alphonso mangoes. The ban was imposed seven months back due to the presence of fruit flies in the consignments. Still the ban on imports of bitter gourd, brinjal, snake gourd and taro remains as it is.

12. The President of Yemen Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi resigned after the Houthi rebels battled their way into his presidential palace. Prime Minister Khaled Bahah and the entire cabinet quit their posts a day after the Rebels announced the President had yielded to their demands.

13. In a secret vote, Thailand's military-stacked parliament has impeached former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra from politics and proceeded with criminal charges that could lead to her serving 10 years in jail. She was impeached for her corruption in a scheme she oversaw to subsidize rice farmers.

14. United Nations Chief Ban Ki-moon has appointed Indian sociologist Saraswathi Menon in a peace building panel of seven members.

15. Miss Colombia Paulina Vega has been crowned Miss Universe, beating out contestants from more than 80 other countries. Miss Ukraine Diana Harkusha was named a runner-up, along with Miss USA Nia Sanchez from Las Vegas.

16. Edwar Lugu of Patriotic Front sworn in as the new President of Zambia.

17. China's first cruise liner was launched to sail via its ambitious transcontinental initiatives Maritime Silk Road (MSR) on its maiden voyage. The cruise will visit three South-East Asian nations including Malaysia and Vietnam.

18. The BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) are planning to form a new fund known as the 'Green Fund' under the New Development Bank to undertake green projects and promote environmental prosperity and development throughout the world.

19. Singapore is all set to host a three day conference on Tamil language computing and Tamil Internet (Tamil Internet 2015) by the end of May 2015.

20. The British government declared that it would contribute more than 50 million dollars to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Out of this sum, nearly 35 million pounds will be used for the new Ebola fund to help facilitate proper treatment in Ebola affected nations like Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

21. Pakistan has successfully test fired the Air-Launched Cruise Missile Ra'ad, which means Thunder in Arabic. Ra'ad has a range of 350 kilometers.

22. India secured greater support from China and Russia for its bid for a permanent membership on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and anti-terrorism plans at the ministerial-level Russia, India, China (RIC) summit in Beijing.

23. The US Chambers of Commerce has released the International Intellectual Property index for the year 2015. The annual IP index evaluates a total of 30 countries and India occupies 29th position. The only country which is behind India is Thailand.

24. Britain becomes the first country in the world to allow a "three-parent" In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) technique. According to the Scientists, this three-parent IVF technique can be used to prevent a range of incurable maladies known as mitochondrial disease.

25. Mexico's Colima Volcano has erupted more than 14 times and the Popocatepeti volcano has erupted more than 60 times. The Colima volcano is also referred as the Volcano of Fire and also it is the most active volcano in Mexico.

26. Syriza MP Zoe Konstantopoulou has been voted as the new Greek Parliament President. She received a record 235 votes out of 293 votes.

27. Indian Government has signed a Civil Nuclear Agreement with Sri Lankan Government during the island country's President Maithripala Sirisena's visit to India. MoUs were signed on Agricultural cooperation, Nalanda University, and Cultural co-operation.

28. The Northern shores of Japan were hit by a minor tsunami as a strong undersea earthquake struck off the coast. Waves up to 20 cm was recorded in Kuji, eastern Iwate.

29. Kolinda Grabar -Kitarovic was sworn in as the first woman president of Croatia. The former foreign minister and an eminent NATO official defeated her rival Ivo Josipovic in the election.

30. India's Bharti Airtel has partnered with UNICEF to provide health, education and youth-focused content to its customers in 17 African countries.

31. The fifth Joint Trade Committee meeting between India and Myanmar was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The meeting was co-chaired by Nirmala Sitharaman and Myanmar Minister U Win Myint.

32. Two tropical cyclones Marcia and Lam hit Australia on 20 February 2015. This is the first time that two cyclones have hit Australia at one time.

33. Major General Chrishantha de Silva was has been appointed as the new Sri Lankan Army Chief by President Maithripala Sirisena, who also reinstated several loyalists of former Army chief Sarath Fonseka.

34. Russia and Cyprus signed an agreement to give Russian navy ships access to Cypriot ports in the Mediterranean Sea. Russian ships that will dock at Cypriot ports would mostly be used in counter-terrorism and anti-piracy efforts.

35. Similar to the European Union, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is all set to form a unified market by the end of 2015. The formation of ASEAN Economic Community will definitely open up new opportunities for trade and business in these countries.

36. India and the United States held their first ever bilateral dialogue on the United Nations and multilateral issues in Washington.

37. Exercise Surya Kiran – The VIII India-Nepal Battalion level Combined Military Training, commenced on February 23rd at Integrated Army Training Centre, Saljhandi in Nepal.

38. Google acquired Facebook mobile marketing startup Toro, which is best known for its Facebook ad campaigns. Toro is led by Amitt Mahajan and Joel Poloney. The company used to go by the name of Red Hot Labs.

39. China has announced its 'all weather friendship' with Pakistan by opening its largest overseas diplomatic mission in Islamabad. The new embassy was opened on February 13, 2015 in Islamabad.

40. The Government of Jamaica has decriminalized the possession of marijuana up to 57 grams for personal, medical, and scientific use. Jamaica is the biggest Caribbean exporter of marijuana also known famously as the Ganja and the Cannabis to the United States.

41. Xi Jinping, the President of China has revealed his new political theory, comprising four slogans known as the "four comprehensives"

42. The United States has announced to provide work permits to spouses of H-1B visa holders from 26 May 2015. Under existing US laws, spouses of H-1B visa holders are not eligible to work. This announcement is expected to benefit thousands of talented and professional spouses who have settled in US but are unable to work.

43. Evgeniy Mikhailovich Bogachev is one of the world's most prolific cyber criminal from Russia. The US Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation announced a reward of 3 million US dollars for information on him.

44. US multi-billionaire and Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen has discovered the famous War ship of World War II – Japan’s Musashi and its sister ship Yamato in Sibuyan Sea, a seabed of Philippines. Musashi was sunk by American forces during the war, 70 years ago. It is one of the largest battleships in history.

45. The Forbes world Billionaire list is the Annual ranking of world’s Wealthiest people, compiled and published by an American Magazine called Forbes every year in March since 1987. The Microsoft owner, Bill gates is the richest person, a title which he has been holding for 16 of the past 21 years.

46. Nigeria’s terror group Boko Haram has pledged allegiance to the Islamic State in a new audio message. In the recording, a man claiming to be Abubakar Shekau, leader of Boko Haram that has killed thousands, vowed to follow Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

47. The United States of America has declared Venezuela (officially called the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) a national security threat.

48. The United Arab Emirates won the bid on an unanimous vote to host AFC Asian Cup 2019 on 9th March 2015. “The UAE won the right unanimously,” AFC chief Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa Quoted.

49. Japan and France signed an important defence pact regarding the transfer of military equipment and technology. In last two years Japan had signed similar deals with Britain and Australia.

50. Maldives’ Former President Mr Mohamed Nasheed was sentenced to 13 years in prison after being found guilty of terrorism. Nasheed ordered the arrest of a Chief judge when he was in power in 2012.

51. A statue of Mahatma Gandhi has been unveiled in London’s Parliament Square by Finance Minister Arun Jaitely.

52. Pakistan successfully test fired its first indigenous all-weather armed drone Burraq and a laser guided missile Barq. The test fire was witnessed by the Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif. The drone Burraq has the ability to fly in all kinds of weather conditions and strike its targets with pinpoint accuracy.

53. Facebook has acquired the shopping search engine TheFind. The acquisition aims to improve Facebook ads experience and lift its digital advertising business

54. The GOI and the Central Asian Republic of Kyrgyzstan have signed a pact on cooperation in the textiles sector to strengthen bilateral cooperation in three fields:

1. Textiles and clothing
2. Silk and Sericulture
3. Fashion

55. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute’s report showed that China’s share of the global arms market rose by 143 per cent from 2010 to 2014, taking its total share to five per cent.

The world’s two largest exporters: the US accounts for 31 per cent of the share of global exports, while Russia holds 27 per cent.

56. Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu wins the election by defeating his main rival, Isaac Herzog, and assured himself a fourth term. Netanyahu’s Likud Party had won 30 seats to the Zionist Union’s 24.

57. Katsushi Inoue was appointed as President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Honda Cars India Ltd (HCIL).

58. Stephen Hawking, the world's most famous theoretical physicist, has become the latest — and most unexpected — celebrity to apply for a trademark of their name.

59. IntelCenter, a Washington based company has released a list of top ten dangerous countries in the world based on Country Threat Index (CTI). The Top 5 dangerous countries are Iraq, Syria, Nigeria, Somalia, and Afghanistan.

60. General Muhammadu Buhari of All Progressives Congress (APC) party has won the Nigerian Presidential Elections. The 43 year old former General defeated the incumbent President Goodluck Jonathan by securing 52.4% of the total votes cast.

61. The Government of India has launched Operation Raahat, a massive air and sea operation to evacuate over 4000 Indian nationals from Yemen. The operation will involve total of five ships and four aircraft.

62. A planet has been named after Indian Chess Master Viswanathan Anand. A minor planet (4538), situated roughly between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, has been named after the the former World Chess Champion as '4538 Vishyanand'

63. Pedro Cateriano Bellido was appointed as seventh Prime Minister of Peru by the President Ollanta Humala. He will replace Ana Jara, who had lost a confidence vote and was sacked by Peruvian Congress amid allegations of corruption.

64. Iran and the P5+1 Group of countries have adopted a joint statement for the removal of UNSC resolutions and sanctions against Iran in exchange of greatly limiting Iran's uranium-enrichment programme. The framework agreement is called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

65. State-owned power equipment maker Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed an MoU with a Russian company INTMA, to set up a gas-based power project in Kazakhstan.

66. Saudi Arabia, the second largest Arab World, has pledged to provide \$274 million to Yemen as a humanitarian aid for the chaos-wracked country. Saudi Arabia is leading a war against rebel forces in Yemen.

67. Japan's magnetic levitation or Maglev train has set a new world record in speed by hitting 603km/h in a test run near Mount Fuji. The train beat its earlier record of 590km/h.

68. Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Pakistan on 20th April 2015 on a two-day visit, where he announced \$46 billion worth of infrastructure projects and plans to sell submarines.

69. A Cairo court has sentenced former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi and 12 other defendants to 20 years in prison.

70. Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev, 74, has been re-elected as the country's president for the fifth consecutive time by securing 97.7% of the votes. The exit poll showed Nazarbayev's closest competitor Turgun Syzdykov as scoring just 1.8 percent of the ballot.

71. Sudan's president Omar al-Bashir has been re-elected with 94.5% of the votes. The major opposition parties have boycotted the election, saying there was little chance of a free and fair contest.

72. Mohammed bin Nayef was appointed as Crown Prince and as Deputy Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia by King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud.

73. CISCO's Chief Executive John Chambers would step down in July after 20 years, will be replaced by company veteran Chuck Robbins.

74. Former Hewlett-Packard Co Chief Executive Carly Fiorina announced she is running for president, and took a shot at Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton.

75. The Barack Obama administration has approved ferry service to Cuba from Florida for the first time in the last 5 decades.

76. China has expressed its eagerness in cooperating with India on deep seabed mining in the Indian Ocean. It is reported earlier that the China's deep diving vessel have founded large deposits of precious metals like gold and silver in the Indian Ocean.

77. The coast guards of Philippines and Japan have staged an anti-piracy drill in Manila Bay. The drills were watched by the coast guard chiefs of 17 Asian nations. This is the first drill held by the two countries after signing a strategic partnership pact in 2012.

78. Google has opened its first start-up campus of Asia in Seoul, South Korea. This google startup campus will mainly help entrepreneurs and start-ups.

79. British Prime Minister David Cameron and his Conservative Party have won ultimate majority in the recently held UK Election and have won 331 seats out of 650 seats. Labour leader Ed Miliband said he would stand down and his party must "rebuild" with a new leader.

80. North Korea has conducted a successful underwater test-fire of a submarine-launched ballistic missile. North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un, who personally oversaw the test, hailed the newly developed missile as a "world-level strategic weapon".

81. After losing thousands of its people to the deadly virus, Liberia has been finally declared free of the Ebola virus by the World Health Organization. The WHO has confirmed that the country has had no new cases in the last 42 days.

82. A Pablo Picasso masterpiece freezes under the hammer for a world record auction price for \$179.4 million (£116m) resulting to be one of the most expensive auction.

83. Larsen B ice shelf, Antarctica's massive ice shelf was partially collapsed in 2002. As per the latest report by NASA, it is expected that the Larsen B ice shelf may collapse and disappear by the year 2020.

84. Italy, France and Germany have signed the European drone program for reconnaissance and surveillance. These countries are currently relied on technology developed by Israel and United States. Spain and Poland have expressed their interest in joining the project.

85. IT giant Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been ranked at the 57th position in the United States by Brand Finance in its II annual Top 500 US Brands survey. TCS is the only Indian brand to appear on the US' top 100 brand rankings.

86. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the NATO has announced that its next summit will take place July 8-9, 2016 in Warsaw, Poland. The announcement was made by NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg.

87. China, India and Russia will be the top three shareholders of Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). China will be the largest shareholder in the AIIB followed by India and Russia.

88. The militants of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) have taken full control of the ancient Syrian city of Palmyra, which is a UNESCO designated World Heritage site. Palmyra is also the home to some of the world's most magnificent ancient ruins.

89. India and Bangladesh will soon join hands through an agreement for Internet connectivity through the International-Gateway.

90. Eager Lion, a military drill hosted by Jordan and attended by 18 nations has come to an end with a joint drill on May 18. Military forces from countries like Pakistan, Jordan, France and the U.S. have participated in the drill in the coastal city of Aqaba.

91. Ireland becomes first country to legalize same-sex marriage by popular vote – summary. Ireland has passed the same-sex marriage referendum by 1,201,607 votes to 734,300. That's 62.1% yes to 37.9% no. The total turnout of voters was 60.5%.

92. Mecca will be having the World's largest luxury hotel by 2017. The hotel will be built on a 4.6 million square feet area. The hotel has been named Abraj Kudai and will cost about \$3.6 billion, featuring 10,000 bedrooms, 70 restaurants. The hotel's area is almost equivalent to 80 football fields in the United States.

93. China has set up a gold sector fund which involves 65 countries and the ancient Silk Road. The fund shall be led by Shanghai Gold Exchange (SGE) and is expected to raise 16.1 billion dollars in three phases.

94. Russia has started its air defence drill in the Ural mountains and western Siberia. The exercise involves 12,000 soldiers and 250 aircraft. The four days of exercise is meant to help the military prepare for a larger drill in September.

95. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization or NATO launched the Arctic Challenge Exercise based in the north of Norway, Sweden and Finland. The exercise involves 115 fighter planes and 3600 troops from nine countries.

96. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has unanimously adopted a resolution to protect journalists, who are working in conflict zones. The council has condemned abuses committed against journalists in armed conflict.

97. In a historical and landmark move, the United States has removed Cuba from its list of state sponsors of terrorism. The decision has eliminated a major obstacle toward restoring diplomatic ties.

98. India has signed a historical agreement with Iran for the development of Chabahar port which will give India sea-land access route to Afghanistan bypassing Pakistan. The strategically important port is located in Sistan-Balochistan Province on Iran's southeastern coast. With this agreement India can reach Afghanistan via sea-land access route and also completely bypassing Pakistan.



## JUNE – INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. Facebook has launched a 'Lite' version of its application that was developed for people using Android smartphones in places where wireless data bandwidth is very less. Facebook Lite was built to use less data and work well even in those areas of constrained telecommunications network conditions.

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid homage to the martyrs of the 1971 War of Liberation in Dhaka. India and Bangladesh have sealed a historic agreement that will settle a 41-year-old land boundary dispute through exchange of territories.

The Reliance Power and Adani Enterprises have signed outline agreements with Bangladesh's state-run electricity agency to invest some Rs. 32 thousand crores in the country's rickety power sector.

3. Narendra Modi will be the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Israel and Palestine soon. This visit will possibly tie the pending relations between the countries. India had established "full" diplomatic relationship with Israel in 1992 though it had recognised the country in 1950.

4. At 92, Harriette Thompson, The Charlotte, N.C., resident completed the San Diego Rock 'n' Roll marathon with an unofficial finishing time of 7:24:36, making her the oldest woman to run a competitive 26 miles and 385 yards.

5. Northern Ireland becomes the first country in the United Kingdom to criminalize paid sex. Those who violates the new law will have to pay £1,000 fine. The maximum penalty could also result in a year-long jail term.

6. Switzerland has announced a strict due diligence regime for its banks to 'reject' accepting illicit funds from both existing and new customers. Swiss banks, would also terminate relationships with existing clients who are found to have access to illegal assets in their accounts.

7. India and Netherlands have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of Measles- Rubella Vaccines. The MoU is an initiative under India Make in India movement.

8. German Chancellor Angela Merkel has announced that the Group of Seven wealthy democracies also known as the G7 Countries have agreed to cut greenhouse gases by phasing out the use of fossil fuels by the end of the century.

9. African countries have signed The Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) that give enhancements for creation of Africa's largest free-trade zone. The pact was signed in Egypt. It is basically done to ease the movement of goods among 26 member countries which represent more than half the continent's GDP.

10. A Chinese court sentenced former state security, Zhou Yongkang to life in prison for corruption and other crimes, consequent of a Communist Party pledge to prosecute high-level malfeasance and using a secret process that sidestepped risky political outcomes.

11. Rupert Murdoch, the 84-year old media baron, will hand over the chief executive reins at entertainment conglomerate Twenty-First Century Fox Inc to his 42-year-old son James.

12. The US government has opened an investigation against two of the biggest Indian outsourcing companies for possible H1-B visa violations. The move by the US Labour Department comes days after the New York Times had reported that hundreds of employees at entertainment giant Walt Disney were laid off and replaced with Indians holding H1-B visas.

13. The Third China-South Asia Expo has attracted around 300 deals worth 55 billion U.S. dollars. The expo was conducted at Kunming, capital of the southwestern Yunnan Province. Totally 255 domestic investment projects with a value of 300 billion yuan (49 billion dollars) and 44 foreign investment and trade deals valued 5.7 billion dollars are signed.

14. The United States has overtaken Saudi Arabia as the world's biggest oil producer in 2014. The US produced 15.9 per cent more oil in 2014 at 11.6 million barrels of oil per day to topple Saudi Arabia's 11.5 million bpd production. Russia with 10.8 million bpd oil production was placed third.

15. Ahead of the first UN Yoga Day to be observed on June 21, the MoS for External Affairs, Retd General VK Singh has inaugurated first India-China Yoga College at Yunnan Minzu University in Kunming, China. This is the first such government institution in China where the Indian spiritual art form has become very popular in recent years.

16. India and Australia will attempt their first joint naval exercise. India, Australia and Japan are look at the possibility of a trilateral exercise. India, Japan and Australia have made sure to strengthen their ties in all sectors, especially in the field of maritime security.

17. Nepal declared its three districts in the Kathmandu Valley as the crisis-hit zone, in order to curtail civil rights in order to demolish and clear the infrastructure damaged by the quakes and reconstruct them.

18. Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir flew out of South despite of the order of a high court which banned him from leaving the country until an application calling for his arrest had been heard. His Information Minister Ahmed Bilal Osman confirmed to Al Jazeera that he has left.

19. India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal will sign a historic regional motor vehicle pact on 15th June 2015 in the Bhutanese capital Thimphu. The BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement will make lucid transportation of both people and goods among the four SAARC member countries.

20. The government of Israel has approved a bill which will allow to force feed prisoners who are on hunger strike if their lives are in danger. The controversial move has not been supported by the Israel Medical Association (IMA). The cabinet's endorsement of the controversial bill was led by Internal Security Minister Gilad Erdan.

21. India and Poland have discussed possible ways to boost economic ties besides aiming to more than double the bilateral trade to USD 5 billion by 2018 from USD 2.3 billion last year. The countries have discussed the ways during the meeting of Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation in Warsaw.

22. The United Nations General Assembly has elected by acclamation Mogens Lykketoft of Denmark as President of its upcoming 70th session.

23. According to the United States Food and Drug Administration order, artificial trans fat will have to disappear from the American diet by 2018. The FDA has ruled that trans fat is not “generally recognized as safe” for use in human food.

The USFDA has taken the decision after intensive lobbying by health advocates and scientists that artificial oils raise the risk of heart diseases by clogging arteries.

24. India emerges as UK’s 3rd largest FDI source in 2014. Investment from India increased by 65 per cent, making it the UK’s third largest source of FDI accounting for over 9,000 new and safeguarded jobs.

25. As per the data released by Swiss National Bank, Indian money in Swiss banks fell by over 10 per cent last year to 1.8 billion Swiss franc (about Rs 12,615 crore). This is the second lowest amount of funds held by Indians in the Swiss banks and follows an increase of over 40 per cent in the previous year, 2013.

26. India is going to sign a free trade agreement with Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) to boost trade and economic ties with the region. The announcement was made by Amit Telang, First Secretary of India’s embassy in Russia.

27. A small community in a tiny Scottish island named Canna has been in a shock due to its first crime in about five decades — a theft from its only shop. The island’s community shop, which sells gifts, crafts and groceries and is staffed by volunteers, was ransacked.

28. Russia to add more intercontinental ballistic missiles: Russia will add more than 40 new intercontinental ballistic missiles to its nuclear arsenal this year, president Vladimir Putin says.

29. Pakistan is all set to finalize a deal with Russia to buy Mi-35 attack choppers, a sign of increasing defence ties between the Cold War-era adversaries. The deal is believed to be signed after the conclusion of Army chief General Raheel Sharif’s three-day visit to Moscow. Pakistan had been pursuing the helicopter purchase deal since 2009.

30. India has sought French investment in aviation sector while asking aerospace companies from France and other nations to manufacture their products in the country. Union Minister for Civil Aviation Ashok Gajapathi Raju, on his visit to Paris has invited France to participate in the ‘Make in India’ initiative as well as the upcoming ‘India Aviation 2016’.

31. Tanzania President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete has invited investors from India to made investments in his country. He said India can explore investments in various sectors in the African nation.

32. Australia could be next destination of an active Indian diaspora the lines of USA, Canada and UK with increasing number from here choosing the country down under as home as migration figures show that Indians have beaten Chinese to become number one in the migrant category during 2013-14.

33. The Senate passed an annual \$612 billion defense policy bill including extra war funding for the Pentagon that brought a veto threat from the White House. Senators voted 71-25 on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which lays out broad policy requirements for the Defense Department.

34. According to UN report, Conflicts and violence raging around the world sent the number of people forced to flee their homes soaring to a record 60 million in 2014.

35. Bangkok airport has the world's fastest WiFi service at speed of 41.45 Mbps, according to a new study. The average Suvarnabhumi WiFi speed topped all airports at 41.45 megabits per second followed by the airport in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where the speed was measured at 30.99 Mbps.

36. France has announced a ban on earphones while driving a vehicle and riding a cycle. The ban will come into effect from July 1. The Government's move is aimed at reducing accident deaths.

37. Michael Mandiberg, a New York based artist, is creating a print edition of Wikipedia that runs to 7,600 volumes and is priced at \$500,000.

38. The Philippines have began separate but simultaneous naval drills with the United States and Japan in the disputed South China Sea. Philippines has been holding naval drills with US since 1995. Joining drills with Japan is only its second ever after one earlier this year. The Navy Drill named as Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) with US.

39. Japan marked the 70th anniversary of the end of the Battle of Okinawa on June 23' 2015, the bloodiest battle in the Pacific War, which killed a quarter of the population of Japan. More than 100,000 Okinawans and 80,000 Japanese troops died in the 82-day battle. In 1945, the strategic island was seen by the Allies as a launchpad for an invasion of Japan.

40. United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has appointed an independent panel to review the UN' handling of allegations of child sexual abuse by French soldiers in Central African Republic. At least 14 French soldiers are under investigation over allegations that children were forced to perform oral sex in exchange for food.

42. The European Union has launched the EU naval operation against human smugglers and traffickers in the Mediterranean Sea. The operation has been named as EU NAVFOR Med. The main objective of the operation is to identify, capture and dispose of vessels and enabling assets used or suspected of being used by migrant smugglers or traffickers.

43. The second joint Sri Lanka Army – People's Liberation Army 'Exercise – Silk Route – 2015' has began at Buttala in Central Sri Lanka.

44. Russia and Saudi Arabia for the first time have signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The agreement includes the issues of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste, production of radioisotopes and their applications in industry, medicine and agriculture.

45. The world's biggest online social network knocked the world's largest retailer Walmart out of the top 10 list of the highest-valued companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index.

46. The World Resources Institute (WRI), a global research organization, has released the data of emitters of green house gases. It shows India despite being the fourth largest carbon emitter continues to be far behind the other three top big emitters (China, US, and EU) in terms of per capita emission.

47. Japan announced that its "no-dancing law" will be lifted in 2016. Now Japanese clubbers will be free to dance all night after the past 67 years.

48. India accepted Russia's invitation and confirmed that it will be a partner country at the 'INNOPROM 2016' industrial fair. The Industrial fair will be held at Yekaterinburg in July 2016.

49. New Development Bank (NDB), known as the BRICS Bank is expected to commence its operations and take up projects by April 2016. The name of the bank was changed as new partner countries are likely to join the BRICS group of emerging economies.

50. Islamic State group fighters entered the northeastern city of Hasaka in Syrian Kurdistan and seizing two neighbourhoods from Syria's government forces in heavy clashes. At least 30 regime loyalists and 20 IS jihadists were killed in the fighting, which continued on 25th June 2015.

51. Mauritius has become a signatory to the multilateral framework that provides mutual administrative assistance on tax matters with India and other countries. The development also comes at a time when India and Mauritius are discussing amendments to their bilateral tax treaty amid apprehension by India that the island nation is being misused to route unaccounted money.

52. Same-sex marriages are now legal across the entirety of the United States. A historic supreme court ruling declared attempts by conservative states to ban gay Marriages are unconstitutional. Five of the nine court justices determined that the right to marriage equality was enshrined under the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment.

53. An unmanned American SpaceX Falcon-9 rocket has broken apart in flames minutes after lifting off from Cape Canaveral in Florida. Debris from the SpaceX vehicle tumbled out of the sky into the Atlantic Ocean. The rocket, which had 18 straight successes prior to this flight, was in the process of sending a cargo ship to the International Space Station. Nasa had loaded SpaceX's Dragon freighter on the top of the Falcon with just over two tonnes of supplies.

54. India and Thailand have signed highly potential agreements, including the double taxation avoidance treaty, and exchanged instruments of ratification. The tax treaty provides for the framework to avoid double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes so as to promote bilateral economic cooperation.

#### **Some Interesting Facts about the World**

- Mexico introduced chocolate, corn, and chilies to the world.
- The world's highest proportion of migrant settlers in a developed nation with over 25% of Australians born in another country.
- In Russia there are 9 million more Women than men.
- Russia & America are less than 4 km apart at the nearest point
- The Argentine city of Ushuaia is the southernmost city in the world.
- The potato is originally from Peru, and there are over 3,000 different varieties.
- 92% of all new sold cars in Brazil use ethanol as fuel, which is produced from sugar cane

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 102nd edition of Indian Science Congress 2015 at the Mumbai University. The theme for this year event is Science and Technology for Human Development.

2. DRDO has successfully tested an advanced electronic warfare (EW) suite. It was tested onboard of the country's Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas-PV1.

3. The GOI has approved the setting up of India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) in Theni district of Tamil Nadu. The estimated cost of the project is Rs.1500 crore. Neutrinos are subatomic particles produced by the decay of radioactive elements.

4. NASA's Kepler spacecraft has discovered more than 1,000 alien planets since it's launch in March 2009. Kepler has found more than half of all known exoplanets to date.

5. Union Government has launched Management Information System (MIS) to check progress and implementation of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY) scheme in different states.

6. Beagle 2 is a British Spacecraft launched in 2003 by the European Space Agency and it successfully landed on Mars. But Beagle 2 failed to deploy its solar plates. Without these plates, it is not possible to communicate with the Spacecraft from Earth. It was a mystery for these many years.

7. Astronomers have discovered a star that is 11.2 billion years old and has at least five Earth-size planets. It was discovered by astronomers after analyzing data from Kepler spacecraft for over four years.

8. Microsoft has unveiled virtual assistant called Cortana for Windows Phone handsets. Cortana is female voice-controlled application. It uses Microsoft's search engine Bing and data stored on the handsets to make personalized recommendations and carry out tasks.

9. Japan successfully launched a back-up spy satellite with the help of its H-IIA carrier rocket from the Tanegashima Space Centre. The satellites are constructed by Mitsubishi Electric and launched by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

10. NASA has launched a rocket called Delta 2 (Earth observing mission) from Vandenberg Air Force base in California, for measuring water moisture in soil. The Soil Moisture Active Passive satellite (SMAP) unit on board will measure moisture levels in top 2 inches (5 cm) of soil on Earth.

11. Hindustan Aeronautical Limited (HAL) has successfully tested the II prototype of naval variant of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)-Tejas in Bengaluru.

12. Reliance Communications and Facebook have partnered together to bring Internet.org to India. Internet.org is Facebook Founder Mark Zuckerberg's initiative to provide free internet to mobile phone users in developing countries. The motto of Internet.org is "Internet for All".

13. SpaceX's Falcon 9 Rocket has been successfully lifted off from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on its third attempt. The rocket is carrying the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Deep Space Climate Observatory or DSCOVR satellite.

14. India successfully test-fired the supersonic cruise missile BrahMos from the destroyer INS Kolkata, the navy's most powerful and newest warship, in Arabian sea. The launch off the Goa coast was flawless as the missile met all its designed parameters.

15. The GOI has announced that a total of 27 Indian satellites are currently operational. Of the 27 operational satellites, 11 are communication satellites, 12 are earth observation satellites, 3 are navigational satellites and 1 is Mars orbiter mission.

16. India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed surface-to-surface missile Prithvi II from a test range at Chandipur in Odisha. The missile carried a dummy payload weighing 500 kg and met all the mission objectives.

17. SAFAR Air – a new mobile app jointly developed by Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology and the Indian Meteorological Department is now available in Google Play Store. With this App it is possible for the people of Pune and Delhi to find out exactly how toxic the air in their neighborhood is.

18. The World Health Organization (WHO) has approved a rapid test kit for Ebola virus, which can deliver the result in just fifteen minutes. Rather than testing the nucleic acid, this test detects the Ebola protein. The kit is made by Corgenix in the US and named as ReEBOV Antigen rapid test kit, which now has approval from WHO.

19. Australian researchers have developed the world's first ever 3-D jet engines. Researchers from Monash University and Deakin University have developed two engines. It is believed that this breakthrough will lead to cheaper, stronger, lighter, and highly fuel efficient jet engines for the future.

20. Researchers have found out a novel way to treat Alzheimer's disease. One of the biggest challenges in treating Alzheimer's disease is the blood-brain barrier.

Now they are able to send a drug across the blood-brain barrier using a combination of microbubbles and ultrasound waves.

21. World's first electric satellites were successfully lifted off by a Space Exploration Technologies rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, United States. The rocket was carrying Boeing's two all-electric commercial satellites.

22. PM Modi has launched the vaccine called Rotavac, the first indigenously developed and manufactured Rotavirus vaccine. The vaccine is developed by Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech and the Department of Biotechnology.

23. NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has spotted massive saltwater ocean under the icy crust of Jupiter's largest moon Ganymede. Scientists believe that this finding could potentially support life.

24. Astronomers from the University of Cambridge have discovered Nine Dwarf planet orbiting around the milky way in the northern Hemisphere. It is the largest number ever discovered at once. The Nine Satellites includes 3 minute galaxies.

25. NASA's Dawn Space Probe arrived at Ceres and become the first spacecraft ever to circle a Dwarf planet, as well as the first to orbit two bodies beyond the Earth-moon system.

26. A team using the Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) instrument suite aboard NASA's Curiosity rover has made the first detection of nitrogen on the surface of Mars from release during heating of Martian sediments.

27. Cipla has introduced a generic version of Gilead Science's blockbuster Hepatitis C drug Sovaldi. The drug will be sold in India by Cipla under the brand name 'Hepcvir'.

28. India's Polar Remotely Operated Vehicle (PROVe), indigenously built by National Institute of Ocean Technology, was operationalized for research on 25th March 2015 in North Antarctica after 2 month of rigorous research.

29. Scientists at the Stanford University School of Medicine have discovered a method that can change the dangerous leukemia cells in the lab to mature into harmless immune cells called macrophages that may help fight cancer.

30. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has successfully launched fourth navigation satellite Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)-1D. It was launched by Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C-27 into the orbit from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

31. The youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner and girls education campaigner Malala Yousafzai now has an asteroid 316021 named after her. Amy Mainzer, astronomer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California, named Asteroid 316201 after Malala.

32. Indian Railways is going to launch a mobile app to book rail tickets in unreserved categories. By using this app, a passenger need not take a print out of the ticket and he can just show the soft copy on his mobile to the Ticket Examiner. This app will also reduce the long queues at the railways ticket counters.

33. Facebook has unveiled a new voice-calling Hello app for Android phones. The app has been named as "Hello" and it is the seventh child of Facebook Creative Labs. Other releases include a news-reading app Paper or the video sharing app Riff. etc and these apps have met with limited success.

34. Engineers at NASA 3-D, who were working with additive manufacturing, have developed the first full-scale, 3D printed copper rocket engine part – a combustion chamber liner that operates at extreme temperatures and pressures.

35. Mylan Pharmaceuticals has launched a generic hepatitis C drug under the name of MyHep in India.

36. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully tested its indigenously developed cryogenic engine, that will help India put satellites of upto four tonnes in geostationary orbit.

37. Scientists have discovered three planets orbiting a nearby star named HD 7924 that is only 54 light-years away. These planets were discovered by Automated Planet Finder (APF) Telescope located at Lick Observatory in California and W M Keck Observatory, Hawaii.

38. In an extraordinary achievement, NASA has successfully completed the maiden test of a battery-powered plane with 10 engines that can take off and land like a helicopter. The plane flies efficiently like an aircraft and it is not making any noise. The plane is named as Greased Lightning, also known as GL-10.

39. India successfully test-fired the advanced version of the BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile from the Car Nicobar Islands.



40. New catfish species named Glyptothorax senapatiensis was recently discovered by scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI). It was discovered in Chindwin river drainage in Senapati district of Manipur.

41. India has successfully test fired Astra, the indigenously missile from Sukhoi-30 MKI Fighter Jet in Chandipur, Odisha. The missile was fired in two developmental trials to prove its long range capability.

42. Earth System Science Organization-India Meteorological Department and Power System Operation Corporation Ltd (POSOCO) have signed a memorandum of understanding for positive use of weather information in the power sector.

43. Researchers have developed a molecular pump, which can transport key proteins needed for cells to function effectively. The pump can also be used to power artificial muscles.

44. The robotic X-37B space plane has been launched in United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket from Florida's Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.

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45. Ebola, the deadly virus, that had killed more than 10,000 people in Western Africa, has no vaccine against it. The US FDA is yet to approve any therapeutic drugs or vaccines against the virus. Now scientists in America have found out a promising Ebola drug against the virus. It is effective in mice.

46. The US Army Engineers has developed a Blast Proof Wallpaper to protect the soldiers from explosions. A prototype was displayed at an exhibition of army innovations held at the Pentagon.

47. Scientists led by Indian-origin Researcher Mick Bhatia have successfully converted adult human blood cells to neural cells or Neurons.

48. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the drug Neupogen, the first ever for the treatment of acute radiation injury. This drug will help to reduce the deleterious effects of radiation exposure following a nuclear incident.

49. The new and updated version of the indigenously developed Pinaka Mark II rocket has been successfully test-fired from Indian Army's Chandan firing range near Pokhran using a multi-barrel launcher.

**“The Whole Of Science is Nothing More Than a Refinement Of Everyday Thinking” – Albert Einstein**

1. A team of Indian students have amazed the world by clinching the global 30,000 euro from Airbus. The jackpot has been given for creating the world's first airplane that generates its own power by the vibration of its wings which can later be used to power in-flight systems.

2. Two people have died of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in South Korea making it country's first loss of life from the sickness. MERS virus have been detected in South Korea and around 680 people who might have come into contact with the infected patients, have been placed in isolation.

3. Senior ISRO scientist G Ayyappan took charge as the Project Director of the ambitious GSLV Mark III programme under development at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).

4. An Indian-American scientist and his colleague have identified a new, less-invasive method to give diagnostic information on kidney disease and its Variant severity. They used an optical probe and Raman spectroscopy to differentiate between healthy and diseased kidneys.

5. Scientists have developed the first man-made molecular pump which is able to transport key proteins to cells for its functioning and can be used to power artificial muscles. This system on carrier proteins was modeled by J. Fraser Stoddart and coworkers at Northwestern University.

6. Ecologists have discovered a new species of fish called Pethia striata in Tunga River in the Kudremukh National Park, Karnataka.

7. Cancer has overtaken cardiovascular disease, which includes heart disease and stroke, as the UK's No 1 killer—but only among men, reveals research published online in the journal Heart

8. A new study published online today in the journal Science finds that the rate of global warming during the last 15 years has been as fast as or faster than that seen during the latter half of the 20th Century.

9. Researchers have developed a highly sensitive nanomechanical sensor that can detect cancerous tumours as well as viral disease markers for HIV, hepatitis and herpes.

10. Camel less tahn 4 years might be the source of MERS . An international team examined more than 800 dromedary camels to detect current or past infection. They informed that more than 90% of animals comes in contact with the infection by the age of two and virus was more common in calves than in adults.

11. India is going to test a reusable launch vehicle on July 2015. This technology will bring down costs of launching satellites significantly. ISRO said that the reusable launch vehicle technology is in the initial stages. There are many experiments need to be completed. The first launch is scheduled in July and this will help improve cost effectiveness. It will reduce the cost by one-tenth.

ISRO will also launch Astrosat, India's first dedicated satellite for astronomy by September this year.

**“Imagination Is More Important Than Knowledge” – Albert Einstein**

12. Diabetes has emerged as a major disease burden for India over the past two decades. While diabetes rate has increased by around 45% globally, it has jumped 123% in India between 1990 and 2013, a latest study has showed.

13. Philae comet lander wakes up from hibernation on Comet 67P: The comet lander Philae has awakened from a seven-month hibernation and managed to communicate with Earth for more than a minute. The probe became the first spacecraft to land on a comet when it touched down on the icy surface of 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko in November 2014.

14. The Advertising Standard Council of India (ASCI) has launched its consumer complaint mobile application – ASCIOnline, to provide consumer complaint services on a mobile app.

15. In a totally new level of move, our tech savvy Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji has launched his own mobile app named "Narendra Modi". The mobile app is live now on Android Play Store and can be downloaded by Android users free of cost. The App provides a unique opportunity to receive messages and e-mails directly from the PM.

16. An Indian scholar has launched an Urdu mobile App for smartphone users which provides information related to Haj and Umrah pilgrimages in Saudi Arabia. The App Developer, Najeeb Qasmi said the app is in unicode format which allows users to copy and share any information related to Haj and Umrah pilgrimages.

17. The world's first electric passenger aircraft will get an airworthiness certificate. The BX1E has been produced by China. It can fly at an altitude of 3,000 meters. It can charge within two hours, allowing a flight time of 45 minutes to one hour, at a maximum speed of 160 km per hour.

18. Scientists have named a newly discovered galaxy after Portuguese football player Cristiano Ronaldo. The galaxy was labeled as CR7 (COSMOS Redshift 7). 30-year-old Cristiano Ronaldo is also known as CR7 after his initials and jersey number.

19. NASA has a humanoid robot on board the International Space Station (ISS). Named as Robonaut 2, it is the first robot inside a human space vehicle operating without a cage and first to work with human-rated tools in space.

20. Defence Public Sector Unit Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has delivered an 'Orbiter Craft Module Structure' (weighs 3 tonne) of Chandrayaan-2 to ISRO satellite center. It will be India's second lunar exploration mission.

21. Facebook's artificial intelligence lab can recognize people in photographs even when their faces are hidden. This algorithm will recognize a person through their unique characteristics such as hairdo, clothing, body shape and pose.

22. An option to cancel the delivery of an email within 30 seconds of hitting the send button is now a standard safeguard in Google's Gmail as part of a settings change made this week. The "undo send" feature had already been available for the past six years in Google's experimental labs, but that required Gmail users taking extra steps to get it.

## SPORTS

Winner	Title	Sport/Venue
Andy Murray	ATP World Tennis Championship	Tennis/Abu Dhabi
Stan Wawrinka	Chennai Open Tennis	Tennis/Chennai
Sania Mirza and Bethanie Mattek-Sands	Sydney Doubles Title	Tennis/Sydney
Pankaj Advani	National Billiards Title	Billiards
Saina Nehwal	Syed Modi Grand Prix Gold championship	Badminton/Lucknow
Novak Djokovic defeated Andy Murray	Australian Open	Tennis
Leander Paes and Martina Hingis	Australian Open Mixed Doubles Title	Tennis
France defeated Qatar	World Handball Title	Handball
Anirban Lahiri	Indian Open Golf Title	Golf
Somdev Devvarman defeated Yuki Bhambri	Delhi Open	Tennis
Roger Federer defeated Novak Djokovic	2015 Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (Men's Singles)	Tennis
Simona Halep defeated Karolina Pliskova	2015 Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (Women's Singles)	Tennis
Rafael Nadal defeated Juan Monaco	Argentina Open 2015	Tennis
Carolina Marin defeated Saina Nehwal	All England Badminton Championship	Badminton
Indian women's Hockey Team defeated Poland	Hero Hockey World League	Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi
Services defeated Punjab	Santosh Trophy	Football/Punjab
Kidambi Srikanth	Swiss Grand Prix Gold Championship	Badminton
Lewis Hamilton	Australian Grand Prix	Racing
Michael White defeated Ricky Walden	Indian Open Snooker	Snooker
Karnataka defeated Tamil Nadu	Ranji Trophy	Cricket
Novak Djokovic defeated Roger Federer	BNP Paribas Open (Men's)	Tennis/United States
Simona Halep defeated Jelena Jankovic	BNP Paribas Open (Women's)	Tennis/United States
Australia defeated New Zealand	ICC World Cup 2015	Cricket/Australia

Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis (Switzerland) defeated Russian pair Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina	BNP Baripas Open (Women's Double Title)	Tennis/United States
Vasek Pospisil (Canada) and Jack Sock (US) pair defeated Italian pair Simone Bolelli and Fabio Fognini	BNP Baripas Open (Men's Double Title)	Tennis/United States
Srikanth Kidambi defeated Denmark's Viktor Axelsen	Indian Open Super Series (Men's Title)	Badminton
Saina Nehwal defeated Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon	Indian Open Super Series (Women's Title)	Badminton
Sebastian Vettel	Malaysian Grand Prix 2015	Racing
Dronavalli Harika – Bronze	World Women's Chess Championship	Chess
Novak Djokovic has defeated Britain's Andy Murray	Miami Open Tennis (Men's)	Tennis
Serena Williams defeated Spain's Carla Suarez Navarro	Miami Open Tennis (Women's)	Tennis
American Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan pair has defeated Vasek Pospisil (Canada) and Jack Sock (US) pair	Miami Open Tennis (Men's Doubles)	Tennis
Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis (Switzerland) pair have defeated Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina of Russia.	Miami Open Tennis (Women's Doubles)	Tennis
Yuki Bhambri	ITF Futures Tournament Title	Tennis
Apurvi Chandela – Bronze	ISSF Rifle and Pistol World Cup	Shooting/Changwon, South Korea
New Zealand defeated Australia	Sultan Azlan Shah Tournament	Hockey
Lewis Hamilton	Chinese Grand Prix Formula One	Racing
Jitu Rai – Bronze	ISSF Rifle and Pistol World Cup	Shooting
Novak Djokovic defeated Tomas Berdych	Monte Carlo Masters	Tennis
China's Lin Dan	Badminton Asia Championships	Wuhan
Bayern defeated Wolfsburg	German League Title	Football
Magnus Carlsen defeated Rauf Mamedov	Shamkir Chess International Tournament	Chess
Railways defeated Uttar Pradesh	Senior Men's National Hockey Championship	Hockey

American boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr defeated Manny Pacquiao of Philippines	World Welterweight title	Boxing
Roger Federer defeated Pablo Cuevas	Istanbul Open	Tennis
Andy Murray defeated Phillip Kohlschreiber	Munich Open	Tennis
Rory Millroy defeated Gary Woodland	WGC World Match Play Championship	Golf
Jaiveer Singh – Gold	Federation Cup Athletics Championships	Steeplechase
Yuki Bhambri and Adrian Menendez-Maceiras	Doubles Title in ATP Challenger Event	Tennis
Petra Kvitova defeated Serena Williams	Madrid Open WTA	Tennis
Nico Rosberg	Spanish one Formula Grand Prix	Racing
Vikas Gowda – Gold	Jamaican International	Discuss Throwing
Rohan Bopanna and Florin Mergea	Madrid Open (Doubles)	Tennis
Andy Murray defeated Rafael Nadal	Madrid Open	Tennis
Novak Djokovic defeated Roger Federer	Italian Open Title	Tennis
China defeated Japan	Sudirman Cup	Badminton
Nico Rosberg	Monaco Grand Prix	Racing
Mumbai Indians defeated Chennai Super Kings	IPL Championship	Cricket
Britain's James DeGale has defeated American Andre Dirrell	International Boxing Federation super middleweight	Boxing
<u>Gold Winners</u> 1. Yogeshwar Dutt 2. Praveen Rana 3. Amit Kumar 4. Narsingh Yadav	International Wrestling Tournament	Wrestling/Italy
Arsenal defeated Aston Villa	FA Cup	Football
Deepika Kumari – Bronze	2015 Archery World Cup	Archery/Turkey
Dilwar Singh	Pedal For Kashmir	Cycling/Jammu and Kashmir
Vikas Gowda – Gold	Asian Athletic Championship	Discuss Throwing/Wuhan, China
Lalita Babar	Asian Athletic Championship	Woman Steeplechaser/Wuhan, China
Barcelona defeated Juventus	UEFA Championship League	Football
Serena Williams defeated Lucie Safarova	French Open 2015	Tennis/Paris

Stan Wawrinka defeated Djokovic	French Open 2015	Tennis/Paris
Lewis Hamilton	Canadian Gran Prix 2015	Racing/Canada
First – China Second – Qatar Third – India	Asian Athletics Championship	Wuhan, China
Anantjeet Singh	International Junior Shotgun Championship	Shooting/Orimattila, Finland
Andy Murray defeated Kevin Anderson	Queen’s Club Title	Tennis/London
Roger Federer defeated Andreas Seppi	Open Halle	Tennis
First – Russia Second – Germany Third – France	European Team Athletics Championships	Athletics/Cheboksary, Russia
Jordan Speith	US Open	Golf/United States
Viswanathan Anand finished Second. First – Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria)	Norway Chess Tournament	Chess
Jwala Gutta and Aswini	Canada Open Doubles	Badminton
Lee Chong Wei	Canada Open Singles (Men’s)	Badminton
Michelle Wi	Canada Open (Women’s)	Badminton

### Important Updates in Sports

- Roger Federer secured his 1,000th career victory and collected his 83rd title in the Brisbane International final.
- Bhakti Sharma has set a world record in swimming by crossing 1.4 miles in 52 minutes in one degree temperature at Antarctic Ocean.
- Englishman Stephen Constantine was appointed as head coach of Indian men’s football team for the second time.
- AB De Villiers hits fastest one day century from 31 balls against West Indies.
- India will be hosting the ICC Twenty20 World Cup in 2016 (11th March to 3rd April).
- England – 2019 World Cup, 2017 Champions Trophy and 2017 Women’s World Cup.
- Bangladesh – 2016 Under-19 World Cup and 2019 World Cup qualifiers
- New Zealand – 2018 Under-19 World Cup
- West Indies – 2018 Women’s World Twenty20
- Datuk Nicol David of Malaysia has created a new world record in Squash. She topped the world rankings as world number one for straight 106 months.
- New Zealand’s Captain Brendon McCullum recorded the fastest-ever World Cup fifty, by reaching the landmark against England in just 18 balls.
- Virat Kohli became the only Indian player named in the People's XI list for World Cup 2015.
- Cristiano Ronaldo has been voted as the best player ever in premier league history.

## Sports Updates (Contd.)

- West Indies opening batsman Chris Gayle became the first batsman to score a double century in a World Cup. He smashed 200 runs from 138 balls in a match against Zimbabwe.
- Virat Kohli became the first Indian batsman to score a century in a World Cup game against Pakistan on February 15, 2015.
- AB de Villiers, the Number one ranked ODI batsman in the world, smashed 162 runs from 66 balls against West Indies to record fastest ever ODI 150 (in 64 balls) at Cricket World Cup 2015.
- Sri Lankan cricketer Kumar Sangakkara became the second batsman to cross 14,000 runs in One Day International (ODI) cricket after the legendary Sachin Tendulkar.
- Tejaswini Sagar from India won under-15 category of World School Chess Championships in her maiden attempt.
- Sri Lankan batsman Kumar Sangakkara slams his fourth consecutive ton in the World Cup 2015 series and he also becomes the first batsman to score 4 consecutive centuries in ODIs.
- India's star shuttler Saina Nehwal becomes the first Indian woman to reach World number one ranking after defeating her Japanese opponent Yui Hashimoto in the India Open Super series semifinal match in New Delhi.
- A two-year-old girl archery prodigy Cherukuli Dalli Shivani from Vijaywada achieved a stunning feat by setting a new record and entering her name into the India Book of Records.
- Asafa Powell ran the fastest 100m in the world this year, clocking 9.84 seconds at the Jamaica International Invitational in Kingston
- The International Federation of Football Association (FIFA) World Cup 2022 will be held in Qatar in the months of November and December.
- New Zealand cricketer Martin Guptill scored 237 runs against West Indies in a semi-final qualifying match and becomes the highest scorer in the World Cup history.
- Australian cricketer Michael Clarke has announced his retirement from One Day Internationals (ODI) cricket format.
- Sania Mirza become the world No.1 in Women's double ranking on 13th April 2015. She is the first Indian Women to reach the top of of tennis rankings in any category.
- New Zealand cricketer and former captain Daniel Vettori has announced his retirement from international cricket.
- New Zealand pace bowler Kyle Mills has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, following Daniel Vettori, who quit after the World Cup final.
- Sachin Tendulkar inducted into Laureus Sports Academy
- England's fast bowler, James Anderson becomes England's highest wicket-taker in test cricket. He took his his 384th wicket in a test match against West Indies in Antigua.



## Sports Updates Contd.

- Three Indian race walkers, Khushbir Kaur, Manish Rawat and Sandeep Kumar have qualified for 2016 Rio Olympics after exceptional performances in the IAAF Race Walking Challenge at Rio Maior in Portugal.
- Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, 23 year old from Mohali, has become the first Indian ever to play a competitive match for the senior side of a first division European side.
- England batsman Jonathan Trott has announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect after a disappointing tour of the West Indies.
- Australian wicketkeeper Brad Haddin has announced his retirement from one-day internationals.
- India's Star shuttler Saina Nehwal has been ranked World number one by the Badminton World Federation.
- Kamalpreet Singh broke his own record, by a hammer throw national record with an effort of 72.86m while finishing third at the Tuscon Elite Classic in Arizona, United States.
- Indian contingent left the Doha International Boxing Tournament 2015 as the top team with 4 gold, one silver, and two bronze medals.

## Tidbits of IPL Season 2015

- Captains of Mumbai Indians: Rohit Sharma.
- Captain of Chennai Super Kings: Mahendra Singh Dhoni.
- Player of the Tournament: Andre Russell (KKR).
- Orange Cap Winner: David Warner (Sunrisers Hyderabad).
- Purple Cap Winner: Dwayne Bravo (CSK).
- Emerging Player of the Season: Shreyas Iyer (Delhi Daredevils).
- Most Valuable Player: Andre Russell (KKR).

- Kapil Dev, the former Indian cricket team captain, has launched a golf team for the upcoming Louis Philippe cup.
- Alastair Cook has become England's leading Test run scorer by passing Graham Gooch.
- The fifth Youth Delphic Games will be held in Goa from February 1 to 14, 2016. Delphic games are related to art and culture and India is going to organize it for the first time. The Delphic Games will attract 7000 participants from more than 125 countries.
- Indian Basketball Players Association (IBPA) have set its feet with the official launch of it on 8 June 2015 at Indian Medical Association, New Delhi.

## Sports Updates Contd.

- Indian Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni has been ranked at 23rd position in Forbes' List of 100 highest paid athletes in the world. He is the only Indian sportsman on the list. The top position is maintained by American boxer Floyd Mayweather with earnings of \$300 million.
- According to the latest valuations released by Football-Observatory.com, Lionel Messi of Barcelona FC in Spain's La Liga is the most valuable soccer player in the world.
- Devika Malik, an athlete and multi medal winner has been selected as one of the Queen's Young Leaders Award winners from across all the Commonwealth Nations.
- Indian shuttler HS Prannoy grabbed his career-best world number 12 spot after improving a place in the latest men's singles ranking, announced by BWF.
- Satnam Singh Bhamara, a 19-year-old from the small village of Ballo Ke, Punjab, became the first Indian-born player ever selected in the NBA Draft (Dallas Team).
- Leander Paes conquered a century, having now experimented with 100 different players. Teaming up with Spain's Marcel Granollers at the Nottingham grasscourt tournament, he reached the century milestone in men's doubles.
- Paris officially announced its bid to host the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games and bring the global sports event back to the French capital for the first time in a century.
- Shashi Bala was a former captain for Indian hockey team for women and was presently posted as hockey coach for RCF Kapurthala was among the three persons killed in a car accident.
- Sunil Chhetri became the first Indian footballer to score 50 international goals during his team's 2018 World Cup qualifying match against Guam.
- Sepp Blatter has resigned as FIFA president he is under corruption investigation in the United States. The recent corruption case has plunged world soccer's governing body into the worst crisis in its history.
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## OBITUARY

Name of the Person	Associated Field
Arate Manjunatha	Yakshagana Artiste
Peter Gomes	Former Delhi State Football Player
Mrinalini Mukherjee	Sculptor
Krishna Murari Kishan	Photo Journalist
Diptosh Majumdar	Senior Journalist
Rajinder Puri	Cartoonist and Political Activist
Govind Pansare	Senior Communist Party Leader
Duggabatti Rama Naidu	Multilingual Indian Film Producer
Asraf-ul-Haq	Assam born actor
Nirad Mohapatra	Odia Filmmaker
Michele Ferero	Creator of Nutella Chocolate
Ernest Sternglass	Physicist
Adya Sharma	Pioneer of Mobile Theatre in Assam
Justice Rana Bhagwandas	First Hindu Chief Justice of Pakistan
RC Sakthi	Tamil Director
Aloysius Vincent	Cinematographer
Hukam Singh	Former Chief Minister of Haryana
Ram Sundar Das	Former Chief Minister of Bihar
Lia Van Leer	Pioneer of Israeli Cinema
Vinod Mehta	Journalist
Bombay S Kamal	Singer
Boris Nemtsov	Former Russian Deputy Prime Minister
Sir Terry Pratchett	Fantasy Author
K Baskaran	Sports Journalist
KS Lavkumar Khachar	Ornithologist
Leonard Nimoy	Star Trek Actor
Krishnarao Ganpatrao Sable	Bard and Marathi folk legend
Lee Kuan Yew	Founder of modern Singapore
Narayan Desai	Veteran Gandhian
Brigadier (Retd) Thenphunga Sailo	Former Chief Minister (CM) of Mizoram
Yusuf Ali Kechery	Veteran poet and film personality
Sunita Tomar	Poster Girl of India's Anti-Tobacco Campaign
Kailash Vajpeyi	Hindi Poet
Malli Mastan Babu	Ace Mountaineer of India
Jayakanthan	Tamil Writer
EM Hanifa	Tamil Muslim Devotional Singer
Richie Benaud	Legendary Cricket Commentator
Guenter Grass	German Nobel Laureate Novelist
Hrushikesh Moolgaonkar	Retired Air Chief Marshall
Bidyut Chakraborty	Assamese Film Director
Surya Bahadur Thapa	Former Nepal Prime Minister
Stanislav Gross	Former Czech Republic Prime Minister
JB Patnaik	Former Odisha CM and Assam Governor

Name of the Person	Associated Field
Sir Christopher Alan Bayly	Historian
Monte L Merrick	Novelist and Screen Writer
Ansrew Lesnie	Lord of the Rings Cinematographer
Bimba Modak	Marathi Film and Stage Actress
Ben E King	Singer
RK Laxman	Cartoonist
Philip S Goodman	Writer and Director
Ruth Rundell	Crime Writer
Michael Blake	Oscar Winning Screen Writer
Oscar Holderer	German Engineer
Dr Amalendu Guha	Historian and Social Scientist
Alexandre Lamfalussy	Hungarian Economist (Father of Euro)
Elizabeth Wilson	Actress
Suchitra Bhattacharya	Bengali Writer
BB King	Singer and Guitarist
Dean Potter	Extreme Athlete
Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri	Economist
Bob Belden	Jazz Musician
John Nash	US Mathematician
Irwin Rose	Nobel Prize winner in Chemistry
MN Buch	Former IAS Officer and referred as "Architect of Bhopal"
Richard Johnson	British Actor
Hemant Kanitkar	Former Test Cricketer
Vincent Masetto	Editor at New York Post
Christopher Lee	Actor. Famously known as Master of Horror
Nek Chand	Creator of Chandigarh's Rock Garden
Sheila Kaul	Congress Veteran
Suleyman Demirel	Former Turkish President
Sister Nirmala Joshi	Head of Missionaries of Charity. She succeeded Mother Teresa.
James Horner	Musician (Oscar Winner – Titanic)
Deleep Singh Bhuria	BJP MP from Madhya Pradesh
Praful Bidwai	Journalist
Yevgeny Primakov	Former Prime Minister of Russia
Chris Thompson	Comedy Writer

**For More Details, Click - [Obituaries](#)**

**We All Die. The Goal Is Not To Live Forever. The Goal Is To Create Something That Will.**

## IMPORTANT DAYS OBSERVED - JANUARY TO JUNE

### January

Date	Observed Day
January 1	Global Family Day World Day of Peace
January 6	World Day for Orphans
January 9	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
January 10	World Hindi Day
January 12	National Youth Day
January 15	Indian Army Day
January 21	World Hug Day
January 25	World Leprosy Day India Tourism Day
January 26	Indian Republic Day International Customs Day
January 27	International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

### February

Date	Observed Day
February 1	Indian Coast Guard Day
February 2	World Wetlands Day
February 4	World Cancer Day
February 5	Kashmir Solidarity Day
February 6	International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
February 11	World Day of Sick
February 13	World Radio Day
February 14	Saint Valentine's Day
February 20	World Day of Social Justice
February 21	International Mother Language Day
February 23	World Rotary Day
February 24	Central Excise Day
February 25	World Sustainable Energy Day

**“There is Nothing Impossible To Him Who Will Try” –  
Alexander The Great**

## March

Date	Observed Day
March 1	Zero Discrimination Day
March 3	World Wildlife Day International Sex Workers Rights Day
March 8	International Women's Day
March 10	CISF Raising Day
March 13	World Kidney Day
March 20	International Day of Happiness World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People
March 21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination World Poetry Day World Down Syndrome Day International Day of Forests
March 22	World Water Day
March 23	World Meteorological Day
March 24	World Tuberculosis Day International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims
March 25	International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members
March 27	World Theatre Day

## April

Date	Observed Day
April 1	April Fools' Day
April 2	World Autism Awareness Day
April 4	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action
April 6	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
April 5	Indian National Maritime Day
April 7	International Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda World Health Day
April 12	International Day of Human Space Flight
April 13	Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Day
April 17	World Haemophilia Day
April 18	World Heritage Day – International Day for Monuments and Sites
April 22	World Earth Day

Date	Observed Day
April 23	World Book and Copyright Day English Language Day
April 24	World Day for Animals in Laboratories
April 25	World Malaria Day
April 26	World Intellectual Property Day
April 28	World Day for Safety and Health at Work
April 29	International Dance Day Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare
April 30	International Jazz Day

## May

Date	Observed Day
May 1	International Labour Day May Day
May 2	World Naked Gardening Day
May 3	World Laughter Day World Press Freedom Day
May 4	International Fire fighters' Day
May 5	World Asthma Day
May 8	World Red Cross Day
May 10	Mother's Day
May 11	National Technology Day
May 15	International Day of the Family
May 17	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day
May 21	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development Anti Terrorism Day
May 22	International Day for Biological Diversity
May 23	International Day to End Obstetric Fistula
May 29	International Day of UN Peacekeepers
May 30	Goa Statehood Day
May 31	World No Tobacco Day

**“If You Are Afraid – Don’t Do It. If You Are Doing It – Don’t Be Afraid” – Genghis Khan**



**June**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Observed Day</b>
June 1	World Milk Day Global Day of Parents
June 2	International Sex Workers Day
June 4	International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
June 5	World Environment Day
June 7	Cancer Survivors Day
June 8	World Oceans Day
June 11	Coal Miners Day
June 12	Anti Child Labour Day
June 13	International Albinism Awareness Day
June 14	World Blood Donor Day
June 15	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
June 17	World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
June 20	World Refugee Day
June 21	Father's Day International Day of Yoga
June 23	United Nations Public Service Day International Widows' Day
June 25	Day of the Seafarer
June 26	International Day in Support of Victims of Torture International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
June 29	Statistics Day

**“If You Can Find Ways Without Any Obstacles, It Probably Leads Nowhere” – Che Guevara**

**All The Success For Your Exams!!!**

**-DayTodayGK Team**