





THE HINDU HIGHLIGHTS: 29th August 2017

- After weeks of diplomatic negotiations, India and China agreed to disengage from the standoff on the Doklam plateau, disputed between China and Bhutan, with a formula that saw China promise to make "necessary adjustments" to their troop deployments, after Indian troops withdrew back to their posts in Sikkim.
- Head of the Dera Sacha Sauda Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh was awarded two consecutive sentences of 10 years rigorous imprisonment in two rape cases registered by the CBI in 2002, and a fine of Rs. 15 lakh in each case.
- ♣ Results of the bypolls to four Assembly seats in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi and Goa showed the ruling parties of these States triumphing. In Delhi, the ruling AAP registered a significant victory in Bawana, with its candidate Ram Chander winning.

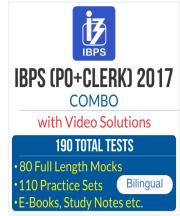
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- ↓ Justice Dipak Misra took the oath of office as the 45th Chief Justice of India. He has a tenure of just under 14 months, till October 2, 2018. President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath to Chief Justice Misra.
- Facing flak over the largescale death of cows in three Stateaided shelters allegedly due to starvation and lack of care, the Chhattisgarh government has set up a judicial commission to probe the reasons and make recommendations about improving the condition of 'gaushalas' (cow shelters). The one-member panel headed by retired District and Sessions Judge A. K. Samantray.
- Union Tribal Welfare Minister Jual Oram requested the Tripura government to propose augmentation of power and authority of the Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) by replacing it with the State Autonomous Council.
- ♣ Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) received a boost with the party winning the Panaji and Valpoi seats by a good margin in the bypolls. Now, the BJP's tally in the 40-member Assembly has swelled to 14 and the partyled coalition government has a total strength of 23 members. In Panaji, Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar & Health Minister Vishwajit Rane in Valpoi won.
- ▲ In a big blow to students, the Supreme Court in an interim order, allowed self-financing medical colleges in Kerala to charge students Rs. 11 lakh as uniform annual fee. Besides the base admissions fee of Rs. 5 lakh, students have been allowed 15 days' time to furnish bank guarantees for the balance Rs. 6 lakh.

- Myanmar security forces intensified operations against Rohingya insurgents, police and other sources said, following three days of clashes with militants in the worst violence involving Myanmar's Muslim minority in five years.
- Uber Technologies Inc. chose Dara Khosrowshahi, the chief executive of travel company Expedia Inc., as its chief executive.
- ♣ Bharti Airtel announced a strategic partnership with Symantec Corp. to provide cybersecurity solutions to businesses in India. Bharti, India's largest telecom services provider, will be the exclusive cybersecurity services partner for the U.S.-headquartered firm in India, and will also distribute its enterprise security software.
- The new Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be applicable to any non-monetary fringe benefit an employee gets from his employer. Monetary compensation paid to employees is not considered as supply and will not attract GST, the Central Board of Excise and Customs said. The fringe benefits are transactions in furtherance of business.
- Union Labour Minister Bandaru Dattatreya said the employees provident fund manager EPFO had decided to invest about Rs. 3,000 crores in high-rated corporate bonds this financial year. EPFO, had decided to reduce the current investment of Rs. 15,000 crores in AAA rated bonds by Rs. 3,000 crores and invest that amount in AA+ bonds.



- Denmark's Viktor Axelsen fulfilled a childhood dream by beating the legendary Lin Dan to claim the men's singles gold at the World Championships in Glasgow.
- After months of planning and publicity, the Sports Ministry's ambitious National Sports Talent Search Portal was launched by Vice-President Venkaiah Naidu. The portal, www.nationalsportstalenthunt. com, aims to provide a direct link to help kids and youngsters reach the ministry and senior sports administrators with their achievements. Anyone over the age of eight can register and upload their bio-data or videos on the website with the talented ones shortlisted for further specialised training. Parents, teachers and coaches can also register on behalf of their wards.