



Dear Readers,

*This is the new series which have been started by us in which we will provide you weekly compilation of the current affairs. We will publish our new document named **GA TONIC**.*

We really hope that you all will like this new initiative by our team. This document contains the important current affairs from November 2015, i.e. 22nd November to 30th November.

Also, this is useful for the IBPS CLERK MAINS EXAM 2015-16.



Banking and Economy News:

- Angel Hub is holding the first edition of The **Angel Summit** at the Indian School of Business (ISB) campus in **Hyderabad** on November 28. The day-long meet would have several women entrepreneurs and executives speaking on their experiences in building enterprises, raising funds and managing the entities. Women from various fields such as business, art, technology and cinema will discuss issues to foster awareness, inspiration and turn ideas that matter into action,” Sita Pallacholla, founder and Chief Executive Officer of The Angel Hub, has said. A panel discussion on ‘Be The Captain of Your Own Ship-Rising in Leadership Roles and Staying On Top’ would focus on the challenges involved in building businesses and growing up the executive ladder.
- Tata Sons chairman emeritus **Ratan Tata** has invested an unspecified amount in **Crayon Data**, a **Singapore-based startup**.
- The Reserve Bank of India on 24 November 2015 decided to grant in principle approval to the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to function as the Bharat Bill Payment Central Unit (BBPCU) in Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 24 November 2015 granted in-principle approval to three applicants to set up and operate **Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS)**. The three organisations have been asked to set and operate TReDS in accordance to the Guidelines issued on 3 December 2014 under the Payment and Settlement System (PSS) Act 2007.

Organisations which got in-principle approval was granted are-----

1. NSE Strategic Investment Corporation Limited (NSICL) and
2. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Mumbai
3. Axis Bank Limited, Mumbai
4. Mynd Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon, Haryana

The in-principle approval granted will be valid for a period of 6 months, during which time the applicants have to comply with the requirements under the Guidelines and fulfill the other conditions as may be stipulated by the Reserve Bank.

- The Ministry of Urban Development on 26 November 2015 approved an investment of 3120 crore rupees investment plans for basic urban infrastructure boost for 102 cities approved under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT).

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 26 November 2015 permitted the Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) to buy fully or partly defaulted bonds in the repayment of principal on maturity or principal installment in the case of amortising bond. The permission was given as part of the drive to promote investments by FPIs in corporate bonds
- India today successfully test-fired the indigenously built **nuclear-capable Agni-I** missile, capable of hitting a target at a distance of 700 km, from a test range off the Odisha coast as part of Strategic Forces Command (SFC) training exercise. The surface-to-surface, single-stage missile, powered by solid propellants, was test-fired from a mobile launcher at 1002 hours from launch pad-4 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Abdul **Kalam Island (Wheeler Island)**.
- Canara Bank has tied up with the Navodhan Charitable Foundation in its efforts for timely detection of cancer. It has helped the foundation acquire a mobile cancer detection unit fitted with the best facilities as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) drive.
- HSBC Holdings Plc is shutting its private banking unit in India, marking the exit of another foreign bank from the cut-throat wealth management business in Asia's third-largest economy.
- The government has extended the usage criterion of the RuPay debit cards in order to avail of the in-built insurance cover, according to a press statement issued by the Ministry of Finance. Earlier, cardholders had to use the card within 45 days prior to claim the insurance claim. This has now been extended to 90 days (**w.e.f 25 November**).
- Urban Development Minister Venkaiah Naidu on 23 November 2015 inaugurated ‘e-lala’, an e-commerce portal of Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) in New Delhi. The e-lala initiative is aimed at promoting the interests of 5.77 crore small businesses in the context of rapid expansion of e-commerce in the country. E-lala will enable physical stores to have their own online stores enabling them to retain their customer base besides additional source of growth in business. E-lala, a city and location based portal, seeks to promote business-to-business and trader-to-customer transactions in a city
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on 22 November 2015 signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) on bilateral cooperation and technical assistance. The MoU was signed by UK Sinha, Chairman, SEBI and Dr M Khairul Hossain, Chairman, BSEC at Dhaka, Bangladesh. This MoU will further facilitate training

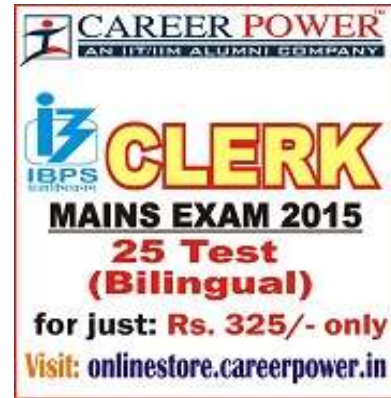
and technical assistance program between the two jurisdictions.

- Food ordering portal Foodpanda has tied up with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) for order and delivery of food to the passengers. IRCTC is Indian railways' catering, tourism and online ticketing platform.
- Union Government has reduced the deadline for completion of flagship Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for rural connectivity through all-weather roads from 2022 to 2019. The annual allocation of the Central release for PMGSY works during year 2015-16 also has been increased by 5,000 crore rupees.
- Aimed to reduce lengthy proceedings and time taken in litigation, the Income Tax department has activated a PAN—based online system which enables the taxman to access cases in their jurisdiction on a click, amongst a building database of over 5 lakh appeals and 1.50 lakh judgments.

National News:

- The second Anti-Submarine Warfare **Corvette Kadmatt** built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) was formally handed over to Indian Navy at Kolkata on 26 November 2015. The Corvette would be joining the Eastern Fleet shortly.
- India has been re-elected to the Council of the **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** under Category 'B' at 29th session of the IMO Assembly held in London.
- The South Asian Annual Disaster Management Exercise (**SAADMEx**) 2015 was on 26 November 2015 concluded by the Union Government in Delhi. This was the first-ever joint exercise to be conducted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) of India.
- The UNESCO **Fellini medal** will be awarded in India for the first time at the 46th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in collaboration with the International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication (ICFT), Paris. The medal is given to a film that reflects UNESCO's ideals.
- India proposes to launch a **\$1-billion equity fund**, with seed capital from public sector units, to support renewable energy companies.
- Union Government has decided to advance the date for implementation of Bharat Stage (BS) V and BS VI emission norms for four-wheelers in order to reduce vehicular air pollution from road transport sector. As per advance dates, **BS V norms will be rolled out from 1st of April, 2019 and BS VI norms from 1st April, 2021.**

- **Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LRSAM)** co-developed by **India and Israel** was successfully test-fired for the first time from an Israeli Naval Platform.
- National Highways Authorities of India (NHAI) has approved a pilot project for undertaking scientific studies on designing greenbelts along national highways.



Key facts:

1. The pilot project will be implemented on a 5 km stretch on NH-7 (Varanasi to Kanyakumari) between Jam and Hinganghat in Nagpur region.
 2. Around 20,000 scientifically chosen species of trees are proposed to be planted on both sides of this stretch in multiple rows at an estimated cost of 11 crore 80 lakh rupees. The project will run for five years' time span. During this period various experiments will be conducted in NEERI laboratory to record the impact of greenbelt development.
- Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Friendship Motor Car Rally was flagged off **from Silchar, Assam**. The international rally aims at highlighting connectivity in the sub-region and seamless movements of vehicles across the borders in the 4 nations through implementation of BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement (MVA)
 - The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has entered into 11 more unilateral Advance Pricing Agreements (APAs) with Indian subsidiaries of foreign companies operating in various segments of the economy. Of the total eleven APAs, seven were having rollback provisions in them with maximum period of 9 years, while the other four are extension agreements for future five years i.e. till 2020. With this, CBDT so far has entered into 31 APAs (30 unilateral and one bilateral) and is now aiming to finalise another 30 to 40 APAs in order to provide stability and confidence among the foreign enterprises operating in India.

What is Advance Pricing Agreements (APAs)?

APA usually is signed between a taxpayer and the central tax authority (in case of India it is CBDT) for multiple years on an appropriating transfer pricing methodology.

The APA Programme was introduced in 2012 as per the provisions of the Income Tax (IT) Act, 1961. It helps in determining the price and ensuing taxes on intra-group overseas transactions.

- India today successfully test-fired its indigenously developed nuclear capable **Prithvi-II missile**, which has a strike range of 350 km, as part of a user trial by the army. The missile test was carried out from a mobile launcher from launch complex-3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur near here at 1210 hrs.



International News:

- **Saudi Arabia** has allowed women to vote and become candidates in local elections for the first time in the history of male dominated country.
- The President of Sri Lanka **Maithripala Sirisena** on 22 November 2015 inaugurated the Mahatma Gandhi International Centre (MGIC) inaugurated in **Matale**. The Indian High Commissioner YK Sinha was also present at the inauguration ceremony.
- Japan has successfully launched its first commercial satellite on 24 November 2015 as part its national space programme. Japanese H-IIA rocket carrying Canadian **TELSTAR 12V** communications and broadcasting satellite for operator Telesat was successfully lifted off from **Tanegashima Space Centre (TSC)**.
- US military operation for the intervention against the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). **Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR)** was in news in fourth week of November 2015. It came into news after the Paris

terror attack on 13 November 2015 in which about 130 people were killed and several were injured.

- The Israeli military has conducted another successful test of the **Barak-8 missile**, jointly developed with India, as it intercepted a small drone simulating an “enemy” target, defence sources said.
- **World Robot Olympiad (WRO)**, 2015 was held in Doha, Qatar from 6 November to 8 November 2015. The 2015 session of the event was held **with theme Robot Explorers**. This is the first time in the history of WRO that Indian students were able to win three medals (1Gold & 2 Silver) and one position (Eighth).

National Appointments:

- **Mahesh Gupta**: The PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) has a new President as Mahesh Gupta. Gupta, a seasoned entrepreneur, is currently Chairman of Kent RO Systems Ltd, which is a leading player in water purifier industry.
- **Rishi Gour** was on 23 November 2015 appointed as Country President of Support services company Sodexo India On-site Services with effect from 1 September 2015.
- **Sunil Kanoria** was on 25 November 2015 appointed as the President of The Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). Kanoria has succeeded Rana Kapoor, Yes Bank Managing Director and CEO.
- **P Uday Bhaskar** was on 26 November 2015 appointed as the Chairman of Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC).

International Appointments:

- **Subroto Som**: Nov 26 Mashreq, Dubai's third-biggest bank by assets, said on Thursday Subroto Som had been appointed head of its retail banking group.
- **Swati Dandekar**: An Indian-American politician was nominated as executive director to the Asian Development Bank (**ADB**) with ambassadorial rank by US President Barack Obama. She will succeed **Robert M Orr**.
- **Lawyer Patricia**: Dominica-born British Scotland was on 27 November 2015 appointed as the Secretary General of the Commonwealth of Nations. With this, Patricia become the first British citizen and first woman as well to hold the role in the 66-year history of 53-member Commonwealth.
- The Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 23 November 2015 announced the appointment of **Michael Keating** of United Kingdom as Special Representative for Somalia and Head of the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM).

Awards and Honors:

- Noted Marathi actor **Prashant Damle** was on 23 November 2015 selected for the Master Dinanath Mangeshkar Award. He was chosen for the award for his outstanding contribution in the field of theatre, film and music.
- **Kuldip Nayar**, a veteran journalist, columnist and author was honoured with Ramnath Goenka Lifetime Achievement Award on 23 November 2015. He was awarded for his contribution to journalism. Kuldip Nayar is former editor of Indian Express.

Agreements:

- India and Singapore on 24 November 2015 signed 10 agreements on mutual co-operation. These include Defence, Civil Aviation, National Planning and cyber Security.
- The Ministry of Railways and TERI University on 23 November 2015 signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up Railway Chair on Sustainable Mobility at the premises of TERI University. The Chair would focus and promote research on issues of sustainable mobility, use of energy efficient technology and green energy initiatives.

Sports News:

- **Great Britain** on 29 November 2015 won the 2015 Davis Cup tennis title by defeating Belgium 3-1 at Ghent in Belgium. While Leon Smith was the captain of the winning team, Andy Murray played a crucial role in the victory as he beat Belgium's David Goffin to clinch the decisive point I
- India's most successful cueist **Pankaj Advani** added another feather in his cap by winning the **IBSF World Snooker Championship** after battling past his Chinese opponent Zhua Xintong in the final to take his world title count to 15. The victory for Bengaluru's 'Golden Boy' comes just after he clinched the IBSF Billiards crown in September. He is also the first person in history to take the short (6-Red) and the long snooker format in the same calendar year.
- India's junior men's hockey team on 22 November 2015 lifted the 8th Men's Junior Asia hockey cup. In the finals played at the Wisma Belia Hockey Stadium in Kuantan, Malaysia, India defeated arch rivals Pakistan.
- World number one Novak Djokovic on 22 November 2015 won the season-ending **ATP World Tour finals**. In the title clash played in London, Djokovic defeated third seed Roger Federer.

- Anju Bobby George, the former long jump world champion, was on 24 November 2015 appointed as the chairperson of the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS).
- First day-night Test will be played at the Adelaide Oval from 27 November to 1 December 2015 with a pink Kookaburra ball.
- International Cricket Council (ICC) on 29 November 2015 suspended West Indies off-spinner **Sunil Narine** from bowling in international cricket with immediate effect. The ICC took a decision after an independent assessment found his bowling action to be illegal.
- Mercedes driver Nico Rosberg won 2015 Formula 1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

Obituaries:

- Noted labour economist **Dr. T.S. Papola** passed away in New Delhi.
- Writer, columnist and journalist **Mahip Singh** passed away at a private hospital in Gurgaon



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Important Days:

- The National Milk Day (NMD) was on 26 November 2015 observed across India to mark 94th birth anniversary of **the Father of the White Revolution Dr Verghese Kurien**. World Milk Day that is observed on 1 June every year under the aegis of UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women** was observed across the world on 25 November 2015. The day is observed to raise awareness about violence against women and discuss solutions that would work for women community.

- The '**Constitution Day**' of India is being observed on 26th November to spread awareness of Indian Constitution and its architect Dr. B R Ambedkar.

Conferences and Summits:

- ASEAN leaders have signed a declaration for launching **ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)** which would be similar to European Union (EU)-style regional economic bloc. In this regard, **Kuala Lumpur declaration** on the establishment of the AEC was signed by the leaders of 10-nation grouping chaired by Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak at its 27th Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It was signed in front of world leaders including Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. Apart from this AEC, ASEAN leaders also adopted the declaration on "ASEAN 2025, forging ahead together". The ASEAN 2025 document charts the path for building AEC over the next 10 years.
- **The 10th East Asia Summit (EAS)** was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The year's summit held under the **theme "Our People, Our Community, Our Vision"**. The summit was chaired by the Prime Minister of Malaysia Najib Razak and attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Korea, Russia and the United States of America.

States in News:

- The Mayyazhi Mahotsavam (Fete de Mahe), a three-day cultural extravaganza, started on 29 November 2015 at Mahe, Puducherry.
- **Uttar Pradesh** government's ambitious "**Clean UP, Green UP**" initiative has earned itself a place in the Guinness Book of World Records. Under state government's green drive initiative 10 lakh saplings were planted in one day within a span of eight hours on November 7, 2015 at 10 locations in the state.
- The Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka, along with the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) and the State Home Department, today launched in Bangalore '**Tourist Mitra**', a 175-member friendly force, to reinforce smooth and secure experiences for visitors to the state's tourist spots
- Bihar will go **dry from April 1, 2016**, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. The Chief Minister made the announcement — a part of his election pledge — at an official function to mark Prohibition Day here. He said the poorest of the poor had been consuming liquor, badly hitting their families and their children's education.

Miscellaneous:

- **French President Francois Hollande** will be the Chief Guest at the 67th Republic Day parade of January 26, 2016. Mr. Francois Hollande would be the 5th highest dignitary.
- Indigenously developed **supersonic Advanced Air Defence (AAD)** interceptor missile was successfully test fired from the **Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast**.
- The HRD Ministry has constituted a 13-member expert committee exclusively on Sanskrit in its attempt to revive interest in the ancient language. **Headed by N Gopalaswami**, the former chief election commissioner (CEC) and now Chancellor of Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth in Tirupati, the committee has been asked to recommend measures to integrate the study of the ancient language with other disciplines such as physics, chemistry, mathematics, medical science and law, suggest changes in Sanskrit education in schools and universities and recommend ways to impart Sanskrit education through modern tools.
- The **nuclear-capable Dhanush ballistic missile** was successfully test fired from warship Subhadra, off the Puri coast of Odisha in the Bay of Bengal. The test was conducted by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The country's second largest passenger car manufacturer Hyundai Motor India (HML) on Monday launched its CSR initiative -- Safe Move-Traffic Safety Campaign -- in association with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- Interceptor boat ICGS C-422 commissioned into Indian Coast Guard service
- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawar Chand Gehlot on 24 November 2015 announced the launching of 10 new/revised schemes for the disabled persons in New Delhi. These schemes were launched under the National Trust for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.

The list of the schemes are

1. **DISHA**: Early Intervention and School Readiness Scheme
2. **VIKAAS**: Day Care Scheme
3. **SAMARTH**: Respite Care Scheme
4. **GHARAUNDA**: Group Home for Adults Scheme
5. **NIRAMAYA**: Health Insurance Scheme
6. **SAHYOGI**: Caregiver training scheme
7. **GYAN PRABHA**: Educational support Scheme
8. **PRERNA**: Marketing Assistance Scheme
9. **SAMBHAV**: Aids and Assisted Devices Scheme

10. BADHTE KADAM: Awareness and Community Interaction Scheme

He also announced to increase the number of categories of disability from 7 to 19, so that more number of disabled could be brought into the ambit of Government's new initiatives. Further, a new website <http://thenationaltrust.gov.in/content/> for the National Trust was launched. This new website is made disabled friendly, more interactive. Registration of NGOs and paying donations can be done in the website itself.



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