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MUST DO CURRENT AFFAIRS TOPICS FOR IBPS CLERK MAINS 2017

5TH BI-MONTHLY POLICY ANNOUNCED BY RBI

RBI governor Urjit Patel kept short-term (REPO) lending rate unchanged. RBI also lowered its forecast for India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth to 7.1% for this fiscal & stated that demonetisation would lead to a short-term disruption in economic activity. The Patel-led six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously decided to keep the benchmark repo rate unchanged at 6.25%. **It has** withdrawn the incremental **cash reserve ratio (CRR)** of 100%.

Key Points from the 5th Bi-monthly monetary policy statement

- ✚ RBI keeps repo rate unchanged at 6.25%, reverse repo at 5.75%.
- ✚ RBI leaves cash reserve ratio (CRR) unchanged at 4%.
- ✚ It cuts growth forecast to 7.1%, from 7.6% for this fiscal.
- ✚ It keeps the inflation target at 5% for March 2017.
- ✚ Foreign exchange reserve rose to all-time high of \$364 billion on 2 December.

India defeated England by 4-0 to win the Anthony De Mello trophy 2016

Ravindra Jadeja's 7/48 in the second innings against England on the last day helped India to defeat England by an innings & 75-run in Chennai to clinch Anthony De Mello series 4-0. Jadeja took 10 wickets in the match & this was his first 10-wicket haul in a Test.

With this, India have now been unbeaten in 18 Tests & this is a new record for the team.

Virat Kohli is the man of the series for his 655 runs in this series. Also, India end 2016 as the number one ranked team in the world Karun Nair is the man of the match for his excellent triple ton.

Some records which were created in the series:

- ✚ Indian test captain Virat Kohli set a new record by remaining undefeated for 18 consecutive tests. The previous record of 17 is under former captain Kapil Dev's captaincy between 1985-1987.
- ✚ Virat Kohli became the first Indian captain to register three double centuries in a calendar year.
- ✚ India's 759/7 in the Chennai test is also the highest-ever team score in test.
- ✚ Alastair Cook is the tenth batsman to complete 11,000 runs in tests.

CHAK DE INDIA: India won the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup 2016

Indian team scripted a new chapter in hockey history by regaining the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup after a gap of 15 years, defeating Belgium 2-1 in the final at the Major Dhyan Chand Stadium in Lucknow. India achieved another first as this was the first time that a host nation has won the Cup in 11 editions. Gurjant Singh & Simranjeet Singh scored for India. For

Belgium, this was their second biggest defeat of the year, after losing to Argentina 0-1 in the Rio Olympics final.

Key Winners in the World Cup:

- ✚ **Up & Coming Player of the tournament:** Timm Herzbruch of Germany
- ✚ **Goalkeeper of the tournament:** Loic van Doren of Belgium
- ✚ **Top scorer of the tournament:** Edward Horler of England with 8 goals
- ✚ **Player of the tournament:** Enrique Gonzalez de Castejon from Spain

ISRO successfully launched PSLV C-36

PSLV-C36 is the thirty eighth flight of ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) placed the 1235 kg RESOURCESAT-2A into an 817 kms polar Sun Synchronous Orbit (SSO). PSLV-C36 was launched from the First Launch Pad (FLP) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota. In this flight, the 'XL' version of PSLV with six solid strap-on motors was used.

PSLV is the ISRO's versatile launch vehicle for launching multiple satellites in polar SSOs, Low Earth Orbits (LEO) as well as Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) & sub GTO. With 36 successful launches, PSLV has emerged as the workhorse launch vehicle of ISRO & is offered for launching satellites for international customers.



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6th Heart of Asia Summit held in Amritsar

6th Ministerial Conference of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process on Afghanistan was held in Amritsar on 3-4 December. The conference adopted the Amritsar Declaration which puts focus on the Heart of Asia countries & supporting countries & organizations working together to comprehensively address the menace of terrorism. Issues of terrorism took centre stage at the event.

Major Issues which were discussed in the Conference

- ✚ Countering terrorism to create stability & security in Afghanistan.
- ✚ Providing Afghanistan connectivity to strengthen economic activities.



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Development, which is essential for the progress of Afghanistan.

Major Highlights of the Conference

It jointly inaugurated by the President of Afghanistan Mohammad Ashraf Ghani & Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi.

It was attended by Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's foreign affairs advisor Sartaj Aziz.

It concluded with a strong declaration calling for concerted regional & international cooperation to ensure elimination of terrorism as well as dismantling of terrorist sanctuaries & safe havens in region.

Amritsar Declaration was adopted in the Conference

The Amritsar Declaration, issued after the 6th ministerial 'Heart of Asia conference - Istanbul Process on Afghanistan' in this Punjab city near India's border with Pakistan, "recognises terrorism as the biggest threat to peace" & demanded "immediate end to all forms of terrorism".

Citing the declaration, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, who chaired the meeting in the absence of ailing External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, said: "We remain concerned by high level of violence in Afghanistan caused by Taliban, terrorist groups including Al Qaeda, Daesh (Islamic State) & its affiliates." "We strongly call for concerted regional & international cooperation to ensure elimination of terrorism, including dismantling of terrorist safe havens in the Heart of Asia region, as well as disrupting all financial & logistical support for terrorism."

Note: It was attended by delegations from practically every participating country, supporting countries & international organizations-45 in all. It also saw the presence & participation of guest countries Austria, Bulgaria, Latvia & Uzbekistan.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister & "Amma" to millions, Jayalalithaa passed away

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa Jayaraman passed away at a Chennai hospital on 5th December 2016. The 68-year old AIADMK supremo breathed her last at 11:30 PM at the Apollo Hospital. She had suffered a massive cardiac arrest. Jayalalithaa was admitted to the hospital on September 22, 2016 following complaints of fever & dehydration, but she never fully recovered. Jayalalithaa's body was taken to her Poes Garden residence before being taken to Rajaji Hall, where people can pay their last respects to the departed soul.

Tamil Nadu government has announced a seven-day State Mourning from 06th December 2016. During the period, the national flag on all government buildings will be flown at half-mast. No official entertainment will also be held during this period. The government has also declared a three-day holiday for all educational institutions in the state. The neighbouring union territory of Puducherry has also announced a holiday for all government offices & educational institutions as a mark of respect to Jayalalithaa.

STAR SCREEN AWARDS 2016 DECLARED

The 23rd edition of the annual film awards show, **Star Screen Awards**, was held at Mumbai. Shoojit Sircar's critically-

acclaimed **Pink** bagged as many as four awards, including for the **Best Film**. Megastar **Amitabh Bachchan** received the **Best Actor** award for the film, **Aditya Bannerji** got the **Best Editing** award & **Ritesh Shah** got the **Best Dialogue** award for **Pink**.

List of the winners of Star Screen Awards 2016

Best Film	Pink
Best Actor	Amitabh Bachchan for Pink
Best Actress	Alia Bhatt for Uda Punjab
Best Supporting Actor	Rishi Kapoor for Kapoor & Sons
Best Supporting Actress	Shabana Azmi for Neerja
Best Actor (Critics' choice)	Sushant Singh Rajput for MS Dhoni: The Untold Story
Best Actress (Critics' choice)	Swara Bhaskar for Nil Battey Sannata
Best Actor (in a comic role)	Varun Dhawan for Dishoom
Best Director	Ram Madhvani for Neerja
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Amit Mishra for Bulleya, Ae Dil Hai Mushkil
Best Cinematography	Anay Goswamy for Fitoor
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Palak Muchhal for Kaun Tujhe, MS Dhoni: The Untold Story
Best Lyrics	Amitabh Bhattacharya, Ae Dil Hai Mushkil
Best Newcomer (Female)	Disha Patani for MS Dhoni: The Untold Story

Demonetization of Currency (Rs. 500 & Rs. 1000 Notes): A Surgical Strike on Black Money

Withdrawal of Legal Tender Character of the existing Bank Notes in the denominations of ₹ 500/- & ₹ 1000/-

Why is this scheme introduced?

The incidence of fake Indian currency notes in higher denomination has increased. The fake notes are used for antinational & illegal activities. In order to contain the rising incidence of fake notes & black money, the scheme to withdraw has been introduced.

What is this scheme?

The legal tender character of the existing bank notes in denominations of ₹ 500 & ₹ 1000 issued by the Reserve bank of India till November 8, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as Specified Bank Notes) stands withdrawn. The Specified Bank Notes can be exchanged for value at any of the 19 offices of the Reserve Bank of India & deposited at any of the bank branches of commercial banks/ Regional Rural Banks/ Co-operative banks (only Urban Co-operative Banks & State Co-operative Banks) or at any Head Post Office or Sub-Post Office. District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) can allow their existing customers to withdraw money from their accounts upto ₹ 24,000 per week.

Can I get cash in exchange for specified banknotes over the bank counter?

No over the counter exchange (in cash) of SBNs is not permitted from November 25, 2016.

Can I withdraw from ATM?

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The ATMs are progressively getting recalibrated. As & when they are recalibrated, the cash limit of such ATMs will stand enhanced to ₹ 2500/- per withdrawal. This will enable dispensing of lower denomination currency notes for about ₹ 500/- per withdrawal.

What will be the levied ATM charges?

It has been decided that banks shall waive levy of ATM charges for all transactions (inclusive of both financial & non-financial transactions) by savings bank customers done at their own banks' ATMs as well as at other banks' ATMs, irrespective of the number of transactions during the month. This waiver is applicable on transactions done at ATMs from November 10, 2016 till December 30, 2016, subject to review.

Can I withdraw cash against cheque?

Yes, you can withdraw cash against withdrawal slip or cheque subject to a weekly limit of ₹ 24000/- (including withdrawals from ATMs & over the counter) from the bank accounts.





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Business entities having Current Accounts which are operational for last three months or more will be allowed to draw ₹ 50,000/- per week. This can be done in a single transaction or multiple transactions. Holders of current / overdraft / cash credit accounts, which are operational for the last three months or more, may withdraw upto ₹ 50000 in cash, in a week. Such withdrawals may be disbursed predominantly in ₹ 2000 denomination bank notes. This enhanced limit for weekly withdrawal is not applicable for personal overdraft accounts. Farmers are allowed to draw upto ₹ 25000/- per week in cash from their loan (including Kisan Credit Card limit) or deposit accounts subject to their accounts being compliant with the extant KYC norms.

Can I withdraw a higher amount for the purpose of my ward's wedding?

With a view to enable members of the public to perform & celebrate weddings of their wards it has been decided to allow a cash withdrawal of maximum ₹ 250000/- from their bank

deposit accounts till December 30, 2016 to meet wedding related expenses.

Can I use the Specified banknotes to settle outstanding in my loan account?

Deposits of Specified bank Notes into all types of deposit/loan accounts is allowed subject to CTR/STR reporting. Anybody depositing more than ₹ 50,000/- in cash in their bank account has to submit a copy of the PAN card in case the bank account is not seeded with PAN.

The 45th President of USA is Donald Trump

Republican Donald Trump elected the new US President, defeating forecasters who had predicted a Hillary Clinton win in one of the most bitterly fought Presidential battles.

47th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Panaji (Goa)

47th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), was inaugurated by Ramesh Sippy in Goa, India. The focus country this time was the Republic of Korea. Poland's official entry to the 89th Academy Awards, 'Afterimage' by Andrzej Wajda opened the festival, South Korea's official entry 'The Age of Shadows' by Kim Jee-Woon closed the festival.

Iranian drama film 'Daughter' directed by Reza Mirkarimi won the Golden Peacock award for 'Best film'. The film's male lead Farhad Aslani won the Silver Peacock for the best actor male while the Best actor female award goes to Elina Vaska for her role in Latvian film - Mellow Mud.

India beat Iran 38-29 to win 2016 Kabaddi World Cup

A brilliant performance from raider Ajay Thakur helped India beat Iran 38-29 in the final of the **Kabaddi World Cup 2016** to claim the country's third title. India, who had defeated Iran in the previous two finals, were trailing 13-18 till half-time but put in a sterling show in the second half to romp home to victory.

Thakur, who ended the tournament with the most raid points in this year's tournament, was on fire & led India's fightback single-handedly. Meraj Sheykh put in a superlative performance for the Iranians & was the top raider for them.

Four-tier GST structure of 5%, 12%, 18% & 28% finalized

The GST Council decided to have four slabs under the GST regime with some changes from what union finance ministry proposed & a cess over the peak rate of 28% on luxury & sin goods for five years to compensate states for any revenue loss.

A four-tier GST rate structure would be 5%, 12%, 18%, 28%, finance minister Arun Jaitley told reporters after the meeting. Most of the food items would attract zero% rate. As much as 50% of consumer price index would be zero rated. 5% rate would be on other necessary goods such as soaps & others needed for daily uses.

NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS 2016

Economics: Two U.S.-based economists, **Oliver Hart (U.K) & Bengt Holmstrom (Finland)** have been awarded the 'Sveriges

Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel for their contributions to contract theory.



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Peace: Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to end the 52-year conflict with left-wing rebels.

Medicine: Japan's Yoshinori Ohsumi has received the 2016 Noble Prize for Medicine. He has received the award "for his discoveries of mechanisms for autophagy".

Physics: The prize goes jointly to **David J. Thouless, F. Duncan M. Haldane, & J. Michael Kosterlitz** who discovered a mathematical framework in the field of topography, to explain unexpected properties of solid materials.

Chemistry: Awarded to Jean-Pierre Sauvage, Sir J. Fraser Stoddart & Bernard L. Feringa for developing the molecular machine.

Literature: American singer-songwriter Bob Dylan has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature 2016 "for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition".

8th Brics Summit 2016 Concluded In Goa

The eighth BRICS summit held in Banaulim, Goa, India. The theme for the summit was "Building Responsive, Inclusive & Collective Solutions". The next summit will be held in 2017 in China.

The representatives of Member Countries:

- a) Brazilian President: Michel Temer
- b) Russian President: Vladimi Putin
- c) India's PM: Narendra Modi d) China's President: Xi Jinping
- e) South Africa's President: Jacob Zuma

Note:

- The meet of agriculture ministers of BRICS nations concluded in New Delhi.
- The first trade fair of the BRICS countries, was held at Pragati Maidan exhibition ground, New Delhi
- The first BRICS U-17 Football Cup was held at Goa.

Goa Declaration

In this year BRICS summit, a statement was issued for the member states "strongly condemn terrorism in all its forms & manifestations & stressed that there can be no justification whatsoever." The members also agreed to set up a credit rating agency.

Besides this, first-ever BRICS-BIMSTEC Outreach Summit was also held on side-lines of 2016 BRICS Summit. BIMSTEC member countries are Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan & Nepal.

GSAT-18 launched from Kourou in French Guiana

India's latest communication satellite GSAT-18 successfully launched by a heavy duty rocket of Arianespace from the spaceport of Kourou in French Guiana. It is built by the Indian Space Research Organisation aims at providing telecommunications services for the country. It was inducted into the INSAT/GSAT system from Kourou, French Guiana by Ariane-5 VA-231.

Cabinet approves amendments in the FDI Policy

- FDI in the defence sector is now permitted up to 100% under the automatic route.
- FDI ceiling in sectors like teleports, Direct to Home (DTH), cable networks, mobile TV & Headend-in-the-Sky Broadcasting Service (HITS) has been increased to 100%.

For the pharmaceutical sector, new liberalised norms allow 74% FDI under the automatic route for brownfield pharmaceuticals, while FDI beyond 74 per cent would be permitted through the government approval route.

For the private security agencies, FDI up to 49% is now permitted under the automatic route, & beyond that & up to 74% by way of government approval.

Food: It has now been provided that 100% FDI under automatic route for trading.

Civil Aviation Sector: FDI policy on Airports permitted 100% FDI under automatic route in Greenfield Projects & 74% FDI in Brownfield Projects under the automatic route. FDI beyond 74% for Brownfield Projects is under government route.

11th G-20 Summit 2016 Concluded in Hangzhou, China

The 11th Summit of the Group of Twenty (G20) concluded in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou. The theme of 2016 G20 Summit was Toward an Innovative, Invigorated, Interconnected & Inclusive World Economy. The chair of the summit was Xi Jinping, President of China. Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany, presidency of the G20 in 2017 introduced visions & plans in hosting the Hamburg Summit. The summit adopted the G20 Leaders' Communiqué of the Hangzhou Summit.

US OPEN 2016

Men's Singles: Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka defeated Serbia's Novak Djokovic. This was Wawrinka's first appearance in the final of the tournament.

Women's Singles: Germany's Angelique Kerber defeated Czech Republic's Karolína Plíšková.

Men's Doubles: United Kingdom's Jamie Murray & Brazil's Bruno Soares defeated Spain's Pablo Carreño Busta & Guillermo García-López.

Women's Doubles: US's Bethanie Mattek-Sands & Czech Republic's Lucie Šafářová defeated France's Caroline Garcia & France Kristina Mladenovic.

Mixed Doubles: Germany's Laura Siegemund & Croatia's Mate Pavić defeated US's Coco Vandeweghe & Rajeev Ram.

15TH Paralympics 2016 Concluded in Rio, Brazil

India's flagbearer in Paralympic Opening ceremony - **Devendra Jhajharia**

India's flagbearer in Paralympic closing ceremony - **Mariyappan Thangavelu**

India capped off a successful Paralympic Games campaign in Rio de Janeiro by procuring their best ever haul of four medals, including two golds & a silver & bronze medal apiece. **The Nineteen Indian** competitors (16 Men & 3 Women) participated in Rio 2016 paralympic games for India in Five sports.

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	107	81	51	239
2	Great Britain	64	39	44	147
3	Ukraine	41	37	39	117
43	India	2	1	1	4

Highlights:

- 🏆 Ankur Dharma: is the India's first blind athlete in 30 years to participate at Paralympics.



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- Indian high jumper Mariyappan Thangavelu became only the third Indian ever to clinch a Paralympic gold, while Varun Bhati secured a bronze as the duo scripted history for the country in the men's T42 high jump event of the Rio Games.
- Le Van Cong made history for Vietnam as he has secured the country's 1st ever paralympic gold medal.
- A historic silver medal ensured Deepa Malik scripted history; she won second place in the women's shotput F53 event at the Rio Paralympics, with a personal best throw of 4.61m.
- India's Devendra Jhajarhia bettered his own world record to win gold in the men's javelin throw F46 event at the 2016 Rio Paralympics.
- The Iranian flag has been lowered to half-mast in the Paralympic Village & a period of silence will be observed during closing ceremony.



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RIO OLYMPICS 2016 CONCLUDED

Olympics 2020 is to be hosted by Tokyo, Japan. For India, the first female wrestling medalist, Sakshi Malik carried the Flag into the stadium, USA ended on top position & India at 67 positions in the medal tally.

Opening ceremony flag-bearer - Abhinav Bindra.

Closing ceremony flag-bearer - Sakshi malik

Medal Tally of Rio Olympic 2016

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	USA	46	37	38	121
2.	GBR	27	23	17	67
3.	CHN	26	18	26	70
67.	IND	0	1	1	2

Highlights:

- Gymnast Dipa Karmakar narrowly missed the bronze by finishing fourth in the women's vault.
- P V Sindhu has won a silver medal in women's singles badminton event at Rio Olympics, 2016.
- Wrestler Sakshi Malik has won a bronze in 58 kg category.
- Usain Bolt has won 3 gold medal.
- Michael Phelps has won 4 golds & 2 silver medals.

Lok Sabha unanimously passes GST Bill

The Lok Sabha has unanimously passed the 122nd Constitutional Amendment Bill as amended by the Rajya Sabha with all 443 members voting in favour & this will now be sent to state assemblies for approval after the President approves it. The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha & transmitted to Rajya Sabha for concurrence. Rajya Sabha passed the Bill with amendments & returned it to Lok Sabha.

Bezwada Wilson & T.M. Krishna win Ramon Magsaysay Award

Classical singer Thodur Madabusi Krishna & National Convenor of Safai Karmachari Andolan Bezwada Wilson featured in this year's list of winners of the coveted Ramon Magsaysay Award 2016.

Apart from the two Indians, four others have been selected for the award—Conchita Carpio-Morales of the Philippines, Dompot Dhuafa of Indonesia, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers & 'Vientiane Rescue' of Laos.

BANKING & FINANCIAL AWARENESS CURRENT AFFAIRS

RBI IN NEWS

- Reserve Bank of India said that it will issue Rs 50 denomination banknotes in the Mahatma Gandhi Series-2005, with inset letter 'L', 'R' in both the number panels, bearing signature of Dr Urjit R. Patel, Governor, Reserve Bank of India, & the year of printing '2016' printed on the reverse of the banknote.
- RBI defers mandatory implementation of Aadhar-enabled PoS (Point of Sale) devices till June 30, 2017.
- RBI has asked banks & prepaid payment instrument issuing entities not to levy any charges for transactions upto 1000 rupees that are settled using Immediate Payment Service, USSD based *99# & Unified Payment Interface systems.
- RBI has advised banks to cap the Merchant Discount Rates for debit card transactions upto 1000 rupees at 0.25 percent

of the transaction value. For transactions between 1000 & 2000 rupees, the merchant charges shall be capped at 0.5 percent of the transaction value.

- In order to mop up extra liquidity from the system in view of demonetisation, government & the Reserve Bank sharply raised the Market Stabilisation Scheme (MSS) ceiling to Rs 6 lakh crore from Rs 30,000 crore.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has kept its key policy rate, the Repo Rate (RR), at 6.25 %. It has lowered the growth forecast by 0.5% to 7.1% for 2016-17.
- RBI has withdrawn the incremental cash reserve ratio (CRR) of 100%.
- Reserve Bank of India has authorised the Receivables Exchange of India (RXIL), promoted by Sidbi & NSE, to launch the country's first trade receivables exchange platform for MSMEs, buyers & financiers.



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- ✦ CVC made it mandatory for PSB's to report to all such frauds involving funds over Rs one crore to the commission.
- ✦ RBI relaxed the norms on income recognition, asset classification & provisions pertaining to advances. Taking into consideration the problems, RBI decided to provide an additional 60 days time to clear the dues, provided that the value of the loan or crop loan is less than 1 crore Rs. Term loans, housing loans & agriculture loans with sanctioned amount of up to 1 crore Rs. are eligible for relaxation.
- ✦ RBI reduced the cash withdrawal limit from PMJDY A/C to Rs 10000 a month to protect the holders from money launderers. For Non-KYC compliant, withdrawal limit is Rs 5000 per month.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Parvez Ahmad as Chairman & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank for a period of three years.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India gave a go ahead to Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) to almost double its holding in Kotak Mahindra Bank.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India is looking to improve its dealing with customers coming to it with complaints against banks. It has just set up the second Banking Ombudsman office in New Delhi. This is the 16th Ombudsmen with specific state wise jurisdiction covering all the 29 states & seven union territories.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued rules permitting start-ups to raise **External Commercial Borrowings** (ECBs) per start-up was capped at **\$3 million per financial year** to support financing for start-ups
- ✦ Urjit R Patel assumed charge as the 24th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). He succeeded Raghuram Rajan.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India launched Sachet portal, sachet.rbi.org.in, to check illegal money collection.
- ✦ Union Government appointed Dr. Urjit R Patel as the 24th governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). He will be having tenure of three years.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India asked all commercial & Co-operative banks to provide loans to women self-help groups (SHGs) in rural areas at 7 percent per annum.

SBI IN NEWS

- ✦ Edible oil firm Ruchi Soya Industries in association with State Bank of India (SBI) launched an initiative to provide banking assistance to farmers. Under the initiative 'Kisan Kalyan Ayojan', the company will help farmers to open bank accounts, procure the produce directly from farmers at the right price & ensure farmers get their payment immediately through internet banking.
- ✦ India's largest public sector trading body MMTC (Metals & Minerals Trading gold Corporation) tie-up with the State Bank of India (SBI) to sell government-minted Indian Gold Coin (24 Karat) which will be available in denominations of 5gm, 10gm & 20 gm bar.
- ✦ Women & Child Development Ministry has tied up with India Post & SBI. This will offer more payment options to buyers & simplify shipping of products bought from "Mahila E-haat", an online marketing platform for women entrepreneurs.
- ✦ State Bank MobiCash Mobile Wallet launched. It is a product of State Bank of India (SBI) & Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL).

- ✦ SBI decided to write off loans worth almost 7016 Crore Rs., owed to it by 63 willful defaulters including Vijay Mallya's Kingfisher Airlines. The move is a part of a cleanup process of the bank's balance sheets.
- ✦ Competition Commission (CCI) approved the merger of Bharatiya Mahila Bank Ltd (BMBL) with the SBI.
- ✦ SBI became the first domestic bank of India to open 54th foreign branch, in the capital city of Yangon, Myanmar. Ghanshyam Srivastava will be the Chief Executive Officer of the SBI Yangon branch.
- ✦ SBI declared Silchar as its 5th zone in North-East India. This zone will cater to the banking needs of the people of Mizoram, Tripura & Manipur along with the Barak Valley.
- ✦ State Bank of India signed an MoU with IIT Kharagpur to foster innovation in the financial technology space.

ICICI BANK IN NEWS

- ✦ ICICI Bank launched a credit facility against home loans for salaried customers which includes Home Overdraft facility that will enable a salaried customer to seek loans up to Rs. 1 crore for personal needs against his/her property.
- ✦ Shares of ABG Shipyard rose after the company announced that the private lender, ICICI Bank, acquired 11% stake in the company by converting its debt into equity.
- ✦ India's largest private sector lender, ICICI Bank crossed 1 lakh Virtual Payment Addresses (VPA) on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) within three weeks of its launch.

YES BANK IN NEWS

- ✦ YES Bank, India's fifth largest private sector bank has partnered with Ola, one of the popular mobile apps for transportation, to provide cash-on-demand at customer's doorstep.
- ✦ Launched "Yes Mobile 2.0", its new mobile banking app with multiple new features & extensive support for banking transactions on Apple & Android-based SmartWatches.
- ✦ Appointed Amresh Acharya as Group President & Head of Global Indian Banking.
- ✦ Former finance secretary & Competition Commission of India chairman Ashok Chawla has taken charge as Non-Executive Chairman of Yes Bank.
- ✦ Yes Bank appointed Amit Sanan as Group President & Country Head of Mid Corporate Banking.
- ✦ Yes Bank has rolled out adoption benefits for its workforce, in an effort to align organisational objectives with the needs of employees. Under the new policy, called "Bringing A Beautiful Yes" & rolled out under the 'Yes We Care' initiative, leave will now be allowed for employees adopting a child.
- ✦ **YES Bank** has tied up with **ToneTag**, a Mobile payment solutions startup to integrate & deploy sound based contactless payments on its mobile wallet YES Pay.

AXIS BANK IN NEWS

- ✦ Asha Kharga has joined Axis Bank as their head of marketing.
- ✦ Private sector lender Axis Bank, announced the launch of its Contactless Secure+ Debit Card for regular savings account customers, to provide access to a larger customer base with contactless technology. The card, launched on the Visa payWave platform.



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- ✚ Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Yes Bank, IndusInd Bank & RBL are among the dozens of new shareholders of NPCI, the issuer of Rupay Card. National Payment Corporation of India broaden the shareholders to 56 from 10 earlier.
- ✚ Ashok Chawla -Non-Executive Chairman Of Yes Bank.

OTHER PRIVATE SECTOR BANKS IN NEWS

- ✚ Federal Bank has tied up with Spice Digital for cash management services through the bank's e-collection facility.
- ✚ Karnataka Bank Ltd has bagged the 'Best MSME Bank Award (private sector) 2016' instituted by Assocham.
- ✚ Federal Bank has tied up with Oxigen to expand the bank's e-collection facility to the about 3 lakh- retail outlets of Oxigen.
- ✚ HDFC Bank's Aditya Puri has been ranked 36th in the US magazine Fortune's top 50 business persons list for 2016. He is the only Indian among three persons of Indian origin in the global rankings. Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg topped the list by the US magazine.
- ✚ Federal Bank, India's major commercial bank in the private sector has received RBI's permission to open its first international branch at the Dubai International Financial Centre.
- ✚ Airtel Payments Bank Limited launched India's first live Payments Bank in Rajasthan. It will provide an interest of 7.25% per annum on deposits.
- ✚ IndusInd Bank tied up with IBM to use its Cloud commerce solutions to transform customer engagements & enhance its cross sell platforms.
- ✚ RBL Bank bought 9.99 per cent stake in northern states focused Utkarsh Micro Finance for an undisclosed sum. RBL managing director & chief executive is Vishwavir Ahuja.
- ✚ DCB Bank announced the launch of Unified Payment Interface (UPI) application. DCB UPI app provides a convenient payment method for customers to send & receive funds anytime, anywhere, from their smart phones.
- ✚ Federal Bank announced its partnership with Chiller, a round the clock mobile banking application that connects directly to a person's bank account & enables instant money transfers, bill payments, phone recharge & ecommerce payments in a very secure environment.
- ✚ South Indian Bank (SIB) has launched UPI (Unified Payment Interface) facility an initiative promoted by NPCI towards creating "Cash less Society".

INTERNATIONAL/FOREIGN BANKS IN NEWS

- ✚ Stockholders of the National Bank of Abu Dhabi & First Gulf Bank approved to merge into the biggest bank of all Gulf Countries with an asset of \$ 178 billion. After the merger the combined company will be named as NBAD.
- ✚ Asian Development Bank \$48 million loan to help Assam improve power distribution to enhance capacity & efficiency of its power distribution system to improve electricity service to end user.
- ✚ Commonwealth Bank, Australia's largest lender with \$695 billion in assets has become the latest foreign bank to shut down its Indian business.
- ✚ Standard Chartered Bank has announced a tie-up with Uber under which its credit cardholders, across six countries, will get a cash-back of up to 25 per cent for hailing cabs from the app.

OTHER PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS IN NEWS

- ✚ Corporation Bank has bagged the SKOCH silver award for attaining the position of number1 channel partner of LIC of India for the past three financial years.
- ✚ Corporation Bank has bagged the 'Best MSME Bank Award 2016' instituted by Assocham.
- ✚ Vijaya Bank has been adjudged 'Best Bank for SME Lending award' by Assocham.
- ✚ Bank of Baroda appointed Ratnesh Kumar as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of BoB Capital Markets Ltd.
- ✚ UCO Bank has announced that it would raise Rs.271 crore from LIC in preferential allotment of equal shares.
- ✚ Corporation Bank signed MoU with the Indian Army on the defence salary package under which bank will provide free/concessional services to the Army.
- ✚ Government has sacked Bank of Maharashtra chairman & managing director Sushil Mhnot, without citing any reason. Ravindra Marathe, has been executive director of Bank of India, has taken charge as CEO & MD.
- ✚ Andhra Bank has entered into corporate agency agreements with Cigna TTK Company Ltd, & Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd for providing health & general insurance to its customers.
- ✚ Bank of India (BOI) has sold 18 per cent stake in the insurance joint venture Star Union Daiichi Life Insurance Company Ltd (SUD) to its Japanese partner Daiichi Life Insurance Company Limited (DILIC).
- ✚ The Centre has appointed R Subramania Kumar as Executive Director (ED) of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB).
- ✚ Bank of Maharashtra has renewed its corporate agency tie-up with United India Insurance Company.
- ✚ Virat Kohli the test team captain, appointed as Brand Ambassador of state-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB).
- ✚ R Subramania Kumar was appointed as the Executive Director (ED) of Indian Overseas Bank.
- ✚ Union Bank of India (UBI) launched an Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) based *99# Mobile Application for their customers for basic banking needs.
- ✚ Unified Payments Interface (UPI) was introduced by four banks, namely Axis Bank, Union Bank of India, Federal Bank & Bank of Maharashtra. The app will allow customers to make payments via digital means.
- ✚ United Bank of India has set up its 36th regional office in Hyderabad to boost business in Andhra Pradesh & Telengana.

RRB'S/COOPERATIVE BANKS/NBFC'S IN NEWS

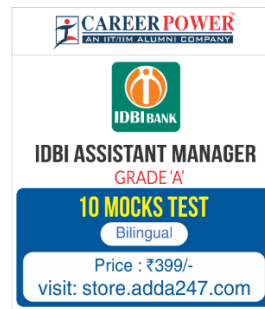
- ✚ NABARD will extend support aggregating about Rs. 120 crore to banks for deployment of two Point-of-Sale (PoS) devices per village in one lakh villages having a population of up to 10,000.
- ✚ The Dharwad-headquartered Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank has bagged two awards for inclusive insurance from Skoch Group for 2016. ii. The bank bagged the awards in life insurance & micro insurance sectors under the order of merit category.
- ✚ Jammu & Kashmir Bank appointed Parvez Ahmed as Chairman & CEO of the bank. He replaced Mustaq Ahmad.



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MISCELLANEOUS BANKING NEWS

- Airtel Payments Bank, the first payments bank in India introduce that any customer opening a savings account with it will get one minute of talk time on his/her Airtel mobile for every rupee deposited.
- MMTC (Metals & Minerals Trading Corporation of India) has joined hands with HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank & Andhra Bank to retail gold coins with a new buyback option. It has also tied up with Indian Overseas Bank, Vijaya Bank, Federal Bank & YES Bank to sell gold coins in denominations of 5 gm & 10 gm coin & 20 gm bar.



ECONOMY NEWS

- Employee's Provident Fund Organization EPFO decided to lower the interest on EPF deposits for the current fiscal to 8.65%, from 8.8% provided in 2015-16, for its over four crore subscribers.
- Central Statistical Office announced that India's Gross Domestic Product accelerated to 7.3 % in the second quarter (July-September) of the 2016-17 financial year from a provisional 7.1 % expansion in the previous quarter.
- To encourage each district in the country to take the digitization route without fear, NITI Aayog will be immediately transferring Rs.5 lakh each district as seed money to kick start this drive.
- ADB lowered India's growth forecast for this year from 7.4 % to 7 % due to a slight slowdown in the economy following the central government's demonetisation move.
- India has signed a Grant Agreement of USD 5.19 million with International Bank for Reconstruction & Development (IBRD) for Additional Financing for Financing Energy Efficiency at MSMEs Project- Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency.
- Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation for November 2016 came in at a five-month low of 3.15 %, lower than 3.39 % in the October month.
- India's foreign exchange reserves declined by 887.2 million dollars to 362.987 billion dollars in the week ended 9th December
- SEBI tightened rules for credit rating agencies, prescribing more disclosures on suspension & withdrawal of ratings. CRISIL, ICRA & CARE are the major agencies that assign credit ratings to issuers of debt instruments.
- Govt. has announced that it will present the Union Budget for 2017-18 on February 1 & the budget session may begin in January. Also, the Centre approved the merging of Railway Budget with the Union Budget.
- ADB & the GOI signed a 500 million US dollar loan to build a 9.8 km long road bridge across the Ganges River. This will be India's longest river bridge.
- 2 percent hike in dearness allowance (DA) has been approved by the Cabinet.
- Parliament had passed the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016 to curb black money. The new law to prohibit benami transactions will come into effect from 1st of next month (01st November 2016). The existing Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 will be renamed as the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions, PBPT, Act, 1988. The new legislation provides for seven years imprisonment & fine for those indulging in illegal transactions.
- Finance Ministry announced sixth tranche of sovereign gold bonds. The duration of the bond will be for a period of eight years with exit option from the fifth year to be exercised on the interest payment dates. Minimum investment of 1 gm will be allowed while the maximum will be 500 gm per person per fiscal year.
- Government has integrated 250 mandis in 10 states with the electronic national agriculture market (e-NAM) in the first phase. The target was to integrate 200 mandis by September this year & total 585 by March 2018.
- IMF projects the global growth at 3.1 per cent in 2016, with slight increase to 3.4 percent in 2017. India's gross domestic product is projected to expand 7.6 percent in 2016 & 2017.
- Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP) notified 100 per cent foreign direct investment in 'other financial services' carried out by Non-Banking Finance companies(NBFCs) to attract foreign capital into India.
- The cabinet approved the creation of a Project Development Fund (PDF) for catalysing Indian economic presence in the Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar & Vietnam (CLMV). The PDF will be created with a corpus of 500 Crore rupees.
- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) launched e-nivaran (electronic resolution) facility for online redressal of taxpayers' grievances. The grievances can be related to refunds, Income Tax Returns (ITRs), Tax Deducted at Source (TDS), & Permanent Account Number (PAN) among others.

BUSINESS NEWS (NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL)

S.No	Companies	Key Points
DOMESTIC COMPANIES		
1.	Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation & Hindustan Petroleum Corp	signed a pact to build India's biggest oil refinery at a cost of \$30 billion on the west coast in Maharashtra . IOC will hold a 50 % stake in the project while BPCL & HPCL will have 25 % each.
2.	Bharat Earth Movers Limited Ltd	has bagged the 'CII National Quality 2016 Award'
3.	Indian Council of Food & Agriculture	Presented 'Global Agriculture Leadership Award 2016' to Tata Sons interim Chairman Ratan Tata
4.	Paytm Announced	a program to increase the digital inclusion in the country where in it is calling upon consumers &



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	merchants across India to teach others on how to use Paytm to pay & accept money.	
5.	BHEL has bagged a major order from Indian Railways for the supply of IGBT-based traction converters.	
6.	BEML Ltd , a defence PSU	Conferred with CEPM Fellowship Award-2016
7.	Telecom operator Bharti Airtel	merger of its subsidiary unit in Bangladesh with Robi Axiata
8.	Times Internet	Appointed Rishi Jaitly as the CEO of Times Global Partners
9.	Tata Consultancy Services	Awarded 'Digital Innovator of the Year' in the Ecosystem Excellence category
10.	Hindustan Construction Company (HCC) became India's first firm to get debt recast under RBI's new Scheme for Sustainable Structuring of Stressed Assets (S4A). RBI approved HCC's Rs. 5,000-crore debt recast.	
11.	Google Capital has changed its name to 'CapitalG'. New domain now forwards to CapitalG.com	
12.	Reliance Group with Cisco Jasper	Launched venture named Unlimit, which will provide Internet of Things (IoT) services to its enterprise customers in India.
13.	Mahindra & Mahindra	Appointed Pawan Goenka as Managing Director
14.	Board of Tata Steel removed Cyrus Mistry as the Chairman & O.P. Bhatt as the Interim Chairman.	
15.	Amazon	To sell Amul's products online in the United States
16.	India's first startup magazine "Cofounder"	Launched by Adhish Verma & Arunraj Rajendran. This magazine will talk about real stories behind the early stage startups & entrepreneurs.
17.	Microsoft	Launched its 1st cybersecurity engagement center in India in the heart of Delhi
18.	ONGC become the fifth most valuable company in India by market capitalization. TCS is India's most valuable company followed by Reliance Industries Ltd, HDFC Bank Ltd & ITC Ltd.	
19.	Valvoline Cummins India	Signed up India Test captain Virat Kohli as its ambassador
20.	HCL Technologies	Entered 15-year partnership deal with IBM for automation, development & operations solutions.
21.	Reliance Communications & Maxis Communications Berhad, promoters of Aircel	To merge their wireless businesses to form the fourth-largest telecom operator in the country.
INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES		
22.	Tesla & SpaceX Founder Elon Musk	Named the most admired leader in the technology space.
23.	E-commerce major Amazon	Launched its global startup program 'Launchpad' in India, an online portal featuring over 400 products from different startups.
24.	Microsoft	Introduced business solutions from its partner ecosystem to meet the business needs of small & medium businesses across Kerala.
25.	BBC World Service	will launch 11 new language services as part of its biggest expansion. The new languages also includes Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi, Telugu, etc.
26.	TAFE, the world's third largest tractor maker	with the Rajasthan govt. is setting up a Centre of Excellence — 'JFarm Rajasthan'
27.	Fortune magazine named the co-founder & CEO of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg as Business Person of the Year.	
28.	Swiss major Molinari Rail	will set up a manufacturing & assembly centre for auxiliary power units for diesel locomotives in India.
29.	British Petroleum 'Petroleum industry company'	Which is HQ in London, England has granted a license to set up 3,500 petrol pumps in India.

AGREEMENTS (INDIA/WORLD)

S. No	What is the MoU/Agreement?	Signed by/Between	Other Point
BETWEEN INDIA & OTHER COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION			
1.	4 agreements related to visas, cyberspace & investments.	India & Qatar (PM) Qatar Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani.	
2.	MOU on cooperation in peaceful uses of outer space.	India & Afghanistan	
3.	MoU related to support ease of doing business in India.	India & UK	
4.	MoU for cooperation in field of Intellectual Property approved.	India & UK	
5.	USA vowed to expand the bilateral defence cooperation. The American defence secretary Ashton Carter termed New Delhi as a "major defence partner".		
6.	A civil nuclear cooperation agreement & three other agreements — to enhance aviation links, to jointly work in the area of energy efficiency & promotion of parliamentary cooperation.	India & Vietnam	
7.	MoU on Youth & Sports Cooperation, on Standardization Cooperation between the Bureau of Indian Standards & the	India & Indonesia Signed during the visit of Indonesian President Joko	



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	National Standardization Agency of Indonesia & Joint Communiqué on the Voluntary International Cooperation to Combat Illegal, Unregulated & Unreported (IUU) Fishing & to promote Sustainable Fisheries Governance.	Widodo.	
8.	MoU for cooperation on broadcasting in exchange of audio visual programs, to amend the agreement for the avoidance of double taxation & prevention of fiscal evasion, Cooperation in the exchange of financial intelligence to deal with crimes related to money laundering & financing of terrorism & To initiate bilateral investment treaty between countries .	India & Tajikistan during the visit of Tajikistan president Emomali Rahmon.	
9.	For setting up a Palestine-India Techno Park in Ramallah, Palestine.	India & Palestine	
10.	Setting up of four more centres at Angul, Jajpur, Koraput & Sambalpur.	Odisha Government with the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)	
11.	Agreements on intellectual property (IP) & for bilateral cooperation on raising ease of doing business.	India & the United Kingdom	
12.	New double tax avoidance pact under which capital gains tax will be levied on sale of shares on investments.	India & Cyprus	
13.	To implement a joint action plan on urban infrastructure development in the state.	Maharashtra govt. with Canada	
14.	Joint Declaration for implementation of Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI)	India & Switzerland	
15.	Agreements in the field of water resources management & agriculture	India & Israel	Israel Prez Reuven Rivlin
16.	Ten agreements to boost the bilateral cooperation		Japan PM Shinzo Abe
17.	\$750 million deal for 145 M-777 Ultra-Light Howitzers	India & USA	
18.	Revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) for the avoidance of double taxation & the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.	India & South Korea	
19.	3 agreements in the areas of double taxation avoidance, food security & sports.	India & New Zealand	Former PM of New Zealand John Key
20.	MoU for setting up a Palestine-India Techno Park in Ramallah.	India & Palestine	
21.	FinTech Cooperation Agreement to promote innovation in financial services	Andhra Pradesh govt. with Monetary Authority of Singapore	
22.	Agreement for five S-400 Triumf air defence systems & four stealth frigates & a joint venture to manufacture Kamov-226T helicopters in India.	India & Russia	
23.	Agreements in the field of water resources, including innovations in irrigation technology & for promotion of co-operation between countries	Indian Council of World Affairs & its Hungarian counterpart	
24.	MoU in the field of water resources	India & EU	
25.	Agreements in the area of skill development & in the field of industrial property cooperation.	India & Singapore	
26.	MoU for capacity building programmes in the field of rural development	India & African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO)	
27.	Cooperation in the exploration & uses of outer space for peaceful purposes, Amending the agreement on avoiding double taxation, Cooperation in UN Peacekeeping Matters, Celebrating 2017 as the "Year of Friendship", health cooperation, cooperation in information technology, cooperation in cyber security etc.	India-Vietnam signed 12 agreements PM, Narendra Modi with PM of Vietnam Nguyen Xuan Phuc	
BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS/COMPANIES			
	MOU	Between Whom?	
1.	Strategic IoT Advisory partnership to combine their advanced technologies, industry insights, & creative thinking to accelerate the digital transformation of large & mid-market Indian enterprises.	KPMG in India & Microsoft India	
2.	MoU to set up a 2400 MW power plant at Gajmara in Dhenkanal district of Odisha & supply captive power for	National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) & NTPC Limited	



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	expansion plans of Nalco at Angul	
3.	To create more job opportunities for Indian students	LinkedIn has signed an agreement with the human resource development ministry
4.	For 360-degree virtual tour of 280-odd monuments across the country.	Google with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)
5.	MoU under which railway stations & adjoining areas will be redeveloped on smart city lines for enhancing passenger amenities, easy access to stations, enabling optimal utilisation of land at railway stations. for the redevelopment.	Ministry of Urban Development & the Ministry of Railways (10 cities have been identified)
6.	Agreement for transmission of four Gyan Darshan educational channels.	Doordarshan & Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)
7.	Facebook is collaborating with the Election Commission of India	To run a voter registration drive aimed at encouraging youth to participate in the democratic exercise.
8.	MoU to monitor Environment related issues in Coal Mining Projects	Coal India Limited (CIL) & Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education (ICFRE)
9.	MoU to provide digital classes across the state through channel Mana TV	ISRO with Telangana
10.	MoU to publish & distribute a special edition of a comic book	Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) with Amar Chitra Katha

NEW APPOINTMENTS (INDIA)

S. no	Newly Appointed	Designation(Post)/Department(Company)
Constitutional & Other Posts		
1.	O Panneerselvam	Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu
2.	Senior IAS officer B.S. Bhullar	Chief of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
3.	Rajendra Kumar	Member of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
4.	Sunil Arora	Director General & CEO of Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)
5.	Lt General Bipin Rawat	Will be the new Chief of Army Staff
6.	Senior IPS Rakesh Asthana	Interim Director of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)
7.	Air Marshal BS Dhanoa	Next Chief of Air Staff
8.	Rajiv Jain	Chief of Intelligence Bureau (IB)
9.	Anil Dhasmana	Head, Research & Analysis Wing (RAW)
10.	Sushil Chandra	Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (replaced Rani Singh Nair)
11.	M Rajeshwar Rao	RBI's Executive Director (ED) (Replaced G Mahalingam)
12.	BJP VP Avinash Rai Khanna	Member of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
13.	Yudhvir Singh Malik	Chairman, NHAI (Replace Raghav Chandra)
14.	Pankaj R. Patel	President, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) for 2017
15.	Jagdish Singh Khehar	Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)
16.	M. M. Kuttly	Chief Secretary of Delhi
17.	Senior IPS off. Karnal Singh	Chief of Enforcement Directorate(ED)
18.	Bilal Nazki	Chairperson of the State Human Rights Commission
19.	Sanjay Singh	Member Secretary, Law Commission of India.
20.	Ajay Kumar Bhalla	Director General of Foreign Trade (Succeeds Anup Wadhawan)
21.	Sushil Chandra	Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (Succeeds Rani Singh Nair)
22.	Vice Admiral S V Bhokare	Commandant of the Indian Naval Academy at Ezhimala in Kerala
23.	Somesh Sharma	President, The Indian Newspaper Society (Succeeds PV Chandran)
24.	Alka Sirohi	UPSC chairman (Succeed Deepak Gupta)
25.	Vijay Rupani	16th Chief Minister of Gujarat, succeeds Anandiben Patel
26.	Manjula Chellur	Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court
27.	Najma Heptullah	Governor of Manipur
28.	V P Singh Badnore	Governor of Punjab
29.	Banwarilal Purohit	Governor of Assam.
CEO'S/Chairman of Companies/Organizations/Banks		
30.	Ramkrishna	Quit as CEO of National Stock Exchange (NSE)
31.	Sunil Taldar	CEO & Director of Airtel Digital TV
32.	Shashi Arora	MD & CEO of Airtel Payments Bank
33.	Amar Abrol	MD & CEO, AirAsia
34.	Veena Mankar	Non-Executive Chairperson of IDFC Bank



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35.	Former Sebi chief C B Bhawe	Non-executive Chairman & Independent Director, Vistaar Financial Services
36.	Cyrus Mistry	Removed as director of Tata Industries
37.	Cyrus Mistry	Removed as the Director of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
38.	V G Kannan	Chief Executive of the Indian Banks' Association (IBA)
39.	V K Sharma	Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)
40.	Rishi Jaitly	Twitter's India head quit the company.
41.	Parminder Singh	Twitter's MD for India, SE Asia & Middle East & North Africa region
42.	C.V.R. Rajendran	Managing Director & CEO of Catholic Syrian Bank
43.	Gurumoorthy Mahalingam	Full-Time Member of SEBI
44.	Bhaskar Bhat	Non-executive & non-independent director, Tata Chemicals Ltd
45.	Bharti Enterprises Founder & Chairman Sunil Mittal	GSMA (Global System Mobile Association) Chairman
46.	Rishi Jaitly	Twitter's India head quit the company
47.	P V Sindhu & K Srikanth	Principal sponsorship contract with Bank of Baroda
48.	G Mahalingam	Whole-Time Member of markets regulator SEBI.
49.	Jawhar Sircar	CEO, Prasar Bharati Corporation.
50.	Ashish Vohra	CEO, Reliance Nippon Life Insurance
51.	M.S. Sahoo	IBBI (Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board) Chairperson
52.	Rajeev Sharma	CMD, Power Finance Corporation (PFC) (Succeeds M K Goel)
53.	Vinod Sawhny	Reliance Communications' Chief Executive Officer stepped down
54.	Mr. William (Bill) Barney & Mr. Gurdeep Singh	Acting Co-CEOs of Reliance Communications
55.	Mohit Kampani	CEO, Aditya Birla Retail
56.	Ajei Gopal	CEO of ANSYS
57.	Cardiologist K K Aggarwal	National President of the Indian Medical Association (IMA)
58.	CK Asnani	CMD, Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL)
59.	BHVS Narayana Murthy	Director, Research Centre Imarat (RCI)
60.	Anandi Ramalingam	Director (1 st Woman), Bharat Electronics Limited
61.	Junaid Ahmad	World Bank Country Director, India (Succeed Onno Ruhl)
62.	Dipanjan Basu	Myntra, Chief Financial Officer
63.	Anand Sinha	Board of IDFC Bank
64.	Dinesh Kumar Khara	Managing Director (MD), State Bank of India (SBI).
65.	Pawan Munjal	Chairman, CMD & CEO, Hero MotoCorp
66.	Rajeev Krishnan	Managing Director of Max Hypermarkets in India
67.	Sriram Rajamani	Managing Director (MD), Microsoft India Research Lab
68.	Mukesh Mehta	President of India Bullion & Jewellers Association (IBJA)

Other Important Appointments

69.	George Yeo	Chancellor of Nalanda University resigned
70.	Mariam Koshly	President, Hockey India
71.	Dr. Ajay M. Gondane	High Commissioner of India to Australia
72.	Navdeep Singh Suri	Ambassador of India to United Arab Emirates.
73.	Ms. Renu Pall	Ambassador of India to Austria.
74.	Deep Kumar Upadhyay	Nepal's envoy to India
75.	Shri R Ravindra	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Guinea.
76.	Geeta Phogat	Deputy Superintendent of Police in Haryana Police
77.	Amandeep Singh	Ambassador of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament, Geneva.
78.	Saina Nehwal	Appointed as a member of IOC's Athletes' Commission
79.	P Yadav	President of the North Zone of Urology Society of India
80.	Lalbiakthanga Pachuau	"Oldest working journalist in the country" {Mizoram}
81.	Monika Kapil Mohta	India's Ambassador to Sweden
82.	Navtej Sarna	Indian Ambassador to the US [Succeeded Arun Singh]
83.	Nita Ambani	An individual member of International Olympic Committee

NEW APPOINTMENTS (WORLD)

S. No	Newly Appointed	Designation(Post)/Department(Company)
President of different countries		
1.	Alexander Van der Bellen	Won the Austria's re-run presidential election
2.	Shavkat Mirziyoyev	President of Uzbekistan
3.	Nana Akufo-Addo	Won Ghana's presidential election



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4.	Donald Trump	45th President of the United States
5.	Kersti Kaljulaid	President of Estonia
6.	Michel Temer	President, Brazil
7.	Michel Aoun	Lebanon's president
PM of different countries		
1.	Bernard Cazeneuve	France's new Prime Minister
2.	Paolo Gentiloni	Italy's new Prime Minister
3.	Kim Byong-joon to replace Hwang Kyo-ahn	PM of South Korea.
4.	Abdelilah Benkirane	Morocco's PM
5.	Mariano Rajoy	Spain's PM
6.	Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'	39th Prime Minister of Nepal.
7.	Youssef Chahed	Prime Minister, Tunisia
Mayors/Member of Parliament/Envoy/Judges		
1.	General Motors CEO Mary Barra	Named in the US's economic & job-creation panel.
2.	Terry Branstad	US Ambassador to China
3.	Indian-American woman Savita Vaidhyathan	New Mayor of the key Californian city of Cupertino
4.	Sanjiv Arora	Ambassador of India to the Republic of Lebanon
5.	Ami Bera	Re-elected to the US House of Representatives
6.	Luo Zhaohui	China's Ambassador to India {Replaced Le Yucheng}
7.	Nicholas Hopton	UK ambassador to Iran
	Hamid Baeidinejad	Iranian ambassador to the UK
8.	Jeffrey DeLaurentis	US ambassador to Cuba
9.	Yuriko Koike	First woman Governor of Tokyo
Other Appointments		
1.	Muhtar Kent	Will step down as the CEO of Coca-Cola in May 2017 & will be succeeded by James Quincey
2.	Antonio Guterres, a former Portuguese PM	Ninth UN Secretary-General succeeding Ban Ki-moon
3.	Lt. Gen. Naveed Mukhtar	Director-General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)
4.	Pulkit Trivedi	Industry Director for e-commerce, retail, travel & financial services verticals of Facebook.
5.	Sultan Muhammad V	15 th King of Malaysia
6.	Yim Jong-yong	Finance minister & deputy PM
7.	Aniruddha Rajput	Indian lawyer won United Nations General Assembly membership
8.	Michael Flynn	National security adviser, USA
9.	Jeff Sessions	Attorney General, USA
10.	Mike Pompeo	Director, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
11.	Anthony Noto	Chief Operating Officer (COO), Twitter
12.	Meng Hongwei	President of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol)
13.	Lt-General Qamar Javed Bajwa	16th Chief of Pakistan Army
14.	Nikki Haley	US Ambassador to the United Nations.
15.	Seema Verma	Administrator(USA) of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
16.	Narinder Batra	President of International Hockey Federation (FIH)
17.	Guy Ryder	Director-General (DG) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)
18.	Borje Ekholm	President & CEO, Ericsson
19.	Morinari Watanabe of Japan	President of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG)
20.	Antonio Guterres(Portugal)	9th U.N. Secretary-General
21.	B V R Mohan Reddy	Honourary Consul of Germany in Hyderabad
22.	Kristalina Georgieva	Chief Executive of the World Bank
23.	Jim Yong Kim	President, World Bank (Second Term)
24.	Angela Ruggiero	New chair of International Olympic Committee's Athletes' Commission.
25.	Manish Tandon	CEO, CSS Corp, a global Technology Support company

AWARDS

S.No	Awards	Winner
Awards for Literature		
1.	2016 Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement	Acclaimed Indian American fiction author Amitav Ghosh



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	Award	
2.	2016 Tata Literature Live! Poet Laureate Award	Lyricist-writer Gulzar
3.	First World Sanskrit Award	Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Princess of Thailand
4.	Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize 2016 for his book Gita Press & the Making of Hindu India	Senior journalist Akshaya Mukul
5.	Lifetime Achievement Award 2016 by Karnataka Lalithakala Academy	Marta Jakimowicz
6.	Man Booker prize 2016	Paul Beatty(US) for his book, 'The Sellout'
7.	Mathrubhumi Literary Award	Eminent writer C Radhakrishnan
8.	Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank	Prestigious award by the Ugandan government for promoting human values through his literature.
9.	2016 John F. Richards Prize	Nayanjot Lahiri (for her book Ashoka in Ancient India)
10.	2016 UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy	Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) of Malappuram, Kerala
11.	N Mohanan Suvarna Mudra Award 2016	Malayalam critic & academician M Leelavathy
12.	29th Moortidevi Award 2015	Noted Telugu writer Prof. Kalakaluri Enoch for his novel Ananta Jeevanam
13.	25th Vyas Samman 2015	Hindi scholar & writer Sunita Jain for her poetry collection Kshama
14.	Saraswati Samman 2015	Padma Sachdev for her autobiography 'Chitt-Chete' (in Dogri)
Country's Highest Honour Given		
15.	Turner Prize, Britain's top award for contemporary art	Multimedia artist Helen Marten
16.	Officer of the Legion of Honour, the highest French civilian distinction for contribution in peace effort	US Secretary of State John Kerry
17.	US President presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honour, to 21 personalities. Some of the important awardees are: ✚ Robert Redford ✚ Bill & Melinda Gates ✚ Tom Hanks ✚ Grace Hopper (posthumous) ✚ Michael Jordan ✚ Cicely Tyson ✚ Kareem Abdul-Jabbar ✚ Elouise Cobell (posthumous) ✚ Robert De Niro ✚ Diana Ross	
18.	2016 International Maritime Organization (IMO) Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea	Captain Radhika Menon
19.	Some Yash Bharti Award 2016 winners ✚ Lieutenant General (Retd.) AK Singh ✚ Atul Tiwari: Film writer ✚ Murad Ali Khan: Trap shooter ✚ Naseeruddin Shah: Actor ✚ Rachna Govil: Sports person ✚ Pramod Kumar Choudhary: Social activist	
20.	Europe's human rights award, Sakharov Prize	Two Yazidi women, Nadia Murad Basee & Lamiya Aji Bashar
21.	Film-maker Prajna Chowta	Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite (Knight in the National Order of Merit)
22.	Chevalier de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur (Knight of the National Order of the French Legion of Honour)	Kiran Mazumdar Shaw
23.	'Tamil Ratna' by America Tamil Sangam	Subramanian Swamy
24.	Honoured at the United Nations by a performance by A.R. Rahman at the UNGA	M. S. Subbulakshmi
25.	Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres (Knight in the National Order Arts & Letters)	Kamal Haasan
Film/Music Awards		
26.	Emma Stone & Ryan Gosling starrer romantic drama La La Land has been chosen as the best film of 2016 by the New York Film Critics Circle. Manchester won the best actor award for Casey Affleck & Barry Jenkins was recognised as the best director for Moonlight & best actress trophy went to Isabelle Huppert for Elle & Things to Come.	
27.	'Award of Recognition' at 'Hollywood International Independent Documentary Awards'	Indian filmmaker Onir's documentary, 'Raising The Bar'
28.	Sumitra Charat Ram Award for lifetime achievement	Noted flautist Pt Hari Prasad Chourasia
29.	'Kalidas Samman' national award for 2015-16	Prof Raj Bisaria
30.	Hollywood actor Jackie Chan received, an honorary Oscar for his decades of work in film at the annual Governors Awards.	
31.	Best Actor Award at the 10th Asia Pacific Screen Awards	Bollywood actor Manoj Bajpayee
32.	Robert De Niro	44th annual Chaplin Award



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33.	Bollywood Actress Sonam Kapoor	2016 ET Panache Trendsetter Award
34.	Veteran actor Ian McKellen	UK Theatre Award
35.	Katyayan Shivpuri (for his work Murga)	1 st Prize, Swachh Bharat Short Film Festival
36.	Tamil Ratna Award	A.R. Rahman
37.	Sangeet Martand Ustad Chand Khan Lifetime Achievement Award	Santoor maestro Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma
Sports Awards		
38.	Sprinter Srabani Nanda	24th Ekalabya Award for 2016
39.	Mohun Bagan Ratna	Syed Nayeemuddin, India's football coach
40.	Olympic Order for his outstanding services to the Olympic movement.	N. Ramachandran, President of Indian Olympic Association (IOA)
41.	Dhyan Chand Award.	Athlete Satti Geetha, Sylvanus Dung Dung & Rower Rajendra Pralhad Shelke
42.	European Golden Boy award	Renato Sanches from Portugal
43.	28th Jimmy George foundation award	PR. Sreejesh
Awards to Scientists/Doctors		
44.	Winners of Infosys Prize 2016 Dr. Gagandeep Kang for Life Sciences Prof. Sunit Amrith for Humanities Dr. Anil Bhardwaj for Physical Sciences	Prof. V. Kumaran for Engineering & Computer Science: Prof. Kaivan Munshi for Social Sciences Prof. Akshay Venkatesh for Mathematical Sciences
45.	Randeep Guleria	Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy Award for medicine
46.	Kirtiraj Kundlik Gaikwad	IAFP Young scientist scholarship award
47.	Satish Pathak, a Pune-based innovator	'Excellence in Technical Innovation' by the International Society of Automation
48.	16-year-old Indian-origin South African teen Kiara Nirghin	\$50,000 scholarship at the annual Google Science Fair
49.	APJ Abdul Kalam Award	Scientist P Shanmugam
Other Awards Conferred		
50.	'Audrey Hepburn Humanitarian Award' for her work as UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.	Singer Katy Perry
51.	Miss World 2016	Puerto Rico's Stephanie Del Valle
52.	Miss Supranational 2016, an international beauty pageant	India's representative Srinidhi Shetty
53.	"Asian of the Year 2016" by Singapore-based newspaper The Straits Times.	Flipkart founders Sachin Bansal & Binny Bansal
54.	1st Indian to win medal at the Mr Olympia event, after winning silver	Mumbai's Iqbal Sayed
55.	International Children's Peace Prize for her work towards climate justice & combating environmental degradation	Kehkashan Basu, a 16-year-old UAE-based Indian teenager
56.	PM Modi presented the Ramnath Goenka Awards for Excellence in Journalism.	
57.	Lifetime Achievement Award, 47th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)	South Korean director Im Kwon-taek
58.	39th Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation Awards for 2016: Sheikh Rached Ghannouchi. Other winners are Mohan Hirabai Hirabai, BonBehari Vishnu Nimbkar & Dr. Nannapaneni Manga Devi.	
59.	Uttarakhand Ratna award	Narayan Dutt Tiwari
60.	TATA Consultancy Services (TCS) was named Industry Champions in the Leadership category. India's Vedanta Limited was named "Top Companies to Work For in Asia."	
61.	2016 International Press Freedom Award	Malini Subramaniam (India), Mahmoud Abou Zeid (Egypt), Can Dündar (Turkey) & Oscar Martinez (El Salvador)
62.	Mother Teresa International Award	Shaikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
63.	Mother Teresa Memorial International Award for Social Justice	Faraaz Ayaaz Hossain
64.	Noted British statistician Sir David Cox	International Prize in Statistics
65.	IRCTCs Maharajas Express	Seven Star Luxury Hospitality & Lifestyle Award
66.	G. Balakrishna	Mr. Asia 2016
67.	2016 Lemelson-MIT Prize	Indian American scientist Ramesh Raskar
68.	2015 National Humanities Medal.	Abraham Verghese, Indian-American physician-author



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69.	Marconi Society Paul Baran Young Scholar Award 2016	Indian-American Dinesh Bharadia
70.	2016 Humanitarian of the Year by Harvard Foundation	Aung San Suu Kyi
71.	2016 Clark R. Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement Awards. Clark R. Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement	Sanjay Dutta & Ritesh Sarothiya
72.	2016 Lata Mangeshkar Award for Lifetime Achievement	Uttam Singh
73.	Best Tourist Friendly Airport	Tirupati Airport
74.	2016 PEN/Heim Translation Fund Grants	Translator & artist Anita Gopalan
75.	23rd Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award	Shubha Mudgal

CURRENT SUMMITS/EVENTS HELD (NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

S.No	Name of the Summit	Location/Held in	Other Points
SUMMITS HELD NATIONALLY			
1.	6th 'Heart of Asia' Ministerial conference to discuss peace, cooperation, & economic development in Afghanistan.	Amritsar, Punjab	The theme is 'Addressing Challenges, Achieving Prosperity'.
2.	International Gita Mahotsav	Kurukshetra, Haryana	Prez. Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated
3.	India-UK Conference on Ease of Doing Business	New Delhi	
4.	28th State Information Ministers Conference (SIMCON), 2016	Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi	
5.	International Conference on Decarbonisation of Indian Railways – Mission Electrification	held in New Delhi.	
6.	International Agro-biodiversity Congress, IAC.	in New Delhi	
7.	7th Session of the Conference of Parties to WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control		Greater Noida
8.	India International Trade Fair	Pragati Maidan, New delhi	'Digital India' theme
9.	First state to start India's first Cherry Blossom Festival	Meghalaya	
10.	13th World Robot Olympiad	India	Rap the Scrap
11.	47th International Film Festival of India	Goa	'Aazadi 70 Saal, Yaad Karo Kurban'.
12.	'Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM) -2016'	Janpath, New Delhi	Inaugurated by Shri Rajnath Singh
13.	Global Conference to Make India the Centre for Arbitration	New Delhi	
14.	Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR).	India will host	
15.	National Summit on Fortification of Food was held in New Delhi.		
16.	First World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)	New Delhi	Theme: Beyond 2015: People, Planet & Progress
17.	2016 World Economic Forum (WEF) India Economic Summit	New Delhi	
18.	2016 India Sanitation Conference (INDOSAN)	New Delhi	Ingurated by PM Modi
19.	47th International Film Festival of India	Goa	
20.	First BRICS Film Festival	New Delhi	Opening film: Veeram Closing film: Skiptrace
21.	Nuakhai Festival 2016	Western Odisha	
22.	First IoT India Congress	Bengaluru	
23.	19th 'World Peace Conference'	Nashik in Maharashtra	
24.	First BRICS Wellness Workshop	Bengaluru	
25.	Naropa Festival (Kumbh Mela of Himalayas)	Ladakh	
26.	BRICS Women parliamentarians' forum Meet	Jaipur, Rajasthan	Passed Jaipur Declaration
27.	BRICS Disaster Risk Reduction meet	Udaipur, Rajasthan	Adopted the Udaipur Declaration
SUMMITS HELD INTERNATIONALLY			
28.	5th India-Arab Partnership Conference	Muscat, Oman	'Partnership towards innovation & cooperation in IT'
29.	2016 World Internet Conference	concluded in Wuzhen, China. The theme was Innovation-driven Internet Development for the Benefit of All – Building a Community of Common Future in Cyberspace.	
30.	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum's Week	held at Lima in Peru	



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31.	8 th Conference of Parties (COP) to WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) to be held in 2018		Switzerland's Geneva
32.	24 th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit	Lima, Peru	"Quality Growth & Human Development" (Theme)
33.	Energy Club of the SCO, 2017	Turkey	
34.	Financial Action Task Force (FATF) & the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) held 6 th joint Experts Meeting on Corruption in Paris, France.		
35.	Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, the Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment attended the 23 rd Rehabilitation International World Congress at Edinburgh, Scotland.		
36.	ASEAN Summit 2016	Vientiane, Laos	Theme: Turning Vision into Reality for a Dynamic ASEAN Community
37.	69 th WHO Regional Committee Meeting	Colombo, Sri Lanka	
38.	7 th SAARC Immigration Authorities	Islamabad, Pakistan	
39.	India & China 1st high-level dialogue to combat terror	Beijing, China	

COMMITTEES IN NEWS

S.No	Committee	Headed by
1.	NITI Aayog constituted a 13-member committee to promote cashless economy	Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu
2.	Special panel to stop child trafficking in Bengal	Partha Chatterjee
3.	Committee to boost Digital Payment system in India	Shri. Ratan P. Watal
4.	Internet & Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has constituted a committee to fight against the problem of online piracy & develop suitable business standards & best practices for the digital entertainment industry.	Ajit Mohan of Hotstar
5.	Chairman of Fund Trustee & Advisory Commission of Kerala	Vinod Rai
6.	To oversee recalibration of ATM machines, RBI set up a task force under.	Deputy Governor SS Mundra
7.	Committee to form a strategy to accelerate the process of transforming India into a cashless economy	Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant
8.	Judicial committee on One Rank One Pension	Justice L Narasimha Reddy
9.	Member of the ICC's powerful Finance & Commercial Affairs committee	BCCI president Anurag Thakur
10.	Committee on Palaeo Channel of North West India	Prof KS Valdiya
11.	Committee formed by SEBI on Disclosures & Accounting Standards	Ishaat Hussain
12.	Four-member Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)	Madhusudan Sahoo
13.	Technical team to visit the Cauvery basin area & assess the ground.	GS Jha
14.	National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) has been reconstituted	P S Raghavan
15.	Commission formed to enquire the circumstances of grant or rejection of licences for development of colonies, group housing societies in Gurgaon	Justice SN Dhirga
16.	Committee formed to study silt in river Ganga in Bihar	AK Sinha
17.	Task force formed to prepare a road map for elimination of poverty	NITI Aayog VC Arvind Panagariya
18.	Committee formed to look into the Advertisements done by Delhi Govt.	BB Tandon
19.	Parliamentary panel to examine merger of budgets	Veerappa Moily
20.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) constituted a committee to look at various facets of household finance in India.	Tarun Ramadorai
21.	Panel appointed by BCCI to advice on SC verdict on implementation of Justice Lodha committee recommendations	Justice (Retired) Markandey Katju
22.	Committee on World Culture Festival of Art of Living (AOL)	Shashi Shekhar
23.	National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) committee to probe the shooters' Rio Games debacle.	Abhinav Bindra
24.	High-level committee to suggest steps to promote card payments through incentives like tax rebates & cash back schemes	Ratan P Watal
25.	Committee on border protection	Madhukar Gupta
26.	Committee to review e-commerce rules on foreign direct investment norms	Amitabh Kant
27.	Indian Navy set-up a committee to find out the extent of Scorpene submarine data leak	Deputy Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Ashok Kumar
28.	Committee for exploring the other possible alternatives to Pellet Guns as Non-lethal Weapons	Shri T V S N Prasad

- ✦ Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid foundation of the first-ever Indian Institute of Skills of the country at Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh. The institute is aimed at making youth more employable & self-reliant. He also inaugurated Kaushal Pradarshini or skill exhibition for the youth of Uttar Pradesh.
- ✦ The Centre has decided to set up a single, permanent Tribunal to adjudicate all inter-state river water disputes subsuming existing tribunals, a step which is aimed at resolving grievances of states in a speedy manner.
- ✦ The five-day India-Nepal Folk Crafts Festival (INCF-2016) begins in Kathmandu, Nepal to promote cultural exchanges between the two countries. The Main aim of the festival to promote crafts based bilateral relations & enhance cultural exchanges between the artisans of India & Nepal.
- ✦ Union Government has approved inclusion of 15 new castes & modification of 13 other castes in the Central List of Other Backward Classes (OBCs).
- ✦ India will train Qatar police for handling the security during the FIFA World Cup 2022 scheduled to be held in that country.
- ✦ Driven by increased 4G & 3G penetration, India's internet population is likely to increase from current 343 million users to 600 million by 2020, According to a study by ASSOCHAM & Deloitte.
- ✦ In order to enhance cooperation in education sector between India & Egypt, Center has decided to set up a center of Excellence in Information Technology at the Al-Azhar University which is the oldest & most prestigious the University of Egypt.
- ✦ President Pranab Mukherjee has launched a campaign, to end child labour, child slavery & violence against children. He launched the '100 Million for 100 Million Campaign' organised by The Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation.
- ✦ Nitin Gadkari, the Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways & Shipping laid the foundation stones for 17 road projects on 11 December 2016 during two functions held at Jiribam & Imphal.
- ✦ Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), Hyderabad has achieved carbon neutral status. It is the first in the Asia-Pacific region in the 5-15 million passengers per annum category to attain this status.
- ✦ The ever-popular 'border viewing point' of the Wagah border will soon be recreated in Gujarat's Banaskantha district.
- ✦ Union Cabinet approved the protocol for amending the agreement between India & Tajikistan for the avoidance of double taxation.
- ✦ India will contribute \$500,000 to the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for the year 2016-17 announced by Indian diplomat Anjani Kumar a counsellor at India's UN Mission at the pledging session held at UN.
- ✦ The World Bank Group has halted the two concurrent processes initiated by India & Pakistan under the Indus Water Treaty.
- ✦ Government of India informed that it has extended the e-Tourist Visa facility to citizens of 161 countries. Further, the number of foreign tourist arrivals on e-Tourist Visa from January to November this year has grown 168.5% over the same period last year.
- ✦ The Centre, along with NTPC, REC & PFC, will soon launch a USD 2 billion clean energy equity fund to support the government's ambitious target of adding 175 GW renewable energy generation capacity by 2022.
- ✦ 128th anniversary of Nobel laureate Bharat Ratna Sir CV Raman celebrated on 7th November.
- ✦ Centre has decided to open Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Kendra in every Parliamentary Constituency to impart skill training to the people & make them employable.
- ✦ India's first liquefied natural gas-driven bus has been launched in Kerala.
- ✦ President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited (ECGC) in New Delhi.
- ✦ India signed a nuclear deal with Japan during the bilateral summit held in Tokyo. India is the first non-member of the non-proliferation treaty (NPT) to have signed such a deal with Japan.
- ✦ United States (US) announced two financial projects worth 95 million US dollars for India which aimed at bringing more energy-efficient appliances to rural sector of the country.
- ✦ India became an Associate Member State of European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) by signing an agreement with the organisation.
- ✦ CCEA approved the setting up of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in 62 uncovered districts with an outlay of Rs 2871 crore.
- ✦ Antonio Costa, the PM of Portugal, will be the Chief Guest at the 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.
- ✦ Michael Ashwin Satyandre Adhin, VP of the Republic of Suriname will be the Special Guest at Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.
- ✦ India elected as Vice Chair of Kimberly Process Certificate Scheme (KPCS) 2018 & as the Chair for 2019 of KPCS.
- ✦ Govt. inaugurated Hunar Haat (Skill Haat) exhibition at India International Trade Fair (2016) at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi that aimed at supporting & promoting artisans from minority communities.
- ✦ HRM Minister Prakash Javadekar launched 'Vittiya Saksharata Abhiyan' that aimed at making people aware about the cashless economic system.
- ✦ Govt. gave its approval for the inclusion of 15 new castes & modification of 13 others in the Central Other Backward Castes (OBC) list.
- ✦ Asia's first & longest cycle highway inaugurated in Uttar Pradesh by CM Akhilesh Yadav. This is India's first cycle highway. The 207 kms cycle highway connects the Taj City Agra & the Lion Safari at Etawah.
- ✦ Akodara village in Sabarkantha district of Gujarat became the first digital village in India.
- ✦ PM Modi paid rich tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on his 141st birth anniversary. The day is being celebrated as 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' (National Unity Day 31st October).
- ✦ PM Modi launched #Sandesh2Soldiers campaign campaign through which people can send their Diwali greetings & messages to the soldiers to boost their morale.
- ✦ PM Modi inaugurated the integrated terminal building of Vadodara's Harni Airport.
- ✦ PM Modi launched national Schedule Castes/Schedule Tribes hub in Ludhiana. With an initial outlay of Rs 490

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crore, the hub will work towards strengthening market access/linkage, monitoring, capacity building, leveraging financial support schemes & sharing industry-best practices.

- ✦ India donated Rs. 9.3 million to the Nelson Mandela Foundation to help it in its welfare work for the people of South Africa.
- ✦ The Cabinet has approved "mini Ratna" public sector undertaking HLL Lifecare to sub-lease its land for setting up the country's first medical devices manufacturing park.
- ✦ India formally joined the Paris Climate Change Agreement by submitting its instrument of ratification in New York (UN Headquarter). India became the 62nd country to ratify the agreement. COP22 will take place at Marrakech in Morocco.
- ✦ Indian govt. has invited the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan to be the next Chief Guest at India's Republic Day parade of 2017.
- ✦ India received the certificate from World Health Organisation (WHO) recognising the elimination of Yaws & Maternal & Neonatal Tetanus (MNT) from the country. With this, India became the first country to free from this.
- ✦ President Pranab Mukherjee gave his assent to the 122nd Constitution Amendment (GST) Bill, 2014. Now, GST bill became a law.
- ✦ India along with 10 other member countries of WHO's South-East Asian Regional Committee decided to set up a dedicated fund aimed at building preparedness for health emergencies. It will be done under South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF).

- ✦ Union Health Minister J P Nadda launched a nation-wide programme MAA- Mothers' Absolute Affection for promoting breastfeeding.
- ✦ Women & Child Development Minister Maneka Sanjay Gandhi launched Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses, POCSO e-box, in New Delhi.
- ✦ PM Modi launched the first phase of SAUNI (Saurashtra Narmada Avataraan Irrigation) project at Sanodara of Jamnagar district of Gujarat. It is launched to divert one MAFt excess over flowing flood water of Narmada allocated to Saurashtra Region.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- ✦ A 2,700-square-meter skating space, which is being considered the world's largest non-permanent indoor ice rink, recently opened at the Grand Palais in Paris.
- ✦ China & Pakistan have launched a direct rail & sea freight service with the first cargo train departing from China's southwestern Yunnan province.
- ✦ Spanish city has changed its name for the third time in a decade, renaming itself Palma from Palma de Mallorca.
- ✦ Tasmania-based Women's Legal Service in collaboration with TRS Law Offices (India) has launched a website (www.Girlsgottaknow.in) for women in the country to educate them about their legal rights.
- ✦ Thailand named its crown prince Maha Vajiralongkorn as its new king after the passing of King Bhumibol Adulyadei.
- ✦ Singapore has the highest achieving students in international education rankings, with its teenagers coming top in tests in maths, reading & science.
- ✦ Pakistan has removed an "undeclared" ban on import of ginned cotton from India.
- ✦ A black civil rights leader who led a struggle against anti-black segregation & racism in Canada in the 1940s will be the first Canadian woman to figure on a banknote. Viola Desmond will appear on the Canadian \$10 bill - replacing the nation's first prime minister John A Macdonald.
- ✦ Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) & non-OPEC Russia reached a mutual agreement on their first deal since 2001, to jointly restrict oil production to control the excess global availability of the oil & thus boost oil prices.
- ✦ The world's longest tunnel, Gotthard Base Tunnel (GBT) in Switzerland was opened for regular rail services.
- ✦ EU has signed a deal with Cuba on political dialogue & cooperation, with Cuba being the only Latin American country to lack such an agreement earlier.
- ✦ The Marvelous City or Rio de Janeiro officially has entered into the UN's list of world heritage sites.
- ✦ Labour Minister of Qatar, Issa bin Saad al-Jafali al-Nuaimi formally announced the end of its controversial "kafala" system, which was the biggest ever labour reform in Qatar.
- ✦ Nobel Peace Laureate Jose Ramos-Horta urged for peace in Jammu & Kashmir.
- ✦ **Canadian PM Justin Trudeau & top EU officials** signed the comprehensive economic & trade agreement, known as Ceta, paving the way for most import duties to be removed early next year.
- ✦ To boost **ties with India**, **Australian govt. announced 19 grants worth \$6,30,000 dollars** for several projects in the field of education, science, sports, arts & culture.
- ✦ The **Paris Agreement** officially entered into force recently. The agreement deals with greenhouse gases emissions mitigation, adaptation & finance. As of November 2016, **192 states & the European Union have signed the Agreement; 97 of those parties** have ratified or acceded to the Agreement.
- ✦ Bollywood actor **Ranveer Singh** named the first Indian ambassador for Switzerland Tourism.
- ✦ British government has announced **that, 4 rupee-denominated bonds worth of 600 million pounds** are



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expected to be listed in London. These bonds will provide financing to expand India's highway & rail networks.

- ✦ More than 20 countries, including Brazil, France & India, signed the framework agreement of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA) at Marrakech, Morocco.**
- ✦ Pakistan's PM Nawaz Sharif inaugurated a trade route **linking the south-western Gwadar port to Kashgar city in China** as part of \$46 billion project to jumpstart economic growth in the South Asian country.
- ✦ **International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved a three-year \$12 billion loan program for Egypt**, the largest such package to a Middle East nation. The loan will help in boosting Egypt's foreign currency inflows.
- ✦ **Australia announced an online program for its pre-schools to learn foreign languages, including Hindi from 2017.**
- ✦ **Bulgarian PM Boyko Borisov gave resignation** of his cabinet after his party's candidate Tsetska Tsacheva, failed to win the country's presidential election.
- ✦ **President Vladimir Putin has signed an executive order removing Russia's signature from the International Criminal Court's founding treaty.**
- ✦ **Former PM, Francois Fillon has won France's conservative presidential primary**, defeating opponent Alain Juppe by a landslide.
- ✦ **Congress of Colombia approved the revised peace deal with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebel group. Juan Manuel Santos, President of Colombia, & Rodrigo Londono, the leader of the FARC signed a revised peace agreement.**
- ✦ **Parliament of Thailand invited Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn to be the new king of the country.**
- ✦ **Bangladesh will honour the families of 1668 martyrs of the Indian Army who fought in the 1971 India-Pakistan war**, which resulted in the liberation of East Pakistan (Bangladesh), on the event's 45th anniversary.
- ✦ **Aeroplane carrying 81 people on board including Brazilian first division soccer team crashed on its way to Medellin's**

international airport. The aircraft embarked from Bolivia, was transporting the **Chapecoense soccer** team.

- ✦ **Gambia announced its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court & is the third African Country after SA & Burundi.**
- ✦ **World Bank has pledged 2 billion US dollars aid to Bangladesh to tackle climate change.**
- ✦ **The first elephant sanctuary in Latin America has opened in Brazil to provide a home for an estimated 50 circus animals from across the region.**
- ✦ **The Milan city council bestowed honorary citizenship on the Dalai Lama. However, China has strongly opposed another award given to him.**
- ✦ **Maldives government decided to leave the 53-member Commonwealth of Nations.**
- ✦ **Israel suspended co-operation with the UN's cultural agency, UNESCO, accusing it of denying Judaism's connections to the religion's holiest sites.**
- ✦ **France become the first country in the world to ban disposable plastic cups & plates.**
- ✦ **WHO certified that Sri Lanka is now a malaria-free nation. It is the second country in the WHO South-East Asia Region to eliminate malaria after Maldives.**
- ✦ **UN Charter, the seminal treaty of the United Nations (UN) translated into Sanskrit Language for the first time.**
- ✦ **United States signed 38 billion dollars deal with Israel to provide the country with military assistance over a 10-year period, from 2019 to 2028.**
- ✦ **Rabindranath Tagore Memorial Library & Resource Centre was inaugurated in Sri Palee College at Horana in Sri Lanka.**
- ✦ **World's first self-driving taxi service launched in Singapore. With this, Singapore became the first country in the world to launch such service.**
- ✦ **World's longest bullet train network length of 2000kms established by China Railway.**

STATE IN NEWS

Rajasthan in News

- ✦ **Rajasthan High Court cancelled the Rajasthan Special Backward Classes (SBC) reservation Act 2015 that allowed for 5% quota to Gujjars & five other communities of the state.**
- ✦ **Rajasthan government has launched a subsidised meal scheme 'Annapurna Rasoi'. As per the scheme, the poor & the needy will get breakfast for Rs 5 & lunch or dinner for Rs 8.**
- ✦ **Abhaneri' festival held at the Abhaneri village in Dausa district, Rajasthan to promote rural tourism.**

Madhya Pradesh in News

- ✦ **Aditya Birla Group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla pledged an investment of Rs. 20,000 crore for the state in sectors like retail, telecom & cement.**
- ✦ **With an aim to make MP anaemia-free, the govt. decided to launch a scheme-'Lalima Abhiyan'. Under the campaign, free iron folic acid tablets will be provided in aangan wadis, academic institutions & hospitals.**

Maharashtra & Goa in News

- ✦ **Union Cabinet has approved the Mumbai Urban Transport Project Phase-III estimated to cost Rs 10,947 crores on completion.**
- ✦ **Dhasai village in Thane district has become the first "cashless village" in Maharashtra.**
- ✦ **The 15th Pune International Film Festival will be held from January 12 to 19. Around 250 films in different categories will be screened at the festival. The festival director Jabbar Patel said the theme for this year's festival is Environment.**
- ✦ **The Serendipity Arts Festival (SAF) is scheduled to be held in Goa. The festival will see a stellar line-up of 33 global artists, who will display their work at the eight-day inspiration-packed festival.**
- ✦ **Maharashtra is the first state in the country to have a cyber police station in each district simultaneously.**
- ✦ **Maharashtra became the first Indian state to adopt Fly Ash Utilisation Policy which will pave way for prosperity by creating wealth from waste, & environment protection.**



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- Goa prepares itself to become the first state to operate cashless in the country from 31 December 2016.
- Maharashtra Govt. launched Kaushalya SETU (Self-Employment & Talent Utilisation) initiative. This is a skill development programme for students which is likely to generate employment for as many as 7.5 lakh people in state.
- Union Government approved assistance of 1269 crore rupees for drought affected Maharashtra.
- Nagpur is declared as the first digital district of India by the Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis.
- Cm of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis & Nitin Gadkari, the Union Transport Minister laid the foundation stone of Patanjali Mega food park in Mihan.

Andhra Pradesh & Telangana in News

- Indian Cricketer Sachin Tendulkar adopted Gollapalli village in Andhra Pradesh under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojna.
- India's 29th state, Telangana's map was redrawn with the creation of 21 new districts, with this the total number of districts of the youngest state of India went up to 31.
- Telangana State Government launched a unique Water Resources Information System to assess accurate reserves of water in thousands of Tanks & reservoirs across the state.
- Government of Telangana issued a draft notification for the creation of 17 new districts.
- Andhra Pradesh launched the DNA Index System (DIS) for DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) profiling of criminals. The system uses the latest DNA technology tool, known as RapidHIT DNA System, developed by IntegenX of United States.
- First Children's Court inaugurated in Hyderabad. Moreover, it was also the first Children Court in South India.

Karnataka in News

- Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA) approved construction of 37013 houses for the urban poor in Karnataka & Haryana with an investment of 1491 crore rupees.

Haryana in News

- Haryana Govt. decided to observe 2017 as the "Garib Kalyan Varsh. During this, the govt. would lay emphasis on welfare of poor people & generating employment opportunities for the youth.
- Gumthala Garhu became the first Wifi hotspot village in Haryana circle under the bulk plan of BSNL for the state.
- Haryana bagged 'Best Horticulture State' award for the concerted efforts made by the state government to increase the income of the farmers in horticulture.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced Charkhi Dadri as the 22nd district of the state.
- Union Government gave its approval to change the name of Gurgaon to Gurugram.
- The first state to implement the benefit of 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC) to its employees is Haryana. This will be implemented w.e.f. 1st Jan 2017.

Gujarat in News

- Gujarat's 900-year-old Rani ki Vav (the Queen's Stepwell) has been named as the 'Cleanest Cultural Heritage Site' in the nation.
- Surat was named as the cleanest railway station, & Chandigarh's Post Graduate Institute of Medical Research & Education was named the cleanest hospital. Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district was named the cleanest district in hilly areas, while Maharashtra's Sindhudurg district was named the cleanest in plain areas.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani dedicated 2 mbps download & 512 kbps upload digital connectivity to 6000 villages.
- BJP Parliamentary Board accepted the resignation of Gujarat Chief Minister Anandiben Patel.
- Gujarat becomes the first state to distribute 2 crore LED bulbs under Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) scheme.

Punjab & J&K in News

- Union Cabinet has approved Rs 2,000 Cr development package for one-time settlement of 36,384 displaced families from Pakistan occupied areas of Jammu & Kashmir & Chhamb.
- Lanura, a village in Budgam district of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K), became the first village in the state to go cashless.
- Punjab government has launched country's first amphibious bus project at the Harike wetland near Amritsar.
- Mehbooba Mufti, CM of Jammu & Kashmir launched the World Bank-funded Jhelum-Tawi flood recovery project in Srinagar. The project seeks reconstruction & rehabilitation of infrastructure post-2014 floods in the state.
- SC ordered status quo on land acquired for the construction of the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal's stretch in Punjab.
- Cabinet approved the rehabilitation package of Rs 2000 crore for around 36384 displaced families from Pakistan occupied Jammu & Kashmir (POJK) & Chhamb under PM's Development Package for Jammu & Kashmir 2015.
- Finance ministry released first installment of special assistance of Rs 1,093.34 crore for repair & permanent restoration of damaged public buildings in J&K.
- Punjab government will observe November 1 as 'No Tobacco Day' in an effort to discourage tobacco use in the state.

Odisha in News

- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik inaugurates the 55,000-tonne per annum (TPA) Odisha ferro-chrome plant set up by Tata Steel at a cost of Rs 542 crore in its Gopalpur Industrial Park in Ganjam district.
- Odisha government has decided to construct more 2,000 kilometre of cement concrete roads under the Gopabandhu Gramin Yojana in rural areas by March 2017. The State government has allocated 1,000 crore rupees for the Gopabandhu Gramin Yojana.
- Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of State (with I/c) for Petroleum & Natural Gas launched the National Seismic Programme (NSP) on Mahanadi basin (onshore) in Odisha.



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- ✚ Union Govt. approved projects worth Rs. 500 crores for integrated development of tourism in Jammu & Kashmir under Swadesh Darshan scheme.
- ✚ Odisha government signed a long-term lease agreement with Falco Marine Exports for the operation of Jagatjore Shrimp Culture Project in coastal Kendrapara district.
- ✚ Operation Muskan-2, an initiative to trace missing & destitute children & reunite them with parents traced & rescued about 1051 children.
- ✚ In a bid to maintain transparency & ensure quick payment of dues, the Odisha government has decided to make Aadhar Card mandatory for procurement of paddy in the state.
- ✚ Western Odisha celebrates Nuakhai - The Agricultural Festival

Other States News

- ✚ BJP led Assam government has roped in Bollywood actress, Priyanka Chopra as the brand ambassador of state tourism. She will promote brand entity of "Awesome Assam".
- ✚ Manipur Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh has inaugurated two new districts Pherzawl & Noney. Now, the total number of the district is 11.
- ✚ Raj Bhawan of Himachal Pradesh has adopted the cashless system for all kind of payments.
- ✚ In Himachal Pradesh, the first Cyber Crime Police Station has been opened at state police headquarter in Shimla.
- ✚ Himachal Pradesh has achieved 100 percent Aadhar saturation on the basis of population of year 2015. With this, it become the sixth State/UT in the Country.
- ✚ Hailakandi has become the first district in Assam to pay wages to tea garden workers through individual bank accounts.
- ✚ 21st International Film Festival of Kerala began in Thiruvananthapuram.
- ✚ Kerala's Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated the third edition of the Kochi-Muziris Biennale (KMB) at an inaugural event in Parade Ground, Fort Kochi.
- ✚ The Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation in Tamil Nadu has been selected for Digital India Award instituted by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.
- ✚ Uttar Pradesh Government has tied up with Tata Trusts to acquire digital platforms to strengthen the public distribution system (PDS) in the state.
- ✚ PM Modi unveiled the statue of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya in Naya Raipur. He also dedicate to people, 'Ekatma Path' & the Bus Rapid Transport System in the city.
- ✚ Kerala has become the third Open Defecation Free (ODF) state in the country after Himachal Pradesh & Sikkim.
- ✚ Scientists from IIT (Kharagpur) claimed to have found evidence confirming the existence of a mythical Indian river, Chandrabhaga.
- ✚ Uttarakhand CM Harish Rawat conferred the Uttarakhand Ratna award to Narayan Dutt Tiwari.
- ✚ Thiruvananthapuram has been termed as the country's breast cancer capital.
- ✚ Chhattisgarh has become the first state to adopt a resolution welcoming the demonetization of high-value currency notes.
- ✚ Palampur Assembly Constituency of Kangra district, HP became the first e-assembly constituency of the country.
- ✚ Raj Bhawan of HP adopted the cashless system for all kind of payments.
- ✚ HP declared 'Open Defecation Free', becoming India's second state to get this status after Sikkim.
- ✚ PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated 3 hydro-electric projects with a generating capacity of 1,732 MW in Himachal Pradesh. The three hydropower projects are:
 - 540 MW generation capacity third phase of Parbati hydropower project of NHPC in Kullu district.
 - 412 MW Rampur project of Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd in Shimla.
 - 800 MW Kol Dam power project in Bilaspur district.
- ✚ Playback singer K J Yesudas appointed as the brand ambassador of Kerala's ambitious 'Haritha Keralam' project. The project is a massive initiative envisaged for a garbage-free & clean state.
- ✚ Jharkhand has become the first state in the country to implement Direct Benefit Transfer in Kerosene.
- ✚ Delhi Police has launched a mobile application 'Delhi Police Senior Citizen' for senior citizens to enable them to reach out to the police quickly in emergency situations.
- ✚ Chief Minister Pema Khandu flagged off a 10-member all-women Mt Gorichen Expedition led by Anshu Jamsempa. It will be the first all women team attempting to summit the second highest peak of Arunachal Pradesh (6488 mtr).
- ✚ Sikkim's capital Gangtok has been conferred with the title of the 'Cleanest Tourist Destination' in India while Chandigarh & Mysore were felicitated as 'Clean Cities' in the 'million plus population' category.
- ✚ Kerala has become the third Open Defecation Free (ODF) state in the country.
- ✚ Chief Minister of Kerala Pinarayi Vijayan has launched paddy cultivation in Aranmula Pancha near Cochin. The programme, is part of the Government's earnest efforts to revive paddy cultivation at Aranmula Pancha.
- ✚ India's first 'Design Yatra' conducted in Kerala's Kozhikode city during which competitions, heritage walk, talks & interaction with students will be conducted.
- ✚ PM Modi has inaugurated Chhattisgarh's 16th foundation day on 1st November in Naya Raipur. Chhattisgarh Governor B D Tandon & Chief Minister Raman Singh are also present at the site. Mr Modi unveiled the statue of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya in Naya Raipur. He also dedicated to people, 'Ekatma Path' & the Bus Rapid Transport System in the city.
- ✚ Assam's Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated Majuli as the 35th district of Assam. With this, Majuli became India's first island district.
- ✚ Shramdaan movement was launched by the Lt Governor of Puducherry Shree Kiran Bedi at Seliamedu village in Bahren.
- ✚ All India Trinamool Congress which is led by Mamata Banerjee has granted national party status by the Election Commission of India & thus becomes the 7th national political party in India.
- ✚ Bharatiya Janata Party in Arunachal Pradesh became a part of People's Party of Arunachal government.
- ✚ Puducherry Government decided to write off all farm loans taken from co-operative Banks in the Union Territory.
- ✚ Adani Green Energy (Tamil Nadu) Ltd dedicated the world's largest solar power plant of 648 megawatts to the nation. It



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has been set up at Kamuthi in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu.

- Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh laid the foundation stone of a Gokul Gram at Mathura in Uttar Pradesh for the conservation & development of native cattle breeds.

- The Tamil Nadu Assembly unanimously passed a resolution to rename the Madras High Court as the Tamil Nadu High Court.

- Solung festival celebrated in Arunachal Pradesh.

- West Bengal State Assembly passed a resolution to change the name of the state from West Bengal to Bangla in Bengali, Bengal in English & Bangla in Hindi.

- Assam Assembly passed a resolution to become the first state to ratify The Constitution (122nd Amendment) (GST) Bill, 2014.

- Bihar's Sonapur railway station of the East Central Railway (ECR) is the first 'Happiness Junction' of India which was recently inaugurated.

OBITUARIES (NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

S.No	Person Died	Profession/Famous In?
Politician (National-International)		
1.	Jayalalithaa Jayaraman	Former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister
2.	Saumitra Chaudhuri	Former Planning Commission member
3.	Mangat Ram Sharma	Former Jammu & Kashmir Deputy CM
4.	Janet Reno	First woman Attorney General of US
5.	Lt Gen S K Sinha	Former Jammu & Kashmir Governor
6.	Fidel Castro	Leader of Cuba
7.	Ram Naresh Yadav	Former Governor of Madhya Pradesh
8.	Mewa Ramgobin	South African struggle icon & Gandhian activist
9.	Sharad Rao	Veteran trade union leader
10.	Islam Karimov	Former President of Uzbekistan
11.	Shimon Peres	Former Prime Minister of Israel
12.	Kalikhho Pul	Former Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister
13.	Sellapan Ramanathan	Singapore's former president
14.	Akhlaqur Rahman (AR) Kidwai	Former Governor of States including Bihar, West Bengal
Singer/Musician(National-International)		
15.	Pandit Amaradeva	Legendary Sri Lankan singer & composer
16.	Leonard Cohen	Canadian singer-songwriter
17.	Raj Begum	Celebrated Kashmiri singer
Actor/Director/Producer(National-International)		
18.	Mehar Mittal	Veteran Punjabi actor
19.	Heisnam Kanhailal	Manipur-based theatre legend
20.	Panchu Arunachalam	Veteran film producer, script & screenplay writer.
21.	Gobind Tej	Noted Odia filmmaker, actor & director
22.	Jyothilakshmi	Yesteryear Tamil actress
Author/Journalist/Activist/Painter(National-International)		
1.	Srinivasa Iyer Ramaswamy or Cho Ramaswamy	Political satirist & founder editor of Thuglak magazine
2.	John Glenn	Former NASA astronaut & Democratic US Senator from Ohio
3.	Henry Judah Heimlich	Inventor of life-saving Heimlich manoeuvre
4.	Anand Yadav	Marathi author
5.	Dilip Padgaonkar	Journalist & former Editor-in-Chief of the 'Times of India'
6.	Dr Viveki Rai	Hindi & Bhojpuri litterateur
7.	Yusuf Arakkal	Eminent contemporary artist
8.	Nalinidhar Bhattacharyya	Noted Assamese poet
9.	Reoti Saran Sharma	Hindi & Urdu writer
10.	Mahim Bora	Eminent Assamese litterateur
11.	Na Muthukumar	Eminent poet & lyricist
12.	Gurdial Singh	Prominent Punjabi writer & Jnanpith awardee
13.	TA Rasag	Prominent Malayalam script writer
14.	George E. Curry	Legendary journalist
Sportsmen/Sportswomen(National-International)		
1.	Phulel Singh Sujlana	Former international hockey umpire & veteran administrator
2.	Walter Swinburn	One of the most renowned jockeys
3.	Carlos Alberto Torres	Legendary footballer



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4.	Aaron Pryor	American boxer
5.	Lindsay Tuckett (South Africa)	World's oldest
6.	Arnold Palmer	Golf legend passes away
7.	Max Walker	Former Australian cricketer passes away
8.	Bernard Farrelly	Australian surfing champion
9.	Hanif Mohammad	Original Little Master
10.	Joao Havelange	Former President of FIFA
11.	Subrata Banerjee	Former international umpire
Others (National-International)		
12.	Denton Cooley	Renowned heart surgeon
13.	Mota Singh	UK's first-ever ethnic minority judge
14.	MGK Menon	Renowned physicist
15.	Janardhan G Negi	Noted geophysicist
16.	Mikasa	Japanese Prince
17.	Tom Hayden	Anti-war activist
18.	Kigeli V Ndahindurwa	Last king of Rwanda
19.	Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej	World's longest-serving monarch
20.	Parmeshwar Godrej	Philanthropist
21.	Edward Albee	Pulitzer-winning US playwright
22.	Braj B Kachru	Renowned Indian-American linguist
23.	Ahmed Zewail	Nobel Prize-winning Egyptian chemist
24.	TKV Desikachar	Renowned Yoga Guru
25.	Pramukh Swami Maharaj	Spiritual guru Pramukh Swami Maharaj passes away

LIST/INDEXES ANNOUNCED RECENTLY

S.no	Name of the Index/List	Rank of India	Topped By?
1.	TIME magazine named as Person of the Year 2016	US President-elect Donald Trump	
2.	Forbes magazine's 2nd annual list of wealthiest entrepreneurs under the age of 40	Vivek Ramaswamy ranked 24 th & Apoorva Mehta at 31st	Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg
3.	Global Thinkers of 2016 List compiled by the Foreign Policy magazine.	External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj & philanthropist couple Anupama & Vineet Nayar are among the Indians	
4.	Forbes list of World's Most Powerful People	PM Modi has ranked 9th	Russian Prez Vladimir Putin
5.	A Gujarat-born activist, Jayaben Desai made it the BBC's most influential women of the past 70 years list.		
6.	Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani ranked 38 on the World's Most Powerful People list for 2016 by Forbes.		
7.	Asia's innovation chart Index	India Topped	
8.	Annual Forbes Fab 40 list 2016	Mahendra Singh Dhoni remains the most valued Indian athlete in 2016 ranked at 10.	Swiss tennis legend Roger Federer topped.
9.	Grant Thornton International Business Report	India 2nd on the global scale for business optimism	Indonesia took the top spot
10.	International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Measuring the Information Society Report	India at 138th rank	Topped by the Republic of Korea
11.	Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2017	India at 20 th Morocco, the host for the COP 22, ranked at 8 th .	France ranked at 4 th leads the list. Top 3 ranks left empty
12.	World Bank's Ease of doing Business Report 2017	India Ranked 130	New Zealand
13.	WEF's Global Gender Gap Report 2016	India Ranked 87	Iceland
14.	World Economic Forum's (WEF) 'Safety & Security'	India ranked 13th as the least safe countries	Finland is the safest place in the world while Nigeria is unsafe.
15.	'Agricultural Marketing & Farm Friendly Reforms Index' by Niti Aayog.	Maharashtra topped	
16.	Global Power City Index (GPCI) 2016	Mumbai ranked 39	London topped
17.	World Giving Index (WGI)	India ranked 91	Myanmar topped
18.	State-wise Ease of Doing Business rankings	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana topped the all-India ranking	



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19.	According to the Forbes Fab 40 List, MS Dhoni is the most valued Indian Athlete & ranked at 10 in the list which is topped by Tennis player Roger Federer.		
20.	Global Youth Development Index	India ranked at 133	Germany
21.	In Variety magazine's 'Power of Women Impact' List.	Actress Priyanka Chopra featured in the list.	
22.	International Food Policy Research Institute's (IFPRI) Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2016	India ranked 97 th . Argentina Topped the list.	
23.	India is now the 12th largest holder of US govt bonds. China is the largest holder of US Govt. bonds.		
24.	Right to Information Act,2005 of India was ranked 4th best in the world. Mexico topped the rankings.		
25.	Apple Inc., Alphabet Inc.'s Google, & Coca-Cola Co. topped the list of world's 100 most valuable brands(2016) accodding to the report from Interbrand.		
26.	Forbes Richest American List 2016 topped by Microsoft's co-founder Bill Gates.		
27.	Fortune's Most Powerful women based outside US	SBI chief Arundhati Bhattacharya (2nd rank), ICICI head Chanda Kochhar (5th rank) & Axis Bank CEO Shikha Sharma (19th rank)	Topped by Banco Santander's Ana Botin from Spain
28.	World Economic Freedom (WEF) Index	India ranked 112 th out of 159	Hong Kong topped
29.	Global Competitiveness Report 2016- 2017	India ranked at 39 th	Topped by Switzerland
30.	Logistics Performance Index 2016	India ranked 35th	Topped by Germany
31.	Health Index 2016 by UNGA	India ranked 143	Topped by Iceland
32.	2016 'Swachh Survekshan' (Cleanliness Index) for rural India	Mandi (HP), judged as the cleanest district in "Hills" category while Sindhudurg(Mah.) as the cleanest in the "Plains" category	
33.	In the Fortune 51 Most Powerful Women Rankings, PepsiCo CEO & chairman Indra Nooyi is the only Indian-origin woman & ranked 2nd. The rankings is topped by Mary Barra, CEO & chairman of General Motors.		
34.	Priyanka Chopra become the first Indian actress to enter Forbes list of highest paid television actresses in the world which is topped by Sofia Vergara.		
35.	Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) chairman Mukesh Ambani topped Forbes's annual list of India's 100 richest tycoons.		
36.	9th edition Global Innovation Index (GII)	India ranked 66. Topped by Switzerland	Theme of Winning with Global Innovation
37.	New World Wealth Report 2016	India is the seventh richest country in the world. USA topped the report.	
38.	Forbes World's Highest-Paid Actresses 2016	Jennifer Lawrence topped.	
39.	Civil Unrest Index 2016	India ranked 4th	Syria on No.1 Spot
40.	Bloomberg Misery Index	-	Thailand topped the list.
41.	United Nations University Institute for Environment & Human Security (UNU-EHS) & Bundnis Entwicklung Hilft released World Risk Report 2016	India ranked 77.	Vanuatu is the country with the highest risk of disaster.

IMPORTANT DAYS OBSERVED RECENTLY

S.No	Date	Day	Theme
1.	1 st December	World AIDS Day	'Hands Up for HIV Prevention'.
2.	2 nd December	National Pollution Control Day 2016	
3.	3 rd December	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	Achieving 17 Goals for the Future We Want
4.	4 th December	Indian Navy Day	
5.	5 th December	International Volunteer Day (IVD)	Global Applause – give volunteers a hand"
6.	5 th December	World Soil Day 2016	"Soils & pulses, a symbiosis for life".
7.	Dr BR Ambedkar's birth anniversary to be observed as 'Water Day' across the country on 14 April, will be observed as "Water Day" across India.		
8.	10 th December	The Human Rights Day is observed across the world on 10 December every year.	
9.	5 th November	First World Tsunami Awareness Day	Effective Education & Evacuation Drills
10.	November 20th	United Nations Universal Children's Day	
11.	19 November	World Toilet Day	"Toilets & Jobs"
12.	12 November	World Pneumonia Day	Keep the Promise, Stop Pneumonia Now
13.	14 November	World Diabetes Day	"Eyes on Diabetes"



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14.	16 November	International Day for Tolerance	
15.	3rd Thursday of November	World Philosophy Day	
16.	26 November	National Milk Day.	Birth anniversary of Dr Verghese Kurien, the Father of the White Revolution
17.	25 November	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women	"Orange the World - raise funds to end violence against women"
18.	21 November	World Television Day	
19.	Third Sunday of November	World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims	Vital post-crash actions: Medical Care, Investigation, Justice!
20.	20 November	Universal Children's Day	
21.	1 December	World AIDS Day	Hands up for #HIVprevention
22.	31 st October	Vigilance Awareness Week by CVC	"Public participation in promoting integrity & eradicating Corruption"
23.	28 th October	National Ayurveda Day	Mission Madhumeha through Ayurveda was launched.
24.	24 th October	World Development Information Day	
25.	24 th October	Indo-Tibetan Border Police 55th raising day	ITBP is deployed on border guarding duties from Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Jachep La in Ar.P
26.	24 th October	United Nations Day	
27.	17 th October	United Nations' (UN) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.	Moving from humiliation & exclusion to participation: Ending poverty in all its forms
28.	21 st October	Police Commemoration Day	
29.	15 th October	International Day of Rural Women	Climate is changing. Food & agriculture must too
30.	25 th October	World Student Day by UNO	
31.	1 st Monday of October	World Habitat Day	Housing at the Centre
32.	14 th October	World Standards Day	"Standards Build Trust"
33.	13 th October	International Day for Disaster Reduction	Live to Tell: Raising Awareness, Reducing Mortality
34.	5 November	First World Tsunami Awareness Day	
35.	2nd Thursday of October	World Sight Day	Stronger Together.
36.	11 th October	International Day of the Girl Child.	"Girls' Progress = Goals' Progress: What Counts for Girls"
37.	10 th October	World Mental Health Day	'Psychological First Aid'
38.	9 th October	World Post Day	Innovation, Integration & Inclusion.
39.	8 th October	Air Force Day 2016 is observed annually on 8 October across India. This year is the 84th celebration of the Day which began in 1932.	
40.	5 th October	World Teachers' Day (WTD) 2016	Valuing Teachers, Improving their Status
41.	4 th -10 th October	World Space Week	Remote Sensing: Enabling our Future.
42.	2 nd October	International Day of Non-Violence	
43.	1 st October	International day of Older Persons (IDOP).	"Take a Stand Against Ageism."
44.	5 th September	International Day of Charity	-
45.	8 th September	International Literacy Day	Reading the Past, Writing the Future
46.	14 th September	National Hindi Divas	A special function named 'Hindi Hain Hum' was organised.
47.	15 th September	International Day of Democracy	Democracy & the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Devt.
48.	16 th September	International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	Ozone & climate: Restored by a world united.
49.	21 st September	International Day of Peace	Building Blocks for Peace
50.	26 th September	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons	
51.	27 th September	World Tourism Day	Tourism for All - promoting universal accessibility
52.	28 th September	World Rabies Day	Rabies: Educate. Vaccinate.Eliminate.
53.	29 th September	World Maritime Day	Shipping: Indispensable to the world.
54.	30 th September	International Translation Day	Translation & Interpreting: Connecting Worlds.
55.	1-7 th August	World Breastfeeding Week (WBW)	
56.	7 th August	2nd National Handloom Day	
57.	9 th August	International Day of the World's Indigenous	Indigenous Peoples' Right to Education.



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		Peoples	
58.	10 th August	World Bio-Fuel Day	
59.	12 th August	International Youth Day	The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty & Achieving Sustainable Consumption & Production.
60.	19 th August	World Humanitarian Day	One Humanity
61.	23 th August	International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade & Its Abolition	
62.	29 th August	International Day Against Nuclear Tests	
63.	29 th August	National Sports Day	Mark the birth anniversary of Dhyan Chand

BOOKS & AUTHORS

Books	Author	Books	Author
"Many Everest" An Inspiring Journey of Transforming Dream into Reality': Ravindra Kumar			
Amazon announced that the Harry Potter & the Cursed Child as the best-selling book of 2016 . The playscript by JK Rowling, Jack Thorne & John Tiffany & is also named this year's 'Most Wished For' & 'Most Gifted' book.		The autobiography of India's batting legend Sachin Tendulkar "Playing it my way" has won the prestigious Crossword Book of the Year Award . It is penned by renowned cricket historian & Tendulkar's close friend Boria Majumdar.	
The book titled 'Courts of India - Past to Present' released by the Supreme Court of India . It was authored by the Editorial Board comprises members of both the Bench & the Bar.		Bishweshwar Nandi, coach of Dipa Karmakar will co-author her memoir titled: "Dipa Karmakar: The Small Wonder" .	
'An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India'	Dr. Shashi Tharoor	'The Legend of Lakshmi Prasad'	Twinkle Khanna
'Death under the Deodars: The Adventures of Miss Ripley-Bean'	Ruskin Bond	Conflicts of Interest: My Journey through India's Green Movement	Sunita Narain
'The Legend Of Lakshmi Prasad'	Twinkle Khanna	The Sleepwalker's Dream	Dhrubajyoti Borah
'Mrs Funnybones: She's Just Like You & a Lot Like Me'	Twinkle Khanna	Modi's Midas Touch in Foreign Policy	Surendra Kumar
"The Ministry of Utmost Happiness"	Arundhati Roy	'Driven: The Virat Kohli Story': Vijay Lokapally	
His Bloody Project	Graeme Macrae Burnet	Democrats & Dissenters	Ramachandra Guha
AB de Villiers to share his life in 'AB: The Autobiography'		Shanti ki Talaash mein Zindagi	Radhika Nagrath
Chris Gayle launches autobiography 'Six Machine'		'Citizen & Society'	VP Hamid Ansari
India Rising: Fresh Hope, New Fears	Ravi Velloor	R D Burmania: Panchamemoirs	Chaitanya Padukone
The Ocean of Churn: How the Indian Ocean Shaped Human History	Sanjeev Sanyal	Grassroots Innovation'	Prof. Anil K. Gupta
'One Indian Girl': Chetan Bhagat			

DEFENCE NEWS

MISSILE LAUNCHED/INS INDUCTED

- DRDO successfully carried out maiden flight of TAPAS 201 (RUSTOM - II), a Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).
- Lt-General A K Bhatt appointed as the Director-General of Military Operations (DGMO) & succeeds Lt-General Ranbir Singh.
- Fast patrol vessel ICGS Gaidinliu commissioned by Director-General Rajendra Singh of the Coast Guard.
- INS Tihayu, a fast attack craft, was commissioned by Vice-Admiral HCS Bisht, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Naval Command (ENC).
- Barak, the most advanced surface-to-air missile was launched from the Odisha coast.

- Indian Air Force successfully fired the long range air-to-air MICA missile on a manoeuvring target from Mirage-2000 Upgrade combat aircraft.

INDIAN ARMY IN NEWS

- 7th edition of Exercise EKUVERIN will be held in December 2016 at Kadhoo, Laamu Atoll, Maldives. It is platoon level joint military exercise between the Indian Army & the Maldives National Defence Force.
- The joint military training exercise "Sampriti-2016" conducted between India & Bangladesh at Tangail, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- The Indian army has successfully completed its task of laying an irrigation pipeline in the Demchok region of Eastern Ladakh.

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- The 6th Indo-China joint training exercise Hand- in- Hand 2016 held at the parade ground in Aundh Military Camp, Pune.
- Indian & Chinese armies held their second joint exercise, "Sino India Cooperation 2016" in Eastern Ladakh.
- Indian Army announced the establishment of Army Design Bureau (ADB) to indigenise procurements & reduce import dependence.
- Troops of Indian & Kazakhstan Army conducted the joint exercise 'PRABALDOSTYK - 16'. It was held in Karaganda region of Kazakhstan.
- Yudh Abhyas 2016, a joint military training exercise of Indian & US Armies, held at Chaubattia, Uttarakhand.
- Indian Army conducted surgical strikes on terror launch pads across the Line of Control.
- India-Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise 'MITRA SHAKTI 2016' fourth edition conducted recently.

INDIAN NAVY IN NEWS

- The Russian-Indian- Indra NAVY-2016 naval exercise will be held in this December. It will be held in the city of Visakhapatnam & in the Bay of Bengal.
- The annual bilateral maritime exercise Konkan 16 between the Indian Navy & the Royal Navy (British Navy) started in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The Indian Navy's offshore patrol vessel Sumitra reached Darwin, Australia. It returned to India after participating in the Royal New Zealand Navy International Naval Review 2016.
- Indian Navy formally inducted four types of indigenously developed sonars that will boost its underwater surveillance capability. The systems included **Abhay**, which is a compact hull mounted sonar for shallow water crafts; **Humsa UG**, which is an upgrade for the Humsa sonar system; **NACS**, or the Near-field Acoustic Characterisation System; & **AIDSS**, or the Advanced Indigenous Distress sonar system for submarines.
- Guided Missile Destroyer INS Chennai commissioned into the Indian Navy by Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- Indian Navy Sailing Vessel (INSV) Mhadei with an all-women crew was flagged off from Goa to Cape Town, South Africa.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) of Kolkata handed over TIHAYU, the Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (WJFAC) to the Indian Navy.
- The second coordinated patrol & bilateral maritime exercise between India & Indonesia commenced in Andaman Sea.

INDIAN AIR FORCE IN NEWS

- The upgraded Jaguar DARIN III twin-seat aircraft received the Initial Operation Clearance (IOC). IOC is a significant milestone for India's military aviation sector.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) successfully completed test flight of indigenous Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) Bengaluru.



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OTHER DEFENCE NEWS

- In order to further boost its growing defence ties with Vietnam, India has agreed to train the southeast nation's Sukhoi-30 fighter pilots.
- Pakistan has successfully test-fired an enhanced version of an indigenously-designed cruise missile Babur, that can hit targets at 700km with all kinds of warheads, bringing many Indian cities within its range.
- A team of women commandos has been inducted for the first time in Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to counter Naxal insurgency in Jharkhand. A Naxal or Naxalite is a member of any of the Communist guerrilla groups in India, mostly associated with the Communist or Leftist ideology.
- US Navy commissioned its largest, most expensive & technologically advanced destroyer, Zumwalt which is a 610-foot-long ship.
- US & Vietnam navies began their 7th annual Naval Engagement Activity NEA, Vietnam 2016 at Tien Sa Port in Da Nang.
- Dassault Aviation of France entered into a partnership with Reliance group to execute offsets for the recently concluded deal for 36 Rafale fighter jets.
- The first Druzhba-2016 (Friendship-2016) Russian-Pakistani joint military exercise held at Cherat, Pakistan.
- Chinese & Russian navies conducted Joint Sea-2016, which was a eight day of naval exercises, in the South China Sea.
- Guided Missile Destroyer, Mormugao, second ship of Project 15B, launched at Mazagaon Dock Ship Builders Limited (MDL), Mumbai.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) conferred with the prestigious membership of the Asia-Pacific Aerospace Quality Group (APAQG) under the category Full Member with voting rights. With this, India became the seventh nation to join the APAQG.
- In 5th Physical Agility & Combat Efficiency System military exercises, 16 countries will participate which is going to be conducted in Lahore.
- India & France inked the 7.8-billion Euro deal for 36 Rafale fighter jets.
- Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has appointed ace badminton player P V Sindhu as its brand ambassador.

SPORTS NEWS

CRICKET NEWS

- ✦ India has won the five-match test series against England, 4-0. Karun Nair's triple century in the first innings of the fifth test match against England was the key factor in the enormous win of India. Virat Kohli is the man of the series for his 655 runs in the series.
- ✦ India women's cricket team won the Asia Cup T20 after beating arch-rivals Pakistan in the final.
- ✦ Larsen & Turbo (L&T) has bagged a contract from the Gujarat Cricket Association (GCA) to make Sardar Patel Cricket Stadium of Gujarat the world's biggest cricket stadium in terms of seating capacity.
- ✦ Virat Kohli became the first Indian to score three double hundreds in a year, playing against England.
- ✦ India batswoman Smriti Mandhana has been named in the ICC Women's Team of the Year 2016, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced.
- ✦ Ravichandran Ashwin became the first bowler ever to complete 50 wickets in two consecutive calendar years.
- ✦ Debbie Hockley elected as president of New Zealand Cricket, becoming the first woman to hold that role.
- ✦ International Cricket Council decided to organise the first ever ICC Women's World T20 event in 2020. Cricket Australia, hosts for the men's & women's ICC World Twenty20 in 2020.
- ✦ India's ODI against New Zealand at Dharamshala is the team's 900th making it the world first side to achieve a milestone.
- ✦ Jhulan Goswami become the world number 1 women bowler.
- ✦ Former Indian women's cricket team captain Anjum Chopra awarded an honorary life membership of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC). She was presented with the honour along with former men's team stalwarts Zaheer Khan & Virender Sehwag.
- ✦ Gautam Gambhir-led India Blue won the inaugural day/night Duleep Trophy Cricket tournament held in Greater Noida. Cheteshwar Pujara was named the Player of the Match.
- ✦ Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) tied up with financial services firm Janalakshmi Financial Services (Jana) as an associate sponsor.
- ✦ The Sports Journalists' Association of Mumbai (SJAM) named cricket legend Sunil Manohar Gavaskar for its Lifetime Achievement award.
- ✦ Mahendra Singh Dhoni was named the captain of the all-time India Test XI chosen by cricket magazine Wisden.

FOOTBALL NEWS

- ✦ Atletico de Kolkata (ATK) regained the Indian Super League (ISL) title by beating Kerala Blasters. ATK won by 5-4 against kerala blaster.
- ✦ All-India Football Federation has won the Asian Football Council's Developing Member Association of the Year Award in Abu Dhabi.

- ✦ All India Football Federation President Praful Patel has been appointed as a Senior Vice-President of Asian Football Confederation.
- ✦ Real Madrid forward Cristiano Ronaldo beat rival Lionel Messi to win the prestigious Ballon d'Or award for the fourth time.
- ✦ India defeated Belgium 2-1 in the final to lift the 2016 Men's Hockey Junior World Cup. The third place was secured by Germany. The top scorer in the tournament was England's Edward Horler while Best player in the tournament goes to Spain's Enrique Gonzalez de Castejon.
- ✦ Miroslav Klose will join Joachim Löw's coaching staff as he studies for his pro licence, the German football association (DFB) confirmed.
- ✦ North Korea won the 2016 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup. Spain's Lorena Navarro was awarded the Golden Shoe.
- ✦ Indian football team achieved its best FIFA ranking in over six years when the side jumped 11 places to be 137th in the latest list released.
- ✦ Kochi became the first Indian city to be officially declared as one of the venues for hosting the 2017 Fifa U-17 World Cup.
- ✦ Brazil has lifted the 1st BRICS U-17 Football Tournament 2016 held at Goa after defeating the South Africa.
- ✦ Army Green won the Durand Cup football title. In the final, Army Green defeated Neroa FC.
- ✦ Indian football giants East Bengal won the Calcutta Football League (CFL) for the seventh consecutive time by defeating Mohammedan Sporting.
- ✦ The logo of FIFA U-17 World Cup India 2017 was released. This will be the Official Emblem for the event. The logo includes elements of the Indian Ocean, the banyan tree, the kite & the starburst, which is an interpretation of the Ashoka Chakra, an integral part of the national identity.

HOCKEY NEWS

- ✦ Captain of the senior National Men's Hockey Team & one of the finest hockey goal-PR Sreejeshkeeper in the world, PR Sreejesh has been roped in as the Goalkeeping Mentor of the India Under-21 Hockey Team.
- ✦ Indian Women's hockey team have lifted the Asian Champions Trophy 2016 in Singapore after defeating China.
- ✦ Mumbai's Western Railways women's team won the 33rd Indian Oil Servo Surjit Hockey Tournament.
- ✦ Narinder Batra has become the first Indian to be elected the President of the International Hockey.
- ✦ Forward Vandana Katariya will captain Indian senior women's hockey team in the Test Series against Australia to be played at Melbourne.
- ✦ Indian defender Surender Kumar suspended for two matches after being found guilty of a serious foul in the Asian Champions Trophy hockey.
- ✦ International Hockey Federation has appointed New Zealand's Jason McCracken as its Chief Executive Officer. He will replace Kelly Fairweather.

RIO WINNERS



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- ✚ Mariyappan Thangavelu won India's first gold medal at the Rio Paralympics. He won the gold in the Men's High Jump T-42 event with a leap of 1.89 metres.
- ✚ Indian athlete Deepa Malik became the first Indian woman to bag a medal at the Paralympics. She clinched a silver medal in the shotput F-53 event.
- ✚ Javelin thrower Devendra Jhajharia became the first Indian to clinch two gold medals at the Paralympics.
- ✚ 'Dipa Karmakar, the Indian Gymnast, is the first Indian gymnast to enter the Olympic final at the Rio Olympic Centre.
- ✚ American swimmer Katie Ledecky made a new world record to fetch gold in the women's 400 metres freestyle at the Rio Olympics.
- ✚ Kazakhstan's Nijat Rahimov broke the world record to win the gold medal of the men's 77kg weightlifting class at the Rio Olympic Games.
- ✚ Usain Bolt clinched gold in the 100-metre final in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. With this win, Bolt became the first man to win the event three times at consecutive Olympic Games.
- ✚ Andy Murray of Great Britain won the gold medal in men's singles tennis category in Rio 2016 Olympic Games.
- ✚ Indian wrestler Sakshi Malik won bronze in the 58 kg category at the Olympic Games in Rio.
- ✚ Jamaican sprinter Bolt won gold in 4x100m relay final at the Rio Olympics.
- ✚ Kimia Alizadeh Zenoorin became the first Iranian woman to win an Olympic medal. She claimed the bronze in the taekwondo event in the 57kg category.
- ✚ Germany defeated Sweden by 2-1 to win their first ever Olympic gold medal in women's football.

BADMINTON NEWS

- ✚ Olympic silver medallist PV Sindhu jumped two places to achieve her career-best ranking of seven in the latest BWF World Ranking, while Saina Nehwal is also back in the top 10.
- ✚ Rio Olympic silver medallist PV Sindhu has won the Badminton World Federation (BWF) 2016 Most Improved Player of the Year award at the Players' in Dubai.
- ✚ Indian shuttler Pratul Joshi won the men's singles title of the Bahrain International Challenge badminton tournament.
- ✚ Olympic silver medallist P.V. Sindhu clinched her maiden Super Series Premier title after defeating Sun Yu of China.
- ✚ PV Sindhu won the 700000 US dollars China Open badminton tournament. The Men's Singles was won by Jan O Jorgensen of Denmark.
- ✚ Indian shuttler Sourabh Verma on clinched the men's singles title at the Chinese Taipei Open badminton.
- ✚ Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL), the corporate entity of Vizag Steel, appointed PV Sindhu as its brand ambassador.
- ✚ India's mixed doubles pair of Pranaav Jerry Chopra & N Sikki Reddy won the 2016 Brazil Open Grand Prix.

GRAND PRIX NEWS

- ✚ Young Indian racer Jehan Daruvala has been signed by Formula 3's top team Carlin for the 2017 FIA F3 European Championship.
- ✚ Lewis Hamilton won the 2016 Mexican Grand Prix.

- ✚ Lewis Hamilton won the Brazilian Grand Prix 2016 in Interlagos circuit, Sao Paulo.
- ✚ Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton (England) won the 2016 United States Grand Prix.
- ✚ Australian Former Formula One driver Mark Webber will retire from professional racing.
- ✚ Australian racing driver, Daniel Ricciardo won the 2016 Malaysian Grand Prix.
- ✚ Nico Rosberg won the 2016 Italian Grand Prix at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza in Monza, Italy.
- ✚ Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes won German Grand Prix held in Hockenheimring.
- ✚ Nico Rosberg of Mercedes won Belgian Grand Prix of Formula One (F1).

TENNIS NEWS

- ✚ Britain's world number one Andy Murray won a record third BBC Sports Personality of the Year award.
- ✚ Briton Andy Murray & Germany's Angelique Kerber were named ITF World Champions.
- ✚ Argentina won the Davis Cup title after defeating Croatia in the final. This is Argentina's first Davis Cup victory.
- ✚ Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova won the 2016 WTA Elite Singles Trophy.
- ✚ Former world number one Roger Federer won the Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award at the ATP awards for the 12th time in his career.
- ✚ UN said that Maria Sharapova will once again be its goodwill ambassador. She will be re-appointed as UN Goodwill ambassador after her doping ban expires in April 2017.
- ✚ Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic retained the top spot in the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) rankings.
- ✚ Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska won the 2016 China Open Women's Singles at the National Tennis Center in Beijing, China.
- ✚ India's 19-year-old shuttler Ruthvika Shivani Gadde won the women's singles title at the Russian Open in Vladivostok. Pranaav Jerry Chopra & N Sikki Reddy won the mixed doubles title at the event.
- ✚ British tennis player Andy Murray beat Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov in straight sets to win the China Open.
- ✚ Ace Indian tennis star Sania Mirza end the season as world's top doubles Tennis player for the second straight year.
- ✚ Germany's Angelique Kerber defeated Karolina Pliskova to win 2016 US Open Women's Singles title. She became the first German to win the US Open since Steffi Graf.
- ✚ Britain's Jamie Murray & Brazil's Bruno Soares won the 2016 US Open Men's Doubles title.
- ✚ Stan Wawrinka defeated world number one Novak Djokovic to lift the 2016 US Open Men's Singles title.
- ✚ India's Sania Mirza & her Czech partner Barbora Strycova won the women's doubles title in the Toray Pan Pacific Open trophy in Tokyo.
- ✚ Dominic Inglot & Henri Kontinen won the 2016 St Petersburg Open Men's Doubles title.

ATHELETICS NEWS

- ✚ Eliud Kipchoge, Kenya's Olympic marathon champion bagged the winner's title in Delhi Half Marathon in men's



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category, while Ethiopia's Worknesh Degefa claimed the women's title.

- ✦ Jamaican athlete Usain Bolt confirmed that he is going to retire after the 2017 World Championships in London.
- ✦ World's first Cybathlon Championship for Athletes with Disabilities organised by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH Zurich at the SWISS Arena in Kloten, canton Zurich. It is popularly known as 'Bionic olympics'.

OTHER SPORTS NEWS (BOXING / ARCHERY / JUDO / BASKETBALL / GOLF/CHESS/SHOOTING)

- ✦ Magnus Carlsen won the 2016 World Chess Championship in New York City, USA. Carlsen defeated Sergey Karjakin to retain the World Chess Champion title.
- ✦ Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt won the International Association of Athletics Federations' award for male athlete of the year for a record sixth time.
- ✦ Indian Golfer Mukesh Kumar became the oldest golfer to win an Asian Tour title after winning the Panasonic Open India.
- ✦ Peter Gilchrist of Singapore defeated Sourav Kothari to win the 2016 IBSF World Billiards Long Up title.
- ✦ Ace Indian cueist Pankaj Advani won his 11th World Billiards (150-Up format) Championships title by beating Peter Gilchrist of Singapore in the summit clash in Bengaluru.
- ✦ The International Bobsleigh & Skeleton Federation (IBSF) has announced that Russia will not host the 2017 Bobsleigh & Skeleton World Championships.
- ✦ India's Vijender Singh knocked out Tanzania's Francis Cheka at the Thyagaraj Stadium, New Delhi, to defend his WBO Asia Pacific Super Middleweight title.
- ✦ Palpreet Singh, winner of National Finals of ACG-NBA Jump, India's first national basketball talent search program, was selected 11th in the fourth Round of the NBA D-League Draft held in New York.
- ✦ Manny Pacquiao reclaims the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) welterweight title for the third time.
- ✦ Haryana sprinter Dharambir Singh, has been slapped an eight-year ban by the National Anti-Doping Agency.
- ✦ Indian women's carrom team defeated Sri Lanka to win the gold at the seventh World carrom championship in Birmingham (UK).
- ✦ Australia will host the 2018 Invictus Games for wounded military personnel. More than 500 serving & former personnel from 17 nations will compete in the multi-sports competition in Sydney.
- ✦ Aditi Ashok, the Indian professional golfer became the first Indian woman to win a Ladies European Tour title by clinching the Hero Women's Indian Open.
- ✦ Indian golfer SSP Chawrasia clinched the \$1 million (Rs. 6.8 crore) Resorts World Manila Masters in the Philippines, his first ever Asian Tour title outside India.
- ✦ Aditi Ashok Indian golfer Aditi Ashok won the inaugural Qatar Ladies Open in Doha. With this, she recorded her second straight victory on the Ladies European Tour.
- ✦ International Chess Master Padmini Rout won the National Women Premier Chess Championship for the third time.
- ✦ Sachin Singh bagged gold at AIBA Sachin Singh & became the third Indian boxer to bag gold medal at the AIBA Youth World Championships.

- ✦ Gaganjeet Bhullar won the Bank BRI-JCB Indonesia Open.
- ✦ Magnus Carlsen won the 2016 World Chess Championship in New York City, USA. He defeated Sergey Karjakin.
- ✦ Vikram Ingale, Nikhilesh Tabhane & Dhanush Babu have won India's first ever senior international roller skating medal, by securing the bronze medal in the 3000m team relay event in Lishui, People's Republic of China.
- ✦ A team from the Indian Army's Gorkha Rifles has won a gold medal at one of the most gruelling exercises in the world. The medal went to the 8 men of the 2nd Battalion of 8 Gorkha Rifles.
- ✦ Indian Railways have won the World Railway Shooting Championship Cup held at Saint Mandrier, France. Indian Railways team won a total 10 medals – 5 Gold, 3 Silver & 2 Bronze to bag the Overall Championship at the 15th USIC-International Shooting World Championship.
- ✦ Indian Boxing Council (IBC) has inducted into the World Boxing Organisation with voting rights in the WBO's annual convention at Puerto Rico.
- ✦ Wrestler Dalmiya (60 kg) clinched gold as India bagged four medals at the just concluded sixth edition of the Tifsa World Games.
- ✦ Indian boxer Neeraj Goyat outpunched Australia's Ben Kite to retain the WBC welterweight Asia title.
- ✦ International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) has awarded ace shooter, Jitu Rai, the 'Champion of Champions' title for pistol shooting in 2016.
- ✦ The Arena by TransStadia in Ahmedabad, venue of the ongoing Kabaddi World Cup, is India's first convertible stadium.
- ✦ India's Harika Dronavalli defeated World No. 1 Hou Yifan of China to be at joint fourth position in the Isle of Man International Chess tournament.
- ✦ Indian shooter Jitu Rai clinched a silver medal in the 50-meter pistol event of the ISSF World Cup Final at Bologna, Italy.
- ✦ India's Aakanksha Hagawane has won the girls' U-16 title at the World Youth Chess Championship in Russia. Aakanksha sealed the title by defeating Alicja Sliwicka of Poland.
- ✦ Indian golfer Gaganjeet Bhullar won his 6th Asian Tour title, winning the Korea Open 2016 in Incheon, South Korea.
- ✦ Bengaluru's Kieren Dsouza has become the first Indian to complete the Spartathlon, widely described as the "world's toughest race".
- ✦ Javelin thrower Annu Rani broke her own national record & in the process became the first Indian woman to cross the 60m mark.
- ✦ Abhinav Bindra, India's lone individual Olympic gold medallist officially announced his retirement from shooting.
- ✦ Sikkim's Sushmita Rai won a bronze medal at the World Martial Arts Masterships 2016, Cheongju, South Korea.
- ✦ Hearing-impaired Indian shooter Priyasha Deshmukh won the bronze medal in her first-ever international competition at the first World Deaf Shooting Championships.
- ✦ The logo of 2016 Kabaddi World Cup was unveiled. The logo is derived from the natural heritage of Gujarat, the Asiatic Lion, symbolising the ferocity of a Kabaddi defender & the agility of a raider.
- ✦ The 2016 Track Asia Cup concluded at the Cycling Velodrome in IG Stadium in New Delhi. Hong Kong topped the chart with 18 medals which comprise 11 Gold, four



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Silvers & three bronze. On the other hand, India the hosts of the tournament ended their campaign at second position with 16 medals, including five gold, four Silver & seven bronze.

- India's Velavan Senthilkumar bagged the Under-19 Asian Junior Individual squash championship title.
- Sathiyam Gnanasekaran won the men's singles title of the Belgium Open. With this, Gnanasekaran became the second Indian table tennis player to win an ITTF event.
- Indian women's Kabbadi team bagged gold medal at the 5th Asian Beach Games.
- The Patna Pirates won the fourth edition of Pro Kabaddi League by defeating Jaipur Pink Panthers at Gachibowli Stadium, Hyderabad, Telangana.
- International Olympic Committee (IOC) agreed to add five new sports to the programme for 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The sports to be added include Baseball/Softball, Karate, Skateboard, Climbing Sports & surfing in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

BILLS PASSED

- The Lok Sabha has passed the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill 2016 in Lok Sabha which replaces the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) Act 1995. The number of categories of differently-abled has been increased from seven to twenty-one so that the Divyangs could get the benefits of various schemes at the Centre & State level.
- Finance Minister Arun Jaitley introduced the **Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016 in the Lok Sabha. It amends tax laws which seeks to impose a higher rate of tax & penalty in respect of undisclosed incomes. It proposed to tax at 50 percent the unaccounted demonetised cash that is disclosed voluntarily till 30 December 2016 & up to 85 percent tax & penalty will be levied on undisclosed wealth that is discovered by authorities after 30 December 2016.**
- Lok Sabha passed the **Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016 to amend the Income Tax Act, 1961 & Finance Act, 2016.** The Bill proposes to introduce the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan (PMGK) Yojana, 2016. Under the scheme, taxpayers will be required to declare their undisclosed income possessed in the form of cash or deposited in banks, post offices or Reserve Bank of India before a notified date.

- Supreme Court (SC) ordered all cinema halls across India to play the National Anthem before the screening of films. The direction was given by a Bench of Justices Dipak Misra & Amitava Roy.
- Cabinet has approved amendments to the HIV & AIDS (Prevention & Control) Bill, 2014 in a meeting chaired by PM Narendra Modi. The bill makes antiretroviral treatment a legal right of HIV/AIDS patient
- The Centre notified the rules for Real Estate Act, which will be applicable for five UT- Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, & Lakshadweep. The rules states that the developer will be required to refund or pay compensation to the allottees with an interest rate of SBI's highest MCLR plus two per cent in case of delay in project.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IN NEWS

- New United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has announced Nigeria's Environment minister, Amina Mohammed as his Deputy Secretary-General (DSG).
- Ms. Maria Viotti of Brazil (Chef de Cabinet) & Ms. Kyung-wha Kang of the Republic of Korea as Special advisor(UN) on policy.
- Indian Actress Priyanka Chopra has been appointed as United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF) newest Global Goodwill Ambassador.
- Nadia Murad Basee Taha appointed as the United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC) Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking.
- An Indian-origin South African Ravi Reddy appointed as the Head of International Society for Blood Transfusion (ISBT), headquartered in Amsterdam.
- The UN Security Council approved a resolution urging quick global implementation of Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban treaty that would ban tests of nuclear weapons.
- Four SAARC member countries, namely India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh & Bhutan, decided to boycott the 19th SAARC Summit to be hosted by Pakistan.
- United Nations Assistant Secretary-General & UN Women Deputy Executive Director
- Lakshmi Puri appointed Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth Dhanush as UN Women's Advocate for Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment in India.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ISRO IN NEWS

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched PSLV C36 Resource Sat-2A from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed an agreement with a consortium of six companies to deliver India's first industry-built satellite by late 2017.
- ISRO will launch 83 satellites into space in one go, aboard a single rocket in January 2017. Among the 83 satellites, 3 belong to India while the other 80, weighing 500 kg, belong to five foreign nations including Israel, Netherlands, Kazakhstan, Switzerland, & the United States of America.

- India's latest communication satellite GSAT-18 has been successfully launched from the spaceport of Kourou in French Guiana. GSAT-18, built by the Indian Space Research Organisation, aims at providing telecommunications services for the country.
- ISRO successfully launched advanced weather satellite, INSAT-3DR. It was launched with the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F05), from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- ISRO successfully launched 8 satellites in two different orbits in a single mission. These satellites were launched with the



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- ✦ PSLV C35 from the first launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. The Indian satellites which were launched are: SCATSAT-1, Pratham & PISAT (H8G).
- ✦ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) successfully test launched the Supersonic Combustion Ramjet engine, called Scramjet, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

NASA IN NEWS

- ✦ NASA's Magnetospheric Multiscale (MMS) Mission set the Guinness world record for highest altitude fix of a Global Positioning System (GPS) signal at 70000 kilometers above the surface of the Earth.
- ✦ NASA launched the highly advanced geostationary weather satellite Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-R (GOES-R). It was launched by NASA on behalf of the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
- ✦ SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket exploded on its Cape Canaveral launch pad during a test.
- ✦ NASA launched OSIRIS-REx (Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security-Regolith Explorer) spacecraft. It was launched from United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. OSIRIS-REx is United States' first mission to collect samples from an asteroid & return to Earth.
- ✦ National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA) selected six U.S. companies to develop ground prototypes & concepts for deep space habitats.

OTHER SCI-TECH. NEWS

- ✦ Chemistry's highest gatekeepers have accepted the newly proposed names for elements 113(Nihonium), 115 (Moscovium), 117 (Tennessine) & 118 (Oganesson). Periodic Table elements with atomic number 113, Nihonium (Nh) has become the first ever element to be discovered by an Asian country after it was officially revealed by the International Union of Pure & Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).
- ✦ Japan has successfully launched a rocket named H-2B carrying the unmanned cargo spaceship Kounotori 6 to deliver supplies for astronauts living in the International Space Station (ISS).
- ✦ China has launched the first of its new generation weather satellites Fengyun-4. The New technology on the satellite will improve the accuracy of weather forecasts.

- ✦ China launched X-ray pulsar navigation satellite, which will conduct in-orbit experiments using pulsar detectors to demonstrate new technologies.
- ✦ China launched the Tianlian I-04 satellite from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in Sichuan province of Southwest China.
- ✦ China's Sunway TaihuLight was recently declared the world's fastest supercomputer.
- ✦ China launched a pulsar test satellite XPNAV-1 from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. The satellite was carried by a Long March-11 rocket.
- ✦ The moon arrived at its closest point to the Earth since 1948. The 'supermoon' reached its brightest in Asia on 14 November 2016. The Moon was closest, only 2 lakh 21 thousand 524 miles (356509 km) away at 11:21 GMT.
- ✦ Netherlands-based doctors have performed the first-ever brain implant on a 58-year-old woman paralysed by Lou Gehrig's disease, enabling her to communicate in day-to-day life via a speech computer.
- ✦ Tiangong-2, the experimental space lab of China has successfully launched a micro-satellite, Banxing-2 (the word means Companion Satellite). The micro-satellite is roughly the size of a desktop printer.
- ✦ International Astronautical Federation's renowned space scientist U.R. Rao has been inducted into its Hall of Fame for his contribution to development of India's space technology.
- ✦ China launched the two-man Shenzhou 11 space mission, which is its longest-ever manned space mission. The two astronauts will spend about a month in China's recently-launched experimental space lab, Tiangong 2.
- ✦ China launched the Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST) in a mountainous region of Guizhou province. The telescope was launched to hunt for extraterrestrial life & explore space.
- ✦ China successfully launched its first satellite for mobile telecommunication, Tiantong-01.
- ✦ China launched Gaofen-3 Satellite, China's first Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imaging satellite.
- ✦ China launched the world's first quantum satellite named Quantum Experiments at Space Scaler (QUESS) satellite. It was launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in the remote northwestern province of Gansu.

POWER PLANTS ESTABLISHED

S.No	Name	Place
1.	State-run NHPC has announced commissioning of a 50 MW wind power project	in Rajasthan
2.	State-run NHPC 50 MW Wind Power Project	Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
3.	India's first bio-CNG plant	Pune, Maharashtra

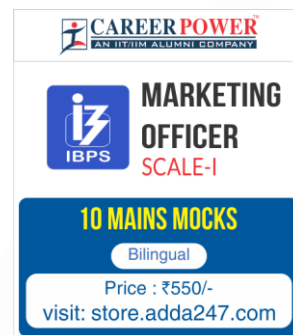
VISITS

- ✦ Israel President Reuven Rivlin was on a six-day visit to India to further strengthen bilateral ties.
- ✦ Mauritius PM Anerood Jugnauth will visit India to discuss various issues, including one that provides a subsidy for Bollywood films shot there, with the Maharashtra government.
- ✦ John Phillip Key, the PM of New Zealand recently visited India.



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- Commerce & Industry Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited Sri Lanka & Canada for enhancing & deepening bilateral trade & investment relations.
- Commerce & Industry Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman visited Canada & the 3rd Annual Ministerial Dialogue which was held at Toronto, Canada was attended by her.
- VP Hamid Ansari visited Nigeria & Mali to strengthen bilateral engagements with these nations.
- The PM of Singapore Lee Hsien Loong visited India for strengthening bilateral ties in trade & investment.
- Aung San Suu Kyi visited India to attend BRICS-BIMSTEC Outreach Summit in Goa & also held meetings with the PM of India.
- Vice President Hamid Ansari visited Hungary & Algeria.
- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh visited Bahrain.
- PM Ranil Wickremesinghe, the PM of Sri Lanka Visited India. Sri Lankan 3 Day visit to India
- Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley visited Canada & US to attend the annual meetings of World Bank & IMF.
- The President of Egypt, Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi visited India to increase cooperation in areas of security, counter-terrorism & trade.



SCHEMES

Schemes launched by Union Govt.

- The Lok Sabha has passed the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan yojna (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016 in the Lok Sabha. It is Union Government's second income disclosure scheme (IDS) to allow tax evaders to come clean with unaccounted wealth. It came into effect from 17 December 2016 & it will remain open until 31 March, 2017. It provides for 50% tax & surcharge on declarations of unaccounted cash deposited in banks.
- Union HRD Minister launches 'Vittiya Saksharata Abhiyan' to use the network of Centrally-run educational institutions for propagating the benefits of digital mode of payment in wake of the government's demonetisation move.
- The Government has announced to launch a 'Lucky Graahak Yojana' & 'Digi Dhan Yojana' to encourage digital payments. Schemes will begin from 25th Dec till April 14, 2017. 7,000 weekly awards & a maximum award of Rs 50,000 each for merchants will be awarded under Digi Dhan Vyapari Yojna.
- PM Narendra Modi has launched the "Saur Sujala Yojana" in Chhattisgarh that would provide solar powered irrigation pumps to farmers at a subsidized price. Chhattisgarh would be the first state to implement the scheme. Under the scheme, solar powered irrigation pumps of 3HP & 5HP capacity worth Rs 3.5 lakh & Rs 4.5 lakh respectively would be distributed to the farmers by March 31, 2019.
- Union Government launched Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan to provide free health check-ups to pregnant women at government health centres & hospitals. The Scheme was launched in New Delhi.
- PM Narendra Modi has launched Pradhanmantri Grameen Awas Yojna, an ambitious housing scheme meant for rural poor in Agra. The scheme aims to provide affordable houses to all those living below the poverty line by the year 2022. In the first phase, the target is to complete one crore houses by March 2019. If the beneficiary desires, there is also a provision of Bank loan of up to 70000 Rs.
- Centre unveiled a regional connectivity scheme, known as UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik), with flights priced at Rs.2,500 for one hour of flying time to & from regional airports. Under the scheme, airlines will be offered a slew of sops at smaller airports such as waiver of landing & parking charges.
- Under Sagarmala programme, the Union Ministry of Shipping sanctioned the Capital Dredging Project for Ro Pax Ferry Services between Gogha & Dahej, in Gulf of Cambay in Gujarat. Ministry released Rs 58.50 Crore as first installment of grant-in-aid to Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB). The total project cost is estimated to be ₹234 crore, of which 50 per cent will be funded by the Centre under the Sagarmala programme.
- CCEA approved upgradation of 13 existing Government Medical Colleges/Institutes (GMCIs) under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY).
- PM Modi launched Mission Bhagiratha at Komatibanda Village, Gajwel in Medak District of Telangana. This was launched to provide safe drinking water to all.
- Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti & Union Urban Development Minister M Venkaiah Naidu launched Smart Ganga City Scheme.
- Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy & Mines Piyush Goyal launched TARANG Mobile App, e-Trans & DEEP e-bidding web portals in New Delhi.
- Sakshi Malik, the woman wrestler who won the bronze medal at 2016 Rio Olympics named as Haryana's brand ambassador for Beti Bachao, Beti Padoo campaign.
- Union Health Minister J P Nadda launched a nation-wide programme MAA- Mothers' Absolute Affection for promoting breastfeeding.
- PM Modi launched Mission Bhagiratha at Komatibanda Village, Gajwel in Medak District of Telangana. The aim is to provide safe drinking water to all.
- Union Government launched Accessible E-Library 'Sugamya Pustakalaya' for Divyang under Prime Minister's Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan).
- Department of Science & Technology (DST) launched a \$15 Mn programme named National Initiative for Developing & Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) for nurturing ideas & innovation into successful start ups.

Schemes launched by State Govt.

- ✦ Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan has launched Haritha Keralam Mission in Thiruvananthapuram to develop the Indian Railways in terms of service in travelling & freight across the country.
- ✦ Kerala government has launched two mobile applications which can be used to upload information regarding graft. The applications launched are - 'ArisingKerala' & 'Whistle Now'.
- ✦ Rajasthan government has recently launched a mobile App named LeZgo that provides the latest information about tourist attractions in Ajmer & Pushkar.
- ✦ CM of Uttar Pradesh Akhilesh Yadav launched state-wide integrated emergency services UP-100. It is the official name of the Police Emergency Management System of Uttar Pradesh.
- ✦ Radha Mohan Singh, Union Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Minister, launched e-Pashuhaat portal (www.epashuhaat.gov.in) which has been specifically developed for connecting breeders & farmers regarding availability of bovine germplasm.
- ✦ Bihar CM Nitish Kumar has launched a key programme to provide free electricity connection to about 50 lakh households above the poverty line. CM launched "Har Ghar Bijli Lagataar" programme.
- ✦ Union Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) in Maharashtra to provide free LPG connections to BPL households.
- ✦ Student credit card scheme for the students passing Class 12th exam was launched by CM of Bihar Nitish Kumar. This will help the students to get an interest free loan of Rs. 4 lakhs for doing higher studies.
- ✦ The 17th State to join the UDAY Scheme is Maharashtra. Government of India signed an MoU with Maharashtra Govt. & Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. (MSEDCL) for this.
- Note: Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY)**
- ✦ Odisha government has come up with a new scheme to provide legal assistance to the deprived sections of the society at the grassroots level in all its 6,812 gram panchayats across the state. The scheme named after great Odia lawyer, 'Madhubabu Aain Sahayata Sibir' will offer legal services once a week. The advocate engaged for the legal assistance cell will be paid an amount of 500 rupees fee per sitting to provide free legal advice to the people.
- ✦ 'Farm Tourism' scheme was launched by Haryana Govt. to attract people to villages. Under this, farm owners can host tourists under holiday packages.
- ✦ The portal of Samajwadi Smartphone Scheme was launched by the UP CM under which smartphones will be distributed to people. All those residents of UP who are above 18, Class X passout, & earning less than Rs. 6 lakh/year are eligible.
- ✦ UDAN Scheme was launched by the Civil Aviation Ministry which is a Regional Connectivity Scheme. UDAN stands for Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik). This scheme will create affordable yet economically viable & profitable flights on regional routes.
- ✦ PM Modi launched "Urja Ganga" which is a 1500 km long gas pipeline project costs Rs. 51,000 crores to provide piped cooking gas to residents of Varanasi within two years.

- ✦ Ministry of Science & Technology has started two new initiatives namely Biotech-KISAN & Cattle Genomics. Biotech-KISAN is a new programme that empowers farmers, especially women farmers. Cattle Genomics: Taking Indigenous Livestock to Pole Position.
- ✦ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav inaugurated the dedicated power supply minimum 18 hours for the whole state.
- ✦ Union Government started the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme. It is for the first time a scheme has been formed to offer financial incentives to employers. The Scheme has an outlay of 10000 crore rupees with a target of 50 Lakh apprentices to be trained by 2019-20.
- ✦ Key highlights of the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme
 - 25% of the total stipend payable to an apprentice would be shared with employers directly by Union Government.
 - 50% of the total expenditure incurred on providing basic training would be supported by Union Government.
- ✦ Health Ministry launched the Leprosy Case Detection campaign (LCDC) in the country. The objective is to detect the disease early so that those affected can be saved from physical deformity.
- ✦ Union Government launched the Urja Mitra Helpline number 14401, a dedicated pan-India helpline for power outages.
- ✦ With this, consumers can now get an update from power distribution companies about outages in their area by dialling 14401.
- ✦ The Union Govt. launched a new program called National Initiative for Developing & Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI). It aims at nurturing ideas & innovation into successful start ups.
- ✦ Union Government approved projects worth about 450 crore rupees under Swadesh Darshan scheme for five states. The five states are: Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim & Tamil Nadu.
- ✦ Union Health Ministry has decided to launch Mission Parivar Vikas in 145 High Focus districts in seven states for improved family planning services. The Mission will be implemented in all the 145 districts at one go. Its main objective is to accelerate access to high quality family planning choices based on information, reliable services & supplies within a rights-based framework.
- ✦ 'Project SAKSHAM' approved which is a New Indirect Tax Network (Systems Integration) of the Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC). This will help in integrating system of Central Board of Excise & Customs with the GST network.
- ✦ Union Govt. launched Progress Panchayat which is aimed at reach out the minority community & publicize the various welfare measures taken by the NDA government for their betterment. It was started from Mewat region of Haryana.
- ✦ Odisha government launched a special assistance scheme for elderly weavers, 'Baristha Bunakar Sahayata Yojana', to mark the National Handlooms Day. Under the 'Baristha Bunakar Sahayata Yojana' all weavers above the age of 60 years would get a monthly pension of 500 rupees, & those above 80 years would get 700 rupees.



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- ✦ Maharashtra government relaunched its "Majhi Kanya Bhagyashri" scheme to achieve its objective of improving the skewed girl child ratio in the state.
- ✦ Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar has approved a proposal of the State Transport department to implement a new "NCR Taxi Scheme 2016" in 13 districts of the state falling in the National Capital Region.
- ✦ The famous Sreekrishna temple in Guruvayur has been included in the Union Tourism Ministry's Pilgrimage Rejuvenation & Spirituality Augmentation Drive (PRASAD).
- ✦ Jharkhand became the first state in the country to have implemented Public Fund Management System (PFMS).

Schemes launched by Ministries

- ✦ The Union AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy) Ministry has launched 'Swasthya Raksha Programme' to promote health & health education in villages. The programme was initiated through Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRM) & Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS).
- ✦ Union Minister of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Ravi Shankar Prasad, launched a TV channel named 'DigiShala' to promote cashless transaction in rural areas. The government also initiated 'Digi Dhan Abhiyan' to achieve the objective of educating, enabling & informing citizens about the cashless economy.
- ✦ To ensure transparency in the implementation of rural electrification programme, the Power Ministry will launch a new app, GARV-II, to provide real-time data of all six lakh villages of the country. Under this facility, village-wise, habitation-wise base line data on household electrification for all states provided by them has been incorporated.
- ✦ Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare launched Healthy India Initiative magazine & No More Tension mobile App for the promotion of health & to strengthen the health communications programmes.

- ✦ HRD Ministry has launched Smart India Hackathon 2017. It is the world's largest digital national building initiative.
- ✦ Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) launched 'Kahin Bhi-Kabhi Bhi' medical facilities for its beneficiaries of Delhi. With this initiative, all the network of dispensaries of Delhi has been made accessible to insured persons & their family members all the time.
- ✦ Odisha Government launched the Biju Kanya Ratna Yojana (BKRY) in three districts for the development of girls. It was started in Ganjam, Dhenkanal & Angul districts. The objective is to improve Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) & Child Sex Ratio (CSR) in the three districts.
- ✦ VP Hamid Ansari inaugurated the 4th phase of the Vidyadhanam project. This Project will benefit students of government & aided schools in Ernakulam Lok Sabha constituency.
- ✦ J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti launched the "CM Scooty Scheme" for college girls in Srinagar.
- ✦ "Selfie with my Shauchalya" campaign was started in Ludhiana to make the Swachh Bharat Mission successful & encourage people to use clean toilets.
- ✦ TN govt. allotted Rs.204 crore towards the implementation of 'Thaaliku Thangam' scheme which involves providing marriage assistance & gold for daughters of poor parents & widows among others to make 'thaali'.
- ✦ Cricket icon & Rajya Sabha MP Sachin Tendulkar has selected Donja village in Osmanabad district of Maharashtra for development under the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojna.

Schemes launched by Ministries

- ✦ Yatri Mitras Sewa was launched by Railway Ministry for enabling passengers to book wheelchair services cum porter services.
- ✦ The housing scheme named Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) has been restructured & renamed as Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY).
- ✦ Shri J P Nadda, Minister of Health & Family Welfare will launch "Mission Parivar Vikas" in 145 districts for intensive & improved family planning services.

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

INDIAN RAILWAYS IN NEWS

- ✦ The world's first hospital train, Lifeline Express is all set to get two additional coaches for cancer treatment.
- ✦ CM Mehbooba Mufti flags off first children special train in valley. It was flagged off at Banihal that en routes from Quazigund, Anantnag, Awantipur, Srinagar, Budgam, Sopore & Baramula.
- ✦ Ministry of Railways appointed Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak, the founder of Sulabh International, as a Brand Ambassador for Swachh Rail Mission.
- ✦ Railways Minister Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu flagged off the newly manufactured 'Guard Van of Goods (Freight) Train', in New Delhi. The newly manufactured 'Guard Van of Goods Train' is equipped with the solar powered Light for the first time.
- ✦ Ministry of Railways launched the insurance scheme for passengers travelling on e- ticket. The insurance cover will be up to 10 lakh rupees. To avail the facility, train

passengers will have to pay 92 paise premium. The scheme offers travellers or nominees a compensation of 10 lakh Rupees in the event of death or total disability, 7.5 lakh Rupees for partial disability, up to 2 lakh Rupees for hospitalization expenses & 10000 rupees for transportation of mortal remains from the place of a train accident.

- ✦ Indian Railways launched Yatri Mitra Sewa to facilitate access to wheelchairs, battery operated cars & porter services. The service was launched to make rail travel comfortable for elderly, differently-abled & ailing travelers.
- ✦ Railways services recently introduced a Sub quota of 33% to women within reserved categories for the allotment in catering units.
- ✦ Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu flagged off maiden broad-gauge train service between Agartala & Delhi, 'Tripura Sundari Express'.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

- ✦ Priyanka Chopra has now made it up to the list of IMDb's most popular celebrities' list. She stands at 55 in the list which is topped by Sofia Boutella.
- ✦ Supreme Court made it mandatory for cinema halls to play the National anthem before the screening of a film in theatres across the country.
- ✦ Yoga, India's one of the ancient practices to keep oneself healthy, has been inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List as the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
- ✦ Emirates launched the world's shortest scheduled service on an Airbus A380, flying it from Dubai to Doha within 80 minutes.
- ✦ The Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi is the 22nd most connected airport in the world, according to air travel intelligence company OAG. OAG's 2016 Megahubs Index has been topped by Chicago Airport in the United States.
- ✦ Kolkata, along with 10 other cities from across the globe, has been honoured with the best cities of 2016 award in recognition of its programme on solid waste management.
- ✦ Universal Studios Hollywood has been named the Best Attraction in the World by ticket selling site 'AttractionTix'. Warner Brothers Studio Tour was voted the best attraction in the UK while Magic Kingdom Park in Walt Disney World Resort was named the Best Family Attraction.
- ✦ World Economic Forum (WEF) has named Hindi language ranked 10th in the top 10 most powerful languages on the planet. The list features English as the most powerful language followed by Mandarin.
- ✦ A biopic of Madonna titled *Blond Ambition* has been named the most admired unproduced film script currently in the Hollywood system. It is written by Elyse Hollander.
- ✦ 'Brexit' & 'Grexit' (hypothetical withdrawal of Greece from the EU) are among the 1,500 new words & phrases added to the Oxford English Dictionary this week.
- ✦ 'Mahabharata', B R Chopra's famed teleserial, is set to be broadcast in its radio avatar on the All India Radio (AIR).
- ✦ Two-time academy award winner AR Rahman is in the Oscar race again for his work in the American biographical film 'Pepe: Birth of a Legend'. China has selected historical-adventure film *Xuanzang*, which co-stars Bollywood actor Sonu Sood, as its official entry for the 89th Academy Awards.
- ✦ Bollywood Parks, Dubai has opened with fanfare, fireworks, dance, music & simulator 4D shows based on hit Hindi-language movies.
- ✦ Oxford Dictionaries has declared "post-truth" to be its international word of the year.
- ✦ The website Dictionary.com named the word 'Xenophobia' as the Word of the Year for 2016.
- ✦ Pink, the Amitabh Bachchan starrer Bollywood film, has been invited by the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations for a special screening at its headquarters in New York, USA. It is directed by Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury.
- ✦ Yoga, has been inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List as the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. UNESCO also adds Cuban rumba & Belgian beer to list of world's intangible heritage. Yoga became the 13th intangible cultural heritage.

- ✦ International Union for Conservation of Nature is all set to declare Kashmir Stag popularly known as Hangul a 'critically endangered' species to protect this beautiful animal from disappearing from earth.
- ✦ The Oxford English Dictionary has included "Aiyoh" & "Aiyah" in its latest edition. The word has defined as, "In southern India & Sri Lanka, expressing distress, regret, or grief; 'Oh no!', 'Oh dear!'".
- ✦ The 34-ft long 'Lamp of Humanity' was inaugurated by the CM of Gujarat Vijay Rupani in Ahmedabad.
- ✦ Green building & Shatabdi Krishi Bhawan was inaugurated by Prakash Javadekar, the union HRD minister at BHU.
- ✦ The CM of Assam Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the first Model Skill Development Centre named "Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra" at Panjabari, Guwahati.
- ✦ Irom Sharmila of Manipur has formed a new political party which is People's Resurgence & Justice Alliance (PRJA).
- ✦ The second "green building" airport of India was inaugurated by PM Modi at Harni Airport in Vadodara.
- ✦ Samadhan, Suvidha, & Sugam are the three IT based systems which is launched by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to make the election process smooth, effective & transparent.
- ✦ Telangana government organised the traditional state festival of 'Bathukamma' on at the Lal Bahadur stadium in Hyderabad. The Telangana government has declared 'Bathukamma' as a state festival.
- ✦ Arjun Vajpai, a 23-year-old professional mountaineer from Noida, became the youngest in the world to scale the Mount Cho Oyu, the 6th highest mountain peak in the world at 8,188 metres above sea level.
- ✦ Airport Authority of India's Tirupati Airport has been awarded as "Best Tourist Friendly Airport" under the category for "State Annual Excellence Awards (2015-16)" by Andhra Pradesh Tourism.
- ✦ Govt. approved the use of Pelargonic Acid Vanillyl Amide (PAVA) as an alternative to pellet guns for crowd control. Pellet guns will be used in the rarest of rare cases.
- ✦ Air India has become the first ever flight to flown over the Pacific Ocean from Delhi to San Fransico (SFO), instead of the Atlantic.
- ✦ The name of the political front of Navjot Singh is Awaaz-e-Punjab.
- ✦ Race Course Road in Delhi is renamed as the Lok Kalyan Marg.

Abbreviations:

- ✦ Modified Assured Career Progression (MACP)
- ✦ Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO)
- ✦ National Academic Depository (NAD)
- ✦ BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical & Economic Cooperation)
- ✦ National Initiative for Developing & Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI)
- ✦ Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA)
- ✦ Saurashtra Narmada Avtaran Irrigation Yojana (SAUNI Yojana)

GDP PREDITIONS BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



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✚ **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** raised projections for India's economic growth by **0.2 percentage points to 7.6 per cent for 2016-17 & 2017-18.**

✚ **World Bank** announced India's GDP growth would remain strong at **7.6 percent in 2016 & 7.7 percent in 2017.**

STATIC GK CAPSULE 2016

Agricultural Seasons in India:

1. The Kharif Season:

Crops are sown at the beginning of south-west monsoon & harvested at the end of the south-west monsoon.

Sowing Season: May to July.

Harvesting Season: September to October.

Important Crops: Jowar, Bajra, Rice, Maize, Cotton, Groundnut, Jute, Hemp, Tobacco etc.

2. The Rabi Season:

Crops need cool climate during growth period but warm climate during the germination of seed & maturation.

Sowing Season: October to December

Harvesting Season: February to April Important

Crops: Wheat, Barley, Gram, Linseed, Mustard, Masoor & Peas.

3. The Zaid Season:

The crops grown on irrigated lands which do not have to wait for monsoons, in the short duration between Rabi & Kharif crop season, mainly from March to June, are called **Zaid crops** (also written as **Zayad crops**).

These crops are grown mainly in the summer season during a period called the "Zayad crop season." They require warm dry weather for major growth period & longer day length for flowering. The main produce are seasonal fruits & vegetables.

Crops: Cucumber, Musk melon, Watermelon, Bitter gourd etc.

Venues for the upcoming Tournaments

• Hockey World Cup 2018 Venue:

1. Men's Hockey World Cup – India
2. Women's Hockey World Cup - England

• ICC World Cup Cricket Venue:

ODI: (One day International):

1. Australia & New Zealand: 2015.
2. England - 2019
3. India - 2023

• T20 World Cup:

1. Bangladesh -2014. – Sri Lanka defeat India to win the maiden title.
2. India -2016.
3. Australia - 2020.

• Test:

1. England– 2017 (for first time).
2. India - 2021.

• FIFA (Football) World Cup venue: - RQ

1. 2018 : Russia
2. 2022: Qatar

• Commonwealth Games venues:

1. 2014 – Glasgow (Scotland).
2. 2018 – Gold Coast (Australia).

• Olympics Games venues:

1. 2014 winter: Sochi (Russia) – Russia tops in the medal tally in 2014 winter Olympic games.

2. 2016 Summer: Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

3. 2018 winter: Pyeongchang (South Korea)

4. 2020 summer: Tokyo (Japan)

• Asian Games host cities:

1. 2014: Incheon (South Korea) (Note: 2010 Asain Games held in Guangzhou, China).
2. 2019: Hanoi (Vietnam)

United Nations Headquarters

International Organizations	Headquarters
UNO (United Nations Org)	New York
UNICEF	New York
UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade & Development)	Geneva
WHO (World Health Org)	Geneva
ILO (International Labour Org)	Geneva
WMO (World Meteorological Org)	Geneva
World Intellectual Property Org	Geneva
International Standards Org.	Geneva
IMF (International Monetary Fund)	Washington DC
World Bank	Washington DC
UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific & Cultural Org)	Paris
OECD (Org. for Economic Cooperation & Dev.)	Paris
UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Dev. Org)	Vienna
IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)	Vienna
OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries)	Vienna
Amnesty International	London
Commonwealth of Nations	London
IM (International Maritime Organization)	London
ICJ (International Court of Justice)	The Hague
FAO (Food & Agricultural Organization)	Rome
NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)	Brussels
Transparency International	Berlin
SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Coop.)	Kathmandu
ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations)	Jakarta
APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Forum)	Singapore
Organization of Islamic Cooperation	Jeddah

Revolutions in the field of agriculture in India:

- Black Revolution - Petroleum Production
- Blue Revolution - Fish Production
- Brown Revolution - Leather/non conventional (India)/Cocoa production
- Golden Fiber Revolution - Jute Production

- Golden Revolution - Fruits/Overall Horticulture development/Honey Production
- Green Revolution - Food grains
- Grey Revolution - Fertilizer
- Pink Revolution - Onion production/Pharmaceutical (India)/Prawn production
- Red Revolution - Meat & Tomato Production
- Round Revolution - Potato
- Silver Fiber Revolution - Cotton
- Silver Revolution - Egg/Poultry Production
- White Revolution (In India: Operation Flood) - Milk/Dairy production
- Yellow Revolution - Oil Seeds production
- Evergreen Revolution - Overall development of Agriculture.

CENSUS

- 1) The population of the country as per the provisional figures of Census 2011 is 1210.19 million of which 623.7 million (51.54%) are males & 586.46 million (48.46%) are females. The major highlights of the Census 2011 (Provisional figures) are as under:
*The population of India has increased by more than 181 million during the decade 2001-2011.
- 2) %age growth in 2001-2011 is 17.64; males 17.19 & females 18.12.
*2001-2011 is the first decade (with the exception of 1911-1921---GREAT DEPRESSION) which has actually added lesser population compared to the previous decade.
- 3) *Uttar Pradesh (199.5 million) is the most populous State in the country followed by Maharashtra with 112 million.

Some of the highlights

- Slogan - Our census, Our Future
- India's 1st Census - 1872
- 2011 Census is - 15th Census
- Total Population - 1,21,01,93,422
- India's Rank in population - 2nd with 17.5% (1st China with 19%)
- Most Populous State - Uttar Pradesh
- Least Populous State - Sikkim
- Most Literate State - Kerala (93.9%)
- Least Literate State - Bihar (63.82%)
- National Sex Ratio - Female : Male (940 : 1000)
- Highest Sex Ratio (State) - Kerala (1084 : 1000)
- Lowest Sex Ratio (State) - Haryana
- Highest Sex Ratio (UT) - Puducherry
- Least Sex Ratio (UT) - Daman & Diu (61 : 1000)
- Literacy of Male - 82.14%
- Literacy of Female - 65.46%
- Population Growth Rate - 17.64%
- Highest fertility Rate - Meghalaya
- Most literate union territory - Lakshadweep (92.2%)
- Least literate Union Territory - Dadra Nagar & Haveli
- Most Literate District - Serechhip (Mizoram)
- Least Literate District - Dadra Naga & Haveli
- Highest Density of Population - Bihar (1102 sq.km)
- Lowest Density of Population - Arunachal Pradesh (17)
- Total number of districts - 640
- Highest Populous District - Thane (Mumbai)
- 100% Literacy District - Palakkad (Kerala)
- 100% Banking State - Kerala
- 100% Banking District - Palakkad (Kerala)

- Density of Population in India - 382 sq. km
- Increase in population (during 2001-2011) - 181 million

Who's who?

Important National Officials	
Designation	Name
Chairperson, CBDT	Suhsil Chandra
Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes	Rameshwar Oraon
Chairperson, UGC	Ved Prakash
Chairman, ISRO	AS Kiran Kumar
Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission	Shekhar Basu
Chairperson, TRAI	Ram Sevak Sharma
Chairperson, National Highways Authority of India	Raghav Chandra
Director, National Cadet Corps	A. Chakravarty
Chairperson, Central Board of Secondary Education	Rajesh Kumar Chatur
Chairperson, Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority of India	TS Vijayan
Chairperson, Press Council of India	CK Prasad
Director General, BSF	K K Sharma
Director General, SSB	Archana Ramasundaram
Director General, CRPF	K Durga Prasad
Director General, ITBP	Krishna Chaudhary
Solicitor General	Ranjit Kumar
Attorney General	Mukul Rohtagi
Chairperson, National Green Tribunal	Justice Swatantra Kumar
Director, NCERT	Hrushikesh Senapaty
President, ASSOCHAM	Sunil Kanoria
Chairman, Indian Banks Association	Rajeev Rishi
President, NASSCOM	C P Gurnani
Chairman, Press Trust of India	Riyad Mathew

Bureaucrats

Designation	Name
National Security Advisor	Ajit Kumar Doval
Chairman, Railway Board	AK Mittal
Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)	Anil Kumar Sinha
Chief, Intelligence Bureau (IB)	Rajiv Jain
Chief, Research & Analysis Wing (RAW)	Anil Dhasmana
Director General, NIA	Sharad Kumar

Important Dignitaries

Post	Name
Chief Justice, Supreme Court	Justice J S Khehar (Effective from 03-01-2017)
Speaker, Lok Sabha	Sumitra Mahajan
Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha	M. Thambidurai
Comptroller & Auditor General of India	Shashikant Sharma
Chief Election Commissioner	Naseem Zaidi
Chairman, Union Public Service	Alka Sirohi



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Commission	
Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha	PJ Kurien

Directors of Maharatna/Navaratna Companies

Maharatna	Chairman/MD
Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited	Atul Sobti
Coal India Limited	S. Bhattacharya
Gas Authority of India Limited	BC Tripathi
Indian Oil Corporation Limited	B. Ashok
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation	DK Sarraf
Steel Authority of India Limited	PK Singh
National Thermal Power Corporation	Gurdeep Singh

Important International Officials

Designation	Name
Secretary-General, United Nations Organisation	Antonio Guterres
Managing Director, International Monetary Fund	Christine Lagarde
President, World Bank	Jim Yong Kim
Vice-President, World Bank	Hiroshi Naka
Director-General, World Trade Organisation	Roberto Azevedo
President, UN General Assembly	Mogens Lykkesøft
Director-General, World Health Organisation	Margaret Chan
President, International Court of Justice	Peter Tomka
President, Asian Development Bank	Takehiko Nakao
President, International Olympic Committee	Thomas Bach
Administrator, NASA	Charles F. Boldon
President, UN Human Rights Council	Remigiusz Henczel
Director-General, International Atomic Energy Agency	Yukiya Amano
Secretary-General, NATO	Jens Stoltenberg
Secretary-General, ASEAN	Lee Luang Minh
Secretary-General, SAARC	Arjun Bahadur Thapa
Secretary-General, Commonwealth	Patricia Scotland
President, FIFA	Gianni Infantino
President, International Cricket Council	Zaheer Abbas
Chairman, International Cricket Council	Shashank Manohar
President, International Paralympic Committee	Philip Craven

IMPORTANT PEAKS

Mt Everest (or Sagarmatha or Chomo Langma)	8848 m (in Nepal)
Mt Kanchenjunga	8598 m (in India)
Mt Makalu	8481 m (in Nepal)
Mt Dhaulagiri	8172 m (in Nepal)
Mt Cho Oyu	8153m (in Nepal)
Mt Nanga Parbat	8126m (in India)
Mt Annapurna	8078 m (in Nepal)
Mt Nanda Devi	7817 m (in India)

Major Mountain Ranges of the World

- ◆ **Andes** :South America
- ◆ **Himalayas** :Karakoram :Hindukush :South Central Asia
- ◆ **Rockies** :North America
- ◆ **Great Dividing Range** :East Australia
- ◆ **Western Ghats** :Western India :
- ◆ **Caucasus Europe** :Asia
- ◆ **Alaska** :USA
- ◆ **Alps** :Europe
- ◆ **Apennines** :Europe
- ◆ **Ural** :Asia
- ◆ **Pennines** :Europe
- ◆ **Pyrenees** :Europe :
- ◆ **Appalachian** :North America
- ◆ **Atlas** : Africa
- ◆ **Kilimancharo** : Africa
- ◆ **Appalechian** : America
- ◆ **Ural** :Europe
- ◆ **Alps** :Europe
- ◆ **Karpathyan** :Europe
- ◆ **Mount Eribus** : Antarctica

Important volcanoes

- ◆ **Vezuvias** : Italy
- ◆ **Etna** : Italy
- ◆ **Stromboli** :Italy
- ◆ **Barren** : India (Andaman Nicobar)
- ◆ **Kilimancharo** : Tanzania
- ◆ **Krakathove** : Indonesia
- ◆ **Pina thubo** : Philippense
- ◆ **Most of the volcanoes found near Pacific Ocean**
- ◆ **Ring of fire** : Pacific
- ◆ **Lighthouse of the Pacific** : Ezalko
- ◆ **Lighthouse of the Mediteranian** : Stromboli

DESERTS

- ◆ **Fozil desert** : Kalahari
- ◆ **Little Sahara** : Australia
- ◆ **Death desert** : Thakkala Makkan
- ◆ **Painted desert** : North America
- ◆ **Coldest desert** : Gobi
- ◆ **Warmest desert** : Sahara
- ◆ **Driest desert** : Attakkama
- ◆ **Great Indian desert** : Thar
- ◆ **Roob Asavali** : Asia
- ◆ **Attakkama** : South America
- ◆ **Sahara** : Africa
- ◆ **Kalahari** : Africa
- ◆ **Nameeb** : Nameebia
- ◆ **Great Sandy** : Australia
- ◆ **Great Victoria** : Australia
- ◆ **Thakkala Makkan** : China
- ◆ **Sahel** : China
- ◆ **Thar** : India

Important Lakes

- ◆ **Superior** : North America
- ◆ **Ladol** : Europe
- ◆ **Caspian** : Asia
- ◆ **Victoria** : Africa
- ◆ **Ayar** : Australia
- ◆ **Marakkoiba** : South America

- ◆ Vozthok: Antartica
- ◆ Azad: Syria
- ◆ Nazar: Egypt
- ◆ Land of ten thousand lakes: Minazotta
- ◆ Land of thousand lakes: Finland
- ◆ Oldest lake, Deepest lake: Baikkal (Russia)
- ◆ Largest Island Lake: Manitollin
- ◆ Largest freshwater lake: Superior
- ◆ Largest salt water lake: Caspian sea
- ◆ Largest artificial lake: Volta (Ghana)

The 12 Major Ports are:

Port	State
Kolkata	West Bengal
Paradip	Orissa
Vishakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
Chennai	Tamil Nadu
Ennore	Tamil Nadu
Tuticorin	Tamil Nadu
Cochin	Kerala
New Mangalore	Karnataka
Mormugao	Goa
Jawaharlal Nehru	Maharashtra
Mumbai	Maharashtra
Kandla	Gujarat

Stock Exchanges around the World

- ✦ New York Stock Exchange (NYSE): HQ in New York City
- ✦ NASDAQ OMX : HQ in New York City.
- ✦ Tokyo Stock Exchange : HQ in Tokyo
- ✦ London Stock Exchange : HQ in London.
- ✦ Shanghai Stock Exchange : HQ in Shanghai.
- ✦ Hong Kong Stock Exchange : HQ in Hong Kong.
- ✦ Toronto Stock Exchange : HQ in Toronto.
- ✦ BM&F Bovespa : HQ in Sao Paul
- ✦ Australian Securities Exchange : HQ in Sydney
- ✦ Deutsche Börse : HQ in Frankfurt.
- ✦ Taiwan Stock Exchange – HQ in the city of Taipei
- ✦ JSE Limited HQ in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- ✦ American Stock Exchange (AMEX) HQ in New York, USA
- ✦ Borsa Italia HQ in Milan, Italy
- ✦ London International Financial Futures & Options Exchange (LIFFE) HQ in London, Great Britain
- ✦ Montreal Exchange (MSE) HQ in Montreal, Canada
- ✦ Nordic :Baltic market (OMX) HQ in Stockholm, Sweden
- ✦ Bolsa de Madrid (Madrid Stock Exchange) HQ in Madrid, Spain
- ✦ Afghanistan Stock Exchange HQ in Kabul
- ✦ Chittagong Stock Exchange HQ in Chittagong
- ✦ Royal Securities Exchange of Bhutan HQ inThimphu
- ✦ Maldives Stock Exchange HQ in Malé
- ✦ Nepal Stock Exchange HQ in Kathmandu

- ✦ Sialkot Stock Exchange HQ in Sialkot
- ✦ Colombo Stock Exchange HQ in Colombo

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Famous Temples in India

- ✦ **Badrinath Temple:** Chamoli district, Uttarakhand
- ✦ **The Konark Sun Temple:** Puri district of Odisha
- ✦ **Brihadeeswara Temple:** Thanjavur city of Tamil Nadu
- ✦ **Somnath Temple:** Prabhas Kshetra in Saurashtra (Gujarat)
- ✦ **Kedarnath Temple:** Garhwal area (Uttarakhand)
- ✦ **Sanchi Stupa:** Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh
- ✦ **Ramanathaswamy (Rameshwaram) Temple :** Tamil Nadu
- ✦ **Vaishno Devi Mandir:** J&K, near Katra.
- ✦ **Siddhivinayak Temple:** Prabha Devi, Mumbai
- ✦ **Gangotri Temple:** Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand
- ✦ **Golden Temple or Sri Harmandir Sahib:** Amritsar
- ✦ **Kashi Vishwanath Temple:** Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)
- ✦ **Lord Jagannath Temple:** Puri (Orissa)
- ✦ **Yamunotri Temple:** Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand
- ✦ **Meenakshi Temple:** Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
- ✦ **Amarnath Cave Temple:** State of J&K
- ✦ **Lingaraja Temple:** Orissa
- ✦ **Tirupati Balaji:** Tirumala (Andhra Pradesh)
- ✦ **Kanchipuram Temples:** Tamil Nadu
- ✦ **Khajuraho Temple:** Madhya Pradesh
- ✦ **Virupaksha Temple:** Hampi, Bellary, Karnataka
- ✦ **Akshardham Temple:** Delhi
- ✦ **Shri Digambar Jain Lal Mandir:** Oldest Jain temple in Delhi
- ✦ **Gomateshwara Temple:** Shravanabelagola town of Karnataka
- ✦ **Ranakpur Temple:** Pali district of Rajasthan
- ✦ **Shirdi Sai Baba Temple:** Shirdi town of Maharashtra
- ✦ **Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple :** Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala
- ✦ **Dwarkadhish Temple:** Dwarka city (Gujarat)
- ✦ **Laxminarayan Temple:** In Delhi

IMPORTANT AIRPORTS IN INDIA

Airport	City	State/UT
Kempegowda International Airport	Bangalore	Karnataka
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport	Kolkata	West Bengal
Rajiv Gandhi International Airport	Hyderabad	Telangana
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport	Ahmedabad	Gujarat

Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport	Guwahati	Assam
Srinagar Airport	Srinagar	J&K
Biju Patnaik International Airport	Bhubaneswar	Odisha
Visakhapatnam Airport	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport	Nagpur	Maharashtra
Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Airport	Patna	Bihar
Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport	Amritsar	Punjab
Swami Vivekananda Airport	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
Bagdogra Airport	Bagdogra	West Bengal
Veer Savarkar International Airport	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Birsa Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
Maharana Pratap Airport	Udaipur	Rajasthan
Raja Bhoj International Airport	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
Jolly Grant Airport	Dehradun	Uttarakhand
Rajahmundry Airport	Rajahmundry	Andhra Pradesh
Silchar Airport	Silchar	Assam
Lengpui Airport	Aizwal	Mizoram
Zaruki International Airport	Shillong	Meghalaya
Daporijo Airport	Daporijo	Arunachal Pradesh
Tezu Airport	Tezu	Arunachal Pradesh
Kandla Airport	Kandla	Gujarat
Sonari Airport	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand
Birsa Munda Airport	Ranchi	Jharkhand
Agatti Aerodrome	Agatti	Lakshadweep

IMPORTANT AWARDS

International Gandhi Peace Prize: For contributions towards social, economic & political transformation through non-violence & other Gandhian methods.

Bharat Ratna: It is the premier civilian award, to serve the nation.

Padma Vibhushan: Ranking wise the second award is the Padma Vibhushan in the Indian Republic. It awarded people from various fields including Govt. service to distinguish extraordinary service for the country.

Padma Bhushan: The Padma Bhushan is the highest civilian award third in rank in the Indian Republic.

Padma Shri: It is awarded to citizens of India for their distinguished contribution in several fields including Education, Literature, Arts, Science, Industry, Social Service, Medicine, Sports & Public Affairs.

Dronacharya Award: For brilliance in sports coaching.

Dhyan Chand Award: Highest lifetime achievement award in sports & games in India

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna: Highest honor given for accomplishment in sports.

Literary Awards

Jnanpith Award

Vyas Samman: For literary in the Hindi language.

Saraswati Samman: For outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any Indian language listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India.

PARAM VIR CHAKRA : Highest decoration Awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring or prominent act of

valour or self-sacrifice in the presence of the enemy on land, sea or air.

MAHA VIR CHAKRA : Second highest decoration. It is awarded for acts of conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.

VIR CHAKRA :

It is the third in the order of awards for acts of gallantry in the face of the enemy on land, sea or air.

ASHOK CHAKRA:

Awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring act of valour or self-sacrifice on land, at sea or in the air.

Some Important Awards in the World

Awards & Honours	
Prize	Field
Academy (Oscar) Awards	Film (From 1929)
Grammy Award	Music (From 1958)
Ramon Magasaysay Award	Govt. (Public) Service, Social Service, Journalism, Literature, Communication & International Understanding (From 1957)
Bourlog Award	Agriculture (From 1992)

Some Important Awards in the India

Dada Saheb Phalke Award	Film
Shankar Award	Indian Philosophy, Culture &

	Art
Kabir Samman	Socio – communal Harmony

List of Important Awards & its Related Fields

Awards	Related Fields
Grammy	Music
Pulitzer	Journalism & Literature
Arjun	Sports
Bowley	Agriculture
Kalinga	Science
Dhanwantri	Medical Science
Bhatnagar	Science
Nobel Prize	Peace, Literature, Economics, Physics, Chemistry, Medical Science
Abel	Maths
Merlin	Magic
Man Booker	Literature
Vachspati Samman	Sanskrit Literature

BOUNDARY LINES

- ✚ **Durand Line** is the line demarcating the boundaries of Afghanistan & Pakistan. It was drawn up in 1896 by Sir Mortimer Durand.
- ✚ **Hindenburg Line** is the boundary dividing Germany & Poland. The Germans retreated to this line in 1917 during World War I.
- ✚ **Mason-dixon Line** is a line of demarcation between four states in the United States.
- ✚ **Marginal Line** was the 320 km line of fortification built by France along its border with Germany before World War II, to protect its boundary from German attack.
- ✚ **Mannerheim Line** is the line of fortification on the Russia-Finland border. Drawn up by General Mannerheim.
- ✚ **Macmahon Line** was drawn up by Sir. Henry MacMahon, demarcating the frontier of India & China. China did not recognize the MacMahon line & crossed it in 1962.
- ✚ **Medicine Line** is the border between Canada & the United States.
- ✚ **Order-neisse Line** is the border between Poland & Germany, running along the Oder & Neisse rivers, adopted at the Poland Conference (August 1945) after
- ✚ **Radcliffe Line** was drawn up by Sir Cyril Radcliffe, demarcating the boundary between India & Pakistan.
- ✚ **Siegfried Line** is the line of fortification drawn up by Germany on its border with France.
- ✚ **17th Parallel** defined the boundary between North Vietnam & South Vietnam before the two were united.
- ✚ **24th Parallel** is the line which Pakistan claims for demarcation between India & Pakistan. This, however, is not recognized by India.
- ✚ **26th Parallel south** is a circle of latitude which crosses through Africa, Australia & South America.
- ✚ **30TH PARALLEL north** is a line of latitude that stands one-third of the way between the equator & the North Pole.
- ✚ **33rd Parallel north** is a circle of latitude which cuts through the southern United States, parts of North Africa, parts of the Middle East, & China.

- ✚ **35th Parallel north** forms the boundary between the State of North Carolina & the State of Georgia & the boundary between the State of Tennessee and the State of Georgia the State of Alabama, & the State of Mississippi.
- ✚ **36030' Parallel north** forms the boundary between the Tennessee & Commonwealth of Kentucky between the Tennessee River & the Mississippi River, the boundary between Missouri & Arkansas west of the White River, & the northernmost boundary between the Texas & the Oklahoma.
- ✚ **37th Parallel north** formed the southern boundary of the historic & extralegal Territory of Jefferson.
- ✚ **38th Parallel** is the parallel of latitude which separates North Korea & South Korea.
- ✚ **39th Parallel north** is an imaginary circle of latitude that is 39 degrees north of the Earth's equatorial plane.
- ✚ **40th Parallel north** formed the original northern boundary of the British Colony of Maryland.
- ✚ **41th Parallel north** forms the northern boundary of the State of Colorado with Nebraska & Wyoming & the southern boundary of the State of Wyoming with Colorado & Utah.
- ✚ **42nd Parallel north** forms most of the New York - Pennsylvania Border.
- ✚ **43rd Parallel north** forms most of the boundary between the State of Nebraska & the State of South Dakota & also formed the northern border of the historic & extralegal Territory of Jefferson.
- ✚ **The Parallel 440 north** is an imaginary circle of latitude that is 44 degrees north of the Earth's equatorial plane.
- ✚ **45th Parallel north** is often called the halfway point between the Equator & the North Pole. The
- ✚ **45th parallel** makes up most of the boundary between Montana & Wyoming. 45th parallel of south latitude is the east-west line that marks the theoretical halfway point between the equator & the South Pole.
- ✚ **49th Parallel** is the boundary between USA & Canada

IMPORTANT DAMS IN INDIA

Dam	River	State
Tehri Dam	Bhagirathi	Uttarakhand
Lakhwar Dam	Yamuna	Uttarakhand
Idukki (Eb)/Idukki Arch Dam	Periyar	Kerala
Bhakra Dam	Satluj	Himachal Pradesh
Pakal Dul Dam	Marusudar	J&K
Sardar Sarovar Gujarat Dam	Narmada	Gujarat
Srisailem (N.S.R.S.P) Dam	Krishna	Telangana
Ranjit Sagar Dam	Ravi	Punjab
Baglihar Dam	CHENAB	J&K
Pong Dam	Beas	Himachal Pradesh
Nagarjuna Sagar Dam	Krishna	Telangana
Salal (Rockfill & Concrete) Dam	Chenab	J&K
Supa Dam	Kali Nadi	Karnataka
Koteshwar Dam	Bhagirathi	Uttarakhand
Rihand Dam	Rihand	Uttar Pradesh
Indira Sagar (NHDC) Dam	Narmada	Madhya Pradesh
Pillur Dam	Bhavani	Tamil Nadu



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Madupetty (Eb) Dam	Palar	Kerala
Parbati II Dam	Parbati	Himachal Pradesh

Chakra Dam	Chakra	Karnataka
Ukai Dam	Tapi	Gujarat

CLASSICAL DANCES & FOLK DANCES IN INDIA

Indian Classical Dances

Bharatnatyam: Popular in South Indian states of Tamil Nadu & Karnataka

Kathak: North India

Kathakali: Kathakali is the classical dance form of Kerala.

Kuchipudi: Kuchipudi is one of the classical dance forms of the South India. Kuchipudi derives its name from the Kuchipudi village of Andhra Pradesh.

Manipuri: Manipuri is one of the six major classical dances of India. Manipuri dance is indigenous to Manipur, the North eastern state of India.

Mohiniattam: Mohiniattam is a classical dance form of Kerala.

Odissi: Odissi is one of the famous classical Indian dances from Orissa state.

Folk Dances of India

Folk dances are performed for every possible occasion, to celebrate the arrival of seasons, birth of a child, a wedding & festivals.

Gaur dance: Folk dance of Madhya Pradesh dances

Chhau : Folk dance of Bihar

Bihu: Folk dance of Assam

Dumhal: Popular dance of Kashmir

Padayani: One of the most colorful & popular dances of Southern Kerala.

Dollu Kunitha: Popular drum dance of Karnataka state.

Dandiya: Popular folk dance of Gujarat.

The classical dance forms recognised by the Sangeet Natak Akademi & the Ministry of Culture are as represented below:

Dance form	State(s) of origin
------------	--------------------

Gaudiya Nritya	West Bengal
Kathak	Northern India (Uttar Pradesh)
Kathakali	Kerala
Sattriya	Assam
Ghoomar	Rajasthan
Thang Ta	Manipur

Folk dances in India

- **Bathukamma:** A folk dance of Andhra Pradesh.
- **Changu:** The changu dance is a folk dance found in Odissa & Andhra Pradesh.
- **Dhaman:** 1) A folk dance of Punjab. 2) A folk dance of Andhra Pradesh
- **Gair:** This is a dance of Rajasthan. It is performed by groups of dancers moving in & out with an almost military precision.
- **Garba:** This is a folk dance from Gujarat. It is traditionally danced at marriages & during the time of Navaratri. • **Gatka:** A folk dance utilising swords, daggers, or sticks performed in the Punjab
- **Karagam:** This is a folk dance of Tamil Nadu. It is played with a pot balanced on the head.
- **Raas:** This is a folk dance from Gujarat. It is traditionally danced at marriages & during the time of Navaratri.
- **Dumhal:** A folk dance of Kashmir.
- **Odissi:** Folk dance performed in Orissa.
- **Chau:** A popular dance performed in Orissa, bihar & west Bengal

IMPORTANT DAYS

July	August	September
➤ 4 July (first Saturday in July) International Day of Cooperatives ➤ 11 July World Population Day ➤ 15 July World Youth Skills Day ➤ 18 July Nelson Mandela International Day ➤ 28 July World Hepatitis Day ➤ 30 July World Day against Trafficking in Persons	➤ 12 August International Youth Day ➤ 19 August World Humanitarian Day ➤ 20 August Rajiv Gandhi's Birth Anniversary (Sadbhavana Diwas) ➤ 29 August International Day against Nuclear Tests ➤ 30 August International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances	➤ 8 September International Literacy Day ➤ 14 September Hindi Divas ➤ 15 September International Day of Democracy ➤ 16 September International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer ➤ 21 September International Day of Peace ➤ 25 September World Maritime Day ➤ 27 September World Tourism Day
➤ 1 October National Voluntary Blood Donation Day ➤ 2 October International Day of Non-Violence ➤ 5 October World Teachers' Day ➤ 5 October World Habitat Day ➤ 8 October Air Force Day ➤ 9 October World Post Day ➤ 10 October World Mental Health Day	➤ 14 November World Diabetes Day ➤ 16 November International Day for Tolerance ➤ 19 November National Integration Day (Indira Gandhi's Birthday) ➤ 19 November World Philosophy Day ➤ 20 November Universal Children's Day ➤ 20 November National Child Rights	➤ 1 December World AIDS Day ➤ 2 December National Pollution Control Day ➤ 4 December Naval Day ➤ 3 December National Conservation Day ➤ 5 December World Soil Day ➤ 7 December International Civil Aviation Day ➤ 9 December International Anti-



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➤ 10 October National Post Day ➤ 16 October World Food Day ➤ 17 October International Day for the Eradication of Poverty ➤ 20 October World Statistics Day ➤ 24 October UN Day ➤ 31 October Anti-Terrorism Day	- Day ➤ 21 November World Television Day ➤ 26 November Constitution Day	- Corruption Day ➤ 10 December Human Rights Day ➤ 14 December National Energy Conservation Day ➤ 18 December International Migrants Day ➤ 20 December International Human Solidarity Day ➤ 24 Dec- National Consumers Rights Day
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Other Important Days:

- 12th January- National Youth day (Birthday of Vivekananda).
- 15th January- Army day.
- 24th Jan- National Girl Child Day.
- 25th January- National tourism day/ Voters day
- 30th January- National Martyrs day & World anti Leprosy Day
- 4th Feb- World Cancer Day.
- 28th Feb- National science day
- 8th March- International women day
- 9th March- World Kidney day
- 15th March- World Consumer rights day,

- 20th March- World Sparrow Day & International Happiness Day.
- 21st March- World Forestry day
- 22nd March- World water day
- 23rd March- World Meteorological day
- 24th March- World T.B. day
- 2 April- World Autism Awareness Day
- 7th April- World Health day
- 21st April- Civil service day
- 22nd April- World Earth day
- 24th April- Panchayat Divas
- 1st May- International Labour day

COUNTRY & CURRENCY

African Countries

Name	Capital	Currency
Algeria	Algiers	Dinar
Angola	Luanda	Kwanza
Cameroon	Yaoundé	CFA franc
Egypt	Cairo	Egyptian pound
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	Birr
Gambia	Banjul	Gambian dalasi
Ghana	Accra	Ghana cedi
Kenya	Nairobi	Kenyan shilling
Liberia	Monrovia	Liberian dollar
Libya	Tripoli	Dinar
Madagascar	Antananarivo	Malagasy ariary
Mali	Bamako	CFA franc
Mauritius	Port Louis	Mauritian rupee
Morocco	Rabat	Moroccan dirham
Mozambique	Maputo	Mozambican metical
Namibia	Windhoek	Namibian dollar
Nigeria	Abuja	Naira
Rwanda	Kigali	Rwandan franc
Seychelles	Victoria	Seychellois rupee
Sierra Leone	Freetown	Leone
Somalia	Mogadishu	Somali shilling
South Africa	Cape Town	South African rand
South Sudan	Juba	South Sudanese pound
Sudan	Khartoum	Sudanese pound
Tanzania	Dodoma (official)	Tanzanian shilling
Tunisia	Tunis	Tunisian dinar
Uganda	Kampala	Ugandan shilling
Zambia	Lusaka	Zambian kwacha

Zimbabwe Harare US dollar

Asian Countries

Name	Capital	Currency
Afghanistan	Kabul	Afghani
Bahrain	Manama	Bahraini dinar
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka
Bhutan	Thimphu	Bhutanese ngultrum
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	Riel
China	Beijing	Renminbi (yuan)
Cyprus [Europe]	Nicosia	Euro
Georgia [Europe]	Tbilisi	Lari
Indonesia	Jakarta	Rupiah
Iran	Tehran	Rial
Iraq	Baghdad	Iraqi dinar
Israel	Jerusalem	New Shekel
Japan	Tokyo	Yen
Kazakhstan	Astana	Tenge
Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek	Som
Laos	Vientiane	Kip
Lebanon	Beirut	Lebanese pound
Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur (official)	Ringgit
Maldives	Malé	Maldivian rufiyaa
Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar	Tögrög
Myanmar (Burma)	Naypyidaw	Kyat
Nepal	Kathmandu	Nepalese rupee
North Korea	Pyongyang	North Korean won
Oman	Muscat	Rial

Pakistan	Islamabad	Pakistani Rupee
Philippines	Manila	Philippine Peso
Qatar	Doha	Riyal
Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	Saudi riyal
South Korea	Seoul	South Korean won
Sri Lanka	Sri Jayawardenepur a-Kotte	Sri Lankan rupee
Syria	Damascus	Syrian pound
Taiwan	Taipei	New Taiwan dollar
Tajikistan	Dushanbe	Somoni
Thailand	Bangkok	Baht
Turkey [Europe]	Ankara	Turkish lira
Turkmenistan	Ashgabat	Turkmen new manat
United Arab Emirates	Abu Dhabi	UAE dirham
Uzbekistan	Tashkent	Uzbekistan som

European Countries

Name	Capital	Currency
Albania	Tirana	Lek
Austria	Vienna	Euro
Belarus	Minsk	Belarusian ruble
Belgium	Brussels	Euro
Bulgaria	Sofia	Lev
Croatia	Zagreb	Kuna
Czech Republic	Prague	Czech koruna
Denmark	Copenhagen	Danish krone[a]
Finland	Helsinki	Euro
France	Paris	CFP franc
Germany	Berlin	Euro
Greece	Athens	Euro
Hungary	Budapest	Forint
Iceland	Reykjavík	Icelandic króna
Ireland	Dublin	Euro
Italy	Rome	Euro
Latvia	Riga	Euro
Lithuania	Vilnius	Euro
Luxembourg	Luxembourg	Euro
Malta	Valletta	Euro
Monaco	Monaco	Euro
Netherlands	Amsterdam	Euro
Norway	Oslo	Norwegian krone
Poland	Warsaw	Żłoty
Portugal	Lisbon	Euro
Romania	Bucharest	Romanian leu
Russia	Moscow	Russian ruble
Serbia	Belgrade	Serbian dinar
Slovakia	Bratislava	Euro
Spain	Madrid	Euro
Sweden	Stockholm	Swedish krona
Switzerland	Bern	Swiss franc
Ukraine	Kiev	Ukrainian hryvnia
United Kingdom	London	Pound sterling

Vatican City	Vatican City	Euro
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North American Countries

Name	Capital	Currency
Bahamas	Nassau	Bahamian Dollar
Barbados	Bridgetown	Barbadian Dollar
Bermuda	Hamilton	Bermudian Dollar
Canada	Ottawa	Canadian Dollar
Cuba	Havana	Cuban peso
Jamaica	Kingston	Jamaican Dollar
Mexico	Mexico City	Mexican peso
Nicaragua	Managua	Nicaraguan cordoba
Panama	Panama City	Panamanian balboa
Trinidad & Tobago	Port of Spain	Trinidad & Tobago Dollar
United States	Washington, D.C.	United States Dollar

South American Countries

Name	Capital	Currency
Argentina	Buenos Aires	Peso
Bolivia	Sucre	Boliviano
Brazil	Brasília	Real
Chile	Santiago	Peso
Colombia	Bogotá	Peso
Ecuador	Quito	United States dollar
Paraguay	Asunción	Guaraní
Peru	Lima	Nuevo sol
Uruguay	Montevideo	Uruguayan peso
Venezuela	Caracas	Bolívar fuerte

Other Countries

Name	Capital	Currency
Australia	Canberra	Australian dollar
Fiji	Suva	Fijian dollar
New Zealand	Wellington	New Zealand Dollar



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- 🇮🇹 Ivrea Orange Festival - Ivrea, Italy
- 🇷🇺 Maslenitsa Festival (Pancake Festival) - Moscow, Russia
- 🇦🇺 Melbourne Food & Wine Festival - Melbourne, Australia



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- ✚ International Mango Festival – New Delhi, India
- ✚ Maine Lobster Festival – Harbor Park, Rockland, Maine, USA
- ✚ San Francisco Street Food Festival – San Francisco,
- ✚ Mistura Food Festival – Lima, Peru
- ✚ Oktoberfest – Munich, Germany
- ✚ Baltic Herring Festival – Helsinki, Finland
- ✚ Alba White Truffle Festival – Alba, Italy
- ✚ Monkey Buffet Festival – Lopburi Province, Thailand
- ✚ Chocolate Festival – London, UK

IMPORTANT INDIAN TOWNS ON RIVERS

Allahabad	At the confluence of the Ganga & Yamuna
Patna	Ganga
Varanasi	Ganga
Kanpur	Ganga
Haridwar	Ganga
Badrinath	Alaknanda
Agra	Yamuna
Delhi	Yamuna
Mathura	Yamuna
Ferozpur	Satluj
Ludhiana	Satluj
Srinagar	Jhelum
Lucknow	Gomti
Jaunpur	Gomti
Ayodhya	Saryu
Bareilly	Ram Ganga
Ahmedabad	Sabarmati
Kota	Chambal
Jabalpur	Narmada
Panji	Mandavi
Ujjain	Shipra
Surat	Tapti
Jamshedpur	Subarnarekha
Dibrugarh	Brahmaputra
Guwahati	Brahmaputra
Kolkata	Hooghly
Sambalpur	Mahanadi
Cuttack	Mahanadi
Srirangapatna	Cauvery
Hyderabad	Musi
Nasik	Godavari
Vijayvada	Krishna
Kurnool	Tungabhadra
Tiruchirapalli	Cauvery

Nick Names of Important Indian Places

Nick Names	City
Golden City	Amritsar
Manchester Of India	Ahmedabad
City Of Seven Islands	Mumbai
Queen Of Arabian Sea	Cochin
Space City	Bangalore
Garden City Of India	Bangalore
Silicon Valley Of India	Bangalore

Electronic City Of India	Bangalore
Pink City	Jaipur
Gateway Of India	Mumbai
Twin City:	Hyderabad, Secunderabad
City Of Festivals	Madurai
Deccan Queen	Pune
City Of Buildings	Kolkata
Dakshin Ganga	Godavari
Old Ganga	Godavari
Egg Bowls Of Asia	Andhra Pradesh
Soya Region	Madhya Pradesh
Manchester Of The South	Coimbatore
City Of Nawabs	Lucknow
Venice Of The East	Cochin
Sorrow Of Bengal	Damodar River
Sorrow Of Bihar	Kosi River
Blue Mountains	Nilgiri
Queen Of The Mountains	Mussoorie (Uttarakhand)
Sacred River	Ganga
Hollywood Of India	Mumbai
City Of Castles	Kolkata
State Of Five Rivers	Punjab
City Of Weavers	Panipat
City Of Lakes	Srinagar
Steel City Of India	Jamshedpur (Called Tatanagar)
City Of Temples	Varanasi
Manchester Of The North	Kanpur
City Of Rallies	New Delhi
Heaven Of India	J&K
Boston Of India	Ahmedabad
Garden Of Spices Of India	Kerala
Switzerland Of India	Kashmir
Abode Of The God	Prayag (Allahabad)
Pittsburg Of India	Jamshedpur

DEFENCE FORCE EXERCISE BETWEEN INDIA & WORLD

- ✚ **Garuda:** India-France
- ✚ **HAND-HAND:** India-China
- ✚ **Indra:** India-Russia
- ✚ **Jimex:** India-Japan
- ✚ **Malbar:** Us-India
- ✚ **Shade:** Naval Forces Of India, Japan & China
- ✚ **Surya Kiran:** India & Nepal
- ✚ **Varuna:** France & India
- ✚ **Simbex:** Indian Navy With Republic Of Singapore Navy
- ✚ **Ibsamar:** India with Brazil & South African Navy
- ✚ **Konkan:** Indian Navy & Royal Navy Of Britain
- ✚ **Ausindex:** Indian & Australian Navy
- ✚ **Indradhanush Or Rainbow:** India-Uk Air Exercises
- ✚ **Nomadic Elephant:** Indian Army Exercises with Mongolia
- ✚ **Ekuvirin:** Maldives & India
- ✚ **Garuda Shakti:** India & Indonesia
- ✚ **Mitra Shakti:** India-Sri Lanka
- ✚ **Naseem Al-Bahr:** India-Oman
- ✚ **SLINEX:** Joint exercise in Navy between India & Sri Lanka
- ✚ **Sahyog-Kaijin** -Joint exercise of Coast Guards of India & Japan
- ✚ **Malabar:** India & US
- ✚ **Yudh Abhyas:** India & US



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- ✚ **Red flag:** India & US
- ✚ **Cope:** India & US
- ✚ **SAMPRI TI** – India & Bangladesh

Stadiums Around the World

Stadiums in Australia

- ✚ Adelaide Oval- **Adelaide**
- ✚ Bundaberg Rum Stadium- **Cairns**
- ✚ Telstra Dome- **Melbourne**
- ✚ Manuka Oval- **Canberra**
- ✚ Marrara Cricket Ground- **Darwin**
- ✚ Melbourne Cricket Ground- **Melbourne**
- ✚ Sydney Cricket Ground- **Sydney**
- ✚ W.A.C.A. Ground- **Perth**

Stadiums in Bangladesh

- ✚ Bangabandhu National Stadium- **Dhaka**
- ✚ Chittagong Stadium- **Chittagong**

Stadiums in England

- ✚ Edgbaston- **Birmingham**
- ✚ Headingley- **Leeds**
- ✚ Lord's- **London**
- ✚ Old Trafford- **Manchester**
- ✚ Sophia Gardens- **Cardiff**
- ✚ St Lawrence Ground- **Canterbury**
- ✚ The Brit Oval- **London**
- ✚ Trent Bridge- **Nottingham**

Stadiums in India

- ✚ Barabati Stadium -**Cuttack**
- ✚ Barkatullah Khan Stadium -**Jodhpur**
- ✚ Brabourne Stadium -**Mumbai**
- ✚ Eden Gardens -**Kolkata**
- ✚ Feroz Shah Kotla -**Delhi**
- ✚ Gandhi Stadium -**Jalandhar**
- ✚ Green Park -**Kanpur**
- ✚ Indira Gandhi Stadium -**Vijayawada**
- ✚ Rajiv Gandhi Port Silver Jubilee Stadium -**Visakhapatnam**
- ✚ Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium -**New Delhi**
- ✚ Lal Bahadur Shastri Stadium -**Hyderabad**
- ✚ M.Chinnaswamy Stadium -**Bangalore**
- ✚ MA Chidambaram Stadium -**Chennai**
- ✚ Madhavrao Scindia Cricket Ground -**Rajkot**
- ✚ Moin-ul-Haq Stadium -**Patna**
- ✚ Sardar Vallabhai Patel Motera Stadium -**Ahmedabad**
- ✚ Sawai Mansingh Stadium -**Jaipur**
- ✚ Vidarbha CA Ground -**Nagpur**

- ✚ Wankhede Stadium –**Mumbai**
- ✚ Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium: **Kochi(Kerala)**
- ✚ Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Cricket Stadium: **Guwahati(Assam)**
- ✚ Dhyan Chand National Stadium: **Delhi**

Stadiums in New Zealand

- ✚ Basin Reserve-**Wellington**
- ✚ Eden Park-**Auckland**
- ✚ Jade Stadium-**Christchurch**
- ✚ John Davies Oval-**Queenstown**
- ✚ McLean Park-**Napier**

Stadiums in Pakistan

- ✚ Arbab Niaz Stadium-**Peshawar**
- ✚ Ayub National Stadium-**Quetta**
- ✚ Gaddafi Stadium-**Lahore**

Stadiums in South Africa

- ✚ Kingsmead-Durban
- ✚ New Wanderers Stadium-**Johannesburg**
- ✚ Newlands-**Cape Town**
- ✚ St George's Park-**Port Elizabeth**
- ✚ Centurion Super Sport Park-**Pretoria**

Stadium in Sri Lanka

- ✚ Colombo Cricket Club Ground-**Colombo**
- ✚ Galle International Stadium-**Galle**
- ✚ P.Saravanamuttu Stadium-**Colombo**
- ✚ R.Premadasa Stadium-**Colombo**
- ✚ Sinhalese Sports Club Ground-**Colombo**

Stadiums in West Indies

- ✚ Sabina Park Kingston-**Jamaica**
- ✚ Antigua Recreation Ground St John's-**Antigua**
- ✚ Guyana Cricket Stadium Georgetown-**Guyana**
- ✚ Kensington Oval Bridgetown-**Barbados**
- ✚ Mindoo Phillip Park Castries-**St Lucia**
- ✚ Albion Sports Complex Berbice-**Guyana**

Stadiums in Zimbabwe

- ✚ Bulawayo Athletic Club-**Bulawayo**
- ✚ Harare Sports Club-**Harare**
- ✚ Kwekwe Sports Club-**Kwekwe**
- ✚ Queens Sports Club-**Bulawayo**

Stadiums in United Arab Emirates

- ✚ Sheikh Zayed Stadium-**Abu Dhabi**
- ✚ Sharjah Cricket Stadium-**Sharjah**

CMS'S/GOVERNORS OF STATES IN INDIA

State	Capital	CM	Governor
Andhra Pradesh	Amravathi [*Hyderabad initially]	N. Chandrababu Naidu	E. S. L. Narasimhan
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Pema Khandu	V Shanmuganthan
Assam	Dispur	Sarbananda Sonowal	Padmanabha Acharya
Bihar	Patna	Nitish Kumar	Ram Nath Kovind
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Raman Singh	Balram Das Tandon
Delhi	New Delhi	Arvind Kejriwal	Najeeb Jung (L.G)

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Goa	Panaji	Laxmikant Parsekar	Mridula Sinha
Gujarat	Gandhinagar	Vijay Rupani	Om Prakash Kohli
Haryana	Chandigarh (shared with Punjab)	Manohar Lal Khattar	Kaptan Singh Solanki
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	Virbhadr Singh	Acharya Dev Vrat
J&K	Srinagar (Summer) Jammu (Winter)	Mehbooba Mufti	Narinder Nath Vohra
Jharkhand	Ranchi	Raghuvar Das	Draupadi Murmu
Karnataka	Bangaluru	Siddaramaiah	Vajubhai Vala
Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Pinarayi Vijayan	P. Sathasivam
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Shivraj Singh Chouhan	O P Kohli (Additional Charge)
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Devendra Fadnis	C. Vidyasagar Rao
Manipur	Imphal	Okram Ibobi Singh	Najma A Heptulla
Meghalaya	Shillong	Mukul Sangma	V. Shanmuganthan
Mizoram	Aizawl	Lal Thanhawla	Nirbhay Sharma
Nagaland	Kohima	T. R. Zeliang	Padmanabha Acharya
Odisha	Bhubaneswar	Naveen Patnaik	S. C. Jamir
Puducherry	Puducherry	N Narayanswami	Kiran Bedi
Punjab	Chandigarh (shared with Haryana)	Parkash Singh Badal	V P Singh Badnore
Rajasthan	Jaipur	Vasundhara Raje	Kalyan Singh
Sikkim	Gangtok	Pawan Kumar Chamling	Shriniwas Dadasaheb Patil
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	O. Panneerselvam	C Vidyasagar Rao (Additional Charge)
Telangana	Hyderabad	K. Chandrashekar Rao	E. S. L. Narasimhan
Tripura	Agartala	Manik Sarkar	Tathagata Roy
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Akhilesh Yadav	Ram Naik
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Harish Rawat	Krishan Kant Paul
West Bengal	Kolkata	Mamata Banerjee	Keshari Nath Tripathi

WILDLIFE SANTUARIES/NATIONAL PARKS / POWER PLANTS IN INDIA

S. No	States	National Parks(NP)	Wild Life Sanctuaries (WLS)	Power Plants
1.	J & K CM : Mehbooba Mufti Governor: Narendra Vohra Capital: Jammu(Summer) Srinagar(Winter)	➤ Dachigam National Park ➤ Hemis National Park ➤ Kishtwar National Park ➤ Salim Ali National Park	➤ Gulmarg WLS ➤ Limber WLS ➤ Nandini WLS	-
2.	Himachal Pradesh CM: Virbhadr Singh Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat Capital: Shimla	➤ Pin Valley National Park ➤ Great Himalayan National Park ➤ Inderkilla National Park ➤ Khirganga National Park ➤ Simbalbara National Park	➤ Bandli WLS ➤ Daranghati WLS ➤ Dhauladhar WLS ➤ Nargu WLS ➤ Pong Dam Lake WLS ➤ Shilli WLS ➤ Talra WLS	➤ Girinagar Hydel Project ➤ Binwa Hydel Project ➤ Rangtong Hydel Project ➤ Baer & Neugal Project
3.	Punjab CM: Parkash Singh Badal Governor: V P Singh Badnore Capital: Chandigarh	-	➤ Abohar WLS ➤ Harike Lake WLS ➤ Jhajjar Bacholi WLS	➤ Guru Gobind Singh Super Thermal Power Plant
4.	Haryana CM: Manohar Lal Khattar Governor: Kaptan Solanki	➤ Kalesar National Park ➤ Sultanpur National Park	➤ Bhindawas WLS ➤ Kalesar WLS ➤ Khaparwas WLS	➤ Gorakhpur Atomic Power Station ➤ Deenbandhu Chhotu

	Capital: Chandigarh			Ram Thermal Power Station ➤ Rajiv Gandhi Thermal Power Station
5.	UP CM: Akhilesh Yadav Governor: Ram Naik Capital: Lucknow	➤ Dudhwa National Park	➤ Hastinapur WLS ➤ Ranipur WLS ➤ Sohagibarwa WLS ➤ Sur Sarovar WLS ➤ Chandraprabha WLS ➤ National Chambal WLS	➤ Narora Atomic Power Station ➤ Rihand Thermal Power Station ➤ Anpara Thermal Power Station
6.	Bihar CM: Nitish Kumar Governor: Ram Nath Kovind Capital: Patna	➤ Valmiki National Park	➤ Gautam Budha WLS ➤ Kaimur WLS ➤ Pant (Rajgir) WLS ➤ Valmiki WLS	➤ Kahalgaon Super Thermal Power Station ➤ Barauni Thermal Power Station
7.	Chattisgarh CM: Raman Singh Governor: Balram Tandon Capital: Raipur	➤ Indravati National Park ➤ Kanger Valley National Park ➤ Guru Ghasi Das (Sanjay)	➤ Badalkhol WLS ➤ Bhairamgarh WLS ➤ Bhoramdev WLS ➤ Udanti Wild Buffalo WLS	➤ Sipat Thermal Power Plant ➤ Hasdeo Thermal Power Station ➤ Bhilai Expansion Power Plant
8.	Jharkhand CM: Raghuvar Das Governor: Draupadi Murmu Capital: Ranchi	➤ Betla National Park	➤ Lawalong WLS ➤ Palkot WLS ➤ Parasnath WLS	➤ Chandrapura Thermal Power Station ➤ Koderma Thermal Power Station ➤ Bokaro Thermal Power Station
9.	Andhra Pradesh CM: N. Chandrababu Naidu Governor: E.S.L. Narasimhan Capital: Amravathi [*Hyderabad initially]	➤ Sri Venkateswara National Park	➤ Coringa WLS ➤ Kolleru WLS ➤ Nellapattu WLS ➤ Pulicat Lake WLS ➤ Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisailem) WLS ➤ Rollapadu WLS	➤ Simhadri Super Thermal Power Plant ➤ Sri Damodaram Sanjeevaiah Thermal Power Station
	Telangana CM: K. Chandrashekar Rao Governor: E. S. L. Narasimhan Capital: Hyderabad	➤ Mrugavani National Park	➤ Kawal WLS	
10.	Assam CM: Sarbananda Sonowal Governor: P.V. Acharya Capital: Dispur	➤ Dibru-Saikhowa National Park ➤ Kaziranga National Park ➤ Manas National Park ➤ Nameri National Park ➤ Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park	➤ Amchang WLS ➤ Chakrashila WLS ➤ Dihing Patkai WLS ➤ East Karbi Anglong WLS ➤ North Karbi Anglong WLS ➤ Nambor WLS	➤ Bongaigaon Thermal Power Plant
11.	Goa CM: Laxmikant Parsekar Governor: Mridula Sinha Capital: Panaji	➤ Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) National Park	➤ Bondla WLS ➤ Madei WLS ➤ Bhagwan Mahavir (Mollem) WLS ➤ Netravali WLS	-
12.	Gujarat CM: Vijay Rupani Governor: O.P.Kohli Capital: Gandhinagar	➤ Blackbuck National Park, Velavadar ➤ Gir Forest National Park ➤ Marine National Park, Gulf of Kutch	➤ Jambugodha WLS ➤ Jessore WLS ➤ Kutch Desert WLS ➤ Mitiyala WLS ➤ Porbandar Lake WLS	➤ Mundra Thermal Power Station ➤ Ukai Thermal Power Station ➤ Akrimota Thermal



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		➤ Bansda National Park	➤ Rampara Vidi WLS ➤ Ratanmahal WLS ➤ Shoolpaneswar (Dhumkhal) WLS ➤ Thol Lake WLS ➤ Wild Ass WLS	Power Station
13.	Karnataka CM: Siddaramaiah Governor: Vajubhai R. Vala Capital: Bangalore	➤ Bandipur National Park ➤ Bannerghatta National Park ➤ Kudremukh National Park ➤ Nagarhole National Park ➤ Anshi national park	➤ Arabithittu WLS ➤ Attiveri WLS ➤ Bhadra WLS ➤ Bhimgad WLS ➤ Brahmagiri WLS ➤ Cauvery WLS ➤ Nugu WLS ➤ Pushpagiri WLS ➤ Ranganathittu Bird WLS ➤ Sharavathi Valley WLS ➤ Someshwara WLS	➤ Kakrapar Nuclear Power Plant ➤ Raichur Thermal Power Station ➤ Udupi Thermal Power Plant ➤ Bellary Thermal Power Station
14.	Kerala CM: Pinarayi vijayan Governor: P. Sathashivam Capital: Trivandampuram	➤ Eravikulam National Park ➤ Mathikettan Shola National Park ➤ Periyar National Park ➤ Silent Valley National Park ➤ Anamudi Shola National Park ➤ Pampadum Shola National Park	➤ Aralam WLS ➤ Chimmony WLS ➤ Idukki WLS ➤ Malabar WLS ➤ Mangalavanam Bird WLS ➤ Neyyar WLS ➤ Periyar WLS ➤ Thattekad Bird WLS	➤ Brahmapuram Power Station ➤ Kayamkulam Power Station
15.	MP CM: Shivraj Singh Chouhan Governor: O P Kohli (Additional Charge) Capital: Bhopal	➤ Kanha National Park ➤ Madhav National Park ➤ Mandla Plant Fossils National Park ➤ Panna National Park ➤ Pench National Park ➤ Sanjay National Park ➤ Satpura National Park ➤ Van Vihar national park	➤ Bori WLS ➤ Gandhi Sagar WLS ➤ Ghatigaon WLS ➤ Ken Gharial WLS ➤ Narsighgarh WLS ➤ National Chambal WLS ➤ Orcha WLS ➤ Kuno WLS ➤ Sardarpur WLS ➤ Son Gharial WLS	➤ Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station ➤ Sant Singaji Thermal Power Plant ➤ Satpura Thermal Power Station ➤ Amarkantak Thermal Power Station ➤ Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project
16.	Maharashtra CM: Devendra Fadnavis Governor: C. Vidyasagar Rao Capital: Mumbai	➤ Chandoli National Park ➤ Navegaon National Park ➤ Tadoba National Park ➤ Gugamal national park	➤ Aner Dam WLS ➤ Bhamragarh WLS ➤ Bhimashankar WLS ➤ Great Indian Bustard WLS ➤ Jaikwadi WLS ➤ Koyana WLS ➤ Nagzira WLS ➤ Painganga WLS ➤ Radhanagari WLS ➤ Sagareshwar WLS ➤ Tipeswar WLS ➤ Tungareashwar WLS	➤ Tarapur Atomic Power Station ➤ Tirora Thermal Power Station ➤ Amravati Thermal Power Plant
17.	Manipur CM: Okram Ibobi Singh Governor: Najma A Heptulla Capital: Imphal	➤ Keibul Lamjao National Park	➤ Yangoupokpi-Lokchao WLS	-
18.	Meghalaya CM: Mukul Sangma Governor: V. Shanmuganathan Capital: Shillong	➤ Balphakram National Park ➤ Nokrek National Park	➤ Baghmara Pitcher Plant WLS ➤ Nongkhylllem WLS ➤ Siju WLS	-
19.	Mizoram	➤ Murlen National Park	➤ Dampa WLS (TR)	-

	CM: Lal Thanhawla Governor: Nirbhaya Sharma Capital: Aizawl	➤ Phawngpui Blue National Park ➤ Mountain National Park	➤ Ngengpui WLS ➤ Pualreng WLS ➤ Tokalo WLS	
20.	Nagaland CM: T. R. Zeliang Governor: P.B.Acharya Capital: Kohima	➤ Intanki National Park	➤ Fakim WLS ➤ Puliebadze WLS ➤ Rangapahar WLS	➤ Dikhu Hydro Electric Power Plant
21.	Odisha CM: Naveen Patnaik Governor: S.C. Jamir Capital: Bhubaneshwar	➤ Bhitarkanika National Park ➤ Simlipal National Park	➤ Badrama WLS ➤ Baisipalli WLS ➤ Chilika (Nalaban) WLS ➤ Hadgarh WLS ➤ Khalasuni WLS ➤ Satkosia Gorge WLS	➤ Talcher Super Thermal Power Station
22.	Rajasthan CM: Vasundhara Raje Governor: Kalyan Singh Capital: Jaipur	➤ Sariska National Park ➤ Ranthambore National Park ➤ Darrah National Park ➤ Desert National Park ➤ Keoladeo National Park	➤ Bundh Baratha WLS ➤ Darrah WLS ➤ Jawahar Sagar WLS ➤ Kailadevi WLS ➤ Mount Abu WLS ➤ Ramsagar WLS ➤ Sariska WLS ➤ Sawai Man Singh WLS ➤ Shergarh WLS ➤ Sitamata WLS	➤ Chhabra Thermal Power Station ➤ Suratgarh Power Station
23.	Sikkim CM: Pawan Kumar Chamling Governor: Srinivas Patel Capital: Gangtok	➤ Khangchendzonga National Park	➤ Fambong Lho WLS ➤ Kitam WLS (Bird) ➤ Maenam WLS ➤ Pangolakha WLS	➤ Rangit Hydro Electric Power Project
24.	Tamil Nadu CM: O. Panneerselvam Governor: C Vidyasagar Rao (Additional Charge) Capital: Chennai	➤ Mudumalai National Park ➤ Mukurthi National Park ➤ Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park ➤ Guindy National Park ➤ Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park	➤ Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) WLS ➤ Kalakad WLS ➤ Karaivetti WLS ➤ Karikili WLS ➤ Mudumalai WLS ➤ Pulicat Lake WLS ➤ Vaduvor WLS ➤ Vedanthangal WLS ➤ Vettangudi WLS	➤ Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant ➤ Neyveli Thermal ➤ Tuticorin Thermal Power Station
25.	Tripura CM: Manik Sarkar Governor: Tathagata Roy Capital: Agartala	➤ Bison (Rajbari) National Park ➤ Clouded Leopard National Park	➤ Gumti WLS ➤ Rowa WLS ➤ Sepahijala WLS ➤ Trishna WLS	➤ Palatana Thermal Power Plant
26.	UK CM: Harish Rawat Governor: K.K. Paul Capital: Dehradun	➤ Gangotri National Park ➤ Jim Corbett National Park ➤ Valley of Flowers National Park	➤ Askot Musk Deer WLS ➤ Binsar WLS ➤ Govind Pashu Vihar WLS ➤ Kedarnath WLS ➤ Sonanadi WLS	➤ Chibro Power Plant ➤ Khodri Power Plant ➤ Chilla Power Plant
27.	WB CM: Mamata Banerjee Governor: Keshari Nath Tripathi Capital: Kolkata	➤ Buxa National Park ➤ Neora Valley National Park ➤ Singalila National Park ➤ Sundarbans National Park	➤ Ballavpur WLS ➤ Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary ➤ Haliday Island WLS ➤ Lothian Island WLS ➤ Mahananda WLS	➤ Mejia Thermal Power Station ➤ Farakka Super Thermal Power Station ➤ Kolaghat Thermal Power Station ➤ Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station ➤ Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station



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28.	Arunachal Pradesh	➤ Namdapha National Park ➤ Mouling National Park	
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Portfolios of the Union Council of Ministers

Sl. No	Ministers	Portfolios	Constituency
1	Narendra Modi	Prime Minister	Varanasi, UP
2	Raj Nath Singh	Home Affairs	Lucknow, UP
3	Sushma Swaraj	External Affairs	Vidisha, MP
4	Arun Jaitley	Finance Corporate Affairs	Rajya Sabha, Gujarat
5	Nitin Jairam Gadkari	Road Transport & Highways Shipping	Nagpur, Maharashtra
6	M. Venkaiah Naidu	Urban Development Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation Information & Broadcasting	Rajya Sabha, Rajasthan
7	Suresh Prabhu	Railways	Rajya Sabha, Andhra Pradesh
8	D. V. Sadananda Gowda	Statistics & Programme Implementation	Bangaluru North, Karnataka
9	Uma Bharati	Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation	Jhansi, UP
10	Ramvilas Paswan	Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	Hajipur, Bihar
11	Kalraj Mishra	Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises	Deoria, UP
12	Maneka Sanjay Gandhi	Women & Child Development	Philiphit, UP
13	Ananth kumar	Chemicals & Fertilizers Parliamentary Affairs	Bengaluru South, Karnataka
14	Ravi Shankar Prasad	Law & Justice Electronics & Information Technology	Rajya Sabha, Bihar
15	Jagat Prakash Nadda	Health & Family Welfare	Rajya Sabha, Himachal Pradesh
16	Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati	Civil Aviation	Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh
17	Anant Geete	Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises	Raigad, Maharashtra

18	Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Food Processing Industries	Bathinda, Punjab
19	Narendra Singh Tomar	Rural Development Panchayati Raj Drinking Water & Sanitation	Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh
20	Chaudhary Birender Singh	Steel	Rajya Sabha, Haryana
21	Jual Oram	Tribal Affairs	Sundargarh, Odisha
22	Radha Mohan Singh	Agriculture & Farmers Welfare	Purvi Champaran, Bihar
23	Thawar Chand Gehlot	Social Justice & Empowerment	Shajapur, MP
24	Smriti Zubin Irani	Textiles	Rajya Sabha, Gujarat
25	Harsh Vardhan	Science & Technology Earth Sciences	Chandni Chauk, New Delhi
26	Prakash Javadekar	Human Resource Development	Rajya Sabha, Madhya Pradesh

Important Dams in India		
Dams	River	State
Tehri Dam	Bhagirathi River	Uttarakhand
Mullaiperiyar Dam	Periyar River	Kerala
Bhakra Dam	Sutlej River	Himachal Pradesh
Hirakud Dam	Mahanadi River	Odisha
Nagarjuna Sagar Dam	Krishna River	Andhra Pradesh
Sardar Sarovar Dam	Narmada River	Gujarat
Indirasagar Dam	Narmada River	Madhya Pradesh
Tungabadra dam	Tungabhadra River	Karnataka
Bhavanisagar Dam	Bhavani River	Tamil Nadu
Koyna Dam	Koyna River	Maharashtra
Idukki Dam	Periyar River	Kerala
Krishna Raja Sagara Dam	Kaveri River	Karnataka
Mettur Dam	Kaveri River	Tamil Nadu
Srisaillam Dam	Krishna River	Andhra Pradesh
Banasura Sagar Dam	Kabini River	Kerala

BANKING AWARENESS CAPSULE FINANCIAL BANKING AWARENESS

IMPORTANT TOPICS IN BANKING FOR RRB/NABARD EXAMS

- ✦ **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has implemented “**National Automated Clearing House (NACH)**” for **Banks, Financial Institutions, Corporates & Government** a web based solution to facilitate interbank, high volume, electronic transactions which are repetitive & periodic in nature. NACH System can be used for making bulk transactions towards distribution of subsidies, dividends, interest, salary, pension etc.
- ✦ **National Automated Clearing House (NACH)** is a centralised system, launched with an aim to consolidate multiple ECS systems running across the country & provides a framework for the harmonization of standard & practices & removes local barriers/inhibitors. NACH system will provide a national footprint & is expected to cover the entire core banking enabled bank branches spread across the geography of the country irrespective of the location of the bank branch. NACH system also supports Financial Inclusion measures initiated by Government, Government Agencies & Banks by providing support to **Aadhaar based transactions**.
- ✦ **NACH's Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB) System**, developed by NPCI has been helping the Government & Government Agencies in making the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme a success.

Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)

This will function as a tiered structure for operating the bill payment system in the country under a single brand image. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) will function as the authorized Bharat Bill Payment Central Unit (BBPCU), which will be responsible for setting business standards, rules & procedures for technical & business requirements for all the participants. **NPCI, as the BBPCU**, will also undertake clearing & settlement activities related to transactions routed through BBPS.

Sectors in the Indian Economy

Indian Economy is normally categorized into **three sectors** namely -

1. **Primary Sector**
2. **Secondary Sector**
3. **Tertiary Sector**

1. Primary Sector

Primary Sector is directly dependent on environment for manufacture & production. For example, agriculture, mining, farming etc.

2. Secondary Sector

Secondary Sector adds value to the product by transforming raw materials into valuable products. For example, processing & construction industries.

3. Tertiary Sector/Service Sector

Tertiary Sector is involved in production & exchange of services. For example, transportation, communication, & other services of such kind.

Tertiary Sector is also known as Services Sector as it facilitates the production & exchanges of services.

Mobile Money Identifier (MMID) is a **7 digit number**, issued by banks. MMID is one of the input which when clubbed with mobile number facilitates fund transfer. **Combination of Mobile no. & MMID** is uniquely linked with an Account number & helps in identifying the beneficiary details. Different MMID's can be linked to same Mobile Number.

Immediate Payment Service (IMPS)

Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) public launch happened on 22nd November 2010 by Smt. Shyamala Gopinath, DG RBI at Mumbai & this service is now available to the Indian public. **IMPS offers an instant, 24x7**, interbank electronic fund transfer service through mobile phones. IMPS is an emphatic tool to transfer money instantly within banks across India through mobile, internet & atm which is not only safe but also economical both in financial & non financial perspectives.



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Unified Payments Interface (UPI)

It is a system that powers multiple bank accounts into a single mobile application (of any participating bank), merging several banking features, seamless fund routing & merchant payments into one hood. It also caters to the “Peer to Peer” collect request which can be scheduled & paid as per requirement & convenience.

Objectives of UPI:-

1. Immediate money transfer through mobile device round the clock 24*7 & 365 days.
2. Single mobile application for accessing different bank accounts
3. Single Click 2 Factor Authentication – Aligned with the Regulatory guidelines, yet provides for a very strong feature of seamless single click payment.
4. Virtual address of the customer for Pull & Push provides for incremental security with the customer not required to enter the details such as Card no, Account number; IFSC etc.

National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM)

National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM) was established in 1969 by the Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with the Government of India, as an **autonomous apex institution for research, training, education & consultancy in bank management**. Its mandate is to play a proactive role of “think-tank” of the banking system. NIBM is part of the grand vision of giving a new direction to the banking industry in India & making the industry a more cost-



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effective instrument for national development. The Governor of **the Reserve Bank of India (the central bank of the country), is the Chairman of the Governing Board.** National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM) is situated at **Pune, Maharashtra.**

Electronic Funds Transfer at Point of Sale (EFTPOS)

EFTPOS is the method for paying for goods or services without needing to **carry cash.** On making a purchase, the eftpos customer gives an **eftpos** card to the cashier who inserts it into an on-site eftpos machine. When the eftpos customer confirms the purchase, either by signature or security PIN, the eftpos equipment contacts the store's bank electronically about the transaction. A message is also sent to the customer's bank. Unless there is reason for the eftpos transaction not to be completed, the funds will then be transferred between the two accounts.

Small Finance Banks in the Private Sector

Objectives: The objectives of setting up of small finance banks will be to further financial inclusion by (a) provision of savings vehicles, & (b) supply of credit to small business units; small & marginal farmers; micro & small industries; & other unorganised sector entities, through high technology-low cost operations.

Eligible promoters: Resident individuals/professionals with 10 years of experience in banking & finance; & companies & societies owned & controlled by residents will be eligible to set up small finance banks. Existing Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs), Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs), & Local Area Banks (LABs) that are owned & controlled by residents can also opt for conversion into small finance banks. Promoter/promoter groups should be 'fit & proper' with a sound track record of professional experience or of running their businesses for at least a period of five years in order to be eligible to promote small finance banks.

Scope of activities: The small finance bank shall primarily undertake basic banking activities of acceptance of deposits & lending to unserved & underserved sections including small business units, small & marginal farmers, micro & small industries & unorganised sector entities. There will not be any restriction in the area of operations of small finance banks.

Capital requirement: The minimum paid-up equity capital for small finance banks shall be **Rs. 100 crore.**

Promoter's contribution: The promoter's minimum initial contribution to the paid-up equity capital of such small finance bank shall at least be 40 per cent & gradually brought down to 26 per cent within 12 years from the date of commencement of business of the bank.

Foreign shareholding: The foreign shareholding in the small finance bank would be as per the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy for private sector banks as amended from time to time.

The objectives of setting up of payments banks will be to further financial inclusion by providing (i) small savings accounts & (ii) payments/remittance services to migrant labour workforce, low income households, small businesses, other unorganised sector entities & other users.

Eligible promoters:

Existing non-bank Pre-paid Payment Instrument (PPI) issuers; & other entities such as individuals / professionals; Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs), corporate Business Correspondents (BCs), mobile telephone companies, super-market chains, companies, real sector cooperatives; that are owned & controlled by residents; & public sector entities may apply to set up payments banks. A promoter/promoter group can have a joint venture with an existing scheduled commercial bank to set up a payments bank. However, scheduled commercial bank can take equity stake in a payments bank to the extent permitted under **Section 19 (2) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.** Promoter/promoter groups should be 'fit & proper' with a sound track record of professional experience or running their businesses for at least a period of five years in order to be eligible to promote payments banks.

Scope of activities:

Acceptance of demand deposits. Payments bank will initially be restricted to holding a maximum balance of Rs. 100,000 per individual customer. **Issuance of ATM/debit cards.** Payments banks, however, cannot issue credit cards. Payments & remittance services through various channels. BC of another bank, subject to the Reserve Bank guidelines on BCs. Distribution of non-risk sharing simple financial products like mutual fund units & insurance products, etc.

Deployment of funds:

The payments bank cannot undertake lending activities. Apart from amounts maintained as Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) with the Reserve Bank on its outside demand & time liabilities, it will be required to invest minimum **75 per cent of its "demand deposit balances" in Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) eligible** Government securities/treasury bills with maturity up to one year & hold maximum 25 per cent in current & time/fixed deposits with other scheduled commercial banks for operational purposes & liquidity management.

Capital requirement:

The minimum paid-up equity capital for payments banks shall be Rs. 100 crore.

The payments bank should have a leverage ratio of not less than 3 per cent, i.e., its outside liabilities should not exceed 33.33 times its net worth (paid-up capital & reserves).

Promoter's contribution:

The promoter's minimum initial contribution to the paid-up equity capital of such payments bank shall at least be **40 per cent** for the first five years from the commencement of its business.

Foreign shareholding:

The foreign shareholding in the payments bank would be as per the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy for private sector banks as amended from time to time.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- RBI established on **April 1, 1935** under **RBI Act 1934** (recommendations of **John Hilton Young Commission 1926** – called Royal Commission on Indian Currency &

Payments Banks

Objectives:



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Finance), is the central bank of the country & was **nationalised w.e.f Jan 01, 1949.**

- ii. Originally it was a shareholders' bank which was taken over by the Central Govt. under Reserve Bank (Transfer of Public Ownership) Act 1948 (**paid up capital Rs. 5 cr**).
- iii. RBI's central office is in **Mumbai**.

Functions of RBI:

Issuance of currency: RBI is the authority in India to issue currency notes (called bank notes) under signatures of Governor. (One rupee note called currency note is issued by the Central Govt. & signed by Finance Secretary). The stock of currency is distributed with the help of currency chests spread all over the country.

Banker to Govt.: RBI transacts govt. business & manages public debt. SBI or any other bank is appointed Agent where RBI does not have office. It provides Ways & Means advances to Govt.

Bankers' bank: It keeps a part of deposits of commercial banks (as CRR) & acts as lender of last resort by providing financial assistance to banks. It provides export credit refinance, Liquidity Adjustment Facility & Marginal Standing Facility.

Controller of Banks: An entity which is to conduct banking business in India has to obtain license from RBI. It acts as controller of banks by including the banks in 2nd Schedule of the Act. It issues directions, carries inspection (on-site as well as off-site) & exercises management control.

Controller of credit: RBI can fix interest rates (including Bank Rate) & exercise selective credit controls. Various tools such as change in cash reserve ratio, stipulation of margin on securities, directed credit guidelines etc. are used for this purpose. It also carries sale & purchase of securities which are known as open market operations.

Maintenance of external value: RBI is responsible also for maintaining external value of Indian currency as well as the internal value. Foreign exchange reserves are held by RBI & it has a wide power to regulate foreign exchange transactions under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA).

BANKING REGULATION ACT 1949

- a) Passed as the Banking Companies Act 1949 (came into force w.e.f 16.3.49 & changed to Banking Regulation Act 1949 w.e.f. 01.03.66, it was made applicable to J & K in 1956 (and now applicable throughout India).
- b) The Act is not applicable to primary agricultural credit societies, cooperative land mortgage banks & non-agricultural primary credit societies.

SCHEDULED BANK

- a) As per Sec 2 (e) of RBI Act, a scheduled bank means a bank whose name is included in the 2nd schedule of RBI Act 1934.
- b) A scheduled bank should satisfy the conditions which include paid-up capital & reserves requirement of not less than Rs. 5 lac, satisfaction of RBI that the affairs will not be conducted by the bank in a way to jeopardize the interests of the depositor. (Commercial, Rural & many State Coop Banks are classified as Scheduled Banks).
- c) A bank that is not included in the 2nd Schedule of RBI is called **Non-scheduled Bank**.

Total No. of Banks

- d) Total PSBs: 27
- e) Total Private Sector Banks: 26
- f) RRB's: 56
- g) Foreign Banks: 46
- h) Cooperative Banks: 43

IMPORTANT POINTS ON RBI

- RBI is not expected to perform the function of accepting deposits from the general public.
- RBI has its headquarters at Mumbai.
- Prime lending rate is decided by the individual banks.
- RBI decides the following rates namely; Bank rate, repo rate, reverse repo rate & cash reserve ratio.
- The quantitative instruments of RBI are – bank rate policy, cash reserve ratio & statutory liquidity ratio.
- The objective of monetary policy of RBI is to control inflation; discourage hoarding of commodities & encourage flow of credit into neglected sector.
- When RBI is lender of the last resort, it means that RBI advances credit against eligible securities.
- Government of India decides the quantity of coins to be minted.
- The method which is used currently in India to issue currency note – minimum reserve system. For issuing notes, RBI is required to hold the minimum reserves of Rs. 200 crore of which note less than Rs. 115 crore is to be held in gold.

POLICY RATES

Current Reserve Ratios & Policy Rates	
Bank Rate	6.75
Repo Rate	6.25
Reverse Repo Rate	5.75
CRR	4%
SLR	20.75%
MSF	6.75

Repo Rate

Repo rate is the rate of interest which is levied on Short-Term loans taken by commercial banks from **RBI**. Whenever the banks have any shortage of funds they can borrow it from RBI.

Reverse Repo Rate

This is exact opposite of Repo rate. Reverse repo rate is the rate at which commercial banks charge on their surplus funds with RBI. RBI uses this tool when it feels there is too much money floating in the banking system.

SLR Rate

SLR (Statutory Liquidity Ratio) is the amount a commercial bank needs to maintain in the form of cash, or gold or government approved securities (Bonds) before providing credit to its customers.

It is determined as the percentage of total Net Demand & Time Liabilities (NDTL).

BANK RATE

It is defined in Sec 49 of RBI Act 1934 as the 'standard rate at which RBI is prepared to buy or rediscount bills of exchange or other commercial papers eligible for purchase under this act'.



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CASH RESERVE RATIO

CRR refers to the ratio of bank's cash reserve balances with RBI with reference to the bank's net demand & time liabilities to ensure the liquidity & solvency of the scheduled banks.

ACCOUNTS IN A BANK

- Savings Bank Account
- Current Deposit Account
- Fixed Deposit Account
- Recurring Deposit Account.

a. Savings Bank Account

The rate of interest on savings bank account varies from bank to bank & also changes from time to time. Interest rate is paid to the account holders on daily balance basis.

b. Current Deposit Account

- This account is mainly for big businessmen, companies & institutions, since there are no restrictions on number of withdrawals from this type of account. From this account withdrawal can be made any number of times.
- For the convenience of the account holders banks also allow withdrawal of amounts in excess of the balance of deposit. This facility is known as overdraft facility.

c. Fixed Deposit Account (also known as Term Deposit Account)

Money is deposited in a fixed deposit account to earn interest at a higher rate.

d. Recurring Deposit Account

The rate of interest allowed on the deposits in this account is higher than that on a savings bank deposit but lower than the rate allowed on a fixed deposit for the same period.

Important points to remember

- a) Minimum age to open a bank account is now 10 years.
- b) Maximum Interest rate is given on FD A/c.
- c) The maximum period of an FD is 10 years & for RD is 10 years.

INTEREST RATE ON BANK ACCOUNTS

A) Some points related to Interest Rates on Bank Accounts {Differential rate of interest (DRI)}

- 1) Interest on Savings A/c is calculated on daily balance basis.
- 2) Now, All Scheduled Commercial Banks (Excluding RRBs) have the discretion to offer differential interest rates based on whether the term deposits are with or without-premature-withdrawal-facility, subject to the following guidelines:
 - All term deposits of individuals (held singly or jointly) of Rs.15 lakh & below should, necessarily, have premature withdrawal facility.
 - For all term deposits other than (i) above, banks can offer deposits without the option of premature withdrawal as well.
 - Banks should disclose in advance the schedule of interest rates payable on deposits i.e. all deposits mobilized by banks should be strictly in conformity with the published schedule.

B) Taxation of Savings Bank Interest rates:

Unlike interest on fixed deposits, interest earned on savings bank accounts is not subject to Tax Deduction at Source.

However, this does not mean the interest earned on Savings accounts is completely tax free. It is exempt upto Rs. 10,000 in a year, & if the interest you earn from Savings accounts crosses this threshold, it becomes subject to tax.

C) Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, 2004:

The salient features of the Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, 2004 are given below:

Tenure of the deposit account	5 years, can be extended by 3 years.
Rate of interest	9.3 per cent per annum
Investment to be in multiples of	Rs. 1000/-
Maximum investment limit	Rs. 15 lakh
Minimum eligible age for investment	60 years (55 years for those who have retired on superannuation or under a voluntary or special voluntary scheme).
Premature closure/withdrawal facility	Permitted after one year of opening the account but with penalty.
Modes of holding	Accounts can be held both in single & joint holding modes. Joint holding is allowed only with spouse.

Inoperative & Dormant Accounts

RBI clarified on 30.10.09 that SB account can be treated as inoperative account only after 2 years from the date of the last credit entry of interest on Fixed Deposit account, where FD interest is being credited to SB account or where dividend on shares is being credited).

TERMS RELATING TO DEPOSITS

Unclaimed Deposits: The banks are to furnish to RBI a statutory annual return (penalty for delay) for unclaimed accounts which have not been operated for a period of 10 years or more in December every year u/s 26 of RBI Act.

Demand liabilities

Current deposits, Demand liabilities portion of saving deposits, margins held against LC/LG, Balances in overdue FD, cash certificate & RD, Outstanding TTs, MTs & DDs, Unclaimed deposits, Credit balance in CC a/c & Deposits held as security for loan payable on demand.

Time liabilities

FDs, cash certificate, cumulative & RDs, time liabilities portion of saving bank deposits, staff security deposits, margins against LC not payable on demand, deposit held as securities for advances & India Dev Bonds.

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS ACT 1881

In India the Negotiable Instruments Act was passed during 1881 which came into force wef **March 01, 1882**.

CHEQUE

A cheque is (a) a bill of exchange (b) drawn on a specified bank & (c) not expressed to be payable otherwise than on demand. It



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includes electronic image of a truncated cheque & also an electronic cheque.

AMOUNT OF A CHEQUE

Where amount of a cheque differs in words & figures, as per Section 18, amount written in words should be paid irrespective of the fact, which amount is less or more.

Legal amount & courtesy amount

The amount in words is called the legal amount & the amount in figures is called the courtesy amount as per CTS 2010 guidelines of RBI.

Types of Cheque

1. Bearer Cheque or open Cheque

When the words "or bearer" appearing on the face of the cheque are not cancelled, the cheque is called a bearer cheque. The bearer cheque is payable to the person specified therein or to any other else who presents it to the bank for payment.

2. Order Cheque

When the word "bearer" appearing on the face of a cheque is cancelled & when in its place the word "or order" is written on the face of the cheque, the cheque is called an order cheque. Such a cheque is payable to the person specified therein as the payee, or to any one else to whom it is endorsed (transferred).

3. Crossed Cheque

Crossing of cheque means drawing two parallel lines on the face of the cheque with or without additional words like "& CO." or "Account Payee" or "Not Negotiable". A crossed cheque cannot be encashed at the cash counter of a bank but it can only be credited to the payee's account.

4. Ante-Dated Cheque

If a cheque bears a date earlier than the date on which it is presented to the bank, it is called as "ante-dated cheque". Such a cheque is valid upto 3 months from the date of the cheque.

5. Post-Dated Cheque

If a cheque bears a date which is yet to come (future date) then it is known as post-dated cheque. A post dated cheque cannot be honoured earlier than the date on the cheque.

6. Stale Cheque

If a cheque is presented for payment after 3 months from the date of the cheque it is called stale cheque. A stale cheque is not honoured by the bank.

7. A self cheque

A self cheque is written by the account holder as pay self to receive the money in the physical form from the branch where he holds his account.

8. "A truncated cheque" means a cheque which is truncated during the course of a clearing cycle, either by the clearing house or by the bank whether paying or receiving payment, immediately on generation of an electronic image for transmission, substituting the further physical movement of the cheque in writing. The expression "clearing house" means the clearing house managed by the Reserve Bank of India or a clearing house recognised as such by the Reserve Bank of India.

Parties of a Cheque:

There are three parties to the cheque

- Drawer or Maker
- The bank - on whom the cheque is drawn (i.e. the bank with whom the account is maintained by the drawer)
- Payee - Payee is the person whose name is mentioned on the cheque to whom or to whose order the money is directed to be paid.

ENDORSEMENT

As per Section 15, endorsing means signing on the face or backside of an instrument (or even on a paper called Allonge or stamped paper), for the purpose of negotiating (transferring to next person) a negotiable instrument.

Endorsement in full

If an endorser signs his name & adds a direction to pay the amount mentioned in the instrument to, or to order of, a specified person, the endorsement is said to be in full. Blank endorsements can be converted into full.

Restrictive endorsement

Where an endorsement prohibits & restricts further negotiability of the instrument, it is called restricted endorsement.

The words 'Pay to Ashish only' or 'Pay to Ashish for my use' or 'Pay to Ashish for account of B', are the cases of restrictive endorsement.

1. Crossing

Crossing of a cheque means two parallel transverse lines on the face with or without words, such as '& Co', 'not-negotiable', 'payee's account only' etc. The words without lines will not constitute crossing. Such instruments should not be paid as drawer's mandate is not clear.

Crossing is **applicable** in case of **cheques & demand draft** only & does not cover bill of exchange or promissory note.

TYPES OF CROSSING

General crossing (sec 123)

General crossing is where a cheque bears across its face two parallel transverse lines (with or without words such as "& co" or any abbreviation. (Words not important, lines are).

Special crossing (sec 124)

Where a cheque bears across its face, name of bank, either with or without the words not-negotiable (lines are not important, the addition of name of the bank is important), that addition shall be deemed as special crossing & the cheque shall be considered to be crossed specially to that banker.

Special Crossing in favour more than one bank: As per Section 127, if a cheque is crossed specially to more than one bank (unless one bank is acting as collecting agent to another), the payment shall be refused. A cheque crossed to two or more branches of the same bank is considered to be crossed to one bank only.

Not negotiable crossing

As per Section 130, a person taking a cheque crossed generally or specially bearing the words 'not negotiable' shall not have not be capable of giving a better title to the cheque than that, which ther p erson from whom he took it, had. If Ramesh obtains a

cheque without consideration, his title is defective. When he endorses this cheque, the endorsee shall not be able to get a better title, even if he paid the value.

Demand Drafts

Demand draft is defined as per Section 85 (a) of NI Act 1881 as an order to pay money drawn by one office of a bank upon another office of the same bank for a sum of money payable to order on demand.

Important features of a demand draft are:

- It is payable to order on demand (85-A NI Act).
- It cannot be issued as payable to bearer (Sec. 31 RBI Act).
- If a bank fails to honour a bank draft, it renders itself liable for damages. Similarly omission of signatures or wrong signatures can also make the bank liable.
- By prior arrangement, the paying bank could be a different bank also.



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BANKING OMBUDSMAN SCHEME 2006

The Banking Ombudsman Scheme enables a bank customer for filing of complaints relating to certain services rendered by banks.

- 1) The Banking Ombudsman is a senior official appointed by the Reserve Bank of India to redress customer complaints against deficiency in certain banking services.
- 2) All Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks & Scheduled Primary Co-operative Banks are covered under the Scheme.
- 3) The Banking Ombudsman does not charge any fee for filing & resolving customers' complaints.
- 4) The maximum compensation which a BO can help a complainant to get is Rs. 10 lakhs.
- 5) If a complaint is not settled by an agreement within a period of one month, the Banking Ombudsman proceeds further to pass an award. Before passing an award, the Banking Ombudsman provides reasonable opportunity to the complainant & the bank, to present their case.
- 6) If one is not satisfied with the decision passed by the Banking Ombudsman, one can approach the appellate authority who is the Deputy Governor of the RBI.

FINANCIAL INCLUSION

Financial inclusion involves

- 1) Give formal banking services to poor people in urban & rural areas.
- 2) Promote habit of money-savings, insurance, pension-investment among poor-people.
- 3) Help them get loans at reasonable rates from normal banks. So they don't become victims in the hands of local moneylender.

Some Important initiatives for Financial Inclusion

- Lead banking scheme (LBS).
- No frills account.
- BSBDA
- Business Correspondents (BC) system.
- Swabhiman Campaign
- PMJDY

Lead Bank Scheme

- The Lead Bank Scheme, introduced towards the end of 1969, envisages assignment of lead roles to individual banks (both in public sector & private sector) for the districts allotted to them.
- A bank having a relatively large network of branches in the rural areas of a given district & endowed with adequate financial & manpower resources has generally been entrusted with the lead responsibility for that district. Accordingly, all the districts in the country have been allotted to various banks.
- The lead bank acts as a leader for coordinating the efforts of all credit institutions in the allotted districts.

No Frill Account

- 'No Frills' account is a basic banking account. Such account requires either nil minimum balance or very low minimum balance. Charges applicable to such accounts are low.
- The RBI in 2005-06 called upon Indian banks to design a 'no frills account' – a no precondition, low 'minimum balance maintenance' account with simplified KYC (Know Your Customer) norms.
- But all the existing 'No-frills' accounts opened were converted into BSBDA in compliance with the guidelines issued by RBI in 2012.

BSBDA

In 2012, RBI introduced BSBDA. Some important points are:

- This account shall not have the requirement of any minimum balance.
- The services available in the account will include: deposit & withdrawal of cash at bank branch as well as ATMs; receipt/credit of money through electronic payment channels or by means of deposit/collection of cheques drawn by Central/State Government agencies & departments;
- While there will be no limit on the number of deposits that can be made in a month, account holders will be allowed a maximum of four withdrawals in a month, including ATM withdrawals.
- Facility of ATM card or ATM-cum-Debit Card.

Business Correspondent



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- Business correspondents are bank representatives. They personally go to the area allotted to them & carry out banking. They help villagers to open bank accounts, in banking transactions etc.
- Business Correspondents get commission from bank for every new account opened, every transaction made via them, every loan-application processed etc.

Recently on Financial Inclusion

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a committee with the objective of working out a medium-term (five-year) measurable action plan for financial inclusion. The terms of reference will include reviewing the existing policy of financial inclusion, including supportive payment system & customer protection framework, taking into account the recommendations made by various committees set up earlier.

Lending

Base Rate

On recommendations Working Group (Chairman: Deepak Mohanty) RBI decided that banks should switch over to Base Rate system w.e.f. 1.7.2010.

- Base Rate includes all elements of the lending rates. Banks could use any methodology, to fix the base rate which is consistent & is made available for supervisory review/scrutiny.
- Banks may determine their actual lending rates w.r.t. Base Rate.
- No loan can be sanctioned below base rate.

Exempted accounts: The following loans could be priced without reference to Base Rate: (a) DRI loans (b) loans to banks' own employees (c) loans to banks' depositors against their own deposits.

- Changes in the Base Rate shall be applicable to all existing loans linked to the Base Rate.

Marginal Cost Based Lending Rate

RBI introduced MCLR w.e.f. 1.4.2016 to determine Base Rate by banks to improve the efficiency of monetary policy transmission.

- All rupee loans sanctioned & credit limits renewed w.e.f. 01.04.16 to be priced w.r.t. MCLR. It will be internal benchmark.
- The MCLR comprises of (a) Marginal cost of funds; (b) Negative carry on account of CRR; (c) operating costs; (d) Tenor premium.
- Marginal Cost of funds (MCF): It has 2 components (a) Marginal cost of borrowings (b) return on network. By using MCF, it will be calculated as:

$$\text{Required CRR} \times (\text{marginal cost}) / (1 - \text{CRR})$$

d) Exemptions from MCLR

- loans under schemes of Govt. of India wherein banks have to charge interest rate as per the scheme.
- Working Capital Term Loan, Funded Interest Term Loan etc. as part of rectification/restructuring package.
- Loans under various refinance schemes of Govt. of India or any Govt. Undertaking wherein banks charge interest at the rates prescribed under the schemes.
- The following loans can be priced without being linked to MCLR :
 - Loan to depositors against their own deposits.
 - Loan to banks' employees & Chief Executive Officer/Whole Time Directors.
 - Loans linked to a market determined external benchmark.
 - Fixed rate loans. In case of hybrid loans where the interest rates are partly fixed & partly floating, interest rate on the floating portion should adhere to the MCLR guidelines.

HANDY NOTES BANKING: PRIORITY SECTOR LENDING

Highlights of PSL

It means provide credit to the needy sectors of the society. The sectors are:

- Agriculture
- Education
- Export
- Social Infrastructure
- Micro & Small Enterprises
- Housing
- Weaker Sections
- Renewable Energy

Targets under PSL

Agriculture: 18 percent of ANBC (Adjusted Net Bank Credit). Out of this 18 percent, a target of 8 percent of ANBC is for Small & Marginal Farmers, to be achieved in a phased manner i.e., 7 per cent by March 2016 & 8 per cent by March 2017.

Weaker Sections: 10 percent of ANBC.

Micro Enterprises: 7.5 percent of ANBC has been prescribed for Micro Enterprises, to be achieved in a phased manner i.e. 7 percent by March 2016 & 7.5 percent by March 2017.

Overall PSL Target for Domestic Bank/Foreign Bank with more than 20 Branches: 40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit.

Overall PSL Target for Foreign Bank with less than 20 Branches: 40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit to be achieved in a phased manner

2015-16	32
2016-17	34
2017-18	36
2018-19	38
2019-20	40

Categorization of MSME according to MSME ACT 2006 Manufacturing Sector (Goods)

Enterprises	Investment in plant & machinery
Micro Enterprises	Does not exceed twenty five lakh rupees
Small Enterprises	More than twenty five lakh rupees but does not exceed five crore rupees
Medium Enterprises	More than five crore rupees but does not exceed ten crore rupees

Service Sector

Enterprises	Investment in equipment
Micro Enterprises	Does not exceed ten lakh rupees
Small Enterprises	More than ten lakh rupees but does not exceed two crore rupees

Medium Enterprises	More than two crore rupees but does not exceed five crore rupees
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Other Targets under PSL

- Farmers with landholding of up to 1 hectare are considered as Marginal Farmers. Farmers with a landholding of more than 1 hectare & upto 2 hectares are considered as Small Farmers.
- Scheduled Commercial Banks having any shortfall in lending to priority sector shall be allocated amounts for contribution to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) established with NABARD.
- For Renewable Energy, bank loans up to a limit of Rs.15 crore to borrowers for purposes like solar based power generators, etc. For individual households, the loan limit will be Rs.10 lakh per borrower.
- For Housing, banks can provide loans to individuals up to Rs. 28 lakh in metropolitan centres (with population of ten lakh & above) & loans up to Rs. 20 lakh in other centres for purchase/construction of a dwelling unit per family.
- Export credit will be allowed up to 32 percent of ANBC for Foreign banks with less than 20 branches in India.
- For Education, banks can provide loans to individuals for educational purposes including vocational courses upto Rs. 10 lakh for studies in India & Rs. 20 lakh for studies abroad.
- **Limits under Social infrastructure** Bank loans up to a limit of ₹5 crore per borrower for building social infrastructure for activities namely schools, health care facilities, drinking water facilities & sanitation facilities in Tier II to Tier VI centres.

Monitoring of Priority Sector Lending targets

To ensure continuous flow of credit to priority sector, there will be more frequent monitoring of priority sector lending compliance of banks on 'quarterly' basis instead of annual basis as of now.

Non-achievement of Priority Sector targets

Scheduled Commercial Banks having any shortfall in lending to priority sector shall be allocated amounts for contribution to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) established with NABARD & other Funds with NABARD/NHB/SIDBI, as decided by the Reserve Bank from time to time.

The interest rates on banks' contribution to RIDF or any other Funds, tenure of deposits, etc. shall be fixed by Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

RBI revises priority sector lending norms for RRBs

Seeing the growing significance of RRBs in pursuit of financial inclusion agenda, it has been decided to revise the priority sector guidelines for RRBs.

Some of the salient features of the guidelines are as following:-

- Targets:** 75 per cent of total outstanding to the sectors eligible for classification as priority sector lending.
- Categories of the Priority Sector:** Medium Enterprises, Social Infrastructure & Renewable Energy will form part of the Priority Sector, in addition to the existing categories, with a cap of 15 per cent of total outstanding.
- Agriculture:** 18% per cent of total outstanding should be advanced to activities mentioned under Agriculture.

- Small & Marginal Farmers:** A target of 8 percent of total outstanding has been prescribed for Small & Marginal Farmers within Agriculture.
- Micro Enterprises:** A target of 7.5 per cent of total outstanding has been prescribed for Micro Enterprises.
- Weaker Sectors:** A target of 15 per cent of total outstanding has been prescribed for Weaker Sections.
- Monitoring:** Priority Sector Lending will be monitored on a quarterly as well as annual basis.

The revised guidelines will be operational with effect from January 1, 2016.

REVERSE MORTGAGE LOAN

The scheme of reverse mortgage has been introduced for the benefit of senior citizens owning a house but having inadequate income to meet their needs. Some important features of reverse mortgage are:

- A homeowner who is above 60 years of age is eligible for reverse mortgage loan. It allows him to turn the equity in his home into one lump sum or periodic payments mutually agreed by the borrower & the banker.
- NO REPAYMENT** is required as long as the borrower lives, Borrower should pay all taxes relating to the house & maintain the property as his primary residence.
- The amount of loan is based on several factors:
 - Borrower's age,
 - Value of the property
 - Current interest rates &
 - The specific plan chosen.

As per the scheme formulated by National Housing Bank (NHB), the **maximum period of the loan period is 15 years**. The residual life of the property should be at least 20 years. Where the borrower lives longer than 15 years, periodic payments will not be made by lender. However, the borrower can continue to occupy.

MONEY MARKET

It is a market for short-term debt securities, such as **commercial paper, repos, negotiable certificates of deposit, & Treasury Bills** with a **maturity of one year or less**.

CAPITAL MARKETS IN INDIA

It is the **market for long term funds**. It refers to all the facilities & institutional arrangements for **borrowing & lending medium & long term funds**.

Money Market VS Capital Market

Money Market	Capital Market
• Market for short term financial assets	• Market for long term financial assets
• Maturity period less than one year	• Maturity period beyond one year
• Deals over the counter	• Deals at stock exchange
• No. of players limited	• No. of players unlimited
• Regulated by RBI	• Regulated by SEBI

Major money market Instruments

- Certificate of Deposit (CD)
- Commercial Paper (CP)
- Inter Bank Participation Certificates



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- ✚ Inter Bank term Money
- ✚ Treasury Bills
- ✚ Bill Rediscounting
- ✚ Call/Notice Money

Terms relating to Money Market	
Call Money	Money lent or borrowed for one day
Notice Money	Money lent or borrowed for a period of 2-14 days.
Term Money	Money lent or borrowed for 15 days to 1 year.
Yield to maturity	Expected rate of return on an existing security purchased for the market.
Coupon Rate	Specified interest rate on a fixed maturity security fixed at the time of issue.

CALL/NOTICE MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

- ✚ Under call money market, funds are transacted on overnight basis & under notice money market, for 2 days to 14 days.
- ✚ Participants include banks (excluding RRBs) & Primary Dealers (PDs), both as borrowers & lenders. Non-bank institutions are not permitted in the call/notice money market with effect from August 6, 2005.
- ✚ Calculation of interest payable is based on FIMMDA's (Fixed Income Money Market & Derivatives Association of India) Handbook of Market Practices.

INSTRUMENT OF GOVT. BORROWING

To meet the temporary receipt & expenditure mismatch, govt. obtains over draft from RBI under Ways & Means Advances. For short term liquidity, it issues cash management bills, treasury bills of 91 days, 182 days & 364 days maturity. For long term funds, it uses dated securities in the form of bonds/long term loans.

TREASURY BILLS

These are the instruments (in the form of promissory notes) of short term borrowing by the Central govt., first issued in India in 1917.

Investors : Treasury bills can be purchased by any one (including individuals) except State govt.

Denomination: Minimum amount of face value Rs. 1 lac & in multiples thereof. There is no specific amount/limit on the extent to which these can be issue or purchased.

Maturity: 91 days, 182 days & 364 days.

Rate of interest: Treasury bills are zero coupon securities. They are issued at a discount & redeemed at face value at maturity. The return to the investors is the difference between the maturity value or the face value (that is Rs. 100) & the issue price.

Cash Management Bills (CMB)

CMB introduced on 11.08.11, is a short term security to be sold by Govt. of India to raise temporary money for cash management needs.

1. **The tenure is less than 91 days but the notified amount & date of issue depends upon the temporary cash requirement of the Govt.**
2. **It is issued at discount to the face value** through auctions, as in the case of the Treasury Bills.

DATED SECURITIES

These are **long term securities** & carry a **fixed or floating coupon (interest rate) paid on the face value, payable at fixed time periods (half-yearly).**

The **tenor of dated securities** can be up to **40 years**.

Public Debt Office of RBI acts as the **registry/depository of Govt. securities** & deals with the **issue, interest payment & repayment** of principal at maturity.

WAYS & MEANS ADVANCES (WMAs)

WMAs were introduced as per an agreement between RBI & Govt. WMAs are temporary overdrafts by RBI to govt. (Central & State) under Section 17(5) of RBI Act. WMSs replaced the earlier ad hoc T-Bills system.

Objective - WMAs bridge the time interval of mismatch between govt. expenditure & receipts.

These are not a source of finance.

Duration : 10 consecutive working days for Central Govt. & 14 days for State Govt.

OTHER MONEY MARKET INSTRUMENTS

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

This scheme was introduced in July 1989, to enable the banking system to mobilize bulk deposits from the market, which they can attract at competitive rates of interest.

Who can issue	Scheduled commercial banks (except RRBs) & All India Financial Institutions within their 'Umbrella limit'.
CRR/SLR	Applicable on the issue price in case of banks
Investors	Individuals (other than minor), corporations, companies, trusts, funds, associations etc.
Maturity	Min: 7 days Max : 12 Months (in case of FIs minimum 1 year & maximum 3 years).
Amount	Min: Rs. 1 lac, beyond which in multiple

	of Rs. 1 lac
Int. Rate	Market related. Fixed or floating
Loan	Against collateral of CD not permitted
Nature	Usance Promissory note. Can be issued in Dematerialisation form only wef June 30, 2002

COMMERCIAL PAPER

i. CP introduced during 1990, is a short term money market instrument issued as an unsecured **usance promissory note** & privately placed.

ii. **Who can issue Commercial paper (CP):** Companies, primary dealers (PDs) & all-India financial institutions (FIs).

iii. A company is eligible to issue CP if:

(a) Its tangible net worth, as per latest audited balance sheet, is not less than Rs. 4 crore.

(b) Sanctioned working capital limit by bank/s or all-India financial institution/s;

(c) The borrower accounts are classified as a Standard Asset by financing bank/s/ institution/s & '.

(d) Minimum credit rating from SEBI approved credit rating agency (CRA) is A3. Rating should not be due for review.

iv. Maturity : Min 7 days & max upto one year

v. Amount: Min Rs. 5 lakh or multiples thereof.

MERCHANT BANKING

Merchant banking stands for providing various services relation to capital market & financing the corporate sector. The Merchant Bankers provide consultancy to the corporate sector on the issues like finance, capital structure & investment, mergers, takeover & amalgamations, establishing coordination between the government & the corporate sector.

CAPITAL MARKETS IN INDIA

a) It refers to all the facilities & institutional arrangements for borrowing & lending medium & long term funds.

b) It is segregated into (i) **gilt edged market** & (ii) the **industrial securities market**.

c) The **gilt edged market** refers to the market for **govt. & semi-govt. securities** which are traded in the market in stable value & are sought after by banks & other institutions.

d) The **industrial securities market** refers to the market for **shares & debentures of old as well as new companies**. This market is further divided as primary market & secondary market.

➤ The **primary market** refers to the setup which helps the industry to raise funds by issuing different types of securities, which are issued directly to the investors, both individual & institutions.

➤ The **secondary market** refers to the network for subsequent sale & purchase of securities, after these are issued.

Masala-bonds

Masala Bonds are the **bonds issued for rupee-denominated borrowings by Indian entities in overseas markets**.

INDIAN DEPOSITORY RECEIPTS (IDRs)

IDR is an instrument in the form of a Depository Receipt created by the Indian depository in India against the underlying equity shares of the issuing company. In an IDR, foreign companies would issue shares, to an Indian companies would issue shares, to an Indian Depository which would in turn issue depository receipts to investors in India.

MUTUAL FUND TERMS

Asset Management Company: A company formed & registered under the Companies Act 1956 & approved as such by the SEBI to manage the funds of a mutual fund. Under an agreement (with the trustees of the Mutual Fund), an AMC undertakes to formulated mutual funds schemes, distribute income as per agreement.

Balanced fund: This fund invests in bonds & blue chip stocks to conserve capital. It pays reasonable income capital appreciation.

Close-ended scheme: A scheme where funds are raised for a fixed period. The scheme is wound up after that period & funds

are returned with capital appreciation to unit holders. Normally, a close-ended scheme is listed on a stock exchange.

Fixed income funds: A mutual fund which primarily invests in fixed income securities like bonds & debentures. The objective is to provide monthly or yearly income to investors.

Net asset value: The price of value of one share of a fund. It is calculated by summing the quoted values of all the securities held by the fund, adding in cash & any accrued income & subtracting liabilities & dividing the result by the number of shares outstanding. Fund companies compute the NAV once a day based on closing market prices.

Open ended scheme: A scheme is the one which continuously offers its units & buys them back from investors.



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DICGC (Deposit Insurance & Credit Guarantee Corporation of India)

1. Which banks are insured by the DICGC?

Commercial Banks: All commercial banks including branches of foreign banks functioning in India, local area banks & regional rural banks are insured by the DICGC.

2. What does the DICGC insure?

In the event of a bank failure, DICGC protects bank deposits that are payable in India. The DICGC insures all deposits such as savings, fixed, current, recurring, etc. except the following types of deposits.

- (i) Deposits of foreign Governments;
- (ii) Deposits of Central/State Governments;
- (iii) Inter-bank deposits;
- (iv) Deposits of the State Land Development Banks with the State co-operative bank;
- (v) Any amount due on account of any deposit received outside India
- (vi) Any amount, which has been specifically exempted by the corporation with the previous approval of Reserve Bank of India.

3. What is the maximum deposit amount insured by the DICGC?

Each depositor in a bank is insured upto a maximum of Rs.1,00,000 (Rupees One Lakh) for both principal & interest amount held by him in the same capacity.

4. Does the DICGC insure just the principal on an account or both principal & accrued interest?

The DICGC insures principal & interest upto a maximum amount of Rs. One lakh.

5. HQ: Mumbai Chairman: R.Gandhi

NPA-Non-Performing Asset & SARFAESI

It means once the borrower has failed to make interest or principal payments for 90 days, the loan is considered to be a non-performing asset.

What is an NPA?

Loan accounts are classified as non-performing asset on the basis of following criteria:

Criteria for classification of loan as NPA

Farm Credit within Agriculture loans : A loan will be treated as an NPA if installment of the principal or interest remains unpaid beyond the due date for (a) two crop seasons in case of short duration crops (maturing within one year) & (b) one crop season for long duration crops (maturing after one year). This would also be applicable, mutatis mutandis, to agricultural term loans. In other agriculture loans, the 90 days norm would be applicable.

SARFAESI Act & Rules

SARFAESI Act (The Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002) was enacted to regulate securitization & reconstruction of financial assets & enforcement of security interest created in respect of Financial Assets to enable realization of such assets.

The SARFAESI Act provides for the manner for enforcement of security interests by a secured creditor without the intervention of a court or tribunal. If any borrower fails to discharge his liability in repayment of any secured debt within 60 days of notice from the date of notice by the secured creditor, the secured creditor is conferred with powers under the SARFAESI Act to

- Takes possession of the secured assets of the borrower, including transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale, for realizing the secured assets
- Takeover of the management of the business of the borrower including the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured assets,
- Appoint any person to manage the secured assets possession of which is taken by the secured creditor, and
- Require any person, who has acquired any of the secured assets from the borrower and from whom money is due to the borrower, to pay the secured creditor so much of the money as is sufficient to pay the secured debt.

The assets portfolio of the banks is required to be classified as

- standard assets
 - sub-standard assets
 - doubtful assets &
 - loss assets.
- **Standard asset** is one that does not disclose any problems & which does not carry more than normal risk attached to the business.
 - An asset which has been classified as NPA for a period not exceeding 12 months is considered as **sub-standard asset**.
 - **Doubtful asset** is one which has remained NPA for a period exceeding 12 months.

An asset which is considered uncollectible & loss has been identified by the bank or internal or external auditors or the RBI inspection & the loss has not been written off is regarded as **loss asset**.

What is pledge : U/s 172 of Indian Contracts Act, pledge is bailment (delivery) of goods as security for payment of a loan. Only goods (movable assets excluding actionable claims (Sec 2(7) of Sales of Goods Act) can be pledged.

HYPOTHECATION/PLEDGE-DISTINCTION

	Hypothecation	Pledge
Defined in	SARFAESI Act 2002 (Sec 2 n)	Indian Contract Act 1872 (section 172)
Definition	Charge on movable property in favour of secured creditor without delivery of possession	Bailment of goods as security for payment of a debt or performance of promise
Parties: -Borrower -Bank	Hypothecator Hypothecate	Pledger / pawner Pledger / pawnee
Nature of securities	Movable assets such as stocks, machinery, vehicles	Goods
Possession	Borrower (in trust for bank). Bank cannot take possession without consent of the borrower. On taking possession bank gets rights of pledge & can sell the assets without intervention.	Possession with bank till repayment of the loan. Bank has to preserve the goods carefully & return the same, if loan is repaid.

MORTGAGE

As per section 58 of Transfer of Property Act 1882, mortgage is transfer of interest in specific immovable property for the purpose of securing the payment of money advanced or to be advanced by way of loan, an existing or future debt or the performance of an engagement which may give rise to pecuniary liability.

ATM

Q.1 What is an Automated Teller Machine (ATM)?

Ans. Automated Teller Machine is a computerized machine that provides the customers of banks the facility of accessing their account for dispensing cash & to carry out other financial & non-financial transactions without the need to actually visit their bank branch.

Q.2 What is White Label ATMs (WLAs)?

Ans. ATMs set up, owned & operated by non-banks are called White Label ATMs. Non-bank ATM operators are authorized under Payment & Settlement Systems Act, 2007 by the Reserve Bank of India.

Q.3. Is there any time limit for the card issuing banks for crediting the customers account for a failed ATM/WLA transaction?

Ans. As per the RBI instructions, banks have been mandated to resolve customer complaints by re-crediting the customer's account within 7 working days from the date of complaint.

Q.4. Are the customers eligible for compensation for delays beyond 7 working days?

Ans. Yes. Effective from July 1, 2011, banks have to pay compensation of Rs. 100/- per day for delays in re-crediting the amount beyond 7 working days from the date of receipt of complaint for failed ATM transactions. The compensation has to be credited to the account of the customer without any claim being made by the customer. If the complaint is not lodged within 30 days of transaction, the customer is not entitled for any compensation for delay in resolving his / her complaint.

CURRENCY IN INDIA

Money as a means of payment consists of coins, paper money & withdrawable bank deposits.

Legal tender: As per provisions of coinage Act 1996, bank notes, currency notes & coins (Rs. 1 & above) are legal tender for unlimited amount. The subsidiary coins (below Re 1) are legal tenders for sum not exceeding Re 1. Issue of 1, 2 & 3 paise coins discontinued wef Sep 16, 1981.

What do you know by currency chest?

Currency chests are operated by RBI so that they can provide good quality currency notes to the public. However, RBI has appointed commercial banks to open & monitor currency chests on behalf of RBI. The cash kept in currency chests is considered to be kept in RBI.

What is a small coin depot?

The bank branches are also authorised to establish Small Coin Depots to stock small coins. The Small Coin Depots also distribute small coins to other bank branches in their area of operation.

What are soiled, mutilated & imperfect banknotes?

✚ **"Soiled note"** means a note which, has become dirty due to usage & also includes a two piece note pasted together wherein both the pieces presented belong to the same note, & form the entire note.

✚ **Mutilated banknote** is a banknote, of which a portion is missing or which is composed of more than two pieces.

✚ **Imperfect banknote** means any banknote, which is wholly or partially, obliterated, shrunk, washed, altered or indecipherable but does not include a mutilated banknote.

Pre-2005 series Banknotes

The banknotes issued before 2005 MG series are called pre-2005 series banknotes, which do not have the year of printing on the reverse side. On Jan 23, 2014, RBI decided to withdraw, from circulation, these notes as they have fewer security features.

1. These notes shall continue to be legal tender. The notes are only being withdrawn from circulation.
2. These notes can be exchanged at select bank branch till 30.06.16.

NATIONALISATION OF BANKS

- Nationalisation of Imperial Bank of India & its conversion into State Bank of India in July 1955.

- Conversion of 8 major State-associated banks into subsidiary banks of SBI in 1959.
- Nationalisation of 14 Indian scheduled banks in July 1969.
- Nationalisation of 6 more banks in April 1980 & Indian bank merged into Punjab National Bank.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES

What actually is FOREX?

India's foreign exchange reserves comprise foreign currency assets, gold & special drawing rights allocated to it by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in addition to the reserves it has parked with the fund. Foreign exchange reserves are held & managed by the RBI.

The **Foreign currency assets** are investment mainly in instruments abroad which have the highest credit rating & which do not pose any credit risk. These include sovereign bonds, treasury bills & short-term deposits in top-rated global banks besides cash accounts.

TRANSFER SYSTEM IN BANKING SECTOR

REAL TIME GROSS SETTLEMENT (RTGS)

RTGS implemented w.e.f. 26.03.2004 (revised on 19.10.13), is a centralized payment system operated by RBI. In RTGS inter-bank payment instructions are processed & settled, on gross basis in a real time environment. It uses Indian Financial Network (INFNET) & SFMS platforms. RTGS is regulated by RTGS System Regulations, 2013.

National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT)

RBI operationalised NEFT System in Nov 2005. It facilitates transfer of funds from any bank branch to any other bank branch.

Amount: There is no lower/upper value limit.

Bank account: NEFT is an account to account transfer system. The remitter & beneficiary should have a bank account.

Processing Charges/Service Charges

1. Banks cannot levy any charges for inward NEFT,
2. For outward NEFT: Up to Rs. 10000 = Rs. 2.50, above Rs. 10000 to Rs. 1 lac = Rs. 5. Above Rs. 1 lac to Rs. 2 lac = Max Rs. 15 & above Rs. 2 lac = Max Rs. 25 (w.e.f. 13.07.2012).

AADHAAR ENABLED PAYMENT SYSTEM

AEPS is a payment service offered by the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to banks using **Aadhaar** number & online UIDAI authentication through their respective Business correspondent service centre.

CENTRALIZED FUNDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (CFMS)

CFMS was operated & maintained by RBI to enable operations on current accounts maintained at various offices of the RBI, through standard message formats in a secure manner.

NEPAL REMITTANCE SCHEME

It is a cross-border one-way remittance facility scheme, for remittance from India to Nepal.

Amount : Up to Indian Rs. 50,000 from NEFT branches. Beneficiary will receive funds in Nepalese rupees.

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

It was incorporated in Dec 2008 as a Sec 25 company under Companies Act. Authorized capital is Rs. 300 cr & paid up capital Rs. 100 cr. It functions as a hub in all electronic retail payment systems.

'Rupay' is a domestic card scheme of NPCI. Rupay is the coinage of two terms rupee & payment. Rupay debit card was launched in March 2012.

CORE BANKING SOLUTIONS

Core Banking Solutions (CBS) or Centralised Banking Solutions is the process which is completed in a centralized environment i.e. under which the information related to the customer's account (i.e. financial dealings, profession, income, etc.) is stored in the Central Server of the bank (that is available to all networked branches) instead of the branch server.

Accounts for Foreign (Currency/Person) in India

a) NRO A/c (Foreign Tourist)

1) Foreign tourists during their short visit to India can open a Non-Resident (Ordinary) Rupee (NRO) account (Current / Savings) with any Authorised Dealer bank dealing in foreign exchange. Such account can be opened up to a maximum period of 6 months.

2) Tourists can freely make local payments through the NRO account. All payments to residents exceeding INR 50,000 can be made only by means of cheques / pay orders / demand drafts.

b) EEFC A/c

1) Exchange Earners' Foreign Currency Account (EEFC) is an account maintained in foreign currency with an Authorised Dealer i.e. a bank dealing in foreign exchange.

2) It is a facility provided to the foreign exchange earners, including exporters, to credit 100 per cent of their foreign exchange earnings to the account, so that the account holders do not have to convert foreign exchange into Rupees & vice versa, thereby minimizing the transaction costs.

3) All categories of foreign exchange earners, such as individuals, companies, etc. who are resident in India, may open EEFC accounts.

4) An EEFC account can be held only in the form of a current account. No interest is payable on EEFC accounts.

ACCOUNTS FOR NRI/PIO

1. Non-Resident Ordinary Rupee Account (NRO Account)

- NRO accounts may be opened / maintained in the form of current, savings, recurring or fixed deposit accounts. Interest rates offered by banks on NRO deposits cannot be higher than those offered by them on comparable domestic rupee deposits.
- Account should be denominated in Indian Rupees.
- NRI/PIO may remit from the balances held in NRO account an amount not exceeding USD one million per financial year, subject to payment of applicable taxes.
- The limit of USD 1 million per financial year includes sale proceeds of immovable properties held by NRIs/PIOs.

2. Non-Resident (External) Rupee Account (NRE Account)

- NRE account may be in the form of savings, current, recurring or fixed deposit accounts.
- Account will be maintained in Indian Rupees.

- Accrued interest income & balances held in NRE accounts are exempt from Income tax.
- Authorised dealers/authorised banks may at their discretion allow for a period of not more than two weeks, overdrawings in NRE savings bank accounts, up to a limit of Rs.50,000.
- Loans up to Rs.100 lakh can be extended against security of funds held in NRE Account either to the depositors or third parties.

3. Foreign Currency Non Resident (Bank) Account – FCNR (B) Account

- FCNR (B) accounts are only in the form of term deposits of 1 to 5 years
- Account can be in any freely convertible currency.
- Loans up to Rs.100 lakh can be extended against security of funds held in FCNR (B) deposit either to the depositors or third parties.
- The interest rates are stipulated by the Department of Banking Operations & Development, Reserve Bank of India.

How Rating done to Banks in India

RATING OF BANKS

RBI's 1995 working group headed by Sh. S. Padmanabhan suggested method for rating.

Rating criteria: RBI rates the banks on a 5 point scale of A to E, widely on the lines of international CAMELS rating model for domestic banks & CALCS model for foreign banks.

CAMELS Rating for Domestic Banks

C	Capital adequacy ratio
A	Asset quality
M	Management Effectiveness
E	Earning (i.e. profitability)
L	Liquidity (asset-liability management)
S	System & controls

Rating parameters for foreign banks

C	Capital adequacy ratio
A	Asset quality
L	Liquidity
C	Compliance
S	System & controls

BASEL-3 NORMS

- a) The Basel Committee is the primary global standard-setter for the prudential regulation of banks & provides a forum for cooperation on banking supervisory matters. Its mandate is to strengthen the regulation, supervision & practices of banks worldwide with the purpose of enhancing financial stability. Stefan Ingves, Governor of Sveriges Riksbank (SWEDEN), is the Chairman of the Basel Committee.
- b) Basel III or Basel 3 released in December, 2010 is the third in the series of Basel Accords. These accords deal with risk management aspects for the banking sector.
- c) According to Basel Committee on Banking Supervision "Basel III is a comprehensive set of reform measures, developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, to strengthen the regulation, supervision & risk management of the banking sector".
- (d) Basel 3 measures aim to:



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- Improve the banking sector's ability to absorb shocks arising from financial & economic stress, whatever the source
- Improve risk management & governance
- Strengthen banks' transparency & disclosures.

Three Pillars of Basel 3

➤ **Pillar 1: Minimum Regulatory Capital Requirements based on Risk Weighted Assets (RWAs):**

Maintaining capital calculated through credit, market & operational risk areas (mainly that capital which can absorb risk.)

➤ **Pillar 2: Supervisory Review Process:**

Regulating tools & frameworks for dealing with peripheral risks that bank face.

➤ **Pillar 3: Market Discipline:**

Increasing the disclosures that banks must provide to increase the transparency of banks

Important Facts related to BASEL 3

- Minimum Ratio of Total Capital To RWAs--10.50%
- Minimum Ratio of Common Equity to RWAs--4.50% to 7.00%
- Tier I capital to RWAs--6.00%
- Core Tier I capital to RWAs--5.00%
- Capital Conservation Buffers to RWAs--2.50%
- Leverage Ratio--3.00%
- Countercyclical Buffer--0% to 2.50%

NBFC

A Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 engaged in the business of loans & advances, acquisition of shares/stocks/bonds/debentures/securities issued by Government or local authority or other marketable securities of a like nature, leasing, hire-purchase, insurance business, chit fund business.

Difference between BANK & NBFC:

NBFCs lend & make investments & hence their activities are akin to that of banks; however there are a few differences as given below:

- i. NBFC cannot accept demand deposits;
- ii. NBFCs do not form part of the payment & settlement system & cannot issue cheques drawn on itself;
- iii. Deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance & Credit Guarantee Corporation is not available to depositors of NBFCs, unlike in case of banks.

Register with RBI:

A company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 & desirous of commencing business of non-banking financial institution as defined under Section 45 I(a) of the RBI Act, 1934 should comply with the following:

- a) It should be a company registered under Section 3 of the companies Act, 1954
- b) It should have a minimum net owned fund of Rs 200 lakh.

Deposits in NBFC:

- a) Presently, the maximum rate of interest an NBFC can offer is 12.5%. The interest may be paid or compounded at rests not shorter than monthly rests.

- b) The NBFCs are allowed to accept/renew public deposits for a minimum period of 12 months & maximum period of 60 months. They cannot accept deposits repayable on demand.
- c) The deposits with NBFCs are not insured.
- d) The repayment of deposits by NBFCs is not guaranteed by RBI.

TYPES OF MONEY

- **Commodity Money** - Commodity money value is derived from the commodity out of which it is made. The commodity itself represents money, & the money is the commodity.
- **Representative Money** - is money that includes token coins, or any other physical tokens like certificates, that can be reliably exchanged for a fixed amount/quantity of a commodity like gold or silver.
- **Fiat Money** - Fiat money, also known as fiat currency is the money whose value is not derived from any intrinsic value or any guarantee that it can be converted into valuable commodity (like gold). Instead, it derives value only based on government order (fiat)
- **Commercial Bank Money** - Commercial bank money or the demand deposits are claims against financial institutions which can be used for purchasing goods & services.

Reserve Money (M 0)

Currency in circulation + Bankers' 'deposits with the RBI + 'Other' deposits with the RBI = Net RBI 'credit to the Government + RBI credit to the commercial sector + RBI's claims on banks + RBI's net foreign assets + Government's currency liabilities to the public - RBI's net non-monetary liabilities.

M1=Currency with the public + Demand deposits with the banking system + 'Other' deposits with the RBI

M2=M1 + Savings deposits of office savings banks.

M3=M1+ Time deposits with the banking system

= Net bank credit to the Government + Bank credit to the Commercial sector + Net foreign assets of the banking sector + Government's currency liabilities to the public - Net non-monetary liabilities of the banking sector.

M4=M3 +All deposits with post office savings banks (excluding National Savings Certificates)

Note:

Bhartiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)

The Reserve Bank established BRBNMPL in February 1995 as a wholly-owned subsidiary to augment the production of bank notes in India & to enable bridging of the gap between supply & demand for bank notes in the country.

BANKING ABBREVIATIONS

1. **PSBs:** Public Sector Banks
2. **SNBCs:** Schedule Non Commercial Banks
3. **SENSEX:** Sensitive Index Of Stock Exchange
4. **GNP:** Gross National Product
5. **KYC:** Know Your Customer
6. **RTGS:** Real Time Gross Settlement
7. **NEFT:** National Electronic Money Transfer
8. **EFT:** Electronic Fund Transfer
9. **CBS:** Core Banking Solutions
10. **LIBOR:** London Interbank Offered Rate

11. **MIBOR**: Mumbai Interbank Offered Rate
12. **MIBID**: Mumbai Interbank Bid Rate
13. **SARFAESI**: Securitisation & Reconstruction Of Financial Assets & Enforcement Of Security Interest
14. **CAR**: Capital Adequacy Ratio
15. **FIIs**: Foreign Institutional Investments
16. **FDI**: Foreign Direct Investment
17. **IPO**: Initial Public Offering
18. **MICR**: Magnetic Ink Character Recognition
19. **BIRD**: Bankers Institute Of Rural Development
20. **IBA**: Indian Bank Association
21. **BPLR**: Benchmark Prime Lending Rate
22. **ICICI**: Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation Of India
23. **HDFC**: Housing Development Finance Corporation
24. **SWOT**: Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats
25. **SWIFT**: Society For Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication
26. **FERA**: Foreign Exchange Regulatory Act
27. **FEMA**: Foreign Exchange Management Act
28. **CASA**: Current & Saving Account
29. **NDTL**: Net Demand & Time Liabilities
30. **NASDAQ**: National Association For Securities Dealers Automated Quotations
31. **CRISIL**: Credit Rating & Investment Services India Limited
32. **CIBIL**: Credit Information Bureau Of India Limited
33. **NAV**: Net Asset Value
34. **ICRA**: Indian Credit Rating Agency
35. **CARE**: Credit Analysis & Research Limited
36. **WMAs**: Ways & Means Advances
37. **ALM**: Asset Liability Management
38. **INFINET**: Indian Financial Network
39. **OLTAS** - On-line Tax Accounting System (OLTAS) for Direct Taxes
40. **TIN** - Tax Information Network (TIN)
41. **IMPS** - Interbank Mobile Payment Service (IMPS) or Immediate Payment Service
42. **CDR**- Corporate Debt Restructuring
43. **CAD**- Capital Account Deficit
44. **REITs**: Real Estate Investment Trusts
45. **InvITs**: Infrastructure Investment Trusts
46. **ALM**- Asset Liability Management
47. **ASBA**: Application Supported by Blocked Amount
48. **PIN**: Personal Identification Number
49. **CCEA** – Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
50. **CECA** - Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement
51. **CEPA** – Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
52. **DTAA** – Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement
53. **ECBs** - External Commercial Borrowings
54. **EFSF** – European Financial Stability Facility
55. **FINO**- Financial Inclusion Network Operation
56. **FIPB** – Foreign Investment Promotion board
57. **FSLRC** – Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission
58. **CRAR**: Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio
59. **LCR**: Liquidity Coverage Ratio
60. **TARC** - Tax Administration Reform Commission
61. **GIRO** - Government Internal Revenue Order
62. **FRBMA**: Fiscal Responsibility & Budget Management Act
63. **AMFI**- Association of Mutual Fund in India.
64. **TIEA** – Tax Information exchange Agreement
65. **GAAR** - General anti avoidance rule
66. **GSLV** - Geo-Synchronous Launch Vehicle

67. **PPP** – Public Private Partnership & Purchasing Power parity
68. **PSLV** – Polar Satellite Launch vehicle
69. **TAPI** - Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India.
70. **QFI** -Qualified Foreign Investors
71. **AD**-Authorized Dealer.
72. **ASSOCHAM**-Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India.
73. **BCSBI**-Banking Codes & Standards Board of India.
74. **BIS**-Bank for International Settlements.
75. **CDS**-Credit Default Swap.
76. **CEPA**-Comprehensive Economic Partnership Management.
77. **FIMMDA**-Fixed Income Money MARKETS & Derivatives Association.
78. **FPI**-Foreign Portfolio Investment.
79. **IBRD**-International Bank For Reconstruction & Development.
80. **UIDAI**-Unique Identification Development Authority of India.



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MUTUAL FUNDS:

- Mutual funds are investment avenues that pool the money of several investors to invest in financial instruments such as stocks, debentures etc. The profit earned on the investments is distributed among the investors on the basis of the units held by each of them.
- Due to a large pool of investors, the individual risk is spread. So individually you take on low risk.
- The mutual funds in India are governed by Association of Mutual Funds in India, the umbrella body for mutual funds, which is in turn governed by the Securities & Exchange Board of India.
- A diagrammatic representation to understand the Cycle":



IMPORTANT BANKING TERMS

- **Moral Suasion:-** Moral Suasion is just as a request by the RBI to the commercial banks to take so & so action & measures in so & so trend of the economy. RBI may request commercial banks not to give loans for unproductive purpose which does not add to economic growth but increases inflation.
- **Bouncing of a cheque:** Where an account does not have sufficient balance to honour the cheque issued by the customer, the cheque is returned by the bank with the reason "funds insufficient" or "Exceeds arrangement". This is known as 'Bouncing of a cheque'.
- **Demat Account:** The term "demat", in India, refers to a dematerialised account for individual Indian citizens to trade in listed stocks or debentures.
- **Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR):-** Capital adequacy ratio measures the amount of a bank's capital expressed as a percentage of its credit exposure. Globally, the capital adequacy ratio has been developed to ensure banks can absorb a reasonable level of losses before becoming insolvent. Indian banks are expected to maintain a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 9 per cent (Rs 9 as capital for every Rs 100 in loan or asset)

IMPORTANT BANKING CONCEPTS

1) What is Balance of Trade?

The value of a country's exports minus the value of its imports. Unless specified as the balance of merchandise trade, it normally incorporates trade in services, including earnings (interest, dividends, etc.) on financial assets.

2) What is Balance of Payments?

A list of all of a country's international transactions for a given time period, usually one year. Payments into the country (receipts) are entered as positive numbers, called **credits**; Payments out of the country (payments) are entered as negative numbers called **debits**. A single numbers summarize all of a country's international transactions: the balance of payments surplus.

3) What is NOSTRO Account?

A Nostro account is maintained by an Indian Bank in the foreign countries.

4) What is VOSTRO Account?

A Vostro account is maintained by a foreign bank in India with their corresponding bank.

5) What is BCBS?

Basel Committee on Banking Supervision is an institution created by the Central Bank governors of the Group of Ten nations.

6) What is LIBOR?

London InterBank Offered Rate. An interest rate at which banks can borrow funds, in marketable size, from other banks in the London interbank market.

7) What is STRIPS?

Separate Trading for Registered Interest & Principal Securities.

8) What do you mean by term "CASA" related to bank?

CASA stands for Current Account Savings Account. The CASA ratio shows how much deposit a bank has in the form of current & saving account deposits in the total deposit. A higher CASA ratio means better operating efficiency of the

bank because on current account there is no interest payable whereas on savings account a tiny 3.5% interest is payable by the bank. CASA ratio shows how much of the deposit of the bank comes from the current & savings deposit.

Note: The CORE word in CBS stands for Centralized Online Realtime Exchange.

IMPORTANT CODES USED IN BANKING

[1] IFSC (Indian Financial System Code): Indian Financial System Code is an alpha-numeric code that uniquely identifies a bank-branch participating in the NEFT system.

This is an 11 digit code with the first 4 alpha characters representing the bank, The 5th character is 0 (zero) and the last 6 characters representing the bank branch.

For ex: PNB0014976 :

- i. First 4 character PNB – refers to Punjab National Bank.
- ii. 0 is a control number.
- iii. last six characters (014976) represents the PNB branch kurshi Road, Lucknow.

[2] MICR – Magnetic ink character Recognition :-

MICR is 9 digit numeric code that uniquely identifies a bank branch participating in electronic clearing scheme. Used to identify the location of a bank branch.

City (3) Bank (3) Branch (3)

The MICR code is allotted to a bank branch is printed on the MICR band of cheques. MICR used for electronic credit system.

[3] SWIFT Code : Society for Worldwide Interbank financial tele-communication

India was 74th Nation to join SWIFT Network.

SWIFT Code is a standard format of bank Identifier code. This code is used particularly in International transfer of money between banks.

A majority of FOREX related message are sent to correspondent banks abroad through SWIFT.

SWIFT Code consist 8 or 11 character when code is 8 digit, It is referred to primary office

- 4 – bank code
- 2 – country code
- 2 – location code
- 3 – branch code (optional)

Headquarters of NATIONALIZED/PSBs BANKS

- **Allahabad Bank**-Kolkata
- **Bank of India** -Mumbai
- **Bank of Maharashtra** -Pune
- **Canara Bank** -Bangalore
- **Central Bank of India** -Mumbai
- **Corporation Bank** -Mangalore
- **Dena Bank** -Mumbai
- **Indian Bank** - Chennai
- **Indian Overseas Bank** - Chennai
- **Oriental Bank of Commerce** - Gurgaon
- **Punjab National Bank** - New Delhi
- **Punjab & Sind Bank** - New Delhi
- **State Bank of India** - Mumbai
- **Syndicate Bank** - Manipal
- **UCO** -Bank Kolkata



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- **Union Bank of India**- Mumbai
- **United Bank of India**- Kolkata
- **Vijaya Bank**- Bangalore
- **Andhra Bank**- Hyderabad
- **Bank of Baroda**- Vadodra
- **BMB**: New Delhi

FINANCIAL REGULATORS

Chit Funds	Respective State Governments
Insurance companies	IRDA
Housing Finance Companies	NHB
Venture Capital Fund /	SEBI
Merchant Banking companies	SEBI
Stock broking companies	SEBI
Nidhi Companies	Ministry of corporate affairs, Government of India

TYPES OF BANKING

- **Para banking**- When Bank provides banking services except the general banking facility.
- **Narrow Banking**- When banks invest its money in government securities instead investing in market to avoid risk.
- **Offshore Banking**- Bank which accept currency of all countries.
- **Green banking**- Promoting environmental-friendly practices & reducing your carbon footprint from your banking activities.
- **Retail Banking**- Retail banking refers to the division of a bank that deals directly with retail customers. Also known as consumer banking or personal banking, retail banking is the visible face of banking to the general public.
- **Wholesale banking**- Wholesale banking is the provision of services by banks to organisations such as Mortgage Brokers, large corporate clients, mid-sized companies, real estate developers & investors, international trade finance businesses, institutional customers (such as pension funds & government entities/agencies), & services offered to other banks or other financial institutions.
- **Universal Banking**
R H Khan committee & recommended the concept of Universal Banking.
Universal banking means allowing FIs & banks to undertake all types of banking or development financing activity, subject to compliance of statutory & other requirements of RBI, Govt. & related legal Acts.
Activities in Universal Banking: These activities include accepting deposits, granting loans, investing in securities, credit cards, project finance, remittances, payment systems, project counseling, merchant banking, foreign exchange operations, insurance etc.
- **Islamic Banking**: An Islamic bank is a deposit-taking banking institution whose scope of activities excluding borrowing & lending on the basis of interest.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) :

- Established on 12th July 1982 on the recommendation of CRAFTCARD committee (also called as Sivaraman Committee)

- For Agricultural finance, NABARD is the apex organization.
- Chairman : Dr. Harsha Kumar Bhanwala
- Head Quarters : Mumbai
- Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) is operated by NABARD, instead in April 1995.
- NABARD is the "Micro-Finance Regulatory Authority"

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI in short) was established in the year 1990 (Date : 2nd April 1990) under the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act 1989 as a subsidiary of Industrial Development Bank of India.
- Chairman- Dr. Kshatrapati Shivaji
- Head Quarters : Lucknow

Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

- It is the regulator for the securities market in India. SEBI was initially established as a non statutory body in April 1988, to regulate the working of stock exchange. Later it was given a statutory status on April 1992 via SEBI Act, 1992 with the following objectives.
- Chairman- UK Sinha
- Head Quarters : Mumbai

REGIONAL RURAL BANK (RRB):

- Regional Rural Bank Were Set Up By An Ordinance In 1975, Later Replaced By Rrbs Act, 1976 As Pre Banking Commission Recommendation In 1975.
- Father Of Rrb Is M.Swaminathan.
- The Govt. Of India Had Appointed A Working Group On Rural Banks Under The Chairmanship Of Mr. M. Narasimham In 1975. First Rrbs Were Set Up On 2nd Oct.
- Share Holder Contribution In %: Government Of India 50% Sponsor Bank 35% State Government 15% Total 100%.

EXIM BANK:

- The Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of India is the principal financial institution in India for coordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing export & import trade.
- It is a statutory corporation wholly owned by the Government of India.
- It was established on January 1, 1982 for the purpose of financing, facilitating & promoting foreign trade of India.
- Chairman- Yaduvendra Mathur
- Head Quarters : Mumbai

NATIONAL HOUSING BANK(NHB):

- The National Housing Bank (NHB), the apex institution of housing finance in India, was set up as wholly owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India.
- The bank started its operations from July 1988.
- NHB is a subsidiary bank of Reserve Bank of India.
- National Housing Bank was established under section 6 of National Housing Bank Act(1987).
- The headquarters of NHB is in New Delhi.
- Chairman: Shri Sriram Kalyanaraman

ECGC

- Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India. This organisation provides risk as well as insurance cover to the Indian exporters.

- Chairman- Geetha Muralidhar
- Head Quarters : Mumbai





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A brief on Financial Terms

1. Asset-Liability Management

ALM implemented in India wef 1.4.1999 is a comprehensive & dynamic framework for measuring, monitoring & managing the market risk of a bank. It is the management of structure of balance sheet (liabilities & assets) to maximize net earning from interest within overall risk-preference (present & future) of the bank.

2. Cross Selling

Cross-selling stands for offering to the existing & new customers, some additional banking products, with a view to expand banking business, reduce the per customer cost of operations & provide more satisfaction & value to the customer.

3. Credit Card Business

Issue of cards

- Banks having net worth of Rs. 100 cr or above only can undertake the credit card business.
- RBI permission is not required to undertake credit card issue business.

LIQUIDITY ADJUSTMENT FACILITY

Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) was introduced by RBI during June, 2000 in phases, to ensure smooth transition & keeping pace with technological upgradation.

Tenor: Reverse Repo auctions (for absorption of liquidity) & Repo auctions (for injection of liquidity) are conducted on a daily basis (except Saturdays).

Cap: 0.25% of NDTL w.e.f. 01.04.14.

Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)

MSF was introduced w.e.f. May 09, 2011, by RBI.

Eligibility: Scheduled Commercial Banks having Current Account & SGL Account with RBI.

Tenor & Amount: It can be availed up to 2% of NDTL at the end of 2nd preceding fortnight. It is for one day.

CLEARING CORPORATION OF INDIA

Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL) was incorporated on 30th of April, 2001, as the country's first clearing house for the Govt. securities, forex & other related market segments. It commenced operations from Feb 15, 2002. It provides a system for efficient clearing of money, government securities & foreign exchange market transactions.

Collateralised Borrowing & Lending Obligation (CBLO)

CBLO, an RBI approved money market instrument, is developed by CCIL for the benefit of the entities phased out from interbank call money market or given restricted participation in terms of ceiling on call borrowing & lending transactions & who do not have access to the call money market.

It is a discounted instrument available in electronic book entry form for the maturity period ranging from 7 days to 90 Days (can be up to one year as per RBI guidelines).

ASSET SECURITISATION

Securitisation of assets is an additional channel for recycling of funds by business entities including banks.

Securitisation is process through which the future receivables (say rent, installment of a term loan due in future) of an organization (say bank), are converted into debt instruments (such as bonds with a fixed rate of return) & then sold.

BANKING CODES & STANDARDS BOARD OF INDIA

Based on the recommendations of Committee on Procedures & Performance Audit on Public Services (Tarapore Committee), Banking Codes & Standards Board of India (BCSBI) was set up on the lines of a similar set up in UK to oversee the Fair Practice Code evolved by the Bankers.

Members: The Board was set up as a Society, under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. Commercial banks, RRBs & Urban Coop Banks are its members. RBI was funding the entire cost of operations of the Board for the initial 5 years.

A Governing council of the BCSBI looks after its financial affairs & managerial policies. The tenure of the Council is 5 years & the appointment of the Council after 5 years would be with the concurrence of the RBI.

FINANCIAL SECTOR SCHEMES

KISAN VIKAS PATRA

KPV are regulated by KVP Rules 2014, Scheme is available through Post Offices & those banks that are authorized to operate PPF scheme.

Denomination: Rs.1000, Rs.5000, Rs.10000 & Rs.50000

Types of certificates: Category Single, Joint A-Type & Joint B-Type (E/S).

Maturity period: 110 Months

Rate of interest: Rs.1000 becomes double during the maturity period.

1. Nomination facility, 2. pledge for loan facility & 3. pre-mature payment after 2 years & 6 months subject to certain conditions, is eligible.