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### India third in nuclear power installations

According to World Nuclear Industry Status released in September 2017, India has been ranked third in the world with respect to six installed nuclear reactors India occupies 3rd position in the list and China is in the 20th position.

The number of nuclear reactors has been reducing throughout the world for four consecutive years. Also most of the nuclear reactor constructions are delayed due to increase in project costs and delay in power generation.

Now, there were 53 reactors in 2017.

Russia and US have shut down reactors in 2016 also Sweden and South Korea have closed their old nuclear reactor units in first half of 2017.

Power generation has increased by 1.4% in 2016 globally which is it is stagnated at 10.5%.

### Department of Atomic Energy, India:

- Headquarters – Mumbai
- Secretary – Dr.Sekhar Basu
- Minister of State – Mr.Jitendra Singh

### DRUZBA 2017: Pakistan, Russia hold joint military drill

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- Pakistan and Russia are holding a two-week long military exercise, the second edition of DRUZBA 2017 (Friendship-2017)
- This exercise held in Minralney Vody, Russia.
- The exercise set the stage for translating political goodwill between both countries into a substantial partnership to enhance defence ties.
- DRUZBA 2017 focused on counter-terrorism operations, hostage and rescue, cordon and search operation also enhance the military ties between two countries.

### **INS TARASA commissioned into Indian Navy**

- INS Tarasa, a Water Jet Fast Attack Craft intended for extended coastal and offshore surveillance and patrolling, was commissioned into the Indian Navy at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai, it is the fourth and last ship in series of Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (WJFAC).
- It is the fourth and last of the Water Jet an improved variant of Car Nicobar-class high-speed offshore patrol vessels (OPVs) built

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by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers, Kolkata.

- INS Tarasa is 50 metres long, powered by three waterjets which give it speed of over 35 knots (65 kmph), named after the picturesque island in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago in Bay of Bengal.
- Lt Commander Praveen Kumar is the commanding officer of the ship.

### **Government launches Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt System (e- NWR)**

- Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Shri Ram Vilas Paswan has launched the Web Portal of Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) & "Electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (e- NWR) System" in New Delhi.
- These initiatives taken by the WDRA in simplifying Warehouse Registration Rules, digitizing entire process of registration, monitoring and surveillance as well as creation and management of NWRs in electronic form through two repositories

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- e-NWR will have no chances of any tempering, mutilation, fudging, loss or damage and also no possibility of any multiple financing for this reason these NWRs will facilitate an easy pledge financing by banks and other financial institutions
- It also help smooth trading on various trading centres like commodity exchanges, electronic National Agriculture Markets (e-NAM) and other electronic platforms.
- The initiatives would revolutionise the marketing of agricultural commodities and help farmers realize better price for their produce which will be a step towards doubling the farmers' income by 2022.

### **Union Government launches Divyang Sarathi Mobile Application**

- The Ministry for Social Justice and Empowerment has launched Divyang Sarathi—The accessible and comprehensive mobile application for easy dissemination of information to 'Divyangjans, so that they can understand all details pertaining to the scheme,

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scholarship, statutes, institutional support systems and other relevant information.

- The app is integral part of ICT component of Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) launched in December 2015, also compliant with principles of UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for Universal Access and provisions of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016
- The application was developed by Anunaya Jha and B Susheela.
- It has been developed bilingually (i.e. information is available in Hindi as well as English) and it has an unique feature which is audio notes (text to voice conversion) which converts the written information into an audio file.
- It can be accessed by any android user. The mobile app aims to empower Divyangjans.

### **India ranks 40th in 2017 Global Competitiveness Index**

- On 27th September 2017, World Economic Forum (WEF) released the Global Competitiveness Report, in

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Switzerland, India was placed at 40th spot among 137 countries. GCI scores are calculated on basis of 12 categories called 'pillars of competitiveness' which covers both business and social indicators.

- Top 5 Countries are: Switzerland occupies the 1<sup>st</sup> position, United States 2<sup>nd</sup> position, Singapore 3<sup>rd</sup> position, Netherlands 4<sup>th</sup> position and Germany 5<sup>th</sup> position.
- The Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) is prepared on the basis of country-level data under 12 categories of competitiveness.
- The 12 categories of competitiveness and India's score in these categories are:
  - Institutions, Infrastructure
  - Macroeconomic environment
  - Health and primary education
  - Higher education and training
  - Goods market efficiency
  - Labour market efficiency
  - financial market development

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- Technological readiness
  - Market size
  - Business sophistication
  - Innovation
- India remains most competitive country in South Asia. India has slipped by one position compared to 39th spot in 2016 GCI.

