

Important Days

- **National Doctor's Day** is observed on 1 July annually. This day is celebrated in the memory of Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy in order to pay honour to the entire medical profession.
- **World Sports Journalists Day** is observed on July 2. It was established by the International Sports Press Association (AIPS) in 1994 to mark the 70th anniversary of its foundation.
- **Global Forgiveness Day** is observed on July 07, 2017.
- **World Population Day** is observed on 11 July annually,
- 12 July is observed as **Malala Day** across the World and by United Nations.
- July 15 is observed as "**Youth Skills Day**. Theme of 2017: **Skills for the Future of Work**
- 17 July is the **Day of International Criminal Justice**.
- **Nelson Mandela Day** is observed on 18 July every year to mark the birth anniversary of him.
- **Kargil Vijay Diwas**, named after the success of Operation Vijay is celebrated on 26 July 1999. On this Day, India successfully took command of the high outposts which had been lost to Pakistani intruders.
- July 28, 2017 is observed as **World Hepatitis Day**. This year's World Hepatitis Day theme is "Eliminate Hepatitis,"
- **International Tiger Day** is observed on 29 July every year. This was first celebrated in 2010
- July 30 is observed as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons.

National Events

- **Ram Nath Kovind** sworn in as India's 14th President
- The Centre and the Government of Haryana joined hands to **revive the long lost River Saraswati** and provide water to the drought-prone areas of India.
- 12th July 2017 **NABARD celebrated its 36th foundation day**. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is an apex development bank in India, headquartered at Mumbai
- **Telangana School Education Department** issued strict guidelines to **reduce the weight of school bags** for children in the State. Schools including aided and un-aided private schools

have to follow guidelines. Telangana government has capped the weight of their school bags between 1.5 kg and 5 kg.

- The Lok Sabha passed the **IIIT Public Private Partnership Bill 2017**. The Bill provides to establish 20 IIITs under Public Private Partnership mode across the country and authorise them to award degrees to the students.
- Telangana Government launched a portal "**Janahitha**" **grievance Redressal system**. The program is aimed for the public to submit their complaints online smoothly and get speedy redressal. The public can also apply for various welfare schemes through the facility.
- The Punjab government announced the launch of its flagship '**Apni Gaddi Apna Rozgar**' scheme by flagging off over **100 uberMOTO bikes**. Under the scheme the state government will be providing commercial two wheelers and four wheelers to unemployed youth at subsidised rates.
- **Singing of Vande Mataram** in schools, government offices, private entities and industries in **Tamil Nadu** has been made compulsory by the Madras high court.
- **A Family Welfare Committee (FWC)** in every district will scrutinize dowry harassment cases before local police can arrest the accused, the Supreme Court said laying down a set of guidelines to curb misuse of the law.
- In a significant move, the **Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)** adopted three Codex standards for **black, white and green pepper, cumin and thyme** paving the way for an universal agreement on identifying quality spices in various countries. The adoption of Codex standards for the three spices will help evolve a common standardisation process for their global trade and availability.
- Reliance Defence and Engineering Ltd (RDEL) took control of Pipavav Defence and Offshore Engineering Company, **two naval offshore patrol vessels (NOPVs)** were launched at RDEL's shipyard today in Pipavav. The two NOPVs, named '**Shachi**' and '**Shruti**', are the first warships to be launched by a private sector shipyard in India.
- **The Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill, 2016** was passed by the Lok Sabha. The Bill aims to establish a legal framework to consolidate the existing laws relating to admiralty jurisdiction of courts, admiralty proceedings on maritime claims, arrest of vessels and related issues. It also aims to replace archaic laws which are hindering efficient governance.
- **The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** is **banning the use of stapler pins** in tea bags effective January 1, 2018.

- National Green Tribunal (NGT) **banned all construction within 100 metres of the river's edge** from Haridwar in Uttarakhand to Unnao in Uttar Pradesh.
- Delhi, after Maharashtra, became the **second state to accept online RTI Application**.
- The government has **merged the urban development and housing and urban poverty alleviation ministries**. Now this will be known as **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**. This is third time the ministries have been merged.
- **Uttarakhand** government has started to provide **free coaching for meritorious students** of the state for admissions into IIT with the launch of Super-30 scheme.
- To improve patient care through better family engagement and education, the Punjab government launched a flagship health scheme — **Care Companion Programme (CCP)** Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recently released Operational Guidelines for Planning and Implementation of Family Participatory Care (FPC) for improving newborn health.
- **Delhi Metro has become the only completely 'green' Metro system** in the world for adhering to green building norms for its residential colonies,
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed India's first unmanned tank, which has three variants – surveillance, mine detection and reconnaissance in areas with nuclear and bio threats. It is called **Muntra (Mission UNmanned TRAcked)** and has been rolled out of the Chennai lab.
- The Supreme Court allowed **Arunachal Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands** to join the club of Sikkim and Meghalaya, both of which enjoy full exemption from the court's ban on sale of liquor within 500 metres of National and State Highways.
- Meghalaya chief minister **Mukul Sangma** launched the Livelihood Intervention and Facilitation of Entrepreneurship (Life) programme in Songsak in the East Garo Hills.
- The Indian Railways launched **RailCloud**, a virtual server with an inbuilt security system that will enable faster connectivity at a reduced cost.
- With the President of India giving assent to the **Maharashtra Prohibition of People from Social Boycott (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2016**, Maharashtra has become the first state in the country to bring a law making social boycott a crime.
- **India will host the Theatre Olympics in 2018**, first since the event's inception in 1993, Ministry of Culture in association with National School of Drama (NSD)
- The government launched an app called **GST Rate Finder**
- **Matunga suburban railway station** in Mumbai has become the first station in India to be run by an all-women staff.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated **computerisation of PACS and launched RuPay Kisan Credit cards** in the state. **Odisha is the first state** to implement an integrated

Core Banking Solution Project covering all three tiers of short term cooperative credit structure - state cooperative bank, district central cooperative bank

- National capital police will be the first state police who will get **'super cop belt,'**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi will adopt Kakrahia**, a village known for its wrestlers and wrestling arenas, under the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana
- The National Green Tribunal imposed **a complete ban on 'manja'**, the string used to fly kites, made of nylon or any synthetic material which is non-biodegradable, saying it posed a threat to the lives of birds, animals and humans.
- The Delhi government flagged **off six mobile vans** that will go across city markets to **raise awareness on the goods and services tax (GST)** and address concerns of traders regarding the new tax regime.
- Defence Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurated the **315th Sainik Rest House** of the Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB) here aimed to provide facilities for former servicemen.
- The Women and Child Development ministry launched an online platform to enable women employees of the Central government to file complaints related to **sexual harassment at the workplace**. The online complaint management system — **'SHe-box'** (sexual harassment electronic box) — hosted on the website of the Women and Child Development Ministry, also seeks to ensure "effective implementation" of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
- The Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Tomar and Ms. Greenfield launched Mobile App for Road Maintenance **"Aarambh": Resource mobilization for rural roads maintenance has always been a challenge for the States.**
- Maharashtra has become **the first state in the country to provide women an injectable contraceptive** for free.

The state's public health department launched **a programme called Antara** on July 10 to offer women an injection of Medroxyprogesterone acetate (MPA), a birth-control hormone.

- **India has declared itself free from Bird Flu** (highly pathogenic Avian Influenza - H5N1 and H5N8) and notified it to the World Organisation for Animal Health.
- The Odisha government today signed an Expression of Intent (EOI) with the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) and Athletics Federation of India (AFI) to establish a **High Performance Academy in Bhubaneswar**.
- Indian Prime Narendra Modi formally **inaugurated TransStadia in Ahmedabad**, Gujarat which is a multi-purpose sports complex also hosts a 20-000 seater state-of-the-art football stadium, the first of its kind in the state.
- **'Vikrikar Bhavan'** the headquarters of Maharashtra government's erstwhile Sales Tax department, was renamed as **'GST Bhavan'** as the new tax regime rolled out.

- The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) **announced exemption of fees for its transgender students** of all programmes.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik dedicated to the nation the state's longest bridge and named it after **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose**. The 2.88 km bridge over the river Kathajodi will connect the state capital of Bhubaneswar with Cuttack
- Narendra Modi inaugurated **Textiles India 2017**, India's first ever mega textiles trade fair, being held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- **Rail Land Development Authority** joined hands with **National Building Construction Corporation** for redevelopment of 10 railway stations across the country on global standards.
- **Telangana would have a separate budget for agriculture from the next year.**
- Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines, Shri Piyush Goyal launched the '**MERIT app** (Merit Order Despatch of Electricity for Rejuvenation of Income and Transparency)' and the e-bidding portal for providing e-Bidding solution to States to select Independent Power Producers (IPPs) for procurement of power by transferring their domestic coal under the scheme of flexibility in utilization of domestic coal.
- The Karnataka government has launched the '**Elevate 100**' scheme to identify and nurture innovative start-ups.
- The Ministry of Rural Development will launch a new sub-scheme under **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)** which will be named as "**Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY)**".
- The Maharashtra government, while renewing its annual ban on gutka and pan masala, **has removed 'scented supari' from the list** at least until a special committee gives its verdict. In other words, scented supari - which health activists claim is just another name for pan masala can be sold in Maharashtra.
- **Radio broadcast completes 90 years in country** and first ever radio broadcast in the country went on the air from the Bombay Station on July 23, 1927 under a private company
- **Lucknow Metro** will also become the first in the country to have its **own FM radio station.**
- Minister of State for Home Affairs, Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the Research Institution of **World Ancient, Traditional, Culture & Heritage (RIWATCH) Museum** at Roing and hoped that it would serve as a place of exchange of cultural values of various tribes of the state and the North East.
- India has launched its first petroleum Research & Development (R&D) facility for **testing high-end BS-VI quality fuel emissions.** Operated by state-run Indian Oil Corp (IOC), the R&D facility is designed to test all types of fuel including petrol, diesel, ethanol-blended petrol, bio-diesel, CNG, LNG, hydrogen-CNG and 2G-ethanol blends to ensure they meet the superior BS-VI norms that are to be implemented across the country by April 2020

- **The 10TH India-Jordan Morocco Trade and Economic Joint Committee (TEJC) Meeting** was held in New Delhi on 4th and 5th July 2017
- The Maharashtra government approved a revised policy of the '**Majhi Kanya Bhagyashree**' scheme, according to which families who have a yearly income of upto Rs 7.5 lakh will be benefited.
- The UIDAI or Unique Identification Authority of India has launched a new mobile app, called **mAadhaar**, that will negate the need to carry the Aadhaar card in wallets.
- In order to provide qualitative education to the students, '**Hamari Shala Kaisi Ho**' and '**Shala Siddhi Karyakram**' are being implemented by the School Education department in Government schools of the Madhya Pradesh.
- Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forests & Climate Change Dr. Harshvardhan inaugurated the 11th Foundation Day of Ministry of Earth Sciences in New Delhi On this occasion, the Minister also launched two Mobile Apps (i) **India Quake for dissemination of earthquake parameters** and (ii) **Sagar Vani to disseminate ocean information and alerts to the user community in timely manner.**
- Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched '**Aaykar Setu**' -- an e-initiative for the Income tax Department to directly communicate with the taxpayers and aimed at providing information on useful tax services.
- Gifts from employers to employees worth up to **Rs. 50,000 will not attract the Goods and Services Tax**, nor will perquisites enjoyed by employees as part of the employment contract
- In a move to ease commuter woes, Mumbai Metro One announced the launch of **India's first mobile ticketing system, OnGo** That will help commuters pass the AFC (automated fare collection) gates using their mobile phones

International Events

- **Germany legalised same-sex marriage** joining Ireland, France, Spain and other nations in extending full marital rights to same-sex couples, including the right to adopt children.
- China is building a **forest city – Liuzhou Forest City** – which will boast urban settlements and vertical forests
- **Carrie Lam was sworn in as Hong Kong's chief executive**, becoming its first female leader and the fourth person to hold the top government post since China regained control of the former British colony in 1997.
- India has contributed an additional **million dollars to a UN partnership fund** launched to support sustainable development projects across the developing world.

- India will host **Global Conference on Cyberspace (GCCS) 2017**, the world's largest conference on cyber space here on November 23 - 24
- The first stage of the joint Russian-Chinese naval exercises dubbed "**Maritime Cooperation-2017**" kicked off in the **Baltic Sea**
- **Japan's Okinoshima island**, an ancient religious site where women are banned, has been declared a World Heritage site by the **UN's cultural body Unesco**.
- Britain's first woman Sikh **MP Preet Kaur Gill** has been elected to the Home Affairs Select Committee in the UK Parliament.
- **Australia has sent its first uranium shipment** to India for testing purposes ahead of possible commercial sales.
- **Sri Lanka has signed a \$1.1bn (£837m) deal with China** for the control and development of the southern deep-sea port of **Hambantota**.
- **The longest pedestrian suspension bridge** in the world was officially opened in Switzerland measuring in at just under half-a-kilometre long. At 494 metres long, it overtakes the "Titan-RT" bridge in Germany as the world's longest pedestrian suspension bridge.
- **World Health Organization (WHO)** declared **the end of the most recent outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD)** in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).
- Indonesia will now refer to the northern areas of its exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea as the "**North Natuna Sea**" in an act of defiance against Beijing's territorial ambitions in the region
- **India, will import crude oil from the United States** for the first time after Indian Oil Corp bought a cargo that will be delivered in October.
- A 14-day joint military training exercise **Exercise Maitree 2017** between India and Thailand started in Himachal Pradesh
- China has opened a modern cinema theatre on **Yongxing Island in the disputed South China Sea** as part of its plan to establish authority over the area
- Israeli Crysanthumun flower will now be called "**MODI**"
- **India has slipped to the 88th place** in terms of money parked by its citizens with Swiss banks, while the U.K. remains on the top.
- Conservative **Malta becomes 24th nation to legalize same-sex marriage**
- The **22nd World Petroleum Congress**, the largest gathering for the oil and gas industry, was held in Istanbul
- The landmark **India-Japan civil nuclear agreement** came into force. It seeks to promote full cooperation between the two countries in the development and uses of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes on a stable, reliable and predictable basis

- Australia's foreign minister Julie Bishop has signed the framework agreement to **join the International Solar Alliance (ISA)**. The Alliance, spearheaded by India and France, seeks to promote solar adoption, skill sharing and best practice for nations situated mainly between the tropics, driven by the Paris Agreement.
- **The 2017 BRICS Youth Forum opened in Beijing** to discuss the development of the youth in the countries of the grouping. Themed 'Enhance BRICS Partnership, Promote Youth Development', the three-day forum gathered 50 youth representatives working as civil servants, scholars, entrepreneurs, artists and journalists from the BRICS countries.
- Zimbabwe's parliament passed a bill amending the constitution to give the **president sweeping powers to appoint the country's top judges** without consulting any other institution.

Sports

- Indian skipper **Mithali Raj** has become the **first player** in the history of women's ODI cricket to have **crossed 6000 career runs**. Mithali reached the milestone in India's ICC Women's World Cup 2017 match against Australia.
- **Karnataka's Manudev** won the title in the first National Masters snooker tournament 2017.
- Germany clinched the **2017 FIFA Confederations Cup** title beating Chile 1-0 in a tight final in Russia.
- FIFA have lifted their suspension of the **Sudanese Football Association**, but the move comes too late to save the season of the country's clubs competing in African club competition.
- Novak Djokovic has won the **Aegon Championship in Eastbourne** by beating Gael Monfils
- Hungary — Russia and Hungary will host two future editions of the world championships in short-course swimming. Swimming's world governing body, FINA, says **Kazan will host in 2022 and Budapest in 2024**. They beat bids from Hong Kong and Taipei City.
- Roger Federer won a **record eighth Wimbledon title** and became the tournament's oldest champion on Sunday with a straight-sets victory over injury-hit Marin Cilic who dramatically broke down in tears midway through the final.
- **Garbine Muguruza** took just one hour and 17 minutes to beat five-time winner Venus Williams 7-5, 6-0 to clinch her maiden Wimbledon and second Grand Slam title.
- Indian weightlifter **Konsam Ormila Devi** has bagged a gold medal at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- **Jehan Daruvala** became the first Indian driver to win in the FIA Formula 3 European Championship

- Young Indian golfer **Diksha Dagar** scripted history after winning a silver medal in the womens individual golf event of the Deaflympics, which is being held at the Samsun, Turkey.
- **Sebastian Vettel** wins Hungarian Grand Prix
- India's only ATP World Tour event will now be known as **Maharashtra Open** with owners of the event IMG (Reliance) shifting the tournament to Pune by signing a five-year deal with the MSLTA.
- **HS Prannoy** beat fellow Indian **Parupalli Kashyap** in the final clash at the United States Open Grand Prix Gold in Anaheim to win his third Grand Prix Gold title.
- India's **Harinder Pal Sandhu** continued his fine run by winning a second title in two weeks, beating top-seed Rex Hedrick of Australia
- India's leading cueist **Pankaj Advani** teamed up with Laxman Rawat to demolish Pakistan in the final of the Asian Team Snooker Championship
- Para-athlete **Sundar Singh Gurjar** became only the second Indian to win a gold at the World Para Athletics Championships, winning one in javelin at the 2017 edition in London
- BCCI confirmed the **Ravi Shastri as the new coach of the Indian cricket team**, while also naming Zaheer Khan as the bowling coach.
- **Rajeev Dubey**, Member Executive Board, FICCI and Group President (HR & Corporate Services), Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, got elected to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Governing Board
- World youth champion **Sachin Siwach** was the lone Indian boxer to clinch a gold medal at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bahamas.
- India's **Ajay Singh** has clinched the bronze medal in Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships to take his country's tally to three medals in Kathmandu
- **Jordan Spieth** clinched his third major title of the year in the form of British Open by defeating fellow American Matt Kuchar by three strokes in an epic duel at Royal Birkdale
- India skipper **Mithali Raj** was chosen as the captain of the ICC Women's World Cup 2017 team by the International Cricket Council. Besides Mithali, Harmanpreet Kaur and Deepti Sharma were the other two Indians included in the ICC's team.
- **Srikanth Kidambi** has surpassed women's single player Tai Tzu Ying of Taiwan to top the chart of the highest earners in badminton for 2017, earning a total of over Rs. 95 lakhs(\$147,847.50).

Index & Ranking

- **Forbes world's billionaires' list** was announced on Friday with oil to telecom business owner, Mukesh Ambani still the richest Indian on the list. Gates has topped Forbes list of the world's billionaires for 18 out of the past 23 years, Top 10 Richest Indians are: Mukesh Ambani, Dilip

Shanghvi, Hinduja family, Azim Premji , Pallonji Mistry , Lakshmi Mittal, Godrej family, Shiv Nadar, Kumar Birla, Cyrus Poonawalla

- India has been ranked 132nd among 152 nations in a new **index tracking commitment to reducing income inequality**. **Sweden** led the index while Nigeria remained the worst performer. Top 5 Best Performers Sweden, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Germany . Worst Performer: Nigeria, Bahrain, Myanmar, Albania, Panama
- Seven Indian companies have made it to the latest Fortune **500 list of the world's biggest corporations in terms of revenue**, with the retail giant Walmart topping the global rankings. The seven companies and their rankings are IOC: 161st, RIL: 215th, Tata Motors: 226th , SBI: 232nd, Bharat Petroleum: 358th, Hindustan Petroleum: 367th, Oil and Natural Gas, Corporation: 426th. The overall list was topped by Walmart
- Six Indian hotels have made it to the **World's 100 Best Hotels** survey by the Travel + Leisure magazine, with The Oberoi Vanyavilas in Ranthambhore ranking 16th. The Leela Palace in Udaipur was ranked 34th, while Taj Rambagh Palace in Jaipur was ranked 43rd. The list includes The Oberoi Rajvillas, Jaipur, The Oberoi Amarvillas, Agra, and The Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur.
- Raipurs Swami Vivekananda Airport was once again ranked first in **Customer Satisfaction** among 49 airports in the country. Raipur Airport achieved 4.84 score on a five point scale index in the latest CSI survey
- The Energy Resources Institute (TERI) has been ranked as the **second best climate think tank** in the world. It was established in 1974 and was formerly known as Tata Energy and Resource Institute.
- India is ranked 116 out of 157 nations on a **global index that assesses the performance of countries towards achieving the ambitious sustainable development goals (SDGs)**. **Sweden leads the list**, followed by Denmark and Finland.
- **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Gujarat are the three best-performing states in "ease of doing business"**, as stated by NITI Ayog

Banking & Finance

- Canara Bank has launched its first '**Digital Banking Branch**' at Spencer Towers in MG Road, Bengaluru. The branch is reportedly titled "**CANDI**" and it will aim to provide an end-to-end digital experience to customers.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the umbrella organization for all retail payment systems in the country, has received the final nod from the Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) to function as the **Bharat Bill Payment Central Unit** and operate the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that **Supervisory Colleges** have been setup for the following six Scheduled Commercial Banks which have sizeable international presence:- **State Bank of India, ICICI Bank Ltd., Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Axis Bank Ltd. and Punjab National Bank.**
- State-owned **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** and **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** have signed an agreement for the distribution of insurance products through the branches.
- **BSE joined hands with Egyptian Exchange (EGX)** for cooperation in exchange of information across business areas
- The exchange aims to cross list and trade securities that would provide new investment alternatives to investors in both markets.
- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)** has started full-fledged merchant banking operations to benefit the expanding number of growth-oriented micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), especially those with a strong technology and innovation quotient.
- India has seen the launch of its **fourth payments bank, Fino Payments Bank.** It joins Airtel Payments Bank, India Post Payments Bank and Paytm Payments Bank.
- **ICICI Bank has launched a facility whereby its existing salaried customers can avail personal loans at ATMs.** These customers can get pre-qualified personal loans up to 15 lakhs in their savings account instantly.
- **Standard Chartered Bank has launched a Multi-currency Forex Card** for overseas travellers. The card will allow customers the convenience of loading up to 20 widely used currencies on one card with an online reload facility during overseas travel.
- Bank of India's new chief has launched **Project Connect**, an initiative to revive the bank that has suffered huge losses for two consecutive years due to a sharp rise in bad loans.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given approval for **revision of guidelines of Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGB) Scheme** with a view to achieve its intended objectives. The investment limit per fiscal year has been increased to 4 kg for individuals, 4 Kg for Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) and 20 Kg for Trusts and similar entities notified by the Government from time to time.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a dedicated portal '**SBI Realty**' that will help home buyers to choose flats from its 3,000 approved projects across the country, which are spread across 13 states and Union Territories covering 30 cities.
- **Markets regulator Sebi has entered into a pact with the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)** for exchange of information concerning Central Counterparties (CCPs).
- **Santander UK plc and Yes Bank** has signed a memorandum of understanding to help boost UK-India trade and local business networking opportunities.

- City based private sector bank - **Karnataka Bank** has unveiled yet another novel card variant 'KBL-image debit card.
- **FINO Payments Bank** has commenced operations as a payments bank with effect from June 30
- **South Indian Bank** has tied up with PFG Forex for remittance facility for the benefit of Indian expatriates from Australia.

Awards & Honours

- Veteran BJP leader **L.K. Advani** received the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for his contributions as a parliamentarian in the Lok Sabha.
- Japan has named former Union Minister **Ashwani Kumar** for its prestigious 'Order of the Rising Sun' award for his contribution to fostering Japan-India ties,
- Indigenously developed mobile application for digitising vaccine logistics, **eVIN**, has won the prestigious **GSMA Asia Mobile Award 2017 (AMO)** for outstanding contribution to the UN's sustainable development goals in Asia.
- The gorgeous **Aishwarya Rai Bachchan**, will be seen **hoisting the Indian national flag** at Melbourne's iconic pulse point, Federation Square as part of the festival 'India at 70!' Aish will be the first Indian woman to do so.
- **Kishore Sansi**, Managing Director and CEO of Vijaya Bank, has been conferred the 'Personality of the Year' award by Skoch Consultancy Services.
- The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2017 selected **Lipstick Under My Burkha** as its opening film for 2017.
- The Indian-origin teenager **Arnav** from UK has successfully secured the top **possible score of 162 on a Mensa IQ test**, two points higher than Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking.
- An IPS officer **Mahesh Muralidhar** from Telangana has won an award from the **US Department of State for his fight against human trafficking in India.**
- The J&K Tourism Department has received the award in the category of '**Best Adventure Tourism Destination and Eco-Tourism Destination**' at a 3-Day event organized by Indian International Travel Mart,
- Writer **Preeti Shenoy** was honoured with the **Indian of the Year award** by Brands Academy
- In the sixth edition of **Big Zee Entertainment Awards 2017** **Alia Bhatt** and **Shahid Kapoor** won the Best Actor, Actress Award for their brilliant performance in Udda Punjab. **Amitabh Bachchan** bagged the award for Most Entertaining Actor in Drama - Male for his performance in Pink. **Abhishek Bachchan** won the award for Most Entertaining Actor in Comedy - Male for Housefull 3 while **Aishwarya** bagged the award for Most Entertaining Actor in Drama - Female for her role in Sarbjit.

- Climate and energy efficiency solutions company **Danfoss India** has been conferred with the '**Golden Peacock Award**' for Environment Management.
- The famous blue-bordered sari of Mother Teresa, who has been canonised as Saint Teresa of Calcutta by the Vatican, has been recognised as an **Intellectual Property of the Missionaries of Charity**.
- Maya, a Bengaluru-based mobile app that helps women track their menstrual cycles, won the Asia Pacific App of the Year at **FbStart Apps of the Year awards**
- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee conferred this year's **Mahanayak Samman 2017** to veteran actress **Shakuntala Barua** for her contribution to the world of cinema.

Appointment

- **Shikha Sharma** has been re-appointed as MD&CEO of Axis Bank for three-year term from June 2018, putting to rest rumours about her being sounded out to head Tata's financial services vertical.
- Olympics badminton silver medallist **P.V. Sindhu** was appointed a Deputy Collector by the Andhra Pradesh government.
- Indian-origin Canadian YouTube sensation, comedian and author, **Lilly Singh** was appointed **Unicef's Goodwill Ambassador**
- The Board of Directors of Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) appointed former Supreme Court judge, Justice **Vikramajit Sen**, as the new chairperson of **Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC)**
- **Iran** has appointed a female CEO to lead its national airline Iran Air for the first time since it was established in the 1940s. The state-owned IRAN daily says that the transport minister has appointed **Farzaneh Sharafbani**, 44, who holds a PhD in aerospace engineering and previously served on the board of Iran Air.
- Uber has appointed **Sanjay Gupta** as the Head of Marketing for its India operations.
- Walmart India has roped in former CEO of Future Consumer **Devendra Chawla** as its Chief Operating Officer, according to a source close to the company.
- GoDaddy has announced the appointment of **Nikhil Arora** as Vice President and Managing Director for its India operations.
- Senior lawyer and constitutional expert **KK Venugopal** has been appointed as the next Attorney General of India.
- Senior diplomat **Shamma Jain** was appointed as India's ambassador to Greece.
- Economic Affairs Secretary **Subhash Chandra Garg** has been appointed as Indias Alternate Governor on the Board of Governors of the Asian

- The Narendra Modi govt appointed **Achal Kumar Jyoti** as Chief Election Commissioner
- Senior IPS officer **R K Pachanda** took charge as the chief of the Indo-China border guarding force ITBP
- **Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rawat**, presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) here, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Indonesia.
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's daughter **Saima Wazed Hossain** has been appointed as the Goodwill Ambassador for World Health Organisation (WHO) for Autism in South-East Asia region for a two-year period
- Senior diplomat **Vijay Keshav Gokhale** was tonight appointed as the economic relations secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- **Brenda Hale** has been appointed as the first female president of the UK supreme court.
- Tata Global Beverages has appointed Tata Sons chairman **N Chandrasekaran** as chairman of its Board
- Himachal Pradesh director general of police (DGP) **Sanjay Kumar** has been appointed as the new chief of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- **Mukesh Kumar Jain** was appointed as the managing director and chief executive officer of Oriental Bank of Commerce.
- Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) has announced **Rakesh Dubey**, CEO of SV Creditline Pvt Ltd. as its new President of the Board
- India's Ambassador to Peru **Sandeep Chakravorty** has been appointed as the head of the Indian consulate in New York.
- **Kewal Handa** was today appointed as non-executive chairman of Union Bank of India.
- RP Sanjiv Goenka Group Chairman, **Sanjiv Goenka**, has been selected as the Chairman of the Board of Governors at IIT-Kharagpur. He will be Chairman for three years.
- Science & Technology
- Google officially released a new tool named 'Hire' to help small and medium sized businesses recruit talent
- Technology giant Microsoft has officially launched 'Kaizala', a productivity app that has been designed to enhance the collaboration and communication experience for Indian enterprises.
- The 'Made for India' app is designed for large group communications and work management, and works even on 2G networks.
- Reliance Jio has launched the **Asia-Africa-Europe (AAE-1)** submarine cable system.
- India successfully test-fires quick reaction surface-to-air missile at Odisha's Chandipur test range. The missile has a strike range of 25 km to 30 km.

Books & Authors

- President Pranab Mukherjee on Thursday received the first copy of a book on his late wife, Suvra Mukherjee. The book, '**President's Lady**' (Pranaber Preyosi) has been written by Sangeeta Ghosh.
- Amit Bhardwaj, the founder of Amaze Mining & Research Limited, today announced the launch of his pioneering e-book, '**Cryptocurrency for Beginners**'.

