

Weekly Current Affairs (Jan 15 to Jan 21)

- Government to promulgate ordinance to conduct Jallikattu in Tamil Nadu.
- All India Football Federation president Praful Patel was appointed as a member of FIFA's finance committee for a period of four years, PTI reported.
- Indian Navy's biggest aircraft carrier, INS Vikramaditya gets an ATM onboard. State Bank of India will launch the ATM facility onboard premier warship in Karwar, Karnataka.
- Businessman-turned-politician Donald Trump was sworn-in as the 45th President of the United States at the Inauguration Day ceremony in Washington DC.
- Physicists from Austria have created new form of Hydrogen i.e. negatively charged hydrogen clusters.
- RBI imposes Rs 75 lakh penalty on Bombay Mercantile Cooperative Bank.
- Union Minister of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Shri Kalraj Mishra inaugurated a Workshop on MSME Cooperation amongst Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Member countries on January 19, 2017 in New Delhi.
- Cooperative banks cannot accept deposits under PMGKY.
- The Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha, on January 19, 2017 announced that the under UDAN (Ude Desh Ke Aam Naagrik) Scheme is likely to take off in February 2017.
- Himachal Pradesh chief minister Virbhadra Singh announced Dharamsala as the second capital of the tiny hill state with a population of about 70 lakh.
- Over 3.81 lakh winners of Rs 61 cr in NITI Aayog's Lucky Draw Scheme.
- President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the 28th Dantan Gramin Mela in West Midnapore district in West Bengal.

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- ISKCON's Govardhan eco village at nearby Wada taluka in Thane district has been conferred the United Nations award for taking innovative measures of 'sustainable tourism' in country.
- Bihar Govt. to launch NashaMukt campaign to make the state addiction free.
- Mr Barrow was sworn in as President of Gambia in exile in the country's embassy in neighbouring Senegal, while incumbent Yahya Jammeh continues to cling on to power.
- Riding on Pankaj Rana and Nirmla Devi's brilliant show, Punjab Royals made the finals of the Pro Wrestling League Season 2 after beating defending champions Mumbai Maharathi 5-4 in the second semifinal in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi told 69 nations participating in the flagship geo-political conference "Raisina Dialogue" that reform would not be enough "unless it transforms economy and society".
- India – UAE to hold 1st strategic dialogue in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi today approved the appointment of Delhi Police Commissioner Alok Kumar Verma as the new Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation.
- To put an innovative progress in elementary education sector of the country by continuous monitoring of the flagship scheme - Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar launched a dedicated web portal 'ShaGun', which has been prepared by World Bank in collaboration with Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- Railway minister Suresh Prabhu unveils Mission 41k energy plan for Railways.

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- Shri Birender Singh Yadav (IFS: 1997), presently High Commissioner of India to Republic of Ghana, has been concurrently accredited as the High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Sierra Leone, with residence in Accra (Ghana).
- Priyanka Chopra has become a star in the west by winning her second People's Choice Award for Favourite Dramatic TV Actress, all thanks to her larger than life role of Alex Parrish on the popular TV show Quantico.
- State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) will provide technology platform for pilot launch of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB).
- The government signed an agreement with the National Yuva Cooperative Society to set up 1,000 Janaushadhi Kendras across the country and targets to open such medical stores in every block and gram panchayat to provide quality medicines at an affordable price.
- RBI Governor Urjit Patel informs that 9.2 lakh crore rupees in the new currency have been introduced in the system after demonetization.
- Mizoram Chief Secretary Lalmalsawma inaugurated the Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (EDS) under the New Economic Development Policy (NEDP), an official statement said.
- The Karnataka government has decided to allow the sale of white kerosene in open market.
- The 58th edition of India International Garment Fair (IIGF) began in New Delhi.
- Alibaba becomes world wide sponsor of Olympic Games through 2018.
- The 10th edition of the Jaipur Literature Festival (JLF) begins with Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje, veteran lyricist Gulzar, American poet Anne Waldman and spiritual writer Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, inaugurating the five-day event.

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- Lloyd's get final approval from IRDAI to open first branch in India.
- At the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting being held in Davos, Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) has published its list of world's most dynamic cities - the main ranking factors being rapid adoption of technology and innovation - and Bengaluru has taken the top spot, leaving behind global tech hub Silicon Valley.
- 30 more countries to join Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank.
- Cricket icon Kapil Dev was inducted into Legends Club 'Hall of Fame' in presence of former India captains Ajit Wadekar, Sunil Gavaskar and Nari Contractor at the Cricket Club of India in Mumbai.
- Actress Shabana Azmi has been nominated in the Best Supporting Actress category for the upcoming 11th Asian Film Awards, to be held on March 21 in Hong Kong.
- Only cash deposits can be declared under PMGKY.
- Bharti AXA General Insurance has appointed Sanjeev Srinivasan as CEO and Managing Director.
- Italian conservative Antonio Tajani elected the new President of the European Parliament.
- Twenty five children from different parts of the country have been selected for Indian Council for Child Welfare's (ICCW) National Bravery Awards to be presented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 23.
- In a bid to promote Urdu language the Indian Institute of Mass Communication launched a full-fledged postgraduate diploma course. The institute was earlier offering a five-month journalism course in the Urdu language.
- NASA set to explore Iron-Rich Asteroid 16 Psyche.

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- Kangra has become the first district in the country to geo-tag 100 per cent of the assets generated under the MGNREGA.
- Mawlynnong village in Meghalaya has become a role model for other states in maintaining cleanliness.
- Shivraj Singh Chouhan Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh launches Anadam Scheme to help the poor and the needed person. Under this scheme the people who are economic sound can donate items for the needed person,
- CV Vishvesh wara Pioneer of BlackHole Discovery dies at 78.
- West Bengal to give legal protection to Hilsa fish.
- India became an Associate member of CERN with the Indian government completing its internal approval procedures in respect of the agreement it had signed with CERN on November 21, 2016.
- BSNL launches mobile TV service – Ditto TV.
- India features among top six for global executives when it comes to overall growth prospects over the next 12 months, but enthusiasm for investing in the country has dropped from three years ago, finds out a survey.
- Eugene Cernan, the last human on the moon passed away at 82.
- South Korea is the world's most innovative economy, followed by Germany, Sweden, Japan and Switzerland, according to the latest Bloomberg Innovation Index.
- Karang, a small lake island in Manipur, has become the country's first cashless island.
- Jacob Polley has won the 2016 TS Eliot Prize for poetry, joining the ranks of previous winners including Ted Hughes, Seamus Heaney and Carol Ann Duffy.
- Renowned actress Gita Sen passes away.

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- Sitalpati or cool mat from Cooch Behar district has been recognised as an "intangible cultural heritage" by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), according to a statement issued by West Bengal government.
- Mid-sized private sector lender Yes Bank claimed to have launched the industry's first customisable savings account which will protect customers from "unwanted charges" levied in current offerings.
- Natarajan Chandrasekharan appointed Tata Motors chairman.
- Yes Bank, in collaboration with T-Hub, has launched 'Yes Fintech', a business accelerator program. T-hub is a startup incubator set up by the Telengana government and Anthil – a speed scaling platform for early growth stage start-ups.
- India has been ranked 60th among 79 developing economies, below neighbouring China and Pakistan, in the inclusive development index, according to a WEF report.
- Tajikistan's Amonotov wins Delhi International Chess Tournament.
- Saksham – 2017 was inaugurated for the state of Nagaland in a small function organised at Unity College, Dimapur on January 16.
- A committee formed by the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB) has recently given its suggestion to create 20 percent reservation seats for the girl students in IITs out of the total number of seats available.
- India ranked 78th in Global passport index.
- The Reserve Bank of India more than doubled the daily withdrawal limit from automated teller machines (ATMs) to Rs 10,000 but retained the weekly ceiling at Rs 24,000 with the supply of more five hundred notes.

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- Urging his countrymen to stand against religious intolerance, US President Barack Obama has proclaimed January 16 as Religious Freedom Day in accordance with a yearly tradition.
- Sports minister Vijay Goel inaugurates Khelo India competitions.
- The International Monetary Fund cut India's growth forecast for the current fiscal to 6.6% from its previous estimate of 7.6%.
- It's all Dangal with the Indian Women's boxing team as they went on to finish 3rd in the 6th Nations Cup in the Serbian city of Vrbas.
- BHEL commissions 500MW thermal unit in West Bengal.
- Rajeev Singh, Member (Finance) in Prasar Bharati Board, will take charge as interim CEO of the public broadcaster after S C Panda retires in February.
- A financing agreement for IDA credit of US\$ 48 million (equivalent) for the 'Nagaland Health Project' was signed with the World Bank.
- Mysuru printing press breaks record by printing highest number of notes (1350 million).
- Kiran Doshi, a retired diplomat and educationist from Gujarat, won The Hindu Prize 2016 for his third major work of fiction, Jinnah Often Came to Our House, a book set against the political turmoil of the subcontinent from the early part of the 20th century, ending with the Partition and Independence.
- National award winning film maker Deepak Roy dead at 67.
- Future Group's fashion and lifestyle departmental store Central and SBI Card announced the launch of a co-branded credit card, to offer benefits to consumers in the premium lifestyle and fashion space.

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- India has slipped 3 places to 92nd rank on the global index of talent competitiveness that measures how countries grow, attract and retain talent, a list topped by Switzerland.
 - Valtteri Bottas replaces Nico Roseberg at Mercedes.
 - Shatrughan Sinha, who completed close to five decades in the film industry, was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 62nd Jio Filmfare Awards 2017
 - Siachen braveheart Lance Naik Hanamanthappa Koppad, who survived miraculously for six days under a huge ice-and-snow debris after an avalanche hit his post before losing life to multiple organ failure, was awarded the Sena Medal.
 - Team India's skipper and batting masterclass Virat Kohli on Jan 15 surpassed Master Blaster Sachin Tendulkar's yet another milestone for most centuries in successful run chases.
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- India and the US have signed an MoU to collaborate in the fields of developmental activities and aid in third world countries.
 - Tanzania's Alphonse Simbu won the men's elite full marathon event while Kenya's Bornes Kitur bagged the women's title at the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon on Sunday.
 - SBI pushes merger of 5 associate banks and BMB to next fiscal.
 - For the benefit of both domestic and international tourists, Tamil Nadu Tourism Department has launched a mobile app 'pinakin' with information on tourism in Tamil Nadu with audio facilities.
 - A Mobile app named SEZ India has been launched by the Commerce Secretary on 06 January 2017.

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- BSNL the national carrier, having the largest network across India with highest rural penetration recognizes the need to deliver consistent and personalized digital engagement to their customers.
- 2016 was India's warmest year.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) declared Rs 54.90 crore prize money to over 3.42 lakh winners for NITI Aayog's lucky draw schemes for consumers and merchants.
- Prasar Bharti hosts International Television Dance Festival held in Hyderabad.
- Border Security Force (BSF) launched operation 'Sard Hawa' at the western international border of Rajasthan, under which vigil will be beefed-up to check the instances of infiltration due to the dense fog in the area.
- SpaceX resumes flights by launching Falcon 9 vehicle from California coast.
- Madhya Pradesh government inaugurated a first of its kind scheme of the country, "Digital Dakiya" in Indore on January 14, 2017 to encourage cashless transaction in the state.
- WPI inflation rises to 3.39% in December 2016.
- Two day camel festival begins in Bikaner.
- Army Day in India was celebrated with great enthusiasm in New Delhi on 15th of January to respect the Lieutenant General of India, K. M. Cariappa (Kodandera Madappa Cariappa) who was the first Indian Army's Commander-in-Chief.
- 62nd Jio Filmfare Awards 2017, held on January 14 at the NSCI Dome in Worli, Mumbai. Aamir Khan bagged the Best Actor Award for his performance in 'Dangal'. Alia Bhatt was honoured with the Best Actress Award.
- Rabi crop sowing crosses 616 lakh hectare.

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- Gujarat clinched their maiden Ranji Trophy title as they rode on Parthiv Patel's innings of 143 to beat defending champions Mumbai by five wickets on the final day at the Holkar Stadium.
- India and Sri Lanka today signed an MoU to construct 3000 rain water harvesting systems at a cost of 30 crore Sri Lankan Rupees in northern Jaffna District.
- Former Punjab CM Surjit Singh Barnala passes away at the age of 91.

