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# GK Digest September

# 2017

Contain Current Affair September 2017



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# WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIR: 18 SEPTEMBER 2017 TO 24 SEPTEMBER 2017

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## BANKING AND FINANCIAL AWARENESS

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- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has added **HDFC Bank** in the list of Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs). HDFC Bank is third bank in country to be added in list of D-SIBs after State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank which were added in 2016.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based chatbot '**Eva**' of **HDFC** bank has successfully addressed over 2.7 million customer queries in six months and became the country's largest banking chatbot.
- It was built for HDFC Bank by Bengaluru-based Senseforth AI Research.
- India's largest public sector bank **State Bank of India** (SBI) has launched its own Artificial Intelligence-powered chatbot **Sia**.
- It will take care of customer queries by giving out information on SBI's range of products and services.
- **Fincare Small Finance Bank** started its banking operations with about 25 operational branches across Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- The bank (previously known as Disha Microfin Limited) was given final small finance bank (SFB) licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in May this year.
- **Singapore based bank DBS** has got final approval to operate as a wholly-owned subsidiary (WOS) in India. DBS is the second bank after State Bank of Mauritius to receive the nod for its operation in India
- **R A Sankara Narayanan** has taken charge as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Vijaya Bank.
- **K V Rama Moorthy** has appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd.
- Punjab National Bank and BSNL has teamed up to roll out open mobile wallet **Speedpay**.
- Income tax department is set to launch **Project Insight** from next month ,which will gather virtual information to trace black money.
- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has raised upper age limit for joining the National Pension Scheme (NPS) to **65 years**, from the current 60.

- Paytm Payments Bank has partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch **RuPay-powered digital debit card**.
- Payment gateway provider **PayU** has collaborated with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to provide online payment services.
- The Ministry of Corporate Affairs and the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for automatic sharing of data and information on a regular basis.
- India's foreign exchange (Forex) reserves have crossed **\$400 billion mark** for the first time, according to Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The Union Cabinet chaired has given its approval to introduce of the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill, 2017 in the Parliament.
- All peer-to-peer lending (**P2P**) firms will be treated as non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and will be regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Fino Payments Bank** has launched its mobile banking app called **BPay**.
- **SEBI** permitted Real estate investments trusts (REITs) and infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs) to raise funds through debt securities.
- SEBI allowed single-asset REITs similar to InvITs.
- **Vijaya Bank** has bagged the first prize under the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar (Region C) for the year 2016-17 for active implementation of Hindi in its day-to-day activities.
- **SBI** bagged first prize under Government of India Rajbhasha Kirti Awards 2016-17 for its Quarterly Hindi house magazine PRAYAS.
- Amazon India has tied up with the **Bank of Baroda** to offer micro loans to its sellers.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a loan of up to USD 200 million with **IndusInd Bank** to provide finance to low-income women borrowers in rural India.
- RBI announced that from October 3, rupee-denominated overseas bonds (masala bonds) will no longer form part of the limit for FPI (Foreign portfolio investors) investments in corporate bonds.
- ADB, Asian Development Bank has lowered India's growth forecast for this fiscal to 7 %.

- IDBI Bank has launched '**Project Nishchay**' along with The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) to accelerate its turnaround programme and improve financial performance.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched **The FTSE SBI Bond Index Series** at London Stock Exchange. It is India's first bond index series for overseas investors.
- SBI has lowered the minimum Average Monthly Balance required in a Savings Bank account to Rs.3000.
- ICICI launched a Cashback Home Loan Scheme, where 1 % cashback is offered on every EMI.

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

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- **Senior IAS officer Inder Jit Singh** was given the additional charge of post of Chairperson of National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC).
- **Viveck Goenka**, Chairman and Managing Director of the Express Group, and N. Ravi, former Editor-in-Chief of The Hindu, were unanimously elected Chairman and Vice Chairman of Press Trust of India, the country's largest news agency.
- The Advertising Council of India (ACI) & The Advertising Club has announced the appointment of **Sunil Kataria**, business head, Godrej Consumer Products as leader of the Indian delegation for the AdAsia Congress to be held in Bali.
- The Unique Identification Authority of India's (UIDAI) chief executive officer (CEO) **A.B. Pandey** was appointed interim chairman of the goods and services tax network (GSTN)—the firm providing information technology (IT) backbone and portal for registration and tax returns under the GST regime.
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** became first full-time woman Defence Minister of India after she was promoted to the Union Cabinet.
- Force Motors Chairman **Abhay Firodia** has been elected as the new President of the automobile industry body Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM). Mahindra & Mahindra's President (Automotive Sector) **Rajan Wadhwa** has been elected as the new Vice-President of the organisation.
- **Ramakant Khandelwal** has been appointed the new Chief Marketing Officer of PAYBACK India.

- **M. Nagaraja Sarma** has been appointed the chairman-cum-managing director (CMD) of the United India Insurance Co. Ltd.
- NHPC, National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd has appointed **Balraj Joshi** as its new chairman-cum-managing director (CMD).
- The Government of India has appointed **Gautam Bambawale** as the ambassador to China.
- **Ajay Bisaria** will serve as India's next high commissioner to Pakistan.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has appointed **B Sambamurthy** as interim Chairman of the board.
- The Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of India TV, **Rajat Sharma** was elected as the President of the News Broadcasters Association (NBA).
- Twitter has hired Indian-born executive **Sriram Krishnan** as its Senior Director of Product.
- **Mahendra Pratap Mall** was appointed as the Chairman and Managing director of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) Ltd.
- Senior IPS Officer **Y C Modi** was appointed as the new Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA).
- The Head of Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited **Punit Goenka** was re-appointed as President of The Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) for the second consecutive year.
- **Rajni Kant Mishra** is appointed the new chief of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)
- **Harsh Kumar Jain** has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Slovak Republic.
- **Rajiv Mehrishi**, who is Former Home Secretary, took over as the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.
- The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) will be headed by **Bibek Debroy** and Ratan Watal will serve as the principal adviser of the panel.
- **Shashi Shankar** was appointed as the CMD of oil producer ONGC, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.

- Professor **Royana Singh** has been appointed as the first woman Chief proctor of the Banaras Hindu university.

## OBITUARIES

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- Former Union Minister of India **Sultan Ahmed** passed away on Sep 6 2017.
- Pulitzer-prize winning poet **John Ashbery**, a post-modern American trailblazer, has died at age 90 in Hudson, New York.
- Noted poet and activist **Shirish Pai** had passed away on 2nd sept 2017.
- The sole Marshal of the Indian Air Force (IAF) **Arjan Singh** passed away following cardiac arrest in New Delhi on September 16, 2017.
- **P. Donleavy**, the Irish-American author and playwright died on September 11, 2017.
- **Xavier X Atencio**, an animator behind early Disney movies including "Pinocchio" and "Pirates of the Caribbean", died on September 10, 2017.
- French businesswoman and heiress of cosmetics company **L'Oreal** Liliane Bettencourt, passed away. She was the world's richest woman.
- **Paul E. Gray**, American professor, President of MIT died on September 18.
- **Shakila**, a veteran Bollywood actress of India passed away on September 20.
- **Hugh Hefner**, the founder of Playboy magazine passed away.
- Veteran Actor Padma Shri **Tom Alter** passed away

## HONOUR AND AWARDS

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- Indian economist **Bina Agarwal**, a professor at the University of Manchester, is among the winners of this year's Balzan Prize.
- Indian-American **Raj Shah** has been appointed by the US president as the Deputy Assistant to the President and Principal Deputy Press Secretary.

- Raghunandan Industries Pvt Ltd was conferred with **Krishi Pragati Awards 2017** by NCDEX.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPCT) was awarded "**Container Terminal of the Year**" Award for the above 0.6 million TEUs category at The Gateway Awards 2017.
- Sikkim Chief Minister **Pawan Chamling** was honoured for his pioneering work in the field of organic farming. He was honoured during a ceremony at Germany's Lagau on the occasion of the One World Festival
- Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) has won this year's **UN Equator Prize**.  
SSP is a Pune-based non-governmental organisation working among women farmers.
- Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu presented the **ANR National Award** of Akkineni International foundation to top film-maker SS Rajamouli.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) was awarded the "**Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar**" for the year 2016-17 in the category of 'B' region for autonomous bodies and boards, for its excellent implementation of the Official Language.
- Salman Khan has been honoured with the **Global Diversity Award 2017** in the British Parliament House.
- Maryna Viazovska of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne, Switzerland has been selected for the 2017 **SASTRA Ramanujan Prize**.
- According to Platts Top 250 Global Energy Company Rankings of the year, India's Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) has become world's third-biggest energy company.
- **Mahtab Bamji**, former Scientist of National Institute of Nutrition has been selected for the Living Legend Award of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS).
- In the list of Most Powerful Women in business outside the United States released by Fortune Magazine, **Chanda Kochar**, MD CEO of ICICI Bank has secured fifth place and **Shika Sharma**, MD CEO of Axis Bank secured the 21st place.
- Recognised Odiya poet and short story writer **Banaj Devi** is to receive the 38th edition of the prestigious **Sarala award** for her short story compilation Kathapua.

- **C.N.R Rao**, a famous scientist is chosen for the **Von Hippel Award** for his immense contribution in materials research.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

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- **The National Teachers Day** is observed every year on 5th September in India to commemorate birthday of country's first Vice President and second President Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
- **International Day of Charity** was celebrated on 5 September 2017 to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa of Calcutta.
- **International Literacy Day** was celebrated on 8 September 2017. September 8 was declared International Literacy Day by UNESCO on November 17, 1965.
- The International Day of Peace or "**Peace Day**" is observed on 21 September every year.
- **The National Teachers Day** is observed every year on 5th September in India to commemorate birthday of country's first Vice President and second President Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
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- **Hindi Diwas** (Hindi Day) is annually observed in India on September 14.
- **International Day of Democracy** is observed on September 15, 2017. This year's theme is- Democracy and conflict prevention.
- International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer is observed every year on September 16. This year's theme is -Caring for all life under the sun.
- India ranks **128th** in Sustainable Development Goals Index-in terms of meeting the UN's health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.
- International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons is observed in 26 September
- World Tourism day is celebrated annually on September 27.



- World Rabies Day is observed annually on September 28, to raise awareness about rabies prevention.
- September 28 is celebrated as the World Maritime Day, as announced by the International Maritime Organisation.
- International day for Universal Access to information, declared by UN, is celebrated on September 28, 2017.
- 30 September is celebrated annually as International Translation Day, as declared by UN.

## BOOKS AND AUTHORS

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- Tech giant Microsoft's India-born CEO Satya Nadella's first book '**Hit Refresh**' will be launched soon.
- **Mann Ki Baat: A Social Revolution on Radio**' by Shri Rajesh Jain is a compilation of Narendra Modi's addresses to the nation on radio every month under the programme 'Mann Ki Baat'.
- **The SherShah of Kargil**, the biography of Captain Vikram Batra is written by 21 year Deepak Surana.

## INDEX AND RANKING:

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- World Economic Forum (WEF) released the Global Competitiveness Report and India was placed at **40th spot** among 137 countries.
- According to World Nuclear Industry Status released in September 2017, India has been ranked **third in the world** with respect to with six installed nuclear reactors.
- As per recent "World Nuclear Industry status report" India is third in the world in the number of nuclear reactors being installed.
- London has retained its position as the world's top financial center in the **Global Financial Service Index 2017**.
- India has secured 103<sup>rd</sup> rank in the latest **Global Human Capital Index 2017**.

## MOUS AND PARTNERSHIPS:

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- The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between **India and Morocco** on cooperation in the field of health.
- The Union Cabinet has approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Central Silk Board (CSB), India and National Institute of Agrobiological Sciences (NIAS), **Japan**.
- India and Japan have signed an **open-sky pact** which will result in the reduction in airfares.
- India signed a loan deal worth \$76 million with Japan International Cooperation Agency (**JICA**). The deal is to upgrade the environment management plan at Alang-Sosiya ship recycling yards.
- India has decided to hold a major combat exercise with **Russia** this year. This exercise will aim at cranking up military-to-military ties between the two countries.
- The 2nd meeting of the Strategic Partnership Council between India and **Afghanistan** was held in New Delhi on 11 September 2017.
- **NITI Aayog** of India and the International Road Federation, Geneva (**IRF Geneva**) have signed a Statement of Intent (Sol) to cooperate in the field of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).
- India's first foreign nuclear power project, Rooppur plant will be built in Bangladesh in collaboration with **Russia**.
- Exercise Yudh Abhyas - 2017, a joint military exercise between Indian and US armies has commenced at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington, USA.
- Haryana ,a leading state in milk production is to receive the techniques and experience of Israel in milk production.
- India, Afghanistan and the US will conduct a joint trade and investment show in New Delhi.
- Maharashtra signed MoU with South Korea for increased cooperation in infrastructure projects.
- India and Norway has entered a bilateral partnership for cooperation in health sector.
- Air India tied up with Punjab National Bank and IndusInd Bank for securing loans to meet capital requirements.

## IMPORTANT NEWS- WORLD

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- **Parali I island**, one of the biodiversity-rich uninhabited islands part of Lakshadweep has disappeared due to coastal erosion, according to a recent study,
- India's zero-subsidy **UJALA** (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable Lighting for All) Scheme was launched in Melaka State of Malaysia by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under Union Ministry of Power.
- The **9th BRICS summit** was held in Xiamen, China. The theme of the summit was "Stronger Partnership for brighter Future". At the end of summit, BRICS leaders adopted Xiamen declaration
- The 12th edition of India-Nepal joint military exercise- **Surya Kiran XII** was held at Nepal Army Battle School (NABS) in Saljhandi, Nepal
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India will grant **gratis VISA** to Myanmar citizens wanting to visit the country.
- **The Vatican** declared Mother Teresa a patron saint of the Archdiocese of Calcutta at a Mass in the city where she dedicated her life to the poorest of the poor. The honor came 16 months after Pope Francis declared Mother Teresa a saint.
- On 5th September 2017, the **National Nutrition Strategy** was launched by the recommendation of NITI Aayog.
- Two **mountain ranges on Pluto** have been named after Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary by the International Astronomical Union.
- Charles, the heir to Britain's throne became the **longest-serving Prince of Wales** in history. He broke the record of Queen's Victoria's oldest son Albert.
- The 74th annual **Venice International Film Festival** was held from 30 August to 9 September 2017 at Venice Lido.
- The 49th Meeting of the **ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM)** was held in Pasay City, the Philippines.
- Pakistan Air Force and the Chinese People's Liberation Army-Air Force (PLAAF) kicked off their joint training exercises dubbed "**Shaheen VI**" in China.
- India has decided to send humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh. This would be called Operation Insaniyat and is executed for the **refugees of Rohingya**.

- **Halimah Yacob**, the former speaker of parliament of Singapore was elected as the first woman president of Singapore.
- India will host the first '**BIMSTEC** (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Disaster Management Exercise in October.
- **Raquel Dodge** will be the first woman to hold the position of Attorney General in Brazil.
- **Mercedes Araoz** was sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Peru.
- **Zannah Mustapha** of Nigeria was awarded United Nations annual Nansen award, presented by UNHCR.
- **Japanese postal department** has released postage stamps on four of Bengal's famous personalities of Yoga.
- The World Bank has allocated about \$8 billion for the infrastructure projects of the Chinese initiative - **Silk Road Economic Belt**, which comprises 6 corridors which connect five central Asian countries.
- The 69th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards ceremony was held in California.
- **Tunisia** abolished a ban on Muslim women marrying non-Muslims.
- Former U.N. Secretary-General **Ban Ki-Moon** was elected as the head of the International Olympic Committee's ethics commission.
- Pakistan and Russia held a two-week long military exercise, the second edition of DRUZBA 2017 (Friendship-2017).
- A month-long Incredible India program in Cairo has been organised by the Embassy of India, Cairo.
- Japan's loan is to be used for 100 Billion Dollars DMIC ,Delhi-Mumbai Industrial corridor project.
- Angela Merkel won a fourth term as the Chancellor of Germany in the recently held elections.
- Joao Lourenco became the new president of Angola after 38 years.
- Saudi Arabia has allowed a decree allowing a women allowing to drive from June 2018.

## IMPORTANT NEWS- INDIA

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- State-run oil marketing company **Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL)** is all set to become a **Maharatna company**. At present, it is possessing Navratna status
- The Indian Army has finalised a plan to induct **women in military police**. The plan is seen as a major step towards breaking gender barriers in force.
- **India's first Hyperloop** project will come up in Andhra Pradesh, connecting its city centres, Vijayawada and Amaravati
- The seventh edition of India-Sri Lanka joint maritime naval exercise **SLINEX 2017** was held near Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) in Bay of Bengal. It will be conducted from 7th to 14th September 2017
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched two new **free contraceptives Antara and Chayya** in 10 states under Mission Parivar Vikas, a central family planning initiative. These 10 states of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Haryana, West Bengal, Odisha, Delhi and Goa
- The Modi government has appointed an expert **committee**, headed by former Supreme Court judge **B N Srikrishna**, to "identify key data protection issues" in India and recommend methods to address any potential problems.
- **The Integrated Child Development Services Mission** would be expanded to form a National Nutrition Mission along the lines of National Health Mission under the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD)
- India's first **High-speed bullet train** network will run between Ahmedabad and Mumbai. It is expected to be operative from 2023. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe laid the foundation stone.
- The Central Government of India will conduct a contest to measure the quality and impact of various ongoing **smart city projects**.
- A team of six women naval officers have started a historic around-the-world mission called **Navika Sagar Parikrama**.
- Noida and Greater Noida Police has launched its two services – **Shakti and Garud**. It aims to improve law and order situation in the regions.

- The Government has set up an online service facility **Contact@DGFT**. It can be used by importers and exporters to resolve all foreign trade-related issues
- The Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi has approved a **1% hike** in dearness allowance (DA) and dearness relief (DR) to 5%.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs gave its approval for a significant project to acquire 48,243 Line Kilometer (LKM) 2D seismic data for appraisal of **Indian sedimentary basins**
- Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Dr Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the two-day Conference on "Sustainable Landscapes & Forest Ecosystems: Theory to Practice". He also launched the "**Wood is Good**" campaign on the occasion.
- Union Minister for Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad had launched a **nation-wide hackathon**.
- The Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the 2-day National Conference on "**Uniformed Women in Prison Administration**"
- India has started producing the world's most expensive coffee. It is called **Civet coffee or the Luwark Coffee**.
- The Government of India notified about the introduction of **Rs 100 coins** to commemorate the birth centenary of AIADMK founder Dr MG Ramachandaran and renowned Carnatic singer Dr MS Subbulakshmi.
- The first of the six Scorpene submarines, **Kalvari** was handed over to the Indian Navy by shipbuilder Mazgaon Dock Ltd.
- The Film Federation Of India (FFI) selected Amit Masurkar's 'Newton' to be the Indian entry at the **Oscars 2018**.
- The Union Minister for Textiles and Information & Broadcasting, Smt. Smriti Irani inaugurated 6th Edition of the 4-day international textiles and apparel fair **VASTRA 2017**, in Jaipur.
- Minister of State Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated first '**Pension Adalat**' and presented Anubhav Awards 2017 16 pensioners. He also launched Mobile App to avail the services of Pensioners' Portal.
- The law ministry gave approval to **Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill**, which will give powers to the government to confiscate property of economic offenders and defaulters who flee India.

- On September 14, 2017 Hindi Diwas, President Ram Nath Kovind has launched a 'LILA Mobile App' to understand Hindi easily.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development will hold the first ever National Conference in New Delhi on Mission Mode to address Under-Nutrition in the country.
- **Air India** has launched the first non-stop flight service between India and Denmark.
- India's first Centre for **Animal Law** has been established at NALSAR University of Law of Hyderabad.
- President Ram Nath Kovind launched "**Incredible India 2.0 Campaign**", "**Adopt a Heritage**" project on World Tourism Day.
- The Union Cabinet has given its approval for implementation of umbrella scheme of "**Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF)**" for years 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- The Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 13th Formation Day of the **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)**.
- The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) of the Ministry of Women & Child Development has started a monthly "**Jan Sampark**" program.
- 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**"
- For effective implementation of National Child Labour Project, Home Minister Rajnath Singh launched **PENCIL Portal**.
- The Kandla Port of Gujarat has been renamed as **Deendayal Port** from 25th September 2017.
- A panel of **Economic advisors** to help the government to analyse and advise on key issues is constituted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana also called '**Saubhagya**', to provide electricity to four crore families in rural and urban areas by December 2018.

#### **President of India appointed**

- Banwarilal Purohit as the Governor of Tamil Nadu,

- Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.) as the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh,
- Satya Pal Malik as the Governor of Bihar,
- Jagdish Mukhi as the Governor of Assam and
- Ganga Prasad as the Governor of Meghalaya.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

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- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has developed a mobile app "**Hortinet**" for farmers to facilitate registration, testing and certification of certain fruits and vegetables.
- CSIR scientists have developed an **ultra-thin wireless device** that mimics plant leaves to produce energy using water and sunlight.
- The Union Ministry of Human Resource and Development (HRD) has launched **Diksha Portal** (diksha.gov.in) for providing digital platform to teacher to make their lifestyle more digital. It will serve as National Digital Infrastructure for Teachers.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully twice flight tested indigenously developed 3rd generation **Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) Nag** in Rajasthan.
- Food regulator Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has launched a nationwide online platform **FoSCoRIS** to bring in transparency in food safety inspection and sampling.
- Reliance Energy announced the launch of **ELEKTRA**, a digital assistant bot powered by artificial intelligence.
- Scientists have created the first map of water trapped in the uppermost layer of the Moon's soil. The map is created using data from an instrument aboard India's **Chandrayaan-1 spacecraft**.
- The final Development Flight Trials of **Astra Missile**- Beyond Visual Range Air to Air Missile (BVRAAM) were successfully conducted over the Bay of Bengal, Off the Coast of Chandipur, Odisha.
- The advanced towed artillery gun system (**ATAGS**) has set a world record in terms of range by hitting targets at distance of 48 km during trial firings.
- India's First High HP **Electric Locomotive** (12000 hp) is received from Alstom, a firm of France.



- The Department of Biotechnology will commission **Brahmaputra Biodiversity Biology Boat (B4)**, a two-tiered barge in the Brahmaputra River to perform tests on water quality and biodiversity of the wider ecosystem.
- Tata Steel has in association with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) has launched "**Green School Project**" in Odisha, an initiative to create awareness about environment issues in school campuses.
- HP Inc India has unveiled its innovative, all-in-one point-of-sale (POS) system **HP ElitePOS**, with secure and enhanced performance features.
- **Mindtree** inaugurated its first international Digital Pumpkin innovation hub at New Jersey.
- Google has launched its UPI based mobile payment service, through an app named **Tez**, in India.
- A new **interceptor boat V-409** built by Bharati Defence and infrastructure limited was launched at Mangalore.
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched **Divyang Sarathi Mobile app**, to empower the physically challenged people.
- **INS Tarasa**, a Water Jet Fast Attack Craft intended for extended coastal and offshore surveillance and patrolling, was commissioned into the Indian Navy.
- ISRO's Mars Orbiter Mission has completed three full years in orbit.
- Twitter announced a test project, where it allows 280 words in a tweet, from the existing 140 words.

## IMPORTANT NEWS- STATES

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- Jharkhand Governor Draupadi Murmu gave her assent to the **Jharkhand Religious Freedom Bill, 2017**.
- President Ramnath Kovind laid foundation stone for **link-4 of Saurashtra Narmada Avataran Irrigation Scheme (SAUNI)** Yojana in Rajkot district, Gujarat.
- **Karnataka stands at top** among the states of the country in terms of manufacturing excellence, according to a study by industry chambers ASSOCHAM.

- Home Minister Naini Narasimha Reddy inaugurated **the first water ATM** that would dispense clean and safe drinking water in Hyderabad.
- **Shramik Annapoorna Yojana** (Construction Workers' Meal Scheme), under which each registered worker is provided a plateful of food for a Rs 10 , has been launched by the Gujarat government
- Gujarat, Chief Minister Vijay Rupani launched state-wide '**Gyankunj Project**' on Teachers' Day. The objective of the project is to produce world-class students.
- Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar launched an online portal for redressal of public grievances — aimed at addressing complaints within 30 days.
- Shri Nitin Gadkari has flagged off a fleet of first batch of **1000 E-rickshaws** from Huda City Centre metro station in Gurugram on 3rd of Sept 2017.
- On 5th September 2017, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh flaged off the first run of the **Lucknow Metro** from the Transport Nagar Metro Station in Lucknow.
- E-commerce company Amazon has announced to open its largest **fulfilment centre** in Hyderabad.
- The **second World Congress of Optometry** began in Hyderabad on September 11, 2017. It was organised to discuss new ideas and share research and knowledge about various facets of optometry.
- The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion along with the Government of India has organizing the **Second State Startup Conference** on 12 September, 2017 in New Delhi.
- West Bengal Cabinet ministers cleared a proposal to change the name of the state from **West Bengal to Bangla**.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh launched the first phase of the ongoing **Kashang hydel project**(65 MW) in Kinnaur.
- The state **government of Assam** has decided to empower nearly 30 thousand surrendered militants by providing a skill development training.
- **India's first State of art virology laboratory** was inaugurated in Kolkata.
- The President Shri Ram Nath Kovind had launched the nationwide campaign **Swachhta Hi Seva**, from Iswarigunj, a village in Kanpur district of Uttar Pradesh.

- Himachal Roads Transport Corporation has launched its **electric bus** service on Manali-Rohtang highway.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has announced 2017 as the year of **e-Pragati**
- **Lalawmpuii Chawngthu** has become the second woman to be inducted into the Council of Ministers of Mizoram after a period of 30 years.
- Andhra Pradesh CM N. Chandrababu Naidu launched '**People First**' mobile application for grievance redressal.
- **Tripura** has become the first state in India to set up **Family welfare district committees**, to examine the complaints of women against their husbands and in-laws.
- **Jharkhand** Government has launched the **Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana** for developing villages of freedom fighters.
- **Bihar** launched a mobile application called **Bandhan Tod** to create awareness on resisting child marriage.
- Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar launched **Mission-24** programme to improve the quality of life in M-East ward of **Mumbai**.
- **Kerala** will start country's first exclusive clinics for the transgender community.
- Chhattisgarh has launched '**Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Shram Anna Sahayata Yojna**' to provide nutritious meal for Rs 5 to labourers in the state.
- **Uttarakhand** has named Bollywood actor **Akshay Kumar** as the brand ambassador of the Swachh Bharat Mission in the state.
- **Telangana** Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao launched Nation's first Govt. Mobile Veterinary Clinics.
- The "**Assam Employees' Parents Responsibility and Norms for Accountability and Monitoring Bill-2017**" – the Assam Employees PRANAM Bill was passed by the state assembly.
- The Karnataka government has launched '**Vision-2025**' project, which aims at evolving a draft policy for development of the state in next seven years.

- The Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Assam and NITI Aayog launched **SATH Program**, Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital.
- **Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayat** under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was launched at Isanpur-Mota village of Gujarat.
- **'Pralay Sahayam'**, a multi-agency exercise, was conducted on the banks of Hussain Sagar Lake in Hyderabad.
- The Ministry of Minority Affairs has organized **Hunar Haat** in Puducherry, to provide opportunity to master artisans.
- Odisha launched Sampurna Yojana for benefitting pregnant women.

## SPORTS NEWS

- **Lewis Hamilton** wins Italian Grand Prix Title and takes the lead from Sebastian Vettel.
- **Virat Kohli** reached 15,000 international runs in just 304 matches and became the fastest to achieve the feat.
- Indian wrestler **Sonam Malik** won a gold medal in the 56kg category at the World Cadet Wrestling Championship in Athens, Greece. Among other Indians in the event, Neelam settled for bronze in the 43kg category.
- Indian women's hockey team coach **Sjoerd Marijne** has been appointed as the chief coach of the men's team, replacing the sacked Roelant Oltmans.
- Indian shooter **Ankur Mittal** clinched the silver medal in the double trap event of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Shotgun Championship
- The captain of the Indian basketball team, **Amritpal Singh** scripted history by becoming the first Indian-born player to be picked up by an Australian NBL team.
- India's Kinsam **Ormila Devi** bagged a gold medal in 44kg weight category on the opening day of the Commonwealth Youth (boys & girls) weightlifting championships, held at Gold Coast, Australia.
- Indian boxer **Gaurav Bidhuri** clinches Bronze Medal at World Boxing Championship AIBA 2017 at Hamburg , Germany

- **Harinder Pal Sandhu** won his fifth straight PSA title in the Malaysian Squash Tour X-2017.
- **Rafal Nadal** defeated Kevin Anderson 6-3 6-3 6-4 to win the U.S. Open 2017. It is his second grand slam title of the season and 16th of his career.
- Badminton Association of India has decided to confer **Prakash Padukone** with its first Lifetime Achievement Award for his rich contribution to the sport.
- India finished fifth in at the **Moscow Shotgun World Championship 2017**. Indian won one gold and two silver medals.
- Indian Tennis player **Sumit Nagal** won 8th MCC – S R Subramaniam Memorial ITF Futures Men's tennis championship.
- **36th National Games** by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) is to be held in Goa.
- On the latest Badminton World Federation rankings, **PV Sindhu** has reached her career's best rank-number 2 from previous rank 5.
- The official emblem and slogan for **FIFA Women's World Cup 2019** France were unveiled. The slogan of the tournament is "Dare To Shine".
- **Mahendra Singh Dhoni** has been nominated for the country's third highest civilian award, the Padma Bhushan, by ICC.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the revamped **Khelo India programme** at a cost of Rs.1,756 crore for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- **Ana Carrasco** has become the first woman to win a world championship motorcycle race in Portimao, Portugal.
- **Lewis Hamilton** won Singapore Grand Prix and bagged Formula One world championship.
- India's **PV Sindhu** won her third Super Series title by grabbing Korea Open Super Series Title.
- 57th National Open Athletics Championships 2017 has commenced at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai.
- Mary Kom has become the first Indian to be picked as the International Boxing Association (AIBA) representative for IOC Athlete's forum.

- Indian Cricket Team becomes World Number 1 , in both ICC ODI and Test Rankings.
- India is to host South Asian Boxing Championship at Guwahati, city of Assam.
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