

- The World Autism Awareness Day 2017 has been observed across the world on 2 April 2017.
- Dawit Isaak a journalist who was arrested in Eritrea in 2001, and whose case has been championed for years by human rights organisations and international governments, will receive the 2017 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.
- American singer and songwriter Bob Dylan has finally accepted his Nobel Prize for literature, more than three months after the awards ceremony.
- Former India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni, who has worn many hats over the years, worn another feather in his cap today.
- A city-based company has claimed to have launched the first biogas fuelled bus in Kolkata keeping a flat fare of just Re 1.
- The Central Government has effectively withdrawn the subsidies that have been provided to mild hybrid diesel cars under the FAME scheme.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 9.2 km long Chennai-Nash all-weather road tunnel on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.
- Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore has emerged at the top of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) that rates Indian higher educational institutes on the basis of their performance.
- A new financial order built by the emerging BRICS economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- The BRICS-backed New Development Bank (NDB) has invested in seven projects totalling \$1.5 billion in about two years of its operation.
- The State Bank of India, the country's largest lender has started functioning as unified entity from 01st April 2017 post merger of its five associate banks, besides Bharatiya Mahila Bank.
- Kenya's Joyce line Jepkosgei has broken the world half marathon record as well as the 10km and 15km marks at the Prague Half Marathon on the way to winning the IAAF Gold Label Road Race in one hour, four minutes and 52 seconds.
- PV Sindhu avenged her Rio defeat against Carolina Marin in style with a thumping 21-19, 21-16 victory over the top seed Spaniard in the India Open Super Series 2017 final.
- 19th Commonwealth Forestry Conference (CFC) 2017 will begin today at Forest Research Institute (FRI) in Dehradun, Uttarakhand.
- Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has been selected for US-India Biz Council award.

- The Government has launched PowerTex India, a comprehensive scheme for power loom sector development, simultaneously at over 45 locations in the country.
- India's women's T20I team captain Harmanpreet Kaur has been named Player of the Year by Australia's Women's Big Bash League team Sydney Thunder.
- On April 1, 1936, Odisha was formed and since then the day is celebrated to mark the contributions and sacrifices made by the people of the state in the formation days.
- The Madhya Pradesh government has launched an app named 'MP e-Nagar palinka' to provide various municipal services online.
- Mizoram has become the 27th State to join the Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY).
- Myanmar has become the seventh member of the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) partnership, opening up new markets and supply chain links for trade and business between South Asia and Southeast Asia.
- Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak is on a 6-day visit to India. Two countries sign seven agreements including air services agreement and MoUs in education and sports.
- "Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana", a 'Scheme for providing Physical Aids and Assisted-living Devices for Senior citizens belonging to BPL category' is launched in District Nellore, Andhra Pradesh.
- Bengaluru's Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Delhi's Miranda House have made it to the top of respective categories in the country's official higher education rankings announced by the government.
- Karnataka Bank and SBI Card have launched co-branded credit cards for the customers of Karnataka Bank.
- Diplomat Vipul, a 1998 batch Indian Foreign Service officer took up the charge as the new Consul General of Dubai.
- Union Textile Minister Smriti Irani announced that the government has increased subsidy by 30 per cent for up gradation of power loom sector and for the benefit of small weavers.
- Justice Indira Banerjee, a sitting judge of the Delhi High Court, has been appointed as the new Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.
- Roger Federer outclassed long-standing rival Rafael Nadal to win the Miami Open on Sunday and continued his remarkable comeback run in 2017.
- Tax evasion of over Rs 5 crore under the GST regime would be a non-bailable offence and the police would have the authority to make an arrest without a warrant.

- While the focus has been on the US, visas for IT professionals to work in Singapore have dropped "to a trickle", prompting the government to put on hold the review of the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) citing the violation of the trade pact.
- Johanna Konta defeated Caroline Wozniacki 6-4, 6-3 to win the Miami Open on Saturday — the biggest title won by a British woman in 40 years.
- SpaceX successfully launched and then retrieved its first recycled rocket Thursday, a historic feat and the biggest leap yet in its bid to drive down costs and speed up flights.
- The Centre has constituted National Board of Electric Mobility (NBEM) to promote electric mobility and manufacturing of electric (& hybrid) vehicles and their components.
- American astronaut Peggy Whitson made history when she floated outside the International Space Station on Thursday, breaking the record for the most spacewalks by a woman. Ms Whitson, 57, made her eighth career spacewalk, surpassing the record of seven previously held by American Suni Williams.
- The Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) has tied up with Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB), an arm of Human Resource Development Fund under Ministry of HRD, Malaysia.
- A Malaysian company MTN has agreed to help set up a technology park in Andhra Pradesh that's expected to attract private sector investment of \$100 million in the first phase.
- Ahead of the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy this week, the country's largest bank, State Bank of India has reduced its benchmark lending rate by 0.15%.
- Cab aggregator Ola has integrated with Unified Payment Interface (UPI) to simplify digital payment options for its customers.
- FIFA (International Federation of Association Football) banned Guatemala's former football chief Brayan Jimenez for life over corruption, bribery and other offences.
- India has been ranked third for the third year in a row in a doping violation report published by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) for 2015 with 117 athletes from the country being punished after testing positive for banned substances.
- WhatsApp move into digital payments in India, its biggest market that is home to 200 million of its billion plus global users, would replicate similar moves by messaging apps like Tencent Holdings Ltd's WeChat in China.
- Ruling Party of Ecuador, Alianza PAIS candidate Lenin Moreno won the Ecuador's presidential election to sworn in as the Ecuador President.

- Ajey Jhankar, the noted author and filmmaker passed away. He served as a Director of MM Activ Sci-Tech Communications Pvt. Ltd from January 2000.
- Renowned Hindustani classical vocalist Kishori Amonkar passes away. She was 84.
- Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee declared Jhargram as the 22nd district of West Bengal.
- Scientists from Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) have identified a soil fungus *Aspergillus tubing enosis* that uses enzymes to rapidly break down plastic materials.
- The famous Berhampur Thakurani Yatra, one of the biggest festivals of southern Odisha, has been celebrated with pomp and gaiety.
- The Union Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh.
- The WTO's dispute settlement set up a panel to resolve the dispute between Japan and India over the imposition of safeguard import duty on iron and steel products.
- India and Malaysia today inked seven pacts, including an air services agreement and a mutual recognition of educational qualifications of the two nations.
- Handset maker Gionee India announced its association with the 'Royal Challengers Bangalore', as their presenting sponsors for the tenth edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL).
- Mild hybrid cars have electric motors that only assist normal engine by using recovered energy stored
- A 1982 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) Geetha Johri has been appointed as the first woman Director General of Police (DGP) of Gujarat.
- The first express highway project in the northeast region will be developed along the Brahmaputra river in Assam at an estimated investment of Rs 40,000 crore inaugurated by Union Road Minister Nitin Gadkari.
- To make onboarding easy for new sellers, Amazon India has launched an initiative called 'Amazon Classroom', a virtual training program to help teach them the nuances of online selling.
- Minister for Forest, Environment and Ecology, Choudhary Lal Singh today said the Government is taking all the possible measures to prevent the State's environment and ecology getting polluted.
- The BJP-led government in Uttar Pradesh decided to waive off crop loans of up to Rs 1 lakh of small and marginal farmers in the state.
- IDBI has appointed Mahesh Kumar Jain as the Managing Director & CEO with immediate effect. Before his role in IDBI, Jain was the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Indian Bank.
- IDBI Bank has reduced interest rates, ranging from 50 to 75 basis points, on retail term deposits (RTD) with effect from April 5, 2017.

- The General Assembly declared that 4 April of each year shall be observed as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.
- Aditya Birla Idea Payments Bank Ltd becomes the seventh entity to receive a final licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to set up a payments bank.
- The Reserve Bank of India has released the first Bi-monthly Monetary policy of the new financial year (2017-18). GDP growth has hiked to 7.4% from 6.7%.
- India's travel and tourism sector rank 7th in the world in terms of its total contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), according to a new report by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), 2016.
- India's Virat Kohli was named Wisden's Leading Cricketer in the World for 2016.
- Bitcoin has finally gained the recognition of a mainstream currency along the lines of other fiat currencies.
- The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) appointed Raman Roy (Managing Director of Quattro Global Services) as its chairman for 2017-2018.
- The Rajya Sabha passed the historic Goods and Services Tax (GST) bill without any amendments.
- P V Sindhu reaches career-best world no 2 ranks.
- Haryana government would provide a one-time grant of Rs 21,000 to all those families whose third girl child was born on August 24, 2015, under the 'Aapki Beti, Hamari Beti' scheme.
- Bhimaya Metro joins as Director, IIM Trichy.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved closure of the Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana (MGPSY).
- NEFT transfers to be faster as RBI cuts clearance time.
- ClearTax has launched a first-of-its-kind multi-GSP (GST Suvidha Provider) taxation solution and the software will be adept to handle over 1 billion invoices, which is expected to be generated after the GST rollout.
- GSTN, the company that is tasked with building the world's biggest and most complex tax framework, has short-listed 34 companies to be the GST Suvidha Provider.
- The German military has officially inaugurated a 260-strong cyber command which will become a fifth branch of the Bundeswehr.
- India and Israel sign defence deals worth over 2 billion dollars.

- Prithika Yashin won her first fight against the society when she decided to undergo a sex change operation to become who she believed she was from within. Born Pradeep Kumar, Yashin left her parents' house before completing a computer studies course and undergoing surgery.
- Ministry approves the appointment of two foreign athletics coaches.
- The Reserve Bank has appointed Malvika Sinha as Executive Director following the appointment of B P Kanungo as Deputy Governor.
- 64th National Film Awards were announced.
- The Indian Society for Clinical Research (ISCR), an association of clinical research professionals, has announced the appointment of Dr Chirag Trivedi as its President for the term 2017-19.
- India has signed a weapons deal with Israel for nearly \$2 billion in what's being described as the "largest defence contract" ever signed by the military exporting giant.
- Andhra Pradesh Government announced the NTR National Award for the years 2012 and 2013 at the Film Development Corporation office in Hyderabad.
- NBA launches first basketball school in India.
- Kenichi Yokoyama has taken over as the new Country Director of India Resident Mission of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- PM to launch the digital exhibition on Champaran Satyagraha.
- India and Russia today signed an agreement paving the way for building the third and fourth reactors at the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant in Tamil Nadu.
- Centre kicks off a programme on cyber-physical systems.
- The Board of Directors of Larsen & Toubro (L&T) on Friday elevated S.N. Subrahmanyan as chief executive officer and managing director from the position of deputy managing director and president of the company and appointed Anil Manibhai Naik as non-executive chairman with effect from October 1, 2017, for a period of three years.
- Box Shyam Kumar wins gold at Thailand International.
- Malala Yousafzai, the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is to become the youngest United Nations Messenger of Peace, the organisations.
- India ranks 40th in WEF's global travel and tourism ranking.
- The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) appointed Raman Roy, managing director of Quattro Global Services, as its chairman for 2017-2018.
- Canara Bank partners with BSNL.

- Ban on cash transactions of over Rs 2 lakh not applicable for the bank, post office withdrawals.
- HDFC Ban UPI on Chillar app.
  - Quoting of Aadhaar has been made mandatory for filing income tax returns with effect from July 1, as introduced by the Finance Act, 2017.
  - Madhya Pradesh is all set to join the league of those states which have launched populist subsidised meal scheme for poor with the opening of canteens that provides wholesome food at Rs 5 under the Deendayal Antyodaya Rasoi Yojana.
  - India ranks ninth among 41 countries in bribery and corrupt practices in businesses, according to the findings of a recent survey.
  - NBA Basketball Schools open to young male and female players; Top players at each basketball school will have opportunity to attend NBA Academies.
  - A transaction of Rs 1,590 has bagged a Central Bank of India customer a lucky bounty of Rs 1 crore under the Modi government's promotional scheme to popularise digital payments.
  - India Today Group Editorial Director Kalli Purie was today awarded the FICCI Young Women Achievers Award for excellence in media.
  - The government has cleared retired Supreme Court judge Shiva Kirti Singh as the next chairman of the Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT).
  - The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has granted affiliation to the Boxing Federation of India (BFI), ending a long-standing impasse between the two bodies.
  - Uruguay's three-year process of legalising recreational cannabis consumption reached its final stage when the government said it would authorise pharmacies to begin selling the substance as of July.
  - Country's second largest private sector lender HDFC Bank today launched its unified payment interface app on the fintech startup Chillr.
  - The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the first NIMCARE World Health Day Summit 2017.
  - Atu Zumvu, SDPO Kohima has been conferred with the prestigious "Shaurya Chakra" thus becoming the first Police Officer from Nagaland Police to be conferred with Shaurya Chakra since 1st December 1963 when Nagaland achieved its Statehood.
  - NASA's Peggy Whitson, soon to become the most experienced US astronaut in terms of time spent in space, assumed command of the International Space Station as two Russian crew members and an American prepared to fly back to Earth. For Whitson, 57.

- An Indian-origin educationist in the UK, who moved to Britain after her marriage with no English language skills, has been named the Asian Businesswoman of the Year in an award ceremony in Birmingham.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to slash clearance time for National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) in an attempt to enhance efficiency of the electronic payment system and add to customer convenience.
- Former Union minister and senior congress leader M Veerappa Moily today presented the first copy of his book 'The Flaming Tresses of Draupadi' to President Pranab Mukherjee.
- Canara Bank, a public sector bank, has embarked upon an ambitious project of upgrading the bandwidth at all its branches to 2 Mbps in partnership with BSNL.
- Mukta Dutta Tomar was appointed as new India's Ambassador to Germany.
- Launching the app and website 'BharatKeVeer' with Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar, lauded the Government of India for making his dream come true and providing a platform for everyone to help the next of the kin of slain soldiers financially.
- Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH, Shripad Yesso Naik inaugurated the National Convention on World Homeopathy Day on 10 April 2017 at New Delhi.
- The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has approved 26 projects worth Rs 2,154.28 crore under the Centre's 'Namami Gange' programme, aiming to reduce the river's pollution load.
- India has signed a joint declaration with Russia to promote innovation and the R&D ecosystem between the two countries.
- India and Australia inked six pacts including one aimed at boosting counterterrorism cooperation after talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Malcolm Turnbull.
- North India is all set to get its first Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) bank for wildlife in Bareilly.
- Minister of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation M Venkaiah Naidu launched 352 projects in 53 cities in 17 States across the country with an investment of Rs 38,003-cr to build 2,03,851 affordable houses.
- The Reserve Bank of India has allowed banks to invest in Real Estate Investment Trust (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), a move that will help revive the cash-starved infrastructure Sector.
- Saraswat Bank, the largest lender in the co-operative space, has appointed Smita Sandhane as its Managing Director (MD) with effect from 01st April 2017.

- Samsung R&D Institute India filed the maximum number of patent applications in the IT sector in 2015-16, followed by home-grown TCS and Wipro according to Indian Patent Office survey.
- India's largest e-commerce player Flipkart buys eBay's India business, and closing a \$1.4 billion fund-raising round from Tencent, eBay and Microsoft.
- The 12th edition Indo-Mongolian Joint Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant 2017 has begun at Vairengte in Mizoram.
- The Agriculture Ministry joined hands with the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), a wing of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to geo-tag agricultural assets for their real-time monitoring and effective utilization.
- Mercedes' British Formula One racer Lewis Hamilton defeated Ferrari's four-time Formula One World Champion Sebastian Vettel to lift his fifth title at the Chinese Grand Prix.
- Google doodle celebrated the birth anniversary of world-renowned Bengali painter, Jamini Roy.
- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi finally inaugurated an exhibition titled "Swachhagraha – Bapu Ko Karyanjali – Ek Abhiyan, Ek Pradarshani" in the New Delhi to mark the 100 years of Mahatma Gandhi's first experiment of Satyagraha in Champaran.
- India and Mongolia have commenced a joint military training exercise called "Nomadic Elephant -2016" in Mongolia.
- UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency announced the appointment of internationally acclaimed actress and philanthropist Kristin Davis as its Goodwill Ambassador.
- The principal judge of a family court in Muzaffarnagar has set a Guinness World Record by disposing of as many as 6,065 cases in 327 working days.
- President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has declared a three-month state of emergency in Egypt and ordered military special forces to protect vital infrastructure after two powerful church bombings by the Islamic State terror group killed at least 45 people and wounded more than 100 others.
- Fino Paytech, which just received the Reserve Bank of India's licence to launch a payments bank, has inked a deal with ICICI group companies to distribute insurance products and tied up with Exide Life insurance to sell products via its distribution channel.
- Smita Sandhane has taken charge as Managing Director of the Saraswat Co-operative Bank with effect from April 1. She is the first woman chief of India's largest urban co-operative bank.

- Ministry of Rural Development has released nearly Rs. 23,443 crore to the States as the first tranche for this Financial Year, under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).
- The Survey General of India (SOI) completes 250 years.
- The Union Home Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh chaired the 11th Standing Committee meeting of the Inter-State Council in New Delhi.
- Fino Paytech, which just received the Reserve Bank of India's licence to launch a payments bank, has inked a deal with ICICI group companies to distribute insurance products and tied up with Exide Life insurance to sell products via its distribution channel.
- Senior bureaucrats Ajit Kumar Srivastava and Shabri Bhattasali were appointed members of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the apex policy making body of the Income Tax department.
- Carme Chacon, the first female defense minister of Spain and a prominent socialist party leader, has died aged 46.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank has launched a social deposit scheme called Hrudaya Deposit at a function held in Thrissur.
- National Hindi Sevi Samman Awards announced.
- The Vice President of India, Shri M. Hamid Ansari has received the first copy of the Book titled 'Hope in a challenged democracy; An Indian narrative' authored by Shri Ashwini Kumar, from the former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, here today.
- Malala Yousafzai – The youngest nobel prize winner to address Canadian Parliament.
- India's largest e-commerce firm Flipkart has raised \$1.4 billion led by China's internet giant Tencent, with participation from the online auction site eBay and Microsoft, valuing the Bengaluru-based company at \$11.6 billion, post the investment.
- PM releases book authored by LS Speaker Sumitra Mahajan.
- Central Hindi Institute Director N.K. Pandey announced the names of 26 writers from different categories for the prestigious Hindi Sevi Samman Awards.
- Govt sets up inter-ministerial panel to monitor UDAN.
- A new web portal "nakshe" was launched by the Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr. Harsh Vardhan in New Delhi on the occasion of 250th anniversary of Survey of India(Sol).
- Literary blockbuster novel The Underground Railroad, which depicts the journey of a young woman escaping from slavery via a fantastical train system, has won the Pulitzer prize for fiction.

- Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced the re-launch of 'Adarana', a scheme for improving traditional occupations on the occasion of 191st birth anniversary of social reformer Mahatma Jyotirao Phule which is being celebrated for the first time as a State function.
- Bank accounts opened between July 1, 2014 and August 31, 2015 need to submit self-certification by April 30 to comply with FATCA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) provisions, without which the accounts would be blocked.
- Nokia partner with Airtel and BSNL to set up 5G internet speed in India.
- Lucknow held its first Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer and Asexual - Pride Parade
- India's first ever micro drama festival held in Delhi.
- First rail freight service to China departs UK.
- Alishan Mohammad and Pratap Lakra scored a brace each as India emerged champion at the 5th Asian School Hockey Championship with a convincing 5-1 win over Malaysia in the final.
- Three Indians are among 90 Gates Cambridge scholars selected from nearly 6,000 applicants from around the world for postgraduate study at the University of Cambridge from the academic year beginning later this year.
- In its efforts to promote digital financial transactions, the Kerala-based NBFC Manappuram Finance will launch its own co-branded prepaid card in tie-up with YES Bank.
- Department of medical genetics, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal has discovered a new genetic disease called "Multiple mitochondrial dysfunction syndrome" in four children from two unrelated families in the region.
- PM Modi becomes the most followed world leader on Instagram.
- President Pranab Mukherjee conferred the National Geoscience Awards 2016 at the Rashtrapati Bhavan
- The government today appointed two more managing directors to the nation's largest financial powerhouse LIC — B Venugopal and Sunita Sharma, for a period of nearly two years.
- In a star-studded event in Mumbai Salman Khan of Bollywood launched actress Asha Parekh's autobiography 'The Hit Girl', for which he's written the Foreword as well.
- With 50 days to go for the ICC Champions Trophy 2017, the International Cricket Council announced eight stalwarts of the game as Champion Ambassadors for the tournament in England and Wales.

- The Electronics Corporation of India (ECIL) has bagged the SCOPE Award for Excellence and Outstanding Contribution to the Public Sector Management – Institutional Category III (Other Profit Making PSEs) for the year 2014-15.
- World Bank approves \$375 million loan for India's first waterway project.
- For the first time ever, the twelve major ports under the Ministry of Shipping have been ranked on sanitation parameters, based on the efforts undertaken by them to counter waste generating sources with respect to port operation, office area, township area and the response to incoming ships.
- Petrol diesel prices to change everyday from May 1.
- A fleet of pink patrol vehicles to attend to the distress calls from women and an exclusive police mobile phone distress application have been introduced in Bengaluru as part of an effort to improve the safety and security of women in the city.
- India Australia sign Sports Partnership.
- Amazon receives RBI approval for e-wallet.
- UN chief Guterres names Achim Steiner as new administrator of UNDP.
- India observed the birth anniversary of B R Ambedkar on April 14 as "Water Day" to sensitize people on managing the precious natural resource.
- A unique programme to pay tribute to mothers will be introduced in the government-run schools in Andhra Pradesh from this year
- Haryana on Thursday launched Operation Durga to ensure women safety in the state, under which the police caught at least 72 eve-teasers on its first day.
- Karnataka Bank Ltd has announced top-level management changes with the present Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD and CEO) of the bank, P Jayarama Bhat, assuming the charge of part-time non-executive Chairman of the bank.
- The Union Ministry of Agriculture has selected Himachal Pradesh for the Krishi Karman Award 2015-16 for commendable increase in food grains.
- An Indian software engineer has won the top prize at a global challenge for an open-source tool that enables users to interactively view UN General Assembly resolutions and gain a deeper understanding of the voting patterns of member states.
- Taxpayers wanting to send their paper ITR acknowledgement forms or documents related to refunds and others to the I-T department's CPC in Bengaluru can now send it to a "unique" pin code.
- France and India pact to upgrade Railways.

- Department of Posts has joined hands with State Bank of India to promote 'SBI buddy e-wallet' and POS machines for cashless transactions at post office counters while booking speed post and registered post items.
- IRDAI launches the web portal for insurers.
- Cisco launched 5th global and 1st in India cyber range lab in Gurugram.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the BHIM-Aadhaar platform, putting in place yet another keystone of a digital payment system that will help India make the shift to a less-cash economy.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched in Nagpur a cashless/less cash township model, developed by Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd (GNFC), across 81 townships in 12 States.
- The Liberal government of Canada is moving ahead with legalizing recreational marijuana use for those 18 and older.
- The United States dropped "the mother of all bombs," the largest non-nuclear device it has ever unleashed in combat, on a network of caves and tunnels used by Islamic State in eastern Afghanistan.
- Infosys today appointed independent director Ravi Venkatesan co-chairman amid calls from founders to diversify the board.
- Income Tax dept launches 'Operation Clean Money-II'.
- IBM has appointed a chief digital officer (CDO) for India, one of the first countries outside the US to have such a position, and marks the importance the country holds as IBM morphs into a platform company with the focus on cloud and cognitive.
- With a motive to enlighten children in naxal-affected areas of Jharkhand's Palamau district, Jharkhand Police has initiated Tare Zameen Par program to encourage children to lead happy lives.
- UP Govt and centre sign MoU for 'Power for all' scheme.
- Dr. (Ms.) Mukulita Vijayawargiya took charge as Whole Time Member, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India in New Delhi
- Alia Bhatt is undoubtedly one of most loved actress of the current generation. After debuting in Bollywood with the 2012 super hit Student of the Year under Karan Johar's direction, Alia has indeed come a long way. In just a span of five years, the gorgeous lady has made it to the prestigious Forbes list.
- Former J&K Governor Girish Saxena dies.
- RBI issues new framework for bad loans.

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced a total ban on polythene bags in the state from May 1.
- Himachal Pradesh is celebrating 70th "Himachal Day" function. The hill state came into existence after the merger of 30 odd princely states in 1948.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on the 2-Day visit to Gujarat. He launched various projects and schemes during his visit on the first day.
- Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu has said that for the first time in Indian Railways' history, Habibganj station in Bhopal has been handed over to a private firm to be operated by it.
- Bihu Festival is celebrated in three times in a year with different farming phases. These are Bohag Bihu, Kongali Bihu, and Magh Bihu.
- Nepalese President Bidya Devi Bhandari is arriving in New Delhi on a five-day visit to India.
- In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court on Tuesday created the "third gender" status for hijras or transgenders. Earlier, they were forced to write male or female against their gender.
- Maharashtra became the first state to launch a special awareness drive to ensure that transgenders in the state register as voters in greater numbers.
- The Finance Ministry have permitted the Labour Ministry to go ahead with 8.65% rate of interest on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) for 2016-17, which will benefit over four crores EPFO members.
- The first ever joint military drill between Nepal and China -- Sagarmatha Friendship-2017 -- kicked off at Nepal Army's Para Training School in Maharajgunj in Kathmandu.
- To prime public sector banks (PSBs) to hold their own against nifty private sector rivals and also prepare them for possible mergers in the future, the Bank Boards Bureau (BBB) has drawn up an elaborate Governance, Reward and Accountability Framework (GRAF).
- Human Resource and Development Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) portal and mobile app in New Delhi.
- The sixth prestigious M.S. Swaminathan Award for contribution in the field of agriculture was on Friday gave to R.R. Hanchinal, Chairperson of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority, a government of India.
- Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan was honoured at the 60th San Francisco Intl. Film Festival at the Castro Theater.

- Over 50 Indians, including gymnast Dipa Karmakar, Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik and actress Alia Bhatt, are among Forbes' list of super achievers from Asia under the age of 30 who are "pushing boundaries of innovation".
- An Indian environmental engineer has won this year's prestigious 'Cartier Women's Initiative Awards' for providing women working on farms with water management solutions and protecting small farmers against droughts and flash floods.
- An Indian-born aeronautics engineer from Australia has been honoured with the 'World's Outstanding Aerospace Engineer Leadership Award' by the American Helicopter Society (AHS) International.
- India's gross domestic product is expected to spike to 7.2% in the 2017-18 financial year from 6.8% the previous fiscal, according to a new World Bank report titled "Globalization Backlash".
- Promising Indian shuttler B Sai Praneeth clinched his maiden Super Series title at the Singapore Open after defeating compatriot K Srikanth in a historic all-Indian final.
- National badminton coach Pullela Gopichand's daughter Gayatri Pullela has bagged both the singles and doubles crown at the Pembangunan Jaya Raya Junior Grand Prix in Jakarta.
- The sixth prestigious M.S. Swaminathan Award for contribution in the field of agriculture given to R.R. Hanchinal, Chairperson of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority, the government of India.
- Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) has developed a set of guidelines to protect consumers' interest while encouraging celebrities and advertisers to refrain from endorsing misleading advertisements.
- Manipur Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh today launched two web applications to check corruption and keep track of government activities.
- Special Envoys of five BRICS member states who specialises on West Asian Affairs held a quiet meeting in Vishakhapatnam to assess the current situation in the volatile region after use of chemical weapons in Syria and US retaliatory strike on the Syrian air base.
- The depression over East-central Bay of Bengal has turned into the tropical cyclone 'Martha' prompting the Met office to advise distant warning signal No. 2 for maritime ports in Bangladesh.
- The world's oldest person has died at age 117 in her home in northern Italy.
- Sixteen-time world champion Pankaj Advani has won his sixth Asian Billiards title and seventh overall Asian championship.

- Robert W Taylor, who was instrumental in creating the internet and the modern personal computer, has died at the age of 85.
- Google has launched a new food delivery and home services aggregator called Area for the Indian market. The app is available as a free download on the Google Play store and is currently operational in Bengaluru and Mumbai.
- Sai Praneeth has won the title match of Men's singles at Singapore Open Badminton beating his compatriot Kidambi Srikanth.
- Naval ship 'INS Chennai' was formally dedicated to the city today in the presence of Chief Minister K Palaniswami and Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, Vice-Admiral HCS Bisht.
- Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu launched India's First Train With Glass Ceiling, LED Lights And Rotatable Seats in 'Vistadome' Coaches.
- SBI, PNB, Canara Bank, Union Bank, Bank of Baroda and Bank of India said to be leading merger, as per a government proposal.
- Supreme Court on Monday ordered auction of its prime Aamby Valley township near Lonavala in Pune for failing to deposit Rs 5,000 crore of the Rs 14,000-crore due towards refund to investors.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated phase-I of the Link-II pipeline canal of the ambitious Saurashtra Narmada Avtaran Irrigation (SAUNI) Yojana in Botad district of Gujarat.
- Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has won Time magazine's readers' poll of the 100 most influential people in the world.
- President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the Kempegowda Festival in New Delhi.
- UAE-based billionaire B R Shetty will invest Rs 1,000 crore (\$150 million) to produce a two-part film 'Mahabharata'.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has successfully commissioned two units of 270 MW at RattanIndia Nasik Power Ltd's, Maharashtra.
- The Supreme Court on Monday said BCCI'S acting Secretary Amitabh Chaudhry will attend the ICC meeting on April 24, accompanied by the apex cricketing body's CEO Rahul Johri.
- Sebastian Vettel (Ferrari) won the Bahrain Grand Prix 2017 by defeating Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes).
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has signed a memorandum of understanding with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) to help develop low-cost lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles.
- State Bank of India (SBI) surpassed oil exploration major Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to become most valued public sector undertaking (PSU) stock in terms of market capitalization (m-cap) in intra-day

trade. SBI with m-cap of Rs 239,808 crore was ahead of ONGC having m-cap of Rs 236,003 crore, BSE data showed.

- Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) a defence public sector has received the Hindustan PSU Award under the category 'Fastest Growing Organisation – Miniratna'.
- The UP government changed the name of Gorakhpur and Agra Airports as well as the name of the department of welfare of the differently abled.
- On the occasion of its Foundation Day, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched three new products for its customers.
- In a watershed moment for Indian sport, as well as a triumph in overcoming the odds, Bangalore-based Sagar Baheti has become the first visually impaired Indian runner to complete the historic Boston Marathon, the world's oldest, most competitive and the hardest marathon to qualify for.
- TAL Manufacturing Solutions, a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Motors has launched India's first industrial articulated robot and it goes by the name "BRABO".
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami dedicated the Indian Navy's indigenously designed 'P15A Guided Missile Destroyer', INS Chennai to the city Chennai.
- The Reserve Bank of India has set up two new Offices of the Banking Ombudsman for the State of Jammu and Kashmir (in Jammu) and Chhattisgarh (in Raipur).
- The prestigious Shambhavi Puraskar, 2017 was presented to Hari Sankar Route for his outstanding contribution towards social change.
- The Reserve Bank of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on "Supervisory Cooperation and Exchange of Supervisory Information" with the Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan.
- Prof. A.V. Narasimha Murthy, Chairman, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (BVB), Mysuru and former Head, Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, University of Mysore, has bagged the prestigious P. Gururaja Bhat Award instituted by Udupi-based Dr Paduru Gururaja Bhat Memorial Trust.
- SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) launched its revamped website having several user-friendly features and compatible with all desktop and mobile devices.
- Union Minister of Human Resource Development Prakash Javadekar today launched the unique portal and mobile app of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), a body under the aegis of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- The ICICI Bank Data Centre in Hyderabad has achieved the distinction of becoming the country's first Platinum rated project under IGBC (Indian Green Building Council) Green Data Centre Rating System.

- Australia will abolish a popular work visa used by over 95,000 foreign workers, a majority of them Indians, to tackle the growing unemployment in the country and replace it with a new programme requiring higher English-language proficiency and job skills.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has appointed Vinay Shah as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Director of its mortgage loan arm and listed entity LIC Housing Finance.
- Amid demands for farm loan waiver in the state, the government has announced 'Advanced Farming – Enriched Farmer' scheme, with an aim to increase farmers' income by cutting production cost and increasing the output. The scheme will be launched in the upcoming Kharif season.
- Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leader and former Andhra Pradesh minister Devineni Rajashekhar had died due to cardiac arrest in Hyderabad.
- Union Cabinet on Wednesday decided to ban the use of red beacons on all VIP vehicles, including those of the President, Vice-President and Prime Minister, from May 1.
- Aiming to provide a delightful travelling experience to the picturesque Araku valley in Visakhapatnam, the Railways introduced a see-through Vistadome coach on its Visakhapatnam-Kirandul passenger train.
- Uttar Pradesh cabinet, that was held on Tuesday, the Yogi government changed the name of Gorakhpur and Agra Airports as well as the name of the department of welfare of the differently abled.
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, cleared the Election Commission's proposal to buy new Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) machines.
- India has jumped one spot to rank 8th in 2017 AT Kearney Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Confidence Index with 31 percent of the surveyed respondents being more optimistic on economic outlook over the next three years.
- A Hindu youth from Pakistan has been selected for the prestigious Emerging Young Leaders Award given by the US State Department for the positive role played by youngsters in building sustainable peace.
- Devendra Kumar Sharma, managing director of Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited, will be the new chairman of the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB).
- China to host BRICS film festival in June 2017.
- B.N.Mohapatra has been appointed as the new Financial Commissioner (FC) (Railways) and ex-officio Secretary to the Government of India
- Aniruddhan Vasudevan's "One Part Woman", a translation of Perumal Murugan's controversial Tamil novel "Maadhorubaagan"

- BEML, a defence public sector, has received the Hindustan PSU Award under the category 'Fastest Growing Organisation – Miniratna'. BEML has been bestowed with Hindustan PSU Award under the category 'Fastest Growing Organisation - Miniratna'. The award is instituted by Hindustan Media Ventures.
- IMF: World economy to grow at 3.5 percent in 2017.
- Veteran actress Saira Banu was today named for the prestigious Raj Kapoor Lifetime achievement award of the Maharashtra Government.
- The ICICI Bank Data Centre in Hyderabad has achieved the distinction of becoming the country's first Platinum rated project under IGBC Green Data Centre Rating System.
- Chris Gayle, the brutal and entertaining Jamaican hard-hitter, is now in an elite club of his own – one for those with 10,000 T20 runs.
- First Made in India industrial robot- BRABO.
- Civil Services Day is celebrated on 21st April every year since 2006.
- The health ministry of India has taken a slew of measures against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) like setting up a National Surveillance System.
- China has for the first time announced "standardised" official names for six places in Arunachal Pradesh.
- PV Sindhu has jumped two places to stand at World No 3 in the latest BWF Rankings.
- Video gaming will be featured as a full sport at the 2022 Asian Games, with competitors in electronic sports set to receive medals for their digital prowess.
- Italian mayor Giuseppina (Giusi) Nicolini wins UNESCO Peace Prize.
- Actor Aamir Khan and cricket icon Kapil Dev will receive the 75th Master Dinanath Mangeshkar Awards.
- Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd (GNFC) won the prestigious Golden Peacock Award in the category of Innovative Product/Service for pioneering a cashless township transformation model.
- Mongolia launched its first satellite Mongol Sat-1.
- Life insurance Corp of India has appointed Vinay Shah as the new managing director and chief executive director of its mortgage loan arm and listed entity LIC Housing Finance after government elevates Sunita Sharma to managing director of LIC earlier this week. Shah was executive director.
- Tata Power inks pact for electricity distribution in Ajmer.
- A temperate, rocky 'super-Earth' planet has been discovered transiting in front of a small star located about 39 light years away from Earth.
- Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22.

- The Supreme Court has set a limit on how much alimony a man is to pay his estranged wife, and it should be 25 percent of his net salary
- Aiming at extension of legal aid to marginalised, poor and vulnerable communities, the law ministry launched three initiatives—pro bono legal services, a tale law service and 'Nyaya Mitra' scheme
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate UN Vesak Day in Colombo on May 12.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been featured in Time's magazine's 100 most influential people list.
- 1st India Indonesia Energy Forum held in Jakarta.
- Malaysia Airlines — which lost a jetliner with 239 people on board in 2014 in one of the aviation's greatest mysteries — has become the first carrier to adopt a satellite flight-tracking system.
- Palmer, a small village in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada district grabbed an award from Prime Minister Narendra Modi for going 100 per cent "cashless".
- The 'NSCI Safety Awards' for the year 2016 were presented by the Minister of State (Independent Charge), Labour & Employment Shri Bandaru Dattatreya.
- GIC Re-first insurance company to set up base in GIFT City.
- Payments technology company and soon-to-be-launched payments bank Fino Paytech to facilitate NABARD to help the rural bank digitisation drive in the states of Haryana, MP, Bihar, Gujarat and Maharashtra.
- RBI signs MoU with the bank of Guyana.
- IndoStar Capital announced that Sriram Group chief R Sridhar has joined as Executive Vice Chairman and CEO as the Everstone Group-backed NBFC sees strong growth and aims to grow its retail lending business.
- Senior journalist and columnist, Nora Chopra passed away on Thursday following a period of illness. She was actively engaged in her work till her premature demise. Chopra was widely respected for being a passionate, spirited and combative journalist.
- India and South Korea sign MoU for Defence Industry.

## Important days

- Every year April 24 is being observed as National Panchayati Raj Diwas across India. This day marks the passing of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 that came into force with effect from 24 April 1993.

- World Book and Copyright Day (WBCD) is being observed on 23rd April 2017. The day seeks to raise awareness about the importance of reading and promote publishing and the protection of copyright around the globe.
- World Malaria Day is all about celebrating the successes there have been in the drive to eradicate malaria from the world as well as raising awareness of the disease and its prevention.
- Every April 26, World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated to learn about the role that intellectual property rights (patents, trademarks, industrial designs, copyright) play in encouraging innovation and creativity.
- The annual World Day for Safety and Health at Work on 28 April promotes the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally.
- International Dance Day was introduced in 1982 by the International Dance Council (CID, Conseil International de la Danse), a UNESCO partner NGO, and is celebrated yearly, on April 29.

## National Events

- Andhra Pradesh has now followed in Tamil Nadu and Kerala's footsteps to establish a welfare board for transgender persons in the state.
- The World Bank has approved a loan of \$375 million for capacity augmentation of National Waterway-1 (NW-1) on the river Ganga under the Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP).
- India has replaced Japan as world's number two importer of liquefied petroleum gas or LPG, thus giving a push to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for a 'safer kitchen', according to a report in Bloomberg.
- Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister of State for Communications Manoj Sinha on Sunday released coffee scented postage stamps at the General Post Office, Bengaluru.
- The National Health Mission (NHM) in Haryana launched a mobile-based application named 'Kilkari' to create awareness among pregnant women, parents and health workers on the importance of ante and post natal care.
- In a bid to expand the green cover, the Maharashtra government recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Railways, under which trees will be planted on the land adjacent to the railway tracks in the state.
- India's military expenditure grew around 8.5 per cent in 2016, making it the world's fifth largest spender at \$55.9 billion, figures released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sipri)

- In a first, the Uttarakhand Forest Department has launched a drone for real-time monitoring of the forest fire and to take preventive measures.
- India's first and longest ropeway to connect Mumbai with the famous Elephanta Island in the Arabian Sea is planned to be constructed by the Mumbai Port Trust
- India may export mangoes that meet biosecurity standards to Australia for the first time following revision of protocols to allow them in the Australian economy.
- India and France carry out joint naval exercise 'Varuna'.
- India's first sea ropeway to link Mumbai and Elephanta Island.
- India replaces Japan as No.2 LPG importer.
- India becomes world's fifth largest military spender.
- Northeast India's sixth and largest Information Technology (IT) hub was inaugurated here on Monday to boost employment and e-governance besides to export software technology.
- The international conference on "Dara Shikoh: Reclaiming Spiritual Legacy of India", organised by the Indian Council Of Cultural Relations (ICCR), will be held on April 27 and 28 at ICCR's Azad Bhavan
- Union Minister for Urban Development & Urban Poverty Alleviation M Venkaiah Naidu, inaugurated the function and addressed the august gathering to commemorate the 47th Foundation Day of HUDCO.
- General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re) has become the first re-insurer to open an office at India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- Northeast India's largest Information Technology (IT) hub was inaugurated at Agartala to boost employment and e-governance besides to export software technology.
- The Agriculture Ministry has come up with a new model Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act proposing single-point levy of market fee across a State and a united single trading licence for cost-effectiveness of transactions.
- The government has announced the names of ten new Iconic places under the Phase II of Swachh Iconic Places initiative.
- India is set to host the 18th World Road Meeting (WRM 2017) on November 14.
- To benefit and digitally empower over 45 lacs Atal Pension Yojana (APY) subscribers, the facility of online viewing of the statement of transaction (e-SOT) and e-PRAN cards were launched.
- The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) is India's first public hospital to start plaque brachytherapy facility for the treatment of eye tumours.

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced that Ballabhgarh would now be known as Balramgarh. He also announced a number of projects for the development of Ballabhgarh and NIT Faridabad Assembly constituencies.
- Belgium has become the first country to open an honorary consulate office in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation under Swachh Bharat Mission, was held recently at Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, in Jammu & Kashmir.
- Government think tank Niti Aayog has envisaged a new India in which all citizens in 15 years will have houses with toilets, two-wheelers or cars, power, air conditioners and digital connectivity.
- The West Bengal government has decided to drop the tag "Pradhan Mantri" from "Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna" and rename it as "Bangla Fasal Bima Yojna".
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first flight under the Regional Connectivity Scheme Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (Udan) by flagging off the Alliance Airlines flight on Shimla-Delhi sector from Jubbar Hatti airport near Shimla.
- The first electric taxi trial in the country is going to be launched in Nagpur from May 24
- In a bid to counter the women who throw stones at security forces in Jammu and Kashmir, the Union government plans to raise an all-woman India Reserve Battalion (IRB) in the State.
- At least 132 people participated in the first-ever athletics meet for transgender persons organised by the Kerala government at Trivandrum's Central Stadium.
- This week the Government of Kazakhstan opened its consulate in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The consular district will include the states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala and will be headed by well-known businessman and Chairman of Kirtilals Mr. Suraj Shantakumar.
- India's first book village to come up in Maharashtra.
- Govt. launches Test & Treat policy for HIV patients.

## International Events

- India has won elections to two subsidiary bodies of a UN organ focussed on social and economic issues.
- China and Iran have signed the first agreement on the reconfiguration of Iran's Arak reactor.
- A state-run Chinese company will handle the operations of Pakistan's strategic Gwadar port for a period of 40 years.

- Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines, Shri Piyush Goyal and H.E. Mr. Ignasius Jonan, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Republic of Indonesia met on 20th April, 2017 for the 1st India Indonesia Energy Forum, held in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Fourteenth (14th) edition of Indo-French naval exercise (VARUNA) started with the arrival of four French naval ships at Goa.
- A freight train connecting Russia with China has arrived in an inland city bringing goods from Moscow to the former revolutionary heartland of the Communist Party
- A Delhi-based green body, a French waste company and a Geneva-based innovation foundation have joined hands to further strengthen India's waste management capabilities.
- The White House has named a retired Marine major general Randolph Ailes as the new Director of the Secret Service. Ailes was in the Marine Corps for 35 years.
- China has launched a new aircraft carrier in the latest sign of its growing military strength.
- India slipped three places in the 2017 world press freedom rankings to 136th among 180 countries
- The Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) plans to build a new oil terminal at Motihari in Bihar to supply fuel to neighbour Nepal through the planned pipeline up to Amlekganj in Nepal. The old terminal at Raxaul, also in the same Indian state, will be closed
- Rahul V. Chittella's short film "Azaad", starring Atul Kulkarni and Sakshi Tanwar, will be screened by Unesco as part of a World Press Freedom Day event on May 3 in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- India and Cyprus signed four agreements, including on air services and merchant shipping, following delegation-level talks headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades
- El Salvador became the first country in the world to ban the mining of metals in what campaigners called a landmark move for environmental protection.
- Expressing its disappointment with India for not making adequate changes in its IP laws and regulations despite announcing its National IPR policy last year, the US Trade Representative's (USTR) office has once again placed the country in the 'priority watch' list in this year's edition of the Special 301 report.
- Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan addressed the audience in a conference at TED Talks (Technology, Entertainment and Design talks) in Canada.
- Poland assured India of its support to New Delhi's bid for membership in the elite Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and a permanent seat in the expanded UN Security Council.

## Sports

- One of the sports to miss out from the programme list of the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta and Palembang is cricket. Apart from cricket, skateboarding, sambo and surfing are among the other sports which have been removed from the programme in order to reduce the burden on Indonesian organisers.
- Aged 17 years and 199 days, Rising Pune Supergiant spinner Washington Sundar has become the third youngest cricketer to play in IPL.
- India's Rohan Bopanna and his Uruguayan partner Pablo Cuevas lifted the men's doubles crown at the Monte Carlo Masters after registering a hard-fought three-set win over Spain's Feliciano Lopez and Marc Lopez in Monaco.
- One of the sports to miss out from the programme list of the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta and Palembang is cricket.
- Rafael Nadal won the Monte Carlo Masters for a record-breaking 10th time with a dominant 6-1, 6-3 defeat of Spanish compatriot Albert Ramos-Vinolas
- Haryana beat arch rivals Kerala after six years to win the team championship at the National Youth Athletics Meet
- Indian shot putter Manpreet Kaur bags Gold at Asian Grand Prix in China.
- The most popular medal at the World Masters Games has gone to the oldest competitor - 101-year-old Indian sprinter Man Kaur.
- The 'Marylebone Cricket Club' has offered honorary life membership to Sandhya Agarwal, former captain of the Indian women's Test team.
- India finished with a rich haul of three gold, two silver and 11 bronze medals at the US Open Karate Championship held in Las Vegas.

### Awards and Honours

- Chitra Productions in association with Dadasaheb Phalke Excellence Awards 2017 celebrated the 148th birth anniversary of the father of Indian Cinema, the respected Dadasaheb Phalke.
- Travel planning and booking website TripAdvisor has bestowed on Bali an award as the "best destination," after the island was named the global winner of the 2017 Travelers' Choice Awards in March.
- SSP Chawrasia and Aditi Ashok were among the winners at the second Golf Industry Association (GIA) Awards.
- Nonagenarian gynaecologist Dr Bhakti Yadav was handed over the Padma Shri award by district collector P Narahari at her house.

- Veteran actress Moushumi Chatterjee has received the lifetime achievement award, at the 80th Bengal Film Journalists' Association (BFJA) awards.
- Bollywood film "Newton" has won the best film honor at the Hong Kong International Film Festival. The lead actor of the film is Raj Kumar Rao.
- Nobel laureate and social activist Kailash Satyarthi was on Sunday presented the P.C. Chandra Purashkar (award) for his global crusade against child slavery and exploitative child labour.
- Social activist Prafulla Samantra was announced one of six winners of the Goldman Environmental Prize, in San Francisco
- Renowned filmmaker and actor Kasinadhuni Viswanath, best known for his award-winning movies in Telugu, Tamil and Hindi, has won the Dadasaheb Phalke award for the year 2016 for his outstanding contribution to the film industry.
- State-owned Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd (GNFC) has won the prestigious Golden Globe Tigers Award for Excellence and Leadership in CSR in the category of 'E-Payment Leadership' for the implementation of digital transactions in its township at Bharuch, Gujarat.
- The youngest chancellor of any university in the nation, Dileep K Nair has bagged Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Foundation award for excellent performance in the field of education in Trivendurum, Kerala.
- Adding another feather to its cap, India's fifth largest private sector Bank, the YES BANK has won the prestigious 'Golden Peacock Innovative Product/Service Award 2017' for its innovative mobile technology product, SIMsePAY at the Dubai Global Convention 2017 for the 27th World Congress on Leadership for Business Excellence & Innovation and Presentation of Golden Peacock Awards.
- GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd. (GHIAL), which operates Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), Hyderabad has announced that it has won the coveted Golden Peacock Business Excellence Award (GPBEA) 2017 in the large scale industry.
- Srishti Kaur from India has been crowned Miss Teen Universe 2017, beating out 25 other contestants from around the world in the annual beauty pageant.
- The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) Department has bagged e-Puraskar Award for the best performance in empowering panchayats by using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools, for 2016-17.
- A prominent Indian businessman's food processing plant in Britain has won the prestigious Queen's Enterprise Award 2017 for its exceptional contribution to the UK's trade, industry and economy.

- Odisha's capital city, Bhubaneswar, the first Indian city has won Pierre L'enfant Planning Excellence and Achievement Awards-2017 instituted by the American Planning Association.
- Versatile playback singer Vani Jairam was presented the Ghantasala national award instituted by the Ghantasala National Art Academy.
- The youngest ever chancellor of any university in the nation, Dileep K Nair, has added another feather to his cap of achievement after bagging the award for excellent performance in the field of education in Trivendurum, Kerala.
- In yet another move in India against black money, markets regulator Sebi on Wednesday barred resident as well as non-resident Indians (NRIs) from making investments through participatory notes (P-Notes).
- India won six medals in the second leg of the Asian Grand Prix Athletics Meet in Jiaying, China. This included the gold medal bagged by Neena Varakil in women's long jump.
- The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee presented CII Presidents Award for Lifetime Achievement to Mr. Rahul Bajaj and CII foundation Woman Exemplar Award
- Indian sand artist Sudarshan Patnaik wins gold in Moscow Competition.

## Science and Technology

- Indian Naval ship for the first time fired a land-attack BrahMos supersonic cruise missile.
- Haryana has launched a new mobile based application namely 'Kilkari' to create awareness among pregnant women, parents, and field workers about the importance of antenatal care, institutional delivery, postnatal care and immunisation
- NASA successfully launched its football-stadium-sized, heavy-lift super pressure balloon (SPB) from Wanaka
- Scientists have found that a caterpillar commercially bred for fishing bait has the ability to biodegrade polyethylene: one of the toughest and most used plastics, frequently found clogging up landfill sites in the form of plastic shopping bags.
- India successfully carried out a fresh user trial of 3,000-kilometer range Agni-III ballistic missile from Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast.
- Indian Space Research Organisation's Ahmedabad-based Space Applications Centre (SAC) has developed an Android app, named Solar Calculator, for computing the solar energy potential of any location.
- Extremely premature babies could be kept alive in future using an "artificial womb" that scientists plan to test in humans after a successful study involving unborn lambs.

- IT major Infosys has launched its new artificial intelligence platform 'Nia', which can help businesses forecast revenues, understand customer behaviour as well as deep dive into content of contracts and deal with compliance and fraud.

## Appointments

- BJP leader and Assam Badminton Association President Himanta Biswa Sarma was on Sunday appointed Badminton Association of India's interim head during its executive council meeting.
- Senior IPS officer Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar was appointed as the new Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) on Wednesday. His appointment comes two days after the CRPF lost 25 jawans in the deadly Sukma attack.
- India's first woman International Olympic Committee member Nita Ambani has made it to two important commissions of the global sports governing body, including the prestigious Olympic channel.
- Beverage major Coca-Cola Company announced key leadership changes for its India & South West Asia business and Hindustan Coca-Cola Bottling (HCCB) operations.
- T Krishnakumar has been appointed as the president of India and South West Asia Business Unit. He has replaced Venkatesh Kini.

## Banking and Finance

- Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN), a self-regulatory organisation and an industry association of microfinance, has launched a financial literacy mobile app 'MFIN Connect for microfinance clients.
- Private sector lender Yes Bank announced the alliance with Paisabazaar.com under which the bank will offer conditionally approved loans to the latter's existing customers.
- Mobile payment and commerce platform Paytm announced that it has collaborated with MMTC-PAMP to launch digital gold, which will enable its customers to buy gold online and store it in MMTC-PAMPs secure vaults free of charge.

## Deaths

- Veteran actor Vinod Khanna passed away in Mumbai. He was an active politician, and Member of Parliament from Gurdaspur, Punjab.

- American Director Jonathan Demme, the Oscar-winning director behind classics like *The Silence of the Lambs* and *Philadelphia*, died in New York.

