

# Weekly Current Affairs October 2017: Week III

## Banking and Financial Awareness

- Income Tax department activated '**Online Chat**' service to redress the grievances of the tax payers.
- SEBI has reconstituted its committee on market infrastructure institutions under the chairmanship of **R Gandhi**.
- RBI has guided banks to issue **loans to rural women SHGs at 7 %** under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihood Mission in 2017-2018.
- Private sector Bank, **Yes Bank** is to fund Rs.156 Crores for the STP- **Sewage Treatment Plant** at Varanasi under Namami Gange project.
- NITI Aayog forecasted that the **GDP might grow to 6.9 to 7 %** in the fiscal of 2017-2018 and to 7.5% in 2018-2019.
- Union Bank of India launched an app called **Union Sahyog**, which offers both English and Hindi.
- Yes Bank has partnered with an **Abu Dhabi International Financial Center**, for collaboration in financial technology systems in India and Saudi Arabia.
- Multi-Commodity Exchange of India Ltd (MCX) launched **India's first commodity options in gold**.
- The Ministry of Finance has permitted all public sector banks and the top 3 private banks (**ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank and Axis Bank**) to accept deposits for Small savings schemes.

## Appointments and Resignations

- **Ranjit Kumar**, Solicitor General of India resigned from the post, the tenure of which was extended on last June.
- **Sunny Verghese** was appointed as the new chairman of World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

## Obituaries

- **Thuravoor Viswambharan**, Indian Vedic scholar and writer passed away on October 20, 2017.
- **Roy Dotrice**, Veteran British actor passed away.
- **Shamsher Khan**, India's first Olympic swimmer passed away.
- Former CPI-M Lok Sabha member **Amal Datta** passed away.

## Honour and Awards

- US author **George Saunders** has won Man Booker Prize 2017 for his novel "Lincoln in the Bardo".
- Prominent poet, lyricist and journalist **Prabha Varma** has been chosen for the Padma Prabha Puraskaram this year.
- Famous Konkani Folk artist **Gopal Gowda** has been selected Kalakar Puraskar 2017.
- Vocalist **T.M. Krishna** will receive the Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration for 2015-16.
- Environmental scientist **Schellnhuber** receives Blue Planet Prize, world's most prestigious award for environmental science.
- Fifty Indian peacekeepers stationed in **South Sudan** have been awarded the UN Medal for their professionalism and service

### Books and Authors

- The biography of veteran actress Hema Malini titled "**Beyond the Dream Girl**" was launched.
- Former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee released the third series of his autobiography titled "**The Coalition years 1996-2012**"

### Important Days

- October 15th is celebrated as "**International Day for Rural Women**" to recognize the contribution made by rural women.
- **World Food Day** is celebrated on October 16 every year by FAO- Food and Agricultural Organisation.
- "**The United Nations' (UN) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**" is observed on October 17 annually.
- The second **Ayurveda Day** was celebrated on 17 October 2017 by the Ministry of AYUSH.
- 20th October is observed as "**World Statistics Day**", once in every 5 years from 2010.
- 21st October is observed as **Police Commemoration Day** throughout India ,to mark the memory of all Police personnel who have laid down their lives on duty.

### Index and Ranking:

- The **Jaipur and Srinagar Airports** were ranked first and second respectively in ACI (Airports Council International)-ASQ (Airport Service Quality) Survey in the category of 2-5 million passengers.

### MoUs and Partnerships:

- **India, Brazil and South Africa** have signed the IBSA Trust Fund Agreement that seeks to fight poverty in developing countries.

- The **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund of India** (NIIF) has signed an investment agreement for \$1 billion with a unit of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA).

### Important News- World

- Russia is to conduct **INDRA-2017**, the first-ever Tri-Services Joint Exercise between Indian and Russian Armed Forces from October 19 to October 29.
- The first nation to accept bitcoin in exchange for citizenship is the island country- **Vanuatu**.
- Indian actor **Varun Dhawan** is the youngest actor to get a wax statue done at Madame Tussauds, Hong Kong.
- **Jacinda Ardern** is to become the next prime minister of New Zealand and the third prime minister to lead the country.
- A direct bus service commenced between **New Delhi and Rolpa** district in Nepal once in a week.
- The **Democratic Republic of Congo** has been elected to the UN Human Rights Council.

### Important News- India

- Ministry of Women and Child Development has started an online campaign **#IamThatWoman**, to end Gender bias.
- Mahindra & Mahindra launched a programme, **Perna** with an objective to empower women working in the agriculture sector.
- India's first ever **All India Institute of Ayurveda** (AIIA) was inaugurated on Ayurveda Day on 17th October, 2017 in New Delhi.
- The Provisions of "**Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI) Act 2017**" have come into force on October 16, 2017. (FDDI was declared an 'Institute of National Importance').
- The Govardhan Eco Village, set up by the ISKCON in Palghar district, Maharashtra has won the **Green Platinum Award**, instituted by Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- The **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority** (APEDA) has planned a programme for the promotion of Northeastern products in Bangladesh and Myanmar.
- The government of India has set up a **committee for suggestions on Artificial Intelligence policy**.

### Science and Technology

- **INS Kiltan**, an indigenously built anti-submarine, was commissioned into Indian Navy.


- The world's first plant under the CarbFix Project to turn atmospheric carbon dioxide into stone has begun operations in Hellisheidi, Iceland.
- A **new species of gecko** at Chhattisgarh's Kanger Ghati National Park in Eastern Ghats was discovered. Its common name is the Kanger valley rock gecko and the biological name is **Hemidactylus kangerensis**.

### Important News- States

- Madhya Pradesh has launched a new scheme called "**Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana**" to provide the compensation for agriculture products.
- **Odisha's first PNG supply** was started in Bhubaneswar, which is an integral part of 'Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga' pipeline project.
- **Rajasthan** has become first in India to call attention and adjournment motions and proposals online from legislators to send them to the state government.
- The Government has given **Green clearance to the Greenfield Airport Project** at Hirasar, Gujarat.
- Rajasthan Government has introduced **The Code of Criminal Procedure** (Rajasthan Amendment) Bill, 2017 to prohibit probes against judges and officers without sanction.
- Assam State Government rolled out '**Tourism Policy of Assam 2017**' to increase tourist inflow in the state by two to three times within next five years.
- The **Maharashtra Govt.** has released the sum of 4,000 crore rupees under the first phase of the farm loan waiver scheme.
- Arunachal Pradesh Assembly approved the **creation of Kamle** as 23rd district.
- The **AYUSH Festival of Stamps 2017** has been inaugurated the two days exhibition event at Panaji.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan Vasundhara Raje has opened up the **expansion of Annapurna Rasoi Yojna** in all the 191 urban areas of the state.

### Sports News

- **Kavita Devi** has become the first Indian woman to sign for World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE).
- The 17-year-old **Selena Selvakumar** won singles and doubles gold medal and the team championship gold at Egypt Junior Table Tennis Championship.
- Tennis star **Maria Sharapova** won Tianjin Open Title, the first series after the 15-month doping ban imposed on her.
- Cricketer **Shakib Al Hasan** is the first Bangladesh player to be inducted in the MCC World Cricket committee.
- Swiss Tennis Legend **Roger Federer clinched Shangai Masters Title**, after defeating Rafael Nadal.

**BANK**   
**EXAMS** 