

Weekly Current Affairs October 2017: Week IV

Banking and Financial Awareness

- SBI has waived charges for **fund transfer of up to Rs. 1000**, made through the IMPS (Immediate Payment Service).
- RBI to make **LEI must for companies with over Rs 5 crore** exposure, in a move to help preventing multiple loans to firms under same collateral.
- The Reserve Bank of India has formed a **10-member 'High-Level Task Force'** on developing a transparent Public Credit Registry (PCR)" for India.
- **Reliance Industries Limited** (RIL) became the first Indian company to cross Rs. 6 trillion market capitalization.
- In the Forbes magazine's **list of richest persons**, Founder of Magazine, **Jeff Bezos** surpassed Bill Gates.
- IndusInd Bank, in association with MobiKwik had announced the launch of wallet '**IndusInd MobiKwik**' that allows its customers to pay at the MobiKwik merchant network using their accounts.
- The Indian government has announced an allocation of Rs 2.11 lakh crore over 2 years for the **recapitalization of public sector banks**.
- The **Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation** (HSBC) has announced the appointment of Jayant Rikhye as the Chief Executive Officer for India.
- The Reserve Bank of India has clarified that linking of Aadhaar to the bank account is mandatory under the **Prevention of Money-Laundering** (Maintenance of Records) Second Amendment Rules, 2017.

Appointments

- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has appointed **Suresh Sethi** as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.
- The government has promoted senior IPS officers **Rakesh Asthana** as a special director of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- Shri **Alok Kumar Pateria** is appointed as the Additional Director General of CISF, Central Industrial Security Force.
- **NS Venkatesh** has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).
- **Sibi George** has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Switzerland

Obituaries

- **Sana Iqbal**, Indian cross-country cyclist and anti-suicide activist died of traffic collision
- Eminent classical singer and Padma Vibhushan awardee **Girija Devi** has passed away at the age of 88.
- Famous Malayalam writer and Sahitya Akademi winner, **Punathil Kunjabdulla** passed away at the age of 77.
- Veteran Malayalam director **I V Sasi**, best known for his many famous films died at 69.
- **John Mollo**, British costume designer (Star Wars, Alien, Gandhi) and Oscar winner passed away

Honour and Awards

- Veteran theatre actor-director **Ram Gopal Bajaj** will be felicitated with Kalidas Samman.
- Indian-origin South African couple, **Salim Abdool Karim and Quarraisha Abdool Karim** has bagged the prestigious award by the Institute of Human Virology (IHV).
- 11-year-old Indian-American schoolgirl **Gitanjali Rao** has been named as "America's top young scientist".
- L & T Tech Services Ltd is conferred with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) **Industrial Innovation award 2017**

Books and Authors

- An e-book titled "**India 2017 Yearbook**" authored by Rajiv Mehrishi, Comptroller and Auditor General of India was launched by CM of Rajasthan.

Important Days

- **United Nations Day** is annually observed on 24th October.
- **World Development Information Day** is celebrated on 24 October
- **National Ayurveda Day** is observed on 28 October annually.

MoUs and Partnerships:

- **India and the United States** have signed an agreement to implement the programme for Helicopter Operations from Ships Other Than Aircraft Carriers (HOSTAC).
- **Indian Government** signed a 65.5 Million USD agreement with **ADB (The Asian Development Bank)** to support coastal protection in Karnataka.
- **Ministry of Power and Ministry of Textiles** have partnered to launch **SAATHI** initiative to help small textile industries.

Important News- World

- **Burundi** has become the first country to leave the International Criminal Court.
- The Parliament of **Catalonia** has declared independence from Spain.
- French Minister for the Armed Forces, **Florence Parly** is on a two-day visit to India.
- According to the '**Global Passport Power Rank 2017**' by global financial advisory firm Arton Capital, Singapore has the world's "most powerful" passport.
- **Saudi Arabia** has become the first country to grant citizenship to a robot.
- **Jacinda Ardern** sworn in as New Zealand's 40th and the youngest prime minister in 150 years.
- The **Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) Suraksha** which was provided by the Indian Coast Guard to the Sri Lanka Navy last month has been commissioned as Sri Lanka Coast Guard Ships at the Colombo Harbor.
- **Qatar** announced that the country will introduce the minimum wage for workers of the country.
- Central American country **Nicaragua** has signed the Paris Agreement on climate change, leaving the United States and Syria which have not signed the pact yet.

Important News- India

- **India has overtaken the United States** to become the second-largest smartphone market in the world, after China in the first place.
- The Supreme Court has directed the governments of **Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan** to ban the use of pet coke and furnace oil in the industries from November 1.
- **Central Vigilance Commission** has decided to develop an Integrity Index for broader strategy and emphasis on preventive vigilance.
- Ministry of Tourism has shortlisted seven companies and signed a Letter of Intent with them for fourteen monuments under "**Adopt a Village Scheme**".
- Ministry of Culture announced that The '**Paika Bidroha**' (Paika rebellion) of 1817 will be renamed in the history books as 'the First War of Independence'.
- The government of India has decided to **restart halted political dialogue** in Jammu Kashmir and Former Intelligence Bureau chief **Dineshwar Sharma** will be the Centre's interlocutor.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the international conference on Consumer Protection in New Delhi.
- **Bharatmala**, one of the largest highway construction project, was given the nod by the Union Cabinet. The total length of its first phase comes to around 34,800 km.

Science and Technology

- **The International Conference of Heads of Metrology Institutes** decided to drop the traditional system to measure the unit of kilogram. The new artefacts are to be derived from the constants of nature, that are interdependent.
- **Techno Giant SAP** launches Asia Pacific Japan region's first Leonardo Centre in Bengaluru.
- **Reliance Communication** had received the final approval on its merger with Sistema Shyam Teleservicex Ltd from the Department of Telecommunication.
- **Larsen and Toubro (L&T)** handed over offshore patrol vessel (OPV) named "Vikram" to the Indian Coast Guard.
- The first phase of national optic fibre network christened as **Bharat Net** project will be completed by December 2017

Important News- States

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister **N Chandrababu Naidu** received the Golden Peacock Award in London, under the category of Global Leadership in Public Service and Economic Transformation.
- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister **Pema Khandu** inaugurated the fifth edition of four-day Tawang festival.
- Odisha is declared as the '**Focus State**' in the World Food India (WFI) event-2017, which will be held at New Delhi from November 3 to 5.
- India's first **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK)** for Skilling in smart cities was inaugurated in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the '**roll-on-roll-off**' (ro-ro) ferry service between Ghogha in Saurashtra and Dahej in south Gujarat.
- Haryana Government announced that 50-100 acres would be earmarked in major towns to set up '**PG hostels for cattle**' thus providing a "central place" for milch cattle.
- The Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, **Edapaddi K Palanswami**, laid the foundation stone for Rs.198 Crore estimated aerospace park at Kanchipuram district.

Sports News

- In the latest list released by Forbes, Indian Cricket team captain **Virat Kohli** has been placed at the seventh spot with a brand value of \$14.5 million.
- **Cristiano Ronaldo** and **Barcelona's Lieke Martens** were awarded the UEFA Players of the Year 2017.
- **Gaganjeet Bhullar** has won his eighth Asian Tour title at the Macao Open 2017.
- **Indian hockey team** has clinched **Asia Cup 2017** title by defeating Malaysia.

- Indian Badminton Star, **Kidambi Srikanth** clinched his Denmark Open Super Series Premier title.
- The Cricket Association of Puducherry was chosen as an **Associate Member of BCCI**.
- **Jitu Rai and Heena Sidhu** pair of India bagged first gold medal of the International Shooting Sports Federation(ISSF) World Cup Final in New Delhi.

Important Abbreviations

- PFMS : Public Finance Management System
- OPV : Offshore Patrol Vessel

