
WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIR: 18 SEPTEMBER 2017 TO 24 SEPTEMBER 2017

BANKING AND FINANCIAL AWARENESS

- 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.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- 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.

OBITUARIES

- 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.

HONOUR AND AWARDS

- 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.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- The International Day of Peace or "**Peace Day**" is observed on 21 September every year.

INDEX AND RANKING:

- India ranks **128th** in Sustainable Development Goals Index-in terms of meeting the UN's health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

MOUS AND PARTNERSHIPS:

- **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.

IMPORTANT NEWS- WORLD

- 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.

IMPORTANT NEWS- INDIA

- 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.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

- 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.

IMPORTANT NEWS- STATES

- 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.

SPORTS NEWS

- 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.