

## IBPS RRB OFFICER SCALE-I & OFFICE ASSISTANT CAPSULE 2015

Dear Readers,

Here we are providing you the most awaited capsule which you all were demanding for the upcoming banking exams mainly IBPS RRB 2015.

In this capsule we have included the Current Affairs, Banking Awareness, Static Gk and other sections which are important for the upcoming bank exams.

Also, in the last we have provided the previous year GK questions asked in RRB and other banking exams, so that you all can have an idea about the topics from which the question can be asked. On the basis of last year GK questions, here is the expected pattern for this year RRB. Remember that the pattern is mainly from the analysis and it can be changed a bit.

According to our analysis, the break-up of GK portion can be like:

S.N	Topic of GA	No. of questions
1	<b>Banking Awareness</b>	<b>10-15</b>
2	<b>Banking Current Awareness</b>	<b>3-5</b>
3	<b>New Appointments (National/ International)</b>	<b>2-3</b>
4	<b>National/International Events</b>	<b>3-4</b>
5	<b>Economy/Business News</b>	<b>2</b>
6	<b>Sports</b>	<b>2</b>
7	<b>Awards &amp; Honours</b>	<b>2-3</b>
8	<b>International Orgzn</b>	<b>1</b>
9	<b>Days</b>	<b>1-2</b>
10	<b>Miscellaneous: Country/Currency, CM/Governors, Head Quarters, Days, Dances, Dams, Power Plants, etc</b>	<b>10</b>
11	<b>Books &amp; Authors</b>	<b>1-2</b>
12	<b>Government Schemes</b>	<b>2</b>
13	<b>Summits, Operations, Committees etc</b>	<b>3-5</b>
14	<b>GDP Predictions/Ranking in Different Indexes of India</b>	<b>1-2</b>
15	<b>Abbreviations</b>	<b>1-2</b>
16	<b>Science &amp; Technology &amp; Defence</b>	<b>2-3</b>

### BANKING AWARENESS CAPSULE

RBI Current Reserve Ratios and Policy Rates		
1	<b>Bank Rate</b>	8.25%
2	<b>Repo Rate</b>	7.25%
3	<b>Reverse Repo Rate</b>	6.25%
4	<b>CRR</b>	4%
5	<b>SLR</b>	21.5%
6	<b>MSF</b>	8.25%

#### 1) The Structure of Indian Banking

The structure of the Indian banking system can be categorized in two ways.

**The first divides the** banks into three categories: the Reserve Bank of India, commercial banks and cooperative banks. **The**

**second divides the** banks into two categories: scheduled banks and non-scheduled banks. In both of these systems of categorization, the Reserve Bank of India, or RBI, is at the center of the banking structure. It holds the reserve capital of all commercial and scheduled banks in the country.

#### Scheduled Banks

The eligibility criteria exist for scheduled banks:

- The first of which entails carrying on the business of banking in India.
- All scheduled banks must maintain a reserve capital of 5 lakhs rupees in the Reserve Bank of India.
- These are registered under the second schedule of RBI Act, 1934.


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#### RBI

#### 2) RBI AND ITS ROLES

**RBI** is the central Bank of India and controls the entire the entire money issue, circulation and control by its monetary policies and lending policies. RBI is also known as the lender of last resort.

**Establishment:** The reserve bank of India was established on April 1, 1935 in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The Central Office of the Reserve Bank of India was initially established in Calcutta but was permanently moved to Mumbai in 1937. Though originally privately owned, since nationalization in 1949, the Reserve Bank is fully owned by the Government of India.

#### Main Functions

- Monetary Authority:** Formulate, implements and monitors the monetary policy.
- Regulator and supervisor of the financial system:** Prescribes broad parameters of banking operations within which the country's banking and financial system functions.
- Manager of Foreign Exchange:** Manages the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.
- Issuer of Currency:** Issues and exchanges or destroys currency and coins not fit for circulations.
- Development role:** Performs a wide range of promotional functions to support national objectives.

- 6) Bankers to the Government:** performs merchant banking function for the central and the state governments; also acts as their banker.
- 7) Bankers to banks:** maintains banking accounts of all scheduled banks.

### IMPORTANT POINTS ON RBI

01. RBI generally reviews the monetary policy every three months on a quarterly basis
02. The rate at which Reserve Bank of India lends short term money to the banks is called as repo rate
03. The Reserve Bank of India was nationalized on 1.1.1949
04. RBI functions are governed by RBI act 1934
05. RBI is not expected to perform the function of accepting deposits from the general public
06. RBI has its headquarters at Mumbai
7. Prime lending rate is not decided by RBI
8. Prime lending rate is decided by the individual banks
9. RBI decides the following rates namely; Bank rate, repo rate, reverse repo rate and cash reserve ratio
10. RBI was set up on the recommendations of Hilton Young commission
11. The quantitative instruments of RBI are – bank rate policy, cash reserve ratio and statutory liquidity ratio
12. The objective of monetary policy of RBI is to control inflation; discourage hoarding of commodities and encourage flow of credit into neglected sector
13. When RBI is lender of the last resort, it means that RBI advances credit against eligible securities
14. Government of India decides the quantity of coins to be minted
15. The method which is used currently in India to issue currency note – minimum reserve system
16. For issuing notes, RBI is required to hold the minimum reserves of Rs. 200 crore of which note less than Rs. 115 crore is to be held in gold

### INTEREST RATES DECIDED BY RBI

#### Repo Rate

Repo rate is the rate of interest which is levied on Short-Term loans taken by commercial banks from **RBI**. Whenever the banks have any shortage of funds they can borrow it from RBI. A reduction in the repo rate will help banks to get money at a cheaper rate. When the repo rate increases, borrowing from RBI becomes more expensive.

#### Reverse Repo Rate

This is exact opposite of Repo rate. Reverse repo rate is the rate at which commercial banks CHARGE on their surplus funds with RBI. RBI uses this tool when it feels there is too much money floating in the banking system. Banks are always happy to keep money with RBI since their money is in the safe hands with a good interest. An increase in Reverse repo rate can cause the banks to transfer more funds to RBI due to these attractive interest rates.

#### CRR Rate

Cash reserve Ratio (CRR) is the amount of cash funds that the banks have to maintain with RBI. If RBI decides to increase the percent of this, the available amount with the banks comes

down. RBI is using this method (increase of CRR rate), to drain out the excessive money from the banks.

#### SLR Rate

SLR (Statutory Liquidity Ratio) is the amount a commercial bank needs to maintain in the form of cash, or gold or government approved securities (Bonds) before providing credit to its customers. SLR is determined and maintained by the RBI in order to control the expansion of bank credit. SLR is determined as the percentage of total demand and time liabilities. Time Liabilities are the liabilities a commercial bank is liable to pay to the customers after a specific time period. SLR is used to control inflation and proper growth. Through SLR tuning, the money supply in the system can be controlled efficiently.

#### Bank Rate

Bank rate is the rate of interest which is levied on Long Term loans and Advances taken by commercial banks from **RBI**. Changes in the bank rate are often used by central banks to control the money supply.

**MSF Rate:**-MSF (Marginal Standing Facility Rate) is the rate at which banks can borrow overnight from RBI. This was introduced in the monetary policy of RBI for the year 2011-2012. Banks can borrow funds through MSF when there is a considerable shortfall of liquidity. This measure has been introduced by RBI to regulate short-term asset liability mismatches more effectively.

### CURRENCY IN INDIA

#### What do you know by currency chest?

Currency chests are operated by RBI so that they can provide good quality currency notes to the public. However, RBI has appointed commercial banks to open and monitor currency chests on behalf of RBI. The cash kept in currency chests is considered to be kept in RBI.

What do you mean by narrow banking?

It is the system of banking under which the bank accepts deposits from the public and places the funds accepted in 100 percent risk free assets with maturity matching for its liabilities. The bank takes no risk of lending at all.

#### What is a small coin depot?

Some bank branches are also authorised to establish Small Coin Depots to stock small coins. The Small Coin Depots also distribute small coins to other bank branches in their area of operation.

#### What are soiled, mutilated and imperfect banknotes?

- (i) "soiled note:" means a note which, has become dirty due to usage and also includes a two piece note pasted together wherein both the pieces presented belong to the same note, and form the entire note.
- (ii) Mutilated banknote is a banknote, of which a portion is missing or which is composed of more than two pieces.
- (iii) Imperfect banknote means any banknote, which is wholly or partially, obliterated, shrunk, washed, altered or indecipherable but does not include a mutilated banknote.

## A Brief on FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES

Components of Forex	As on July 24, 2015	
	₹ Bn.	US\$ Mn.
	1	2
Total Reserves	22,551.8	353,648.1
1.1 Foreign Currency Assets	20,995.3	329,245.4
1.2 Gold	1,216.1	19,074.3
1.3 SDRs	257.1	4,024.2
1.4 Reserve Position in the IMF	83.3	1,304.3

### What actually is FOREX?

Reserves are maintained by countries for meeting their international payment obligations — both short and long terms, including sovereign and commercial debts, financing of imports, for intervention in the foreign currency markets during periods of volatility, besides helping to boost the confidence of the market in the ability of a country to meet its external obligations and to absorb any unforeseen external shocks, contingencies or unexpected capital movements.

India's foreign exchange reserves comprise foreign currency assets, gold and special drawing rights allocated to it by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in addition to the reserves it has parked with the fund. Foreign exchange reserves are held and managed by the RBI.

The **Foreign currency assets** are investment mainly in instruments abroad which have the highest credit rating and which do not pose any credit risk. These include sovereign bonds, treasury bills and short-term deposits in top-rated global banks besides cash accounts.

### 3) Types of Bank Accounts

A bank account can be a time deposit account or a term deposit account or a no frill account ie BSBDA .

#### TYPES OF BANK ACCOUNTS

- Savings Bank Account
- Current Deposit Account
- Fixed Deposit Account
- Recurring Deposit Account.

#### a. Savings Bank Account

This type of account can be opened with a minimum initial deposit that varies from bank to bank. Money can be deposited any time in this account. Withdrawals can be made either by signing a withdrawal form or by issuing a cheque or by using ATM card. Normally banks put some restriction on the number of withdrawal from this account. Interest is allowed on the balance of deposit in the account. The rate of interest on savings bank account varies from bank to bank and also changes from time to time. Interest rate is paid to the account holders on daily balance basis.

#### b. Current Deposit Account

Big businessmen, companies and institutions such as schools, colleges, and hospitals have to make payment through their bank accounts. Since there are restrictions on number of withdrawals

from savings bank account, that type of account is not suitable for them. They need to have an account from which withdrawal can be made any number of times. Banks open current account for them. On this deposit bank does not pay any interest on the balances. Rather the account holder pays certain amount each year as operational charge. For the convenience of the account holders banks also allow withdrawal of amounts in excess of the balance of deposit. This facility is known as overdraft facility.

#### c. Fixed Deposit Account (also known as Term Deposit Account)

Many a time people want to save money for long period. If money is deposited in savings bank account, banks allow a lower rate of interest. Therefore, money is deposited in a fixed deposit account to earn interest at a higher rate.

#### d. Recurring Deposit Account

This type of account is suitable for those who can save regularly and expect to earn a fair return on the deposits over a period of time. While opening the account a person has to agree to deposit a fixed amount once in a month for a certain period. The total deposit along with the interest therein is payable on maturity. However, the depositor can also be allowed to close the account before its maturity and get back the money along with the interest till that period. The rate of interest allowed on the deposits is higher than that on a savings bank deposit but lower than the rate allowed on a fixed deposit for the same period.

#### Notes:

- Minimum age to open a bank account is now 10 years.
- Maximum Interest rate is given on FD A/c.
- The maximum period of an FD is 10 years & for RD is 10 years.

### INTEREST RATE ON BANK ACCOUNTS

#### A) Some points related to Interest Rates on Bank Accounts

- Interest on Savings A/c is calculated on daily balance basis.
- Now, All Scheduled Commercial Banks (Excluding RRBs) have the discretion to offer differential interest rates based on whether the term deposits are with or without-premature-withdrawal-facility, subject to the following guidelines:
  - All term deposits of individuals (held singly or jointly) of ₹ 15 lakh and below should, necessarily, have premature withdrawal facility.
  - For all term deposits other than (i) above, banks can offer deposits without the option of premature withdrawal as well.
  - Banks should disclose in advance the schedule of interest rates payable on deposits i.e. all deposits mobilized by banks should be strictly in conformity with the published schedule.

#### B) Taxation of Savings Bank Interest rates:

Unlike interest on fixed deposits, interest earned on savings bank accounts is not subject to Tax Deduction at Source. However, this does not mean the interest earned on Savings accounts is completely tax free. It is exempt upto Rs. 10,000 in a year, and if


the interest you earn from Savings accounts crosses this threshold, it becomes subject to tax.

#### C) Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, 2004:



A Scheme which is giving a higher interest rate to the senior citizens, if they make deposits in the banks.

The salient features of the Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, 2004 are given below:

<b>Tenure of the deposit account</b>	<b>5 years, which can be extended by 3 years.</b>
<b>Rate of interest</b>	9.3 per cent per annum
<b>Investment to be in multiples of</b>	Rs. 1000/-
<b>Maximum investment limit</b>	Rs. 15 lakh
<b>Minimum eligible age for investment</b>	60 years (55 years for those who have retired on superannuation or under a voluntary or special voluntary scheme).
<b>Premature closure/withdrawal facility</b>	Permitted after one year of opening the account but with penalty.
<b>Modes of holding</b>	Accounts can be held both in single and joint holding modes. Joint holding is allowed only with spouse.
<b>Applicability to NRI, PIO and HUFs</b>	Non Resident Indians (NRIs), Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) and Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) are not eligible to open an account under the Scheme.



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#### 4) NBFC:

A Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 engaged in the business of loans and advances, acquisition of shares/stocks/bonds/debentures/securities issued by Government or local authority or other marketable securities of a like nature, leasing, hire-purchase, insurance business, chit fund business.

#### Difference between BANK & NBFC:

NBFCs lend and make investments and hence their activities are akin to that of banks; however there are a few differences as given below:

- NBFC cannot accept demand deposits;
- NBFCs do not form part of the payment and settlement system and cannot issue cheques drawn on itself;
- deposit insurance facility of Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation is not available to depositors of NBFCs, unlike in case of banks.

#### Different types/categories of NBFCs registered with RBI:

NBFCs are categorized

- In terms of the type of liabilities into Deposit and Non-Deposit accepting NBFCs,
  - Non deposit taking NBFCs by their size into systemically important and other non-deposit holding companies (NBFC-NDSI and NBFC-ND) and
  - By the kind of activity they conduct.
- Within this broad categorization the different types of NBFCs are as follows:

i. **Asset Finance Company(AFC)** : An AFC is a company which is a financial institution carrying on as its principal business the financing of physical assets supporting productive/economic activity, such as automobiles, tractors, lathe machines, generator sets, earth moving and material handling equipments, moving on own power and general purpose industrial machines.

ii. **Investment Company (IC)** : IC means any company which is a financial institution carrying on as its principal business the acquisition of securities.

iii. **Loan Company (LC)**: LC means any company which is a financial institution carrying on as its principal business the providing of finance whether by making loans or advances or otherwise for any activity other than its own but does not include an Asset Finance Company.

iv. **Infrastructure Finance Company (IFC)**: IFC is a non-banking finance company

- which deploys at least 75 per cent of its total assets in infrastructure loans,
- has a minimum Net Owned Funds of Rs. 300 crore,
- has a minimum credit rating of 'A' or equivalent d) and a CRAR of 15%.

v. **Infrastructure Debt Fund: Non-Banking Financial Company (IDF-NBFC)** : IDF-NBFC is a company registered as NBFC to facilitate the flow of long term debt into infrastructure projects. IDF-NBFC raise resources through issue of Rupee or Dollar denominated bonds of minimum 5 year maturity. Only Infrastructure Finance Companies (IFC) can sponsor IDF-NBFCs.

vi. **Non-Banking Financial Company - Micro Finance Institution (NBFC-MFI)**: NBFC-MFI is a non-deposit taking NBFC having not less than 85% of its assets in the nature of qualifying assets which satisfy the following criteria:

- a. loan disbursed by an NBFC-MFI to a borrower with a rural household annual income not exceeding Rs. 60,000 or urban and semi-urban household income not exceeding Rs. 1,20,000.
- b. tenure of the loan not to be less than 24 months for loan amount in excess of Rs. 15,000 with prepayment without penalty;



- vii. **Non-Banking Financial Company – Factors (NBFC-Factors):** NBFC-Factor is a non-deposit taking NBFC engaged in the principal business of factoring. The financial assets in the factoring business should constitute at least 75 percent of its total assets and its income derived from factoring business should not be less than 75 percent of its gross income.

#### Register with RBI:

A company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and desirous of commencing business of non-banking financial institution as defined under Section 45 I(a) of the RBI Act, 1934 should comply with the following:

- i. it should be a company registered under Section 3 of the companies Act, 1954
- ii. It should have a minimum net owned fund of Rs 200 lakh.

#### Deposits in NBFC:

- a) Presently, the maximum rate of interest an NBFC can offer is 12.5%. The interest may be paid or compounded at rests not shorter than monthly rests.
- b) The NBFCs are allowed to accept/renew public deposits for a minimum period of 12 months and maximum period of 60 months. They cannot accept deposits repayable on demand.
- c) The deposits with NBFCs are not insured.
- d) The repayment of deposits by NBFCs is not guaranteed by RBI.

#### Brief about RNBC

- a) Residuary Non-Banking Company is a class of NBFC which is a company and has as its principal business the receiving of deposits, under any scheme or arrangement or in any other manner and not being Investment, Asset Financing, Loan Company.
- b) These companies are required to maintain investments as per directions of RBI, in addition to liquid assets.
- c) The amount payable by way of interest, premium, bonus or other advantage, by whatever name called by a RNBC in respect of deposits received shall not be less than the amount calculated at the rate of 5% (to be compounded annually) on the amount deposited in lump sum or at monthly or longer intervals; and at the rate of 3.5% (to be compounded annually) on the amount deposited under daily deposit scheme.
- d) Further, a RNBC can accept deposits for a minimum period of 12 months and maximum period of 84 months from the date of receipt of such deposit. They cannot accept deposits repayable on demand.

#### 5) ATM

#### Q.1. What is an Automated Teller Machine (ATM)?

Ans 1. Automated Teller Machine is a computerized machine that provides the customers of banks the facility of accessing their account for dispensing cash and to carry out other financial & non-financial transactions without the need to actually visit their bank branch.

#### Q.2. What are White Label ATMs (WLAs)?

Ans 2. ATMs set up, owned and operated by non-banks are called White Label ATMs. Non-bank ATM operators are authorized under Payment & Settlement Systems Act, 2007 by the Reserve Bank of India.

#### Q.3. What has been the rationale of allowing non-bank entities for setting up of WLAs ?

Ans 3. The rationale of allowing non-bank entity to set up White Label ATMs has been to increase the geographical spread of ATM for increased / enhanced customer service.

#### Q.4. What type of cards can be used at an ATM/WLA?

Ans 4. The ATM/ATM cum debit cards, credit cards and open prepaid cards (that permit cash withdrawal) issued by banks can be used at ATMs/WLAs for various transactions.

#### Q.5. What is Personal Identification Number (PIN)?

Ans 5. PIN is the numeric password which is separately mailed / handed over to the customer by the bank while issuing the card. Most banks require the customers to change the PIN on the first use. Customer should not disclose PIN to anybody, including to bank officials. Customers should change the PIN at regular intervals.

#### Q.6. Can these cards be used at any bank/non-bank ATM (WLA) in the country?

Ans 6. Yes. The cards issued by banks in India may be used at any bank / white label ATM in the country.

#### Q.7. Is the customer charged for ATM transactions?

Ans.7. With effect from November 01, 2014, Savings bank account holders can do a **minimum of three transactions** (including both financial and non-financial transactions) free of charge in a month at other bank ATMs in case of ATMs located in **six metro locations**, viz. Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Hyderabad. At other locations, the savings bank account holders can transact a **minimum of five transactions** (including both financial and non-financial transactions) free of charge in a month at other bank ATMs. Similarly, **Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account** holders will continue to get five free transactions. Banks on their own can decide to offer more number of transactions free of cost to their customers. In case of charges to be levied on customers, the customer can be charged a maximum of Rs. 20/- per transaction (plus service tax, if any) by his/her bank.

#### Q.8. What steps should a customer take in case of failed ATM transaction at other bank/white label ATMs, when his / her account is debited?

Ans 8. The customer should lodge a complaint with the **card issuing bank at the earliest**. This process is applicable

even if the transaction was carried out at another bank's/non-bank's ATM. In case of WLAs, the contact number/toll free numbers are also available for lodging complaints regarding failed transactions at their ATMs.

**Q.9. Is there any time limit for the card issuing banks for recrediting the customers account for a failed ATM/WLA transaction indicated under Q. No. 9?**

Ans 9. As per the RBI instructions, banks have been mandated to resolve customer complaints by re-crediting the customer's account within 7 working days from the date of complaint.

**Q.10. Are the customers eligible for compensation for delays beyond 7 working days?**

Ans 10. Yes. Effective from July 1, 2011, banks have to pay compensation of Rs. 100/- per day for delays in re-crediting the amount beyond 7 working days from the date of receipt of complaint for failed ATM transactions. The compensation has to be credited to the account of the customer without any claim being made by the customer. If the complaint is not lodged within 30 days of transaction, the customer is not entitled for any compensation for delay in resolving his / her complaint.

**Q.11. What is the course of action for the customer if the complaint is not addressed by his/her bank within the stipulated time / not addressed to his satisfaction?**

Ans 11. The customer can take recourse to the Banking Ombudsman, if the grievance is not redressed by the his/her card issuing bank.

**6) NPA-Non-Performing Asset& SARFAESI**

It means once the borrower has failed to make interest or principal payments for 90 days, the loan is considered to be a non-performing asset.

**SARFAESI Act and Rules**

SARFAESI Act (The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002) was enacted to regulate securitization and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interest created in respect of Financial Assets to enable realization of such assets.

The SARFAESI Act provides for the manner for enforcement of security interests by a secured creditor without the intervention of a court or tribunal. If any borrower fails to discharge his liability in repayment of any secured debt within 60 days of notice from the date of notice by the secured creditor, the secured creditor is conferred with powers under the SARFAESI Act to

- a) take possession of the secured assets of the borrower, including transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale, for realizing the secured assets
- b) takeover of the management of the business of the borrower including the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured assets,
- c) appoint any person to manage the secured assets possession of which is taken by thesecured creditor, and
- d) require any person, who has acquired any of the secured assets from the borrower andfrom whom money is due to

the borrower, to pay the secured creditor so much of the money as if sufficient to pay the secured debt.

**The assets portfolio of the banks is required to be classified as**

(1) standard assets (2) sub-standard assets(3) doubtful assets and (4) loss assets.

**Standard asset** is one that does not disclose any problems and which does not carry more than normal risk attached to the business .

An asset which has been classified as NPA for a period not exceeding 12 months is considered as **sub-standard asset**.

**Doubtful asset** is one which has remained NPA for a period exceeding 12 months.

An asset which is considered uncollectible and loss has been identified by the bank or internal or external auditors or the RBI inspection and the loss has not been written off is regarded as **loss asset**.

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**7) DICGC(Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India)**

**Which banks are insured by the DICGC?**

Commercial Banks: All commercial banks including branches of foreign banks functioning in India, local area banks and regional rural banks are insured by the DICGC.

**What does the DICGC insure?**

In the event of a bank failure, DICGC protects bank deposits that are payable in India. The DICGC insures all deposits such as savings, fixed, current, recurring, etc. except the following types of deposits.

- (i) Deposits of foreign Governments;
- (ii) Deposits of Central/State Governments;
- (iii) Inter-bank deposits;
- (iv) Deposits of the State Land Development Banks with the State co-operative bank;

- (v) Any amount due on account of any deposit received outside India
- (vi) Any amount, which has been specifically exempted by the corporation with the previous approval of Reserve Bank of India.

**What is the maximum deposit amount insured by the DICGC?**

Each depositor in a bank is insured upto a maximum of Rs.1,00,000 (Rupees One Lakh) for both principal and interest amount held by him in the same capacity.

**Does the DICGC insure just the principal on an account or both principal and accrued interest?**

The DICGC insures principal and interest upto a maximum amount of Rs. One lakh.

**Can any insured bank withdraw from the DICGC coverage?**

No. The deposit insurance scheme is compulsory and no bank can withdraw from it.

**8) NEFT AND RTGS**

**National Electronic Funds Transfer System (NEFT):** RBI introduced an electronic funds transfer system to facilitate an efficient, secure, economical, reliable and expeditious system of funds transfer and clearing in the banking sector throughout India, and to relieve the stress on the existing paper-based funds transfer and clearing system called National Electronic Funds Transfer System (NEFT System).

There is no minimum & maximum limit for NEFT.

**RTGS:** RTGS is an acronym that stands for Real Time Gross Settlement. RTGS is a funds transfer system where money is moved from one bank to another in 'real-time', and on gross basis. When using the banking method, RTGS is the fastest possible way to transfer money. Minimum Amount needed for RTGS is 2 Lakhs and there is no maximum limit for RTGS.

**9) Foreign Accounts in India**  
**a) NRO A/c (Foreign Tourist)**

**Can foreign tourists open a bank account in India during their short visit?**

Yes. Foreign tourists during their short visit to India can open a Non-Resident (Ordinary) Rupee (NRO) account (Current / Savings) with any Authorised Dealer bank dealing in foreign exchange. Such account can be opened up to a maximum period of 6 months.

**What credits can be made to such accounts?**

Funds remitted from outside India through banking channel or those obtained by sale of foreign exchange brought by the tourists to India can be credited to the NRO account.

**Can the NRO account be used for making local payments?**

Yes. Tourists can freely make local payments through the NRO account. All payments to residents exceeding INR 50,000 can be made only by means of cheques / pay orders / demand drafts.

**b) EEFC A/c**

**What is an EEFC Account and what are its benefits?**

Ans. Exchange Earners' Foreign Currency Account (EEFC) is an account maintained in foreign currency with an Authorised Dealer i.e. a bank dealing in foreign exchange. It is a facility provided to the foreign exchange earners, including exporters, to credit 100 per cent of their foreign exchange earnings to the account, so that the account holders do not have to convert foreign exchange into Rupees and vice versa, thereby minimizing the transaction costs.

**Who can open an EEFC account?**

Ans. All categories of foreign exchange earners, such as individuals, companies, etc. who are resident in India, may open EEFC accounts.

**What are the different types of EEFC accounts? Can interest be paid on these accounts?**

Ans. An EEFC account can be held only in the form of a current account. No interest is payable on EEFC accounts.

**Accounts for NRI/PIO**

**What are the different types of accounts which can be maintained by an NRI/PIO in India?**

Types of accounts which can be maintained by an NRI / PIO in India:

**A. Non-Resident Ordinary Rupee Account (NRO Account)**

NRO accounts may be opened / maintained in the form of current, savings, recurring or fixed deposit accounts. Interest rates offered by banks on NRO deposits cannot be higher than those offered by them on comparable domestic rupee deposits.

- Account should be denominated in Indian Rupees.
- Permissible credits to NRO account are transfers from rupee accounts of non-resident banks, remittances received in permitted currency from outside India through normal banking channels, permitted currency tendered by account holder during his temporary visit to India, legitimate dues in India of the account holder like current income like rent, dividend, pension, interest, etc., sale proceeds of assets including immovable property acquired out of rupee/foreign currency funds or by way of legacy/ inheritance.
- NRI/PIO may remit from the balances held in NRO account an amount not exceeding USD one million per financial year, subject to payment of applicable taxes.
- The limit of USD 1 million per financial year includes sale proceeds of immovable properties held by NRIs/PIOs.

**B. Non-Resident (External) Rupee Account (NRE Account)**

- 1) NRE account may be in the form of savings, current, recurring or fixed deposit accounts.
- 2) Such accounts can be opened only by the non-resident himself and not through the holder of the power of attorney.
- 3) Account will be maintained in Indian Rupees.
- 4) Accrued interest income and balances held in NRE accounts are exempt from Income tax.
- 5) Authorised dealers/authorised banks may at their discretion allow for a period of not more than two weeks, overdrawings in NRE savings bank accounts, up to a limit of Rs.50,000.

6) Loans up to Rs.100 lakh can be extended against security of funds held in NRE Account either to the depositors or third parties.

### C. Foreign Currency Non Resident (Bank) Account – FCNR (B) Account

- FCNR (B) accounts are only in the form of term deposits of 1 to 5 years
- Account can be in any freely convertible currency.
- Loans up to Rs.100 lakh can be extended against security of funds held in FCNR (B) deposit either to the depositors or third parties.
- The interest rates are stipulated by the Department of Banking Operations and Development, Reserve Bank of India.

## 10) NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS

### DEFINITION OF NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT

According to section 13 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, a negotiable instrument means "promissory note, bill of exchange, or cheque, payable either to order or to bearer".

### 11) Cheque

It is an instrument in writing containing an unconditional order, addressed to a banker, sign by the person who has deposited money with the banker, requiring him to pay on demand a certain sum of money only to or to the order of certain person or to the bearer of instrument."

#### Types of Cheque

##### 1. Bearer Cheque or open Cheque

When the words "or bearer" appearing on the face of the cheque are not cancelled, the cheque is called a bearer cheque. The bearer cheque is payable to the person specified therein or to any other else who presents it to the bank for payment.

##### 2. Order Cheque

When the word "bearer" appearing on the face of a cheque is cancelled and when in its place the word "or order" is written on the face of the cheque, the cheque is called an order cheque. Such a cheque is payable to the person specified therein as the payee, or to any one else to whom it is endorsed (transferred).

##### 3. Crossed Cheque

Crossing of cheque means drawing two parallel lines on the face of the cheque with or without additional words like "& CO." or "Account Payee" or "Not Negotiable". A crossed cheque cannot be encashed at the cash counter of a bank but it can only be credited to the payee's account.

##### 4. Ante-Dated Cheque

If a cheque bears a date earlier than the date on which it is presented to the bank, it is called as "ante-dated cheque". Such a cheque is valid upto 3 months from the date of the cheque.

##### 5. Post-Dated Cheque

If a cheque bears a date which is yet to come (future date) then it is known as post-dated cheque. A post dated cheque cannot be honoured earlier than the date on the cheque.

### 6. Stale Cheque

If a cheque is presented for payment after 3 months from the date of the cheque it is called stale cheque. A stale cheque is not honoured by the bank.

### 7. A self cheque

A self cheque is written by the account holder as pay self to receive the money in the physical form from the branch where he holds his account.

8. "A truncated cheque" means a cheque which is truncated during the course of a clearing cycle, either by the clearing house or by the bank whether paying or receiving payment, immediately on generation of an electronic image for transmission, substituting the further physical movement of the cheque in writing. The expression "clearing house" means the clearing house managed by the Reserve Bank of India or a clearing house recognised as such by the Reserve Bank of India.'

### Parties of a Cheque:

There are three parties to the cheque

1-Drawer or Maker

2-The bank - on whom the cheque is drawn (i.e. the bank with whom the account is maintained by the drawer)

3- Payee – Payee is the person whose name is mentioned on the cheque to whom or to whose order the money is directed to be paid.

### 12) BANKING OMBUDSMAN SCHEME 2006

- The Banking Ombudsman Scheme enables a bank customer for filing of complaints relating to certain services rendered by banks.
- The Banking Ombudsman is a senior official appointed by the Reserve Bank of India to redress customer complaints against deficiency in certain banking services.
- All Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Scheduled Primary Co-operative Banks are covered under the Scheme.

#### Other Important Points:

- The Banking Ombudsman does not charge any fee for filing and resolving customers' complaints.
- The maximum compensation which a BO can help a complainant to get is Rs. 10 lakhs.
- If a complaint is not settled by an agreement within a period of one month, the Banking Ombudsman proceeds further to pass an award. Before passing an award, the Banking Ombudsman provides reasonable opportunity to the complainant and the bank, to present their case.
- If one is not satisfied with the decision passed by the Banking Ombudsman, one can approach the appellate authority who is the Deputy Governor of the RBI.

### 13) FINANCIAL INCLUSION

#### Financial inclusion

Financial inclusion involves

- Give formal banking services to poor people in urban & rural areas.
- Promote habit of money-savings, insurance, pension-investment among poor-people.

- 3) Help them get loans at reasonable rates from normal banks. So they don't become victims in the hands of local moneylender.

**Some Important initiatives for financial inclusion:**

- 1) Lead banking scheme (LBS).
- 2) No frills account.
- 3) BSBDA
- 4) Business Correspondents (BC) system.
- 5) Swabhiman Campaign
- 6) PMJDY

**Lead Bank Scheme**

The Lead Bank Scheme, introduced towards the end of 1969, envisages assignment of lead roles to individual banks (both in public sector and private sector) for the districts allotted to them. A bank having a relatively large network of branches in the rural areas of a given district and endowed with adequate financial and manpower resources has generally been entrusted with the lead responsibility for that district. Accordingly, all the districts in the country have been allotted to various banks. The lead bank acts as a leader for coordinating the efforts of all credit institutions in the allotted districts

**No Frill Account**

'No Frills' account is a basic banking account. Such account requires either nil minimum balance or very low minimum balance. Charges applicable to such accounts are low. Services available to such account is limited. In what can be described as a watershed Annual Policy Statement, the RBI in 2005-06 called upon Indian banks to design a 'no frills account' – a no precondition, low 'minimum balance maintenance' account with simplified KYC (Know Your Customer) norms. But All the existing 'No-frills' accounts opened were converted into BSBDA in compliance with the guidelines issued by RBI in 2012 .

**BSBDA**

RBI in 2012 came out with fresh guidelines and asked banks to offer a 'Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account' which will offer following minimum common facilities to all their customers. These guidelines includes:-


- (a) This account shall not have the requirement of any minimum balance.
- (b) The services available in the account will include deposit and withdrawal of cash at bank branch as well as ATMs; receipt/credit of money through electronic payment channels or by means of deposit/collection of cheques drawn by Central/State Government agencies and departments;
- (c) While there will be no limit on the number of deposits that can be made in a month, account holders will be allowed a maximum of four withdrawals in a month, including ATM withdrawals; and
- (d) Facility of ATM card or ATM-cum-Debit Card.

**Business Correspondent**

Business correspondents are bank representatives. They personally goes to the area allotted to them and carry out banking.



- They help villagers to open bank accounts.
- They help villagers in banking transactions. (deposit money, take money out of savings account, loans etc.)

- The Business Correspondent carries a mobile device.
- The villager gives his thumb impression or electronic signature, and get the money.
- Business Correspondents get commission from bank for every new account opened, every transaction made via them, every loan-application processed etc.



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**Recently on Financial Inclusion**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a committee with the objective of working out a medium-term (five-year) measurable action plan for financial inclusion. The terms of reference will include reviewing the existing policy of financial inclusion, including supportive payment system and customer protection framework, taking into account the recommendations made by various committees set up earlier.

It will also study the cross-country experience in financial inclusion to identify key learnings, particularly in the area of technology-based delivery models, that could inform policies and practices. Deepak Mohanty, RBI executive director, will chair the committee.

**14) TYPES OF MONEY**

- Commodity Money - Commodity money value is derived from the commodity out of which it is made. The commodity itself represents money, and the money is the commodity.
- Representative Money - is money that includes token coins, or any other physical tokens like certificates, that can be reliably exchanged for a fixed amount/quantity of a commodity like gold or silver.
- Fiat Money - Fiat money, also known as fiat currency is the money whose value is not derived from any intrinsic value or any guarantee that it can be converted into valuable commodity (like gold). Instead, it derives value only based On government order (fiat)
- Commercial Bank Money - Commercial bank money or the demand deposits are claims against financial institutions which can be used for purchasing goods and services.

**Reserve Money (M 0)**

Currency in circulation + Bankers' 'deposits with the RBI + 'Other' deposits with the RBI = Net RBI 'credit to the

Government + RBI credit to the commercial sector + RBI's claims on banks + RBI's net foreign assets + Government's currency liabilities to the public - RBI's net non-monetary liabilities.

#### M1

Currency with the public + Demand deposits with the banking system + 'Other' deposits with the RBI

#### M2

M1 + Savings deposits of office savings banks.

#### M3

M1+ Time deposits with the banking system  
= Net bank credit to the Government + Bank credit to the Commercial sector + Net foreign assets of the banking sector + Government's currency liabilities to the public - Net non-monetary liabilities of the banking sector.

#### M4

M3 + All deposits with post office savings banks (excluding National Savings Certificates)

### Bhartiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)

The Reserve Bank established BRBNMPL in February 1995 as a wholly-owned subsidiary to augment the production of bank notes in India and to enable bridging of the gap between supply and demand for bank notes in the country.

## 15) FINANCIAL MARKET

Any marketplace where buyers and sellers participate in the trade of assets such as equities, bonds, currencies and derivatives. Financial markets are typically defined by having transparent pricing, basic regulations on trading, costs and fees and market forces determining the prices of securities that trade.

### MONEY MARKET

"Money Market" refers to the market for short-term requirement and deployment of funds. Money market instruments are those instruments, which have a maturity period of less than one year.

The most active part of the money market is the market for overnight call and term money between banks and institutions and repo transactions. Money Market is regulated by RBI.

Money Market can be further divided into 3 parts. These are:

- Call Money Market
- Term Money Market
- Notice Money Market

The market to get funds for 1 day only is called as **Call Money Market**. The market to get funds for 2 days to 14 days is called as **Notice Money Market**. The market to get funds for 15 days to 1 year is called as **Term Money Market**.

Some of the Money Market instruments are:

- 1) Commercial Paper
- 2) Certificate of Deposit
- 3) T-bills
- 4) Cash Management Bills

### Commercial Papers-

- A CP is a short term security (7 days to 365 days) issued by a corporate entity (other than a bank), at a discount to the face value.
- Commercial Paper (CP) is an unsecured money market instrument issued in the form of a promissory note.
- CPs normally give a higher return than fixed deposits & CDs.
- CP can be issued in denominations of Rs. 5 lakh or multiples thereof. Amount invested by a single investor should not be less than Rs. 5 lakh (face value).
- Only corporates who get an investment grade rating can issue CPs, as per RBI rules. It is issued at a discount to face value.
- Bank and FI's are prohibited from issuance and underwriting of CP's.

### Certificates of Deposit

- CDs are negotiable money market instrument issued in demat form or as a Usance Promissory Notes.
- CDs issued by banks should not have the maturity less than seven days and not more than one year.
- Financial Institutions are allowed to issue CDs for a period between 1 year and up to 3 years.
- CDs are like bank term deposits but unlike traditional time deposits these are freely negotiable and are often referred to as Negotiable Certificates of Deposit.
- CDs normally give a higher return than Bank term deposit.
- All scheduled banks (except RRBs and Co-operative banks) are eligible to issue CDs.
- CDs are issued in denominations of Rs. 1 Lac and in the multiples of Rs. 1 Lac thereafter.
- Discount/Coupon rate of CD is determined by the issuing bank/FI.
- Loans cannot be granted against CDs and Banks/FIs cannot buy back their own CDs before maturity

### Treasury bills

- Treasury Bills are short term (up to one year) borrowing instruments of the Government of India which enable investors to park their short term surplus funds while reducing their market risk.
- They are auctioned by Reserve Bank of India at regular intervals and issued at a discount to face value.
- Any person in India including Individuals, Firms, Companies, Corporate bodies, Trusts and Institutions can purchase Treasury Bills.
- Treasury Bills are eligible securities for SLR purposes.
- Treasury Bills are available for a minimum amount of Rs. 25,000 and in multiples of Rs. 25,000 thereafter.
- At present, RBI issues T-Bills for three different maturities: 91 days, 182 days and 364 days.

### Cash Management Bills (CMBs)

- Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, has decided to issue a new short-term instrument, known as Cash Management Bills (CMBs), to meet the temporary mismatches in the cash flow of the Government.
- The CMBs have the generic character of T-bills but are issued for maturities less than 91 days.
- Like T-bills, they are also issued at a discount and redeemed at face value at maturity.

d) The tenure, notified amount and date of issue of the CMBs depends upon the temporary cash requirement of the Government.

### Capital Market-

These are the financial market for buying and selling of funds for long terms, these consists of Shares, Debentures, equities etc. Capital market is regulated by- **SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India)**

Capital Market consists of two main blocks, they are-

- **Primary Market**
- **Secondary Market**

### Primary Market (New Issue Market)-

A market that issues new securities on an exchange. Companies, governments and other groups obtain financing through debt or equity based securities.

### Secondary Market-

Secondary market is basically a reselling market , Here the stocks that are already sold in the primary market are resold mostly by the stockholders or companies to gain more returns.

### Shares/Equities-

Companies usually divide their capital into small parts of equal value. This smallest part is known as a share. Companies usually issue shares in the public to raise capital. People who buy or are allotted shares are called shareholders.

### ACRONYMS CORNER-

**SEBI-** Securities and Exchange Board of India

**IPO-** Initial Public Offerings

## 16) PRIORITY SECTOR LENDING

### Highlights of PSL

It means provide credit to the needy sectors of the society. The sectors are:

- Agriculture
- Micro and Small Enterprises
- Education
- Housing
- Export
- Weaker Sections
- Social Infrastructure
- Renewable Energy



### Targets under PSL

- **Agriculture:** 18 percent of ANBC. Out of this 18 percent, a target of 8 percent of ANBC is for Small and Marginal Farmers, to be achieved in a phased manner i.e., 7 per cent by March 2016 and 8 per cent by March 2017.
- **Weaker Sections:** 10 percent of ANBC.

- **Micro Enterprises:** 7.5 percent of ANBC has been prescribed for Micro Enterprises, to be achieved in a phased manner i.e. 7 percent by March 2016 and 7.5 percent by March 2017.
- **Overall PSL Target for Domestic Bank/Foreign Bank with more than 20 Branches:** 40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit.
- Overall PSL Target for **Foreign Bank with less than 20 Branches:** 40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit to be achieved in a phased manner-

2015-16	32
2016-17	34
2017-18	36
2018-19	38
2019-20	40

## Categorization of MSME according to MSME ACT 2006

### Manufacturing Sector (Goods)

Enterprises	Investment in plant and machinery
Micro Enterprises	Does not exceed twenty five lakh rupees
Small Enterprises	More than twenty five lakh rupees but does not exceed five crore rupees
Medium Enterprises	More than five crore rupees but does not exceed ten crore rupees

### Service Sector

Enterprises	Investment in equipment
Micro Enterprises	Does not exceed ten lakh rupees
Small Enterprises	More than ten lakh rupees but does not exceed two crore rupees
Medium Enterprises	More than two crore rupees but does not exceed five crore rupees

### Other Facts:

- Farmers with landholding of up to 1 hectare are considered as Marginal Farmers. Farmers with a landholding of more than 1 hectare and upto 2 hectares are considered as Small Farmers.
- Scheduled Commercial Banks having any shortfall in lending to priority sector shall be allocated amounts for contribution to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) established with NABARD.
- For Renewable Energy, bank loans up to a limit of Rs.15 crore to borrowers for purposes like solar based power generators, etc. For individual households, the loan limit will be Rs.10 lakh per borrower.
- For Housing, banks can provide loans to individuals up to Rs. 28 lakh in metropolitan centres (with population of ten lakh and above) and loans up to Rs. 20 lakh in other centres for purchase/construction of a dwelling unit per family.
- Export credit will be allowed up to 32 percent of ANBC for Foreign banks with less than 20 branches in India.
- For Education, banks can provide loans to individuals for educational purposes including vocational courses upto Rs.

10 lakh for studies in India and Rs. 20 lakh for studies abroad.

**1. What are the Targets and Sub-targets for banks under priority sector?**

Categories Domestic scheduled commercial banks and Foreign banks with 20 branches and above Foreign banks with less than 20 branches

Total Priority Sector 40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher. 40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher; to be achieved in a phased manner by 2020

The Total Priority Sector target of 40 percent for foreign banks with less than 20 branches has to be achieved in a phased manner as under:- Financial Year The Total Priority Sector as percentage of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of OffBalance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher 2015-16 32 2016-17 34 2017-18 36 2018-19 38 2019-20 40

**2. What constitutes Micro and Small Enterprises under priority sector?**

Bank loans to Micro and Small Manufacturing and Service Enterprises, provided these units satisfy the criteria for investment in plant machinery/equipment as per MSMED Act 2006.

**3. What is the loan limit for education under priority sector?**

Loans to individuals for educational purposes including vocational courses upto `10 lakh for studies in India and `20 lakh for studies abroad are included under priority sector.

**4. What is the limit for housing loans under priority sector?**

Loans to individuals up to ₹ 28 lakh in metropolitan centres (with population of ten lakh and above) and loans up to ₹ 20 lakh in other centres for purchase/construction of a dwelling unit per family provided the overall cost of the dwelling unit in the metropolitan centre and at other centres should not exceed ₹ 35 lakh and ₹ 25 lakh respectively.

**5. Limits under Social infrastructure** Bank loans up to a limit of ₹ 5 crore per borrower for building social infrastructure for activities namely schools, health care facilities, drinking water facilities and sanitation facilities in Tier II to Tier VI centres.

**6. Limits under Renewable Energy** Bank loans up to a limit of ₹ 15 crore to borrowers for purposes like solar based power generators, biomass based power generators, wind mills, micro-hydel plants and for non-conventional energy based public utilities viz. street lighting systems, and remote village electrification. For individual households, the loan limit will be ₹ 10 lakh per borrower.

**7. Export credit:** Export credit upto 32 percent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher, will be eligible as part of priority sector for foreign banks with less than 20 branches. For other

banks, the incremental export credit over corresponding date of the preceding year will be reckoned upto 2 percent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher.

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Categories	Domestic scheduled commercial banks and Foreign banks with 20 branches and above	Foreign banks with less than 20 branches
<b>Total Priority Sector</b>	40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit [ANBC defined in sub paragraph (iii)] or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher. Foreign banks with 20 branches and above have to achieve the Total Priority Sector Target within a maximum period of five years starting from April 1, 2013 and ending on March 31, 2018 as per the action plans submitted by them and approved by RBI.	40 percent of Adjusted Net Bank Credit [ANBC defined in sub paragraph (iii)] or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher; to be achieved in a phased manner by 2020 as indicated in

		sub paragraph (ii) below.
<b>Micro Enterprises</b>	7.5 percent of ANBC or Credit Equivalent Amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher to be achieved in a phased manner i.e. <b>7 per cent by March 2016 and 7.5 per cent by March 2017.</b> The sub-target for Micro Enterprises for foreign banks with 20 branches and above would be made applicable post 2018 after a review in 2017.	Not Applicable

equity in his home into one lump sum or periodic payments mutually agreed by the borrower and the banker.

**b) NO REPAYMENT** is required as long as the borrower lives, Borrower should pay all taxes relating to the house and maintain the property as his primary residence.

**c) The amount of loan is based on several factors: Borrower's age, value of the property, current interest rates and the specific plan chosen.**

The valuation of the residential property is done at periodic intervals and it shall be clearly specified to the borrowers upfront. The banks shall have the option to revise the periodic / lump sum amount at such frequency or intervals based on revaluation of property.

**Settlement--**The loan shall become due and payable only when the last surviving borrower dies or would like to sell the home, or permanently moves out. On death of the home owner, the legal heirs have the choice of keeping or selling the house. If they decide to sell the house, the proceeds of the sale would be used to repay the mortgage, with the remainder going to the heirs.

**As per the scheme formulated by National Housing Bank (NHB), the maximum period of the loan period is 15 years.** The residual life of the property should be at least 20 years. Where the borrower lives longer than 15 years, periodic payments will not be made by lender. However, the borrower can continue to occupy.

### 18) BASEL-3 NORMS

The Basel Committee is the primary global standard-setter for the prudential regulation of banks and provides a forum for cooperation on banking supervisory matters. Its mandate is to strengthen the regulation, supervision and practices of banks worldwide with the purpose of enhancing financial stability. Stefan Ingves, Governor of Sveriges Riksbank (SWEDEN), is the chairman CHAIRMAN of the Basel Committee.

#### Basel III Accord - Basel 3 Norms

Basel III or Basel 3 released in December, 2010 is the third in the series of Basel Accords. These accords deal with risk management aspects for the banking sector.

#### What does Basel III is all About ?

According to Basel Committee on Banking Supervision "Basel III is a comprehensive set of reform measures, developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, to strengthen the regulation, supervision and risk management of the banking sector".

#### What are the objectives / aims of the Basel III measures ?

- Basel 3 measures aim to:
- improve the banking sector's ability to absorb shocks arising from financial and economic stress, whatever the source
  - improve risk management and governance
  - strengthen banks' transparency and disclosures.

#### What are Three Pillars of Basel III Norms?

**Pillar 1: Minimum Regulatory Capital Requirements** based on Risk Weighted Assets (RWAs) : Maintaining capital calculated through credit, market and operational risk areas.(MAINLY THAT CAPITAL WHICH CAN ABSORB RISK.)

### Khadi and Village Industries Sector (KVI)

All loans to units in the KVI sector will be eligible for classification under the sub-target of 7 percent /7.5 percent prescribed for Micro Enterprises under priority sector.

#### Monitoring of Priority Sector Lending targets

To ensure continuous flow of credit to priority sector, there will be more frequent monitoring of priority sector lending compliance of banks on 'quarterly' basis instead of annual basis as of now.

#### Non-achievement of Priority Sector targets

Scheduled Commercial Banks having any shortfall in lending to priority sector shall be allocated amounts for contribution to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) established with NABARD and other Funds with NABARD/NHB/SIDBI, as decided by the Reserve Bank from time to time.

The interest rates on banks' contribution to RIDF or any other Funds, tenure of deposits, etc. shall be fixed by Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

#### Common guidelines for priority sector loans

Banks should comply with the following common guidelines for all categories of advances under the priority sector.

##### 1. Rate of interest

The rates of interest on bank loans will be as per directives issued by our Department of Banking Regulation from time to time.

##### 2. Service charges

No loan related and adhoc service charges/inspection charges should be levied on priority sector loans up to Rs. 25,000.

### 17) REVERSE MORTGAGE LOAN

The scheme of reverse mortgage has been introduced for the benefit of senior citizens owning a house but having inadequate income to meet their needs. Some important features of reverse mortgage are:

**a) A homeowner who is above 60 years of age is eligible for reverse mortgage loan.** It allows him to turn the

**Pillar 2 : Supervisory Review Process :** Regulating tools and frameworks for dealing with peripheral(OUTER) risks that banks face.

**Pillar 3: Market Discipline :** Increasing the disclosures that banks must provide to increase the transparency of banks

**What are the Major Features of Basel III ?**

- (a) **Better Capital Quality :** One of the key elements of Basel 3 is the introduction of much stricter definition of capital. It means capital with the higher loss-absorbing capacity. This in turn will mean that banks will be stronger, allowing them to better withstand periods of stress.
- (b) **Capital Conservation Buffer:** Another key feature of Basel iii is that now banks will be required to hold a capital conservation buffer of 2.5% of RWAs. CCB-aims to conserve the capital of banks by making a buffer/reserve FOR CRISIS situation . The aim of asking to build conservation buffer is to ensure that banks maintain a cushion of capital that can be used to absorb losses during periods of financial and economic stress.
- (c) **Countercyclical Buffer:** The countercyclical buffer has been introduced with the objective to increase capital requirements in good times and decrease the same in bad times. The buffer will slow banking activity when it overheats and will encourage lending when times are tough i.e. in bad times. The buffer will range from 0% to 2.5% of RWAs, consisting of common equity/shares or other fully loss-absorbing capital.
- (d) **Minimum Common Equity and Tier 1 Capital Requirements :** The minimum requirement for common equity, the highest form of loss-absorbing capital, has been Minimum Common Equity(the highest form of loss-absorbing capital) raised under Basel III from 2% to 4.5% of total risk-weighted assets. The overall Tier 1 capital requirement, consisting of not only common equity but also other qualifying financial instruments, will also increase from the current minimum of 4% to 6%. Although the minimum total capital requirement will remain at the current 8% level.
- (e) **Leverage Ratio:** A leverage ratio is the relative amount of capital to total assets (not risk-weighted). This aims to put a cap on swelling of leverage in the banking sector on a global basis. 3% leverage ratio of Tier 1 will be tested before a mandatory leverage ratio is introduced in January 2018.
- (f) **Liquidity Ratios:** Under Basel III, a framework for liquidity risk management will be created. A new Liquidity Coverage

Ratio (LCR) and Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) are to be introduced in 2015 and 2018, respectively.

**FACTS**

- Minimum Ratio of Total Capital To RWAs--10.50%
- Minimum Ratio of Common Equity to RWAs--4.50% to 7.00%
- Tier I capital to RWAs--6.00%
- Core Tier I capital to RWAs--5.00%
- Capital Conservation Buffers to RWAs--2.50%
- Leverage Ratio--3.00%
- Countercyclical Buffer--0% to 2.50%

**19) BANKING ABBREVIATIONS**

1. **PSBs:** PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS
2. **SNBCs:** SCHEDULE NON COMMERCIAL BANKS
3. **SENSEX:** SENSITIVE INDEX OF STOCK EXCHANGE
4. **GNP:** GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT
5. **KYC:** KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER
6. **RTGS:** REAL TIME GROSS SETTLEMENT
7. **NEFT:** NATIONAL ELECTRONIC MONEY TRANSFER
8. **EFT:** ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER
9. **CBS:** CORE BANKING SOLUTIONS
10. **LIBOR:** LONDON INTERBANK OFFERED RATE
11. **MIBOR:** MUMBAI INTERBANK OFFERED RATE
12. **MIBID:** MUMBAI INTERBANK BID RATE
13. **SARFAESI:** SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST
14. **CAMELS:** CAPITAL ADEQUECY RATIO, ASSET QUALITY, MANAGEMENT OF EFFECTIVENESS, EARNING OF PROFITABILITY, LIQUIDITY, SYSTEM AND CONTROLS
15. **CAR:** CAPITAL ADEQUECY RATIO
16. **FIIs:** FOREIGN INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENTS
17. **FDI:** FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT
18. **IPO:** INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING
19. **MICR:** MAGNETIC INK CHARACTER READER
20. **BIRD:** BANKERS INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
21. **IBA:** INDIAN BANK ASSOCIATION
22. **BPLR:** BENCHMARK PRIME LENDING RATE
23. **ICICI:** INDUSTRIAL CREDIT AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION OF INDIA
24. **HDFC:** HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION
25. **SWOT:** STRENGTH, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS
26. **SWIFT:** SOCIETY FOR WORLDWIDE INTERBANK FINANCIAL TELECOMMUNICATION
27. **FERA:** FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATORY ACT
28. **FEMA:** FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANAGEMENT ACT
29. **CASA:** CURRENT AND SAVING ACCOUNT
30. **NDTL:** NET DEMAND AND TIME LIABILITIES
31. **NASDAQ:** NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SECURITIES DEALERS AUTOMATED QUOTATIONS
32. **CRISIL:** CREDIT RATING AND INVESTMENT SERVICES INDIA LIMITED
33. **CIBIL:** CREDIT INFORMATION BUREAU OF INDIA LIMITED
34. **NAV:** NET ASSET VALUE
35. **ICRA:** INDIAN CREDIT RATING AGENCY
36. **CARE:** CREDIT ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH LIMITED
37. **WMAs:** WAYS AND MEANS ADVANCES
38. **ALM:** ASSET LIABILITY MANAGEMENT

39. **INFINET** INDIAN FINANCIAL NETWORK
40. **OLTAS** - On-line Tax Accounting System (OLTAS) for Direct Taxes
41. **TIN** - Tax Information Network (TIN)
42. **IMPS** - Interbank Mobile Payment Service (IMPS).
43. **CDR**- Corporate Debt Restructuring
44. **CAD**- Capital Account Deficit
45. **REITs**: Real Estate Investment Trusts
46. **InvITs**: Infrastructure Investment Trusts
47. **ALM**- Asset Liability Management
48. **ASBA**: Application Supported by Blocked Amount
49. **CBS**: Core Banking Solution
50. **PIN**: Personal Identification Number
51. **CCEA** – Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
52. **CECA** - Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement
53. **CEPA** – Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
54. **DTAA** – Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement
55. **ECBs** - External Commercial Borrowings
56. **EFSF** – European Financial Stability Facility
57. **FINO**- Financial Inclusion Network Operation
58. **FIPB** – Foreign Investment Promotion board
59. **FSLRC** – Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission
60. **CRAR**: Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio
61. **LCR**: Liquidity Coverage Ratio
62. **TARC** - Tax Administration Reform Commission
63. **GIRO** - Government Internal Revenue Order
64. **FRBMA**: Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act
65. **AMFI**- Association of Mutual Fund in India.
66. **TIEA** – Tax Information exchange Agreement
67. **GAAR** - General anti avoidance rule
68. **GSLV** - Geo-Synchronous Launch Vehicle
69. **PPP** – Public Private Partnership & Purchasing Power parity
70. **PSLV** – Polar Satellite Launch vehicle
71. **TAPI** - Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India.
72. **QFI** -Qualified Foreign Investors

## 20) MUTUAL FUNDS:

Mutual funds are investment avenues that pool the money of several investors to invest in financial instruments such as stocks, debentures etc. The profits earned on the investments is distributed among the investors on the basis of the units held by each of them. Due to a large pool of investors, the individual risk is spread. So individually you take on low risk. The mutual funds in India are governed by Association of Mutual Funds in India, the umbrella body for mutual funds, which is in turn governed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India.

A diagrammatic representation to understand the Cycle“:



## 23) BANKING TERMS

**Base Rate**:-The Base Rate is the minimum interest rate of a Bank below which it cannot lend, except for DRI advances, loans to bank's own employees and loan to banks' depositors against their own deposits. (i.e. cases allowed by RBI).

### Bridge Loan:-

A loan made by a bank for a short period to make up for a temporary shortage of cash. Bridge loan covers this period between the buying the new and disposing of the old one.

**Credit Authorization Scheme**:-Credit Authorization Scheme was introduced in November, 1965 when P C Bhattacharya was the chairman of RBI. Under this instrument of credit regulation RBI as per the guideline authorizes the banks to advance loans to desired sectors

**Open Market Operations**:-An open market operation is an instrument of monetary policy which involves buying or selling of government securities from or to the public and banks.

**Moral Suasion**:-Moral Suasion is just as a request by the RBI to the commercial banks to take so and so action and measures in so and so trend of the economy. RBI may request commercial banks not to give loans for unproductive purpose which does not add to economic growth but increases inflation.

**Special Drawing Rights (SDRs)**:-It is a reserve asset (known as 'Paper Gold') created within the framework of the International Monetary Fund in an attempt to increase international liquidity, and now forming a part of countries official forex reserves along with gold, reserve positions in the IMF and convertible foreign currencies.

**Bouncing of a cheque**: Where an account does not have sufficient balance to honour the cheque issued by the customer, the cheque is returned by the bank with the reason "funds insufficient" or "Exceeds arrangement". This is known as 'Bouncing of a cheque'.

### Demat Account:

The term "**demat**", in India, refers to a dematerialised account for individual Indian citizens to trade in listed stocks or debentures.

**Endorsement**: When a Negotiable Instrument contains, on the back of the instrument an endorsement, signed by the holder or payee of an order instrument, transferring the title to the other person, it is called endorsement.

**Merchant Banking** : When a bank provides to a customer various types of financial services like accepting bills arising out of trade, arranging and providing underwriting, new issues, providing advice, information or assistance on starting new business, acquisitions, mergers and foreign exchange.

**Money Laundering** The process of creating the appearance that large amounts of money obtained from serious crimes, such

as drug trafficking or terrorist activity, originated from a legitimate source.

**Mortgage:** Transfer of an interest in specific immovable property for the purpose of offering a security for taking a loan or advance from another. It may be existing or future debt or performance of an agreement which may create monetary obligation for the transferor (mortgagor).

**GAAR:** The full form of GAAR is : General Anti-Avoidance Rules. Tax Avoidance is an area of concern across the world. The rules are framed in different countries to minimize such avoidance of tax. It is a set of general rules enacted so as to check the tax avoidance.

**BPLR:** In banking parlance, the BPLR means the Benchmark Prime Lending Rate. However, with the introduction of Base Rate (explained below), BPLR has now lost its importance and is made applicable normally only on the loans which have been sanctioned before the introduction of Base Rate (i.e. July 2010).

**Prime Lending Rate (PLR):** The rate at which banks lend to their best (prime) customers. It is usually less than normal interest rate.

**Wholesale Banking:** Wholesale banking is different from Retail Banking as its focus is on providing for financial needs of industry and institutional clients.

**NRI Banking:-** Banks allow NRI's to open an NRI account when they complete the account opening formalities. A customer for this purchase a form has to be filled up in which the information sought by the bank is provided. They can have a NRI Saving Bank Account, Current Account, Fixed Deposits in Indian Rupees, Fixed Deposits in foreign currency, NRO account (Rupee account for crediting income in India)

**Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR):-** Capital adequacy ratio measures the amount of a bank's capital expressed as a percentage of its credit exposure. Globally, the capital adequacy ratio has been developed to ensure banks can absorb a reasonable level of losses before becoming insolvent. Indian banks are expected to maintain a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 9 per cent (Rs 9 as capital for every Rs 100 in loan or asset)

**Asset – Liability Mismatch:-** In finance, an assets liabilities asset–liability mismatch occurs when the financial terms of an institution's and do not correspond.



### Some Banking Questions

#### 1) What is Asset Management Companies?

A company that invests its clients' pooled fund into securities that match its declared financial objectives. Asset management companies provide investors with more diversification and investing options than they would have by themselves. Mutual funds, hedge funds and pension plans are all run by asset

management companies. These companies earn income by charging service fees to their clients.

#### 2) What is Liquidity Adjustment Facility(LAF)?

A tool used in monetary policy that allows banks to borrow money through repurchase agreements. This arrangement allows banks to respond to liquidity pressures and is used by governments to assure basic stability in the financial markets.

#### 3) What is Bancassurance?

It is the term used to describe the partnership or relationship between a bank and an insurance company whereby the insurance company uses the bank sales channel in order to sell insurance products.

#### 4) What is Balance of Trade?

The value of a country's exports minus the value of its imports. Unless specified as the balance of merchandise trade, it normally incorporates trade in services, including earnings (interest, dividends, etc.) on financial assets.

#### 5) What is Balance of Payments?

A list of all of a country's international transactions for a given time period, usually one year. Payments into the country (receipts) are entered as positive numbers, called **credits**; Payments out of the country (payments) are entered as negative numbers called **debits**. A single number summarizes all of a country's international transactions: the balance of payments surplus.

#### 6) What is NOSTRO Account?

A Nostro account is maintained by an Indian Bank in the foreign countries.

#### 7) What is VOSTRO Account?

A Vostro account is maintained by a foreign bank in India with their corresponding bank.

#### 8) What is IMPS?

Immediate Payment Service. It is an instant interbank electronic fund transfer service through mobile phones. Both the customers must have MMID (Mobile Money Identifier Number). For this service, we don't need any GPS-enabled cell phones.

#### 9) What is BCBS?

Basel Committee on Banking Supervision is an institution created by the Central Bank governors of the Group of Ten nations.

#### 10) What is LIBOR?

London InterBank Offered Rate. An interest rate at which banks can borrow funds, in marketable size, from other banks in the London interbank market.

#### 11) What is STRIPS?

Separate Trading for Registered Interest & Principal Securities.

#### 12) What is KYC?

KYC is an acronym for "Know your Customer", a term used for customer identification process. It involves making reasonable efforts to determine true identity and beneficial ownership of accounts, source of funds, the nature of customer's business,

reasonableness of operations in the account in relation to the customer's business, etc which in turn helps the banks to manage their risks prudently. The objective of the KYC guidelines is to prevent banks being used, intentionally or unintentionally by criminal elements for money laundering.

KYC has two components - Identity and Address. While identity remains the same, the address may change and hence the banks are required to periodically update their records.

**13) What do you mean by term "CASA" related to bank?**

CASA stands for Current Account Savings Account. The CASA ratio shows how much deposit a bank has in the form of current and saving account deposits in the total deposit. A higher CASA ratio means better operating efficiency of the bank because on current account there is no interest payable whereas on savings account a tiny 3.5% interest is payable by the bank. CASA ratio shows how much of the deposit of the bank comes from the current and savings deposit.

**14) We hear regularly that all bank branches are turning CBS. What is CBS?**

CBS stands for CORE banking solutions under which the branches of the banks are interconnected with each other through intra net with a central database server. Now, with this facility, a person having an account in a certain branch of the bank can operate from any other branch of the same bank. He need not visit the same branch to operate his account. The CORE word in CBS stands for Centralized Online Realtime Exchange.

**Q15) What is Inflation?**

Ans. The rise in the prices of goods or service in an economy over a certain period of time is known as inflation.

**Q16) Name the types of "Inflation"?**

Ans. Following are the types of inflation:-

- Wage inflation
- Price power inflation
- Cost-push inflation
- Sectorial inflation
- Stagflation
- Mild inflation
- Hyper-inflation

**Q17) What are the effects of "Inflation"?**

Ans. Following are the effect of inflation:-

- It decreases the real value of money
- It discourage investment and savings
- It leads to shortage of goods
- Mitigate economic recessions
- Reduces the level of debt

**Q18) What is "Money Laundering"?** Ans. The process of converting illegal money into legal money is Money Laundering. According to Section 3 of the Prevention of Money laundering Act 2002 as: "Whosoever directly or indirectly attempts to indulge or knowingly assists or is involved in any process or activity connected with the proceeds of crime and is projecting it as the untainted property shall be guilty of the offence of money laundering".

**24) CODES USED IN BANKING**


**[1] IFSC (Indian Financial System Code):**

Indian Financial System Code is an alpha-numeric code that uniquely identifies a bank-branch participating in the NEFT system.


This is an 11 digit code with the first 4 alpha characters representing the bank, The 5th character is 0 (zero).and the last 6 characters representing the bank branch.

For ex: PNB0014976 :

- i. First 4 character PNB – refers to Punjab National Bank.
- ii. 0 is a control number.
- iii. last six characters (014976) represents the PNB branch kurshi Road, Lucknow.

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**[2] MICR – Magnetic ink character Recognition :-**

MICR is 9 digit numeric code that uniquely identifies a bank branch participating in electronic clearing scheme. Used to identify the location of a bank branch.

City (3) Bank (3) Branch (3)

The MICR code is allotted to a bank branch is printed on the MICR band of cheques. MICR used for electronic credit system.

**[3] SWIFT Code :-**

Society for Worldwide Interbank financial tele-communication India was 74th Nation to join SWIFT Network.

SWIFT Code is a standard format of bank Identifier code. This code is used particularly in International transfer of money between banks.

A majority of FOREX related message are sent to correspondent banks abroad through SWIFT.

SWIFT Code consist 8 or 11 character when code is 8 digit,

It is referred to primary office

- 4 – bank code
- 2 – country code
- 2 – location code
- 3 – branch code (optional)

**Headquarters of NATIONALIZED BANKS**

- **Allahabad Bank** Kolkata
- **Bank of India** Mumbai
- **Bank of Maharashtra** Pune
- **Canara Bank** Bangalore
- **Central Bank of India** Mumbai
- **Corporation Bank** Mangalore
- **Dena Bank** Mumbai

- **Indian Bank** Chennai
- **Indian Overseas Bank** Chennai
- **Oriental Bank of Commerce** New Delhi
- **Punjab National Bank** New Delhi
- **Punjab & Sind Bank** New Delhi
- **State Bank of India** Mumbai
- **Syndicate Bank** Manipal
- **UCO Bank** Kolkata
- **Union Bank of India** Mumbai
- **United Bank of India** Kolkata
- **Vijaya Bank** Bangalore
- **Andhra Bank** Hyderabad
- **Bank of Baroda** Vadodra

#### Taglines of Banks

1. Allahabad Bank - A Tradition of Trust
2. Andhra Bank – Where India Banks
3. Bank of Baroda - India's International Bank
4. Bank of India - Relationship beyond banking
5. Bhartiya Mahila Bank – Empowering Women
6. Bank of Maharashtra - One family one bank
7. Canara Bank – Together We Can
8. Central Bank of India – “Central To you Since 1911”
9. Corporation Bank – A Premier Public Sector Bank
10. Dena Bank - Trusted Family Bank
11. ECGC Bank – You focus on exports. We cover the risks
12. IDBI Bank – Banking For All, “Aao Sochein Bada”
13. Indian Bank – Your Tech- Friendly Bank
14. Indian Overseas Bank – Good people to grow with
15. Punjab National Bank - The name you can bank upon
16. Punjab & Sind Bank – Where service is a way of life
17. Oriental Bank of Commerce – Where every individual is committed
18. UCO Bank – Honours Your Trust
19. Union Bank of India – Good People to Bank with
20. United Bank of India – The Bank that begins with “U”
21. Vijaya Bank - A friend you can bank on
22. SBI - With you all the way, Pure Banking Nothing Else, The Nation's banks on us
23. Axis Bank – Badhti Ka naam Zindagi
24. ICICI Bank – Hum Hai Na, Khyal Apka
25. HDFC Bank - We understand your world indeed
26. Yes Bank – Experience our Expertise
27. HSBC - The world's local bank

#### 25) FINANCIAL REGULATORS

Chit Funds	Respective State Governments
Insurance companies	<b>IRDA</b>
Housing Finance Companies	<b>NHB</b>
Venture Capital Fund /	<b>SEBI</b>
Merchant Banking companies	<b>SEBI</b>
Stock broking companies	<b>SEBI</b>
Nidhi Companies	<b>Ministry of corporate affairs, Government of India</b>

#### FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

##### National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) :

- a) Established on 12th July 1982 on the recommendation of CRAFTICARD committee (also called as Sivaraman Committee)
- b) For Agricultural finance, NABARD is the apex organization.
- c) Chairman : Dr. Harsha Kumar Bhanwala
- d) Head Quarters : Mumbai
- e) It assists Cooperative Banks, RRBs, Land Development Banks & Scheduled Commercial banks in lending to farmers, rural artisans and other nonfarmers in rural areas and to the State Governments for minor irrigation.
- f) Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) is operated by NABARD, instead in April 1995.
- g) NABARD is the "Micro-Finance Regulatory Authority"

##### Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

###### Objectives and Functions

- a) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI in short) was established in the year 1990 (Date : 2nd April 1990) under the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act 1989 as a subsidiary of Industrial Development Bank of India.
- b) It is the principal financial institution for promotion, financing and development of small, tiny and cottage sector.
- c) Chairman- Dr. Kshatrapati Shivaji
- d) Head Quarters : Lucknow

##### Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

It is the regulator for the securities market in India. SEBI was initially established as a non statutory body in April 1988, to regulate the working of stock exchange. Later it was given a statutory status on April 1992 via SEBI Act, 1992 with the following objectives.

- a) Chairman- UK Sinha
- b) **Head Quarters : Mumbai**

##### REGIONAL RURAL BANK (RRB):

- 1) REGIONAL RURAL BANK were set up by an ordinance in 1975, later replaced by RRBs Act, 1976 as pre Banking Commission recommendation in 1975.
- 2) Father of RRB is M.Swaminathan.
- 3) The Govt. of India had appointed a Working Group on rural Banks under the chairmanship of Mr. M. Narasimham in 1975. First RRBs were set up on 2nd Oct.
- 4) SHARE HOLDER CONTRIBUTION IN %: Government of India 50% Sponsor Bank 35% State Government 15% Total 100%.

##### EXIM BANK:

- a) The Export-Import (EXIM) Bank of India is the principal financial institution in India for coordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing export and import trade.
- b) It is a statutory corporation wholly owned by the Government of India.
- c) It was established on January 1, 1982 for the purpose of financing, facilitating and promoting foreign trade of India.
- d) Chairman- Yaduvendra Mathur
- e) Head Quarters : Mumbai



**NATIONAL HOUSING BANK(NHB):**

- 1) The National Housing Bank (NHB), the apex institution of housing finance in India, was set up as wholly owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India.
- 2) The bank started its operations from July 1988.
- 3) NHB is a subsidiary bank of Reserve Bank of India.
- 4) National Housing Bank was established under section 6 of National Housing Bank Act(1987).
- 5) The headquarters of NHB is in New Delhi.
- 6) Chairman: Shri Sriram Kalyanaraman

**ECGC:** Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India. This organisation provides risk as well as insurance cover to the Indian exporters.

- a) Chairman- Geetha Muralidhar
- b) Head Quarters : Mumbai

**CURRENT AFFAIRS CAPSULE**

**FINANCIAL & BANKING NEWS**

1. World Bank approves \$650 mn loan for Eastern Freight Corridor in India.
2. A Reserve Bank of India (RBI) committee has recommended conversion of Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) with business

- size of 20,000 crore rupees or more into regular banks. This recommendation was given by the High Powered Committee on UCBs headed by RBI Deputy Governor R Gandhi in its report.
3. Government Issues Norms for Selection of CEOs and MDs of Smaller PSU Banks
4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has chosen just 11 out of 41 applicants to set up payments banks in the country. Payments banks are institutions that will offer most of the banking services except loans and credit card products to retail customers. Customers can deposit money up to Rs 1 lakh in these banks, transfer money, make payments and buy financial products such as insurance and mutual funds. The 11 names include India's postal department, two telecom players (Airtel and Vodafone), three large corporate houses (Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), Aditya Birla Nuvo and Tech Mahindra), two financial services firms (Fino Paytech and Cholamandalam), two individual entrepreneurs (Dilip Sahngvi and Vijay Sharma) and National Securities Depository Ltd, a surprise winner.
5. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched two funds the India Aspiration Fund (IAF) and SIDBI Make in India Loan for Enterprises (SMILE) under Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in line to cater funding for start-ups and to aid small enterprises in India. The initial corpus of IAF will be Rs. 2000 crores and Rs. 10, 000 crore under SMILE fund.
6. LIC launches maiden unit linked insurance plan (ULIP).The ULIP which is also called as 'New Endowment Plus' offers investment-cum-insurance provision during the term policy providing dual benefit for the policy holder.
7. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) suspends license of seven non-banking finance companies (NBFCs). The seven NBFCs whose licenses were suspended are – Religare Finance, Artisans Micro Finance, Eden Trade & Commerce, RCS Parivar Finance, Nott Investments, Dewra Stocks & Securities, Swetasree Finance.
8. ICICI Bank launched Smart Vault, a first-of-its-kind locker facility by a bank in India with latest robotic technology. The facility was launched by Chanda Kochhar, MD & CEO of ICICI Bank at the Defence Colony branch of Delhi.
9. Country's largest lender State Bank of India today launched a mobile wallet app, SBI Buddy, in collaboration with Accenture and Mastercard. The service will be available to existing as well as non-SBI customers.
10. HDFC to sell its 9 percent stake in HDFC life to JV partner Standard Life for Rs. 1700 Crore. Prior this agreement HDFC had 70.65 per cent stake while Standard life had 26 per cent stakes which will be change to 61.65 per cent and 35 per cent respectively.
11. India's third largest private sector lender, Axis Bank has launched the first Contactless Debit, Credit and Multi-Currency Forex Card in association with VISA payWave in the country.
12. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has allowed banks to tie up with insurers. This decision was taken as part of the IRDAI's new Bancassurance model guidelines which will be notified soon. Prior to this decision, banks were not allowed to have insurance agency tie-ups with more than one insurer.

13. NABARD accredited by UN's Green Climate Fund as National Implementing Entity.
14. ICICI Bank launches 'Saral-Rural Housing Loan' Scheme for weaker sections. The scheme is new home loan proposition of the bank with special interest rate to cater people from rural areas including women borrowers as well as from weaker sections.
15. In the series of digital initiatives and tie-ups, State Bank of India, country's largest bank, partnered with online travel company MakeMyTrip.com to capitalise on the business opportunities of the booming e-commerce and m-commerce ecosystem.
16. Country's largest lender State Bank of India launched an initiative to provide doorstep services and expedite home loans application process. The initiative known as 'Project Tatkal' will help get the loan within 10 days after receipt of application form and relevant supporting documents, the bank said in a release.
17. State-run IDBI Bank said it has signed an agreement with Mudra Bank for refinancing of loans given to small enterprises. As per the agreement, the Bank will offer credit facilities up to Rs 10 lakh to micro enterprises, at a competitive interest rate under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) and Mudra will be providing refinance assistance to the bank for eligible sanctioned loan cases.
18. The five major emerging national economies, known by the acronym BRICS, were a step closer to setting up a \$100 billion pool of mutual reserves by signing an "operational agreement". The pool would be drawn on by the central banks of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa whenever they suffered a shortage of dollar liquidity, helping them maintain financial stability, Russia's central bank said.
19. Mudhra Limited, a leading certifying firm in the country for digital signatures launched first of its kind eSign services in the country as part of the Digital India Vision.
20. State Bank of Travancore (SBT) has launched the 'SBT NRI Family Card,' a prepaid card for resident Indians – family member/dependent/acquaintance of NRIs.
21. Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) said it has signed a multilateral agreement to cooperate with New Development Bank (NDB) along with other member development banks of BRICS nations. New Development Bank (NDB) is promoted by the BRICS nations -- Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
22. State Bank of India (SBI), the largest bank in India, has partnered online financial product aggregator 'bankbazaar.com' along with the bank's subsidiary SBI CAP Securities. Under this arrangement, the bank will be able to display its home loan products on bankbazaar.com, generate leads and provide door-step delivery, thus improving the response time.
23. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a committee to prepare a 5 year action plan to spread the reach of financial services across country to unbanked population. The committee will be headed by RBI executive director Deepak Mohanty and comprise total of 14 members.
24. Reserve Bank of India has signed a special currency swap agreement with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBS). Under this agreement, Sri Lankan bank can draw up to 1.1 billion dollars for a maximum period of 6 months.
25. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 671 crore on four public sector insurance companies-National Insurance Co, New India Insurance Co, Oriental Insurance Co and United India insurance company for indulging in anti-competitive practices.
26. The MUDRA (Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency) card under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) scheme was launched by the Corporation Bank. Corporation Bank thus became the first bank in the country to launch MUDRA Card.
27. Reserve Bank on 3 July 2015 said the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in manufacturing of tobacco products is prohibited, though activities such as retail and wholesale trading fall under the sectoral restrictions. Foreign direct investment (FDI) is prohibited in the manufacturing of cigars, cheroots, cigarillos and cigarettes, of tobacco or of tobacco substitutes, RBI said in a notification.
28. The cost of printing one rupee note, which was recently re-introduced after a gap of 20 years, is Rs. 1.14, more than its value, an RTI query has revealed. The Union Finance Ministry subsequent to a gazette-notification dated December 16, 2014 ultimately re-issued one-rupee notes on March 6, 2015 at Shrinathji Temple (Nathdwara), Rajasthan.
29. Centre to put Rs 20,000 crore more as capital infusion in public sector banks this year.
30. Kotak bank launches 'Kotak Bharat' mobile banking app for 'un-banked' regions.
31. Axis Bank signs \$200-mn loan agreement with ADB.
32. CSC and HCL forms joint venture to provide technology services, solutions to banks.
33. Non-resident Indians (NRIs) can invest in National Pension System (NPS) to get a social security cover.
34. HDFC Bank has launched 'Dhanchayat', an educational film to raise awareness on the dangers of borrowing money from unorganised sources. This film has been launched under the aegis of Swachh Banking, the bank's corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative.
35. HDFC Bank ties up with Snapdeal for co-branded credit card
36. Reserve Bank of India policy kept its policy rate on hold at 7.25 percent, as widely expected, while leaving the door open to ease further depending on the inflation outlook and how swiftly banks lower their lending rates.
37. HSBC India plans to launch 'green bonds' for raising funds for investments in environmental projects. Announcement was done by the HSBC chairman in a Ficci event held on 3 August 2015.
38. IDFC Bank to start operations from October 2015
39. Central Government liberalises single-brand retail norms for non-resident entities: Now non-resident single-branded retailers in India can operate their own outlets, can franchise their stores and can even opt for wholesale business as per central government's new notification.
40. RBI relaxed Branch Authorisation Policy to allow banks to merge or close branches in urban areas
41. SBI Life Insurance launched Smart Humsafar Plan
42. Central government came out with its much-awaited draft gold monetisation scheme with an aim to bring household and institutionally held gold within circulation. As per the draft guidelines, minimum gold deposit is proposed at 30 gms for a minimum period of one year and the interest

earned on it would be exempt from income tax as well as capital gains tax.

43. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurated a new production line in Hoshangabad to manufacture currency paper and would ensure high-denomination notes are printed on locally-made paper. Currently, currency notes of larger denominations are printed on imported paper though ink used is mostly produced within the country. With the development of new facilities at Hoshangabad and also Mysore, it would be possible to produce currency printing paper in adequate quantity to meet the need of the nation.
44. The Reserve Bank proposed that Indian corporates eligible for raising external commercial borrowings (ECBs) could also raise funds overseas by issuing Rupee linked bonds, a move expected to open another window for cheaper resources.
45. RBI said banks can start using the strategic debt restructuring (SDR) scheme, which will allow them to acquire a 51% stake or more in stressed companies. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) had given its nod to the scheme earlier this year, allowing banks to convert debt into equity at a price that was fair but not below the face value.
46. The Centre has signed a deal with the World Bank for a \$400 million loan for an urban development project in Tamil Nadu.
47. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the date for the public to exchange their pre-2005 banknotes till December 31, 2015.
48. The Reserve Bank of India had decided to allow banks to borrow from global multilateral financial institutions for general banking business. They can do so without seeking the central bank's approval.
49. Australia announced that it would join the new China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) as a founding member. The bank already has 57 prospective members.
50. The banking system as a whole has been witnessing higher level of non-performing assets (NPA). State-run banks continue to report higher bad loans and the gross non-performing assets as on March 31, 2015, stood at 5.17 per cent.
51. HDFC Bank launched Pay Zapp, a complete digital payment and purchase solution, a one-stop online portal offering customers 'great deals at one place'.
52. ICICI Bank appointed M. K. Sharma as the non-executive Chairman of the Board for a period of five years, in place of K. V. Kamath.
53. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed to introduce a separate category of semi-closed Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI) for Mass Transit System (PPI-MTS). The PPI-MTS can be used within the mass transit systems and will have a minimum validity of six months from date of issue. Such PPIs will be re-loadable instruments subject to an outstanding limit of Rs.2,000 at any point of time, RBI suggested in a draft circular for public comments.
54. CCEA approved Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY): The Yojana was approved with an outlay of 50000 crore rupees over a period of five years, that is, from 2015-16 to 2019-20.
55. Union Government hiked national floor-level minimum wage to 160 rupees per day
56. RBI allowed AD Category-I Banks to borrow from International Financial Institutions
57. Union Cabinet approved renaming of SECI as Renewable Energy Corporation of India
58. FBIL overnight Mumbai Inter-Bank Offer Rate (MIBOR) to become effective from July 22-The FBIL overnight MIBOR will be administered by the FBIL Board which will replace National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Thomson Reuters in administering the overnight rate benchmark.
59. CCEA approved Minimum Support Prices for Kharif Crops of 2015-16 season-The CCEA decided to give a bonus of 200 rupees per quintal for pulses over and above the recommendations of the CACP in view of a huge deficit of pulses in the country.
60. India's trade deficit in May 2015 narrowed to 10.4 billion US dollars
61. CSO released Provisional Estimates of National Income for FY 2014-15- As per it, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant prices in the FY 2014-15 will grow at 7.3 percent while at current prices it is expected to grow at 10.5 percent.
62. Union government allocated 5000 crore for development of AYUSH-AYUSH comprises Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy.
63. RBI advised all Public Sector Banks to appoint Internal Ombudsman-The internal ombudsman will be a forum available to bank customers for grievance redressal before they can even approach the Banking Ombudsman.
64. Union Government made PAN mandatory for Central Excise Registration
65. Union Government approved continuation of 1000 rupees Monthly Pension Scheme under EPS
66. Indian economy to grow at 7.5 per cent in 2015: Moody's
67. Indian Railways launched RuPay pre-paid debit cards

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#### INDIA GDP FORECAST

1. The World Bank has predicted a GDP growth rate of 8 per cent for India by 2017 and said that a strong expansion in the country, coupled with favourable oil prices.
2. Moody's, a global ratings agency, raised India's rating outlook to "positive" from "stable", but retained the Baa3 rating.
3. India's economic growth is projected to surpass that of China's, with the GDP expected to zoom by 7.7 per cent in 2016, according to a UN report.

4. The Asian Development Bank projected India's growth rate to surpass China and improve to 7.8 per cent in next fiscal and further to 8.2 per cent in 2016-17.
5. India pegs 2014-15 GDP growth at 7.4 per cent.
6. Asian Development Outlook of ADB also projected that India's growth rate will surpass China in FY2015 and FY2016. In FY2015 India is expected to grow at the rate of 7.8 percent and 8.2 percent in FY 2016.
7. India's growth to reach 6.3 per cent in 2016:United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP)
8. International Monetary Fund (IMF) projected that India will grow 6.5 per cent in 2016, overtaking China which, it projected, will slowdown to 6.3 per cent.
9. Fitch expects real GDP growth to pick up to 8 per cent in FY16 and 8.3 per cent in FY17.
10. IMF projected GDP growth for India in 2014-15 at - 5.6 % & 6.4 % in 2015
11. Global rating agency Fitch trimmed its economic growth projection for India to 7.8% for 2015-16 from 8% predicted earlier.
12. The Reserve Bank lowered the economic growth forecast for the current fiscal to 7.6 per cent from 7.8 per cent projected in April.

#### India ranking in different Indexes:

1. India ranks 119 on 2015 FM Global Resilience Index.
2. India ranked 143rd in Global Peace Index.
3. India is home to the highest number of hungry people in the world, at 194 million, surpassing China, according to United Nations annual hunger report.
4. India's consumer confidence score rose to 130 followed by Indonesia (123) and Philippines (115).
5. India has emerged as the second-most trusted country in the world in terms of faith reposed on its institutions. The list is topped by UAE with 84 per cent trust.
6. Transparency International India (TII) – Corruption Index – India ranked 85th among 175(Denmark topped)
7. World Bank - Ease of Doing Business" report - India ranked 142 among the 189 countries (Singapore top)
8. World Economic Forum's 2015 Gender gap index – 114 (Iceland top the list followed by Finland & Norway)
9. Global Hunger Index Report 2014: 55 (Mauritius top followed by Thailand and Albania)
10. Human Development Index 2014 – 135 (Norway top followed by Australia).
11. Intellectual property (IP) environment 2015 – 29 (US ranked on the top, Thailand last)
12. World Press Freedom Index 2015 - 136 in the list of 180 countries
13. World's best countries for doing business 2014 – 134
14. Global Peace Index 2014 – 143 (Iceland top the list while Syria the most violent place)
15. Global Innovation Index 2014 - 76
16. Global Competitiveness Index 2014 -71 (Switzerland is the most competitive economy, followed by Singapore).

#### Important Committees/Operations in News:

1. Operation Muskaan helped Gurgaon Police to trace over 1000 kids
2. Union Finance Ministry appointed committee chaired by retired SC judge A P Shah has recommended that Minimum

- Alternate Tax (MAT) should not be imposed on FIIs retrospectively for the period preceding 1st April 2015.
3. Ajit Seth to head Public Enterprises Selection Board.
4. Delhi Police launched Operation Shishtachar to teach lesson to eve-teasers.
5. To provide security to those devotees taking part in the 59-day-long annual Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, Indian Army in first week of July 2015 launched Operation Shiva.
6. Operation Talaash for missing Dornier ends.
7. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) set up an Expert Group headed by Dr. D Prabhakaran on Salt, Sugar and Fat in Indian Food Products.
8. Union Ministry of Finance constituted a Task Force headed by Dhirendra Swarup on Financial Redress Agency (FRA).
9. The Union Government formed a committee under the Chairpersonship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to oversee the celebrations of 125th birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar, also called Bhim Jayanti which is annually celebrated on 14 April.
10. Union Ministry of Finance constituted a Committee on Revisiting and Revitalizing the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Model of Infrastructure Development under the Chairmanship of Vijay Kelkar.
11. A sub-committee of the Niti Ayog comprising state chief ministers reached a broad consensus on bringing down the number of centrally sponsored schemes to 30 from 66. Flagship schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and the National Food Security Mission would continue even after the restructuring of schemes starting 2016-17. The panel chaired by Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
12. The much-awaited Bibek Debroy committee report on the restructuring of Indian Railways lays down a five-year roadmap to evolve a statutory rail regulator and scrap the Rail Budget.
13. Union Government constituted Task Force on Interlinking of Rivers-The task force chaired by BN Navalawala.
14. Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry constituted Ajay Shankar committee to simplify clearances
15. Ministry of Railways constituted Ajay Shankar Committee to review PPP Cell functioning

#### Important News (India & World):

1. Greece has become the first developed nation to default on International Monetary Fund (IMF) debt. It has defaulted on a 1.7 billion dollars payment to IMF.
2. Narendra Modi-Barack Obama hotline becomes operational. This is a secure line between two very very close partners so that they can exchange views at the heads of state level...exchange views and co-ordinate approaches to solving real problems, said the top White House official.
3. The US military has launched the largest NATO airborne drills dubbed as Swift Response 15 since the end of the Cold War to enhance security and stability in the European region. Swift Response 15 will be month long simultaneous multinational airborne operations drill in which around 5,000 soldiers from 11 NATO member states will participate.
4. Government of India and the World Bank signed the Financing Agreement for the assistance of National Cyclone

Risk Mitigation Project- I & II (NCRMP- I & II) for \$ 104.00 Million and \$ 308.40 Million respectively. The two separate financing agreements were signed for NCRMP- I & II under a common objective for coastal states to mitigate vulnerability to the cyclone and hazards prone coastal communities.

5. Cuba becomes first nation to eliminate mother-to-child HIV and syphilis: WHO
6. India and Kazakhstan launched the first exploratory drilling at Satpayev oil block owned by India's ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) and Kazakhstan company KazMunaiGaz. It was jointly launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Kazakhstan premier Karim Massimov in Astana, Kazakh capital. The oil block is an offshore field located in the Northern Caspian Sea.
7. India bagged the full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) along with Pakistan.
8. European Union (EU) has approved a short-term loan of 7.16 billion euros to Greece after it was backed by the 28 member states. This loan will allow Greece to pay its huge debt to European Central Bank (ECB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) till new bailout plan is ratified.
9. India's first air freight station in the private sector has come up at Irungattukottai near Chennai.
10. BRICS bank launched in China as alternative to World Bank, IMF.
11. Conakry named as World Book Capital for 2017 by UNESCO
12. The radical militants of Sunni Islamist militant group Islamic State (IS) have seized Qaryatain, a key town in central Syria. It was seized following heavy clashes with Syrian forces.
13. Nepal Rastra Bank to provide interest-free loans for rebuilding houses
14. Egypt has launched a major expansion of the Suez Canal. It was inaugurated by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in a lavish ceremony held at port city of Ismailiya ( located on west bank of canal).
15. Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope being constructed in China.
16. 193 UN members reached agreement on sustainable development agenda: With this agreement, the document called "Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" will be adopted at a UN summit to be held in September 2015 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.
17. Sri Lankan government decided to renovate temples destroyed in Nepal quake.
18. Per capita annual income in the national capital rose by nearly 14 per cent to Rs 2.41 lakh in 2014-15 compared to the previous fiscal, which is almost three times the national average.
19. On PM Narendra Modi's Bangladesh visit, India and the neighbouring country signed 22 agreements and MoUs for co-operation in areas of trade, investment, education, climate change and Information and Communication Technology. Besides the landmark exchange of Instruments of Ratification of 1974 Land Boundary Agreement.
20. SC issued notice to Union Government, EC on petition seeking to bring political parties under RTI
21. Union Cabinet approved setting up of Online National Agriculture Market
22. India banned trade with ISIS, other terror groups
23. Memorial for former PM Narasimha Rao constructed at Ekta Sthal Samadhi Complex in New Delhi
24. Union Cabinet approved to set up a National Memorial at birth place of Lok Nayak JP Narayan in Bihar
25. Union Cabinet approved setting up of six Indian Institutes of Management (IIM): These new IIMs will be located at Amritsar (Punjab), Bodh Gaya (Bihar), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Sambalpur (Odisha), Sirmaur (Himachal Pradesh) and Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh).
26. Union Government launched India's first Modernised Anganwadi Centre at Hasanpur village in Sonapat
27. PM launched AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission and Housing for All (Urban): During the occasion, the Prime Minister released logos and taglines for AMRUT and Smart Cities Mission; and guidelines for AMRUT, Smart Cities Mission and Housing for All (Urban).
28. Union Cabinet approved Housing for All by 2022 Mission
29. Election Commission of India (ECI) suspended recognition of National People's Party (NPP)
30. Union Government launched Migrant Resource Centre in Chennai
31. Indian Army carried out cross-border operation against militants in Myanmar
32. Union Ministry of Water Resources launched nationwide Jal Kranti Abhiyan from Jaipur
33. Union Government launched Khoya Paya web portal to exchange information on missing children
34. Union Ministry of Women and Child Development launched IAP HealthPhone programme: This programme was developed by the Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) in partnership with the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development, UNICEF and is supported by Vodafone India.
35. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Doordarshan's farmer-centric Kisan TV Channel
36. Union Government launched Road Asset Management System for National Highways
37. Union Government launched kayakalp Award Scheme to improve cleanliness in Public Health Facilities: The scheme was launched by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to encourage and incentivize Public Health Facilities (PHFs) in the country to keep the facilities clean and hygienic.
38. Union Ministry of Minority Affairs launched USTAAD Scheme for Traditional Artisans: The objective of the scheme is to preserve rich heritage of traditional arts and crafts of minorities and build capacity of traditional artisans and craftsmen.
39. Union Government launched Credit Enhancement Guarantee Scheme for Scheduled Castes
40. PM Narendra Modi joined Chinese social media platform Weibo
41. World's largest solar photovoltaic plant of 750 MW to be built in Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh
42. Nadia in West Bengal became the first open defecation-free (ODF) district of India
43. Union Ministry of Home Affairs renamed Tourist Visa on Arrival scheme as e-Tourist Visa
44. Union Cabinet gave its approval for the Approach and Key Components of e-Kranti: The Mission of e-Kranti is to ensure a Government wide transformation by delivering all

Government services electronically to citizens through integrated and interoperable systems via multiple modes.

45. Union Cabinet gave approval for the concept and institutional framework of Sagarmala Project: Sagarmala Project's main objective is to promote port-led direct and indirect development and to provide infrastructure to transport goods to and from ports quickly, efficiently and cost-effectively.
46. State-owned power equipment maker Bhel said it has commissioned Sudan's largest power plant. The Kosti plant is Bhel's largest oil-fired thermal power plant in the overseas market. It is also Bhel's first crude oil fired thermal power plant in Africa and comes on the heels of the successful completion of Bhel's 28 MW Nyaborango Hydro project in Rwanda.


### Important News – States

1. Chief Minister of HP Virbhadra Singh disclosed that a Rs 643 crore project for augmenting the water supply to the growing hill city had been approved by the union government.
2. Puducherry CM N Rangasamy launched Free Laptop Scheme.
3. Odisha Cabinet gave nod to new Industrial Policy Resolution (IPR) 2015.
4. Haryana government announced to launch a voluntary scheme 'Mhara Gaon - Jagmag Gaon', aimed at providing 24-hour uninterrupted power supply to rural domestic consumers and improving electricity bill collections in order to reduce "huge" accumulated losses of power utilities.
5. Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC) has become the first State transport corporation to have a vehicle tracking system for inter-city buses, which has led to a reduction in accidents and deaths as drivers are wary of crossing the speed limits.
6. Impressed with the progress of Maharashtra's 'Jal Yukt Shivar Abhiyan,' Rajasthan may also adopt the state's flagship water conservation and Integrated water management scheme."Jalyukta Shivar Abhiyan is an ambitious program of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and he has toured almost each and every district to visit the project sites," Pankaja Munde, minister for water conservation said.
7. Uttarakhand became first Indian state to install a system to detect earthquakes and disseminate warnings. The first system has been installed in its capital Dehradun which will issue warnings 1-40 seconds before earthquakes of magnitude 5 or more occur. The system is designed and manufactured by Italian firm, Space Dynamics which already has installed it in Japan, Italy and US.
8. Haryana government named Parineeti Chopra as its Brand Ambassador for 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.'
9. India inks \$250-million loan pact with World Bank for Andhra Pradesh Disaster Recovery project.
10. Union Cabinet gives nod to redevelop 400 major railway stations.
11. Nearly 24 years after prohibition was imposed in Manipur, the state, for the first time, is planning to lift the ban on the manufacture and sale of liquor, with Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh tabling a proposal for the same in the Assembly.
12. Gujarat makes voting compulsory in local body polls.

13. Haryana's CM Manohar Lal launched 'Thari Pension Thare Pass' scheme: In the first phase of the scheme, over ten lakh beneficiaries living in 1744 villages and 81 towns of the state would get pensions through banks and post offices.
14. Union Urban Development Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu announced that Jind and Karnal districts of Haryana and Muzaffarnagar of Uttar Pradesh have been included in the National Capital Region (NCR).


### New Appointment in India

1. Dr Anup K Pujari joins as Secretary, MSME.
2. Noted academician Amitabh Mattoo appointed as Advisor to J&K CM Mufti Mohammad Sayeed.
3. President appoints Om Prakash Rawat as Election Commissioner.
4. Coca-cola India signs Sourav Ganguly for 3-years as social ambassador.
5. Amitabh Bachchan is now Maharashtra's Tiger ambassador.
6. Acharya Dev Vrat sworn-in as 27th Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
7. Ashwani Lohani, a tourism veteran, to steer Air India as CMD.



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8. Critically acclaimed Bollywood actor Anupam Kher has another achievement to his credit now. Kher has been named an advocate for the United Nations' campaign on gender equality, and in collaboration with the UN will call on men and boys to stand up against inequalities against women and girls, further helping in ending the discrimination and violence against them.
9. New IAAF president Sebastian Coe promises independent doping unit
10. AFI chief Sumariwalla elected IAAF Council member.
11. IDBI appointed Kishor Piraji Kharat as its MD and CEO
12. Sachin Tendulkar to be Maharashtra's Tiger ambassador

13. Union government has appointed two private sector banking professionals as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Canara Bank. This is the first time that Union government has appointed the two candidates from the private sector to head the Public Sector Banks (PSBs). P S Jayakumar: MD and CEO of Bank of Baroda (BoB). Rakesh Sharma: MD and CEO of Canara Bank.
14. C D Balaji took charge as Director of the Aeronautical Development Agency
15. Tata Teleservices appoints Anuraag Srivastava as CFO.
16. Ashok Haldia appointed MD and CEO of PTC India Financial Services
17. Satish Pillai, new MD & CEO of CIBIL.
18. Union Government appoints Sriram Kalyanaraman as MD and CEO of NHB
19. Lt General Man Mohan Singh Rai appointed as Vice-Chief of Indian Army
20. Neeraj Kumar appointed chief security advisor for ICC World T20 2016.
21. Union Government has appointed Bhanu Pratap Sharma as Chairperson Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
22. Bandhan Bank, to be formally inaugurated by President Pranab Mukherjee on August 23, has appointed Ashok Lahiri, former chief economic adviser, Government of India, as its chairman. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, Founder of Bandhan Financial Services Ltd, was appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the bank.
23. Infrastructure financing firm IDFC on 30 June 2015 appointed Vinod Rai, former Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), as independent director. IDFC Full Form is - Infrastructure Development Finance Company Ltd.
24. IT Secretary R S Sharma appointed as TRAI chairman.
25. Anand Krishnamurthy appointed CEO and MD of CSB bank.
26. Ajay Mathur appointed as Director-General of TERI.
27. President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed 2 members of Anglo-Indian Community to Lok Sabha as per the provisions of Article 331 of Indian Constitution. Professor Richard Hay & George Baker has been appointed.
28. T K Chand appointed as CMD of National Aluminium Company
29. Suresh Narayanan appointed new Nestle India MD.
30. Ananth Narayanan appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Myntra
31. Bhanu Pratap Sharma appointed as Chairperson of FSSAI
32. Folger appointed MD, CEO of Mercedes-Benz India.
33. Union Government extends term of Rajan S Katoch as Director of ED for 3rd time
34. Snapdeal appoints Amitava Ghosh as VP-engineering.
35. Accenture India appoints Rekha Menon as chairman and Anindya Basu is appointed as MD.
36. President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed Acharya Dev Vrat and Ram Nath Kovind as the governors of Himachal Pradesh and Bihar respectively.
37. U P Singh was appointed as the Interim Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state-run Oil India Limited.
38. Anshula Kant was appointed as the Deputy Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of State Bank of India.
39. Senior IAS officer G Gurucharan was given additional charge as Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards.
40. Archana Ramasundaram was appointed as the Director of National Crime Records Bureau.
41. Narendra Kumar Yadav took charge as CMD of the state-run telecom operator Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited.
42. Prof Sanghmitra Bandyopadhyay was appointed as the Director of Indian Statistical Institute.
43. Vijai Sharma was appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner in the Central Information Commission. He will have tenure of 5 years or till he attain the age of 65, whichever is earlier.
44. IRS officer KV Chowdary was appointed as the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC).
45. Senior IPS Officer RC Tayal was appointed as the Director General of National Security Guard.
46. Syed Asif Ibrahim was appointed as the Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Countering Terrorism and Extremism.
47. K Sivan was appointed as the Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre.
48. P Kunhikrishnan was appointed as the Director of Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
49. Meena Hemchandra was appointed as the Executive Director of Reserve Bank of India. As an ED, She will look after Department of Banking Supervision, Department of Co-operative Banking Supervision and Department of Non-Banking Supervision.
50. Former Singapore Foreign Minister George Yeo was appointed as the new Chancellor of the Nalanda University, Bihar. Yeo will succeed Nobel laureate Amartya Sen.
51. Veena Jain was appointed as Director General (news) in Doordarshan.
52. Pradeep Kumar Sinha was appointed as the Cabinet Secretary to the Union Government. He succeeded Ajit Seth.
53. Distinguished Scientist G Satheesh Reddy was appointed as Scientific Advisor to Union Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar.
54. Eminent scientist Dr. S Christopher was appointed as the Director General of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
55. Chennai's NL Beno Zephine became the first 100 percent visually-challenged person to be inducted into the Indian Foreign Services (IFS).
56. Manabi Bandopadhyay became the first transgender principal of Krishnagar Women's College in Nadia district, West Bengal.

#### **New Appointment in World**

1. Muhammadu Buhari claims victory in Nigeria's presidential elections.
2. Ranil Wickremesinghe sworn in as Prime Minister of Sri Lanka.
3. The White House has appointed its first openly transgender staff member. Raffi Freedman-Gurspan has been hired as an outreach and recruitment director for presidential personnel in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, LGBT groups and the White House.
4. Australian government appoints Adam Gilchrist ambassador to India - for education
5. General Muhammadu Buhari won Presidential Election of Nigeria
6. Prominent scientist Ameenah Gurib-Fakim sworn-in as President of Mauritius

7. Nursultan A Nazarbayev re-elected as President of Kazakhstan
8. Omar Hassan al-Bashir won the Presidential election of Sudan
9. Former Army Brigadier David Granger sworn-in as eighth President of Guyana
10. China on 6 July 2015 named a former Finance Minister Jin Liqun as its choice to head the Beijing-backed Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), which is being seen as a rival to the U.S. and Europe-dominated banking institutions.
11. Procter & Gamble (P&G) appoints David Taylor as its new CEO.
12. Indian-American Atul Keshap confirmed Ambassador to Sri Lanka.
13. Muhammadu Buhari assumed the office of 5th President of Nigeria.
14. Anisa Rasouli nominated as the first ever female Supreme Court judge of Afghanistan.
15. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) elected Denmark's Mogens Lykketoft as its President for its upcoming 70th session in September 2015. He will have tenure of one year and succeeds Uganda's Sam Kutesa.
16. The Government of Mauritius designated Ameenah Gurib-Fakim as new President of the Indian Ocean island nation.

#### SUMMIT

1. **India will be hosting the 8th BRICS summit in 2016**
2. India decided to boycott 61st Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference to be held in Islamabad: The decision to boycott the 61st Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference was taken in lieu of Pakistan's unilateral decision to not invite the Speaker of J&K Assembly.
3. 9th Session of the India-South Africa Joint Ministerial Commission held in Durban
4. 48th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' meet held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: The meet was held under the theme "Our People, Our Community, Our Vision", to create an ASEAN Community which is truly people-oriented, people-centred comprising all areas of cooperation.
5. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Tanzania President Jakaya Kikwete held delegation level talks in New Delhi.
6. The second round of the United Nations negotiations on climate change have concluded in Bonn, Germany.
7. Hyderabad will play host to a four-day global pharma expo and summit from July 23.
8. The seventh BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) summit was held from 8 to 9 July 2015 in the Russian city of Ufa in Bashkortostan. It was held under the theme BRICS Partnership – a Powerful Factor of Global Development. The summit was attended by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Dilma Rousseff, Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping and Jacob Zuma president of Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa respectively. New Delhi will be hosting the 8th summit in 2016.
9. India will host second edition meeting of Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) on 21 August 2015 in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
10. G7 Summit 2015 was held at Schloss Elmau in Bavaria, Germany from 7 June to 8 June 2015. This was the 41st G7

summit and the theme for the summit was Think Ahead. Act Together.

11. India assumed Presidency of the 68th World Health Assembly after 19 years
12. 6th National Conference on Nuclear Energy held in New Delhi: The Conference was organised by ASSOCHAM with the theme Nuclear Energy: a Clean Energy option.
13. 13th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Doha: The Summit concluded with the adoption of Doha Declaration.
14. India to chair Ninth Meeting of International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Council
15. 1st Counter-Terrorism Conference 2015 held in Jaipur: The central theme of the Conference is Integrated Approach to Counter-Terrorism.
16. India to host seventh Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2016
17. Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan
18. First Renewable Energy Global Investors Meet & Expo, RE-Invest 2015, held in New Delhi
19. First World Ocean Science Congress held in Kochi

#### Awards & Honours

1. Prof. Sanjeev Galande selected for G D Birla Award for Scientific Research 2014.
2. Historian Babasaheb Purandare conferred with Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2015.
3. President Pranab Mukherjee presented Saraswati Sammaan to Dr. M Veerappa Moily
4. R Paul Singh, Indian-American professor has been selected for 2015 World Agriculture Prize laureate.
5. Darshan Jain, an Indian-American teacher has been selected for prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.
6. Tata Steel's West Bokaro Division conferred with Golden Peacock Environment Management Award 2015.
7. Noted artist Sayed Haider Raza conferred with France's de la Legion d Honneur.
8. Krishnapatnam Port receives Golden Peacock award for environment management.
9. Kerala Tourism has won 2015 Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) award in the 'Heritage & Culture' category for its Muziris Heritage Project.
10. Indian-origin doctor Shiv Pande receives honorary fellowship in UK.
11. Pune's Fergusson College, founded in 1885, has been accorded the special heritage status by the University Grants Commission (UGC).
12. Veteran Writer Vishwanath Tripathi was on 27 June 2015 selected for the 28th Moorti Devi Award for the year 2014 for his book Vyomkesh Darvesh.
13. Sanjeev Chaturvedi, Anshu Gupta win Ramon Magsaysay Award.
14. The Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) became the front runner in the Dun & Bradstreet's 'India's Top PSUs Awards 2015 in the category of electrical and electronic equipment sector.
15. Peter Higgs receives Copley Medal, world's oldest scientific prize.

16. Shubham Jaglan won IJGA World Stars of Junior Golf event 2015
17. Naomi Klein wins 2015 American Book Award.
18. Cricketer Ravichandran Ashwin presented with Arjuna Award.
19. Mathematician Dr. Amalendu Krishna wins 2015 Ramanujan Prize. He has been bestowed with this award for his outstanding contributions in the area of algebraic cycles, algebraic K-theory and the theory of motives.
20. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has won the Esri Special Achievement in GIS Award 2015 for exemplary work in Dairy Geographical Information System.
21. Goa Tourism Minister Parulekar conferred with PATWA 2015 Award
22. Raghavendra Gadagkar awarded with Germany's Cross of Order of the Merit.
23. Ajeet Kumar Saroj, Varanasi jail inmate awarded with IGNOU gold medal.
24. Zhanna Nemtsova awarded with Poland's Solidarity Prize 2015
25. Hindi litterateur Kashinath Singh chosen for Bharat Bharti literary award 2014.
26. Sir Fazle Hasan Abed was selected for the 2015 World Food Prize.
27. Veteran Writer Vishwanath Tripathi was selected for the 28th Moorti Devi Award for the year 2014 for his book Vyomkesh Darvesh. Vyomkesh Darvesh is a lifetime story of Acharya Hazari Prasad Dwivedi.
28. The district administration of Nadia, West Bengal was on 26 June 2015 conferred with the United Nations Public Service Award 2015 for eliminating open defecation in the district.
29. The spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar was conferred with the Columbia's highest civilian award Orden de la Democracia Simon Bolivar en el grado de cruz Caballero (Order of the Democracy Simon Bolivar) by Columbia.
30. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) was presented with the Space Pioneer award for the year 2015 in the Science and Engineering category during the 34th Annual International Space Development Conference held at Toronto in Canada.
31. Suresh Kalmadi was conferred with the Asian Athletics Association (AAA) President's award.
32. Uttarakhand's Medical, Health and Family Welfare Minister Surendra Singh Negi was conferred with the World No Tobacco Day Award 2015 by the World Health Organisation.
33. Super 30 founder and mathematician Anand Kumar was honoured by Legislature of British Columbia in Canada at Toronto University for his pioneering work in the field of education.
34. Bangladesh is set to honour former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee for his outstanding support for the country's independence from Pakistan in 1971 when he was a Lok Sabha member. Bangladesh will hand over Vajpayee's "Friends of Bangladesh Liberation War Award" to Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to the country from June 6.
35. President conferred Punyabhushan Award on Prataprao Pawar
36. UK-based philanthropist Benni Joseph Mavelil selected for VK Krishna Menon Award 2015

37. Sanjay Subrahmanyam selected for Sangitha Kalanidhi award for the year 2015
38. Parkash Singh Badal conferred with 2015 Sant Namdev National Award
39. UK Author Ali Smith won 2015 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction
40. Indian Film Masaan won FIPRESCI Award at 68th Cannes film festival
41. Hungarian writer Laszlo Krasznahorkai won the 2015 Man Booker International Prize
42. Anuradha Prasad conferred with Pt. Haridutt Sharma Award for Journalism and Social Services
43. Veteran Bollywood actor Shashi Kapoor bestowed with Dada Saheb Phalke award
44. Mazen Darwish honoured with 2015 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize
45. Prime Minister conferred 50th Jnanpith Award on Marathi litterateur Bhalchandra Nemade
46. Shah Rukh Khan honoured with Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation Award 2015
47. Indian-origin nurse Subadhra Devi Rai named for 2015 International Achievement Award
48. Balbir Singh Senior conferred with Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award of Hockey India



#### Place in News

1. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu Inaugurates Integrated Security System in Mumbai. The ISS is advanced security systems that aims at improving security on Railway premises and also ensure safety of the people and avert terror attacks in extreme case. The system has a total of 118 CCTV cameras.
2. Dr. Najma Heptulla, the Union Minister for Minority Affairs Launched Online Application Management System (OAMS) for Nai Roshni. Speaking on the occasion she said the system brings the scheme in to public domain and will facilitate transparency and quick delivery.
3. Himachal Pradesh Government launched the Rajiv Gandhi Illuminating Scheme for Hill Town Advancement (RISHTA) project, an efficient smart LED based street lighting project. With this, Himachal Pradesh became the first state in North India to do so.
4. Government launched education loan portal for students seeking loans.
5. Rajasthan Govt Join Hands With Future Group To Modernise Public Distribution System.
6. Kochi airport becomes world's first to operate on solar power
7. Tata Trusts to develop 264 villages in Vijayawada under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana(SAGY) initiative
8. MHA to setup pan-India National Fingerprint Database to aid in the speedy identification of criminals and investigation of crimes across the country.
9. ISRO commissions Titanium Sponge Plant in Kerala.
10. Kochi first to join World Tourism Cities Federation (WTCF) Council.
11. Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu took the first concrete step towards building a new capital for Andhra Pradesh,

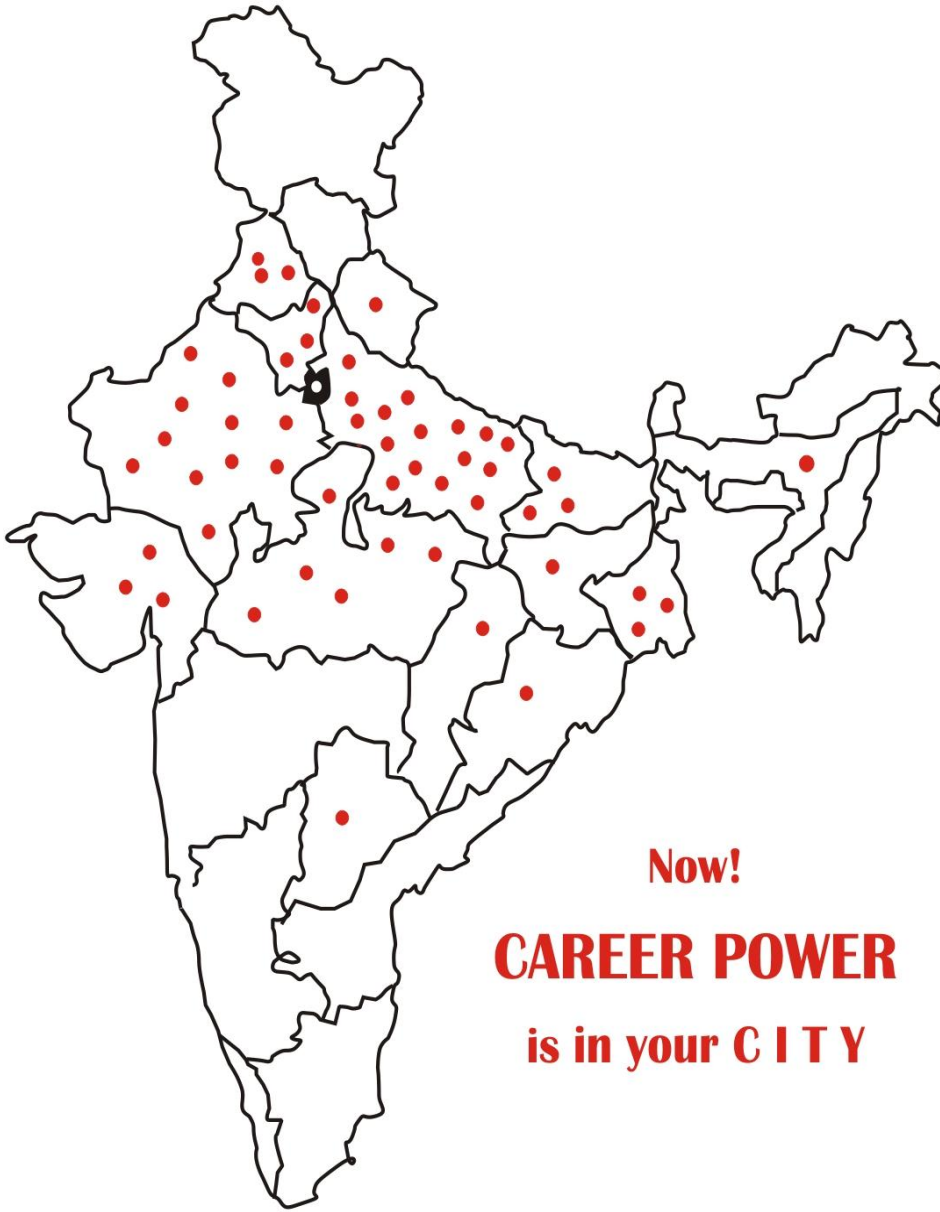
performing the bhoomi puja for "a world class capital city named Amaravati after the mythological City of the Gods."

12. The socio-economic and caste census (SECC) 2011 painted a grim picture of rural India, indicating that one out of three families living in villages is landless and depends on manual labour for livelihood. The SECC 2011, also the first paperless census conducted on hand-held electronic devices by the government, said 23.52% rural families have no literate adult above 25 years, suggesting a poor state of education among rural masses.
13. Union Government has launched a web portal for online submission of applications for environment clearance by State Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAA) for Category B projects. It was launched by Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar in New Delhi on the occasion of Digital India Week.
14. The Guinness Book of World Records has recognised a record created in Madhya Pradesh on 'World Hand washing Day' in 2014. The mega hand washing event was held on 15 October 2014 to create awareness about hygiene by washing hands with soap.
15. Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhu on 14 July 2015 inaugurated the broad-gauge railway-line between Gandhidham and Tuna-Tekra Port in Gujarat by flagging off a goods train. The rail line is India's first railway-line built with private sector participation under Non-Government Railway (NGR) Policy 2012 of Indian Railways.
16. Maharashtra assembly passed Guarantee of Public Services Bill, 2015. The features of the Bill are:
  - It empowers citizens to avail their rights in stipulated time with less efforts and cost.
  - It will pave way for curbing corruption, bringing transparency and empowering citizens.
  - It ensures essential services are delivered in a time-bound manner and at nominal charges.
  - In case of failure in delivery in the stipulated time, the government employee will be penalized for default, which ranges between 500 rupees to 5000 rupees.
17. Varanasi chosen as 'city of music' by UNESCO
18. Jaitley choose Amritsar to launch the "National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana " (HRIDAY) for 12 cities in the country.
19. PM inaugurated upgraded IISCO Steel Plant in Burnpur housing largest blast furnace plant of India.
20. The Union home ministry has declared whole of Nagaland as a "disturbed area" for a further period of one year from June 30, 2015. The state was declared as "disturbed" area under Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958.
21. Maharashtra govt to develop six solar cities targeting solar capacity of 7,500 MW.
22. Puducherry city first to get Smart city nomination.
23. India's first private air freight station all set to open in Chennai.
24. Asia's biggest telescope MAST inaugurated at Udaipur Solar Observatory in Rajasthan. The telescope was installed under the project undertaken by Union Ministry of Science and

Technology and was funded by Department of Space (DoS). The project will be monitored by Ahmedabad based Physical Research Laboratory.

25. Rajasthan signs MoUs for Rs 2,452-cr investments at the investment meet in New Delhi.
26. Maharashtra government declares Thane creek area as 'Flamingo Sanctuary'
27. ESIC extends health insurance scheme to Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur.
28. Telecom Minister launches mobile app "Disha" to aid digital literacy in Bihar.
29. Tendong Lho Rum Faat, annual festival of ethnic Lepcha tribe of Sikkim celebrated
30. Uttar Pradesh government decided to rename UPTU as APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University.
31. SHEFROL: An Eco-friendly way of treating water: SHEFROL-based waste water treatment plant built at Chinna Kalapet fishing hamlet in Puducherry, was found to be successful.
32. Maharashtra government increased the retirement age of medical officers from 58 to 60.
33. Jharkhand empowered ACB to arrest Ministers & civil servants in bribery cases without permission.
34. Haryana Government to honour victims of Emergency 1975 with Tamra Patra: Those who struggled for restoration of democratic values during the Emergency will be given 'Tamra Patra' on the Independence Day function, that is, 15 August 2015.
35. Aadi Perukku festival celebrated with traditional gaiety in Tamil Nadu
36. MCA lifted 3-year old Wankhede Stadium entry ban on Shah Rukh Khan
37. Tamil Nadu government instituted youth award in name of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam: Tamil Nadu government also announced that Dr Kalam's birthday on October 15th would be celebrated as the Youth Revival Day.
38. Maharashtra government announced construction of 800-km Nagpur-Mumbai expressway: The Nagpur-Amravati-Aurangabad-Ghoti-Mumbai expressway, also called Communication Super-expressway, would be build at the cost of 30000 crore rupees.
39. The Great Wall of China, a UNESCO World Heritage site, was in news as Beijing Times published a survey report stating that around 30 percent of the Wall disappeared overtime and around 1185 km of the fortification are in poor condition.
40. Nathu La pass was in news as External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj flagged off the first batch of pilgrims for Kailash-Manasarovar yatra that will travel through the pass. During the yatra, pilgrims visit Mount Kailash, which Hindus believe as the abode of Lord Shiva, and the Manasarovar Lake located in the south-western corner of Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR) of China. The pass was reopened after China agreed to open the route following a bilateral agreement signed in September 2014 during Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to India.

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- ▶ Puri
- ▶ Bhubaneswar

Coming Soon..

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- ▶ Anand 07567145525

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- ▶ Ambala 09355155557

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- ▶ Dehradun

Coming Soon..

**Assam** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY


- ▶ Guwahati 08752933801

41. Indian Medical Association's (IMA) first-ever Jan Aushadhi Generic Drug (JAGD) Store was inaugurated at its headquarters in IP Estate, New Delhi. The store will offer over 118 commonly used drugs at a 10 to 20 percent lesser price than market value.
42. PM Narendra Modi government approved Rs 4,318.28 crore for constructing roads and basic amenities at two industrial regions in Gujarat and Maharashtra under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project.
43. In a "historic" decision, the Samajwadi Party government has renamed the Lucknow Prani Udyan, popularly known as Lucknow Zoo, as "Nawab Wajid Ali Shah Prani Udyan, Lucknow".



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#### Person in News

1. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the winner of this year's reader poll for TIME Person of the Year.
2. Keith Vaz re-elected as chairman of UK Parliament committee
3. UN elected Denmark's Mogens Lykkes to head General Assembly
4. Dr Bimal K Roy removed as Director of Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)
5. 92-year-old Harriette Thompson became oldest woman to complete a marathon
6. Mauritius designated Ameenah Gurib-Fakim as its first woman President
7. Indian-Origin Harbhajan Kaur Dheer became first Asian woman elected as Mayor in UK
8. Mhairi Black became the youngest lawmaker of Britain
9. Vikram Patel named among the Time 100 Most Influential People in the World List 2015
10. NASA named Asteroid 316201 after Malala Yousafzai, the winner of 2014 Nobel Peace Prize
11. Jamaat-e-Islami leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman hanged by Bangladesh for 1971 war crimes
12. Dolly Shivani Cherukuri became the youngest Archer to enter India Book of Records
13. PM Modi proposes 'Das Kadam: Ten Steps for the Future' for BRICS nations

The 10 steps (10 kadam) suggested by PM Modi are:

1. Trade fair
2. Railway Research Centre
3. Cooperation among supreme audit institutions
4. Digital Initiative

5. Agricultural Research Centre
6. State/Local Government's Forum
7. Cooperation amongst cities in field of Urbanisation
8. BRICS Sports Council
9. Annual Sports Meet
10. BRICS film festival

#### Agreements

1. India and Kyrgyzstan have signed 4 pacts/ agreements to enhance bilateral cooperation between the two nations. These agreements were inked during the two-day visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Kyrgyzstan as part of his official visit to 5 Central Asian countries and Russia.
2. Government approves pact between India and Seychelles to curb black money.
3. India and Bangladesh have inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for full cooperation to tackle the menace of fake Indian currency notes (FICN) smuggling. The MoU was signed at a maiden meeting of the Joint Task Force on Fake Currency Notes (JTFFC) in Dhaka held on 12 and 13 August, 2015.
4. Government approves MoU between India and America to establish PACE setter Fund. The PACE setter Fund is a fund that supports the Promoting Energy Access through Clean Energy (PEACE) an initiative between US and India through Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE).
5. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has signed two Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with National Skill Development Fund (NSDF) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) for skill development training in eastern states and Bihar.
6. Union Cabinet approves MoU between India, Nepal for construction of petroleum pipeline.
7. Indian Railways ink 4 MoUs with Union Power Ministry to save power, improve efficiency.
8. India's social security pact with Canada comes into force.
9. India and Turkmenistan have signed 7 pacts/ agreements to enhance bilateral cooperation between the two nations. These agreements were inked during the two-day visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Turkmenistan as part of his official visit to 5 Central Asian countries and Russia.
10. India and Georgia on 13 July 2015 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the field of election management and administration. The MoU was signed by Chief Election Commissioner of India Nasim Zaidi and Tamar Zhvania, Chairperson, Central Election Commission, Georgia.
11. The Union Ministry of Defence (MoD) and Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate strategic partnership on skill development and entrepreneurship.
12. Union Cabinet gave nod for revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with South Korea.
13. A collaboration in aerospace and defence manufacturing and potential integrated systems development opportunities has been inked between Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) and Boeing. The deal will include unmanned aerial vehicles.
14. The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the signing of Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) between India and Canada in the field of Civil Aviation.

15. India and Myanmar have announced plans to strengthen their defence cooperation during a joint consultative commission (JCC) meeting held in New Delhi. This meeting was chaired by Union External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Myanmar's Foreign Minister Wunna Maung Lwin.
16. India and Russia have signed a customs and liberalize business visas agreement to boost trade between both countries to remove the hindrances and boost commerce. This pact will help to rapid clearances of imported goods at the land and sea ports and addresses the issues related to the non-tariff barriers.
17. Indian Railways and Odisha Government signed MoU for Dasapla-Bolangir Railway Line.
18. India and the US on 10 July 2015 signed an agreement to implement FATCA that will facilitate exchange of information between the two countries. The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) was signed by Revenue Secretary Shaktikanta Das and US Ambassador Richard Verma in New Delhi.
19. India signed a historic uranium deal with Kazakhstan on 6 July 2015 during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit of Kazakhstan. Under the deal, India will receive 5,000 metric tonnes much uranium from Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan is Central Asia's largest economy and the world's largest producer of uranium.
20. BHEL signs three MoU in Kazakhstan for power projects.
21. Kalyani Group partners with Israel's Rafael to make Spike Missile: India's Kalyani Group and Israel's Rafael have partnered to produce Spike Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) in India.
22. India and Singapore signed agreement to enhance maritime cooperation.
23. India and Myanmar have announced plans to strengthen their defence cooperation during a joint consultative commission (JCC) meeting held in New Delhi.
24. India, Kazakhstan launch first drilling at Satpayev oil block of OVL.
25. India, Mozambique ink MoU to boost ties in New and Renewable Energy sector. It was signed after delegation level talks between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart Filipe Nyusi, President of Mozambique who is on official 5 day visit to India.
26. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) have inked MoU to impart training to Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to make them competitive and boost productivity.
27. Union Cabinet gave its nod to a proposal to sign an agreement with UNESCO for establishment of a Centre for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia-Pacific region.
28. India and Myanmar inked agreement to set up CESDT in Myanmar: The agreement was signed in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia during the visit of Minister of State for External Affairs of India Gen (Retd) VK Singh.
29. FICCI, ILO signed MoU to establish National Coordination Centre for SCORE Training Services
30. On PM Narendra Modi's Bangladesh visit, India and the neighbouring country signed 22 agreements and MoUs for

co-operation in areas of trade, investment, education, climate change and Information and Communication Technology. Besides the landmark exchange of Instruments of Ratification of 1974 Land Boundary Agreement.

31. Anil Ambani-promoted Reliance Power and Adani Power signed separate memorandums of understanding with state-run Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).
32. United States Secretary of Defence Ashton Carter and Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar signed the 2015 framework agreement on India-US defence relationship for the next 10 years.
33. India and the Netherlands will collaborate on fighting terror and cyber crime and have decided to set up a joint working group on counter terrorism. This was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, after his meeting with Prime Minister of the Netherlands Mark Rutte who is in India on a two-day visit.
34. India and Belarus decided to work together on defence and security issues as President Pranab Mukherjee met his Belarusian counterpart and agreed on a 17-point road map aimed at strengthening mutual trust and confidence.
35. India joined the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement (MCAA) on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information. The target is to reach 94 countries by 2017.
36. India, Turkmenistan inked 8 agreements to increase regional cooperation & connectivity
37. India, USA signed MoU on cooperation to establish PACEsetter Fund
38. India, Uzbekistan inked three agreements to enhance bilateral cooperation
39. India, Uzbekistan released Joint Statement to intensify security cooperation, exchanges
40. India, Thailand signed five MOUs during the 7th Meeting of India-Thailand Joint Commission
41. India, US signed MoUs to enhance cooperation in areas of Health Sector
42. India to be the Partner Country for Russian Industrial Trade Fair Innoprom 2016
43. EU launched Operation EU NAVFOR Med against migrant-traffickers
44. India placed at 61st position in terms of foreigners' money in Swiss banks: The countries to top the list are the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US) with UK alone accounting for 22 percent of total global funds in Swiss banks.
45. China launched world's first electric passenger aircraft BX1E
46. India, Tanzania signed six MoUs during the visit of President of Tanzania to India
47. Chinese Version of Bhagavad Gita launched in China: The book was translated by Chinese Professor Wang Zhu Cheng and Ling Hai of the Zhejiang University in Shanghai and was published by the Sichuan People's Publications.
48. India and Poland set trade target of 5 billion US dollars by 2018
49. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicle Agreement signed in Thimpu: It is aimed at regulation of Passenger, Personal and Cargo Vehicular Traffic amongst four SAARC member countries.
50. India, Japan and Australia held first ever trilateral dialogue
51. India, Bangladesh signed Land Boundary Agreement of 1974

52. India joined MCAA on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (AEOI)
53. Trial run of Kolkata-Dhaka-Agartala bus service began: In its journey, the bus will cross two international checkpoints and they are Petrapole on West Bengal-Bangladesh border and at Akhuara on Tripura-Bangladesh border.
54. India, Sweden signed 6 agreements during visit of Pranab Mukherjee to Sweden
55. India and Vietnam signed Joint Vision Statement on Defence Cooperation 2015-2020
56. India, South Korea signed 7 agreements to upgrade relations to special strategic partnership level
57. India and Mongolia signed 13 agreements to enhance bilateral relations
58. India and China Signed 24 Agreements To Enhance Bilateral Co-operation
59. India, Russia signed 11 MoIs for Higher Academic Cooperation
60. India, Iran signed inter-Governmental MoU for development of Chabahar Port
61. Third India-Tunisia Foreign Office Consultations held in Tunis
62. Seychelles became 161st Member of WTO
63. India and South Korea held high level defence talks in Seoul
64. India, Canada issued Joint Statement titled New Vigour, New Steps
65. Prime Minister Modi during his visit to France gifted a painting titled Tree of Life, reflecting traditional societal respect for nature in India to the French President Francois Hollande.
66. India elected to four United Nations agencies: India was elected to UNICEF, WFP, CCPCJ and UN-Habitat whose activities are coordinated by the UNECOSOC (the United Nations Economic and Social Council).
67. 18th Round of Talks between India and China on the Boundary Question held in New Delhi
68. India and Seychelles signed four agreements to boost security cooperation
69. Kathmandu-Varanasi-Kathmandu bus service flagged off
70. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 18 April 2015 between Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and Dighi Port Limited to facilitate construction of 34 km of railway link between Roha and Dighi Port in Raigad district of Maharashtra.

#### Resign/Retired

1. Vijay Kelkar resigns from Tata Chemicals' Board.
2. Rebels opposed to Greece's international bailout walked out of the leftist Syriza party, formalising a split after its leader Alexis Tsipras resigned as prime minister and paved the way for early elections.
3. The future of Libya's internationally recognised government was uncertain as Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thani said he would resign, as fraught peace talks were set to enter a second day.
4. Said Djinnit, the United Nations (UN) envoy to Burundi crisis, stepped down from his role as mediator of the crisis.
5. Sepp Blatter resigned as President of FIFA amid the corruption scandal.
6. Former UK Prime Minister Tony Blair resigned as the Special Envoy of the Middle East Quartet.
7. Moldova's Prime Minister Chiril Gaburuci resigned

#### Books & Their Authors

1. Transcendence: My Spiritual Experiences with Pramukh Swamiji written by Abdul Kalam.
2. The Kumbh Mela: Mapping the Ephemeral Megacity authored by Tarun Khanna released by Akhilesh yadav
3. The Vice President of India Shri M. Hamid Ansari released a book entitled Locale, Everyday Islam and Modernity authored by Shri M. Raisur Rahman.
4. Green Signals: Ecology, Growth, and Democracy in India written by Jairam Ramesh.
5. Anuradha Roy's 'Sleeping on Jupiter' shortlisted for Man Booker Prize.
6. R.D. Burman: The Prince of Music written by Khagesh Dev Burman
7. Igniting minds: Kalam's books fly off the shelves
8. Book titled Transcendence: My Spiritual Experiences with Pramukh Swamiji authored by former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and Arun Tiwari was released.
9. Book titled Dealing with China: An Insider Unmasks the New Economic Superpower authored by Henry M. Paulson was released.
10. The book Beyond Doubt: A Dossier on Gandhi's Assassination was compiled and introduced by Indian civil rights activist Teesta Setalvad and published by Tulika Books.
11. The book Benazir Bhutto: A Multidimensional Portrait was released. It was written by Dr Anna Suvorova of Russia.
12. A book on Prime Minister Narendra Modi titled Modi – Incredible emergence of a star written in Chinese language by Tarun Vijay was in news as one copy of the book was given to Vice-President M Hamid Ansari.
13. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a book titled Education of Muslims: An Islamic Perspective of Knowledge and Education – Indian Context edited by Professor JS Rajput.
14. The book Sourav Ganguly: Cricket, Captaincy and Controversy was written by Saptarshi Sarkar and was published in April 2015 by HarperCollins India.
15. Booker Prize awardee Amitav Ghosh released his new novel Flood of fire.
16. Modi's World: Expanding India's Sphere of Influence by C Raja Mohan
17. Red Tape to Red Carpet... and then some written by Gina Rinehart released
18. Book titled Bikhare Khyalat written by Abdul Haq presented to Vice-President
19. Book titled Recasting India written by Hindol Sengupta released
20. PM Narendra Modi launched book titled Education of Muslims by Professor JS Rajput
21. The China Model written by Daniel A Bell
22. Book titled Super Economies by Raghav Bahl released
23. Book titled Ahmedabad: A City in the World by Amrita Shah released
24. The Pakistan Paradox written by Christophe Jaffrelot
25. Complete Story of Indian Reforms: 2G, Power & Private Enterprise written by Pradeep Bajjal
26. Book titled Unbelievable – Delhi to Islamabad written by Prof Bhim Singh released

27. A Book titled China – Confucius in the Shadows written by Poonam Surie released
28. Book titled Suleiman Charitra written by Kalyana Malla translated from Sanskrit to English
29. Vice President released a book titled Aatank Ke Saaye Men written by Garima Sanjay
30. God's Bankers authored by Gerald Posner released
31. Book titled Food for All written by Uma Lele
32. Novel titled Family Life written by Akhil Sharma won the Folio Prize 2015
33. Vice president released book title Faces and Places written by Prof. Deepak Nayyar
34. Indian Parliamentary Diplomacy- Speaker's Perspective written by Meira Kumar released
35. PR Mohana Rao authored a book titled Flora of Guntur City Andhra Pradesh
36. Editor Unplugged: Media, Magnates, Netas and Me authored by Vinod Mehta
37. Fragile Frontiers: The Secret History of Mumbai Terror Attacks written by SK Rath
38. Kiran Bedi released comic book titled Kiran Bedi — Kaise Bani Top Cop
39. Pakistan's Ex-Foreign Minister Khurshid M Kasuri penned a book titled Neither a Hawk nor a Dove
40. Hindi Novel Farishta authored by Kapil Isapuri
41. Book on Sonia Gandhi titled The Red Sari written by Javier Moro released in India
42. Tamil Novel Madhorubhagan written by Perumal Murugan
43. The Indian Parliament – A Critical Appraisal written by Sudha Pai and Avinash Kumar released



#### Leader's visited India/World

1. North Korea's top diplomat, Ri Su-yong, arrived in India on a rare visit where Delhi hosted the meet. Ri became the first North Korean foreign minister to visit India in at least 25 years.
2. President Pranab Mukherjee concluded two-nation visit to Sweden and Belarus
3. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a two-day visit to Bangladesh from 6 June to 7 June 2015. The two nations signed, exchanged, adopted and handed 22 bilateral documents in Dhaka, including historical 1974 Land Boundary Agreement which would settle the 4096-kilometre-long border dispute. Modi along with her Bangladeshi Counterpart Sheikh Hasina and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee flagged off the Dhaka-Shillong-Guwahati and Kolkata-Dhaka-Tripura bus services.
4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Bangladesh: Modi along with her Bangladeshi Counterpart Sheikh Hasina and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee flagged off the Dhaka-Shillong-Guwahati and Kolkata-Dhaka-Tripura bus services.
5. PM Narendra Modi concluded his three-nation visit to France, Germany and Canada
6. Ri Su Yong, the Foreign Minister of North Korea, visited India
7. Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar completed his SAARC Yatra.

#### OBITUARY

1. Former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam passes away.
2. Eminent Sanskrit Scholar and Indologist NR Varhadpande passed away.
3. Former Australian Cricketer Arthur Morris passes away.
4. The founder of Hero Cycle Om Prakash Munjal passes away.
5. Matti Makkonen, Father of SMS technology passes away
6. Former Chief Justice of India Y K Sabharwal passed away.
7. Renowned Urdu novelist Abdullah Hussain passed away.
8. Prince Saud al-Faisal, World's longest serving Foreign Minister passes away.
9. Famous Hollywood actor Umer Sharif passed away.
10. Legendary music composer MS Viswanathan passes away.
11. Former BSFI president Pashupatinath Roy died.
12. Iconic musician Joan Sebastian passed away.
13. Veteran Telugu playback singer V Ramakrishna passes away.
14. Jules Bianchi: F1 driver dies from Suzuka crash injuries.
15. Godfather actor Alex Rocco dies at 79
16. Uruguayan soccer legend Alcides Edgardo Ghiggia died
17. Dr. Suniti Solomon, Pioneering Indian HIV/AIDS Researcher, Dies at 76.
18. Former South African cricketer Clive Rice passes away.
19. Physicist P. Hariharan passes away.
20. Archie Comics cartoonist Tom Moore dies at 86
21. US country singer Lynn Anderson passes away
22. Colonel Harwant Singh (Retd), World War-II hero passes away.
23. Poet, freedom fighter Kayyara Kinhana Rai passes away
24. Frances Oldham Kelsey, the anti-thalidomide Canadian doctor, died.
25. Hollywood Actor George Cole passed away
26. Last surviving Dambusters Pilot Les Munro died
27. British singer Cilla Black passed away
28. Sister Nirmala, who succeeded Nobel laureate Mother Teresa as the superior-general of the Missionaries of Charity, died. She was 81.
29. James Horner, celebrated composer of musical scores for several smash-hit movies, including Titanic and Avatar, died in a plane crash at the age of 61, colleagues said.
30. Former Union Minister Sheila Kaul, a sister-in-law of Jawaharlal Nehru and oldest surviving former parliamentarian, died after brief illness at a hospital.
31. Renowned Urdu novelist Abdullah Hussain passed away: He authored the bestseller and critically acclaimed novel Udas Naslain, it is considered as a masterpiece of Urdu literature.
32. Adelaide Crows football coach Phil Walsh died: Phil Walsh, 55, who turned to coaching after a long playing career, was killed.
33. Patrick Macnee, star of The Avengers, died
34. Veteran Journalist Praful Bidwai passed away
35. Titanic composer James Horner died
36. Former Indian women's hockey captain Shashi Bala died
37. Former Turkey President Suleyman Demirel died
38. Las Vegas casino tycoon Kirk Kerkerian died
39. Sheila Kaul, former Governor of Himachal Pradesh, died
40. Veteran actor Sir Christopher Lee died at the age of 93
41. Chandigarh's Rock Garden creator Nek Chand died
42. Former Indian Cricketer Hemant Kanitkar died
43. Hemant Sonawala, the pioneer of India's IT industry, died

44. Doris Hart, winner of three Wimbledon titles in a day, died at 89: She retired from professional tennis in 1955 and was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1969.
45. Nobel Awardee mathematician John Forbes Nash Jr. died
46. Veteran jazz musician Bob Belden passed away
47. Eminent Economist Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri passed away
48. Actress Sudha Shivpuri died: Shivpuri gained popularity for her role as Baa in television show Kyuki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, the longest running TV show of Ekta Kapoor.
49. Riley B. King, the King of Blues, passed away
50. Bengali Writer Suchitra Bhattacharya passed away
51. Peter Gay, Eminent American historian on European Thought passed away
52. Eminent historian Amalendu Guha passed away
53. Oscar Holderer, the US moon rocket expert, died: Holderer was one of about 120 engineers who moved to the US after World War II and brought technology used in the German V2 rocket.
54. Lu Ping, Chinese diplomat who oversaw Hong Kong transition, died
55. Michael Blake, Oscar-winning author, passed away
56. Baleshwar Ram, former Union Minister passed away
57. Former Bengal U-19 Cricket captain Ankit Keshri died
58. Former Chief Minister of Odisha Janaki Ballabh Patnaik died
59. Stanislav Gross, Former Czech Republic Prime Minister, died
60. Former Nepalese Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa died
61. Nobel laureate German Novelist Gunter Grass died
62. 1971 War Hero Lt General Hanut Singh Died
63. Former Air Chief Marshal of IAF Hrushikesh Moolgavkar died
64. Former Australia Cricket Captain Richie Benaud died
65. Jnanapith awardee Tamil writer Jayakanthan died
66. India's ace mountaineer Malli Mastan Babu died
67. Renowned Hindi poet Kailash Vajpeyi died


#### Sports News

1. Abhijeet Gupta wins 19th Commonwealth Chess Championship.
2. Golfer Aditi Ashok first Indian to win Ladies British amateur stroke-play Championship
3. The World Championships silver medallist regained the No. 1 rank - surging 2,180 points ahead of Carolina Marin and also struck a landmark deal with management company IOS Sports & Entertainment.
4. Bangladesh lifted South Asian Football Federation U-16 title by defeating India.
5. Andy Murray wins Rogers Cup Masters Tournament which is also known as Canada Masters 2015.
6. Badminton World Championship 2015: Saina Nehwal wins silver medal. Defending champion Carolina Marin Martin of Spain has won the prestigious World Badminton Championship 2015 in women's single category.
7. Abhishek Verma wins gold medal in Archery World Cup .
8. Pankaj Advani bags 13th World Snooker Championship.
9. Sania Mirza to be conferred Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna.
10. 5 Gold, 5 Silver and 7 Bronze: India top Asian Youth Chess Championship with 17 medals
11. Chile wins Copa America title 2015 of football for first time. Chile won South America's most prestigious football trophy, the Copa America title 2015 for the first time. It is Chile's first ever international trophy in Football.

12. Skipper Mithali Raj scripted a new chapter in the history of Indian women's cricket as she became the first from the country and overall second to reach the 5000-run milestone in one-day internationals.
13. Professor Lord Kamlesh Patel has become the first British Asian to be appointed as Director of England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).
14. Indian athletes put up an impressive show at the 2015 World Police & Fire Games which concluded by winning more than 150 medals. Hosts United States won by far the most medals, 1,777, including nearly 700 golds. Canada finished second with nearly 430 medals. The Indian athletes's tally included 89 golds and 50 silvers.
15. Kagiso Rabada became only the second man in history to claim a hat trick on debut as South Africa thrashed Bangladesh by eight wickets in a rain-hit first one-day international in Dhaka.
16. Mumbai Ranji cricketer Hiken Shah suspended by BCCI
17. The Supreme Court-appointed Justice R.M. Lodha Committee on Tuesday suspended Indian Premier League (IPL) teams Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals (RR) from the League for two years. The committee also imposed sanctions on Gurunath Meiyappan, and Raj Kundra who were the face of these IPL franchises respectively and were found to have indulged in betting activities.
18. Amelie Mauresmo inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame
19. Model-actor Milind Soman, who turns 50 has won the Ironman title at a triathlon held in Zurich in Switzerland on July 19 in which over 2,000 participants this year included seven Indians. The triathlon, organised by World Triathlon Corporation, includes a 3.8-km swim, 180.2-km cycle ride and 42.2-km run and is widely regarded as the world's toughest race, which has to be completed in 16 hours by participants for an Ironman title.
20. World Boxing Organization (WBO) has stripped of the Welterweight World title 2015 won by Floyd Mayweather in May 2015. Decision in this regard was taken by WBO after Mayweather failed to pay the 200,000 dollar sanctioning fee to WBO prior to the deadline of 3 July 2015.
21. Carli Lloyd became the first woman to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final as she inspired the United States to a 5-2 win over defending champions Japan in the FIFA Women's World Cup 2015.
22. Paytm bags BCCI sponsorship rights: Mobile marketplace and payments site Paytm has bagged the title sponsorship rights of BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) for Rs. 203 crore. Shankar Nath, Senior Vice-President, Paytm told Business Line that the sponsorship rights were acquired for all the 84 series.
23. Christopher Froome rides to victory in 100th Tour de France.
24. Vettel wins classic Hungarian GP, Lewis Hamilton sixth.
25. Indian women wrestling team wins silver medal in the Kazakhstan Presidential Cup.
26. Indian-American Amitoj Chhabra wins junior title at US Powerlifting Championships.
27. India's 14 year old Prabroop Sekhon has won two gold medals in the Special Olympics World Summer Games held at Los Angeles, US. He won the medals in 300 metre and 500 metre Roller Skating event.


28. India women's team wins silver in World Archery Championship held in Copenhagen, Denmark. Indian women's team included trio of Laxmirani Majhi, Deepika Kumari, and Rimil Buriuly.
29. IOC gives Olympic Sport recognition to 'Frisbee'. Decision in this regard was taken at the 128th IOC Session held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia by giving official recognition to World Flying Disc Federation (WFDF).
30. Michael Clarke announced retirement from International Cricket: Clark will play his last Test at the Oval, London, scheduled to be held from 20 August to 24 August 2015.
31. Argentina is followed by Belgium at No 2 and the World Cup winner Germany at No 3 position (moved down 1). India with 161 points retained its 156th position in current FIFA World rankings.
32. Dipa Karmakar won bronze medal at 6th Senior ART Gymnastics Asian Championships
33. Victorian Open WSA: Joshna Chinappa won squash title
34. NCP chief Sharad Pawar was elected president of the Mumbai Cricket Association for a seventh two-year term at the elections held.
35. Union Sports Ministry constituted Ashwini Nachappa committee to study status of SAI training centers
36. Nelson Piquet Jr won the inaugural FIA Formula E Championship title
37. Satnam Singh Bhamara became first Indian basketball player to join NBA: He will play for Dallas Mavericks during the 2015-16 season.
38. Wei, Li won men's & women's singles of Canada Open Badminton tournament 2015
39. Gutta-Ponappa won women's doubles of Canada Open Badminton tournament 2015
40. Veselin Topalov won the Norway Chess Tournament 2015
41. Sachin Tendulkar named as greatest Test player of 21st century
42. Bangladesh won 3-match ODI series against India 2-1: Mustafizur Rahman of Bangladesh claimed the Man of the Series Award for his outstanding bowling performance. He picked up 13 wickets in the three matches.
43. Steffi Graf appointed as Kerala's Ayurveda brand ambassador
44. Indian Railway Team won World Railway Championship 2015 in Tennis and Volleyball
45. Jordan Spieth of US won US Open of Golf
46. China won 2015 Nongfu Spring World Cup of Snooker
47. Andy Murray won the men's singles of Aegon Tennis Championships at the Queen's Club
48. Debendranath Sarangi elected as President of Squash Rackets Federation of India
49. Sunil Chhetri became first Indian footballer to score 50 international goals
50. Rafael Nadal won Stuttgart Open
51. Sir Wesley Winfield Hall inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of fame
52. England's cricketer Matt Prior retired from all forms of cricket
53. FC Barcelona won 2015 UEFA Champions League title
54. Shah Rukh Khan acquired CPL T20 team Trinidad & Tobago
55. Momota and Ratchanok won Indonesia Open Badminton titles
56. Rahul Dravid named coach of India 'A', U-19 cricket teams
57. Stanislas Wawrinka won Men's single title of French Open
58. AB De Villiers conferred with South Africa Cricketer of the Year Award for 2015
59. Sundaram Ravi inducted into Emirates Elite Panel of ICC Umpires for 2015-16
60. Tendulkar, Ganguly, Laxman inducted in BCCI's Cricket Advisory Committee
61. Mohun Bagan won I-League title of football after 13 years
62. Gurpreet Singh became 5th Indian to get quota place in shooting for 2016 Rio Olympics
63. Sepp Blatter re-elected as FIFA President
64. Abhinav Bindra became 4th Indian shooter to qualify for 2016 Rio Olympics
65. Trevor Bayliss appointed as head coach of England Cricket Team
66. Kumar Sangakkara named CEAT International Cricketer of the Year 2015
67. Mumbai Indians won IPL 2015 title by defeating Chennai Super kings
68. Joe Root and Charlotte Edwards named England cricketers of the year 2014-15
69. Maria Sharapova of Russia won the women's single of Italian Tennis Open for third time
70. Brad Haddin, the Australia wicketkeeper retired from ODI cricket
71. Novak Djokovic won 4th Rome Masters Tennis title
72. Lee Alan Johnson named Head Coach of U-19 football team of India
73. Andy Murray of Britain won the men's singles title of Madrid Tennis Open
74. Petra Kvitova of Czech Republic won the women's singles title of Madrid Tennis Open
75. Rohan Bopanna, Florin Mergea won Men's Doubles title of Madrid Tennis Open
76. Roger Federer won the inaugural Istanbul Open Tennis Men's Singles Title
77. Chelsea won Barclays Premier League 2014-15 title with 1-0 win over Crystal Palace
78. Railways won 5th Senior Men's National Hockey championship
79. Sachin Tendulkar elected as member of Laureus Sports Academy
80. Brijbushan Sharan Singh re-elected as President of Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)
81. New Zealand won Sultan Azlan Shah Cup men's hockey tournament by defeating Australia
82. Indian football team climbed to 147 position in FIFA/Coca-Cola rankings
83. Gujarat won Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy
84. Rajeev Shukla appointed as Chairman of IPL Governing Council
85. Brendon McCullum conferred with Sir Richard Hadlee Medal for 2014-15
86. India will play till 2019. Paytm will pay Rs. 2.42 crore for every international match hosted by BCCI.
87. United States (US) won the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup. It is overall third world cup title of US. In the World Cup final match played at Vancouver, Canada US defeated Japan by 5-2 goals score. The important awards in women world cup :
  - a) Golden Ball Award: Carli Lloyd (US), Amandine Henry (France), Aya Miyama (Japan).

- b) Golden Boot Award: Celia Sasic (Germany), Carli Lloyd (US), Anja Mittag (Germany).
- c) Golden Glove Award: Hope Solo (US).



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### ASHES 2015, ENGLAND

England cricket team on 23 August 2015 won 2015 Ashes Test series, 3-2 against Australia at England. In the fifth and final match of the series, Australia defeated England by an innings and 46 runs at Ovals.

All Matches result

- **1st Test:** Played at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff. England won the match by 169 runs. Joe Root of England was declared Player of the match.
- **2nd Test:** Played at Lord's, London. Australia won the match by 405 runs. Steven Smith of Australia was declared Player of the match.
- **3rd Test:** Played at Edgbaston, Birmingham. England won the match by 8 wickets. Steven Finn of England was declared Player of the match.
- **4th Test:** Played at Trent Bridge, Nottingham. England won the match by an innings and 78 runs. Stuart Broad of England was declared Player of the match.
- **5th Test:** Played at Kennington Oval, London. Australia won the match by an innings and 46 runs. Steve Smith of Australia was declared Player of the match.

**MOS-** Chris Rogers of Australia and Joe Root of England jointly shared the man of the series award.

Also, End of the series also saw an end to the Test career of Australian Skipper Michael Clarke. Steven Smith was named the new captain.

### GRAND PRIXES & THEIR WINNER 2015

- Australian Grand Prix-Lewis Hamilton
- Malaysian Grand Prix-Sebastian Vettel
- Chinese Grand Prix-Lewis Hamilton
- Bahrain Grand Prix-Lewis Hamilton
- Spanish Grand Prix-Nico Rosberg
- Monaco Grand Prix-Nico Rosberg
- Canadian Grand Prix-Lewis Hamilton
- Austrian Grand Prix-Nico Rosberg
- British Grand Prix-Lewis Hamilton
- Hungarian Grand Prix-Sebastian Vettel

- Belgian Grand Prix-Lewis Hamilton

### Wimbledon 2015

- Men's Singles- Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
- Women's Singles-Serena Williams (United States)
- Men's Doubles- Jean-Julien Rojer / Horia Tecău
- Women's Doubles - Martina Hingis(Switzerland) / Sania Mirza(India)
- Mixed Doubles- Leander Paes(India) / Martina Hingis (Switzerland)

### French Open 2015

- Men's Singles : Stanislas Wawrinka
- Women's Singles : Serena Williams
- Women's Doubles : Bethanie MattekSands (US) and Lucie Safarova (Czech Republic)
- Men's Doubles : Ivan Dodig (Croatia) and Marcelo Melo (Brazil)
- Mixed Doubles : Bethanie MattekSands (US) and Mike Bryan (US)

### Venues for the upcoming Tournaments

#### Hockey World Cup 2018 Venue:

1. Men's Hockey World Cup – India
2. Women's Hockey World Cup - England

#### ICC World Cup Cricket Venue:

ODI: (One day International):

1. Australia & New Zealand: 2015.
2. England - 2019
3. India - 2023

#### T20 World Cup:

1. Bangladesh -2014. – Sri Lanka defeat India to win the maiden title.
2. India -2016.
3. Australia - 2020.

#### Test:

1. England– 2017 (for first time).
2. India - 2021.

#### FIFA (Football) World Cup venue: - RQ

1. 2018 : Russia
2. 2022: Qatar

#### Commonwealth Games venues:

1. 2014 – Glasgow (Scotland).
2. 2018 – Gold Coast (Australia).

#### Olympics Games venues:

1. 2014 winter: Sochi (Russia) – Russia tops in the medal tally in 2014 winter Olympic games.
2. 2016 Summer: Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
3. 2018 winter: Pyeongchang (South Korea)
4. 2020 summer: Tokyo (Japan)

#### Asian Games host cities:

1. 2014: Incheon (South Korea) (Note: 2010 Asain Games held in Guangzhou, China).
2. 2019: Hanoi (Vietnam)

### News Related To Defence, Science and Technology

1. Inshore patrol vessel Rani Durgavati joins Indian Coast Guard.
2. Russian cosmonaut Gennady Padalka has set a Guinness World Record for spending longest time in space with a total of 804 days as on July 2015. With this he broke the previous record of 803 days, nine hours and 41 minutes set by Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev (now retired) across six missions from 1998 to 2005.
3. In fresh trials, India has test-fired its indigenously developed Nag anti-tank guided missile, which can hit a target upto seven km, from a helicopter at a firing range in Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. HeliNa is a helicopter-launched version of Nag and has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).
4. India launched its satellite-based air navigation services, thereby joining a select league comprising the US, Europe Union (EU) and Japan which have similar systems. Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapati Raju dedicated the services to the nation in a ceremony in New Delhi. The system - known as Gagan or global positioning system (GPS).
5. ISRO on 10 July 2015 successfully launched five British commercial satellites on board PSLV-C28 from this spaceport in the heaviest commercial mission ever undertaken by it. Indian Space Research Organisation workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C28 placed the five satellites, for a United Kingdom-based company named Surrey Space Technology Limited, in sun synchronous orbit about 20 minutes after lift-off at 9.58 PM from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre.
6. Earth 2.0: What we know about Kepler 452b, the most Earth-like planet ever discovered.
7. Isro's Gagan Satellite-Based Navigation System Launched.
8. India's first Integrated Underwater Harbour Defence and Surveillance System (IUHSS) was commissioned in Kochi, Kerala. It is Designed by Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) & consists of advance sensors, coastal surveillance radars and sound navigation and ranging systems (SONAR).
9. A global satellite for earth observation and disaster risk reduction — GlobalSat for DRR — proposed under the UN framework is to be dedicated to A.P.J. Abdul Kalam as a tribute to the vision of the celebrated rocket scientist and former Indian president who died July 27.
10. NASA signed 490 million US dollars contract with Russia for International Space Station travel
11. Multi Application Solar Telescope operationalised at Udaipur Solar Observatory. The telescope will be used to measure vector magnetic fields of active regions at different heights of the solar atmosphere.
12. Indo-UK Bilateral Air Exercise Indradhanush concluded.
13. Exercise Ajeya Warrior is a joint exercise between the armies of India and UK. Exercise began on 13 June 2015 at Westdown Camp in Salisbury Plains Training Area, UK.
14. India's maiden indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant was undocked at the Cochin Shipyard in Kochi, Kerala.
15. Indigenously built aircraft carrier INS Vikrant undocked in Kochi
16. Mirage 2000 fighter jet landed on Yamuna Expressway as part of developing road runways
17. Indigenously developed Astra Missile successfully test fired from ITR Chandipur in Odisha.
18. Fourth Corvette of Project-28 christened Kavaratti launched
19. Naval Base at Porbandar commissioned as INS Sardar Patel
20. Indigenously developed Akash Weapon System (AWS) inducted into Indian Army
21. 14th Edition of Indo-French Naval Exercise VARUNA 2015 concluded
22. Indian Coast Guard (ICG) held Theera Veta defence exercise in Arabian Sea
23. Indian Navy's new missile destroyer ship named Visakhapatnam launched
24. India successfully test-fired Dhanush ballistic missile
25. Indian Navy concluded TROPEX Exercise 2015
26. Indo-Nepal joint military exercise Surya Kiran VIII started in Nepal
27. HADR Exercise conducted by Indian Navy in the Lakshadweep Islands
28. Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar launched the country's first indigenously-built Scorpene submarine at the Mazagaon Dockyard Ltd in Mumbai.

### Business News

1. BSNL launched a pre-paid card linked mobile wallet service which allows customers to transfer cash, pay for services as well as withdraw cash of up to Rs 1 lakh. The wallet service, Speed Pay, allows a customer to load money even if he does not have a bank account.
2. Union government has announced to sell 10 per cent stake in state owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC). This disinvestment drive on the stock market through an offer for sale (OFS) will fetch Union Government about 9,500 crore rupees to the exchequer. The 10 per cent stake in IOC comprises 24.27 crore shares.
3. Uber Cabs tied-up with Bharti Airtel to set up WiFi hotspots in each of its cabs
4. Hindustan Unilever Sun Pharma Industries and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) among the world's top 100 innovative Companies: Forbes
5. BSE sets up new system for reporting suspicious trades- Bombay Stock Exchange has instituted new system Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs) for reporting suspicious trades in order to check money laundering through stock markets.
6. Birla Corporation has signed an agreement with French-based Lafarge Group to acquire its Jojobera unit in Jharhkand and Sonadih in Chattisgarh for sum of Rs. 5000 crore.
7. Hero Cycles acquires leading UK-based Avocet Sports.
8. Facebook awarded \$21 million to Indian app developers under FbStart initiative.
9. Sanjay Jalona appointed as MD and CEO for L&T Infotech.
10. Google unveils restructuring under new parent company Alphabet Inc.
11. Infosys signs multi-year agreement with Deutsche Bank.
12. Essar Oil signs pact to sell 49% stake to Russia's Rosneft
13. Andromeda acquires apnapaisa.com in stock and cash deal.
14. India's 10 companies in Forbes Asia Fabulous 50 list: China's Tencent continued to be at the top on chart, which now worth \$ 176.5 bn. South Korea has third highest number of companies with four firms after China and India.
15. Japan's Nikkei buys Financial Times in \$1.3-bn deal.

16. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has given nod to Asian Development Bank's (ADB) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for their conceptual development plan (CDP) report on Vizag Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC) and Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) respectively.
17. India to surpass China's population by 2022: UN Report.
18. Gates Foundation world's wealthiest private charitable organisation.
19. Flipkart launches 'India Art House' for handicraft lovers.
20. GM to invest \$1 bn in India; to launch 10 Made-in-India vehicles over 5 years.
21. Centre approves Rs 1,000 cr for India-Bangladesh rail link.
22. Renault India Ropes in Ranbir Kapoor as Brand Ambassador.
23. ONGC to invest \$8.8 billion in KG oil and gas discoveries.
24. Rajesh Exports buys world's largest gold refining company Valcambi for Rs 2,560 cr.
25. WTO slashes tariffs on IT goods but implementation held up.
26. Lupin acquires US pharmaceutical firm Gavis.
27. Reliance Group, Augur Overseas Operation signed MoU to manufacture Aerostats and Airships.
28. Finger lickin' train food: KFC partners with IRCTC to start delivery system for passengers
29. Anil Ambani-led Reliance Group's Pipavav Defence and Offshore Engineering (PDOE) inked a multi-crore agreement with Russian firm Zvyozdochka, JSC Ship Repairing Centre.
30. Thomas Cook (India) Ltd buys Sri Lankan firm Luxe Asia Pvt. Ltd
31. Airtel acquires YTS for mobile payment solutions
32. NTPC inks agreement to form JV with Jharkhand for Patratu Power Plant. The JV will have 74 per cent share or stake of state-run NTPC while JBVNL will have the rest 26 per cent stake.
33. To tame the world's e-commerce giant Amazon, Alibaba is to invest 4000 crore rupees in m-commerce giant Paytm. Alibaba has picked up 25 per cent stake in Paytm's parent company One97 through its subsidiary Ant Financial.
34. Murugappa Group to form new Joint venture with Japan-based Organo
35. Airtel commercially Launches India's first 4G services across 290 cities
36. Thomas Cook (India) Ltd acquires Zurich Kuoni's travel business in India and Hong Kong.
37. Global electronic manufacturing giant Foxconn has announced it will invest \$5 billion over the next five years in Maharashtra, which has given the Taiwan-based company 1,500 acres of land for its plant.
38. Pramerica buys Deutsche Bank's mutual fund business in India.
39. Xiaomi ties up with Foxconn to set up facility in Andhra Pradesh through "Make in India" Initiative.
40. Snapdeal tied-up with department store chain Shoppers Stop Ltd
41. Murugappa Group signed agreement with Organo Corp to form Joint Venture
42. Snapdeal launched Snapdeal Instant to make instant delivery of packages
43. India to produce at least dozen billionaires among start-ups by 2020: ASSOCHAM

44. The disinvestment department plans to sell 15 per cent stake in Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL), 10 per cent each in Oil India (OIL) and Engineers India (EIL) and 5 per cent each in NTPC and Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL).
45. India was among the 50 founding countries that signed an agreement providing the legal framework for the China-led USD 100 billion multilateral Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). The AIIB will have authorised capital of USD 100 billion, and Asian countries will contribute to up to 75 per cent of the total capital. Each member will be allocated a share of the quota based on their economic size. China, India and Russia are the three largest shareholders, taking a 30.34 per cent, 8.52 per cent, 6.66 per cent stake, respectively. Their voting shares are calculated at 26.06 per cent, 7.5 per cent and 5.92 per cent.
46. India has emerged as the third largest source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for United Kingdom (UK) after United States (US) and France in terms of number of projects.

## **RECENT VISITS OF PRIME MINISTER**

### **1.Uzbekistan**

#### **Highlights**

- (i) Signed 3 agreements mainly to boost cooperation between their foreign offices and in the field of culture and tourism.
- (ii) President: Islam Karimov
- (iii) Prime Minister: Shavkat Mirziyoyev
- (iv) Currency: Uzbekistani som
- (v) Capital: Tashkent

### **2.KAZAKHSTAN**

#### **Highlights**

- (i) Agreements: Both the countries signed 5 agreements which include defence, railways and uranium supply, cooperation in the framework of the International North South Transport Corridor and to improve surface connectivity.
- (ii) President: Nursultan Nazarbayev
- (iii) Prime Minister: Karim Massimov
- (iv) Currency: Kazakhstani tenge
- (v) Capital: Astana

### **3. RUSSIA**

#### **Highlights**

- (i) He went to attend 7th BRICS Summit and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit.
- (ii) President: Vladimir Putin
- (iii) Prime Minister: Dmitry Medvedev
- (iv) Currency: Russian ruble
- (v) Capital: Moscow

### **4.TURKMENISTAN**

#### **Highlights**

- (i) Both the countries signed 7 agreements in the fields of defence, supply of chemical products, foreign affairs, sports, science and technology, medicine and tourism.
- (ii) President: Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow
- (iii) Currency: Turkmen new manat

(iv) Capital: Ashgabat

## 5. KYRGYZSTAN

### Highlights

- (i) The countries signed 4 agreements on cooperation in defence, culture, Election Commissions and in the sphere of Standards.
- (ii) President: Almazbek Atambayev
- (iii) Prime Minister: Temir Sariyev
- (iv) Currency: Kyrgyzstani som
- (v) Capital: Bishkek

## 6. TAJIKISTAN

- (i) The countries signed 2 agreements in the field of culture and human resource development. India is to set up computer labs in 37 schools in Tajikistan.
- (ii) President: Emomali Rahmon
- (iii) Prime Minister: Kokhir Rasulzoda
- (iv) Currency: Tajikistani somoni
- (v) Capital: Dushanbe

## 7. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

- (i) Both the countries decided to set up a multi-billion dollar fund to raise \$75 billion to support investment in India's investment sector. PM Narendra Modi offered \$1 trillion investment opportunity to UAE.
- (ii) President: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- (iii) Prime Minister: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
- (iv) Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham
- (v) Capital: Abu Dhabi

### Earlier Visits of PM

#### 1. China: 14 – 16 May

##### \* Highlights:

Modi will a three-nation tour of China, Mongolia and South Korea from May 14 to 19.

\*According to officials, the visit is aimed at giving a boost to the East Asia policy aligning it with Make in India initiatives and bringing momentum to the country's foreign policy in the strategically significant region.

- A. During the Modi's visit, India would seek greater market access, removal of non-tariff barriers and investments in sectors such as defence.
- B. China has already signed MoUs to set up industrial parks in India.

Key persons--Xi Jinping (President)

#### 2. Mongolia: 16 – 17 May

##### Highlights:

- A. Mongolia and India are keen to move forward on the MoU for Uranium supply that the two countries had entered in 2009.
  - B. Mongolia is keen on Indian helping the country in cyber security.
  - C. Help in border patrolling is another area where the two countries will be stepping up the ties.
- \* Key person --Chimed Saikhanbileg--PM

#### 3. South Korea: 18 – 19 May

##### Highlights:

- A. His visit to South Korea has a definite Make in India angle to it.
  - B. India is keen on getting investment and going for joint manufacturing in areas where South Korea has a technological edge.
  - C. In the manufacturing sector, South Korean companies including Samsung, LG and Hyundai that have strong presence in India.
- \* Key person --President Park Geun-hye , Prime minister--Lee Wan-koo

#### 4. Canada: 14 – 16 April

##### Highlights:

- \* The first official visit by an Indian PM in over 40 years, is a sure sign that relations between our two countries are reaching new heights.
  - A. The visit, which resulted in several new bilateral agreements and commercial deals worth over \$1.6 billion.
  - B. These include energy, railway transportation, education and skills development, space cooperation, and maternal, newborn and child health.
  - C. One of the commercial agreements signed was for a Canadian company, Cameco, to supply over 3.175 million kg of uranium concentrate to India over the next five years for the generation of electricity.
- \* Key person --Stephen Harper-PM

#### 5. Germany: 12 – 14 April

##### Highlights:

- The PM's visit to Germany was widely covered by the media there especially his inauguration of the famous Hannover industrial fair along with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.
- A. Both leaders spoke in favour of a free trade agreement between the European Union and India. PM Modi said that this was important for the expansion of India as a manufacturing hub.
  - B. The joint statement by both countries recognized the establishment of a working group on urban development.
- \* Key Person- Germany chancellor Angela Merkel

#### 6. France: 9 – 12 April

##### Highlights:

- \* 20 pacts signed between India and France
- \* Participate in the Make In India programme in defense, civil nuclear power and food processing
- \* India asked France to supply 36 Rafale fighter jets in 'fly-away' condition
- \* Key Person-French President Francois Hollande.

#### 7. Singapore: 29 March

##### Highlights:

- A. Prime Minister Modi attended the state-funeral of Lee Kuan Yew,
- \* The first Prime Minister of Singapore.
- \* There, at the sidelines, he met several world leaders including Israeli President.
- \* It was his first visit to Singapore and he is expected to visit again during the later part of the year for golden jubilee celebration of India-Singapore diplomatic relation.
- \* Key Person- PM- Lee Hsien

### **8. Sri Lanka - 13 – 14 March**

#### **Highlights:**

- 4 agreements with Sri Lanka:
  - \* Customs pact to balance trade,
  - \* Credit line of more than \$300 million,
  - \* Currency swap agreement
  - \* Visa on arrival for Sri Lankan nationals in India.
- \* Prime Minister Narendra Modi today flagged off a train service at the north-western Sri Lankan town of .The newly-constructed 63-km railway track between Madhu Road and Talaimannar Pier is the last segment of the 265-km long
- \* Key persons—President -Maithripala SirisenaRanil Prime minster --Wickremesinghe

### **9. Mauritius - 11 – 13 March**

#### **\* Highlights:**

- AGGREMENTS: Total 5
- A. India Offers \$500 Million Credit to Mauritius During PM Modi's Visit, 5 Pacts Signed
- # Indian line of credit of \$ 200 million initially meant for the light railway transit system to projects in the water and energy sector.
- B. Modi was the Chief guest at the Mauritian National Day on 12 March
- \* Key persons--PM of mauritius--aniruthJugnauth

### **10. Seychelles - 10 - 11 March**

#### **Highlights:**

- A. AGREEMENTS: Total 4
- \* Hydrography
  - \* Renewable energy
  - \* Infrastructure
  - \* Development and sale of navigation charts and electronic navigational charts
  - \* Key person---President James Alix Michel

#### **Days**

1. Nelson Mandela International Day was observed across the world on 18 July 2015 to honour the former South African President and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Nelson Mandela (1918-2013).
2. The World Photography Day is annually observed on Aug 19 across the world.
3. India on 29 June 2015 observed its ninth National Statistics Day. Theme for the 9th Statistics Day is Social Development.
4. World Hepatitis Day observed on 28th July with theme 'Prevent hepatitis. Act now'.
5. World Tiger Day infographic: India home to 70% of world's tigers. This day was observed on 29th July 2015.
6. The sixteenth anniversary of the Indian victory in the 1999 Kargil war was celebrated across the country on 26th July.
7. National Broadcasting Day was observed on 23 July 2015 across the country. It is on this day in 1927, the Indian Broadcasting Company started radio broadcasting from Bombay station.
8. PM Modi declares August 7 as National Handloom Day to mark Swadeshi movement.
9. 10th August: World Bio-Fuel Day
10. 70th Hiroshima Day observed to commemorate dropping of Atomic bomb on Hiroshima on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2015.
11. India by celebrating the first International Yoga Day in Rajpath, New Delhi created two Guinness World Records

(GWRs) on 21 June 2015. The two records include participation of most individuals and individuals from the largest number of nationalities performing asanas at a single venue. Around 36 thousand participants performed asanas and 84 nationalities joined the official observation of International Yoga Day at Rajpath in New Delhi. The celebration at Rajpath was led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who termed the venue as Yogpath. 192 countries celebrated the first International Yoga Day on 21 June 2015.

12. **International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking** observed globally on: 26-JUN-2015
13. World Blood Donors Day observed with theme Thank you for saving my life on 14<sup>th</sup> June.
14. World Day Against Child Labour observed on 12<sup>th</sup> June.: The theme of the 2015 World Day Against Child Labour is NO to child labour – YES to quality education!
15. World Ocean Day observed on 8<sup>th</sup> June with theme Healthy oceans, Healthy planet
16. World Environment Day observed on 5<sup>th</sup> June globally.
17. International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers observed on 29<sup>th</sup> May across the world.
18. UN observed International Day for Biological Diversity on 22<sup>nd</sup> May.
19. Anti Terrorism Day observed across India on 21<sup>st</sup> May.
20. International Day of Families observed with theme Men in Charge? Gender Equality on 15<sup>th</sup> May.
21. National Technology Day observed in India: The National Technology Day was observed in India on 11 May 2015.
22. World Asthma Day 2015 observed with theme You Can Control Your Asthma : World Asthma Day annually takes place on the first Tuesday of May and is organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) to improve asthma awareness and care around the world.
23. World Press Freedom day observed globally on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

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### Miscellaneous

1. Solar Impulse, the aeroplane that is powered only by the sun, has landed in Hawaii after making a historic 7,200km flight across the Pacific from Japan.
2. YouTube announces partnership with Whistling Woods to set up "YouTube Space" in Mumbai.
3. Bharat Stage IV (BS-IV) compliant vehicles though out the country from 1 April 2017: Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
4. Taj Mahal becomes first monument in world to have Twitter account
5. Gujarat Government has declared ban on the use of plastic in the State for the first time.
6. Kerala Govt declares state as "Digital State"
7. PAHAL scheme enters into Guinness Book of world records.
8. Uninor signed worth Rs 1,200 cr contract with Huawei for modernising its network
9. Government sanctioned 1,500-MW ultra mega solar power park for Andhra Pradesh.
10. Literacy rate 71 percent in rural areas, 86 percent in urban areas: NSSO survey-Among the age group 7 years and above, the male literacy rate was registered at 83.2 percent vis-a-vis the female literacy rate of 67.1 percent.
11. Benami Transactions (Prohibition) (Amendment) Bill, 2015 introduced in Lok Sabha: The Bill seeks to amend the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 by adding additional provisions that provides for stringent measures against violators in order to curb and check the generation of black money in the country.
12. Based on the specific soil health of their small chunks of lands, scientists at the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and Government of Telangana can send timely messages to the farmers through the phablet which was launched by ICRISAT. It is known as Green Phablet & the price is \$300 (about Rs. 18,600), for farmers in Telangana.
13. President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated a 'Nakshatra Vatika' in the gardens of Rashtrapati Nilayam in Hyderabad, one of the Presidential Retreats. He took a round of the garden and watered a plant representing 'Surya' or the Sun God.
14. World Bank has ranked the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Gurantee Act (MGNREGA) as the world's largest public works programme. Also Mid-day meal scheme (under Ministry of Human Resource Development) has been classified as biggest school feeding programme. It benefits around 105 million beneficiaries. Janani Suraksha Yojna (Under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) is top-most social security programme with conditional cash transfers. It has 78 million beneficiaries.
15. Indian Railway's launches Mobile ticketing app for suburban commuters in Mumbai
16. On World Population Day, Indians numbered 1,274,234,538 at 2.30 p.m. constituting an estimated 17.23 percent of the overall global inhabitation of humans, as per data available with an independent socio-economic statistical organisation.
17. To inculcate scientific temperament among students, government has proposed to set up 'model science labs' across the country, beginning with the North East region. The labs aim to ignite passion and nurture spirit of enquiry and creativity for mathematics and science in students between 6-18 years of age.
18. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) on 9 July 2015 launched two mobile based applications to help farmers get prices on shrimp and capture data on aquaculture through mobile. Moreover, MPEDA also revamped its website and launched an online registration portal for exporters.
19. The Income Tax (IT) Department launched One Time Password (OTP) based e-filing verification system for taxpayers. This OTP will help in ending the practice of sending paper acknowledgement, called ITR-V, through post to the I-T Central Processing Centre (CPC) based in Bengaluru.
20. IBM announced the graduation of the first group of students from Tanmatra, an innovative, cross-industry women's leadership development program conducted in collaboration with The Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore ( IIM-B) and Catalyst India WRC.
21. CA Atul Kumar Gupta along with his team has made an endeavor to acquaint the common man apart from the professionals, regarding the dynamic indirect taxation system, through mobile application TAXO. It is a platform where the general public can get an insight into the basic fundamentals of Indirect Taxation.
22. Nationwide mobile number portability (MNP) has become operational from 3 July 2015. It became operational after major private mobile operators like Vodafone, RCom, Airtel, Uninor and Idea Cellular along with state-run BSNL and MTNL issued statements to launch MNP.
23. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has extended the deadline for implementation of Crime and Criminals Tracking network and Systems (CCTNS) project till March 2017.
24. Cyclone Komen makes landfall in Bangladesh
25. Delhi Government decided to have tram network in Old Delhi.
26. Union Cabinet gives nod to Direct Release of Wages into bank accounts of MNREGA workers
27. Typhoon Soudelor battered Taiwan leaving four people dead & a trail of devastation.
28. Delhi Government reconstituted Urdu Academy: Dr. Majid Deobandi, a very well known and popular figure in the Urdu Circle, was appointed as the Vice-Chairperson of the Urdu Academy.
29. Two Indian organizations Indian Army and Indian Railways are among the world's biggest employers, together employing around 2.7 million people, as per a research published by the World Economic Forum. Indian Railways was ranked at the eighth place in the list of world's biggest employers with 1.4 million staff. Immediately after Indian Railways is the Indian Armed Forces with 1.3 million people.
30. Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh launched a weather alert service named NOWCAST. NOWCAST will be used to send SMS alerts on extreme weather data like hailstorm, thunderstorm and squall originated by India Meteorological Department (IMD) to over one crore farmers whose mobile numbers are registered on government's mKisan portal.
31. Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) launched the country's first consumer complaint mobile app

named ASCIonline. ASCI launched this consumer friendly app with an aim to address the issue of misleading advertisements.

32. Indian Railways rechristened Ahmedabad-Haridwar Mail Express also known as 'Haridwar Mail' as Yoga Express.
33. Cyclonic storm ASHOBAA was in news after it developed into a cyclonic storm from only a depression that formed over the Arabian Sea.
34. The term Abraj Kudai was in news as it was described as the world's biggest hotel set to open in 2017. Abraj Kudai is under construction in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.
35. Uttar Pradesh tops the list of states with highest mobile penetration in rural areas, while Naxal-affected Chhattisgarh finds its place at the bottom. In UP, 86.63 per cent households have mobile handsets, while only 28.47 per cent households in Chhattisgarh own the device.
36. Union Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu has said that the government will invest Rs. 8.5 lakh crore over the next five years to develop the Indian Railways services.
37. Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan's PK has set a new record grossing 100 million yuan (Rs. 100 crore) in China, becoming the first Indian film to touch the three-figure mark.
38. Four Indians are among the world's 100 most powerful women who are "transforming the world", according to the Forbes' 12th annual list, which is topped by German Chancellor Angela Merkel. SBI Chief Arundhati Bhattacharya (30), ICICI bank head Chanda Kochhar (35), Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw (85) and HT Media Chair Shobhana Bhartia (93), and two women of Indian-origin — PepsiCo Chief Indra Nooyi (15) and Cisco Chief Technology and Strategy Officer Padmini Warrior (84) — make the list.
39. Digital Guddi-Gudda Board of Jalgaon district adopted as Best Practice under BBBP scheme
40. Union Government launched weather alert service NOWCAST
41. President inaugurated 50th anniversary of India's first historic climb of Mt. Everest in 1965-Nawang Gombu, the Sherpa who was the member of the team, became the first person to reach the summit twice, firstly with an American expedition in 1963.
42. Singapore PM Lee opened first museum Indian Heritage Centre in Little India
43. Virat Kohli announced to set up chain of gyms with the investment of 90 crore rupees-The gyms will be launched under the brand name Chisel.
44. First Indo- Nepal Friendship Motor Rally concluded at India Gate
45. World's largest and tallest Indian flag unfurled in Faridabad

#### SCHEMES BY GOVERNMENT

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Skill India Mission' in the national capital. The Prime Minister will formally launch the National Skill Development Mission, unveil the new National Policy for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015 and roll out on all-India flagship scheme. Narendra Modi's ambitious Skill India Mission targets 40.2 crore workers by 2022 .
2. Government said it has established a policy framework to promote e-marketing of handloom products through approved e-commerce entities, aiming to popularize the

"India Handloom" brand and boost sales of handloom products.

3. Telangana Government launched Grama Jyothi Scheme across the state. The scheme is aimed at comprehensive development of rural areas allowing planning and execution of works by villages themselves.
4. PM Narendra Modi announced a new campaign " Start-up India; Stand up India", an initiative to promote bank finance for Start-ups (an entrepreneurial venture). The campaign was announced with an aim to boost entrepreneurship among the youth and to create employment in India. As per the initiative PM urged 1.25 lakh bank branches to provide finance to at least one Dalit or Adivasi and at least one woman entrepreneur.



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#### Other announcements:

- Government will rename the present Agriculture Ministry as 'Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Ministry'.
- To provide houses and access to basic services to all and to make India a developed nation by 2022.
- Set deadline of 1000 days to connect 18,500 villages with electricity.
- 5. Union Government has launched a seven pronged plan called Indradhanush Mission to revamp functioning of public sector banks (PSBs). It was launched by Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in New Delhi.

#### Facts about Indradhanush Mission

- The seven shades of Indradhanush mission include appointments, de-stressing PSBs, capitalisation, empowerment, framework of accountability and governance reforms.
- It seeks to achieve the objective of economic growth revival through improving credit and minimising the political interference in the functioning of PSBs.
- Appointments: Selection of non-executive chairman in remaining 6 state owned PSBs till November 2015. Appointing MD & CEO of two PSBs as early as possible.
- Bank Board Bureau (BBB): It will be a body of 'eminent' professionals to be selected within 6 months i.e. February 2015. It will become functional from Financial year 2016-17 i.e. from 1st April 2016.
- Capitalisation: Infuse 25,000 crore rupees of capital into debt-laden banks in this fiscal in phased manner. Out of this

20,000 crore rupees would be injected in August 2015. Rest 5,000 crore rupees will be performance based allocation to be allocated in the last quarter of 2016.

- De-stressing PSBs: To develop vibrant debt market for PSBs in order to reduce lending pressure on banks. Strengthen asset reconstruction of companies.
  - Empowerment: Provide greater flexibility in hiring of manpower in PSBs.
  - Framework of accountability: It will seek to streamline vigilance process for quick action in case major frauds and also include connivance of staff.
  - Governance reforms in PSBs: Next Gyan Sangam (also known as the Banker's Retreat) will be held from 14 to 16 January 2016. Employee Stock Option Plan (ESOP) will be initiated for top management.
6. Union Government has launched National Career Counselling Portal in a bid to modernize all government-run employment exchanges. It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi under the aegis of National Career Service (NCS) project of Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
  7. Union Government has decided to set up a Bank Board Bureau (BBB) to monitor key performance indicators of two dozen public sector banks (PSBs). It was announced by Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley as part of a seven-pronged revamp plan for PSBs dubbed as Indradhanush (rainbow) plan.

#### Facts about Bank Board Bureau

- Bank Board Bureau (BBB) will start the functioning from next financial year i.e. from 1st April 2015 and the selection of its member will start in the next six months.
  - It will replace existing system Appointments Board in which appointments for top level jobs at PSBs are made by an appointments committee led by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor.
  - Composition: The BBB will be a body of 'eminent' professionals and shall consist of only one government official. It will be six members body with at least 3 former bankers, 2 professionals and secretary, department of financial services representing government.
  - Functions: Give recommendations for appointment of full-time Directors as well as non-Executive Chairman of PSBs.
  - Give advice to PSBs in developing differentiated strategies for raising funds through innovative financial methods and instruments and to deal with issues of stressed assets.
  - Guide banks on mergers and consolidations.
8. Launching the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA) on 9 July 2015, former President A P J Abdul Kalam said it can work if four qualities of uniqueness are preserved, namely, great aim, quest of knowledge, hard work and perseverance. The primary aim of RAA, developed by HRD ministry, is to inculcate a spirit of inquiry, creativity and love for science and mathematics in school children.
  9. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana' for power sector reforms in rural areas with a view to ensuring round the clock electricity supply to farmers and rural households.

10. Union Government launched Surakshit Khadya Abhiyan to create mass awareness and capacity building for safe and hygienic food.
11. Union Ministry of Rural Development has launched 'SAMANVAY' web portal to monitor progress and implementation of the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) for development of Gram Panchayats. It was launched by Union Rural Development Minister Chaudhary Birender Singh.
12. Union Government launched School Nursery Yojana to bring students closer to nature. The Yojana seeks to engage class VI to IX in raising of saplings in nurseries created in schools. The Yojana was launched by Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar in New Delhi.

#### About School Nursery Yojana

- a) The Yojana in its first phase would cover 1000 schools and would be extended to 5000 schools in 2016 and 10000 schools the following year.
  - b) Under the Yojana, students will grow saplings as part of practical exercise for biology classes and extra-curriculum activities.
  - c) Each school will initially receive first time financial grant of 25,000 rupees for creation of the nursery with essential facilities.
13. Param Tyag Chakra Initiative launched to honour families of martyrs
  14. Suraksha Bandhan drive launched to facilitate enrolment under Social Security Schemes.
  15. Union Government & Delhi Government agreed to prepare blueprint to Clean & Rejuvenate Yamuna River
  16. Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced that the Cabinet has approved funds amounting to Rs 50,000 crore over the five years to ensure that the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana is a success.
  17. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, J.P. Nadda launched a voice-based web portal for 24/7 toll-free health services. The NHP Voice Web is a 24/7 toll free helpline (1800-180-1104) wherein the caller can get authentic health information on various topics.
  18. A parliamentary panel has pitched for 100 percent hike in salary and daily allowances of MPs and 75 percent raise in pension of ex-MPs. The panel, headed BJP MP Yogi Adityanath, has sought doubling of the existing Rs 50,000 salary of MPs and favoured increasing the pension of former parliamentarians from Rs 20,000 to Rs 35 thousand.
  19. The Digital India initiative, launched by PM Narendra Modi, could potentially translate into a business opportunity of \$3-4 billion annually for the Indian IT industry. In a show of support towards the government's Digital India push, members of India Inc announced a total investment of Rs 4.5 lakh crore towards various projects which their companies would be undertaking in the next few years. It is estimated that the various projects and initiatives unveiled by the government and the private sector companies would offer employment to over 18 lakh people in the next five to 10 years while driving digital inclusion throughout the country.
  20. Centre will give Rs 1 lakh per house for slum development and an interest support of 6.5% to ease the EMI burden of the urban housing scheme beneficiary. States will have the

full flexibility in formulation, approval and execution of the public-private partnership projects under the schemes — Smart Cities, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (Amrut) and Housing for All by 2022 in urban areas. The guidelines common to all the three missions include the objective criteria for selection of cities and allocation of funds. Under the schemes, 100 Smart Cities, 500 cities under the urban transformation mission and two-crore affordable houses for the urban poor under the Housing for All project would be constructed. The 'housing for all' mission is to be implemented in 4,041 cities or towns. Each selected city for the smart city development will get a central assistance of Rs 100 crore a year, while under Amrut, allocation of funds will be as per urban population and number of cities/towns in the state. Also, 10% of energy needs of smart cities need to be met from renewable sources, 80% of building construction to be green and 35% of housing in greenfield projects need be for economically weaker sections. For smart city creation, states and urban local bodies will set up special purpose vehicles with equal stake. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), ownership of houses would be in the name of woman or jointly with husband.

21. The Centre launched three new websites for farmers aimed at making organic farming certification, fertiliser quality checks and disbursement of soil health cards easier. The portals, developed by National Informatics Centre, are part of the existing schemes. These are:
  - a. The 'Participatory Guarantee System' portal.
  - b. The 'Soil Health Card' portal.
  - c. The 'Fertiliser Quality Control System' portal.
22. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Give it Up campaign at the annual energy-focussed summit Urja Sangam 2015. The campaign seeks to exhort the better off sections of society to forego their liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) subsidy, which would be utilised in providing subsidised LPG connections to the poor.
23. Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has renamed Tourist Visa on Arrival-Electronic Travel Authorization scheme (TVoA-ETA) to e-Tourist Visa



#### IMPORTANT FINANCIAL SCHEMES

##### 1) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

Highlights of the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY – Scheme 2 – for Life Insurance) are:

**Eligibility:** Savings Bank (SB) Account holders between 18 years (completed) and 50 years.

**Policy period:** The cover shall be for one year period starting from June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016 for which option to join / pay by auto-debit from the designated savings bank account on the prescribed forms will be required to be given by May 31, 2015, extendable up to August 31, 2015.

**Premium:** Rs. 330 (per annum).

**Payment Mode:** The premium will be directly auto-debited by the bank from the subscribers' savings bank account. This is the only mode available currently.

**Risk Coverage:** Sum Assured of Rs. 2 Lakh on death of the Insured member for any reason is payable to the Nominee.

##### Termination of assurance:

Account holder attains age of 55 years

Closure of account with the Bank or insufficiency of balance for debiting premium.

In case of multiple coverage under the scheme, the cover will be restricted to Rs.2 lakhs and other insurance covers are terminated and premium shall be forfeited.

##### 2) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana

Highlights of the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY – Scheme 1 – for Accidental Death Insurance) are:

**Eligibility:** The savings bank account holders of the participating Bank between 18 years (completed) and 70 years (age nearer birthday) who give their consent to join / enable auto-debit, as per the modality, will be enrolled into the scheme.

**Policy period:** The cover shall be for one year period starting from 1st June 2015 to 31st May 2016 for which option to join / pay by auto-debit from the designated savings bank account on the prescribed forms will be required to be given by 31st May 2015 - extendable up to 31st August, 2015. **Premium:** Rs. 12/- + service tax (per annum).

**Payment Mode:** The premium will be directly auto-debited by the bank from the subscribers account. This is the only mode available.

**Risk Coverage:** Total coverage (sum-insured) under the scheme is Rs. 2 Lakh.

##### 3) BRIEF OF ATAL PENSION YOJANA

- The GoI has announced a new scheme called Atal Pension Yojana (APY)1 in 2015-16 budget. The APY is focussed on all citizens in the unorganized sector.
- The scheme is administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) through NPS architecture.

##### HIGHLIGHTS OF ATAL PENSION YOJANA

- Under the APY, there is guaranteed minimum monthly pension for the subscribers ranging between Rs. 1000 and Rs. 5000 per month.
- The benefit of minimum pension would be guaranteed by the GoI.
- GoI will also co-contribute 50% of the subscriber's contribution or Rs. 1000 per annum, whichever is lower. Government co-contribution is available for those who are not covered by any Statutory Social Security Schemes and is not income tax payer.
- GoI will co-contribute to each eligible subscriber, for a period of 5 years who joins the scheme between the period 1st June, 2015 to 31st December, 2015. The benefit of five years of government Co-contribution under APY would not

exceed 5 years for all subscribers including migrated Swavalamban beneficiaries.

- All bank account holders may join APY.

#### Jan Dhan Yohana Yojana

- Aim - scheme to promote financial inclusion: Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana' to help the poor open bank accounts.
- The slogan for the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan mission is "Mera Khata – Bhagya Vidhaata". Benefits :
- i. Every individual who opens a bank account will become eligible to receive an accident insurance cover of up-to Rs. 1 Lakh.
- ii. HDFC Ergo General Insurance will provide the accident cover under the scheme.
- iii. An additional Rs. 30,000 life insurance cover will be provided for those opening bank accounts before January 26,2015.
- iv. LIC (Life Insurance Corporation) will provide the life insurance cover of Rs 30,000 under the scheme
- v. Rs 5,000 overdraft facility for Aadhar-linked accounts, Ru Pay Debit Card with and minimum monthly remuneration of Rs 5,000 to business correspondents who will provide the last link between the account holders and the bank.

#### Some other Schemes

##### Niti Ayog

India's Planning Commission will be renamed "Niti Ayog" (National Institution for Transforming India) as part of a plan to restructure the institution that the government believes has run its course. The name, replacing "Yojana (planning)" with "Niti (policy)" will be announced in an amended resolution for the new plan body. The Planning Commission had suggested to a group chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi that its replacement body should be structured to meet the need of changing economic paradigm and comprise sectorial experts and states' representative.

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#### The NITI Aayog will comprise the following:

The full-time organizational framework will comprise of, in addition to the Prime Minister as the Chairperson:

- Vice-Chairperson: To be appointed by the Prime Minister
- Members: Full-time
- Part-time members: Maximum of 2 from leading universities research organizations and other relevant institutions in an

ex-officio capacity. Part time members will be on a rotational basis.

- Ex Officio members: Maximum of 4 members of the Union Council of Ministers to be nominated by the Prime Minister.
- Chief Executive Officer: To be appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure, in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.
- Secretariat as deemed necessary.

#### PAHAL Scheme

More than 60 per cent of LPG customers in the country have joined the ambitious PAHAL scheme for receiving cash subsidy so that they can buy cooking gas (LPG) at market price. Over 9 crore consumers, out of a total customer base of 15.33 crore, have joined the Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL) scheme and Rs 2,262 crore in cash has been transferred to them.

#### Sukanya Samridhi Accounts -

- Rate of interest 9.1% Per Annum(2014-15),calculated on yearly basis ,Yearly compounded.
- Minimum INR. 1000/-and Maximum INR. 1,50,000/- in a financial year. Subsequent deposit in multiple of INR 100/- Deposits can be made in lump-sum No limit on number of deposits either in a month or in a Financial year.
- Account can be opened up to age of 10 years only from the date of birth.
- If minimum Rs 1000/- is not deposited in a financial year, account will become discontinued and can be revived with a penalty of Rs 50/- per year with minimum amount required for deposit for that year.
- Partial withdrawal, maximum up to 50% of balance standing at the end of the preceding financial year can be taken after Account holder's attaining age of 18 years.
- Account can be closed after completion of 21 years.

**Amrut Mahotsav** - The year 2022, 75th year of Independence Vision for "Team India" led by PM

- Basic facility of 24x7 power, clean drinking water, a toilet and road connectivity.
- Housing for all - 2 crore houses in Urban areas and 4 crore houses in Rural areas.
- At least one member has access to means for livelihood.
- Substantial reduction in poverty.
- Electrification of the remaining 20,000 villages including off-grid Solar Power- by 2020.

**Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana:** Government approved Rs 43,033-crore rural electrification scheme Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana. **Note:** The scheme will replace the existing Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY).

- The scheme is likely to work towards improvement in hours of power supply in rural areas, reduction in peak load, improvement in billed energy based on metered consumption and providing access to electricity to rural households.

#### UNION BUDGET

##### Key Highlights -

- Quoting PAN a must for all purchases above Rs 1,00,000
- Corporate tax reduced from 30% to 25% over next four years
- Defence allocation for this fiscal is Rs 2,46,727 crore.

- AIIMS to be set up in J&K, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh and Assam.
- Govt to raise visa-on-arrival facilities to 150 countries from 43
- Govt to introduce Indian gold coin with Ashoka sign on it.
- Proposal of 5 ultra mega power projects for 4,000 MW each.
- Investment in infrastructure to go up by Rs 70,000 crores.
- GST to be put in place by April 1, 2016.
- All contributions to Sukanya Samridhi scheme to be tax free.
- Transport allowance, which is currently Rs 800 per month, has been increased to Rs 1600 per month.
- Additional deduction of Rs 50,000 for pension contributions.
- Govt increases limit of deduction of health insurance premium from Rs 15,000 to Rs 25,000.
- 100% deduction for contribution to Swachh Bharat and Clean Ganga schemes.
- Rs 150 crore to create world class IT hub in India.
- Net gain from tax proposals seen at 150.68 billion rupees in 2015-16.
- Direct tax proposals will lead to loss of Rs 8,315 crore; indirect proposal will yield Rs 23,383 crore.
- Yoga included in the ambit of charitable purposes under the Income Tax Act.

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#### Questionnaire on Union Budget

1. In the Union Budget, rate of Service Tax was hiked from 12% to \_\_\_\_ - **14%**
2. In the Union Budget 2015-16, Fiscal deficit seen at how much per cent of GDP in 2015/16? - **3.9 %**
3. How much amount has been allocated to the Rural Infrastructure Development Bank in the Union Budget 2015-16? - **Rs. 25,000 crore**
4. According to the Union Budget, two new IIM will be opened in which of the following states? - **Jammu & Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh**

5. According to the Union Budget 2015-16, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) registered with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) above \_\_\_\_\_ will be now considered as financial institutions? - **Rs. 5,000 crore**
6. How much amount has been allocated for Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the Union Budget 2015-16? - **346.99 billion rupees**
7. How much amount has been allocated to Defence sector in the Union Budget 2015-16? - **Rs. 2,46,726 crore**
8. According to the Union Budget, how much per cent of Revenue Deficit to be seen in 2015-16? - **2.8%**
9. According to the Union Budget 2015-16, how much per cent, rate of corporate tax will be reduced over next four years? - **25%**
10. According to the Union Budget 2015-16, now details of PAN has to mentioned compulsory for transactions for more than \_\_\_\_\_. - **Rs. 1 lakh**
11. In the Union Budget 2015-16, increase in the limit of health insurance premium from current Rs 15,000 to \_\_\_\_\_. **Rs. 25,000**
12. How much amount has been allocated for micro-irrigation watershed projects in the Union Budget 2015-16? - **Rs. 5,300 Crore**
13. How much amount has been allocated to Infrastructure sector in the Union Budget 2015-16? **Rs. 70,000 crore**
14. According to the Union Budget 2015-16, Visa on arrival for how many countries? - **150**
15. According to the Union Budget, Centre of film production, animation and gaming to come up in \_\_\_\_\_. **AP**
16. On which date Union Budget 2015-16 was presented in Parliament? - **28 February 2015**
17. Name the Union Finance Minister who presented the Union Budget 2015-16 in Parliament? - **Arun Jaitley**
18. Personal Income Tax limit was not changed in Union Budget 2015-16. What is the present Personal I-T exemption limit? - **Rs 2.5 lakh**
19. Health Insurance Premium deduction hiked from Rs. 15,000 to? - **Rs. 25,000 (for senior citizens to Rs. 30,000)**
20. Transport allowance exemption hiked to Rs. 1,600, from \_\_\_\_ per month? - **Rs.800**
21. PAN card is must for all purchase above \_\_\_\_\_ rupees as proposed in Budget 2015-16? - **Rs. 1 lakh**
22. An additional \_\_\_\_\_% surcharge on people earning over Rs. 1 cr was put forth in the budget 2015-16? - **2%**
23. What change was made in the Wealth tax? - **Wealth tax abolished**
24. DTC was dropped in the Budget 2015-16. Expand DTC? - **Direct Taxes Code**
25. Corporate tax to be reduced from 30% to \_\_\_\_ over next four years? - **25%**
26. Mudra banks to be established with capital of Rs.\_\_\_\_ crore? - **20000**
27. Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ deduction for contribution to New Pension Scheme? - **Rs. 50,000**
28. GAAR implementation deferred by 2 years to? - **April 2017**
29. Service Tax rate hiked to \_\_\_\_\_% from 12.36%? - **14%**
30. Tax free bonds were proposed in budget for? - **Roads, railways, irrigation project**

#### ECONOMIC SURVEY

**Presented By** - Union Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley** on 27 February.

**What is Economic Survey** - The Economic Survey reviews the developments in the Indian economy over the previous 12 months, summarises the performance on major development programmes and highlights the policy initiatives of the government and the prospects of the economy in the short to medium term.

**Highlights of the Economic Survey 2014-15**

- GDP growth is expected to accelerate to between 8.1 and 8.5 percent in 2015-16.
- Inflation is likely to remain in the 5-5.5 percent range in 2015-16.
- The current account deficit estimated to be 1.0 percent in the fiscal year 2015-16.
- Food grains production for 2014-15 is estimated at 257.07 million tones.
- India ranks well above the mean for its investment grade category (BBB), and also above the mean for the investment category above it (on the basis of the new growth estimates).
- Expenditure control and expenditure switching from consumption to investment will be the key to growth in the short-run.
- It calls for complementing Make in India initiative with Skill India initiative to enable a larger section of the population to benefit from the structural transformation that such sectors will facilitate.
- The Model APMC Act, 2003 should be amended along the lines of the Karnataka Model that has successfully introduced an integrated single licensing system.
- The Survey calls for adhering to the medium-term fiscal deficit target of 3 percent of GDP. This will provide the fiscal space to insure against future shocks and also to move closer to the fiscal performance of its emerging market peers.
- It also calls for moving toward the golden rule of eliminating revenue deficits and ensuring that, over the cycle, borrowing is only for capital formation.
- Expenditure control combined with recovering growth and the introduction of the GST will ensure that medium term targets are comfortably met.
- In the short run, the need for accelerated fiscal consolidation will be conditioned by the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC).
- Food Subsidy Bill stands at 107823.75 crore rupees during 2014-15 (up to January 2015) which means an increase of 20 percent over previous year
- The direct fiscal cost of select subsidies is roughly 378,000 crore rupees or 4.2 percent of GDP in 2011-12.
- 41 percent of subsidy given for the PDS kerosene is lost as leakage and only 46 percent of the remaining 59 percent is consumed by households that are poor.
- The JAM Number Trinity – Jan Dhan Yojana, Aadhaar, Mobile – can enable the State to transfer financial resources to the poor in a progressive manner without leakages and with minimal distorting effects.
- The railways public investment multiplier (the effect of a 1 rupee increase in public investment in the railways on overall output) is around 5.

**RAILWAY BUDGET**

- 1,00,011 Cr. Planning Budget in 2015-16.
- Bullet train Corridor to be developed between Mumbai to Ahmedabad.
- Rs.2000 cr for Coastal Connectivity Program; Rs.2500 cr through BOT/Annuity route. 1000 MW Solar plant; 100DEMs to dual fuel
- Setting up 'Kayakalp' to help in Technology Upgradation.
- Corporate safety Plans; ISRO to be involved; 3438 level Xings to be eliminated, Rly expense increased by 2600%
- MUTP-III project for Mumbai.
- Malviya Chair at IIT BHU for Railway technology excellence.
- Train Protection Warning Systems and Anti colliding system to be developed by RDSO.
- Increase of speed of 9 Trains from 110 km/hr and 130 km/hr to 160 km/hr.to 200 km/hr.
- 8.5 lakh crore rupees to be invested in the railways in the next 5 years.
- Operating ratio proposed at 88.5%. Best ever in 9 years.
- Increase track length by 20 per cent and passenger carrying capacity from 21 to 30 million.
- Free Wi-fi facility to B class stations under the scheme of Digital India.
- SMS alert on mobile, customer portal promoting digital India campaign.
- Bio toilets in trains; airplane type toilets in trains.

**United Nations Headquarters**

International Organizations	Headquarters
UNO (United Nations Org)	New York
UNICEF	New York
UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade & Development)	Geneva
WHO (World Health Org)	Geneva
ILO (International Labour Org)	Geneva
WMO (World Meteorological Org)	Geneva
World Intellectual Property Org	Geneva
International Standards Org.	Geneva
IMF (International Monetary Fund)	Washington DC
World Bank	Washington DC
UNESCO (United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Org)	Paris
OECD (Org. for Economic Cooperation and Dev.)	Paris
UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Dev. Org)	Vienna
IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)	Vienna
OPEC(Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries)	Vienna
Amnesty International	London
Commonwealth of Nations	London
IM(International Maritime Organization)	London
ICJ (International Court of Justice)	The Hague
FAO(Food and Agricultural Organization)	Rome
NATO(North Atlantic Treaty Organization)	Brussels

Transparency International	Berlin
SAARC(South Asian Association for Regional Coop.)	Kathmandu
ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations)	Jakarta
APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Forum)	Singapore
Organization of Islamic Cooperation	Jeddah

#### FDI Limits in different sectors:

<b>Defence</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Pension</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Print Media</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Civil Aviation</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Public Sec. Banks</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Private Sec. Banks</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Multi Brand</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Single Brand</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Tourism</b>	<b>100</b>

#### Credit Rating Agencies in India and World:

Indian credit rating industry mainly comprises of **CRISIL, ICRA, CARE, ONICRA, FITCH (India Ratings & Research) & SMERA.**

- **CRISIL** - Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited, Headquarter – Mumbai
- **ICRA** - Investment information and credit rating agency Headquarter - Gurgaon, India
- **CARE** - Credit Analysis and Research Headquarters – Mumbai
- **ONICRA** - Headquarter - Gurgaon, India
- **SMERA** - Headquarters – Mumbai
- **Fitch (India Ratings & Research)** - Headquarters – Mumbai
- **Note: CRISIL is the largest credit rating agency in India, with a market share of greater than 60%**
- **Standard & Poor's (S&P)** – Headquarter – New York, US
- **Moody's** – Headquarter - New York, US
- **Fitch** - Headquarter - New York, US

## STATIC TOPICS OF GENERAL AWARENESS

#### Agricultural Seasons in India:

##### 1. The Kharif Season:

Crops are sown at the beginning of south-west monsoon and harvested at the end of the south-west monsoon.

Sowing Season: May to July.

Harvesting Season : September to October.

Important Crops: Jowar, Bajra, Rice, Maize, Cotton, Groundnut, Jute, Hemp, Tobacco etc.

##### 2. The Rabi Season:

Crops need cool climate during growth period but warm climate during the germination of seed and maturation.

Sowing Season: October to December

Harvesting Season: February to April Important

Crops: Wheat, Barley, Gram, Linseed, Mustard, Masoor & Peas.

##### 3. The Zaid Season:

The crops grown on irrigated lands which do not have to wait for monsoons, in the short duration between Rabi and Kharif crop season, mainly from March to June, are called **Zaid crops** (also written as **Zayad crops**).

These crops are grown mainly in the summer season during a period called the "Zayad crop season." They require warm dry weather for major growth period and longer day length for flowering. The main produce are seasonal fruits and vegetables.


Crops: Cucumber, Musk melon, Watermelon, Bitter gourd etc.

##### Major Producers

- Wheat- Uttar Pradesh
- Rice - West Bengal
- Sugarcane - U.P
- Maize- Andhra Pradesh
- Bajra – Rajasthan
- Cotton - Gujrat
- Bajra - Rajasthan
- Mustard - Rajasthan
- Coffee Karnataka
- Onion - Maharashtra
- Potato - Uttar Pradesh


##### Revolutions in the field of agriculture in India:

- Black Revolution - Petroleum Production
- Blue Revolution - Fish Production
- Brown Revolution - Leather/non conventional (India)/Cocoa production
- Golden Fiber Revolution - Jute Production
- Golden Revolution - Fruits/Overall Horticulture development/Honey Production
- Green Revolution - Food grains
- Grey Revolution - Fertilizer
- Pink Revolution - Onion production/Pharmaceutical (India)/Prawn production
- Red Revolution - Meat & Tomato Production
- Round Revolution - Potato
- Silver Fiber Revolution - Cotton
- Silver Revolution - Egg/Poultry Production
- White Revolution (In India: Operation Flood) - Milk/Dairy production
- Yellow Revolution - Oil Seeds production
- Evergreen Revolution - Overall development of Agriculture.



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### National Film Awards:

**Best Actor** : Sanchari Vijay for Nanu Avanalla Avalu  
**Best Actress** : Kangna Ranaut for Queen  
**Best Director** : Srijit Mukherji  
**Best Feature Film** : Court (**Directed by:** Chaitanya Tamhane)  
**Best Feature Film in Hindi** : Queen (**Directed by:** Vikas Bahl)  
**Dada Saheb Phalke Award** Shashi Kapoor  
**Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment:**  
 Mary Kom ( Directed by : Omung Kumar) Hindi

### Winners of Oscars 2015:

**Best Picture:** Birdman (Directed by: Alejandro González Iñárritu)  
**Best Actress in a Leading Role** : Julianne Moore (for Still Alice *directed by Richard Glatzer*)  
**Best Actor in a Leading Role** : Eddie Redmayne for The Theory of Everything (by James Marsh)  
**Best Director** : Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu (for Birdman)  
**Best Foreign Film** : Ida (by Pawel Pawlikowski)

### International Terrorism Group:

#### **1. BOKO HARAM:**

A militant Islamist group in Nigeria, this group is known to receive funding from Al-Qaeda. Boko Haram had recently been in the news for the abduction of around 200 Nigerian girls.

#### **2. ISIS:**

The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria is a Sunni jihadist group based in the Middle-East. With an aspiration to mobilize the majority of the Muslim population under its control, the ISIS has their stronghold in Iraq, Syria, Palestine, etc.

#### **3. TEHRİK-I-TALIBAN:**

The Tehrik-e-Taliban-Pakistan Also known as the Tehrik I Taliban Pakistan, it forms a part of the various Islamist groups that are active in the Afghan border in Pakistan. Led by Maulana Fazlullah, the TTP is not directly affiliated with the Taliban (in Afghanistan).

#### **4. HEZBOLLAH:**

Hezbollah A Shia'ist militant group based in Lebanon, they are considered to be more powerful than the Lebanese army.

**5. Muslim Brotherhood:** in Egypt.

**6. Al-Shaba:** is a jihadist terrorist group based in Somalia.

### Important Wildlife Sanctuary Park:

1. Gir National Park is situated in Gujarat
2. Sariska is situated in Alwar, Rajasthan
3. Ghana Bird Sanctuary is situated in Rajasthan
4. Darraha Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Rajasthan
5. Mt. Abu Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Rajasthan
6. Ranthambore Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Rajasthan
7. Hazaribagh Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Hazaribag, Jarkhand
8. Mudhumalai Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu
9. Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Idukki, Kottayam, Kerala
10. National Chambal (Gharial) Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Etawah, Uttar Pradesh
11. Chandraprabha Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Uttar Pradesh
12. Bankatna Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Uttar Pradesh
13. Nanda Devi Musk Deer Park is situated in Uttarakhand (included in UNESCO World Heritage List)
14. Corbett National Park is situated in Nainital, Uttarakahnd
15. Bondla Game Sanctuary is situated in Goa
16. Mollem Game Sanctuary is situated in Goa
17. Cottigao Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Goa
18. Sunderbans National Park is situated in West Bengal (included in UNESCO World Heritage List)
19. Kaziranga Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Assam (included in UNESCO World Heritage List)
20. Manas Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Assam (included in UNESCO World Heritage List)
21. Dachigam Wildlife Sanctuary is in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir
22. Salim Ali National Park is situated in Jammu & Kashmir
23. Nagarhole National Park (Rajiv Gandhi National Park) is situated in Karnataka
24. Bandipur National Park is situated in Karnataka
25. Kanha National Park is situated in Madhya Pradesh
26. Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Chattisgarh
27. Gandhisagar Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Madhya Pradesh
28. Wild Ass Sanctuary is situated in Little Rann of Kutch, Gujarat

### Thermal Power plants (TPS) in India:

- Mundra TPS, Kutch, Gujarat
- Vindhyachal TPS, Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh
- Talcher Super TPS, Angul, Odisha
- Sipat TPS, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh
- Korba Super TPS, Chattisgarh
- Rihand TPS, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh
- Jharsuguda TPS, Odisha
- Tiroda TPS, Maharashtra
- Anpara TPS – Uttar Pradesh
- Barauni TPP – Bihar
- Bellary TPP – Karnataka
- Durgapur TPP – West Bengal
- Sikka TPS – Gujarat
- Satpura TPS – Madhya Pradesh
- Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station – UP
- Wanakbori TPS – Gujarat

### Nuclear power plants in India:

- Narora atomic power plant - Narora, UP
- Rajasthan atomic power plant: Rawatbhatta, Rajasthan (India & Candada)
- Tarapur atomic power plant – Maharashtra (India & US)
- Kakrapar atomic power plant - Gujarat
- Madras atomic power plant - Tamilnadu
- Kaiga atomic power plant - Karnataka
- Kundankullam : in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu (India & Russia)
- Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant - Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra (India & France)

### Dams in India:

- \_ Tehri Dam: on Bhagirathi River, Uttarakhand
- \_ Lakhwar Dam on Yamuna river, Uttarakhand
- \_ Iduki Arch Dam – on Periyar river, Kerala
- \_ Koyna Dam – on Koyana river, Maharashtra
- \_ Bhakra nangal Dam: on Sutlej River, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.
- \_ Sardar Sarovar Dam: on Narmada River, Gujarat
- \_ Srisailem dam: on Narmada River, Andhra Pradesh
- \_ Ranjit Sagar Dam: on Rav river, Punjab
- \_ Baglihar Dam: on Chenab river , J& K
- \_ Cheruthoni (Eb) Dam: on Cheruthoni, Kerala
- \_ Hirakud Dam: on Mahanadi River, Orissa
- \_ Nagarjuna sagar Dam: on Krishna River, Andhra Pradesh
- \_ Indira Sagar Dam: on Narmada River, Madhya Pradesh
- \_ Ukai Dam: on Tapi river, Gujarat
- \_ Maithon Dam: on Barakar river, Jharkhand
- \_ Krishnarajsagar Dam: on kaveri river, Karnataka
- \_ Mettur Dam: on Kaveri River, Salem district in Tamil Nadu
- \_ Tungabhadra Dam – on Tungabhadra rive, Karnataka

### Folk dances in India

- \_ Changu: Odissa and Andhra Pradesh
- \_ Gair: Rajasthan.
- \_ Garba, Dandiya Rass: Gujarat
- \_ Ghoomar: Rajasthan.
- \_ Karagam: Tamil Nadu.
- \_ Dumhal: Kashmir.
- \_ Lavani: Maharashtra
- \_ Odissi: Orissa
- \_ Rauf – Jammu & Kashmir
- \_ Nautanki, Thora, Chappeli, Rasliila, Kajri - UP

### Classical dances in India

- \_ Kathak: Uttar Pradesh.
- \_ Bihu: Assam
- \_ Bharat Natyam: Tamil Nadu
- \_ Kuchipudi: Andhra Pradesh.
- \_ Kathakali: Kerala.
- \_ Chhau: Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal
- \_ Bhangra: Punjab.
- \_ Khantumm – Mizoram

### Lines b/w Different Countries in the World

1. Durand Line: Pakistan and Afghanistan
2. Mc. Mohan Line: India(Arunachal Pradesh Region) and China
3. Radcliff Line: India and Pakistan

4. Line of Control :It divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan.
5. Hidden berg Line: Germany and Poland
6. Maginot Line: France and Germany
7. Older Neisse Line: Germany and Poland
8. Mannerheim Line :Russia and Finland border.
9. Siegfried Line : Germany and France.
10. 17th Parallel: North Vietnam and South Vietnam
11. 24th Parallel : India and Pakistan.
12. 26th Parallel : Australia & South Africa
13. 38th Parallel: North Korea and South Korea
14. 49th Parallel: Canada and USA

### Stock Exchanges and their Index:

1. BSE (Bombay Stock Exchange) - SENSEX ( Sensitive Index)
  - BSE is oldest stock exchange in Asia located at Dalal Street in Mumbai
  - Sensex Consists of 30 companies
2. NSE (National Stock Exchange) - Nifty-50
  - NSE is the largest stock exchange in India
  - Nifty consists of 50 companies
3. NYSE (Newyork Stock Exchange) - DJ ( Dow Jones)
  - NYSE world's first and largest stock market
4. NASDAQ (National association of securities dealers Automated Quotation System)- NASD-100
  - NASDAQ is the first electronic stock market in the world located in New York.
5. Tokyo Stock Exchange (Japan) - Nikkei-225
6. Korea Stock Exchange(Seoul, South korea) – Kospi
7. Shenghai Stock Exchange(China)- Composite Index
8. Shenzen Stock Exchange(China)- Composite Index
9. German Stock Exchange- DAX(Deutscher Aktein Index)
10. Hong Kong Stock Exchange- Hang Seng
11. SGX (Singapore Exchange)- STI( Straits Times Index)
12. LSE (London Stock exchange) or UK stock exchange- Footsie or FTSE-100 ( Financial Times and London Stock Exchange)
13. France Stock Exchange - CAC-40 (Cotation Assisteeten Continuo)

### ORGANISATIONS & THEIR HEAD

1. RBI- Raghuram Govinda Rajan & Deputy Governors:
  - a) Shri S. S. Mundra
  - b) Shri R. Gandhi
  - c) Dr. Urjit R. Patel
  - d) Shri H R Khan
2. SEBI-U.K. Sinha
3. NABARD-Harsh Kumar Bhanawala
4. FICCI-Sidharth Birla
5. IBPS- T.M. Bhasin
6. RAW-Rajinder Khanna
7. IB-Dineshwar Sharma
8. CBI-Anil Sinha
9. UPSC-Deepak Gupta
10. SSC-Amitava Bhattacharyya
11. UGC- Ved Prakash
12. Indian Army-Lt. Gen. Dalbir Singh Suhag
13. Indian Airforce-Arup Raha
14. Indian Navy-Admiral Robin K Dhowan
15. BSF - D.K. Pathak
16. ISRO - Kiran Kumar
17. NASSCOM President-R Chandrasekaran

18. ASSOCHAM-Rana Kapoor
19. DRDO-S.Christopher
20. SBI-Arundhati Bhattacharya
21. IRDA-T.S.Vijayan
22. TRAI-Ram Sewak Sharma
23. World Bank-Jim Yong Kim
24. IMF-Christane Legarde

### CENSUS

1) The population of the country as per the provisional figures of Census 2011 is 1210.19 million of which 623.7 million (51.54%) are males and 586.46 million (48.46%) are females.

The major highlights of the Census 2011 (Provisional figures) are as under:

\*The population of India has increased by more than 181 million during the decade 2001-2011.

2) Percentage growth in 2001-2011 is 17.64; males 17.19 and females 18.12.

\*2001-2011 is the first decade (with the exception of 1911-1921--GREAT DEPRESSION) which has actually added lesser population compared to the previous decade.

3) \*Uttar Pradesh (199.5 million) is the most populous State in the country followed by Maharashtra with 112 million.

#### Some of the highlights

- Slogan - Our census, Our Future
- India's 1st Census - 1872
- 2011 Census is - 15th Census
- Total Population - 1,21,01,93,422
- India's Rank in population - 2nd with 17.5% (1st China with 19%)
- Most Populous State - Uttar Pradesh
- Least Populous State - Sikkim
- Most Literate State - Kerala (93.9%)
- Least Literate State - Bihar (63.82%)
- National Sex Ratio - Female : Male (940 : 1000)
- Highest Sex Ratio (State) - Kerala (1084 : 1000)
- Lowest Sex Ratio (State) - Haryana
- Highest Sex Ratio (UT) - Puducherry
- Least Sex Ratio (UT) - Damn & Dayyu (61 : 1000)
- Literacy of Male - 82.14%
- Literacy of Female - 74.04%
- Population Growth Rate - 17.64%
- Highest fertility Rate - Meghalaya
- Most literate union territory - Lakshadweep (92.2%)
- Least literate Union Territory - Dadra Nagar & Haweli
- Most Literate District - Serechhip (Mizoram)
- Least Literate District - Dadra Naga & Haveli
- Highest Density of Population - Bihar (1102 sq.km)
- Lowest Density of Population - Arunachal Pradesh (17)
- Total number of districts - 640
- Highest Populous District - Thane (Mumbai)
- 100% Literacy District - Palakkad (Kerala)
- 100% Banking State - Kerala
- 100% Banking District - Palakkad (Kerala)
- Density of Population in India - 382 sq. km
- Increase in population (during 2001-2011) - 181 million

#### CM'S IN 2015 AUGUST

1. Andhra Pradesh-N. Chandrababu Naidu
2. Arunachal Pradesh-Nabam Tuki
3. Assam-Tarun Gogoi

4. Bihar-Nitish Kumar
5. Chhattisgarh-Raman Singh
6. Delhi-Arvind Kejriwal
7. Goa-Laxmikant Parsekar
8. Gujarat-Anandiben Patel
9. Haryana-Manohar Lal Khattar
10. Himachal Pradesh-Virbhadra Singh
11. Jammu and Kashmir-Mufti Mohammad Sayeed
12. Jharkhand-Raghuvar Das
13. Karnataka-Siddaramaiah
14. Kerala-Oommen Chandy
15. Madhya Pradesh-Shivraj Singh Chouhan
16. Maharashtra-Devendra Fadnavis
17. Manipur-Okram Ibobi Singh
18. Meghalaya-Mukul Sangma
19. Mizoram-Lal Thanhawla
20. Nagaland-T. R. Zeliang
21. Odisha-Naveen Patnaik
22. Puducherry-N. Rangaswamy
23. Punjab-Parkash Singh Badal
24. Rajasthan-Vasundhara Raje
25. Sikkim-Pawan Kumar Chamling
26. Tamil Nadu-Jayalalitha
27. Telangana-K. Chandrashekar Rao
28. Tripura-Manik Sarkar
29. Uttar Pradesh-Akhilesh Yadav
30. Uttarakhand-Harish Rawat
31. West Bengal-Mamata Banerjee

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#### Newly Appointed Governor

1. **Jharkhand:** Former Odisha Minister DroupadiMurmu was appointed as Governor of Jharkhand. She will replace Dr Syed Ahmed.
2. **Manipur:**Dr Syed Ahmed has been transferred to Manipur for remaining period of his term.
3. **Arunachal Pradesh:** J P Rajkhowa was appointed as Governor of Arunachal Pradesh. He will replace Lt. General (Retd.) Nirbhay Sharma.
4. **Mizoram:** Lt. General (Retd.) Nirbhay Sharma has been transferred and appointed as Governor of Mizoram for the remainder of his term.
5. **Tripura:**Tathagata Roy will be the Governor of Tripura.
6. **Meghalaya:** V. Shanmuganthan has been appointed as Meghalaya Governor

7. **Bihar:** Senior Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Ram Nath Kovind was on 8 August 2015 appointed as Governor of Bihar.
8. **Himachal Pradesh-** Apart from the appointment of Kovind, President Pranab Mukherjee also appointed Acharya Dev Vrat as Governor of Himachal Pradesh.

#### List of Cabinet Ministers

- Narendra Modi – Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, All important policy issues and all other portfolios not allocated to any Minister
- Rajnath Singh – Home Affairs
- Sushma Swaraj – External Affairs, Overseas Indian Affairs
- Arun Jaitley – Finance, Corporate (Additional charge – Affairs Information and Broadcasting)
- Manohar Parrikar – Defence
- M Venkaiah Naidu – Urban Development, Housing, Urban Poverty Alleviation, Parliamentary Affairs
- Nitin Gadkari – Road Transport and Highways, Shipping
- Suresh Prabhu – Railways
- Uma Bharati – Water resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
- Dr Najma Heptulla – Minority Affairs
- Ramvilas Paswan – Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- Kalraj Mishra – Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- Maneka Gandhi – Women and Child Development
- Ananthkumar – Chemicals and Fertilizers
- Ravi Shankar Prasad – Communications and Information Technology
- Ashok Gajapathi Raju – Civil Aviation
- Anant Geete – Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises
- Harsimrat Kaur Badal – Food Processing Industries
- Narendra Singh Tomar – Mines, Steel, Labour and Employment
- Jual Oram – Tribal Affairs
- Radha Mohan Singh – Agriculture
- Thaawar Chand Gehlot – Social Justice and Empowerment
- Smriti Irani – Human Resource Development
- JP Nadda – Health and Family Welfare
- Birender Singh – Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Sanitation
- DV Sadananda Gowda – Law and Justice
- Dr Harsh Vardhan – Science and Technology Earth Sciences

#### List of few important Ministers of State (Independent Charge)

- General VK Singh – Statistics and Programme Implementation (Independent Charge), External Affairs, Overseas Indian Affairs
- Inderjit Singh Rao – Planning (Independent Charge), Statistics and Programme Implementation (Independent Charge), Defence
- Dharmendra Pradhan – Petroleum and Natural Gas (Independent Charge)
- Sarbananda Sonowal – Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, Youth Affairs and Sports (Independent Charge)
- Prakash Javadekar – Information and Broadcasting

(Independent Charge), Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Independent Charge), Parliamentary Affairs

- Dr Jitendra Singh – Science and Technology (Independent Charge), Earth Sciences (Independent Charge), Prime Minister Office, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space

#### Important Organizations:

1. **United Nation (UN)** – is an intergovernmental organization established on 24 October 1945 to promote international co-operation.  
Headquarter – New York , Head – Ban ki-moon Member - South Sudan new member country . Total– 193 members
2. **WTO (World Trade Org.)** –Seychelles new member country. Total – 161 members.  
Headquarter – Geneva, Switzerland, Head - Roberto Azevêdo
3. **World Bank** - The World Bank is a United Nations international financial institution that provides loans to developing countries for capital programs.  
Headquarter - Washington D.C. (United States) President – Jim Yong Kim  
Member - South Sudan new member country. Total– 188 members
4. **IMF** – The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization that was initiated in 1944 at the Bretton Woods Conference and formally created in 1945 by 29 member countries.  
Headquarter – Washington DC . (United States) President – Christine Lagarde  
Member - South Sudan new member country. Total– 188 members
5. **European Union** – Croatia new member country. Total– 28 member countries.  
Headquarter – Brussels, Belgium  
President of the European Commission: Jean-Claude Juncker
6. **Eurozone** - The growth of the eurozone is an ongoing process within the European Union (EU). All Member states of the European Union, except for Denmark and the United Kingdom are obliged to adopt the euro as their sole currency once they meet the criteria.  
Member – The eurozone currently comprise 19 EU states.  
Note: i). Latvia becomes the 18th Member State to adopt the euro on 1 January 2014.  
ii. Lithuania has been approved for euro adoption on 1 January 2015.
7. **ASEAN** - Association of Southeast Asian Nations is a political and economic organisation of ten countries located in Southeast Asia, which was formed on 8 August 1967.  
Headquarter – Jakarta, Indonesia Member - 10 member countries (India is not the member of ASEAN)
8. **APEC** – Asia – Pacific Economic Cooperation –is a forum for 21 Pacific Rim member economies that seeks to promote free trade and economic cooperation throughout the Asia-Pacific region. It was established in 1989  
Headquarter – Singapore Member – 21
9. **OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries)** is an international organization and economic cartel whose mission is to coordinate the policies of the oil-producing countries.

Headquarter – Vienna, Austria , Member - 12 member countries.

President - Diezani Alison-Madueke

**10. NATO (North Atlantic treaty Organization):** NATO's essential purpose is to safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and military means.

Headquarter – Brussels, Belgium Member – 28 Member Countries.

**11. SAARC (South Asian Association of Regional Co-Operation):** is an economic and geopolitical organization of eight countries that are primarily located in South Asia or the Indian subcontinent.

Headquarter – Kathmandu, Nepal – 8 Member Countries.

Secretary-General: Arjun Bahadur Thapa.

**12. ICJ (International Court of Justice):** is the primary judicial branch of the United Nations. It is based in the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. Its main functions are to settle legal disputes submitted to it by states and to provide advisory opinions on legal questions submitted to it by duly authorized international branches, agencies, and the UN General Assembly.

Headquarter The Hague, Netherlands.

Regulator	Sectors	Chairman	Headquarter
Reserve Bank of India	Financial system and monetary policy, Money Market	Raghuram Rajan	Mumbai
Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)	Security & Capital Market, stock broking & Merchant Banking, Nidhis, Chit Fund	U.K. Sinha	Mumbai
Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)	Insurance industry	T. S. Vijayan	Hyderabad
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)	Telecommunication Industry	Ram Sewak Sharma	New Delhi
Forward Markets Commission	Commodity Market	Ramesh Abhishek	Mumbai
Pension Fund Regulatory Development Authority (PFRDA)	Pension sector	Hemant Contractor	New Delhi

### Important Days

- 12th January- National Youth day (Birthday of Vivekananda).
- 15th January- Army day.
- 24th Jan- National Girl Child Day.
- 25th January- National tourism day/ Voters day
- 30th January- National Martyrs day & World anti Leprosy Day
- 4th Feb- World Cancer Day.
- 28th Feb- National science day
- 8th March- International women day
- 9th March- World Kidney day
- 15th March- World Consumer rights day ,
- 20th March- World Sparrow Day & International Happiness Day.
- 21st March- World Forestry day
- 22nd March- World water day
- 23rd March- World Meteorological day
- 24th March- World T.B. day
- 2 April- World Autism Awareness Day
- 7th April- World Health day
- 21st April- Civil service day
- 22nd April- World Earth day
- 24th April- Panchayat Divas
- 1st May- International Labour day
- 3rd May- World Press Freedom Day
- 11th May- National Technology day
- 21st May- Anti Terrorism day (Death day of Rajiv Gandhi)

- 31st May- Anti Tobacco day (No smoking day)
- 5th June- World Environment day
- 1st July- Doctors day
- 11th July - World population day
- 6th August- Hiroshima day
- 9th August- Nagasaki day
- 12th August- International youth day
- 29th August- National Sports day (Birthday of Dhyan Chand)
- 5th Sept- Teachers day
- 8th Sept- World Literacy day
- 14th Sept- Hindi Divas
- 15th Sept- Engineers day
- 16th Sept- Ozone day
- 2nd Oct- International Non-violence day
- 8th Oct- Air force day
- 9th Oct- World post day
- 24th Oct- United nation day
- 17th Nov- Students day
- 18th Nov- Adults day
- 19th Nov- Citizens day
- 27th Nov- National law day
- 1st Dec- AIDS day
- 4th Dec- Navy day
- 10th Dec- Human Rights day
- 14th Dec- National Energy Conservation Day.
- 24 Dec- National Consumers Rights Day

### LIST OF WORLD COUNTRIES & THEIR CAPITAL

- A**
- Afghanistan - Kabul
  - Albania - Tirana
  - Algeria - Algiers
  - Andorra - Andorra la Vella
  - Angola - Luanda
  - Antigua & Barbuda - Saint John's
  - Argentina - Buenos Aires
  - Armenia - Yerevan
  - Australia - Canberra
  - Austria - Vienna
  - Azerbaijan - Baku
- B**
- Bahamas - Nassau
  - Bahrain - Al-Manamah
  - Bangladesh - Dhaka
  - Barbados - Bridgetown
  - Belarus - Minsk
  - Belgium - Brussels
  - Belize - Belmopan
  - Bhutan - Thimphu
  - Bosnia & Herzegovina - Sarajevo
  - Botswana - Gaborone
  - Brazil - Brasilia
  - Brunei - Bandar Seri Begawan
  - Bulgaria - Sofia
  - Burkina Faso - Ouagadougou
  - Burundi – Bujumbura
- C**
- Cambodia - Phnom Penh

Cameroon - Yaounde  
 Canada - Ottawa  
 Cape Verde - Praia  
 Central African Republic - Bangui  
 Chad - N'Djamena  
 Chile - Santiago  
 China - Beijing  
 Colombia - Bogota  
 Comoros - Moroni  
 Congo - Brazzaville  
 Congo Democratic Republic of the - Kinshasa  
 Costa Rica - San Jose  
 Cote d'Ivoire - Abidjan  
 Croatia - Zagreb  
 Cuba - Havana  
 Cyprus - Nicosia  
 Czech Republic - Prague  
**D**  
 Denmark - Copenhagen  
 Djibouti - Djibouti City  
 Dominica - Roseau  
 Dominican Republic - Santo Domingo  
**E**  
 East Timor - Dili  
 Ecuador - Quito  
 Egypt - Cairo  
 El Salvador - San Salvador  
 Equatorial Guinea - Malabo  
 Eritrea - Asmara  
 Estonia - Tallinn  
 Ethiopia - Addis Ababa  
**F**  
 Fiji - Suva  
 Finland - Helsinki  
 France - Paris  
**G**  
 Gabon - Libreville  
 Gambia - Banjul  
 Georgia - Tbilisi  
 Germany - Berlin  
 Ghana - Accra  
 Greece - Athens  
 Grenada - Saint George's  
 Guatemala - Guatemala City  
 Guinea - Conakry  
 Guyana - Georgetown  
**H**  
 Haiti - Port-au-Prince  
 Honduras - Tegucigalpa  
 Hungary - Budapest  
**I**  
 Iceland - Reykjavik  
 India - New Delhi  
 Indonesia - Jakarta  
 Iran - Tehran  
 Iraq - Baghdad  
 Ireland - Dublin  
 Israel - Jerusalem  
 Italy - Rome

**J**  
 Jamaica - Kingston  
 Japan - Tokyo  
 Jordan - Amman  
**K**  
 Kazakhstan - Astana  
 Kenya - Nairobi  
 Kiribati - Tarawa Atoll  
 Korea North - Pyongyang  
 Korea South - Seoul  
 Kosovo - Pristina  
 Kuwait - Kuwait City  
 Kyrgyzstan - Bishkek  
**L**  
 Laos - Vientiane  
 Latvia - Riga  
 Lebanon - Beirut  
 Lesotho - Maseru  
 Liberia - Monrovia  
 Libya - Tripoli  
 Liechtenstein - Vaduz  
 Lithuania - Vilnius  
 Luxembourg - Luxembourg  
**M**  
 Macedonia - Skopje  
 Madagascar - Antananarivo  
 Malawi - Lilongwe  
 Malaysia - Kuala Lumpur  
 Maldives - Male  
 Mali - Bamako  
 Malta - Valletta  
 Marshall Islands - Majuro  
 Mauritania - Nouakchott  
 Mauritius - Port Louis  
 Mexico - Mexico City  
 Micronesia - Palikir  
 Moldova - Chisinau  
 Monaco - Monaco  
 Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar  
 Montenegro - Podgorica  
 Morocco - Rabat  
 Mozambique - Maputo  
 Myanmar (Burma) - Rangoon  
**N**  
 Namibia - Windhoek  
 Nauru - no official capital; government offices in Yaren District  
 Nepal - Kathmandu  
 Netherlands - Amsterdam  
 New Zealand - Wellington  
 Nicaragua - Managua  
 Niger - Niamey  
 Nigeria - Abuja  
 Norway - Oslo  
**O**  
 Oman - Muscat  
**P**  
 Pakistan - Islamabad  
 Palau - Melekeok  
 Palestinian State\*

Panama - Panama City  
 Papua New Guinea - Port Moresby  
 Paraguay - Asuncion  
 Peru - Lima  
 Philippines - Manila  
 Poland - Warsaw  
 Portugal - Lisbon  
**Q**  
 Qatar - Doha  
**R**  
 Romania - Bucharest  
 Russia - Moscow  
 Rwanda - Kigali  
**S**  
 Saint Lucia - Castries  
 Saudi Arabia - Riyadh  
 Senegal - Dakar  
 Serbia - Belgrade  
 Seychelles - Victoria  
 Sierra Leone - Freetown  
 Singapore - Singapore  
 Slovakia - Bratislava  
 Slovenia - Ljubljana  
 Solomon Islands - Honiara  
 Somalia - Mogadishu  
 South Africa - Cape Town  
 South Sudan - Juba  
 Spain - Madrid  
 Sri Lanka - Colombo; Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte (legislative)  
 Sudan - Khartoum  
 Sweden - Stockholm  
 Switzerland - Bern  
 Syria - Damascus  
**T**  
 Taiwan - Taipei  
 Tajikistan - Dushanbe  
 Tanzania - Dar es Salaam  
 Thailand - Bangkok  
 Trinidad and Tobago - Port-of-Spain  
 Tunisia - Tunis  
 Turkey - Ankara  
 Turkmenistan - Ashgabat  
**U**  
 Uganda - Kampala  
 Ukraine - Kyiv  
 United Arab Emirates - Abu Dhabi  
 United Kingdom - London  
 United States of America - Washington D.C.  
 Uruguay - Montevideo  
 Uzbekistan - Tashkent  
**V**  
 Vanuatu - Port-Vila  
 Vatican City (Holy See) - Vatican City  
 Venezuela - Caracas

Vietnam - Hanoi  
**Y**  
Yemen - Sanaa  
**Z**  
Zambia - Lusaka  
Zimbabwe – Harare

**Important Currencies**

**A**  
Afghanistan -- Afghan Afghani  
Argentina -- Peso  
Australia --- Dollar  
Austria ---European euro  
**B**  
Bangladesh--- Taka  
Bhutan ---- Ngultrum  
Brazil --- Real  
**C**  
Canada ---- Dollar  
Chile ---- Peso  
China --- Yuan  
Cuba --- Peso  
**D**  
Denmark --- Krone  
**E**  
Egypt --- Pound  
**F**

France --- Euro  
**G**  
Germany --- Euro  
**H**  
Hong Kong --- Dollar  
**I**  
India --- Rupee  
Indonesia --- Rupiah  
IMF --- Special Drawing Rights  
Iran --- Rial  
Iraq --- Dinar  
**J**  
Japan --- Yen  
**L**  
Lithuania --- Euro  
**M**  
Malaysia --- Ringgit  
Maldives --- Rufiyaa  
Mexico --- Peso  
**N**  
Nepal --- Rupee  
Netherlands -- Euro  
Norway -- Krone  
North Korea -- Won  
**P**  
Pakistan -- Rupee

Philippines --- Peso  
Portugal ---- Euro  
**Q**  
Qatar ---- Riyal  
**R**  
Russia ---- Ruble  
**S**  
Saudi Arabia -- Riyal  
Singapore -- Dollar  
South Africa -- Rand  
South Korea -- Won  
Sri Lanka -- Rupee  
Switzerland - Franc  
Syria --- Pound  
**T**  
Thailand --- Baht  
Turkey --- Lira  
**U**  
Ukraine --- Hryvnia  
UAE -- Dirham  
UK -- Pound  
USA --- Dollar  
**V**  
Vatican --- Euro  
**Z**  
Zimbabwe -- Dollar

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**Previous Year General Awareness Questions asked in IBPS RRB 2014**

1. What is the full form of CST? - Central Sales Tax
2. What is the full form of NABARD? - National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development

3. What is the full form of UGC? - University Grants Commission
4. What is the full form of SLR? - Statutory Liquidity Ratio
5. Who is Vladimir Putin? - Russian President
6. Ajinkya Rahane is related to which game? - Cricket
7. What is purpose of Jan Dhan Yojna? - Minimum one account for every family
8. Who issues RuPay card? - NPCI
9. RuPay card is linked with a bank account, how much insurance cover is linked with that account? - Rs. 1Lakh
10. Who is Robin Williams? - Hollywood Actor
11. Who is P.J Kurien? - Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha
12. According to Budget 2014, how many new Govt. Medical Colleges will be opened? - 12
13. Who is regarded as Chairperson of Planning Commission of India? - Prime Minister of India
14. What is the amount charged for ATM transactions after 5 times? - Rs. 20
15. Which Addition of game Rafael Nadal is associated - Tennis
16. In budget 2014, there was proposal of running how many passenger trains? - 8
17. The First Bullet Train will start on which Route? - Mumbai - Ahmadabad
18. How much is the tax Exemption for Senior Citizens in Budget 2014? - Rs. 3,00,000
19. Rate of Interest for Farmers under Interest Subvention Scheme scheme? - 7%
20. Who was the flag Bearer for India in Commonwealth Games 2014? - Vijay Kumar
21. How many Deputy Governors are there in RBI? - 4
22. Kundakulam Project is started in which state? - Tamil Nadu
23. Number of total new trains as per Budget 2014? - 58
24. The word 'Strike' is related to which game? - Baseball
25. Hardware park is proposed for which state? - Andhra Pradesh

26. What percent of money is increased for cleanliness in budget? - 40%
27. Who is all time highest goal scorer of Germany? - Miroslav Klose
28. Who is Wilfried Bony? - Football Striker from Ivory Coast
29. Saji Thomas is related to which game? - Rowing
30. Bhamashah Yojna in Rajasthan is for what purpose? - Women Empowerment
31. On which date Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan started - 2nd October, 2014
32. In which state Congress won all the 3 seats? - Uttarakhand
33. Bank Capitalization related to -? - Basel III Norms
34. Which country is the top source of FDI? - Singapore
35. Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan is hoping to be ended by? - 2019
36. According to the Judicial Appoints Commission, who can appoint a judge? - two eminent persons to be nominated by the Prime Minister, the CJI and the Leader of Opposition of the Lok Sabha.

**Previous Year General Awareness Questions asked in IBPS RRB 2014**

1. Which state in India has highest rural population - U.P
2. What is the currency of Finland – Euro
3. What is the capital of Egypt - Cairo
4. Where will 2015 BRIS Summit be organised - Ufa, Russia
5. When is World diabetes day observed - 14th November
6. Which movie directed by Muzaffar Ali (film maker) has won Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award winner- Umrao Jaan
7. What is the role of Chief Operating Officer (COO) appointed by RBI – as a 5th Deputy Governor of RBI
8. Dipika Pallikal and Joshana Chinappa related to which sport – Squash
9. Dronacharya Award Selection Committee is headed by whom- Ajitpal Singh
10. RBI imposing a limit on ATM transactions is applicable for which of the following cities - Pune and Raipur
11. The Nobel Prize 2013 in physics conferred to Brit Peter Higgs and - Belgian Francois Englert
12. Who wrote the Vijay Mallya Story - K Giriprakash
13. What is the minimum capital according to RBI issued draft guidelines for setting up small banks and payment banks - 100 crore
14. Which of the following is the composite art form composed of story telling, poetry, music, drama, dance, and philosophy originated in A.P and Telangana - Hari Katha
15. Who is the head of Governance of Boards of Banks in India - PJ Nayak
16. Commercial Paper (CP) is issued in which form - promissory note.
17. Union cabinet approved Ken-Betwa river link will benefit which two states - UP & MP
18. Who got field's medal by International Mathematical Union's (IMU) - Manjul Bhargava
19. Who is the Minister of Consumer Affairs, food & PD - Ramvilas Paswan
20. How much capital to be infused in banks to meet Basel-III norms by 2018 as per union budget – Rs 2.40 lakh crore
21. What is the capital of Australia? Canberra
22. Which insurance company will insure under Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana - LIC

23. Nimmo Bazgo hydropower project is located in which district of J&K- Leh
24. Which country will host 7th IBSA summit – India
25. RBI asked banks not to impose penalties not maintaining minimum balance on which of the following accounts - any inoperative account
26. Which model of first ever Smartphone was launched in 1994 - IBM Simon
27. What is the maximum amount that can be transferred to Nepal from any of the NEFT-enabled branches in India – 50,000
28. BKS Iyengar who passed away recently was a renowned ..... - Yoga teacher
29. DICGC does not cover insurance for ..... - Deposits of Government's account
30. How much is the fund allocated for Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana - 500 cr
31. What is the currency of Netherlands - Euro
32. When is Human Rights day observed - Dec 10
33. Which of the following is the Largest indigenously built warship - INS kamorta
34. which micro-finance company got the license from RBI - Bandhan
35. What is the full form of AIMA - All India Management Association
36. Who has been awarded with Business leader of the year award by AIMA - Mr M. G. George Muthoot, Chairman, The Muthoot Group
37. 2nd Summer Youth Olympic Games will be held in ..... - Nanjing, China
38. Which country is largest wind power producer - China
39. What is the definition of stale cheque in India - check that is 3 months or older than the date
40. The concept of BRIC was introduced by which economist - James O'Neil
41. What is the full form of CTS - Cheque Truncation System
42. Roger Federer related to which game - Tennis
43. Which bank launched first equated EMI on debit cards – ICICI
44. 24 engineering students died in river beas of Himachal Pradesh. The water came from which dam - Larji Dam
45. Which of the following feature of RTGS is not true - It is used for small transactions
46. Which state has Highest urban population according to census 2011 - Maharashtra
47. Which Irish author Created the character Dracula - Bram Stoker
48. Who is the Regulator of Forwards and Futures market – Forward Market Commission (FMC)
49. Which two countries participated in Surya Kiran VII Exercise - India & Nepal
50. Rongali Bihu is celebrated in which state – Assam
51. Who was given Best parliamentarian award was given to - Karan Singh and Sharad Yadav
52. 1st ever smartphone was created by which company – IBM Simon
53. The Note which is partially - fully obliterated is ..... - mutilated Note
54. What is the full form of E-BAAT - Electronic Banking Awareness and Technology

55. What is the name of the scheme launched by Health ministry as a part of "Anti tobacco campaign" - Sunita
56. Who is the head of the SIT on Black Money- M.B. Shah
57. What was the name of the committee who recommended CPI formula? - Urjit Patel Committee
58. What is the full form of CTBT - Comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty
59. Where is the Chandraprabha wildlife sanctuary located? - U.P. Varanasi
60. FII is regulated by ..... - SEBI
61. 1200 megawatt Lanco power plant in Udupai is established by which company? - Adani group
62. According to Railway Minister, In rail budget how many people travel daily by train- 23 million
63. JUAL ORAM Ministry of Tribal Affairs come from which constituency - Sundargarh, Odisha
64. Where is India's first skill development centre situated? - Jaipur, Rajasthan



#### Previous Year General Awareness Questions asked in IBPS RRB 2014

1. How many number of trains were promised during the rail budget? - 27
2. To which game the term "Hole" associated with : Golf
3. What is the full form of COO : Chief operating officer
4. What is the full form of ARC : Asset Reconstructing Company
5. Which of the following position, HR Khan is associated with : Deputy governor
6. How many new IIMs have been approved to be opened : 5
7. How many free transactions are allowed from different bank ATM in metro cities : 3
8. What is the revised age under Juvenile Crime Act - 16-18
9. M vijay is related to which of the following games : Cricket
10. Who scored highest run in 5th test from Indian Cricket Team : MS Dhoni
11. Who was the first president of India ? : Rajendra Prasad
12. What is the capital Mizoram : Aizawl
13. What is the currency of Bangladesh : TAKA
14. What is the name First satellite sent by India : Aryabhata
15. KYC related to which process : Opening bank account
16. Which Cricketer soon became a politician in Pakistan : Imran Khan
17. Adani invested 15.5 bn in which country : Australia
18. Udupi thermal power plant purchased by which company : Adani
19. Maryam Mirzakhani belongs to which country : Iran
20. Sergio Ramos is associated with which sport : Football
21. What is the Education Cess : 3%
22. Boko Haram organisation is from which country ? Nigeria
23. Operation Vijay is related to which of the following places : Kargil
24. Which of the following group won Ashok Chakra Winner : Major Mohit Sharma (Posthumous), Havildar Rajesh Kumar (Posthumous), Major D. Sreeram Kumar
25. SEBI related to which of the following : Money Market

#### Previous Year General Awareness Questions asked in IBPS RRB 2014

1. What is current CRR Rate - 4%
  2. How much % Bank Rate cut down in monetary policy - 0.25%
  3. What is the Minimum paid-up capital for payment banks? - Rs 100 Crore
  4. Which organisation gives loan to landless farmer? - NABARD
  5. BRICS bank head office will be located in which country - Shanghai, China
  6. "Strictly Personal, Manmohan and Gursharan" a book is written by - Daman Singh
  7. In India economic condition are measured after - 5 yrs
  8. Governor of U.P - Ram Naik
  9. Lab To Land is an initiative of which Ministry - Ministry of Rural Development
  10. Who is Tony Abbott - Prime Minister of Australia
  11. Who is the Home Minister - Rajnath Singh
  12. Who is Civil aviation Minister - Ashok Gajapati Raju
  13. Which state ban wearing dhoti in parliament- Tamil Nadu
  14. Which state has large number of tigers- Karnataka
- Note: Tiger census: In the latest census, Karnataka has overtaken Madhya Pradesh, as the state with the most tigers.
15. What is the age limit for voting right - 18 years
  16. ISIS is active in which country - Iraq
  17. Mars Orbiter Mission, informally called ..... - Mangalyaan
  18. What is HAL Dhruv - It is a utility helicopter developed and manufactured by India's Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.
  19. Rainfall density is highest in which state- Cherrapunji, Meghalaya
  20. Who is the head of UNESCO - Irina Bokova
  21. Who is Ban Ki Moon - Secretary-General of UN
  22. Which country is helping India for Ganga rejuvenation - Japan
  23. According to Union budget 2014-15, Agricultural university will open in which state - Andhra Pradesh & Rajasthan
  24. Gandhi Nagar is the capital of which state- Gujarat
  25. Nalanda university is located in which state - Bihar
  26. Who is Telangan's state brand ambassador- Sania Mirza
  27. Human Development index 2014 topped by which country - Norway
  28. What is Capital of Maldives- Malé
  29. Bangkok is the capital of which country- Thailand
  30. Jitu Rai is associated with which game - Shooting
  31. What is the rank of India in CWG 2014 games medal tally - Fifth
  32. Parupalli Kashyap is related to which game - Badminton
  33. K. Sanjita Chanu belongs to which state - Manipur
  34. Tiger Woods is related with which game- Golf
  35. Novak Djokovic is related to which game - Tennis
  36. Roger Federer is related to which game - Tennis
  37. Which country tops medal tally in CWE 2014 games - England
  38. Which country finished 2nd rank in medal tally in CWE 2014 games - Australia
  39. Union Cabinet approved the Juvenile Justice Bill, 2014, age limit for juvenile to be carried in court for heinous crime is - The bill will treat minors above the age of 16 as adults, who are accused of heinous crimes like rape and murder.
  40. HUCK term related to which game- Ultimate Frisbee

Note: HUCK : A long pass; often nearly the full length of the pitch and high to a tall player in the endzone.

Ultimate Frisbee is played between two teams of seven players on a large rectangular pitch.

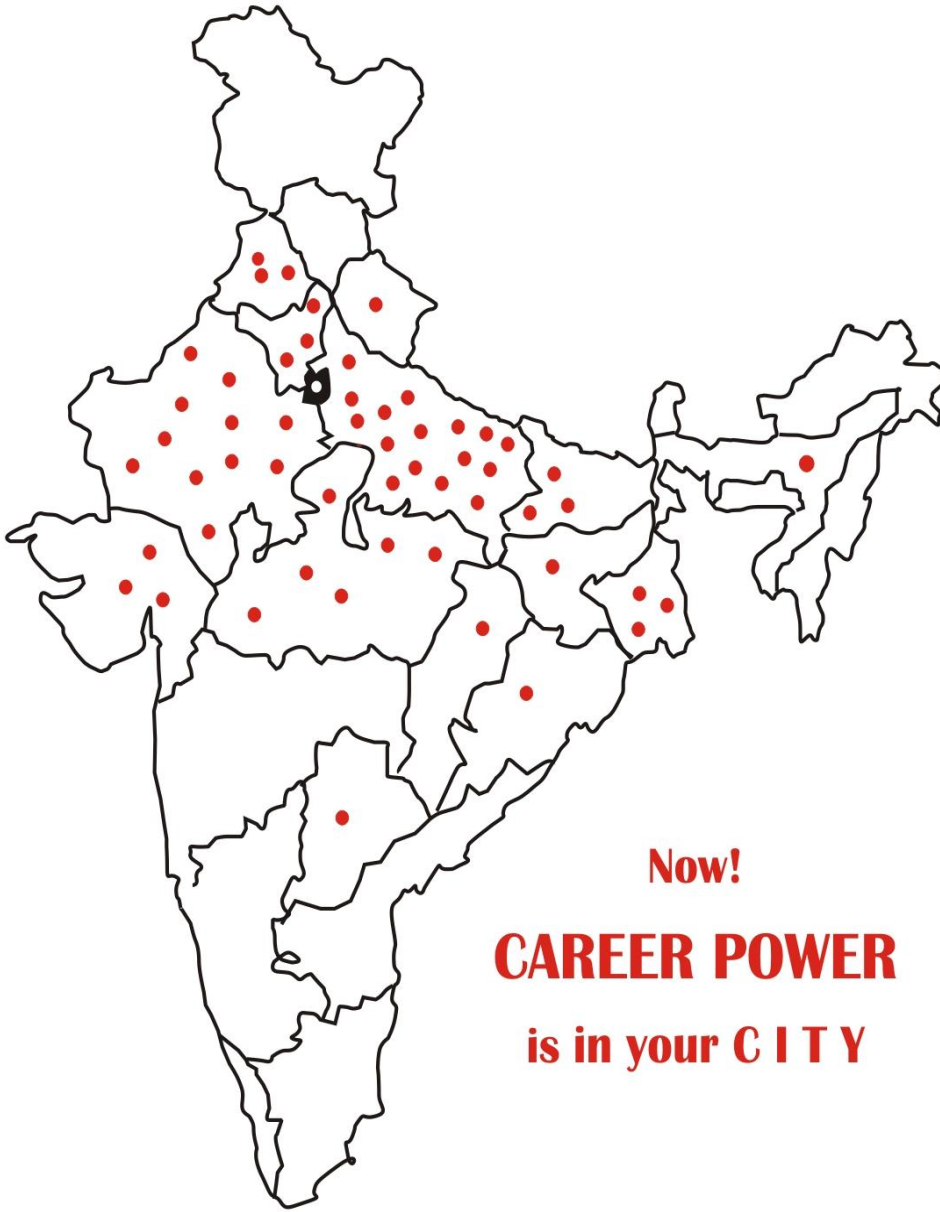
A line drawn across the pitch at either end creates two "endzones" (like in American Football). These are the goal-scoring areas. A goal is scored when a team completes a pass to a player standing (or more likely running) in the endzone they are attacking.

#### Previous Year General Awareness Questions asked in IBPS RRB 2014

1. Bharat Bill Payment System - "any where any time payment system"
2. FDI in insurance sector - 49%
3. Proposed number of IIMs in Union Budget – 5
4. Serena Williams related to – Tennis
5. How many gold medals India got in commonwealth games – 15
6. Paran Kumar – Cartoonist
7. One question related to INS Kolkata?
8. In which city of Japan Mou signed for making Varanasi smart city – Kyoto
9. Minister of Parliamentary affairs state – Prakash Javadekar
10. Minimum pension under EPFO: Rs 1000
11. In one time how many Rs currency printed by RBI
12. According Census 2011 which state has highest population: Uttar Pradesh
13. Which Metro city celebrated its 375th anniversary: Chennai
14. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee National Rural Mission: stop migration from rural areas to cities
15. Go India Smart Card by: Northern Railways
16. Teenage Swimmer USA Create World Record: Katie Ledecky
17. Kuchipudi is a classical dance of : Andhra Pradesh
18. AIMA Entrepreneur of the year: Mr Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, Chairman and Managing Director, Bandhan Financial Services.
19. International Day against drug abuse- June 26

20. Textile join hand with for handloom weavers: Flipkart
21. India to give grant of \$1 million for construction of cricket stadium in: Kandhaar, Afghanistan
22. Paragliding world cup will be held in: Kangara,HP
23. Japan –Yen
24. Indonesia Capital: Jakarta
25. Playing It My Way Book Autobiography of : Sachin Tendulkar
26. BASIC Countries- Brazil South Africa, India and China
27. Full form of DTAA- Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement
28. One question on MICR and cheque?
29. Which of the bank has been featured in Forbes Asia's FAB 50 list of 2014: Axis Bank
30. Total Number of Rajya Sabha seats: 250
31. Totals seats for Uttar Pradesh for elections: 80
32. India nuclear deal with country- Australia
33. Who is Sumitra Mahajan: Lok Sabha Speaker
34. How many seats does BJP won in U.P: 71
35. Usain Bolt represent which country: Jamaica
36. In the 4th test with England how many Indian batsman gone to duck: Six
37. Who are Bank Mitras?
38. Pran Kumar Sharma related to which field: Cartoonist
39. In which state elections will be held in 2015: Bihar
40. Vinod Kumar Duggal resigned as a governor from which state: Manipur
41. Virbhadra Singh is the chief minister of which state: Himachal Pradesh
42. India won how many gold, Silver, Bronze respectively in common wealth: 15,30,19
43. Full form of ETF: Exchange Traded Fund

# Our Presence in India



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is in your CITY

**Delhi** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Laxmi Nagar 08750505082
- ▶ Kingsway Camp 08750505084
- ▶ Rohini 08750505047
- ▶ Munirka 08750505023
- ▶ Uttam Nagar 08750505076
- ▶ Old Rajendra Nagar 08750505097

**Uttar Pradesh** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Noida Sector-12 08750505074
- ▶ Noida Sector-18 08750505022
- ▶ Ghaziabad 08750050801
- ▶ Lucknow Mahanagar 07505050503
- ▶ Lucknow Alambagh 07505950507
- ▶ Aligarh 07409093000
- ▶ Bareilly 09012333385
- ▶ Kanpur 07505050506
- ▶ Meerut (Baccha Park) 07055546662
- ▶ Meerut (Old Delhi Chungli) 07055044779
- ▶ Agra 07055891953
- ▶ Chandausi 08535013150
- ▶ Varanasi-Durgakund 07275075593
- ▶ Varanasi- Sagra 07275075594
- ▶ Jhansi 09415828545
- ▶ Moradabad 09837621116
- ▶ Faizabad 08960360129

Coming Soon.. ▶ Mathura ▶ Gorakhpur ▶ Allahabad

**Madhya Pradesh** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Gwalior 09644340011
- ▶ Bhopal 09685985799
- ▶ Guna 07542255877
- ▶ Indore 08982737301
- ▶ Rewa 09752216820
- ▶ Chhatarpur 09479652676

**Rajasthan** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Jodhpur 08560907792
- ▶ Bikaner 08094402345
- ▶ Ajmer 09772228899
- ▶ Udaipur 09587387555
- ▶ Pali 08560807794
- ▶ Sikar 08233200291
- ▶ Jaipur 07742836868
- ▶ Hanumangarh 08385875151
- ▶ Jhunjhunu 08875005981
- ▶ Alwar 09024610363
- ▶ Sri Ganganagar 08385870101

Coming Soon.. ▶ Kota

**Jharkhand** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Ranchi 09334652565
- ▶ Dhanbad
- ▶ Jamshedpur

Coming Soon..

**West Bengal** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Kolkata 09339920009
- ▶ Rishra-Hooghly 09331918985
- ▶ Durgapur 09798973169

**Punjab** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Bhatinda 09888377003
- ▶ Ludhiana 08872003570
- ▶ Amritsar
- ▶ Patiala

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**Telangana** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Hyderabad 09319312467

**Chhattisgarh** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Bhilai 09981083333
- ▶ Raipur

Coming Soon..

**Odisha** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Brahmapur 09778433533
- ▶ Cuttack
- ▶ Puri
- ▶ Bhubaneswar

Coming Soon..

**Gujarat** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Ahmedabad 09726110183
- ▶ Gandhi Nagar 09104813773
- ▶ Anand 07567145525

**Bihar** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Patna 07050816141
- ▶ Muzaffarpur 07061274036
- ▶ Ara 09931666733

**Haryana** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Rohtak 08950455444
- ▶ Sonapat 09996017020
- ▶ Ambala 09355155557

**Uttarakhand** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Roorkee 07060189489
- ▶ Dehradun

Coming Soon..

**Assam** CAREER POWER AN IIT/IIM ALUMNI COMPANY

- ▶ Guwahati 08752933801