



# THE HINDU

## MONTHLY HINDU REVIEW

# JULY 2017

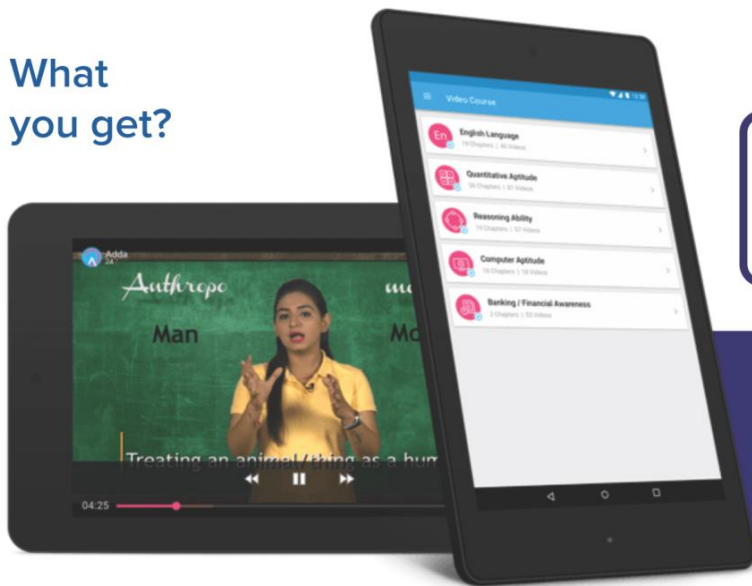
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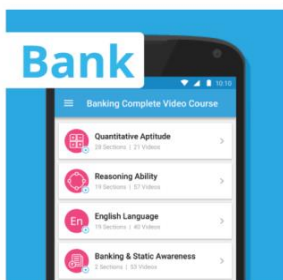


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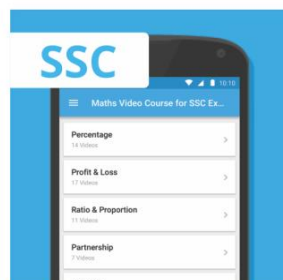


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## Banking Current Affairs

- ✦ Karnataka Bank, in association with its PNB MetLife launched Met Loan and Life Suraksha (MLLS), a single premium plan covering the loan liability of a customer.
- ✦ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) started full-fledged merchant banking operations to benefit the expanding number of growth-oriented micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). The initiative aimed at enhancing the access of MSMEs to the capital markets, including the SME Trading Platform and Institutional Trading Platform.
- ✦ Canara Bank launched its first 'Digital Banking Branch' named 'CANDI' in Bengaluru. The branch will provide an end-to-end digital experience to customers. The bank has introduced customer-friendly mobile apps which help customers get most of the information related to their accounts from the app without the need to visit the branch.
- ✦ Aurionpro Solutions a global leader in digital innovation, enterprise security and banking solutions, announced its Branch-in-a-Box product, the Virtual Teller Machine (VTM) a fully integrated self-service kiosk for automating 90% of banking transactions at the branch level.
- ✦ Standard Chartered Bank launched a Multi-currency Forex Card for overseas travelers. The card will allow customers the convenience of loading up to 20 widely used currencies on one card with an online reload facility during overseas travel.
- ✦ Axis Bank announced the acquisition of Snapdeal-owned mobile payments provider Freecharge in an all-cash deal worth Rs385 crore. The deal is subject to regulatory approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the indicative time-frame to complete the acquisition is two months, the private sector lender said in an exchange filing.
- ✦ National Payments Corporation of India received a final nod from the Reserve Bank of India to function as the Bharat Bill Payment Central Unit (BBPCU) and operate the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS).
- ✦ Indian Overseas Bank has offered Bharat Bill Payment System, introduced by the National Payments Corporation of India, for its customers. BBPS is an integrated bill payment system that offers interoperable online bill payments to customers.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India set up Supervisory Colleges for six Scheduled Commercial Banks which have sizeable international presence: - State Bank of India, ICICI Bank Ltd., Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Axis Bank Ltd. and Punjab National Bank. The objectives are to enhance information exchange and cooperation among supervisors, to improve understanding of the risk profile of the banking group and thereby facilitate more effective supervision of internationally active banks.
- ✦ State Bank of India (SBI), the Carlyle Group and GE announced that they have signed definitive agreements, whereby SBI and Carlyle Group will acquire GE Capital's entire stake in SBI Card, the second-largest credit card franchise in India.
- ✦ The decline in rate of inflation and high real interest rates have prompted SBI to cut the savings bank deposits rate from 4 per cent to 3.5 per cent on deposits below Rs. 1 crore. The savings bank deposits above Rs. 1 crore will continue to earn 4 per cent interest. The cut in SB rate will enable it to maintain the marginal cost of funds based lending rate at the current level.
- ✦ ICICI Bank will be selling personal loans of up to Rs 15 lakh through its ATMs that can be availed of by select salaried customers even if they haven't previously applied for one.
- ✦ State Bank of India has launched 'SBI Realty' - a one-stop integrated website [www.sbirealty.in](http://www.sbirealty.in) for home buyers. This will help customers to choose their dream home from 3,000 SBI approved projects across the country.
- ✦ FINO Payments Bank has commenced operations as a payments bank. FINO PayTech Ltd, Navi Mumbai, was one of the 11 applicants which were issued the in-principle approval for setting up a payments bank.
- ✦ Rajkiran Rai G has been assumed charge as Managing Director & CEO of Union Bank of India. Melwyn Rego has been assumed charge as Managing Director & CEO of Syndicate Bank.
- ✦ RBI stated the ongoing accelerated reform initiatives like Goods and Service Tax and continuing political stability will push the economic growth scale to 7.3 % in terms of Gross Value Added -GVA in the current fiscal year (2017-18).
- ✦ ICICI Bank said that its joint venture agreement with Canada-based investment firm Fairfax Financial Holdings has been terminated.
- ✦ China-based Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) announced its approval to a \$329 million loan to build access roads across 4,000 villages in Gujarat.
- ✦ South Indian Bank has tied up with PFG Forex for remittance facility for the benefit of Indian expatriates from Australia. The new facility will leverage the bank to reach the Indian diaspora.
- ✦ Indus OS has partnered with YES Bank to launch OS-integrated UPI (Unified Payment Interface) payment platform in India.
- ✦ Retirement fund body EPFO (Employees' Provident Fund Organisation) has inked pacts with five banks for collections of provident dues and to make retirement payments. It has tied up with Bank of Baroda, ICICI


Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank.

- ✦ Kewal Handa was appointed as non-executive chairman of Union Bank of India.
- ✦ Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance has entered into an alliance with the Kerala-based Dhanlaxmi Bank for marketing various life insurance products. The Bank will be a corporate agent for 3 years.
- ✦ RBI allowed systematically important non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) to sell and market the new pension scheme (NPS).
- ✦ Nepal SBI Bank, a subsidiary of the State Bank of India, launched its fully automatic digital banking services in the Nepalese capital Kathmandu.
- ✦ The next tranche of sovereign gold bond (SGB) scheme was launched recently by the Government. This time, providing a 2.5 percent annual interest to investors.
- ✦ Reserve Bank of India amended its earlier order asking banks to initiate bankruptcy proceedings against 12 companies which have outstanding loans amounting to over Rs 5,000 crore as on March 2016. The amendment, made through a notification, comes after the Gujarat High Court asked the RBI to remove the stipulation on its order last month that the 12 non-performing assets (NPAs), or bad loans, would be granted priority at the National Company Law Tribunal.
- ✦ Axis Bank has entered into a collaboration with Inter-American Investment Corporation (IIC) to facilitate trade with Latin America and the Caribbean. Axis Bank becomes the first Indian bank to participate in the Trade Finance Facilitation Programme as a confirming bank.
- ✦ Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurated the 36th NABARD Foundation Day and Silver Jubilee of SHG Bank Linkage Programme, in New Delhi. Self Help Group Bank Linkage Programme (SHG BLP) is a pioneering initiative of Financial Inclusion by NABARD.
- ✦ Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs M Venkaiah Naidu released the new version of NHB RESIDEX on the occasion of the annual day of National Housing Bank. NHB RESIDEX captures movements in the prices of residential real estate prices.
- ✦ YES Bank along with YES Global Institute has launched 'YES GST' program for MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) under its MSME CSR initiative. Through the program, the bank will help MSMEs to understand the impact of the changes in tax system and prepare them to know the new GST tax system.
- ✦ SBI has waived charges for fund transfer of up to Rs 1,000 through its IMPS (Immediate Payment Service) to promote small transactions.

- ✦ To encourage more customers to transact digitally, State Bank of India will slash charges for National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) and Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions by up to 75 per cent with effect from July 15.
- ✦ Private sector YES Bank has received \$150 million funding from the US government and Wells Fargo to increase lending to support women entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises in India.
- ✦ Digital payments company MobiKwik has partnered Samsung Pay, under which consumers will be able to make payments with a single tap using select Samsung handsets.



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### Schemes/Portals/Missions Launched

- ✦ Maharashtra government approved a revised policy of the 'Majhi Kanya Bhagyashree' scheme, according to which families who have a yearly income of up to Rs 7.5 lakh will be benefited. The scheme was launched by the state government on April 1, 2016, in place of 'Sukanya' scheme. It is aimed at improving the skewed girl child ratio, prevent sex determination and female foeticide, and support female education. Families having an income up to Rs 7.5 lakh will be eligible for the scheme. After bearing the first girl child, if the mother or the father undergoes a family planning operation, a sum of Rs 50,000 shall be deposited in a bank in the name of the girl child. The scheme will be valid only if there are a maximum of two girl children born. In case a third child is born, the scheme shall become invalid for the first two as well.
- ✦ Finance Minister Arun Jaitley released the National Trade Facilitation Action Plan. This Action Plan gives a time bound map, not only for implementing TFA, but also for India's initiatives for trade facilitation and ease of doing business which goes beyond TFA.

- ✦ Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY), a pension scheme exclusively for senior citizens with 8% fixed rate of interest on their savings. Under this scheme, there will be an assured return of 8 per cent over a tenure of 10 years. It can be purchased offline as well as online through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India which has been given the sole privilege to operate this scheme.
- ✦ Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, Rural Development, Drinking Water & Sanitation- Shri Narendra Singh Tomar launched the Mobile App for Road Maintenance "Aarambh". This Mobile Phone App aims at the use of GIS based mapping for making road inventories, condition surveys, and producing cost estimates and other relevant data for preparation and monitoring of annual road maintenance plans.
- ✦ Minister of Women & Child Development, Smt. Maneka Gandhi launched an online complaint management system titled Sexual Harassment electronic-Box (SHe-Box) for registering complaints related to sexual harassment at workplace in New Delhi.
- ✦ Union Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Dr. Harshvardhan launched an app "India Quake" for Earthquake Parameter Dissemination. The App will make information dissemination faster with no restrictions on the number of recipients.
- ✦ Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Dr. Harshvardhan launched an app "Sagar Vani". 'Sagar Vani' has been launched to disseminate ocean related information and alerts to the user community in a timely manner for their safety.
- ✦ Karnataka government has launched the 'Elevate 100' scheme to identify and nurture innovative start-ups. The aim is to identify 100 most innovative start-ups in the state to elevate them to the next level of success.
- ✦ Ministry of Power launched a portal for optimum utilization of domestic coal by independent power producer (IPP).
- ✦ Centre has launched an app - GST Rates Finder to verify the accurate tax rate on commodity and services under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime. Through this app, user can determine GST rate by entering the name of the commodity or service.
- ✦ Jigyasa, a student- scientist connect program was launched in New Delhi. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), has joined hands with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) to implement this program.
- ✦ President Pranab Mukherjee has launched digital initiatives - Swayam, Swayam Prabha and National Academic Depository - in New Delhi to push e-education in the country. The aim of the initiatives is to

raise the Gross Enrollment Ratio in the higher education from 24.5 to 30 by 2020.

- ✦ Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched 'Aaykar Setu', an e-initiative for the Income tax Department to directly communicate with the taxpayers and aimed at providing information on useful tax services.
- ✦ Meghalaya Chief Minister Mukul Sangma recently launched an ambitious flagship program titled "Livelihood Intervention and Facilitation of Entrepreneurship" (LIFE) at Songsak. It will focus on capacity building.
- ✦ Minister of Railways Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhakar launched the Initiatives named RailCloud, NIVARAN & Cashless treatment Scheme in Emergency (CTSE).
- ✦ Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare launched the National Strategic Plan for Malaria Elimination (2017-22). The Strategic Plan gives year wise elimination targets in various parts of the country depending upon the endemicity of malaria in the next 5 The 22nd World Petroleum Congress (WPC) International Conference was held recently in Istanbul, Turkey.
- ✦ The government has launched a GST training programme to skill around two lakh youths in six months to handle tax compliance issues like invoice making. The people would be trained under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).

## State in News

- ✦ Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik dedicated to the nation the state's longest bridge and named it after Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. The 2.88 km bridge over the river Kathajodi will connect the state capital of Bhubaneswar with Cuttack reducing the distance between the two cities by 12 km.
- ✦ Punjab government announced the launch of its flagship 'Apni Gaddi Apna Rozgar' scheme by flagging off over 100 uber MOTO bikes. Under the scheme, the state government will be providing commercial two wheelers and four wheelers to unemployed youth at subsidized rates.
- ✦ Telangana State will have eco-friendly bridges over a canal cutting across the tiger corridor linking the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) in the Chandrapur district of Maharashtra with the forests in Telangana's Kumram Bheem Asifabad district.
- ✦ Telangana government launched a special portal called "Janahitha" to receive complaints from the public. The portal is a single window for all grievances and their redressal management.
- ✦ Meghalaya Chief Minister Dr. Mukul Sangma launched 'Mission Football' at JN Sports Complex, Shillong. It is an initiative to help develop skills of football enthusiasts and develop young footballers for the country. It is a dedicated program for talent


identification and nurturing of talents to develop national and international players.

- ✦ Mumbai Metro announced the launch of India's first Mobile Ticketing System 'OnGo' which will help commuters pass the AFC gates using their mobile phones.
- ✦ Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Rajeev Pratap Rudy and MP Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan laid the foundation stone of the country's biggest Global Skill Park in Bhopal. Training will be imparted to 1000 students every year by trainers of international standard.
- ✦ The Centre and Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a 220 million dollar loan for improving connectivity as well as transport efficiency and safety on State Highways of Rajasthan.
- ✦ Entire Nagaland has been declared as "disturbed area" for six more months under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), which empowers security forces to conduct operations anywhere without any prior notice.
- ✦ President gave his assent to the bill passed by Karnataka Assembly to legalise traditional buffalo race 'Kambala'.
- ✦ Jammu and Kashmir Assembly adopted a resolution to implement the goods and services tax (GST), bringing the state's indirect taxation into the new unified tax regime.
- ✦ Ahmedabad city has been declared as a World Heritage City at the 41st session of UNESCO's world heritage committee being held at Krakow in Poland.
- ✦ Delhi became the second state to launch e-RTI portal that will enable citizens to file online Right to Information (RTI). Maharashtra is the first state to launch the online RTI platform.
- ✦ Maharashtra has become the first state in the country to provide women an injectable contraceptive for free.
- ✦ Rajasthan becomes the first state in the country to fix minimum educational qualification for contesting cooperative body polls. The minimum educational qualifications now will range from class 5 to class 8.
- ✦ Maharashtra has become the first state to make social boycott a crime after President Pranab Mukherjee cleared the legislation.

### New Appointments

- ✦ Ravi Mittal, who has joined as additional secretary in the Finance Ministry in place of Anil Khachi, is now a part-time member on the board of IRDAI. Mittal has replaced N S Rao at IRDAI.
- ✦ The ruling Pakistan Muslim League has selected Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi to be the interim Prime Minister of Pakistan.

- ✦ TR Zeliang appointed as the Chief Minister of Nagaland by Governor PB Acharya. This will be the second term for Zeliang.
- ✦ M Venkaiah Naidu, the vice presidential candidate of the BJP-led ruling coalition, quit the government and BJP. Smriti Irani took additional charge of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and Narendra Tomar took charge of Urban Development.
- ✦ Britain's first woman Sikh MP Preet Kaur Gill has been elected to an influential cross-party panel in the UK Parliament that examines the workings of the Home Office.
- ✦ Sanjay Kothari, Chairman of Public Enterprises Selection Board appointed as Secretary to President-elect Ram Nath Kovind. Senior journalist Ashok Malik has been named as Press Secretary to Kovind. Senior Gujarat-cadre forest service officer Bharat Lal will be Joint Secretary to Kovind.
- ✦ Senior diplomat and External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Gopal Baglay appointed as Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office.
- ✦ UK government appointed Brenda Marjorie Hale as the first female President of the Supreme Court, the senior-most judge of the country. Hale will take charge from Lord Neuberger.
- ✦ Raveesh Kumar is appointed as the next spokesperson of the ministry of external affairs. Kumar will replace Gopal Baglay.
- ✦ Mr. Ram Nath Kovind took over as the 14th President of India. He administered the oath of office by the Chief Justice of India Justice J S Khehar.
- ✦ Janalakshmi Financial Services (JFS), the largest microfinance company, has announced the appointment of its new CEO Ajay Kanwal.



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- ✦ Nitish Kumar took oath as CM in Patna as the head of the government that would include BJP and its allies. Prior to this, the party of Nitish Kumar, JD-(U) was


supported by Mahagathbandhan allies with Lalu Yadav led RJD.

- ✦ Economic Affairs Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg appointed as Indias Alternate Governor on the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Garg replaced former DEA Secretary Shaktikanta Das.
- ✦ Nawaz Sharif has resigned as prime minister of Pakistan following a decision by the country's Supreme Court to disqualify him from office.
- ✦ Olympic silver medallist P V Sindhu has been appointed a Group-I officer in Andhra Pradesh.
- ✦ Axis Bank has re-appointed Shikha Sharma as MD & CEO of Axis Bank for the three-year term from June 2018.
- ✦ NDA candidate Ram Nath Kovind declared by the Secretary General of Lok Sabha Anoop Mishra as elected President of India. Mr. Kovind got 7,02,044 votes while his opponent, the joint Opposition candidate Meira Kumar, got 3,67,314 out of a total of 10,69,358. He will be sworn in as the 14th President of India.
- ✦ US President Donald Trump has nominated Krishna R. Urs to be the ambassador to Peru.
- ✦ Serbian parliament voted in Ana Brnabic, an openly gay woman, as the Country's Prime Minister in a landmark move for the patriarchal conservative country and the entire Balkans region.
- ✦ Achal Kumar Joti has been appointed as the next Chief Election Commissioner.
- ✦ Himachal Pradesh director general of police (DGP) Sanjay Kumar has been appointed as the new chief of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- ✦ Pradeep Kumar Rawat presently a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Indonesia.
- ✦ Tata Global Beverages Ltd. appointed Natarajan Chandrasekaran as the Chairman of its board with immediate effect. Chandrasekaran will succeed Harish Bhat.
- ✦ Saima Wazed Hossain, a globally renowned champion for the cause of autism spectrum disorder has been appointed as the WHO's goodwill ambassador for autism in the world body's Southeast Asia region.
- ✦ India's Ambassador to Peru Sandeep Chakravorty has been appointed as the head of the Indian consulate in New York.
- ✦ Senior bureaucrat John Joseph has been appointed Director General of Goods and Services Tax Intelligence (DG GSTI). The DG GSTI is the new name given to the Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence (DGCEI).
- ✦ Mongolian Businessman and Martial Arts expert Khaltmaa Battulga was sworn in as president of Mongolia.

- ✦ The board of TATA SIA Airlines Ltd, which owns and operates the full-service airline Vistara, has appointed former SilkAir head Leslie Thng as Vistara's new chief executive officer (CEO), effective from October 2017.
- ✦ Debi Prasad Dash taken over as director-general of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DG-DRI), the premier agency that tackles smuggling and black money.
- ✦ Senior bureaucrat Subhash Chandra Garg assumed charge as Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) in the Finance Ministry.
- ✦ Tata Sons, the holding company of the Tata Group, has appointed Aarthi Subramanian as the conglomerate's chief digital officer. American technology giant Google has acquired Bangalore-based artificial intelligence (AI) firm Halli Labs for an undisclosed sum.
- ✦ Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave the Information and Broadcasting portfolio to Smriti Irani. The Urban Development Ministry, which was also being handled by Naidu, has been given to Narendra Singh Tomar.
- ✦ The Centre has appointed Mukesh Kumar Jain as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Oriental Bank of Commerce, a public-sector bank.
- ✦ UNICEF appointed Indian- origin Canadian YouTube star Lilly Singh as its newest Global Goodwill Ambassador at a special event in New Delhi.
- ✦ Senior advocate K K Venugopal's name has been cleared for appointment as the Attorney General for India following the decision of Mukul Rohatgi to step down as the top law officer.
- ✦ Justice Gopal Prasad Parajuli will be the new Chief Justice of Nepal.
- ✦ Shri R K Pachnanda, an IPS officer, took charge as the new Director General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), recently.



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## Economy & Business Current Affairs

- ✦ According to Asian Development Bank supplement report, India is expected to achieve the projected growth rate of 7.4 per cent in 2017 and further up to 7.6 per cent next year on strong consumption demand.
- ✦ The all-powerful GST Council has reduced the tax rate on fertiliser to 5% from previously decided 12%. In another move to give relief to farmers, also cut the tax rate on exclusive parts of tractors from 28% to 18%.
- ✦ The government has lowered interest rate on small saving schemes by 0.1 percent for the July- September quarter. Now, investments in the public provident fund (PPF) scheme will fetch lower annual rate of 7.8 percent, Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) investments will yield 7.5% and mature in 115 months. Sukanya Samridhhi Account Scheme, will offer 8.3% & 5-year Senior Citizens Savings Scheme will yield 8.3%.
- ✦ From January 1, 2018, the retail sale price shall be the maximum retail price (MRP) inclusive of all taxes, with the provision to round off the price to the nearest rupee or 50 paise.
- ✦ The government has merged the urban development and housing and urban poverty alleviation ministries. Now this will be known as Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- ✦ The growth of eight core sectors slowed to 3.6 % in May due to fall in output of coal and fertilisers.
- ✦ Google launched 'Hire', a recruiting app for small- and medium-sized businesses that also integrates seamlessly with G Suite. It is a move to compete with Microsoft-owned LinkedIn.
- ✦ Yatra Online Inc, India's second-largest online travel operator acquired corporate travel services provider Air Travel Bureau (ATB).
- ✦ Technology giant Microsoft officially launched 'Kaizala', a productivity app that has been designed to enhance the collaboration and communication experience for Indian enterprises. The 'Made for India' app is designed for large group communications and work management and works even on 2G networks.
- ✦ Amazon's share price propelled founder Jeff Bezos to the top of a list of the world's richest individuals – for less than a day.
- ✦ Google CEO Sundar Pichai has been appointed to the board of directors of Alphabet, the search giant's parent company. Alphabet is the second most valuable U.S. company behind Apple.
- ✦ Aadhaar architect Nandan Nilekani and Helion Venture's Sanjeev Aggarwal have launched an investment fund called Fundamentum with a corpus of \$100 million to back startups looking for growth capital.

- ✦ Siemens opened its first digital factory in India, also the third globally after one each in Germany and China.

## Sports

- ✦ Sebastian Vettel of Ferrari won the Hungarian Grand Prix, to claim his fourth victory of the season.
- ✦ Indian boxers packed quite a heavy punch at the 48th Grand Prix Usti Nad Labem, clinching five gold, two silver, and one bronze medal at the event in the Czech Republic. World Championships bronze-medallist Shiva Thapa (60kg), former Commonwealth Games gold-medallist Manoj Kumar (69kg), Amit Phangal (52kg), Gaurav Bidhuri (56kg) and Satish Kumar (+91kg) claimed gold medals.
- ✦ The 20-year-old Caeleb Dressel established himself as America's newest star of the pool recently, becoming the first swimmer to win three gold medals on a single night at either the worlds or the Olympics. Caeleb Dressel accomplished this feat at 2017 FINA World Aquatics Championships in Budapest, Hungary.
- ✦ Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has appointed Bharat Arun as the Indian Cricket team's bowling coach. They also to retain Sanjay Bangar as an assistant coach and R Sridhar as fielding coach till the 2019 ODI World Cup.
- ✦ World football's governing body FIFA lifted the ban on the Sudan Football Association (SFA) imposed on it for the failure to abide by agreements mentioned in articles 14 and 19 of the FIFA statute.
- ✦ Tamil film actor Kamal Haasan appointed as brand icon of Pro Kabaddi League franchise Tamil Thalaivas, co-owned by India batting legend Sachin Tendulkar.
- ✦ India's Karamjyoti Dalal won bronze medal at the World Para Athletics Championships 2017 in the discus-throw. In the women's F55 category of discus-throw, she managed a throw of 19.02 m. Sundar Singh Gurjar won gold medal in the men's javelin throw.
- ✦ Indian eves lost to England by a narrow margin of nine runs in the ICC Women's World Cup final at Lord's in London. For England, it was their fourth Women's World Cup.
- ✦ India skipper Mithali Raj chosen as the captain of the ICC Women's World Cup 2017 team by the International Cricket Council.
- ✦ World Youth Champion Sachin Siwach clinched a gold medal at the Commonwealth Youth Games, Bahamas after defeating Welsh boxer James Nathan Prober in the final.
- ✦ International Boxing Association (AIBA) announced that India will host their first Men's World Championship in 2021. The AIBA Men's World Championships 2019 will be held in Russia city of Sochi. The 2018 Women's World Championships will also be held in New Delhi.



- ✦ India's Ajay Singh won the bronze medal in Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships at Kathmandu, taking India's tally to three. S. Nirpupama Devi had won bronze in 69 kgs women youth category. Konsam Ormila Devi had won gold in 44kg weight category.
- ✦ Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Competition Committee officially awarded Indonesia the hosting of the AFC Under-19 championship 2018.
- ✦ HS Prannoy notched up a thrilling three-game win over Commonwealth Games champion Parupalli Kashyap in an all-Indian final to clinch the \$120,000 US Open Grand Prix Gold. It was held at Anaheim, California USA. In the women's singles of the tournament, Japanese Aya Ohori won the final.
- ✦ Germany has lifted their maiden Confederation Cup Football title by defeating Chile in the final. The match was held at the Krestovsky Stadium in Saint Petersburg, Russia.
- ✦ India's leading cueist Pankaj Advani teamed up with Laxman Rawat to demolish Pakistan in the final of the Asian Team Snooker Championship in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- ✦ India's Manpreet Kaur claimed the gold medal in the women's shot put in the Asian Athletics Championships 2017 at the Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Govindan Laxmanan emerged triumphant in the men's 5,000 meters and has also won Gold Medal.
- ✦ Athaya Thitikul, a 14-year-old amateur from Thailand has won on the Ladies European Tour, supplanting Lydia Ko as the youngest champion on the circuit.
- ✦ Valtteri Bottas roared to the second victory of his career when he won the Austrian Grand Prix for Mercedes.
- ✦ India's Harinder Pal Sandhu beat Rhys Dowling of Australia in the final to lift South Australian Open squash title.
- ✦ India has topped the medal tally for the first time in the history of Asian Athletics Championships. The hosts ended the championships on top with a haul of 29 medals which included 12 gold, 5 silver, and 12 bronze.
- ✦ Rio Olympics silver medallist P V Sindhu was bestowed with the 'Sportsperson of the Year' award during the 'Maruti Suzuki Sportsperson of the Year' Charity Gala Awards.
- ✦ Mithali became the woman cricketer who has scored most runs in ODIs. Mithali Raj became the first women's player to reach 6000 ODI runs.
- ✦ Ravi Shastri became Indian cricket team's new head coach.
- ✦ India's Sundar Singh Gurjar has won gold on the opening night of 2017 World Para Athletics Championships in London.

- ✦ Garbine Muguruza of Spain came out with the spectacular performance as she defeated seven-time Grand Slam Champion Venus Williams in straight sets to clinch her maiden Wimbledon title.
- ✦ Roger Federer won a record eighth Wimbledon title and became the tournament's oldest champion with a straight-sets victory over Marin Cilic. Federer claimed his 19th Grand Slam title.
- ✦ India's Harinder Pal Sandhu has won the Victorian Open 2017 squash, a PSA Tour event, in Melbourne, Australia.
- ✦ Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton won the British Grand Prix for the fifth time.
- ✦ I H Manudev has won the first National Masters snooker tournament title in Chennai.

### National & International Current Affairs


- ✦ Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the Research Institution of World Ancient, Traditional, Culture & Heritage (RIWATCH) Museum at Roing in Arunachal Pradesh. Rijiju also inaugurated the 235-meter long Chimari Bridge, which would serve as a life line between the National Highway 52 of Roing-Tezu.
- ✦ India will host the fifth Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS) in November 2017. One of the largest cyber security conferences in the world, GCCS will be held in New Delhi. The theme will be based on Cyber4All: An Inclusive, Sustainable, Developmental, Safe and Secure Cyberspace.
- ✦ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the former President, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam's memorial at Pei Karumbu in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu on the second death anniversary of the former President. Modi will flag off Kalam Sandesh Vahini, an exhibition bus which will travel across the country and reach Rashtrapati Bhavan on 15th of October, which marks the birth anniversary of the former President.
- ✦ The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce & Industry has signed an Institutional agreement with the Punjab State Council of Science and Technology in New Delhi to establish India's first Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) at Patent Information Centre, Punjab.
- ✦ India has contributed \$500,000 to the UN Peacebuilding Fund.
- ✦ Financial Stability Board, an international body for the global financial system, has placed India in the league of countries that are 'compliant or largely compliant' on the implementation of priority area reforms.
- ✦ A new fast-growing Israeli flower was named after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a special gesture to mark the first visit of an Indian premier to the Jewish


nation. Israeli Crysanthumun flower will now be called "MODI".

- ✦ India has declared itself free from highly pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1 and H5N8) after surveillance in the states showed no evidence of its presence.
- ✦ India, the world's third-largest oil importer, will import crude oil from the United States for the first time after Indian Oil Corp bought a cargo that will be delivered in October 2017.
- ✦ India is set to get its first high-speed rail training center at Gandhinagar. The center will provide for advanced training modules on cutting edge technologies.
- ✦ UN has selected Dubai as the data hub for the Middle East North Africa and South Asia (MENASA) region for the city's integrated initiatives to mine and manage its data.
- ✦ Australia became the 35th country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA), an initiative launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in November 2015 in Paris. It is co-led by India and France. The aim of ISA is to support developing countries to boost their solar production capacity.
- ✦ European Parliament overwhelmingly approved a first-ever cooperation deal between the EU and Cuba.
- ✦ 122 countries approved the first-ever treaty to ban nuclear weapons at the UN meeting boycotted by all nuclear-armed nations. One country the Netherlands voting against while Singapore abstained.
- ✦ Indonesia has named waters in its exclusive economic zone that overlap with China's expansive claim to the South China Sea as the North Natuna Sea.

reconnaissance in areas with nuclear and bio threats. It is called Muntra (Mission UNmanned TRAcked) and has been rolled out of the Chennai lab.

- ✦ US and Australian jointly test-fired a hypersonic missile capable of moving at a speed eight times faster than sound as part of a \$54-million research project. The test was part of a project called the Hypersonic International Flight Research Experimentation Program (HIFiRE) involving the US and Australian militaries, Queensland University, Australia's Defence Science and Technology Group.
- ✦ U.S. Navy tested the world's first-ever active laser weapons system, which is now deployed and ready for war. The system has special materials that release photons and at the speed of light, it silently hits an object, burning it to a temperature of thousands of degrees.
- ✦ Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) signed an MoU for the financial year 2017-18 with Ministry of Defence. This year's MoU target for 'Revenue from Operations' has been set at Rs1150 crore, which is 43 percent higher than the financial year 2016-17 target of Rs800 crore.
- ✦ Indian Army signed MoU with Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to raise one regiment of the advanced Medium Range Surface to Air Missiles (MRSAM) defence system. The MRSAM is an advanced, all weather, mobile, land-based air defence system. It is capable of engaging multiple aerial targets at ranges of more than 50 km.
- ✦ US Navy commissioned world's largest aircraft carrier, USS Gerald R Ford into the fleet. USS Gerald R. Ford is the first ship in this new class of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers for the U.S. Navy. The ship is named after the 38th President of the United States Gerald Ford and has been built by Newport News Ship Building Company. The massive 1,106-foot-long carrier is powered by two new generation nuclear reactors.
- ✦ Reliance Infrastructure subsidiary Reliance Defence and Engineering Limited (RDEL) announced the launch of its first two Naval Offshore Patrol Vessels (NOPVs) at their shipyard in Pipavav, Gujarat. The two NOPVs, 'Shachi' and 'Shruti' are among five ships being constructed by RDEL under the P-21 project of the Indian Navy.
- ✦ Iran successfully launched its most advanced satellite-carrying rocket called 'Simorgh' into space. The launch took place at the Imam Khomeini National Space Station in Semnan. The rocket is capable of carrying a satellite weighing 250 kilograms (550 pounds).
- ✦ Indigenously developed Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air (QRSAM) short-range missile was successfully test-fired from a test range along the Odisha coast. The missile has a strike range of 25 km to 30 km.
- ✦ Joint military training exercise 'Exercise Maitree 2017' between India and Thailand started in Himachal Pradesh. It is commenced at Bakloh in Chamba district.





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### Defence Current Affairs

- ✦ Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) developed India's first unmanned tank, which has three variants - surveillance, mine detection and

- ✦ The Malabar naval exercise involving Indian, American and Japanese navies started in the Bay of Bengal. The aim of the exercise is to achieve deeper military ties and greater interoperability among the three navies.
- ✦ Pakistan has successfully test-fired short-range surface-to-surface ballistic missile 'Nasr'. NASR is a high-precision weapons system with the ability for quick deployment and a range of 70 kilometers.

Index" released by international NGO Oxfam in association with Developmental Finance International. Sweden led the index while Nigeria remained the worst performer. The top 5 countries in the list are-

1. Sweden
2. Belgium
3. Denmark
4. Norway
5. Germany

**Ranks/ Indexes Released**

- ✦ According to International Migration Outlook 2017 report on Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member countries, Indians are among top asylum-seekers in other countries such as New Zealand, Australia, Finland, Japan, and the United States of America. India and China were the largest source countries of asylum-seekers (11% and 9%), followed by Fiji (8%), Iraq (7%) and Pakistan (6%).
- ✦ Sheikha Lubna Al Qasimi, the UAE Minister of State for Tolerance topped a poll of the most powerful Arab women in government for 2017.
- ✦ India ranked 132nd out of 152 countries on the inaugural "Commitment to Reducing Inequality

- ✦ The Energy Resources Institute (TERI) among the top think tanks in the world. TERI was ranked number two by the International Center for Climate Governance (ICCG).
- ✦ India is ranked a high 23rd out of 165 nations in a global index that measures the commitment of nations across the world to cybersecurity. The top-most committed country to cybersecurity is Singapore.
- ✦ India has moved four places up to the 96th position in the FIFA World Ranking released recently.
- ✦ Raipur's Swami Vivekananda Airport was ranked first in Customer Satisfaction among 49 airports in the country.
- ✦ India is ranked 116 out of 157 nations on a global index that assesses the performance of countries towards achieving the ambitious sustainable development goals (SDGs).

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## Important Days

- ✦ United Forum of Bank Unions has decided to observe July 19, the 48th anniversary of nationalisation of major banks, as 'Save public sector banks' day.
- ✦ 7th International Tiger Day is observed globally on 29 July. This year's International Tiger Day would be celebrated with the slogan 'Fresh Ecology For Tigers' Protection'.
- ✦ World Hepatitis Day (WHD) takes places every year on 28 July. The Theme for World Hepatitis Day 2017 is 'Eliminate Hepatitis'.
- ✦ World Youth Skills Day is being observed globally on 15th July.
- ✦ Nelson Mandela International Day (or Mandela Day) is an annual international day in honour of Nelson Mandela, celebrated each year on 18 July, Mandela's birthday.
- ✦ The country celebrated the 18th Anniversary of 'Kargil Vijay Diwas'. Kargil Vijay Diwas is celebrated on 26 July, commemorates India's emphatic victory against Pakistan and honors the war heroes.
- ✦ United Nations World Day against Trafficking in Persons 2017 is observed across the world on 30 July. This year, the United Nations
- ✦ Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) selected 'Act to Protect and Assist Trafficked Persons' as the focus of the Day.
- ✦ World Population Day is being observed globally on 11th July. The theme of this year is 'Family Planning-Empowering People, Developing Nations'.

## Agreement Signed

- ✦ India and Sri Lanka signed an MoU to develop a village in Anuradhapura District (in Sri Lanka) at a cost of 30 crores Sri Lankan rupees. The village in the name of a famous Buddhist monk Sobitha Thero, envisages construction of 153 new houses, a multi-purpose community building, internal water supply system and renovation of monk's quarters & library.
- ✦ SEBI entered into a pact with the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) for exchange of information concerning Central Counterparties (CCPs). CCPs are entities that help facilitate clearing and settlement activities. The MoU establishes cooperation arrangements, including exchange of information regarding CCPs which are established and authorised or recognised in India by SEBI and which have applied for EU recognition under EMIR.
- ✦ Bank of Baroda entered into an agreement with Directorate General of Supplies & Disposal (DGS&D) for extending various banking services to Government e-Marketplace (GeM).
- ✦ India and Bangladesh signed a pact to connect both the countries by waterways. This will facilitate movement

- of passengers and goods between India's northeast and West Bengal with Bangladesh.
- ✦ Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed an MoU with Government of Uttarakhand and joined hands with Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA). The scope of the MoU is to identify relevant factors influencing the development of civil aviation infrastructure in Uttarakhand, assessing the commercial potential of various airports of the State, and identifying technical considerations for airport operations in the State.
- ✦ Tax authorities of the five BRICS countries signed a landmark document to establish a mechanism for taxation cooperation. The BRICS Taxation Cooperation Memorandum, signed at 5th meeting of BRICS Heads of Tax Authorities, is the bloc's first document that elevates taxation cooperation to the institutional level.
- ✦ BSE joined hands with Egyptian Exchange (EGX) for cooperation in exchange of information across business areas.
- ✦ Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Bajaj Allianz General Insurance signed an agreement for the distribution of insurance products through the branches. Under this agreement, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance will offer personal lines of insurance products with the commercial line of insurance products to the bank's customers.
- ✦ India-Japan agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy has come into force recently. Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar and Ambassador of Japan to India Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu exchanged diplomatic notes in this regard.
- ✦ Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd entered into a technology collaboration agreement with Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd (KHI) of Japan for manufacturing of stainless steel coaches and bogies for metros.
- ✦ Odisha government signed an Expression of Intent (EOI) with the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) and Athletics Federation of India (AFI) to establish a High-Performance Academy in Bhubaneswar.
- ✦ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare signed an MoU with the Government of West Bengal to formalize its support to set up a state-of-the-art Centre of Excellence in Transfusion Medicine at Kolkata.
- ✦ BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd (BRPL) and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have entered into a partnership to explore collaboration opportunities for solar rooftop, electric vehicles, energy storage systems, energy efficiency and smart grid technologies.
- ✦ Erode-based Five P Venture India Private Ltd and Central Silk Board (CSB) inked an agreement for development and commercialization of handloom silk products.

## Awards & Recognition

- ✦ Yoshiaki Ishizawa, a Japanese historian who helped Cambodians preserve the Angkor temples, and Gethsie Shanmugam, a Sri Lankan teacher who counseled war widows and orphans to overcome their nightmares, are among the six winners of this year's Ramon Magsaysay Awards. The other recipients named are Abdon Nababan, an Indonesian, a Singaporean businessman Tony Tay, a Philippine theater group and Lilia de Lima, a Filipino.
- ✦ Veteran BJP leader L.K. Advani received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions as a parliamentarian in the Lok Sabha. JD-U leader Sharad Yadav also received the Lifetime Achievement Award as a Rajya Sabha representative from Vice President Hamid Ansari.
- ✦ Adobe Chief Shantanu Narayen and former US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy honoured with the prestigious 'Great Immigrants' annual award on US's Independence Day.
- ✦ Guruswamy Jayraman has been awarded Order of Australia for community work, the highest civilian award in Australia.
- ✦ Climate and energy efficiency solutions company Danfoss India has been conferred with the 'Golden Peacock Award' for Environment Management.
- ✦ President Pranab Mukherjee has awarded IIM Bangalore (IIMB) for making management education accessible to all through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).
- ✦ The 18th edition of the International Indian Film Academy Awards was held in New York. Sonam Kapoor's film Neerja won the best film award. Actor Shahid Kapoor earned the Best Actor award for his role in Udta Punjab, while Alia Bhatt won the Best Actor (Female) award for the same film.



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## Visits

- ✦ Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba begun an eight-day-long two-nation tour of Mozambique and Tanzania with an aim of exploring new avenues of bilateral defence cooperation. Admiral Lanba, who also heads the powerful Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC), will visit first Mozambique. Later on his tour, Admiral Lanba will begin his five-day-long visit to Tanzania. He is scheduled to meet President of Tanzania John Magufuli. India and Mozambique have a Joint Defence Working Group (JDWG) for defence and security cooperation.

## Summits/Events Held

- ✦ The 7th edition of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Artists Camp and Exhibition of Paintings has begun at Kathmandu. Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation of Nepal, Jitendra Narayan Devhas inaugurated the event.
- ✦ President inaugurated the Bicentenary celebration of Paika Rebellion of Odisha organised by the Union Ministry of Culture in New Delhi. Many scholars, researchers and historians have opined that the Paika Rebellion of 1817 was India's first organised armed rebellion against British Raj.
- ✦ Sports Minister Vijay Goel and Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari flagged off the 10th Slum Yuva Daud at Khichripur in New Delhi. The Slum Yuva Daud is a part of the Adopt a Slum campaign of the Sports Ministry and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.
- ✦ Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh chaired the first meeting of the newly constituted Islands Development Agency (IDA). He presented the vision for developing India's maritime economy while preserving the natural eco-system and addressing the security concerns.
- ✦ 2017 BRICS Youth Forum opened in Beijing, China to discuss the development of the youth in the countries of the grouping. The theme of three-day forum is 'Enhance BRICS Partnership, Promote Youth Development'.
- ✦ Kerala will be hosting the fifth edition of South India Writers Ensemble (SIWE) at Chengannur, a town in Kerala's coastal Alappuzha district from 24 July 2017. The core theme of the festival this year is 'tolerance'.
- ✦ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has inaugurated the 9th edition of Delhi Dialogue. The theme was 'India-ASEAN relations: Charting the Course for the Next 25 Years'.
- ✦ Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Education was held in Beijing, China. The Indian delegation was led by Shri

Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Human Resource Development, India.

- ✚ 10<sup>th</sup> India-Jordan Trade and Economic Joint Committee (TEJC) Meeting was held in New Delhi under the co-chairs of Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Commerce and Industry, (India) and Mr. Yarub Qudah, Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply (Jordan).
- ✚ The spectacular Dal Lake hosted first ever 'Culture of Cruise', a weekly cultural programme organised by the Jammu and Kashmir government aimed to bring artists from various fields on one stage.
- ✚ Hamburg hosted the twelfth G20 Summit 2017. German Chancellor Angela Merkel hosted the summit.
- ✚ The First edition of WINGS 2017 - "Sab Uden, Sab Juden"- Expanding Regional Connectivity was hosted in New Delhi by the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- ✚ Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (I/C) Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy attended the second day of the first International Aviation Security Seminar in Manesar Haryana.
- ✚ The Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), in association with the West Bengal government, will host Horasis Asia Meeting, a global business meet, in the city in November.
- ✚ The government of India will organize a global food fair in November this year to provide a platform to Indian farmers and manufacturers to showcase their products and explore partnerships with foreign companies.
- ✚ India will host 8th edition of Theatre Olympics in 2018, the biggest theatre celebration of the world.
- ✚ A Model United Nations (MUN) Regional Conference is being held at Kathmandu. The basic aim of the MUN is to provide a platform to young minds to channelize energy and resources for a more prosperous and peaceful world.

**Miscellaneous**

- ✚ The world's first floating windfarm has taken to the seas. This can unlock expanses of ocean for generating renewable power in Scotland. The £200 million Hywind project uses a 78-metre-tall underwater ballast and three mooring lines that will be attached to the seabed to keep the turbines upright. It will bring power to 20,000 homes.
- ✚ Madras High Court ruled that Vande Mataram should be sung in all schools and colleges across the state "at least once a week", and in government and private offices "at least once a month".
- ✚ The count of tigers in Uttarakhand shot up to 242 with an increase of 63 big cats in the year 2017. The news was announced by Trivendra Singh Rawat, Chief Minister of Uttarakhand. Uttarakhand is the second state in terms of tiger count behind Karnataka, which has 400 big cats.
- ✚ Election Commission launched the nation-wide month long special drive from 01st July 2017 for maximisation of registration of eligible electors with the focus on left out eligible young citizens in the age group of 18-19.
- ✚ Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has announced exemption of fees for its transgender students of all programmes. Vice Chancellor Ravindra Kumar announced the initiative.
- ✚ The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a photo book titled "President Pranab Mukherjee - A Statesman", at an event in Rashtrapati Bhawan. He presented the first copy of the book to the President.
- ✚ The famous blue-bordered sari of Mother Teresa, who has been canonized as Saint Teresa of Calcutta by the Vatican, has been recognized as an Intellectual Property of the Missionaries of Charity.
- ✚ Mass rapid transportation technologies such as hyperloop, metrino and pod taxis could soon be a reality in India after Niti Aayog cleared half-a-dozen proposals of the transport ministry exploring options to improve public transport.
- ✚ GMR Goa International Airports Ltd, a subsidiary of GMR Airports Ltd, has executed a debt facility agreement for the development of Greenfield airport at Mopa.
- ✚ National Green Tribunal banned the use of 'Chinese' kite strings, made of nylon or any synthetic material on the grounds that it poses threat to life and environment.
- ✚ President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the annexe of the presidential retreat Ashiana which has accommodation facilities for accompanying officers and staff of the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- ✚ Indian Railways achieves a major landmark in the field of Eco friendly fuel technologies at Indian Railways Organization for Alternate Fuel (IROAF) which has been awarded the coveted National level "Golden

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Peacock Award for the Year 2017 for Eco-Innovation" for substitution of fossil fuels (Diesel) by environment friendly CNG in DEMU passenger train services.

- + Indian Railways launched its first 1,600 HP solar powered Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) train with a unique facility of Battery Bank from Safdarjung station, New Delhi.
- + Indian Railways launched an integrated mobile application to cater to various passenger requirements over and above ticket booking. The app is called Rail SAARTHI and was launched by Railway Minister.
- + Central Railway has taken a step towards women empowerment by appointing an all-female work staff at the suburban Matunga station. Matunga station has now become the first such ladies special station.
- + National capital police will be the first state police in India who will get 'super cop belt', a specially designed belt, widely used by Police in UK, USA, Russia and para-military forces like CRPF, CISF, NSG etc.
- + Nobel Laureate Professor Amartya Sen released a book titled "Future of Indian Universities: Comparative and International Perspectives" at Rashtrapati Bhavan. It

has been compiled by Professor (Dr.) C. Raj Kumar, Vice Chancellor of JGU University

- + Renowned cartoonist Mangesh Tendulkar passed away in Pune. He was 83.
- + China's most famous political prisoner, the Nobel laureate and democracy icon Liu Xiaobo, has died at the age of 61.
- + Nar Bahadur Bhandari, one of the longest-serving chief ministers of Sikkim has died recently. Mr. Bhandari, a three-term former Chief Minister was 77 years old.
- + Eminent space scientist and former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman Udupi Ramachandra Rao passed away due to age related ailments. He was 85.
- + Veteran scientist, administrator and popular science communicator, Professor Yash Pal died in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- + N. Dharam Singh, former Chief Minister of Karnataka, passed away following a heart attack. He was 80. He was the 17th Chief Minister of the state.
- + Bollywood actor Inder Kumar passed away recently. He was 44. He has worked in more than 20 films.

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**Science & Tech**

✚ For the first time in the country, a team of Indian scientists has claimed to have discovered an "extremely large supercluster of galaxies", Saraswati, in the universe.

**MOU APPROVED BY THE CABINET**

- ✚ The Cabinet Approved:
- ✚ MOC in respect of tax matters between India and BRICS countries - Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa.
- ✚ MoU between India and Netherlands on cooperation in space technology.
- ✚ IRDAI's admission as a signatory to International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS), Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MMoU).
- ✚ Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2017.
- ✚ Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2017.
- ✚ Revision of Indian Community Welfare Fund guidelines.
- ✚ Cadre Review of Indian Defence Accounts Service, IDAS

**Revision of guidelines of Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGB) Scheme**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given approval for revision of guidelines of Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGB) Scheme with a view to achieve its intended objectives. Two sets of changes have been made in the scheme which is related to the attributes of the scheme & other one is related to Flexibility that has been given to Ministry of Finance to design and introduce variants of SGBs.

The specific changes in the scheme which have been approved:

- a. The investment limit per fiscal year increased to 4 kg for individuals, 4 Kg for Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) and 20 Kg for Trusts and similar entities.
- b. The ceiling will be counted on Financial year basis and will include the SGBs purchased during the trading in the secondary market.
- c. The ceiling on investment will not include the holdings as collateral by Banks and Financial institutions.
- d. SGBs will be available 'on tap'.

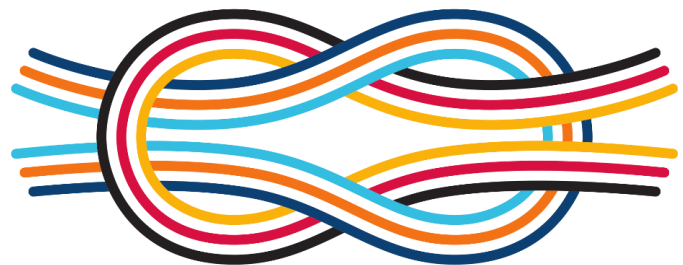
**Wimbledon 2017: Complete List of Winners**

131st edition of the Wimbledon Championships tennis tournament took place at All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, London, United Kingdom. It was played on grass courts, organised by the All England Lawn Tennis Club and the International Tennis Federation.

Here is the complete list of all the winners in different categories of Wimbledon 2017.

Category	Winner	Runners-up
Men's Singles	Roger Federer (Switzerland)	Marin Cilic (Croatia)
Women's Singles	Garbine Muguruza (Spain)	Venus Williams (US)
Men's Doubles	Lukasz Kubot (Poland) & Marcelo Melo (Brazil)	Oliver Marach (Austria) & Mate Pavic (Croatia)
Women's Doubles	Ekaterina Makarova (Russia) & Elena Vesnina (Russia)	Monica Niculescu (Romania) & Chan Hao-ching (China)
Mixed Doubles	Jamie Murray (UK) & Martina Hingis (Switzerland)	Heather Watson (UK) & Henri Kontinen (Finland)

**12th G-20 Summit held in Germany**



**G20 GERMANY 2017  
HAMBURG**

The G20 Summit 2017 was held in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Germany. More than twenty Heads of State or Government as well as representatives of international organisations met at the Messehallen Convention Centre. It was the 12th G-20 Summit. The theme of this year's summit was 'shaping an interconnected world'.

The leaders adopted a declaration focusing on:

- a) sharing the benefits of globalization
- b) building resilience
- c) improving sustainable livelihood
- d) assuming responsibility

**Important Highlights of the 12<sup>th</sup> Summit**

- ✚ They also adopted an action plan to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation and tackle foreign terrorist fighters.
- ✚ Regarding energy and climate, leaders took note of the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Agreement. The leaders of the other G20 members stated that the Paris



Agreement is irreversible and they endorsed the G20 Hamburg climate and energy action plan for growth.

- ✦ On the migration and refugee crisis, leaders agreed to step up coordination and act against people smugglers and traffickers. Addressing the root causes of migration and supporting countries of origin and transit are also priorities for the leaders.
- ✦ Leaders stressed the need to better help people seize the opportunities and benefits of economic globalisation. They also discussed how to continue building an open and resilient financial system.
- ✦ Leaders committed to increase international tax cooperation and financial transparency, as well as to address the issue of excess steel capacity.
- ✦ Leaders stressed the importance of harnessing digitalisation to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth. Promoting digital literacy and skills is essential to better prepare people for the future of work.
- ✦ Leaders also agreed to take further action to achieve gender equality. They stressed the role of digitalisation and ICT to support women's empowerment.
- ✦ An August 2017 deadline was also set for information sharing and cooperation on addressing excess capacity in the steel industry, with concrete policy proposals due in November 2017 and follow-ups in 2018.
- ✦ The joint statement notes "the decision of the United States of America to withdraw from the Paris Agreement". But the other leaders decided to forge ahead by the other 19 countries releasing a separate statement reaffirming the commitment to the agreement of 2015, which they called "irreversible".
- ✦ French President Macron separately announced that France will host another conference on climate change on 12 Dec 2017.
- ✦ The 13th edition of the G20 summit will be hosted by Argentina in 2018.

### And the IIFA 2017 goes to

The 18th edition of the International Indian Film Academy Awards was held in New York on July 15. Sonam Kapoor's film Neerja won the best film award. Actor Shahid Kapoor earned the Best Actor award for his role in Udda Punjab, while Alia Bhatt won the Best Actor (Female) award for the same film.

**Here's the complete list of the IIFA 2017 winners:**

- ✦ **Best Film:** Neerja
- ✦ **Best Director:** Anirudh Roy Chaudhary for Pink
- ✦ **Best Actor (Male):** Shahid Kapoor for Udda Punjab
- ✦ **Best Actor (Female):** Alia Bhatt for Udda Punjab
- ✦ **Best Actor in Supporting Role (Female):** Shabana Azmi for Neerja
- ✦ **Best Actor in Supporting Role (Male):** Anupam Kher for MS Dhoni: The Untold Story
- ✦ **Best Debutant (Female):** Disha Patani for M.S. Dhoni: The Untold Story
- ✦ **Best Debut (Male):** Diljit Dosanjh for Udda Punjab
- ✦ **Best Lyricist:** Amitabh Bhattacharya for the song Channa Mere Ya from Ae Dil Hai Mushkil

**Best Playback Singer (Male):** Amit Mishra for Ae Dil Hai Mushkil

**Best Playback Singer (Female):** Kanika Kapoor for Udda Punjab & Tulsi Kumar for Airlift

**Best Music Direction:** Pritam for Ae Dil Hai Mushkil

**Best Actor in Comic Role:** Varun Dhawan for Dishoom

**Best Performance in a Negative Role:** Jim Sarbh for Neerja

**Best Story:** Ayesha Devitre Dhillon and Shakun Batra for Kapoor & Sons

**Myntra Style Icon Award:** Alia Bhatt

**IIFA Woman of the Year:** Tapsee Pannu

### Static Take Aways from July 2017 Current Affairs

- ✦ Sukanya Samridhi Account can be opened up to age of 10 years only from the date of birth.
- ✦ Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) investments mature in 115 months.
- ✦ Antonio Guterres is the ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations.
- ✦ The headquarters of the United Nations is in New York City, USA.
- ✦ Lima is the capital of Peru. Pedro Pablo Kuczynski is present president of Peru.
- ✦ BHEL Head Office is in New Delhi. Mr Atul Sobti is Chairman and Managing Director of BHEL.
- ✦ The Election Commission was established in accordance with the Constitution on 25th January 1950. It currently consists of Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners.
- ✦ Om Prakash Kohli (additional charge) is present governor of Madhya Pradesh. Kanha National Park, also known as Kanha Tiger Reserve, is in Madhya Pradesh.
- ✦ Prof. Ravindra Kumar is Vice-Chancellor (In-charge) of IGNOU.
- ✦ Fino Paytech was founded on 13th July 2006 is headquartered at Mumbai, with offices across India.
- ✦ Belgrade is the capital of Serbia. Serbian dinar is the currency of Serbia.
- ✦ Rajiv Pratap Rudy is Lok Sabha MP from the Saran constituency in Bihar. He is Union Minister of State Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge), Government of India.
- ✦ Headquarters of Union Bank of India is in Mumbai. The Tagline of Union Bank of India is "good people to bank with".
- ✦ Headquarters of Syndicate Bank of India is in Manipal, Karnataka.
- ✦ The capital of Germany is Berlin.
- ✦ Takehiko Nakao is present president of the Asian Development Bank. Manila, Philippines is headquarters of ADB.
- ✦ The FSB was established in April 2009 as the successor to the Financial Stability Forum (FSF). Financial Stability Board (FSB) Secretariat in Basel, Switzerland.

- ✦ Dr Shurhozelie Liezietsu is Chief Minister of Nagaland. Padmanabha Balakrishna Acharya is governor of Nagaland.
- ✦ The National Voters' Day is celebrated every year on 25th January.
- ✦ A joint training exercise between the Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman named Al Nagah-II 2017 also held in Himachal Pradesh in March 2017. Bangkok is the capital of Thailand. Its currency is Thai baht.
- ✦ The Director General of TERI is Ajay Mathur.
- ✦ Siddaramaiah is the CM of Karnataka. Vajubhai Vala is the Governor of Karnataka.
- ✦ Benjamin Netanyahu is the PM of Israel. The Capital of Israel is Jerusalem. Israeli new shekel is the Currency of Israel.
- ✦ Piyush Goyal is the present Minister of State with Independent Charge for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines in the Government of India.
- ✦ K.K.Nair is General Secretary of Indian National Bank Officers Congress.
- ✦ NDRF was formed in 2006. It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- ✦ ASEAN was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ✦ Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa are the five-member Nations of BRICS. It was established in 2009.
- ✦ Jin Liqun is present president of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). Beijing, China is headquarters of AIIB.
- ✦ Amman is the Capital of Jordan. The currency of Jordan is Jordanian dinar.
- ✦ Mehbooba Mufti Sayeed is the present chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir. Narinder Nath Vohra is the present governor of Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✦ The capital of Indonesia is Jakarta. Joko Widodo is the current President of Indonesia.
- ✦ Admiral Sunil Lanba is the Chief Naval Officer of Indian Navy. Yutaka Murakawa is the Chief of Staff of Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF). Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) of American Navy is Admiral John M. Richardson.
- ✦ Bishkek is the Capital of Kyrgyzstan. Currency of Kyrgyzstan is Kyrgyzstani som. President of Kyrgyzstan is Almazbek Atambayev.
- ✦ Headquarter of South Indian Bank is in Thrissur, Kerala. Current MD and CEO of South Indian Bank is Mr. V.G Mathew.
- ✦ ITU currently has a membership of 193 countries. ITU is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ✦ Headquarter of FIFA is in Zurich, Switzerland. The President of FIFA is Gianni Infantino.
- ✦ European Parliament is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.
- ✦ Chief Minister of Odisha is Mr. Naveen Patnaik. The Governor of Odisha is Mr. S C Jamir.
- ✦ Co-founder and CEO of Indus OS is Rakesh Deshmukh. CEO of YES Bank is Rana Kapoor.
- ✦ EPFO came into existence under the promulgation of the Employee's Provident Fund Ordinance on the 15th November 1951.
- ✦ Army chief of Pakistan is Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa.
- ✦ Managing Director & CEO of Union Bank of India Shri Rajkiran Rai G.
- ✦ G-20 was founded in 1999.
- ✦ Japan had suffered the Nuclear attack in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 during Second World War.
- ✦ GST council is headed by Finance Minister of India Mr. Arun Jaitley.
- ✦ Union Minister for Science & Technology is Dr. Harshvardhan. Mr. Prakash Javadekar is Union HRD Minister.
- ✦ Chief executive officer of Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance Company Limited is Anuj Mathur. MD and CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank is G. Sreeram.
- ✦ Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 of India.
- ✦ Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is the Director-General of WHO for the term of 5 Years.
- ✦ The capital of Australia is Canberra. Its Currency is Australian dollar. Malcolm Turnbull is the PM of Australia.
- ✦ NSG was founded in 1984. It Headquarters in New Delhi. Current Director General of NSG is Sudhir Pratap Singh.
- ✦ Capital of Nepal is Kathmandu. Prime Minister of Nepal is Sher Bahadur Deuba
- ✦ Shikha Sharma is the MD and CEO of Axis Bank. Headquarter of Axis bank is in Mumbai.
- ✦ Ravichandran Purushothaman is the present President of Danfoss India.
- ✦ Golden Peacock Awards, instituted by the Institute Of Directors (IOD), India in 1991, are now regarded as a benchmark of Corporate Excellence worldwide.
- ✦ OLLY was the Mascot of the 22nd Edition of Asian Athletics Championships which was held in Odisha.
- ✦ Ahmedabad is the city in the state of Gujarat. The Sabarmati River runs through its center. Vijay Rupani is the Chief Minister of Gujarat.
- ✦ UNESCO Headquarters based in Paris, France. Irina Bokova Director-general of the UNESCO.
- ✦ UNESCO stands for- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- ✦ Antonio Guterres is the Secretary-General of United Nations.
- ✦ Ulaanbaatar is the capital of Mongolia. Currency of Mongolia is Mongolian togrog.
- ✦ Harsimrat Kaur Badal is the Food Processing Minister.

- ✦ 24th Governor of RBI is Dr. Urjit Patel.
- ✦ Shri Keshari Nath Tripathi is the Governor of West Bengal. Smt. Mamta Banerjee is the CM of West Bengal.
- ✦ Chairman of BCCI is Vinod Rai. Ravi Shastri replaces Anil Kumble as a head coach.
- ✦ Leslie Thng will succeed Vistara's incumbent CEO Phee Teik Yeoh.
- ✦ Mr. Justice Swatanter Kumar is the Present Chairperson of NGT.
- ✦ Shri T. Suvarna Raju is the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of HAL. HAL is Headquartered in Bengaluru.
- ✦ Harsh Kumar Bhanwala is the Chairman of NABARD. NABARD came into existence on 12 July 1982.
- ✦ The current Lt. Governor of Delhi is Anil Bajjal.
- ✦ Devendra Fadnavis is the CM of Maharashtra. Shri Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao is the Governor of Maharashtra.
- ✦ The Head Office of NHB is at New Delhi. NHB was set up on July 9, 1988, under the National Housing Bank Act, 1987. Shri Sriram Kalyanaraman is the MD & CEO of NHB.
- ✦ Capital of Meghalaya is Shillong. Governor of Meghalaya is Banwarilal Purohit.
- ✦ Smt. Vasundhara Raje is the present CM of Rajasthan. Shri Kalyan Singh is the Governor of Rajasthan.
- ✦ Achal Khare is managing director of National High-Speed Rail Corporation (NHSRC).
- ✦ Amulya Patnaik is an IPS, Commissioner of Police, Delhi.
- ✦ National Framework for Malaria Elimination (NFME) was launched in 2016 with the aim of eliminating malaria by 2030.
- ✦ Capital of Turkey is Ankara. Currency of Turkey is Turkish lira.
- ✦ The minimum amount to be remitted through RTGS is Rs2 lakh.
- ✦ Shri Lalit Jalan is the Chairman of BSES.
- ✦ TCS executive Ramanathan Ramanan is the head of Atal Mission under NITI Aayog.
- ✦ Sundar Pichai is the CEO of Google.
- ✦ Airports Authority of India (AAI) was constituted by an Act of Parliament and came into being on 1st April 1995. Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra is the Chairman of AAI.
- ✦ Headquarter of OBC is in Gurugram, Haryana.
- ✦ Rajiv Pratap Rudy is Union Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge).
- ✦ UNICEF stands for United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. Head office of UNICEF is in New York, US.
- ✦ Roger Federer is from Switzerland.
- ✦ CEO of Mobikwik is Bipin Preet Singh.
- ✦ Headquarter of Central Silk Board (CSB) is in Bengaluru.
- ✦ The Capital of Tibet is Lhasa.
- ✦ The Capital of Sikkim is Gangtok. Chief Minister of Sikkim is Pawan Kumar Chamling.
- ✦ Doyang Dam is situated in Nagaland. PB Acharya is the Governor of Nagaland.
- ✦ Maithripala Sirisena is the President of Sri Lanka.
- ✦ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was officially born on 30 September 1961. Angel Gurría is the Present Secretary-General of OECD.
- ✦ Smriti Irani is also Textiles Minister in the Government of India.
- ✦ Narendra Singh Tomar is also the Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Sanitation, and Housing and Urban Affairs.
- ✦ Bharat Arun appointed Team India bowling coach.
- ✦ Mr. Bakri Hassan Salih is the present Prime Minister of Sudan. The Capital of Sudan is Khartoum.
- ✦ Dr. Subhash Bhamre is the Union Minister of State for Defence. Shri Arun Jaitley is the Defence Minister of India.
- ✦ Smt. Sumitra Mahajan is the Present Speaker of Lok Sabha.
- ✦ Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari is the Present Chairman of Rajya Sabha.
- ✦ Abu Dhabi is the Capital of UAE.
- ✦ The headquarter of Forbes is in New York City, USA.
- ✦ CEO of ICICI Bank is Chanda Kochhar. Headquarter of ICICI is in Mumbai.
- ✦ Kawal Tiger Reserve is located at Jannaram mandal of Mancherial District in Telangana state of India.
- ✦ Chief Minister of Telangana is KC Rao.
- ✦ Headquarter of SEBI is in Mumbai. Present chairman of SEBI is Ajay Tyagi.
- ✦ Chief of Indian Army is General Bipin Rawat.
- ✦ Present chairman of LIC is V K Sharma.
- ✦ MD and CEO of Bank of Baroda is P. S. Jayakumar. Headquarter of Bank of Baroda is in Vadodara.
- ✦ Chief Minister of Kerala is Pinarayi Vijayan. Governor of Kerala is Palaniswamy Sathasivam.
- ✦ Sameer Bansal is the Director of PNB MetLife.
- ✦ The Capital of Bangladesh is Dhaka. Prime minister of Bangladesh is Sheikh Hasina. Abdul Hamid is the President of Bangladesh.
- ✦ The Capital of Mozambique is Maputo. Filipe Nyusi is the President of Mozambique.
- ✦ The Capital of Tanzania is Dodoma. John Magufuli is the President of Tanzania.
- ✦ Current chairman of ISRO is A. S. Kiran Kumar.
- ✦ ILO is Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. The Director-General of ILO is Guy Ryder.
- ✦ Edinburgh is the Capital of Scotland. Its currency is Pound sterling.

- + Trivendra Singh Rawat is the CM of Uttarakhand. Dr. Krishan Kant Paul is the Present Governor of Uttarakhand.
- + Nassau is the Capital of Bahamas. Bahamian dollar is the Currency of Bahamas.
- + Kshatrapati Shivaji is the Chairman and Managing Director of SIDBI. Head Office of SIDBI is in Lucknow.
- + Chairman of Standard Chartered Bank is Jose Vinals.
- + Anil Ambani is the Non-Executive Chairman of RDEL.
- + CEO of Yatra.com is Dhruv Shringi.
- + Headquarters of AIBA is in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- + President of AIBA Dr. Wu Ching-kuo.
- + Vande Mataram is written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay.
- + CEO of Microsoft Corporation is Satya Nadella.
- + Kunal Bahl, Co-Founder & CEO of Snapdeal, the parent company of Freecharge.
- + Jim Corbett National Park is the oldest national park in India.
- + Ashishkumar Chauhan is the present Managing Director and CEO of BSE.
- + Mrs. Ashwini Bhide is the present Managing Director of Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation.
- + Earthquake is measured by Seismograph.
- + MD of Punjab National Bank Sunill Mehta. Headquarter of PNB is in New Delhi.
- + Karnataka is the State in India with Maximum number of Tigers.
- + A. P. Hota is the MD & CEO of NPCI.
- + R Subramaniakumar is the MD & CEO of IOB. IOB is headquartered in Chennai.
- + Chairperson of NITI Ayog is Shri Narendra Modi. Vice Chairperson of NITI Ayog is Dr. Arvind Panagariya.
- + Tehran is the Capital of Iran. Hassan Rouhani is the President of Iran.
- + S Christopher is the chairman of DRDO.
- + Uber was founded in 2009. It Headquarters in California, the USA.
- + Headquarters of Canara Bank is in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Chairman of Canara Bank is Shri T. N. Manoharan.
- + Headquarter of SAARC is in Kathmandu. Amjad Hussain B. Sail is the present Secretary General of SAARC.
- + Chairman of IRDAI is TS Vijayan. Headquarter of IRDAI is in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- + Ramon Magsaysay Award is an annual award named after former Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay. It is regarded as Asia's version of the Nobel Prize and was first awarded in the year 1958.
- + Budapest is the Capital of Hungary. The Currency of Hungary is Hungarian forint.
- + Prague is the Capital of Czech Republic. Czech koruna is the Currency of Czech Republic.

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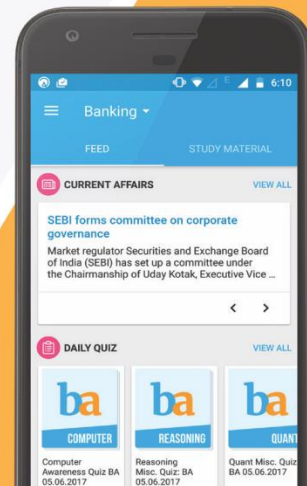
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