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# International News

December – 2

- **India** was re-elected to the Council of the **International Maritime organization** under **Category B** at an assembly of the body at its headquarters in **London**
- The **Russian Security Council** has asked the Russian Government to develop a **separate infrastructure** for **BRICS** countries.

December – 3

- **Japan** announced that will host a ministerial meeting of the **UN Security Council** on **15<sup>th</sup> December**.

December – 4

- The world 'populism' has been **announced** as **Cambridge Dictionary's** word of the year **2017**
- The **world's largest propeller** plane, **Antonov AN – 22** landed at the Manchester Airport in England

December – 5

- Venezuela President **Nicolas Maduro** has announced the creation of a new virtual currency '**petro** in a bid to ease the country's economic crisis.
- International conference on **climate change** Begins in **Nepal**
- **South Korea** and **USA** to launch largest **Air Exercise**

December – 6

- The **US supreme court** has allowed his **travel ban** to take full effect pending appeal for people coming **from six Muslim major countries**
- **First Sikh women Preet Didbal** has been **elected** as the mayor of **Yuba city** in **California**

## December – 8

- **US President Donald Trump** has recognised **Jerusalem** as the **Capital of Israel**
- **Australia** has become the **26<sup>th</sup> Country** in the world to **legalise same – sex marriage**

## December – 11

- Afghanistan's second vice president **Mohammad Sarwar Danish** will be on five day visit to India starting today He will attend an International conference on '**Harmony and Memorial of Mother Teresa**'
- Face Book Co – founder **Eduardo Saverin** has become **Singapore's richest person** with a net worth of **\$ 10.4 Billion**
- Google Doodle celebrated the 104<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of India's **First women photojournalist Homai Vyarawalla**
- **Goa CM** unveil India's First **mobile food testing** lab which will enable on the Spot food safety

## December – 12

- **World's largest automated container** terminal open in **Shanghai Yangshan** deep water port
- British authorities have named **Mount Hope** as the **country's new highest peak**
- **Saudi Arabia** will have its first public cinema in more than **35 years** after the government announced the **lifting** of the **ban** on movie **theatres**

## December – 13

- **Sri Lanka** has officially handed over **Hambantota port** to **China** for a **99yr lease**

## December – 14

- Google to open **Artificial intelligence lab** in **Beijing, china** – its first centre in Asia

- The online dictionary **Merriam – Webster** has dubbed ‘**Feminism**’ its world of the year

#### **December – 15**

- The **world Bank** announced that it will **stop financing oil and gas** exploration and extraction from **2019**, seeking to boost the global economy’s shift to cleaner energy
- **Norway** becoming the **first country** in the **world** to **shut down national broadcasts** of its **FM network**

#### **December – 16**

- The **Eleventh World trade Organization (WTO)** ministerial conference was held in **Argentina**

#### **December – 17**

- **WHO** has declared **Gabon** a “**Polio-free Country**” Now the disease is **endemic** only in **Afghanistan and Pakistan**.
- The **Oxford English** has come out with its **word of the year(2017)**, and it’s a word called – **youthquake**

#### **December – 18**

- **France’s Parliament** has approved a law **banning all exploration and production of oil and natural gas by 2040**

#### **December – 23**

- **France’s Parliament** has approved a law **banning all exploration and production of oil and natural gas by 2040**
- The **UN security council** approved tough new sanctions against **North Korea** in response to its latest launch of a **ballistic missile** that **Pyongyang** says its capable of reaching anywhere in **US Mainland**

### December – 24

- External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** is holding a meeting of the **India-Russia Inter-governmental commission** on Trade, economic, science technology and cultural co-operation

### December – 25

- An agreement was signed by **Rosatam overseas** and **Sudan's ministry of water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity** in **Khartoum, Sudan**.
- **Narendra Modi** will be **the first Indian PM in past 20 yrs** to attend the annual meeting of **World Economic Forum** at **Davos, Switzerland**.

### December – 26

- The **UN General assembly** has decided to mark the **100<sup>th</sup>** anniversary of **Nelson Mandela's** focusing on **world peace** the summit will be called "**Nelson Mandela peace summit**"
- **Belgium** appoints world's first ever **female ambassador** to **Saudi Arabia**. **Dominique Mineur** who currently serves as the **European Nations ambassador** to the **UAE**.

### December – 27

- Construction of **Bangladesh's** first eco-friendly **thermal power plant** with **ultra modern clean coal technology** has started by **Chinese consortium** in Central Bangladesh at cost of **USD 1.56 billion**
- President **Donald Trump** signed the **\$1.5 trillion** tax overhaul into law is expected to benefit big corporations and wealthy Americans more
- Guatemalan President **Jimmy Morales** has announced plans to move **country's embassy** in **Israel to Jerusalem**.

### December – 28

- **Cultural authorities at UNESCO** has recognized the skill of **Ecuadorian artisans** who make '**panama Hats**'

- **India to overtake UK, France to become 5<sup>th</sup> largest Economy in 2018.**
- **Vin Diesel has been named the top grossing actor of 2017 by Forbes with \$1.6 billion in global ticketing receipt from his film the Fate**
- **Insurance Regulatory and development authority of India.**
- **The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has allowed Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. Manufactured Dornier 208 to be used for civilian flight**

### December – 31

- **Pakistan's Government has decided to set up a new hydropower project of over 700 megawatts in Pakistan – occupied Kashmir. The project has been named Azad Pattan Hydropower project. It is Arun of river scheme on Jhelum River located in the Sudhanoti district of pok.**

### National News

#### December – 1

- **West Bengal State Transport Minister Suwendu Adhikari mentioned that the state government has negotiated with the world Bank to avail subsidy to buy 130 electric buses**
- **The UK based Indian origin businessman have committed to projects worth nearly Rs.500 crore associated with clean ganga mission**
- **Mumbai is to host the 15<sup>th</sup> Mumbai International Film Festival for documentary. Short and Animation films from 28<sup>th</sup> Jan to 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018.**
- **The Union Defence Ministry approved procurement of 260 software defined Radios (SDR) naval communication sets for Indian Navy at cost of Rs.49.**
- **India and Italy signed a Memorandum of understanding for enhanced co-operation in the health sector by exchanging and training of medical doctors, officials, other health professionals and experts.**

- **PM Modi** will inaugurate the **Hindustan Times Leadership Summit** in **New Delhi** former US President Barack Obama, Afghanistan Chief Executive Abdullah, Union Minister Arun Jaitley, Ravi Shankar Prasad, UP CM Yogi Adityanath Chhattisgarh CM Dr. Raman Singh will also address different sessions during the two day event.
- The **Rs.1 currency note** has completed **100 years after the first note** which was printed in **England**, was issued on **November 30 1917** in **India**.
- The US Agency for International Development announced \$ 1 million to create awareness about Tuberculosis to help India in fight against the disease.
- **World AIDS Day –Dec 1** Theme: Let us resolve together for ending AIDS epidemic by 2030.

#### December – 2

- Cabinet approves setting up of National Nutrition Mission (NNM) to take care of **babies**
- ‘**Shared Value Summit 2017**’ was held in New **Delhi** with the theme “Equity and empowerment”
- President of India inaugurated the **hornbill festival** and state formation day celebrations of **Nagaland**.
- **India** has been **awarded** with the certificate of commendation for its exemplary enforcement action to combat illegal **wildlife trade**.

#### December – 3

- **India** has **won** the election of the council of **International Maritime Organisation** in **category – B** which represents the developing countries and countries with large interest in international sea – borne trade.
- The Housing and urban Affairs Ministry has approved the construction of **1.12 lakhs** more **affordable houses** for urban poor under the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana**.

- **West Bengal** assembly passed the west Bengal **green university bill 2017** for setting up an environmental studies university at **Hooghly** district.
- **Telangana** announces at set up an exclusive innovation hub on the lines T.Hub for **women** called **WE-Hub** backing it with an exclusive **Rs.15 crore** fund.
- The Indian coast guard conducted Regional Level Marine Oil pollution Response Exercise '**clean sea – 2017**' at sea off port Blair, capital of **Andaman and Nicobar** Islands.
- Sushma Swaraj attended the Shanghai Co-operation Organization(**SCO**) Summit at Sochi in **Russia**.
- **Kathakar** an International **storyteller's festival** held in New **Delhi**. It was inaugurated by minister of state for Home Affairs
- **India** and **Spain** to co-operate on **Regional Rapid Rail project**.
- **Indian Railways** introduces facility for **booking tickets** through **BHIM** App
- **Ajeya Warrior – 2017 Indo – UK** combined military exercise was held at **Mahajan** field.
- **North Korea** claimed that "**Hwasong - 15**" test fired on 29<sup>th</sup> November is a new type of Intercontinental Ballistic missile that can strike anywhere in **US Mainland**.
- Central Board of **Direct Taxes** entered into a Bilateral Advance pricing agreements these agreements are the first ever Bilateral **APA** with **Netherland**.

#### December – 4

- **Madame Tussauds** has debuted in **Delhi** with **50 wax models** of Indian and International celebrities
- **Andhra Pradesh** government has **passed** the **bill of 5% reservation of Kapu community** in the State
- Prime Minister Narendra **Modi interacts** live with **7500 women workers** via his **NaMo App**

- **Air force and coast Guard** have launched a massive **rescue** operation off the **Kerala** coast to save hundreds of **fisherman** Stranded in the rough sea hit by Cyclone **Ockhi**
- The government of India has increased the budget of **Agricultural Education** by **474%** this year as compared to the financial year **2013- 14** in order to adopt quality and holistic approach to higher agriculture education
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a unique **world class hospital** at **Swaminarayan Gurukul vidyapeeth** in Ahmedabad, **Gujarat**
- International Days of **Disabled persons : 03 December**  
Theme: ‘Transformation towards sustainable and resilient society for all’
- Nation on **3rd December** 2017 remembered India’s First president **Rajendra Prasad** on his **133<sup>rd</sup> birth day**
- National **Agriculture Education Day** – 03 December
- The First phase of **Chabahar port** was inaugurated by Iranian president **Hassan Rouhani**

#### December – 5

- Government proposes to register only **BS-VI vehicles** from **June 2020**
- The first ever International conference on **AYUSH** and wellness ‘**Arogya 2017**’, in New **Delhi**.
- **Telangana** government has signed an agreement with **Vindhya E-information private limited** to set up world’s first Information Technology (**IT**) **campus** for persons with **disabilities** that will focus on creating **employment** opportunities for them.
- On the auspicious inaugural ceremony of **World Telugu ceremony**, Telangana government will be launching its much awaited state song ‘**Telangana Bhu Matruke Suprabhatam**
- Indian **Navy Day** observed as 4 December

- **World Soil Day** – December 5  
Theme: caring for the planet starts from the ground.
- First meeting of fifth **finance commission** at North Block in New Delhi under the chairmanship of N.K. Singh.
- Uttar Pradesh's **Shamli** district was **included** in the **National Capital Region** taking the total numbers of district in the **NCR** to **23**.
- **Amitabh Bachchan** launched a book based on Indian cinema the book titled '**Bollywood: The films! The songs! The stars!**
- The Government to Government umbrella agreement between **India** and **Germany** concerning financial co-operation in 2016 under **Indo-German Development co-operation**.

#### December – 6

- The **Surface to Air missile AKASH with indigenous ration frequency Seeker** against target **Banshee** has been successfully launched from **Chandipur, Odisha**
- The **Madhya Pradesh** Assembly unanimously passed a Bill awarding death to those found guilty raping girls aged 12 and below
- The **3<sup>rd</sup> edition** of the dialogue between the **NITI Aayog** and the development **Research council of China the DRC – NITI Aayog Dialogue** was held in **Beijing**
- The **6<sup>th</sup> International Tourism Mart 2017** began in **Guwahati, Assam**
- The **Indian government** allowed over **1300 Buddhist refugees** from **Myanmar's Rakhine region** to enter **Mizoram**
- **Technology giant google** launched a **light weight Android Oreo Go** edition operating system designed for devices with **RAM up to 1 GB**
- **UBE Armed Forces** along with the **UK, US and French** armies are participating in Joint exercise in **Abu Dhabi**. The drill code is named as "**Flag 4**"

## December – 7

- **India and Israel** are coming **together** to set up a centre of excellence in **Floriculture** at **Thally** in **Krishnagiri** district of **Tamil Nadu**
- **Utter Pradesh** has become the **first state to endorse** the **Central government draft bill** that makes instant triple **talaq a cognizable** and non – **bailable offence**
- **Telangana** state government has announced that all **households** in the state will have **broadband internet connection** by December next year after which **revolutionary changes** are expected in the **education** and **health sector**
- The **Kerala** government came out with a new **ordinance raising** the minimum age for **liquor consumption** from **21 to 23**
- With **19** countries **ratifying its framework agreement**, the **International Solar Alliance** headquartered **Gurugram** became the **first treaty – based** international government organization to be based in **India**
- The **ministry of Environment** affairs allowed **NGT chairperson** to constitute a **single member bench** in ‘**exceptional circumstances**’
- **Commerce and Industry minister Suresh Prabhu** Unveils **mid Term Review** of **Foreign Trade policy 2015 – 20** with a view to boosting exports

## December – 8

- **Prime Minister Modi** inaugurated the ‘**Dr. Ambedkar International centre**’ at **Janpath, New Delhi**
- The **First International conference on sports Medicine and sports sciences SAICON 2017** was inaugurated in **New Delhi** by sports minister **Colonel Rajya Vardhan Rathore**
- The **Global partnership summit(GPS) 2017** is scheduled to be held at **Aero city, New Delhi**
- India’s **Kumbh Mela** has been recognised by **UNESCO** as ‘**intangible cultural heritage of humanity**’

- Centre offers **Rs. 2.5 lakhs** to encourage **inker – care marriage** to all Couples where either the bride or bridegroom is **Dalit**
- **PM Modi** inaugurated the **Dr, Ambedkar International Centre** in **New Delhi** for the **61<sup>st</sup>** death anniversary of **Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar**

### December – 9

- **India** has been declared **free from** infective **trachoma** which is a contagious bacterial infection of the eye.
- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates the **Naval Maritime Aircraft Museum in Visakhapatnam**, Andhra Pradesh.
- A public **procurement portal ‘MSME Sambandh’** was launched by Shri Giriraj Singh, Minister of state (Independent Charge) for MSME in **New Delhi**.
- The **Waste Management system** being implemented in **Kerala’s** coastal town of **Alappuzha**, often called **‘the Venice of East’** has been recognized by **UNEP** as one of the **five models** across the world for fighting the pollution menace.
- **Kacheguda Railway Station** under the South Central Railway (SCR) has earned the unique distinction of being the first energy efficient **‘A1 category’** Railway station
- The **first** International Conference of **sports Medicine** and **Sports Science SAICON 2017** was inaugurated in **New Delhi**.
- **India** has been admitted as the **42<sup>nd</sup>** member of the **Wassenaar Arrangement**, a global **export** control regime.
- According to the **World Energy Access** report released by the International Energy Agency (IEA) puts **India** on course to **achieving** access to **electricity** for all in the early **2020**.

### December – 10

- **Haryana** (unit **69 %** score) has **topped** the list in the care of **doing business** rankings, according to government data.

- Minister of State for culture (Independent Charge) Dr. Mahesh Sharma inaugurated the **Bodhi Parva BIMSTEC festival** of Buddhist in New **Delhi**.

### December – 11

- India to host **South East Asian connectivity Summit** in New **Delhi** Theme: ‘Powering Digital and Physical linkages for Asia in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’
- **UN women, Face book** inaugurates ‘**We the Women**’ event in **Mumbai** to empower and recognize the Magnificent Contribution of women in our society
- Central Government with soon issue **universal ID cards** to person with **disabilities** which will be Valid throughout India
- The Ministry of External affairs has through the official **Twitter** India’s public diplomacy shared pictures of traditional ‘**thalis**’ from all the **29 states** of India
- **Mehuli Ghosh** and **Tushar Mane** became the first Indian Shooters to Secure the women’s and Men’s **quota** Places for the **2018 youth Olympic** games by winning a **gold** and **bronze** each at the **10<sup>th</sup> Asian championship** low Rifle/Pistol at Wako city, Japan
- **Human Rights Day** – 10<sup>th</sup> December  
Theme: **Standup for Human Rights**
- India’s **GDP growth** to Rise **7.5 %** in **2018** and **7.7 %** in **2019** says a report of **Morgan Stanley**
- India to achieve ‘**Electricity for all** by early **2020’s** says International Energy Agency (**IEA**)

### December – 12

- The Government has launched **LaQshya** a safe **delivery mobile application** for health workers who manage normal and complicated deliveries in peripheral areas
- Electronics and Information Technology minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launches first **NIC – CERT** a setup of **National Informatics centre** to **prevent** and predict **cyber attacks** on government utilities

- External Affairs minister Sushma Swaraj held the **15<sup>th</sup> Russia – India – China trilateral meet** with Russian Foreign minister **Sergey Lavrov** and Chinese Foreign minister **Wang Yi** in New **Delhi**
- India's first Electronic Manufacturing cluster (**EMC**) Will be Coming to **Andhra Pradesh**
- **Hyderabad** launched a drive to turn Hyderabad into "**Beggar Free**" city which was earlier put to halt after rumors that the drive was initiated because of US president Donald Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump to the City
- West Bengal CM Mamta Banerjee announced a **life insurance** of ₹ **5 lakhs** each for pilgrims. Visiting the state for the upcoming **Gangasagar fair**, the second biggest pilgrimage fair after Kumbh
- Union minister of state for Youth Affairs and sports col. Rajyavardhan Rathore confirmed union government will launch a '**Khelo India**' programme at a cost of **1,756 crore rupees** for the period **2017–18 to 2019-20**

#### December – 13

- India to host **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual meeting** of Board of governors of **Asian infrastructure Investment Bank** at Mumbai.  
Theme: **Mobilizing finance for infrastructure**
- The **14<sup>th</sup> Inclusive Finance India Summit** began in **New Delhi**
- **Road Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari** said the government is aiming to construct **40 km** of road every day in the country next year
- **Uttar Pradesh** and **Maharashtra** tops in highest number of **Cyber Crimes**
- The **Finance minister** holds his **5<sup>th</sup> pre – Budget consultation meeting** with the leading economists in **New Delhi**
- **Union government** Fixed **Rs.2,890 per grams** as the price of new series of **Sovereign gold bonds**
- **Rajasthan**, First in India to offer **e-mail ID's** in **Hindi**

- The **second Un world Tourism Organization/UNESCO world conference** on Tourism and culture was held in **Muscat**, capital city of **Oman**

**December – 14**

- **10 leaders** of the Association of South East Asian Nations (**ASEAN**) will be taking part in the **2018 republic day**
- Official logo for Allahabad **Kumbh Mela 2019** related in Lucknow, **Utter Pradesh** The tagline for Kumbh Mela 2019 is ‘**chalo chalo chalo, kumba chalo**’
- **Jammu Kashmir** government will soon regularize as many as **60,000 daily wagers** and casual **labourers**
- **Karnataka** government to introduce **digital platform** for **hassle – free governance** which will help to address the issue of common citizen
- To **boost agriculture** productivity of **Nigeria**, India has decided to share their agriculture expertise to make Nigeria food sufficient
- **India** to host **3<sup>rd</sup>** Annual meeting of Boards of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(**AIIB**) at **Mumbai** in **2018**
- **India, Japan Australia** agree to greater collaboration on **maritime security**
- **Bihar** government has launched **safe city surveillance scheme** for checking **crime** against **Women**
- **West Bengal** government is planning to convert the **Sundarbans** into a **tourism centre** of **International Standards**
- Union government signed **US \$250 million** loan agreement with **world Bank** for **SANKALP Project** Skills Acquisition and Knowledge awareness for livelihood promotion
- The Yogi Adityanath **Uttar Pradesh** Wednesday gave its nod to a new law **against** organised **crime** in Utter Pradesh. The State Cabinet has approved Utter Pradesh **control of organised crime Act 2017**

- PM Modi has Commissioned **India's first** modern conventional submarines **INS Kalvari** into Navy's fleet in **Mumbai**

### December – 15

- The home ministry has released **Rs.174 cr** to **six states** having an **international border** for **development** of infrastructure in forward areas
- India hosted **4<sup>th</sup> India – Australia - Japan trilateral** meeting in New **Delhi**
- The Delhi government under Dr.**Kirti Bhushan** setup a **nine members** experts **committee** to look into the **functioning** to **private hospitals** and nursing homes and recommend norms to be followed the clinics, including capping the profit margin on medicine and consumables
- The **Telangana** government has announced to launch a mobile app '**urban genie**' which will enable citizens in urban areas across the state to **find** certified **technicians** and **workers**
- **Japan** has decided to offer a grant worth **8.4 million yen** for the **construction** of a **vocational** training **centers** for poor women and youth in **Rajasthan's** Baran district
- The **winter session** of Parliament begins with **PM** urging all political parties to extend co-operation for smooth conduct and pressing for a '**national consensus**'
- **India** and **Morocco** signed a **MOU** for Enhanced cooperation in the **health sector** in New **Delhi**
- The **Union** government Framed a **scheme** to set up **12 special courts** for a year to fast **track** the trial of **criminal cases** against 1, 581 Mps and MLAs
- **Maharashtra** government set to legalize all slums built till 2017. The State government plans to extend the cut off year to **regularize 3.5 lakh unauthorized slums** in the **city** to **2017** from **2011**
- **Telangana** government rolled out the **24×7 power supply** especially for **farmers**, now set to bear all the financial burden of the scheme by incurring it into the fiscal budget

- The National Energy conservation Day (NECD) – **14<sup>th</sup> Dec**. This day is celebrated with an aim to demonstrate India’s achievement in **energy efficiency** and conservation

### December – 16

- The Vice president of India, shri **M. Venkaiah Naidu** has said that the **Vedas Preach world peace, Universal brotherhood** and welfare of all
- **Union Cabinet** approved the introduction of **New Central Scheme** called “**North East special Infrastructure Development scheme**’ (NESIDS) and ‘**Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources**’ (NLCPR) with the overall development of the region
- **Raksha Rajya Mantri Dr. Subash Bhamre** inaugurated a four day **49<sup>th</sup> Annual** conference of the **Society of Nuclear Medicine International** conference
- **Union Cabinet** chaired by **PM Modi** he approved the establishment **International Training center for Operational Oceanography** as a **Category – 2 Centre (C<sub>2</sub>C)** of **UNESCO, in Hyderabad**

### December – 17

- Vice President of India **M. Venkaiah Naidu** inaugurated the **World Telugu conference** which begins in **Hyderabad**
- **Ram Nath Kovind** laid the foundation stone of the “**Nyaya Gram**” project of the **High Court of Allahabad**
- **India and Maldives** have begun exercise **Ekuverin** their **eighth annual** joint military **training event** in **Belagavi**.
- **Meghalaya** has become the **first State** in India to **operationalise law** that makes **social audit** of government programmes and scheme a **part of Government practice**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **60MW Tuirial hydropower project** in **Aizawl**.

- The **Union Cabinet** approved a Bill that makes **instant triple talaq** a **criminal offence** and a **Muslim husband resorting to instant talaq** can be jailed up to **three years**.
- According to the '**World Migration Report (2018)**' published by the International Organisation for Migration the **Indian Diaspora is World's largest**.

### December – 18

- **India is the Second largest** producer of **horticultural crops** and **Fruits after China**
- **Preparations are on in full** swing across **Haryana** for the earthquake mock exercise to be held on **21,2017 across the State**
- **International Herbal Fair** was started in **Bhopal from Dec 14** and it is inaugurated by Union Minister from Environment, **Forest and Climate change Dr Harsh Vardhan**
- A **research institute** for the study of the '**Bhagavad Gita**' will be soon set up by **Utter Pradesh** government in temple town **Mathura**
- **Jokapatha Village**, a tribal village in **Chhattisgarh's Balrampur district** has got **electricity connection** for the **first time**
- **Samsung India** has entered into a **partnership** with **UNESCO MGIEP** (Mahatma Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development) to launch **360 video** and virtual Reality(**VR**) content of two magnificent Indian heritage sites the sun Temple in **Konark** and **Taj Mahal** in Area

### December – 19

- The government has approved setting up of a total **42 mega food** parks in the country to create modern **infrastructure for good processing**
- **India** will host meeting of **WTO member countries in February 2018** to muster support for **food security** and other issues.

- Union petroleum minister **Dharmandra pradhan** inaugurated **eastern India's first compressed natural gas (CNG)** stations at **Chandrasekharpur** and **Patia** in **Odisha**.
- **Ladakh** region of **J and K** is celebrating **Losar** Festival to mark the **New Year**.

#### December – 20

- **Andhra Pradesh** in association with **UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi** institute of **Education** for peace and **sustainable development** is planning to establish a centre of excellence for **children with learning** differences as well as **'gaming for e-learning hub'**
- **Goa** celebrated its **56<sup>th</sup> Liberation Day** on **19<sup>th</sup> Dec**
- The **Lok Sabha** was informed that the National entrance exam, the **NEET** and engineering entrance exam **JEE** twice a year to give an opportunity to the students to bring out their best performance the centre is Setting up a **National Testing Agency**
- **Andhra Pradesh** cabinet approved a scheme to provide a **pension of Rs.1500** for **transgender** above **18 years** of age in the state

#### December – 21

- **PM Modi** visited **Ockhi** affected **Lakshadweep**. **Tamil Nadu, Kerala** to take stock of situation and met affected people there he announced a relief package of **Rs.325 crore** for all 3 states and **ex-gratia assistance of Rs.2 lakh** to the next of kin of the deceased.
- **Telangana government's** prestigious **Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation scheme** (KLIS) has finally gets the **green nod**. The **project will boost** to the state government
- **Assam** signed an **MoU** with **Isha foundation** to **conserve and rejuvenate the rivers** of Assam
- **ICRA Management consulting services** an arm of **ICRA** launched a set of **four fixed income indices including one on corporate bonds**.

- **NITI Aayog** proposes setting up a labour **utilization fund** in order to handle the challenge of **growing redundancy** of **low skilled labour** in India with increase of **automation** and advent of artificial intelligence
- **Central government** has sanctioned **42 mega food parks** to be set up across **India** under **Mega Food Park** scheme
- **Lok Sabha** passed the **central Road fund Bill 2017** which seeks to amend the central Road fund Act **2000**. Which contains the provision for distributing **cess levied** and **collected on high speed petrol** and **diesel** for the development of **national highways, rural roads, railways, state** roads and border area roads
- **Rajya Sabha** unanimously passed **Indian Institutes of management IIM Bill, 2017** which **provides greater functional autonomy** to **Indian Institute** of management and confers **power to grant degrees** instead of **post-graduate diplomas**.
- In a **bid to cut power consumption** the **Indian Railways** has laid out plan to make all stations **100 percent LED** lit by **March 31, 2018**
- **Uttar Pradesh** state government under **CM Yogi Adityanath** has scrapped “**Shravan Yatra**” a **scheme** under which **elderly citizens** could **undertake pilgrimage** free of cost
- The **Central government** was committed to **improve the purchasing power** of **farming community**

**December – 22**

- **India and Myanmar** linked an agreement on **restoration of normalcy** and development of the **Rakhine state**
- The **Indian Navy** in collaboration with the **Sri Lanka Navy** successfully completed the second phase of the **joint oceanographic survey**
- Government launched project ‘**DARPAN**’ – Digital Advancement of **Rural Post Office** for a **New India in Delhi**

- **Cabinet** approves a new **skill development scheme** covering the textile sector's **entire value chain excluding spinning and weaving** in the **organised sector** from **2017 – 18 to 2019 – 20** at an outlay of **Rs.1300 cr.**
- The government informed the **Lok Sabha** that it had so far infused a capital of **Rs.51, 858 cr** in **Public Sector Bank** under its '**Indradhanush Plan**' since **2015 – 16**
- **The union cabinet** has approved the Ministry of **Railway transformative initiative** to set up first ever National Rail and Transport University (**NRTU**) in **Gujarat's Vadodara.**
- **Indian Railways** has planned to make all stations **100% LED lit** by **March 31, 2018**
- **Krishnapatnam** port in **Nellore, Andhra Pradesh** is hosting the **9<sup>th</sup> edition of International Youth sailing competition.**
- The **7<sup>th</sup> international coffee festival** will be held in **Bangalore**
- **Hamesha Vijayee** exercise being held in **Rajasthan.**

**December – 23**

- **Indian Navy** conducts Exercise **Naseem – A1 – Bahr** or **Sea Breeze** with **Oman Navy**
- A **loan agreement** has signed between **India and Germany** for Providing additional funding of **EURO 20 million** for the **Pare hydroelectric plant** project under **Indo – German Bilateral Development co- operation**
- **National mathematics day** observed on **22 December**
- With an aim to bring **foreign Policy** to the masses the external affairs ministry has come up with an **initiative – SAMEEP – student and MEA Engagement program**
- **India** will be establishing centre of excellence in Information Technology (**CEIT**) at **Al Azhar university, Egypt's highest religious authority**

- **India's First** and only **design University** ‘ **The world university**’ of Design Opened its campus at **sonipat, Haryana**
- In a **move aimed at combating** black **money** stashed abroad, **India** signed an agreement with **Switzerland** that would allow **automatic sharing** of tax related information from **Jan 1**
- **India** has announced a **development assistance of \$25 million** for **Myanmar's Rakhine State**
- The minister of communication **Manoj Sinha** launched **DARPAN**. “Digital Advancement of Rural post office for a New India” project to improve the quality of service, add value to services and achieve **financial Inclusion** of the **unbanked rural population**
- **Odisha Environment congress 2017 Kicked Off** to foster sustainable **River Basin Management**

**December – 24**

- The **seventh edition** of the **India International Coffee Festival (IICF)** will be held in **Bengaluru**.
- **Maharashtra** set to generate **25,000MW** electricity through **solar power**. Rather Maharashtra as a state tops in generating power through **renewable energy** around **7500 MW**.
- **PM Modi** held telephonic talks with Nepali congress president **Sher Bahadur Deuba**, assures assistance for **peace and development of Nepal**.
- Union Home Minister **Rajnath Singh** said the **SSB** is **strengthening its position in Sikkim and Bhutan border** area after **Doklam** issue between India and China.

**December – 25**

- **Union Rural development ministry** in **partnership with state governments** has completed the ranking of **50,000 gram Panchayat** under **Mission Antyodya**

- **India to link highway corridors to international trade points for Rs.25,000 crore** which will be carried out for facilitating trade with **Nepal, Bhutan Bangladesh and Myanmar.**
- Indian Railway Flagged off **India's first air conditional sub-urban local train** for **Mumbai** commuters between **Berivali and churchgate** on the **Western Railway.**
- **PM Modi** inaugurated the **Botanical Garden Kalkaji** section (of **Magenta** line) of **Delhi Metro**
- Bangalore becomes first city to get its own logo was launched at the **Namma Bengaluru Habba festival** at **vidhana soudha**, in Bangalore.
- The centre has recognized **Odisha** as a “**champion state**” for recording the **highest growth in exports during 2016-17**
- The **Uttar Pradesh** government **signed MoU** with **South Korea** in the field of **tourism, skill development, culture and farming**
- To **enhance standards of cleanliness on beaches** the **environment ministry** has launched a **pilot project ‘Blue flag’** for its **clean up and development.**
- **Good Governance – 25<sup>th</sup> December.**  
It marks the **birth anniversary** of former **PM Vajpayee**
- Vice president(**Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu**) has inaugurated the centenary celebrations of **Yoga institute in Mumbai**
- **Jairam Thakur** will be **Himachal Pradesh** new **CM.**

#### December – 26

- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** the union minister of state the ministry of Development of **North Eastern Region** has launched **electronics – Human Resource Management** system in **New Delhi.**
- **Hondo Motor** is planning to set up a **lithium-ion battery** manufacturing unit in India with the main aim to move only **potential electric vehicles** on roads by 2030.

- India is all set to get its first **runway** on a ‘**Sea bridge**’ as the Airports Authority of India has been given nod to extend **Lakshadweep’s Agatti Airport**
- The world’s longest **glass bridge** opened in **China** to the public. It is located in **Shijiazhang**.
- **Vijay Rupani** was sworn in at a **grand ceremony** in the state capital of **Gandhinagar** as the **CM of Gujarat State**.

### December – 27

- **Home ministry** has released **167 crore rupees** to **nine states** with International border for the development of infrastructure in forward areas.
- **Uttar Pradesh government** launches free **household power connection scheme ‘Prakash hai to vikas’** hai for the poor in the state to mark former **PM Atal bihari vaijpayee’s birthday on 25<sup>th</sup> December**.
- The Government of India the Government of **Tamil Nadu** and the **World Bank** signed a **\$318 million** loan agreement for the **Tamil Nadu irrigated Agriculture modernization project** to promote climate resilient agriculture technologies.
- The **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development** will soon get going on a **Rs.8000cr** fund that the finance minister announced in this year budget to support the dairy sector.
- Central Government has drawn up tailor made action plan for improving the socio-economic conditions of 115 “most backward” district across India.
- In order to provide relief for disqualified directors of companies, **union ministry** of corporate Affairs will roll out ‘**condonation of Delay scheme** which will be operational from **January 1 to March 31 2018**
- The **South Delhi Municipal corporation** launched ‘**Atal Jan Aahar Yojana**’ for poor people to provide them **meal at Rs.10** marking the Good Governance day
- **Odisha** to split tourism culture department and promote odia language and set up odia language commission

**December – 28**

- The **government** said it plans to complete the work of installing **bio – toilets in all passenger train by March 2019.**
- The much awaited **India’s first pod taxi project** has moved a step closer to reality after a **high level panel recommended inviting fresh bids** for the same conforming to the **strictest safety standard** on the **lines** prescribed by an **American body**
- **India** has **provided medical assistance worth about \$1 million** Yemen in response to a request from the **Yemeni government**
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurates conference at **Acharya Nagarjuna University** in **Andhra Pradesh.**
- The President of India **Ram Nath Kovind** dedicated to the people of **Andhra Pradesh** **four projects** of the **State Government** at function held at **velagapudi**
  - **Fibregrid** Project
  - **Andhra Pradesh Surveillance** Project
  - **Drone** Project
  - **Free Space Optical Communication** System
- On **Dec 26, 2017** a team of Indian Air Force (**IAF**) mountaineers successfully scaled Mt Vinson in **Antarctica** and therefore completed “**Mission Seven Summits**” **About Mission Seven Summit**
- It’s a series of **Mountaineering Expedition** to **fly the Indian tricolor** and the **IAF Flag** on the **highest peaks in every continent.**
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated the centenary **Conference of the Indian Economic Association** in **Guntur, Andhra Pradesh**  
Theme: **India’s development experience**
- The **five day Teesta Rangit Tourism Festival 2017** started in **Darjeeling**

- **Atal Innovation mission** has selected additional 1500 schools for establishment of **Atal Tinkering Labs** there by taking the **total number of schools** selected so far to **2441**  
**Vision of AIM: ‘To cultivate one million children in India as the Innovators of tomorrow’**
- **25<sup>th</sup> National children science congress** begun in **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**  
**Theme: Science and Innovation for sustainable development**

**December – 29**

- The **government** has decided to make **additional market borrowing** of Only **50,000 crore** in the **remaining period** of the **current fiscal year** to **meet expenditure**
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs** has approved the **construction** of **5,45,090 more affordable house** for the benefit of urban poor under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana** with an **investment** of **Rs.31,003 cr** with **central assistance** of **Rs. 8,107 cr**
- **Union Agriculture and Farmers welfare Minister** **sri Radha Mohan Singh** has launched **Livestock Disease Forewarning - Mobile Application (LDF – Mobile App)**
- **Aiming to start Commercial seaplane** operations before the **2019 general elections**
- India has **Successfully test – Fired its Indigenously development Advanced Air Defence supersonic interceptor Missile**, capable of destroying any incoming ballistic missile in **low altitude** from a test range in **Odisha**
- The **Parliament** has Passed the **Indian institute of Petroleum and energy Bill-2017** which aims to **provide high quality education** and **research** focusing on themes of **Petroleum hydrocarbon and energy**

**December – 30**

- The **Eighteenth meeting** of the **Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)** was held in **New Delhi**, under the chairman ship of **Arun Jaitley**

- **ISRO** has announced that it would launch **31 satellites**, including **India's Cartosat – 2** series each observation space craft, in a single mission onboard its polar rocket on **January 10**.
- The last **MIG – 27 aircraft roared** over **Hasimara Air Force base** in **Bengal** for the last time as the IAF bade farewell to this legacy fleet in a function.
- Government think-tank **NITI Aayog** is slowest among **52 Central Ministries and Departments** when it comes to addressing public grievances reveals a government report.
- More than **5,000 youths** from different parts of the country will attend the **22<sup>nd</sup> National Youth Festival**, scheduled to be held in **Jaipur**.
- **State – run power giant NTPC group's capacity** will cross the **51,000 MW** mark on **31 December** with the beginning of commercial operations of **Unit – 2** of the **Kudgi super thermal project**.

#### December – 31

- **Eighteenth** meeting of the financial stability and development council (**FDSC**) was held in New **Delhi**, under the chairmanship of the Union Minister of Finance, **Arun Jaitley**.
- **Kolkata Police** has issued a notification that imposes a **ban** on public **display** of **weapons** in Kolkata, effective from **2 Jan 2018 to 1 Jan 2019**.
- **Nirmala Sitharaman** inaugurated the Centre for Entrepreneurship opportunities and Learning (**CEOL**) in **Mallikatte**, Mangaluru. This is aimed to promote startup **Indira initiative** in India.
- The **Chhattisgarh** Government signed a **MOV** with **Central Government** for the **2<sup>nd</sup> phase** of **Bharat Net Project**.
- **Nitin Gadkari** flagged off cargo movement on the **pandu – Dhubri** (on National Water way 2) along the **Brahmaputra River** in **Assam**.
- **Assam CM** launches **skill Development Training** centers across the state.

- Communication Minister of State (Independent charge) **Manoj Sinha** informed the parliament that Central Government has approved Rs. **4066 crore** providing **internet connectivity** to people in all **gram panchayat** under Bharat Net Project

## Sports

### December – 1

- **Pankaj Advani** secures **IBSF World Snooker Championship** title at **A1 Arabi sports club** in **Doha**. Advani defeated **Amir Sarkhosh** of Iran **8-2** in the final
- **Mirabai Chanu** bagged **India's First World weightlifting** championship **gold** in **22 years** in **Anaheim, USA** She created a **new world record** of **194 kg** lifting **85 snatch** and **109 kg** in **clean and jerk**
- **Ankushita Boro**, a young girl from **Assam** has won the '**Best Boxer**' title in world youth Women's Boxing Championship held in **Guwahati**.
- Odisha CM **Naveen Patnaik** unveiled the **logo and mascot** of the **Hockey men's world Cup 2018** at **Kalinga stadium** in **Bhubaneswar**.
- **Abhishek Verma** won a **gold medal** and **Jyothi Surekha Vennam** a **bronze medal** at the **Asian Archery championship** which was hosted in India

### December – 2

- Five time World Champion **M.C. Mary Kom** has **resigned** as the Nation Observer for Indian Boxing
- Hockey World League (**HWL**) final began at the **Kalinga Stadium** in **Bhubaneshwar, Odisha**

### December – 3

- **Virat Kohli** became the fourth **fastest Indian bats** man to reach **5,000 runs**.

#### December – 4

- Captain Virat **Kohli** surpassed Brian Lara to set the record for most **double centuries** scored by the third and final Test against Sri Lanka in Delhi on 3 Dec

#### December – 5

- Mumbai's 18 – year old batsman **Prithvi Shaw** has been named the **captain** of the **Indian under - 19**
- **Deepika Kumari** won a **bronze** medal at the Indoor **Archery** world cup stage 2 in Bangkok
- The Final draw for the **2018 FIFA** world cup was held in Russian capital **MOSCOW**

#### December – 6

- **Russia** Banned from **2018 winter Olympics**
- **India** beat **Nepal 3-0** to win the **first** ever **South Asian** regional **Badminton Tournament**
- **Afghanistan** grabbed the **ICC International cup** defeating **united Arab Emirates** by **10 wickets** on the **fourth and final day** at the **Sheikh Zayed stadium** in **Abu Dhabi, UAE**
- Organizers of the **golf world cup** announced that **Melbourne** (City in **Victoria, Austria**) will host the grand team event for the **third straight time** in **2018**

#### December – 7

- A week after **five time world champion Mary Kom** resigned as the **National Sports observer**, **India star wrestler** and two time Olympic medallist **Sushil Kumar** also Stepped down from the **position** of wrestling
- **India** wins **first ever South Asian Regional Badminton Team championship**
- **Mujeeb – Ur – Rehman Zadran** the 16 yr became the **youngest** ever from **Afghanistan** to play **International Cricket**

### December – 9

- Visually impaired swimmer **Kanchanamala Pande** scripted history by becoming the **first** Indian to win **gold** at the world **Para Swimming** Championship takes place in Mexico.

### December – 10

- Sports Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore has announced that India will **host** the **senior women's boxing** championships **next year** and the senior **Men's world** championship in **2021**.
- **India** is all set to **host** its first-ever major **boxing tournament** for elite **men** and **women**-India open International boxing tournament from January 28 in New **Delhi**.

### December – 11

- **South Korea** announced it will have **85 Robots** at the **2018 winter Olympics** as **Volunteers**

### December – 12

- India to host **81 matches** from **2019-2023** says **BCCI**
- **Shubhankar Sharma** of India won the **Joburg open golf** tournament
- **Australia** retained their **Hockey world league** final title with Victory over Argentina
- India's **Saurabh Chaudhry** **qualified** for the youth Olympic games with a gold medal and a junior world record in 10m air pistol at the ongoing **Asia Youth Olympic** games qualification tournament in Wako city, Japan

### December – 14

- **Indian's men and women's hockey** teams remained in the **6<sup>th</sup>** and **10<sup>th</sup>** positions respectively in the ranking revealed by International Hockey Federation

- **India** has become the First ever team to register **300 + totals 100 times** in ODI's after Posting 392 /4 against Sri Lanka in **Mohali**
- **Rohit Sharma** became the first ever player in **ODI** history to **hit three double hundreds**, Slamming his third in the Mohali ODI against Sri Lanka
- **Sachin Siwach** maned the Asian Boxing confect rations **best youth Boxer of the year**
- **Anjum Moudgil** won the women's 50m rifle prone **gold** medal at the **61<sup>st</sup> National Shooting** championship

**December – 15**

- **Indore** to host **Ranji Trophy** finals **2017-18**
- BCCI lifts **Ban** on Rajasthan Cricket Association(**RCA**)

**December – 17**

- The first-ever **International wheelchair Cricket Tournament** was organised in **Nepal's Kathmandu**.

**December – 18**

- **PV Sindhu** won **Silver** at the **Dubai World Super Series Finals** after losing a **Titanic contest** against **Japan** top reed **Akane Yamaguchi**

**December – 19**

- **BBC Sports** personality **2017** goes to **England women cricketers** with team award.

**December – 20**

- India top ranked **Junior shuttler Aakarshi Kashyap** won **U-17 and U-19 singles** title at junior **Nationals** held in **Guwahati**

## December – 21

- Junior National Badminton Championship. **Aakarshi Kashyap** wins **singles titles** in **U-17 and U-19** categories at **Junior National Badminton championship** in **New Delhi**.
- **Kerala** kings became the **first ever T10 cricket** league champion at **Sharjah cricket stadium** in **Sharjah, UAE**
- **India** thrashes **Nepal** to win South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) **U-15 women's championship** **Dhaka, Bangladesh**.

## December – 22

- **India** retains **105<sup>th</sup>** spot while **Germany** finished first to be named the '**Team of the Year**' in the **FIFA** rankings released recently.

## December – 23

- **Lionel Messi Beats Ronaldo** To receive **La Liga Best Player Award**
- **Indian Captain Mithali Raj** was named in the **ICC women's ODI team** of the year. **Left Spinner Ekta Bisht** to find place in Both **ODI and T20** teams of the year announced by **world body**
- **The Central English city of Birmingham** to host **common wealth games** in **2022**

## December – 25

- **Sushil Kumar** became the most expensive **wrestler** of the **PWL (pro wrestling league)** in **New Delhi**.

## December – 26

- **India** finished runners up after going down 1-0 to **Bangladesh** in the final of the **SAFF U15 women's championship** in **Dhaka Bangladesh**.

**December – 29**

- Haryana shooter **Anisha Sayyed** won the **women's 25m Pistol** with a new record at ongoing **61<sup>st</sup> National shooting championship** competition in **Kerala**

**December – 30**

- **Viswanathan Anand** lifted the World rapid **Chess championship** in **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.**

## **Banking and Finance**

**December – 4**

- **Corporation Bank** launches its **Rupay** select and **Rupay platinum** credit cards **Jai Kumar Garg** MD and CEO of corporation Bank, Unveiled the cards in **Mangalore**

**December – 6**

- The **Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Boards** of Directors has approved debt financing and Partial risk guarantees totaling **\$ 583 million** to develop the **Reliance Bangladesh Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and power project**
- India's largest digital Bank **Paytm** payments bank has unveiled '**Paytm Ka ATM**' outlets that allows customers to **open Saving Accounts** and **deposit 1 withdraw money** from their bank accounts

**December – 7**

- **RBI** Keeps **Repo rate** unchanged at **6%** maintains neutral stance
- Current monetary Policy rate
- Repo rate : unchanged at **6%**
- Reverse Repo Rate : unchanged at **5.75%**
- Marginal Standing Facility (**MSF**) Rate : **6.25%**

- Bank Rate : **6.25 %**
- Cash research ratio -> **4%**
- Statutory liquidity Ratio : **19.5%**

#### December – 10

- Asian Development Bank (**ADB**) has announced that it will fund **highway** up gradation project in **Karnataka** for which it has approved a loan of **USD 346 million**.

#### December – 11

- **RBI** launches campaign against **SMS fraudsters** – ‘**missed call**’ Helpline to warn people against promising prize money scams
- **BSE’s** India International Exchanges India has received **approval** from the capital market regulator SEBI on the framework for the listing of **debt securities**
- India’s largest carmaker **Maruti Suzuki** became India’s **sixth most valued firm**, crossing India’s largest lender state Bank of India

#### December – 14

- The **RBI** has imposed a monetary pane of **Rs.30 million** on **IndusInd** Bank for Non – compliance with direction issued by RBI on Income recognition and Asset clarification

#### December – 15

- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(**AIIB**) has approved a **USD 335 million** loan to finance a 100 percent electric **metro rail** project in **Bangalore**
- The Reserve Bank of India(**RBI**) has imposed certain **restriction** on corporation Bank on carrying out banking activities as its share of **bad loans** rose sharply

## December – 19

- **AU Small Finance Bank** has announced signing an **MoU with Sahaj e-village** for extending its **banking service**.
- **YES Bank** and the **European Investment Bank** will co-finance **\$400 million** funding for **renewable power generation**.

## December – 20

- As per Gout ministry the government will bear the **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)** charges on transactions up to **Rs. 2000** made through debit cards, **BHIM.UPI** and **Aadhaar** enabled **payment system to Promote digital**
- The Government has engaged private lender **ICICI Bank** to enable online payments at **470 mandis integrated** with national portal of electronic National Agriculture Market (**e- NAM**)

## December – 21

- A **financing agreement** for **IDA** credit worth **USD 125 million** for the “**Skills Strengthening for industrial value Enhancement operation (STRIVE)**” project was **signed** by **Government of India** and the **World Bank**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has initiated “**prompt corrective action**” measure against state run lender Bank of India in the view of its high **non-performing assets (NPAS)**
- **RBI** puts **United Bank of India** on **corrective action plan**

## December – 22

- Loan worth **USD \$40 million** for a tourism project in the Indian state of **Uttar Pradesh** was approved by the **World Bank Board** of Executive Directors.
- **Samsung** launched its ‘**Bill payment**’ on its **flagship payment service Samsung pay** in partnership with **Axis Bank**

### December – 23

- According to **Reserve bank of India's** Financial stability report gross non – performing assets might rise from **10.2 percent** of gross advances in **September 2017 to 10.8 % in March 2018** and **Further to 11.1 percent by Sep 2018**

### December – 24

- Airtel Payments Bank CEO **Shashi Arora** has **quit** the company **after a recent controversy** surrounding India's largest telecom operator.
- **SBI Card, the credit card issuer and Bharat petroleum** the leading petroleum company in India announced the launch of the **BPCL SBI Card** the most rewarding fuel co-branded credit card in the country.
- India's largest **Mortgage lender HDFC** has sold its realty **business HDFC Reality** and its **digital real estate business HDFC developers** to online classifieds player **Quikr**.

### December – 25

- **Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh** top contributors of the **GST** for **first five months**.
- **Public sector banks** "Non - Performing Assets (NPAs) of Indian public sector banks stood at **Rs.7.34 lakh crore** by end of **Sep 2017**."

### December – 27

- **India** becomes **Fifth largest economy in 2018** says the report of **World Economic League table**.
- According to data released by the Income Tax department only **2 crore Indians** (1.71% of population) **paid Income Tax** in the assessment year (2015 – 2016)
- **Samsung** in partnership with **Axis Bank** launched its **Bill payment on Samsung pay**

December – 29

- The Government of **India** and **world Bank** signed an agreement for **IBRD credit of USD 40 million** from **world Bank** for “**U.P pro – poor Tourism Development Project**”
- According to research report by rating agency **CARE**, the **9.85%** ratio of **bad loans** in **bank** has put **India** in the group of **those nation** that **have very high non – performing assets**. The only Major countries with similar, ratio are troubled **EU Nation: Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain** commonly referred as **PIIGS**. India at **5<sup>th</sup>** Position in **Non – Performing assets levels**

December – 31

- Central Government has **infused** over **Rs.7500 crore** equity **capitals** in six stressed public sector Bank. These six banks are bank of India, **Central Bank** of India, **Dena Bank**, **IDBI Bank**, Bank of **Maharashtra** and **UCO Bank**
- Amount of **capital Infusion**:

Bank	Amount of capital infusion
IDBI	2729
Bank of India	2257
UCO	1375
Bank of Maharashtra	650 crore
Central Bank of India	323 crore
Dena Bank	243 crore
- **Federal Bank** announced a **partnership** with Abu Dhabi Based **Lul-u-Exchange** to leverage **block chain technology** across border remittance

## Awards & Recognition

December – 3

- “**Lipstick under My Burkha**” which explores women’s feeling has bagged a top prize at the time **global sustainability film award 2017**.
- **Miss World 2017, Manushi Chhillar** was awarded the **Indian of the year special achievement award** by minister of finance and corporate affairs **Arun Jaitley** event at New **Delhi**

- **Miss Korea Jenny Kim** was crowned **Miss supranational 2017** on Friday on **Poland**.

#### December – 5

- President **Ram Nath Kovind** confers national Awards for **Divyangjan 2017** on the occasion of International Day of persons with Disabilities in New **Delhi**
- Indian Americans California Senator **Kamala Harris topped** the Prestigious foreign policy magazine's 2017 list of 50 leading **global thinkers** which also features **US Ambassadors** the UN **Nikki Haley**

#### December – 6

- **16 years old Mohamad Al Jounde** from **Syria** was awarded the **International children's peace prize** for his efforts to **Syrian Refugee children**

#### December – 7

- The '**silence breakers**' – the women behind this year's me Too movement against **Sexual harassment** are named Time magazine's 2017 '**person of the Year**'
- Indian Cricketer **Yuvraj singh** will be promoting a **UNICEF** sport initiative for youngster in **South Africa Power of Sports** to **shape** the future of **Adolescents**

#### December – 8

- **Aamir khan's Dangal** unis **Best Asian Film** at Australia gala.

#### December – 9

- **Dangal Movie** has won the **Best Asian Film** at the seventh Australian Academy of cinema and Television Arts (**AACTA**) 2017.

#### December – 10

- Eminent Hindi writer '**Mamta Kalia**' will be honoured with literary award **Vyas samman** for year **2017** for her novel **Dukkham Sukkham**.

### December – 11

- President Ram Nath Kovind **awarded** the president colour to the **Submarine arm** of the Indian Navy in recognition of its extraordinary services to the nation in the past **50 yrs**

### December – 12

- The Vice President of India, Shree M. Vankaiiah Naidu has conferred ‘**Yeraringan**’ award to prof M.S. **Swaminathan** in Chennai

### December – 13

- **Priyanka Chopra** receives **Mother Teresa Memorial** award for **Social Justice**
- **India** bags **21 medal** including **6 gold, 8 silver and 7 Bronze** at Asian Airgun shooting championships

### December – 15

- **Jitesh Singh Deo** from Lucknow was declared the **winner of the 2017 Mr. India**

### December – 16

- **Eminent Bengali poet Joy Goswami** will be given the **31<sup>st</sup> Moortidevi Award** for the year **2017**
- **Noted Litterateur Ramdev Dhurandhar** has been selected for this year’s ‘**Shrilal Shukla Smriti IFFCO Sahitya Samman**’ presented by Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (**IFFCO**)
- **Oxford Dictionaries** has crowned “**Youth quake**” as its word of **2017** in a nod to the unexpected level of **youth engagement** in this summer election in **UK**
- **Roger Federer** has been **Voted the BBC overseas sports personality** of the year for a record fourth time

### December – 19

- **G Satheesh Reddy** has been conferred with prestigious **National Design award**.

- **Eminent poet Joy Goswami** will be given the **31<sup>st</sup> Moortidevi award** for the year **2017**.

**December – 20**

- **India currently ranks 60<sup>th</sup>** out of global innovation Index (**G11**) **2017** as compared to **66<sup>th</sup> rank on the G11 2016**

**December – 23**

- **Mamang Dai** and **Ramesh Kuntal Megh** win **Sahitya Academi** award for their Work. The **Black hill** a novel and **Vishw Mithak Sarit Sagar**, a literary criticism in **English and Hindi** respectively
- **UK** has topped the **Forbes ranking of best Countries** in the world for business in **2018**
- **Shree Saini** from **Washington** crowned **Miss India USA 2017**

**December – 25**

- **Sudarsan Pattnaik** International sand artist created the **world's biggest sand santa-face** with message **world peace** at **Puri beach, Odisha**

**December – 28**

- **Singer K.S. Chitra** been selected for **2017 Harivarasanam** award by the **kerala** govt for her contribution to spread spirit of **secularism, equanimity** and universal **brotherhood**
- **Anushka Sharma** has been awarded for people for **Ethical Treatment of Animals 2017, Person of the year**.
- **Mayanka Patel** and **Poonam Gaur** crowned as **Mrs. India pride of Nation 2017**

**December – 30**

- **Real Madrid** forward, **Cristiano Ronaldo** has won the **Best Player of the year** accolade at the **Globe soccer Awards**

- **Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company limited** has been awarded the Prestigious “**Golden Peacock Award for Risk Management**” for the year 2017

## Appointment and Resigns

December – 2

- Shri **Sunil Kumar Chourasia**, has been appointed as the New Director General of Ordnance Factories (**DGOF**)
- **Surya Prakash** has been appointed as the chairman of the public broadcaster **Prasar Bharati** for a second term

December – 4

- British Singer Song writer **Ellie Goulding** is appointed as global goodwill Ambassador for **UN Environment**, joining the fight to save the lives and habitats of people and animals by cleaning up the planet’s air and seas, fighting climate change and protecting species
- Veteran Journalist A **Surya Prakash** appointment the **chairman** of the **Prasar Bharati** board for a second Consecutive term till Feb 8, 2020

December – 7

- **Bollywood** actor **Akshay Kumar** will promote the **government’s flagship agriculture** Schemes like **Soil health** cards and crop insurance
- **Swiggy** an online **food delivery** Startup has appointed **Vishal Bhatia** as **CEO**

December – 8

- **Shri Azar A.H. Khan** has been appointed as the **next ambassador of India to Turkmenistan**

December – 11

- **Uma Shankar** appointment as **RBI Executive Director**

- **Sarvesh Tiwari** appointed as **President Para sports foundation**

**December – 12**

- **Rahul Gandhi** elected unopposed as **president of Congress**

**December – 13**

- **Nakul Chopra** elected as the **next chairman of BARC India**

**December – 14**

- Former Australia batsman **Brad Hodge** has been appointed as the **head coach** of the **Indian premier league** franchise Kings XI Punjab

**December – 16**

- **International Hockey Federation (FIH) Chief Narinder Batra** was elected the President of **Indian Olympic Association** in an **Annual General Body Meeting**

**December – 18**

- **Czech Billionaire** businessman **Andrej Babis** was appointed prime minister after his **ANO Party** came **first** in an **October election**

- Shri **Ravindra Jaiswal** has been appointed as the **next ambassador of India to Sudan**

- Shri **Pradeep Kumar Gupta** has been appointed as the **next ambassador of India to the Republic of Mali**

**December – 19**

- **Apple** has named **Michel Coulomb** as the **head of sales** for its operations in **India**.

**December – 20**

- National Green Tribunal (NGT) chairperson Justice **Swatanter Kumar** today **retired** from the **post after** completing his **five – year tenure**

### December – 22

- Justice **J.D. Salvi** appointed **acting chairperson** of NGT (National Green Tribunal)

### December – 24

- Lieutenant general **B.S.Sahrawat** took over the reins of **National Cadet Corps** as its **Director general**.
- **Shri. M. Subbarayudu** presently joint secretary in the ministry of external affairs has been appointed as the **next ambassador** of India to Republic of Peru.

### December – 28

- **Paul Antony** appointed as **Kerala chief secretary**
- **Abhay** appointed as **Director General of Narcotics Control Bureau(NCB)**

### December – 29

- **Former Zimbabwe army chief Sworn** in as vice president, **Constantino Chiwenga**

### December – 30

- Former football star **George weah** has been elected as **Liberia's President**

### December – 31

- **Chander Prakash** and **Arun Sangwan** took charge as state information commissioner of **Haryana** in Chandigarh.
- President Ram Nath Kovind appointed **Vinay Sahasrabuddhe** as the president of Indian Council of cultural Relations (**ICCR**)
- **G. Rajesham Goud** former chairman of Karimnagar Zilla parishad, will head **Telangana State Finance Commission** as its Chairman.

- **Amardeep Singh Bhatia** has been appointed as **Director of Serious Fraud Investigation Office**

## **Agreements and Approvals**

**December – 3**

- **Salil S Parekh** as its Chief Executive Officer(CEO) and Managing Director(MD)
- **Raj Shah** becomes **first – American** to Hold press gaggle.
- **Dia Mirza** appointed as **UN Environment goodwill Ambassador** for India.
- **Sibi George** was appointed the next **Ambassador of India** to the **Holy see**. He is presently Ambassador of India to Switzerland.

## **Books**

**December – 2**

- Veteran lyricist **Gulzar** has come out with his debut **novel in English** which **examines the status of refugees** after the partition.

**December – 26**

- The way I see it – a **Gauri Lankesh**

## **Economy**

**December – 1**

- **GDP growth** recovers to **6.3 pct** in **Second Quarter of FY 18**.
- The **data furnished** by **CGA** showed that **India's budgetary Fiscal deficit** for **first Seven months of 2017-18** stood at **96.1 percent – Rs.5.25 lakh crore** of the full years target of **Rs.5.46 lakh crore**.

### December – 3

- The Reserve Bank of India's **weekly statistical** supplement showed that India's foreign exchange reserves kitty increased by **\$1.20 billion** as on November 24 2017.

### December – 5

- According to **Pitcher's** December **Global Economic** outlook the global ratings agency reduced the **growth** forecast for the fiscal years to end – march 2018 (fy18) to **67%** from 6.9%

### December – 9

- According to global financial services major **Morgan Stanley**, the Indian **Economy** is expected to witness cyclical growth recovery with 6.4% to **7.5%** in **2018**.

### December – 11

- The Provision Figures of **Direct Tax** collections up to Nov 2017 show that the net collections are at **4.8 lakhs** crore which is 14.4% higher than the last year

### December – 12

- **Global Investment bank Nomura** has predicted **India's economy** to register a **7.5% growth rate in 2018**
- **India** ranks **100<sup>th</sup>** on the list of **prosperous countries** among **149 countries**
- **Norway** heads the **global prosperity Index** followed by **New Zealand**

### December – 14

- **ADB** lowers its Indian **GDP** Forecast for current financial years to **6.7 percent**

### December – 26

- According to Japanese financial services major **Homura's** composite leading Index **7.5%** in 2018.

## Obituary

December – 7

- **France's biggest rock star Johnny Hallyday** passes away

December – 9

- Noted **South Indian Music director Adithyan** has passed away following a Kidney problem
- Senior Tamil journalist and humourist **Ja Ra Sundaresan** has passed away.

December – 11

- **Lalji Singh**, a pioneer of **DNA Fingerprint** technology in India passed away
- Veteran **Journalist Sukharanjan Sengupta** passes away

December – 14

- Renowned **journalist and Bengali author Rabisankar Bal** has Passed away following a Brief illness
- Senior congress leader and former president of **Delhi Pradesh** congress committee **Chaudhary Prem Singh** has Passed away

December – 22

- Singer **Jatileswar Mukhopadhyay** passed away. He hails from **West Bengal**.

December – 23

- Delhi **ex-LT Governor Banwari Lal Joshi** Passes away

December – 26

- Bengali film icon **Partha Mukhopadhyay** passes away at 70.

### December – 27

- Legendary SA musician Robbie Malinga passes away

### December – 28

- The creator of **Buys Bunny Bob** givens passed away

### December – 31

- **Sue Grafton**, author of various mystery novels passed away in **Santa, Barbara, California, US**

## Business

### December – 5

- **Bharti Airtel**, telecommunications service provider, has acquired a strategic in **Juggernaut Books**, a digital platform to discover and read high quality affordable books and to submit amateur writing
- **Paytm** payments Bank rolled out **paytm FASTag** to enable electronic toll fee collection highways across the country

### December – 8

- The government has set up a **high level Committee** headed by **NITI Aayog chief executive Amitabh Kant** to address the problem of **NPA** (Non Performing Assets) in **India's power sector**

### December – 10

- In a statement released by the central Board of Direct Taxes (**CBDT**) the provisional figures of **direct tax** collections up to November this year show the net collection **14.4%** higher than last year

### December – 12

- **Apple** announced that it has **acquired** song recognition company **Shazam**. The deal is **worth \$ 400 million**
- The **Asian Development Bank** has announced and approved **USD 346 million** to **Karnataka** to build their **upgradation project** of highways to the state government

### December – 16

- The Merchant Discount Rate (**MDR**) charges on transactions up to **Rs.2000** made through **debit cards, BHIM UPI** or **Aadhaar Enable payment system** will be borne by the government to promote digital transactions

### December – 17

- **In order to provide seamless movement** of goods across state borders, **GST Council** at its **24<sup>th</sup> Meeting** decided to make **electronic permits compulsory** for inter-state movement of goods
- **UIDAI** has temporarily suspended telecom major **Bharti Airtel** and **Airtel payments Bank's "Aadhaar linked e-kyc"** services for **alleged misuse of the facility**.

### December – 19

- **Ride-sharing plat form Ola** announces that it has acquired **Food Panda's India business** from **Germany's Delivery Hero** in exchange for **Ola stock**.
- **Bharti Airtel** entered into a **Millicom's operations** in **Rwanda**

### December – 20

- **Bharti Airtel and Tata** in **October** announced they have **entered into an understanding** to merge **consumer mobile Businesses** of **Tata Teleservices Limited** and **Tata Teleservices Maharashtra Limited (TTML)** into **Bharti Airtel**.
- The **Konkan Railway** and **IIT Bombay** signed a **MoU** to transform **George Fernandes Institute of Tunnel Technology** in **Goa** to a **world-class centre of knowledge in tunnel and underground structure technologies**.

- National Association of software and services (**NASSCOM**) and **Dalian Municipal people's Government** signed a **joint investment agreement** to create a platform called the **Sino-Indian Digital collaboration plaza (SIDCOP)** in **Dalian**

**December – 25**

- **Central public sector NHPC** has proposed to set up **100-200 capacity solar projects** in **Odisha**.

**December – 28**

- **Paytm** announced that its app had passed the **100 million milestone** on **Google play**

**December – 30**

- Coming to the rescue of ailing banks the centre has pumped in capital of **7,577 crore** in various weak public sector banks
- **India** has **the highest level** of Non-Performing Assets (**NPA**) among **BRICS** countries and is ranked **fifth** on a list of countries, reported by **CARE Rating**

**December – 31**

- State owned natural gas processing and distribution company Ltd **GAIL** has placed order for another **400 km** of pipeline under **pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga natural gas pipeline project**

## **Important Day**

**December – 10**

- **International Anti-corruption day** has been observed annually on **9 december** with the theme **“United against corruption for development, peace and security”**.

**December – 12**

- **Universal Health Coverage Day** on **12<sup>th</sup> December, 2017**

**December – 21**

- **International Human Solidarity Day – December 20**  
To promote solidarity, **World Solidarity Fund** was established

## **Science and technology**

**December – 1**

- **Google** launches **Datally App** for quick data usage in real time which help users understand, control and save on the mobile data
- The **Ministry of skill development and Implementation Entrepreneurship's** implementation arm National skill Development corporation (**NSDC**) and Tourism and Hospitality sector skill council (**THSC**) signed a **Tripartite a MoU** with **Airbnb** to provide **hospitality skills training to hospitality Micro entrepreneurs in India.**

**December – 12**

- Researchers at the **University of Illinois** have announced an exciting finding – The **discovery** of a new form of matter **excitonium.**

**December – 21**

- **Eastern Railway** has launched a mobile application named “**R-MITRA**” (Railway Mobile Instant Tracking Response & Assistance) for **security of passengers, especially women in Kolkata and Suburban areas of Eastern Railway Zone.**

**December – 25**

- **QRSAM** – Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile was **successfully test fired** from **Drdo, Chandipur in Odisha.**

## Schemes

December – 15

- A National workshop on Role of **Sakhi** one stop centres in **strengthening Multi sectoral** response to violence is being held in New **Delhi**

