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# National News

## January – 1

- Assam gets **Rs.1250 crore** central fund for **inland water transport**
- **Odisha police** will go digital from **Jan 1 2018** as routine work in police stations across the State will be **computerized** under the **criminal Tracking and Networking System**
- Construction work on **Jewar Airport** in Greater **Noida** to start in **December 2018**.
- On Dec 30 2017, **Bihar** CM Nitish Kumar laid **foundation** stones for more than **100 projects** worth **Rs.700 crore** in **Nalanda district**

## January - 2

- **Assam** State Government has published first draft of **Supreme Court monitored National register of citizens**
- **Jharkhand** CM Raghubar Das launches **Saubhagya Yojana** aimed at providing **electricity to all the 29376 villages** across the state.
- **9<sup>th</sup>** Meeting of High powered Review Board of **Brahmaputra Board** was held at **Kaziranga** in Assam on Dec 30 2017.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** was declared as the second State in the North East (after Sikkim) to be declared Open Defecation Free (**ODF**)
- **Andhra Pradesh** CM Chandrababu Naidu declared **2018** as **Telugu Promotion Year**

## January – 3

- **Union Minister** for **women** and child development **Maneka Gandhi** launched a web portal, **NARI** which will provide information on all **government schemes for women**.

- The **Haryana tourism department** disclosed that **Uttar Pradesh** would be the **theme state** for the **32<sup>nd</sup> Surajkund International crafts Mela**, which would be organized at **Surajkund Faridabad** from **Feb 2 to 15**
- **Jharkhand CM** launched “**Saubhagya Yojana**” a **programme** that would provide **electricity** to all the **29, 376 villages** in the state.
- The **Animal Husbandry department of Gujarat** government has banned all voluntary animal care and non-government organizations working under the ‘**Karuna Abhiyan**’ to operate in residential areas during the **Uttarayan festival** this year.
- **The Assamese and Manipuri** language versions of **Prime Minister’s** official website [www.pmindia.gov](http://www.pmindia.gov) in were launched

#### January - 4

- Cabinet Approvals on Jan 3 2018  
Cabinet approves agreement between **India** and **Myanmar** on **Land Border crossing**
- Cabinet approves MOU between **India** and **Israel** cooperation in the **OPI** and **Gas sector**
- Cabinet approves **Rs.6809 cr Zojila tunnel project** in **Jammu and Kashmir** will provide all weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh which remains cut – off from the rest of world during winter due to heavy snowfall.
- Cabinet approves setting up of new **AIIMS** in **Bilaspur**.
- Parliament passed **Insolvency and bankruptcy code Amendment Bill 2017**.
- **Haryana** CM Manohar Lal Khattar directed the State irrigation department to implement the integrated Solar based **Micro irrigation scheme** in all district of Haryana.
- **Haryana** Government has Mandated installation of **Solar photo voltaic power plant** in new buildings as per specified norms



- **Assam** CM Sarbananda Sonowal launched **Chah Bagichar Dhan Puraskar Mela** 2017-18 at a function held at Sarbananda Singha auditorium in **Tinsukia**, Assam. It is a scheme for '**Tea Garden workers**'
- Famous **dhanu yatra** festival held in **Bargarh** District of Odisha came to an end

#### January – 5

- **Cabinet committee on Economic affairs** gave its approval for **implementation** of the **Jal Marg Vikas Project** at a cost of **Rs.5369** crore.
- **Hyderabad** was declared an **Open Defecation Free city** by centre and thereby became **second major city** after **Mumbai** with over **1 crore population** to attain its status.
- **Indian** Government Commenced **Swachh Survekshan – 2018**. It's being bugged as **world's largest cleanliness survey**.

#### January – 6

- Tamil Nadu(TN) has emerged as the leader in the country in terms of Gross Enrolment Ratio (**GER**) in **higher education**
- The **West Bengal** Government has launched its **official emblem** in a programme at **Nabanna** two days after getting the approval from the Central Government.
- The New Delhi World Book Fair (**NDWBF**) which has emerged as one of the most significant events in the publishing world will be held in the capital during January 6 -14 at **Pragati Maidan**
- **Shri Suresh Prabhu**, Union Minister for commerce and Industry will **chair** the **3<sup>rd</sup>** meeting of the council for Trade Development and promotion(**CTDP**) at Vigyan Bhawan in New **Delhi**
- Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways in **Singapore** to inaugurate the **ASEAN-India Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** on 6<sup>th</sup> January.
- **Goa** will be hosting the **third** edition of the **Science film festival** of India between January 16 – 19

## January – 7

- **Bengaluru** has emerged as the most well **read city** in India, while **Mumbai and Delhi** stands at **second and third** position respectively.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** would get its **first film and Television Institute**, being set up by the **Union Government** as part of tapping the potential of the **North Eastern region**.
- **18<sup>th</sup>** All India Whips conference to start from **Jan 8** to the held in **Udaipur**.
- **Telangana Government** has inaugurated country's **first National park** of people with special needs (differently abled people) in **Hyderabad**.
- **PM Narendra Modi** will attend the **Annual Conference** of DGPs and IGPs after at the BSF Academy at **Tekanpur** in Madhya Pradesh
- **Income Tax department** launched an **online chat service** on its national website [www. Income tax India.gov.in](http://www.income tax India.gov.in)
- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**PFRDA**) announced that Atal Pension Yojana (**APY**) run by it has reached a subscriber base of **80 lakh**

## January – 8

- **The International kite festival** was inaugurated by **Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani** at **Sabarmati Riverfront** in **Ahmedabad**.
- **All Railway Stations, nearly 8,500** across the **country** including those in **rural and remote areas** will be equipped with **Wi – Fi facilities** at an estimated cost of **Rs.7 billion**.
- In a significant decision after taking over as **Himachal Pradesh** Chief Minister **Jai Ram Thakur** has announced setting up of a **24 × 7 helpline called Gudiya** for **women**
- The Border Security Force (**BSF**) has launched “**Operation Alert**” along the over **200 Kilometer** long International Border (**IB**) in **Jammu and Kashmir**.

## January – 9

- According to union defence minister the **Defence Centre** will be set up in **Coimbatore** **Initial funding of Rs.20 crore** released to the Coimbatore District Small Industries Association (**CODISSIA**) to set up the **innovation centre**
- The **Indian Navy** has inked a **MoU** with **Cochin. Port Trust** for utilizing the port's berthing facility at **Mattancherry wharf** for **Naval ships**
- The **UIDAI** introduced a concept of '**virtual ID**' to further strengthen Privacy and security of **Aadhaar Number holders**
- The "**18<sup>th</sup> All India whips**" conference was inaugurated by **Shri Ananth Kumar** Union Minister of **Chemical and fertilizers at Udaipur, Rajasthan**

## January – 10

- Central Government has sanctioned the raising of a **Territorial army** battalion for **cleaning river Ganga**
- **Bihar** State Government has imposed a **ban** on manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, display and advertisement of electronic cigarettes (**e – cigarettes**) across the state
- **Mankidia** a tribe of Odisha was **denied** habitat right inside the **Similipal Tiger Reserve** in Odisha under the historic scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers
- Union Minister of Earth Science Dr. Harshvardhan dedicated India's Fastest and First '**multi-petaflops**' **Supercomputer** to the nation in **Pune**.
- Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the first persons of Indian origin (**PIO**) **Parliamentary Conference** in the Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra in New **Delhi**.
- **Gujarat** has **topped** a perception based **index** of **mobility of goods** and efficiency of logistics chain closely followed by Punjab and Andhra Pradesh

- Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal launches a common card for **rides** on public **buses** and the **Metro Delhi** is the first city in the country to have a common **mobility card**
- The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare is going rollout National Programme for **Control of Viral Hepatitis** a new scheme free treatment of **Hepatitis c from 2018 – 19** financial years.

### January – 11

- **Cabinet** has approved MOU between **India and Canada** for co-operation in **science and Technology**
- **Cabinet** approves **implementation of CCEA decision** on closure of **Tungabhadra steel Products Limited**
- **Cabinet** approves continuation of members of **Parliament Local Area Development Scheme** till the term of the **14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission i.e till March 31, 2020.**
- **Cabinet** has approved **proposal to amend section 4(1) and section 5(1)** of the **National Trust for the welfare of person with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act 1999.**
- **India and Indonesia** held their **first** bilateral security dialogue in **New Delhi** during the dialogue, India and Indonesia agreed on operational **co-operation** in security and **counter – terrorism.**
- **Supreme Court of India** stayed a **Karnataka High Court** order quashing **85% pictorial warnings** on packets of cigarettes and other **tobacco products.**
- **Union Home Ministry** has appointed a **12 – member** inter – ministerial committee to recommend changes in the existing law of playing of the **national anthem in cinema halls and public places.** The committee is headed by **B.R. Sharma** Additional Secretary in the **Ministry of Home Affairs.**
- The **3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of council of Trade Development** and promotion was chaired by **Suresh Prabha**, Union Minister for commerce & Industry.
  - Suresh Prabhu unveiled a study named

“LEADS – Logistics Ease Across Different States”



- The **Rajasthan Government** has started to digitise **10,000 pages every day**, in order to **preserve administrative and historical records of Rajputana's States**.
- The **Central Government** insisted people not to use **National Flag made of plastic ahead of Republic day celebration**.
- The **UIDAZ** launched "**Virtual ID**" which an **Aadhaar – card holder** can generate from **UIDAI website**

### January – 12

- Committee of Governors submitted a report, titled **Rajyapal – vikas ke Rajdoot; catalytic** role of Governors as Agents for change in society to President Ramnath Kovind.
- Union Ministry of **Road Transport and Highways** signed a MOU with 'Transport for London' (TFL) in New Delhi under this MOU expertise of TFL will be used to revamp the public transport system in India.
- **West Bengal** panchayat and Rural Development and Public Health Engineering Minister **Subrata Mukherjee** announced the launch of water **ATM** project to ensure **bacteria – free drinking water** in schools.
- A subcommittee of (CABE) Central Advisory Board of Education looking into the issue of **girl education** in India has recommended **free and compulsory** education for girls' **up to post – graduate** level across India.
- **25<sup>th</sup>** Raising Day of **Army Air defence** – 10 Jan
- World **Hindi Day** – 10 Jan
- **Bhopal** Station has become the first **railway** station in the country to have **sanitary napkin** vending machine. The machine has been named '**Happy Nari**'
- President Ramnath Kovind inaugurated **4<sup>th</sup> International Dharma – Dhamma** conference on "State and Social order in Dharma – Dhamma Traditions at Rajgir in Nalanda district of **Bihar**."

- The **5<sup>th</sup> Bilateral Technical Meeting** on co-operation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine between Government of **India** and **Malaysia** was conducted at New **Delhi**.

### January – 13

- In a first in independent India's history and a first for the Supreme Court of India **four Judges addressing** the media, appealed to the nation to **save their** institution if they wanted democracy in the **country** to survive.
- External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** and Bhutan's Minister of foreign Affairs **Lyonpo Damcho Dorji** on Friday unveiled the '**Special Logo**' for the Golden Jubilee celebration in New **Delhi** and **Thimphu** through video conference.
- **Mumbai** to host first summit on **createch summit** in India to explore the convergence of creativity and technology
- The Indian Naval Ships **Nirbhik** and **Nirghat** have been decommissioned at Naval Dockyard

### January – 14

- The Election Commission has set up a **14 – member** panel under Deputy Election Commissioner **Umesh Sinha** to study how **social media and other digital platforms** are used a head of polls and make suggestions on how to adapt the model code of conduct to these **changes**.
- According to National family Health survey recently released by the Ministry of health and family welfare, **Jains** are the **Wealthiest religious** community in **India**, **Delhi** and **Punjab** are the **richest** states **Bihar** is the **poorest**.
- The **12<sup>th</sup> International Film Festival** on April and Artist began in **Odisha**.
- In **Assam**, **Uruka** was being **celebrated** on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2018 on the eve of **Bhogali Bihu**, the post harvest festival.
- **India** has contributed **\$50,000** to UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres Office of Envoy on Youth to help with its Mission of involving **young** people in the **world body's goal**.

- Ministry of Water **Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation**, Government of India has signed a MOU with State Government of **Bihar** and **Jharkhand** for completion of balance works of **North Koel reservoir project** at an estimated cost of **Rs.1622.27 crore**.

### January – 15

- The Bhogali Bihu also called as **Magh Bihu festival** began in **assam**
- **Bihar** Chief Minister Nitish Kumar launched schemes worth over **Rs.200 crore** during his state-wide “**Vikas Samiksha Yatra**”
- With an objective to empower the Kashmiri Youth, the Indian Army has established a **skill Training** centre at sector **10** Headquarters of Rashtriya Rifles (**RR**) in **Baramulla** district of Jammu and Kashmir
- The **Bikaner** camel **festival** was held in **Rajasthan**
- **7<sup>th</sup>** edition of the **Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav** under the **EK Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Programme** began in **Karnataka** on Jan 14
- President of India, **Ram Nath Kovind**, inaugurated the ‘**Economy Democracy conclave**’ at Thane, **Maharashtra**
- Network for certification and conversation of forests(**NCCF**) launched India’s Internationally bench marked **forest management certification standard**

### January – 16

- Chhattisgarh High Court has issued a directive to all trial courts in the State of mandatorily obtain Aadhaar cards of accused persons sureties before issuing release warrant of a Prisoner/accused.
- Union Home Minister, Rajnath singh inaugurated the International Workshop on disaster Resilient Infrastructure in New Delhi.
- Petroleum conservation Research Association has launched a month – long ‘**Saksham – 2018**’ campaign PCRA is engaged in promoting energy efficient in various sectors of Indian economy.

- The '14 Fund call for proposal' was announced with the joint launch of the website and the unveiling of the brochure by the two PMS. The India – Israel Industrial RVD and Technological Innovation Fund (14F)
- The 65<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Central Advisory Board was held under chairmanship of union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash **Javadekar** in New Delhi.
- The Public sector major aviation company given women travelers special thanks to the New Year (2018).
- India emerging as a biggest tourism hub across the globe; over 11 lakhs tourists arrived New Delhi in December 2017.
- India and Israel have signed nine agreements to boost co-operation in the areas of space, cyber security and oil & gas between both countries.

#### January – 17

- **West Bengal, Kerala and Odisha** has opted out of the Central Government's **Transformation of Aspirational District** scheme. In the context of this scheme aspirational district refer to selected **115 backward districts** that are lagging on specific development parameters.
- PM Modi inaugurated the commencement of the work of an **oil refinery** in **Rajasthan Barmer** district.
- **Bar Council of India** has announced that it formed a **seven member** delegation that will meet honorable judges of Supreme Court and will try to bridge their differences with the incumbent **CJI Dipak Misra**.
- **Odisha** State Government announced **Mukshyamantri Kalakar sahayata Yojana** under which artists from across the state will get a **monthly assistance of Rs.1200**.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** Government signed a **MOU** to create normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir by **means of education reforms**. The MOU is named '**School Education Transformation Roadmap**'

## January – 18

- Ratan P.Watan principal Adviser of NITI Aayog inaugurated the first **Global Initiative on Academic Network (GIAN)** course on sustainable urban planning using remote sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS) at Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur's outreach centre at Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
  - Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Union Minister for Minority affairs announced that, the government has withdrawn the subsidy given for Haj Pilgrims. This more has been made in line with the Government's idea to empower Minorities with Dignity.
  - The Government lowered the additional borrowing requirement for the current fiscal year to Rs.20,000 crore from the previously estimated Rs.50,000 crore.
  - The centre sanctioned projects over **10,000 crore** rupees in the North East for better network connectivity. Two MOUs have been signed to cover the uncovered areas in the North East including **Assam and Arunachal Pradesh**.
  - Jammu and Kashmir Finance Minister Haseeb Drabu announced an exclusive industrial development scheme to expand and promote business activities in State.
  - PM Modi inaugurated the project commencement of the **Rajasthan Refinery at Pachpadra in Barmer** district. The 43000 crore rupee project is a joint venture between HPCL and the Rajasthan Government
  - The Indo – US Military exercise “**Vajra Prahar**” will be held at Joint Base Lewis MC – Chord in Seattle.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> edition of biennial ‘National Maritime search and Rescue workshop and Exercise between ships and Aircraft from the Indian and Japanese coast Guards commenced on Jan 16, 2018 in Chennai.
- Karnataka State Government will held a ‘**Blockchain Hackathon**’ for **Governance**
- from 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2018 at the Koramangala Indoor Stadium, Bengaluru.



## January – 19

- Indian Government is planning to set up **\$350 million** solar development fund for financing **solar projects**
- **Maharashtra** state cabinet approved **one percent** reservation for **orphans** in government jobs under general category.
- The government has planned to form a **Cyber Warrior Police Force** to combat cyber crimes like cyber threat, child pornography, online stalking etc.
- 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the **special committee for inter-linking of rivers** was held on Jan 17 2018 in **New Delhi**.
- Minister of state for Textiles, Ajay Tamta inaugurated **60<sup>th</sup> edition of India International Garment Fair (IIGF)** at Pragati Maidan, **New Delhi**.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** Legislative Assembly passed grants for **horticulture** department for 2018-19 for **Rs.528.33 crore**.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Government signed a **MoU with NITI Aayog** to create an **online dashboard** for the 115 most backwards district of India, in **Amaravati**, Andhra Pradesh.
- **Madhya Pradesh** has become the **first state** in India to completely implement **door to door Garbage collection** in all areas under urban bodies.
- PM Modi and PM Benjamin Netanyahu inaugurated the **iCreate centre** at Deo Dholera in Ahmedabad
- **Maharashtra** became the **first state** in the country to unveil **public cloud policy** that virtually mandates state government departments to shift their data storage

## January – 20

- **MEITY** (The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology) announces the **Cyber Surakshit Bharat** to **strengthen** the **cyber security**.

- **Silvassa** tops the list of cities selected by **Minister of state** for **housing and urban affairs** in **National Smart cities** challenge.
- **Maitre – 2** a **second passenger bus to Kolkata Via Dhaka** is started from **Agartala** to give a boost to the **trans border relationship** between **India and Bangladesh**
- **Odisha** launches **e – platform for hassle – free health services**, **Under this system, patients can** be registered online and can view and download their individual **electronic health records**.
- **Government** launches **100** accessible website for **Divyangs friendly websites especially for visually impaired**, can relay website content to the user in **audio format**.

### January – 21

- 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Goods and Service Tax Council was held in New Delhi on Jan 18, 2018
- Union Ministry of I/C for Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep S Puri announced commencement of the live ability Index Programme in 116 Indian cities. This programme would be funded by the World Bank.
- Odisha State Government launched Odisha e – Hospital Management Information System (OeHMIS) an online platform which hosts clinical parameters of patients and reporting of performance criteria of hospitals
- Rajnath Singh launches **Bharat Ka Veer Anthem** short film on India's brave hearts
- Maharashtra State Government approved Rs.4000 crore – Nanaji Deshmukh Krishi Sanjivani Yojna
- Telangana State Government announced that it had signed a MOU with the clean Authority of Tokyo for Municipal solid waste incineration facilities.
- National conference on Improving accessibility Justice and Empowerment Minister Thaawarchand Ghelot launched 100 accessible websites for Divyangs to empower the disabled person in all over the country.

- The Odisha Government has signed an agreement to selling up an incubator for promoting research with software Technology Park of India, Philanthropist Sushmita Bagchi and IIT Bhubaneswar in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

### January – 22

- Bharatiya Janata Party Chief Amit Shah launched “**Yuva Udghosh Programme**” in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. This programme focuses on enrolling Youths, above 17 of age, who will eligible for voting in the 2019 Lok Sabha election.
- The use and sale of imported petroleum coke has been banned in the National Capital Region by the environment Ministry in order to control air pollution. The restrictions have been made under the environment protection Act, 1986
- The Def Expo India 2018 will be hosted by Chennai for the first time from April 11 to 14 at a temporary expo centre on East coast road near Mahabalipuram. Def Expo India is the largest event of India’s defence sector.
- **Uttarkhand** introduced for the **first time** in the country, **Ultrasound will be performed on wild animals** to detect pregnancy before administering reproduction control method on them.
- The Union Minister for Finance and corporate affairs, Arun Jaitely launched the National CSR Data Portal & Corporate significant step towards driving accountability and transparency for corporate India.
- Delhi CM Arvind kejriwal launched Girl child week programme to celebrate the girl child and spread awareness on gender equality
  1. The girl child week is held from 18 Jan to 24 Jan 2018
- National Girl child Day – 24 Jan
- Fourth India International Science festival to be held in Lucknow

## January – 23

- Minister of State (Independent charges) for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri along with the Chief Minister of Goa, Manohar Parrikar launched the '**Protocol for Star Rating of Garbage free cities in Goa**'. The seven star rating system has been developed by the Swachh Bharat Mission – Urban
- President Ram Nath Kovind approved disqualification of 20 MLA's of Aam Aadmi party (AAP) for holding offices of profit.
- S S C **Shenoi**, Director of Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) has stated that **India will soon have its own automated Ocean Pollution observation system**. This new ocean data acquisition system (called **automated moorings**) which is expected to be functional in April 2018 will not only help in tracking ocean pollution levels but will also offer insights on how the Marine system is changing.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** CM Pema Khandu inaugurated the **World War – III memorial Museum** in State's Changlang district. World War – II memorial Museum in Changlang has been built by the Union Culture Ministry at a cost of Rs.2.25 crore
- **Manipur** CM N. Biren Singh launched the Chief Minister – gi Hakshelgi Tengbang a **health assurance scheme for the Poor and disabled people**. Under this scheme poor people of Manipur will be provided cashless treatment at Government Hospitals health centers and other empanelled selected Private hospitals.
- **Maharashtra** State Government will soon start a system to **issue daily district – wise weather advisory to farmers across the State**. The objective behind this initiative is to help farmer to minimize their crop losses due to adverse Weather conditions.
- India's **first Garbage festival 'Kachra Mahotsav 2018'** organized in **Chhattisgarh**

## January – 24

- **Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan** has announced that **16<sup>th</sup> International Energy Forum Ministerial meeting** held in **New Delhi** from **10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018**.

- **Bhubaneswar**, the capital of **Odisha** will host the **7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Asia steel International Conference** from Feb 2018.
- **Andhra Pradesh** State Government has entered into a **sister State agreement** with the canton of **Zurich, Switzerland** under this Andhra and canton of Zurich will **collaborate** in various areas through **exchange of experience and information industry – specific programs and projects**
- **Himachal Pradesh** CM **Jai Ram Thakur** unveiled a state level nutrition scheme for **HIV – Positive children at campaign conducted** by Himachal Pradesh AIDS control society on the eve of **National Youth Day, in Shimla**
- The **first Post Office Passport Seva Kendra of Puducherry** was inaugurated by **Sushma Swaraj** Minister for external Affairs at **Karaikal**
- The Minister of State (IC) for **Ayush, Yesso Naik** laid foundation stone for **Central Research Institute in Jaipur.**
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**Meity**) announced the **‘Cyber Surakshit Bharat** initiative in association with **National e- governance Division** and **Industry partners.**

**January – 25**

- The ministry of **Science and Technology** has announced four new schemes to promote **young scientist and researchers** in the **country.** They are Teacher Associates ship For Research and Excellence (**TARE**) scheme
- **TARE SCHEME:** It aims to tap **latent potential** of **faculty working** in state **universities, colleges** and **private academic institutions** who are **well trained but having difficulty in pursuing** their research due to varied reasons including **lack of facilities, funding and guidance**
- The ministry of **Health and Family welfare** has announced to increase number of **AMRIT pharmacy** stores by **four times** by the end of **2018.**
- **8<sup>th</sup> National Voters Day** observed on – **Jan 25**



- **Cultural extravaganza Bharat Parv** will be held at **Red Fort in Delhi** as **Republic day celebrations**
- **India** has been ranked **177** among **180 countries** in the **environmental performance Index – 2018**
- Tamil Nadu **CM Edappadi K Palanichamy** received **UNESCO award** of merit awarded to the iconic **Srirangam Ranganathaswamy** in **Tiruchirapalli**
- **India** has signed **\$120 million loan agreement** with **multilateral lending agency World Bank** to help increase access to improved **water supply services** in **peri-urban areas** in **Uttarakhand**.
- **India** was ranked **81<sup>st</sup>** among **118 countries** in **2017 Global index of talent competitiveness list**.

**January – 26**

- Government launched **four new schemes** to promote **young scientist and researchers** in **India**
  - (i) **TARE** (Teacher Association for Research Excellence)
  - (ii) **Overseas Visiting Doctoral Fellowship**
  - (iii) **Distinguished Investigator Award**
  - (iv) **Augmenting Writing skills for Articulating Research**.
- **Election Commission** of **India** hosted a one **day International conference** on ‘**Inclusion of person with disabilities** in the **Election Process**’ in **New Delhi**.
- **National Voters Day – Jan 25**
- The **Supreme Court** gave the Government nine months to replace the **thrice – a week dosage norm** of tuberculosis drugs with **daily dosage regimen** recently approved by **WHO** to curb **relapse and death during treatment**
- In a bid to promote digital transaction in Assam, the Chief Minister of Assam announced the **Chief Minister’s Award** to the best performing district of the state that **adopts digital payment methods** and **also educate larger section of the society** about **cashless transaction**

- The **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** launched **Rubber Soil Information System (RubSiS)** in **New Delhi** to provide the detail about **Soil quality** to the **rubber growers** to enhance **productivity** besides reducing the **cost of production**.
- **India** has partnered with the **British experts** over a **project** that aims to study the **air pollution level in Delhi** and **health problems** associated with it. The project **ASAP – Delhi**:

**January – 27**

- **Kolkata** became **first metro city** in **India** to get **floating market**. It was inaugurated by West Bengal Chief Minister **Mamata Banerjee**.
- **Punjab Government** has launched **Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Vikas Yojana (MGSVY)** for the **welfare** of the **downtrodden cities across the state**.
- **India** has announced to **host informal ministerial meeting** of World Trade Organisation (**WTO**) in **New Delhi** to **Muster support** for issues and also help to **multi – lateral process**.
- The **Union Finance Ministry** has relaxed norms of Atal Pension Yojana (**APY**) to allow **small Finance banks** and **payment banks** to **offer APY distribution**.
- **India – Japan Smart grid pilot project** was inaugurated in **Panipat** to solve the various complications faced by the **power distribution sector**.
- **Alpha design technologies** has signed **Rs.45 crore deal** with Ministry of defence to supply **indigenous simulators** for **gunnery** and missile firing from **BMP 11 vehicles** to **Indian Army**.
- **Indian origin boy Mehul Garg (10)** in **United Kingdom** became **youngest applicant** in decade to **achieve highest score** in **Mensa IQ test**, beating geniuses like **Albert Einstein** and **Stephen Hawking**.
- Health Minister **C. Laxma reddy** inaugurated the **Telangana’s first infertility centre** in **Public Health Sector**.
- **Unprecedented in India’s history**, leaders of all **10 ASEAN countries** attended the **Republic Day parade** at the **Majestic Rajpath**.

## January – 28

- India and Cambodia linked following four packs post comprehensive talks
  1. India signed a pace for cultural Exchange Programme with Cambodia for the year 2018 – 2022
  2. Export - Import Bank of India will extend \$36.92 million Line of credit to Finance the stung sva Hab water resource Development project in Cambodia
  3. Agreement on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters to enhance India's and Cambodia's effectiveness in prevention investigation and prosecution crimes through co-operation and legal assistance in criminal matters.
- India and Cambodia will co-operate on the issues of prevention, resource and repatriation related to human trafficking
- 21<sup>st</sup> India International seafood show opened in Margao. This event was inaugurated by Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar  
Theme: 'Safe & Sustainable seafood from India'

## January – 29

- Delhi Declaration : India and the 10 member Asean decided to deepen partnership for combating terrorism and radicalization through information sharing, law enforcement co-operation
- President launched country wide pulse polio programme for 2018
  - Immunization programme has significantly contributed to the decline of Infant Mortality Rate from 39 in 2014 to 34 per 1000 live births in 2016 (as per SRS report)
- National Consumer Commission criticised the India Post for being 'casual' in its approach and slapped a cost of Rs.52,100 on it for failing to deliver a mail which led to a politician being barred from contesting elections for a period of three years.

- West Bengal became first metro city in India to **get** floating market
- Punjab Government has launched **Mahatma Gandhi Sarbat Vikas Yojana** (MGSVY) for the welfare of the downtrodden citizen across the State.\
- India's rich '**Guru – Shishya**' tradition to be hallmark of Khelo India School games opening ceremony.
- For the first time, India is exporting dedicated coconut to the US and Europe in large quantities India exported coconut products worth Rs.2084 crore in Fy 17 India presently world's 3<sup>rd</sup> coconut producing country

### January – 30

- The **Hindi word** of the year as announced by oxford dictionaries for **2017** is '**AADHAAR**'
- The **third edition of International Spice Conference** will be held at **Jaipur**
- A **three day international bird festival** will be held at the **Dudhwa National park** in **Uttar Pradesh** for **Feb 9**
- **Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi** released a postage **stamps on legendary footballer Dr. Talimeren Ao** during his **birth Centenary**
- **India – Vietnam bilateral Exercise (VINBAX – 2018)** was conducted at **Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh**
- **US invites Punjab** university Scientist to **identify human skeletal** remains from **9/11 terror attack**
- **Maharashtra CM** said the government had approved a plan of **Rs.750 cr** for a **law university at Nagpur.**

### January – 31

- **On 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018** Airports Authority of India (AAI) chairman. **Guruprasad Mohapatra** said that AAI has allocated **Rs.3400 crore** for **up gradation of airport** in the **North East region.**

- The Department of **Personnel** and Training (**DOPT**) has issued an order to **provide quota in Central Government jobs to people with autism mental illnesses, intellectual disability and victims of acid attacks.**
- **Sammakka Saralamma Maha Jathara, a tribal festival** will begin on **31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2018** in Eturnagaram, Telangana.
- **Indian Coast Guard** conducted a ‘**Day at Sea**’ event for **children of fishing hamlets** at **Frazerganj** in **South 24 parganas** district, **West Bengal** as part of its **initiative** for close interaction with the **fishing community of coastal areas.**
- **19<sup>th</sup> India International watch and clock Fair “Samaya Bharati 2018”** was held in **Mumbai.**
- **Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath** inaugurated the **Mahestra Bridge** at **Sonauli – Gorakhpur National Highway**
- The **Jammu and Kashmir Government** has **formed a committee** to study the **scope and definition** of horticulture in **Government of India** and other States. The Committee is headed by the **Chief Secretary of Jammu Kashmir Bharat Bhushan Vyas.**

## International News

January – 1

- **China Shut Down** its legal Government sanctioned **Ivory trade**

January - 2

- On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018, **India** and **Pakistan** exchanged the list of **nuclear installation** and **facilities** through diplomatic channels simultaneously at **New Delhi** and **Islamabad.**
- In a **bid to reduce accidents** and make mountaineering safer, **Nepal** has brought in new regulations that prohibit solo mountaineers, **double amputee** and **blind climbers** from attempting to scale its mountain including **Mount Everest.**



### January - 3

- **Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE)** introduced value added tax. These are the **first two countries** in the Gulf which have introduced the **VAT system**.

### January – 4

- **Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Peru, Poland** and the **Netherlands** joined the United Nations (UN) Security Council as **Non-permanent members**.
- **The Central Bank of Pakistan** approved the usage of Chinese currency, **Yuan** for bilateral trade with china

### January – 5

- **India excluded Pakistan** from the list of South Asian Association for Regional co-operation (SAARC) member countries with which it will be **connecting its State** of the art **National Knowledge Network**.
- **Sushma Swaraj** left on a **5 day** visit to three **South East Asian countries Thailand, Indonesia and Singapore**.
- **PM Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin** have vowed to strengthen **Indo-Russia strategic ties**.

### January – 6

- The **US** has placed Pakistan on a '**special watch list**' for severe violations of religious freedom.

### January – 10

- **Turkish** Government announced plans to extend the ongoing State of **emergency** for the **sixth time**
- The goal to **cut the carbon emission** by **2020** may be **missed** by **Germany** as the chancellor Angela Merkel and her party has denied achieving the goal in next two years.
- World's largest Ice Festival '**International Ice and Snow Festival**' held in **China**

- **Iran banned** the teaching of **English** in **primary schools** after Islamic leaders warned the learning the language opened the way to a western ‘Cultural Invasion’
- According to the Union Minister for Minority Affairs Shri Mukhtar Abbas **Saudi Arabia** given the green signal for India’s decision to revive the option of sending **Haj Pilgrims** through **sea route**

**January – 11**

- **North Korea** has agreed to conduct **talk with South Korea** to reduce Military tension to send a delegation to the upcoming winter **Olympics 2018** in **Pyeongchang, South Korea**

**January – 12**

- United Nations (UN) **Environment programme** and **World Health Organization** agreed to collaborate for accelerating action to curb environmental health risks.
- **Shanghai** has set up the world’s first **3D printed bus stops** in Fengjing, shanghai.

**January – 14**

- **Saudi Arabia’s** first **Motor show** for **women customers** was held in **Jeddah**
- **American** and **Japanese** Military forces launched **13<sup>th</sup> Annual Iron first joint Exercise** in **California, US**.
- **China** will provide financial support to construct a **counter terrorism** base in **Badakshan** Province of northern Afghanistan that would prevent cross border infiltration of the **Uyghur Militants**.

**January – 15**

- **India** has ranked **30<sup>th</sup>** on **Global Manufacturing Index** released by World Economic Forum. As per **Readiness** for the future of production report related to Global Manufacturing Index.

- **India** signed MoU with **United Kingdom** for the return of **illegal Indian migrants** within a month of their detection by UK authorities
- **India** contributed **USD 50000** to the United Nations(UN) **Youth Mission**

### January – 16

- Ecuador's foreign Minister Maria Fernanda Espinosa announced that the country has granted citizenship to WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange
- India and Sri Lanka signed four agreements for collaboration in Information and Communication and Technology sector, connecting of National knowledge network for collaboration among universities and academic and setting up of e-office system.

### January – 17

- **Bangladesh, India** and **Nepal** agreed upon operating procedures for **trans – border movement** of passenger vehicles under Bangladesh – Bhutan – India – Nepal (**BBIN Motor vehicles agreement** which aimed to facilitate seamless flow of passenger and cargo traffic in sub – region was signed by the transport Ministers of the BBIN countries.
- **Iranian** Government lifted **restrictions** on the use of the **Internet**, including the messaging app **Telegram** across the country.
- **India** attended a meeting of the International military co-operation departments of the shanghai co-operation organization (**SCO**) for the first time, in **Beijing**, china.

### January – 18

- As per world Economic forum's Global Risks Report 2018 on Jan 17, 2018 extreme weather events and natural disasters have been identified as the likeliest global risks to occur in 2018.
- China has set up an experimental air purifying tower, considered the world's biggest air purifier at a highest of 100 meters (328H) in Xian, **Shaanxi** province.

## January – 19

- International solar alliance hosted a two-day event '**International Solar Alliance Forum**' during 17-18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018 at the world future energy summit (**WFES**) 2018 in Abu Dhabi, UAE
- The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of **Global forum for food and Agriculture** was held in Berlin, Germany.  
Theme : **Shaping the future of tire stock – sustainably, responsibility, efficiently**

## January – 20

- **World's largest underwater cave** found in **Mexico**. The cave stretches across **216 miles**.
- **India** formally became the **43<sup>rd</sup> member** of the **Australia Group (AG)**

## January – 21

- Maitre – 2 a second passenger bus to Kolkata Via Dhaka was flagged off from **Agartala Tripura**.

## January – 23

- India has ranked at the 62<sup>nd</sup> place among 74 emerging countries economies on the annual Inclusive Development Index 2018 released by World economic Forum. Among advanced economies, Norway has topped the list while Lithuania has topped the list of emerging economies.
- World Bank approved USD 300 million loan to Nepal for undertaking reconstruction work post April 2015 earthquake. This loan also includes USD 80 million for a livestock project and another USD 60 million for vocational training.
- According to Sanctum Wealth management report, India will overtake China to be the fastest growing large economy in 2018. This report also unlined that India's equity market will become the fifth largest in the world.

- Shri Gajendra Singh Sekhawat participate in the agriculture Minister's conference held in Berlin, Germany during the 10<sup>th</sup> Global forum for food and agriculture
- The Three day International conference – 2018 at Thiruvananthapuram on Jan – 23 – 24.
- Four district in **Nagaland, (Mokokchung, Zunheboto, Kiphire and Longleng)** have achieved the status of **Open Defecation Free under Swachh Bharat Mission** (Gramin)
- The **United Arab Emirates** has invited Mamata Banerjee to a business summit in Dubai.
- **West Bengal** is planning to renovate a **World War – II** United States Air Force airbase at Charra in Purulia district into a full fledged airport.
- The Telangana Government signed a MOU with the clean Authority of Tokyo in connection with Municipal solid waste incineration in Hyderabad.

#### January – 24

- **Valletta**, the **capital of Malta** was officially inaugurated as the **European capital** of culture
- **World Economic Forum Summit in Switzerland** Concludes.
- **The first International Dam Safety conference 2018** held in **Thiruvananthapuram**.

#### January – 26

- The **UK** Government has announced the formation of a **dedicated National Security** unit to **counter fake news and disinformation**.

#### January – 28

- **Institute of Management and Technology** of Ghaziabad was announced as one of the champions of the United Nations initiative on Principles **for Responsible Management Education** at World Economic forum in Davos, Switzerland.



- China has decided to establish three International Courts to deal with disputes related to its **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)**

### January – 31

- According to a report by **new world Wealth India is sixth wealthiest** country with total wealth of **USD 8230 billion**.

Top 5 Wealthiest Countries

1. US (\$64584 billion)
2. China (\$24803 billion)
3. Japan (\$19522 billion)
4. UK (\$9919 billion)
5. Germany (\$9660 billion)

## Sports

### January - 1

- **Viswanathan Anand** has won **bronze Medal** in the **World Blitz Chess** championship in Riyadh, **Saudi** Arabia.

### January – 2

- **Vidarbha** has won the **Ranji Trophy** title for the first time by defeating **Delhi**.
- India's **Shiv Kapur** won the title of the **Royal cup golf tournament** at the **phoenix Gold Golf** and country club in pattaya, **Thailand**.

### January - 3

- **Sathiyan** has surpassed the legendary **Sharath kama** to become **India's highest ranked player** in the International Table Tennis Federation (**ITTF**) rankings.

### January – 5

- **Meghalaya** signs **host city contract** for **39<sup>th</sup> National Games in 2022**.
- **Colin Munro** became **the first batsman to score 300's in T20 internationals**

### January – 6

- The **Meghalaya** Government the Indian Olympic Association (**IOA**) and the Meghalaya **State** Olympic Association has signed the host city contract to hold the **39<sup>th</sup> National Games** in the State in **2022**.

### January – 7

- Switzerland's Roger Federer and Belinda Bencic beat Germany's Alexander Zverev and Angelique Kerber to win the **Hopman cup** for the **first time** since 2001.

### January – 8

- The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, **Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore** has launched the **simple yet vibrant Khelo Indian logo** at the **Nehru Stadium**

### January – 10

- **Adithyameta** won the **Kolkata open 2018** International Invitation **Snooker** championship at Hindustan club in Kolkata
- **BCCI** has **suspended** cricketer **Yusuf Pathan** for five months for finding a **dope test**

### January – 11

- **Indian Olympic Association** appointed **Harjinder Singh** as chef **De mission** for the **23<sup>rd</sup> winter Olympic games**
- **Aanchal Thakur** becomes **first Indian to win an International medal in skiing**.

### January – 13

- Former world silver medal list **Sarjubala Devi** representing Manipur claimed the **gold** in **48 kg** category in National women's **Boxing** championship in Rohtak, **Haryana**.

### January – 14

- Associated chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (**ASSOCHAM**) and **Football Delhi**, governing body for Football in Delhi signed a **MOU** for the **development** of the **sport** in the Capital.
- **Sarjubala Devi** has won **gold** medal and the best **boxer** trophy in the National Women's boxing championship in Rohtak, **Haryana**.
- Former world silver medal list **Sarjubala Devi** representing Manipur claimed the **gold** in **48 kg** category in National women's **Boxing** championship in Rohtak, **Haryana**.

### January – 15

- **Kagiso Rabada**, South African fast **bowler**, has become the **number – one** ranked bowler in the **MRF Tyres ICC Test player** Rankings.

### January – 16

- Hockey won the 8<sup>th</sup> Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2018 at Hojai Hockey Stadium in Assam

### January – 17

- Union sports Minister **Rajyavardhan Rathore** launched the official anthem and mascot of **Khelo India** school games in **Delhi**.

### January – 18

- Ronaldinho, Brazillian world cup winner has retired from Football

### January – 19

- **Virat Kohli** has won the sir **Garfield sobers** cricketer of the year, **ICC** cricketer of the year 2017 and ICC OD1 cricketer of the year 2017 awards for his accomplishments in 2017.

### January – 20

- **Indian** men's football teams have climbed **102<sup>nd</sup>** spot in latest **FIFA rankings**.

### January – 21

- Jammu and Kashmir will host its first maiden International Martial arts games event in the summer capital Srinagar.

### January – 22

- India defeated Pakistan and won the Blind cricket World Cup 2018 at the Sharjah cricket stadium in UAE
- Indian cricket team registered an emphatic victory over Zimbabwe by 10 wickets in the ICC Under – 19 World Cup at Bay oval, mount maunganui
- Indian shuttler **Divij Sharan** and **Rohan Bopanna** with their **respective** partners swiftly entered into the **men's doubles third round** at the **Australian Open** which is being held in **Melbourne**.

### January – 24

- **Siddharth Singh** bags **Swedish open Junior International series 2018**.
- **West Indies** to host **2018 Women's World T20**.

### January – 25

- Lifter **Rakhi Halder** created a new national record in **clean and jerk** to a gold medal in **63kg women's category** in the **33<sup>rd</sup> women senior National weightlifting category championship** in **Mangaluru**.

### January – 26

- **Kings XI Punjab** appointed **Virender Sehwag** as their head of cricket operations and **brand ambassador**.
- **FIFA World Cup Finals** hosted by Russia will take place in the **Kremlin** the country's Football Union.

- **Shane Watson** bag's Australia's **T20 International Player** of the year.
- **Matthew Hayden** and **David Boon** have inducted in **Australian Cricket Hall of fame**

**January – 27**

- **Hungarian Timea Babos** and **France's Kristina Mladenovic** wins women's doubles title in **Australian open 2018**.

**January – 28**

- Delhi won the **Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy** at the **Eden Gardens** in **Kolkata**

**January – 29**

- **Leander Paes** and **James Cerretani** lift **Newport Beach Challenger** trophy
- Denmark's **Caroline Wozniacki** celebrates after defeating Romania's **Simona Halep** in the women's singles final at **Australian open**

**January – 30**

### **Australian open 2018**

- Men's singles – **Roger Federer** (Switzerland)
- Women's singles – **Caroline Wozniacki** (Denmark)
- Men's doubles – **Oliver Marach** (Austria) **Mate Pavic** (Croatia)
- Women's doubles – **Kristina Mladenovic** (France)
- Mixed Dobles – **Gabriela Dabrowski** (Canada) **Mate Pavic** (Croatia)



# Banking and Finance

## January – 1

- Minister of State for Finance **P. Radhakrishnan** informed **lok sabha** has **raised** an amount of **Rs.14500 crore** through its **BHARAT 22** Exchange Traded Fund (**ETF**)

## January – 2

- On Jan 1 State Bank of India **reduced** its base rate by **30 basis points** post this reduction, **SBI base rate** is **8.65%**

## January – 3

- **HDFC Bank** announced a **partnership with Rajasthan Government** to **promote and nurture startups** in the state.
- No charges on debit card transaction charges for payments through debit card **BHIM** app and other **payment Made for up to 2,000** from **Jan 1, 2018**.

## January – 4

- Union Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley** outlined the basic **contours** of the **electoral bonds scheme** including their denominations eligibility and validity
- **SBI** and **NABARD** have signed an agreement with five NGOs for the promotion of **2500 joint liability group (JLG)** in select districts of West **Bengal**.
- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (**IICA**) and India post payments Bank (**IPPB**) signed an agreement for the training of **IPPB employees** in the area of **payment banking**.
- **Andhra Pradesh Grameena Vikas Bank** operationalised its **first** desktop **ATM** at **Kasibugga**.
- **NABARD** has sanctioned **Rs.372.51 crore** loan assistance to **Odisha** for **irrigation** and rural **bridge** project.

### January – 5

- **RBI** has initiated prompt corrective action against **Allahabad Bank** owing to its high net **non – performing assets** and a **Negative Return on Assets** for two years in a **ROW**.
- **India bulls Housing Finance** has Raised **Rs.1000 crore** by selling the **India's first "Social bonds"**

### January – 9

- **Punjab National Bank** and **National Scheduled castes Finance and Development corporation (NSFDC)** have tied up to **provide financial assistance for economic empowerment of persons** belonging to scheduled caste (**SC**)

### January – 10

- Cab hailing app **ola** has partnered with **ICICI Bank** to offer a range of **integrated service** to customers and driver – partners.
- **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** and **National scheduled castes Finance and development corporation (NSFDC)** have signed a **MOU** to provide **Financial Association** to **SC families living below Double poverty line**
- **Flipkart** – owned payments platform **phonepe** announced a strategic tie – up with leading **Wallet player Freecharge** to enable over **45 million users** to link their existing **Freecharge Wallets** to the **Phonepe App**.

### January – 11

- According to **2018 Global Economics** prospect released by the **World Bank** on **January 9, 2018** **Indian economy** is projected to grow at **7.3% in 2018** and **7.5% in next two years**.
- **South Korea** and the **Gujarat Chambers of commerce and Industry** signed a **MOU** for co-operation between **South Korea and industries in Gujarat**.

### January – 12

- **IndusInd Bank** and **Dynamics Inc** announced plans to introduce the first **battery – powered interactive payment cards** in the **Indian Market** in **2018**.

### January – 13

- **India** has emerged as a top **borrower from the China** sponsored Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (**AIIB**) with **USD 1.5 billion** worth loans last year.

### January – 14

- According to a study by Reserve Bank of India, **housing loans** in upto **Rs.2 lakh** slab had the highest level of non-performing assets
- **Yes** Foundation launched **Fifth** edition of ‘YES! I am the CHANGE’ (**YIAC**)

### January – 15

- Bombay Stock Exchange (**BSE's**) **India** International Exchange (**India INX**) listed Indian Railway finance corporation **green bonds** on its debt listing platform, Global securities market.

### January – 16

- Brazil's securities regulator prohibited local investment funds from buying crypto currencies . The prohibition has been imposed, citing the reason that crypto currencies cannot be considered financial assets

### January – 18

- Reliance Communication unveiled Eagle express submarine cable system to lay a 68000 km undersea cable for carrying data across Europe and Asia.

### January – 19

- India Ratings and Research has projected that **India's economic** growth will improve to **7.1 percent** in 2018-19 as compared to **6.5 percent** in 2017-18
- **HDFC** Bank's market capitalization, (m-cap) crossed **Rs.5 lakh crore** mark.

## January – 22

- Mauritius was the largest source of foreign investment in India (218 percent share at market value) followed by US and UK according to a census by the Reserve Bank of India.

## January – 24

- **Government of India**, State Government of **Uttarakhand** and the **World Bank** signed a **120 million dollar loan** agreement for Uttarkhand **Water supply** program for **Peri – Urban Areas**
- The **World Economic outlook: Brighter Prospects, Optimistic Markets, Challenges ahead**, International Monetary Fund stated that **Indian economy** will grow at **7.4% in FY 2018 – 19**.

## January – 31

- **Paytm** partners with Alibaba's **AGTech** Holding to launch gaming **app Gamepind** in **India**, a **mobile platform** offering **social and casual games**.
- **Axis Bank** launched the fourth edition of '**Evolve**' and **annual multi – city knowledge series** for its Small and Medium Enterprise (**SME**) customers  
The edition **Evolve** has been titled "**transform Your Family Business**" into your dream company.

# Business

## January – 2

- **Venezuela** raises a **40% increase** to the **minimum wage** with effect from **Jan 2018**.

## January – 5

- **Madhya Pradesh Government** decided to impose **50 paisa cess on per litre of petrol and diesel** for **developing and strengthening road infrastructure** across **Madhya Pradesh**

- **Bharat Biotech an Indian Biotechnology** has received **pre-qualification Tag** from the **WHO** for **Typbar TCV** or **Typhoid conjugate vaccine**

### January – 6

- The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) will shortly **introduce** new **Rs.10 currency notes** under the Mahatma Gandhi series.
- The advance estimates of the **GDP** growth stood at **6.5%** for the current fiscal **FY18**, according to the Central Statistics Office (**CSO**)

### January – 7

- Fin Tech startup Nearby Technologies has tied up with **Yes Bank** to provide **Aadhaar – enabled** card less and **PIN-less ATM** service by which customers can deposit or withdraw money at retailers place.
- Paytm Payments Bank has partnered **IndusInd Bank** to introduce a facility to create a fixed deposit when the customer balance exceeds **Rs.1 lakh** at the end of day.

### January – 8

- Telangana Industrial Health Clinic Ltd (**TIHCL**), a State **Government initiative** has got **RBI** clearance to register and function as a non-banking finance company (**NBFC**).

### January – 12

- Central Government has successfully divested **2.52%** of paid-up in National Mineral Development Corporation (**NMDC**) for an amount of Rs.1200 crore.
- **Indigo airlines** of India has been named the fourth most punctual ‘**mega carrier**’ in the world in OAGS list of the world’s most punctual ‘Mega Carriers’

### January – 14

- Kerala Startup Mission has introduced **Kerala Accelerator program**, a virtual accelerator program for **3 months**, to promote startups in the early **revenue stage**.



### January – 15

- Union Finance and corporate Affairs Minister, Arun Jaitley launched **India's first Agri – commodity** options in **guar seed** on National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange limited(NCDEX) platform in New **Delhi**
- **Maharashtra Health Department** and **Johnson and Johnson** signed a MoU to train rural Midwives and social health activists regarding **Tuberculosis** and **Maternal and Infant Mortality**
- R.V. Deshpande, Karnataka minister for Large, Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development has stated that **Karnataka** has **topped** among all states with **investment** intentions of **Rs.1.49 lakhs** crore till October 2017.
- Gems and Jewellery Export **promotion** council(**GJEPC**), has appointed **Pramod Kumar Agarwal** as its chairman, and **Colin Shah** as vice chairman

### January – 20

- **Mauritius** was the largest source of **foreign investment** in **India** followed by **US** and the **UK**, according to a census by **reserve bank**
- **Axis Bank** partnering with **NGO Srijan** through an initiative called **Buddha fellowship** programme to help **nurture talent for the development sector**

### January – 21

- Amplus Energy Solutions announced entering into a pact with private sector lender Yes Bank for a Strategic tie up to co – finance projects in the solar energy space in India.

### January – 24

- **India 5<sup>th</sup>** most **attractive Market for investment** in a survey of **CEO's** conducted by consulting firm Price Water house Coopers (**PWC**)

- Reliance Industries Ltd (**RIL**) has become the **first Indian company** to cross the **Rs.6 lakh crore** Mark in Market capitalization as its shares price touched a **52 – week high of Rs.974.5 on Jan 22, 2018.**

### January – 25

- The **National Investment and Infrastructure Fund** made its first investment. NIIF has partnered with **DP World** to create an investment **platform for ports, terminals transportation and logistics businesses in India.**
- The **union government** announced **88, 139 crore rupees** capital infusion in **20 public sector**
- **Indian overseas Bank** signed a **MOU** with **National Housing Bank** for the **Rural Housing Interest Subsidy Schemes** of the ministry of **Rural Development**

### January – 26

- **Central Government** awarded **325** more routes to **airlines** as well as **helicopter operators** under its regional connectivity scheme, **UDAN** (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik)

### January – 28

- Bengaluru based Alpha design Technologies Ltd has signed a Rs.45 crore deal with Union Ministry of defence to supply to Indian Army indigenous simulators for gunnery and missile firing from BMP II vehicles
- Airports Authority of India signed an agreement with Department of Civil Aviation of Lao PDR Providing SkyRev360.
- SkyRev360 is a comprehensive e-date gathering, invoicing and collection system which has been developed by International Air Transport Association.

### January – 29

- Flex engine bikes to hit Indian markets soon to encourage ethanol, which can be easily produced from wheat straw, rice straw, bamboo and other products.

January – 31

- **Infosys** signs **MOU** with **Kailash Satyarthi children’s Foundation** for a grant to create a **child friendly village** improving **children’s health**, providing education and creating a **non – violent environment**
- **Renault Nissan Mitsubishi** automakers alliance has overtaken **Volkswagen** as the **world’s biggest seller of light Vehicle in 2017.**
- As per a report by **World Steel Association** **India** has overtaken the **US** to become the **world’s third largest crude steel producer.**

## Awards & Recognition

January – 4

- **Jawaharlal Nehru port Trust** has won “**Samudra Manthan**” Caring organization of the year **award.**

January – 9

- **Bihar Nitish Kumar** has been given **Mufti Mohammad Sayeed Award** for probity in **public life.**
- The **first all women station in India, Matunga** on **Central Railway** in **Mumbai** has entered **Limca Book of Records.**

January – 10

- **R.S.Puram Police Station** in **Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu** has been adjudged as the best police station in India in **SMART Police Station** Initiative of Union Ministry of Home Affairs
- Actor **Soumitra Chatterjee** will receive “**Legion of Honour**” which is the highest order of merit in France, the French Government will confer the award to the legendary actor at the **42<sup>nd</sup> Kolkata Book Fair**

- The **Matunga Suburban Station** of Mumbai on the Central Railway appeared in the **Limca Book** of Record for Comprising all women staff

### January – 11

- **Jeff Bezos** surpasses **Bill Gates** net worth and becomes **richest person** as per bloom berg's **Billionaire Tracker**.

### January – 16

- Sudhir Dalvi was presented the Janakavi P sawlaram award at a function in Thane, Maharastra.

### January – 19

- President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, Presented the **Sangeet Natak Akademi's Fellowships and Sangeet Natak akademi** awards for the year 2016 at a function held in New Delhi.
- **Gulshan Books**, a Kashmiri publishing house, has secured a place in the **Limca Book** of Records 2018 for a huge collection of **80,000 books**

### January – 22

- Technology giant **Apple** topped fortune magazine's list of the world's **most Admired Companies** for 2018.
- The US National Security agency been using secret speech recognition technology to identify people by their unique voiceprint for years.

### January – 23

- Andhra Pradesh IT Minister Nara Lokesh was honoured with the Kalam Innovations in **Governance** award (KIGA) at an event organized by the APJ Abdul Kalam International foundation, in New Delhi

### January – 24

- "Sachin: **A Billion Dreams**", a biopic on **Sachin Tendulkar**, has **won two awards** at the **11<sup>th</sup> Tehran International FICTS Festivals 2018** in Iran.

### January – 25

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** honored **7 girls and 11 boys** with the **National Bravery Awards**
- **Rachel Morrison** has become the **first female cinematographer** to receive an **Oscar** nomination in the **89-year old history of the awards**. She has been nominated for her work in the film ‘**Mudbound**’
- **Bollywood** actor **Shah Rukh Khan** honoured with the **24<sup>th</sup> crystal award** at **World Economic** forum in **Davos, Switzerland**. He received award for his leadership in championing **children’s and women’s rights in India**.

### January – 26

- **Venezuelan** President **Nicolas Maduro** has awarded the **first ever Hugo Chavez Prize** for peace and Sovereignty to **Russian** President **Vladimir Putin**.

### January – 27

- The **President** has approved the awards for **85 individuals**, which includes 3 **Padam Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan** and **73 Padma shri**
- Martyred **Indian Air Force** Guard Commando **Jyoti Prakash Nirala** has been posthumously awarded the **Ashoka Chakra** on the **69<sup>th</sup> Republic Day**, become the **first ever airman** to receive the honour for a ground combat operation.

### January – 28

- A **10 year Indian – origin** boy in the UK named **Mehul Garg** has become the youngest applicant in to achieve the **highest score** in the **Mensa I<sub>2</sub> Test**

### January – 29

- **Punjab** was awarded the **best marching contingent**. **ITBP** was awarded the best marching contingent among the **Para – military** and **other auxiliary forces**.
- **Tableau** from **Maharashtra** was awarded the first prize. **Assam** bagged **second prize** and **Chhattisgarh** was awarded **third prize**.



- In the category of school children items Maharashtra performing ‘Barodi Dance’ from Madhya Pradesh first prize. Consolation prize Dimapur (Nagaland) Sangrai Mog Dance of Tripura.
- **Playback singer Asha Bhosle** was chosen for **15<sup>th</sup> edition of Yash Chopra Memorial award.**
- **Javadi hills**, located in the **border regions** of velour and **Tiruvannamalai district**, could have been known as “**Navira Malai**” during the ancient **Sangam period.**

### January – 31

- **Mohanlal lal** – Malayalam actor and **P.T. Usha** were awarded honorary **Doctorate of Literature (D. Litt)** by **Kerala Governor** and **Calicut University chancellor P. Sathasivam in Kozhikode**
- **Dr. Vinod Paul**, Member of **NITI Aayog** has been conferred the **Ihsan Dogramaci family health foundation prize** by the **WHO**

## Obituary

### January – 2

- **Ananta ojha** famous Odia play **wright, actor** and **director** passed away.

### January - 3

- Eminent Urdu poet Anwar **Jalapuri** passes away at **71**

### January – 4

- **R. Margabandu** former **Rajya Sabha** from Tamil Nadu passed away

### January – 5

- **Carnatic vocalist Radha Vishwanathan** daughter of M.S. Subbulakshmi passed away

### January – 8

- **Former World Trade Organisation director general and Goldman Sachs International Chairman Peter Sutherland** died at the age of **71**.
- **Bollywood actor Shrivallabh Vyas** of ‘**Lagaan**’ and ‘**Sarfarosh**’ fame passed away at the age of **60** in **Jaipur**.

### January – 9

- **Senior Sports journalist Shashikant Bhagwat** passes away

### January – 10

- **Kapil Mohan, Chairman of Mohan Meakin Ltd** which makes old monk rum, passed away

### January – 12

- **Satyendra Kushwaha, BJP MLC** (Member of the Legislative Council) passed away.
- **Balder Raj, Director of National Institute of Advanced studies** passed away.

### January – 13

- Eminent **Hindi author Doodhnath singh** passes away
- **Baldev Raj**, the director of the National Institute of Advanced studies (**NIAS**) **Bangalore** passed away.

### January – 14

- Veteran **Hindi** writer **Doodhnath Singh** passes away.

### January – 15

- **KK Ramachandran Nair**, communist party of India passed away.

### January – 16

- Gnani Sankaran, Tamil writer and journalist passed away
- Sarod Maestro Pandit **Buddhadev Dasgupta** passed away

### January – 17

- Journalist **NK Trikha** passed away
- **Maharashtra** senior BJP leader **NS Pharande** passes away.

### January – 18

- W.B. Rao Hindi Film Cinematographer passed away.

### January – 19

- Actress **Ava Mukherjee** passed in Mumbai
- **Leslie Harding** pde, renowned khasi author died.
- Kannada actor **Kashinath** passed away.

### January – 20

- **Eminent Cartoonist Chandi Lahiri** has passed away. He is also called the creator of 'Pocket Cartoons' in Bengal

### January – 21

- Former MP Assembly Speaker Srinivas Tiwari passed away

### January – 22

- Cartoonist chandi Lahiri passed away

### January – 23

- Roy Bennett, Zimbabwean opposition leader passed away.

### January – 24

- Noted Philanthropist **Honsen Lyngdoh** passes away
- Former **England Football** captain **Jimmy Armfield** dies

### January – 27

- **Veteran Bengali film** actress **Supriya Devi** passed away in **Kolkata**.

### January – 28

- Chandrashekar, Kannada actor passed away.

### January – 29

- Agricultural scientist and **Pioneer of India's Green Revolution**, **Gurcharan Singh Kalkat** passed away.

## January – 30

- The **first governor** of Chhattisgarh **V Tripura Dinesh Nandan** passed away

# Important Day

## January – 5

- **World Braille Day – Jan 4**

## January – 9

- 9<sup>th</sup> Jan – Pravasi Bharathi divas  
Theme : “**Ancient Route, New Journey**”

## January – 15

- 15<sup>th</sup> Jan – Indian Army Day

## January – 23

- 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan – 120<sup>th</sup> birth Anniversary of Subash Chandra Bose

## January – 24

- 24<sup>th</sup> Jan – National Girl child Day

## January – 26

- 26<sup>th</sup> Jan – 69<sup>th</sup> Republic day of India

## January – 27

- Jan 27 – International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Theme : Holocaust Remembrance and Education.



## January – 28

- 28<sup>th</sup> Jan – National Immunization day
- 28<sup>th</sup> Jan - Anti Leprosy Day

## January – 30

- 30<sup>th</sup> Jan – National Martyrs Day

# Science and technology

## January – 1

- Indian Startup **H-BOTS** a **Hyderabad** based Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning start up unveiled a prototype of a **smart policing robot**.

## January – 2

- In **2018** **NASA** will launch **Parker Solar Probe** to explore **sun's outer atmosphere**. The objective of this mission is to **trace** how energy and heat move through **solar corona**.

## January – 5

- **Government** has launched **MyGov platform** to get **suggestion** from **citizen of India** from all **Walks of life**.
- **Pakistan** successfully tests **Harba Missile** a **naval cruise missile** in **Arabian Sea**.
- A new endangered **flowering plant species** '**Primula Zhui**' has discovered in **China**

## January – 12

- A State of the art patrol vessel of the Indian coast Guard '**Charlie – 435**' was commissioned at Karaikal in the Union Territory of **Puducherry**.

- **Indian Railway** has decided to introduce Modern Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Kiosk Machines for fast and east printing of tickets booked through **UTS app**
- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has set up its first **food testing lab** in IIT **Kharagpur** campus.

#### January – 13

- India successfully launched its **100<sup>th</sup> Satellite ‘Cartosat – 2’** from Satish Dhawan space centre in Andhra Pradesh’s Sriharikota Island.

#### January – 14

- **‘Rizhao’** a new missile frigate was commissioned by the people’s **Liberation Army Navy** in a Naval Port in Dalian **China**
- **China** successfully launched two **BeiDou – 3** satellites aimed to provide navigation and positioning services to countries along the **Belt and Road initiative**

#### January – 16

- NASA Scientist have discovered “SPTO615 – JO” the farthest known galaxy in the universe.

#### January – 19

- India successfully test fired **Agri-V**, a surface to surface nuclear capable ballistic missile from Abdul Kalam Island off the **Odisha** coast Agni-V is an intercontinental ballistic missile having a strike range of **5000 km**.
- Chkfake Brand protection solutions launched **‘Chkfake’** – a global app to **check authenticity of currency notes** of all major currencies worldwide

#### January – 22

- China launched two high resolution optical remote sensing satellites from the **Jiuquan** satellite launch centre, located in Northwest China. The satellites that were launched were commercial satellites named ‘Jilin – 1’ Video 07 and 08.

- INSV Tarini, India Navy Sailboat with an all – women crew rounded Cape Horn.

### January – 28

- Himachal Pradesh CM Jai Ram Thakur launched the ‘Shakti app’ that features a panic button for the safety of woman, Himachal Pradesh.
- Rotavac Vaccine developed by the Hyderabad based Bharat Biotech Limited has been “Pre qualified” by the WHO and thus become first vaccine that has been entirely developed in India to have passed this test.

### January – 31

- **Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal** launched the ‘**311 app**’ at the **Raj Niwas** which aims to **increase involvement of citizens in resolving grievances and improving civic services in Delhi**

## Books

### January – 15

- **Sanjay Manjrekar** launches **autobiography** titled **Imperfect in Mumbai**.

### January – 22

- President Ram Nath Kovind unveiled a book on heartfulness techniques and principles titled “**The Heartfulness Way**” by Kamlesh Patel

### January – 28

- “**Dilli Meri Dilli: Before and after 1998** by former Delhi **CM Sheila Dikshit** has been released.

# Economy

January - 3

- **Parliament** has passed the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Amendment Bill**. The Bill allows the central government to increase the authorized capital of the Bank from **5 thousand crore** rupees to **30 thousand crore** rupees.
- **Reliance Industries Limited** has successfully commissioned its refinery off-gas cracker (**ROGC**) complex of 1.5 million tonnes per annum (**MTPA**) capacity along with downstream plants and utilities in **Jamnagar, Gujarat**.

January – 30

- Finance minister presented **Economic Survey 2017-18 in parliament**
  1. Real **GDP** Growth to clock **6.75%** this fiscal and will rise to **7.0 to 7.5%** in **2018 – 19**
  2. During April – September 2017-18 Growth in services exports and services Imports Robust at 16.2% at 17.4% Respectively
    - ❖ **Agriculture** – 2.1%
    - ❖ **Industry** – 4.4%
    - ❖ **Services Sectors** – 8.3 respectively in 2017-18
- According to a survey by **Go Banking Rate** ranked nations, **India** is ranked **second only to South Africa** as the cheapest country to live

# Environment

January – 2

- New **night frog** species “**Nyctibatrachus mewasinghi** has been discovered from **Malabar** wildlife sanctuary, Kozhikode.

January – 15

- A new month species named **Elcysma Ziroensis** has been discovered in the **Talle Wildlife Sanctuary** in **Arunachal Pradesh**.

January – 18

- World’s fifth largest diamond discovered in Lesotho

# Appointment and Resigns

January – 1

- Finance Ministry clears **decks** for a **fourth whole** – time member at **SEB**
- **Vineet chowdhary** appointed chief secretary to **Himachal Government**
- **N.C, Goel** appointed new **chief secretary of Rajasthan**.
- **Dr. M. Malakondaiah** is new **Andhra Pradesh police Chief Director General of Police**
- **OM Prakash singh** is appointed as **DGP of Uttar Pradesh**.

### January – 4

- **Rajinder Khanna** was appointed the **Deputy** National Security Adviser (NSA)
- **AB Mathur** appointed Government interlocutor for talks with **United Liberation Front of Assam**.

### January – 5

- **Kookhyan shim** was appointed as **MD and CEO** of **Kia Motors India**.
- **Tata Motors** has appointed **Hanne Birgitte Sorensen** as an **additional and Independent Director**.

### January – 7

- India's High Commissioner to Kuala Lumpur **T S Tirumurti** was appointed the **Secretary** (Economic Relations) in the **External Affairs Ministry**

### January – 8

- The **Government** has formed a Ministerial Committee headed by Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley** to decide what to do with old, pre – existing projects in ports.

### January – 10

- **Dilip Asbe** has been appointed as **MD and CEO** of National payments corporation of India(NPCI)
- A.R. **Rahman** has been made the **ambassador** of **Sikkim**
- **Sita Ram Modi** has been appointed the new Director General of Police(**DGP**) of **Himachal Pradesh**
- **Rajesh Ranjan** appointed as the **High Commissioner of India** to **Botswana**.



### January – 11

- **Sunny Verghese** appointed as **World Business Council** for sustainable **Development**.

### January – 12

- **V.J. Mathew** was appointed as chairman of **Maritime Board**
- **Sivan K** has been appointed as the chairman of **ISRO** (Indian Space Research Organisation)
- Retired Justice **Shiv Narayan Dhingra** has been appointed as head of a new committee to **re – investigate 186** closed case related to the 1984 anti – sikh riots

### January – 16

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has approved appointment of Vijay Kumar as MD and CEO of National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited.

### January – 17

- **AB Singh** takes over as **Chief** of **Staff Western Naval command**.
- Romanian **PM Mihai Tudose** resigned

### January – 18

- Tracey crouch was appointed as UK's first ever Minister in charge to tackle loneliness and combat social isolation.
- S. Selvakumar was appointed as the Chairman and MD of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd.

### January – 20

- Former Gujarat Chief Minister **Anandiben patel** has been named the next **Madhya Pradesh Governor**.

- **IPS Officer Sudeep Lakhtakia** was appointed as the new director general of National Security Guard (NSG)

**January – 23**

- **Sudeep Lakhtakia** appointed as New DG of National Security Guard
- **OM Prakash Rawat** appointed as new **Chief Election Commissioner**
- **OP Singh** has been appointed as **DGP** of **Uttar Pradesh**
- **Anandiben Patel** named as new **Madhya Pradesh Governor**

**January – 24**

- **Srikumar Menon** was appointed as the ambassador of **India to the Republic of Angola**.
- **Federation of Indian chambers** of commerce and Industry appointed **Dilip Chenoy** as its **Director General**
- **S. Somanath** takes **charge** as **Vikram Sarabhai** space centre's director

**January – 26**

- **Hemant Kumar Sharma** appointed as **Jammu's New Divisional Commissioner**

**January – 27**

- **Usha Anantha Subramanian** has been elected as the **first woman chairman** of **Indian Bank's Association**.

**January – 28**

- **Paul Romer** has resigned from his position as the **World Bank's Chief Economist**.

**January – 30**

- **Vijay Gokhale** assumed charge as the new **foreign Secretary of India**