CURRENT AFFAIRS
JANUARY 2018
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.

- 9th **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 32nd 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 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 Bargarpur 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 3rd 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 6th 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**.

- **18th 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

- 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 “**18th 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 to 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 14th 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 3rd meeting of council of Trade Development and promotion was chaired by Suresh Prabha, Union Minister for commerce & Industry.

Suresh Prabha 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.

25th 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 4th International Dharma – Dhamma conference on “State and Social order in Dharma – Dhamma Traditions at Rajgir in Nalanda district of Bihar.”
• The 5th 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 12th International Film Festival on April and Artist began in Odisha.

• In Assam, Uruka was being celebrated on 13th 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
- 7th 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 trail 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 announce 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 65th 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.


  Karnataka State Government will held a ‘Blockchain Hackathon’ for Governance

  from 19th – 21st 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.

- 14th 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 60th 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**

• **25th 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

• Maharastra 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 Jaitley 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 16th International Energy Forum Ministerial meeting held in New Delhi from 10th to 12th April 2018.
• **Bhubaneswar**, the capital of **Odisha** will host the 7th 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 Associateship 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.

• **8th 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 81st 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 prove 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 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

- 21st 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

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 29th 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 31st Jan 2018 in Etunagaram, 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.

• 19th India International watch and clock Fair “Samaya Bharati 2018” was held in Mumbai.

• Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the Mahesra 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 1st 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 **13th 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 **30th** 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 17-18th Jan 2018 at the world future energy summit (WFES) 2018 in Abu Dhabi, UAE

- The 10th 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 43rd 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 62nd 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 10th 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 **39th 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 39th 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 23rd 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 8th 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 102nd 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 shutter 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

- 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 33rd 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 Doubles – 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 up to **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 5th 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 42nd 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 not worth and becomes richest person as per bloomberg’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 11th 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 24th 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 69th 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 I2 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 15th 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 Sriniwas 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

- Chandrashekhar, 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\(^{th}\) Jan – Pravasi Bharati divas  
  Theme: “**Ancient Route, New Journey**”

January – 15

- 15\(^{th}\) Jan – Indian Army Day

January – 23

- 23\(^{rd}\) Jan – 120\(^{th}\) birth Anniversary of Subash Chandra Bose

January – 24

- 24\(^{th}\) Jan – National Girl child Day

January – 26

- 26th Jan – 69\(^{th}\) Republic day of India

January – 27

- Jan 27 – International Holocaust Remembrance Day  
  Theme: Holocaust Remembrance and Education.
January – 28

- 28th Jan – National Immunization day
- 28th Jan - Anti Leprosy Day

January – 30

- 30th 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 easy 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 **100th 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 Baijal 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 Dhirngra 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