International News

December – 2

- India was re-elected to the Council of the International Maritime organization under Category B at an assembly of the body at its headquarters in London.

- The Russian Security Council has asked the Russian Government to develop a separate infrastructure for BRICS countries.

December – 3

- Japan announced that will host a ministerial meeting of the UN Security Council on 15th December.

December – 4

- The world ‘populism’ has been announced as Cambridge Dictionary’s word of the year 2017.

- The world’s largest propeller plane, Antonov AN – 22 landed at the Manchester Airport in England.

December – 5

- Venezuela President Nicolas Maduro has announced the creation of a new virtual currency ‘petro’ in a bid to ease the country’s economic crisis.

- International conference on climate change Begins in Nepal.

- South Korea and USA to launch largest Air Exercise.

December – 6

- The US supreme court has allowed his travel ban to take full effect pending appeal for people coming from six Muslim major countries.

- First Sikh women Preet Didbal has been elected as the mayor of Yuba city in California.
December – 8

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

December – 11

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

December – 12

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

December – 13

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

December – 14

- Google to open **Artificial intelligence lab** in **Beijing**, china – its first centre in Asia
The online dictionary Merriam – Webster has dubbed ‘Feminism’ its world of the year.

December – 15

The world Bank announced that it will stop financing oil and gas exploration and extraction form 2019, seeking to boost the global economy’s shift to cleaner energy.

December – 16

Norway becoming the first country in the world to shut down national broadcasts of its FM network.

December – 17

WHO has declared Gabon a “Polio-free Country” Now the disease is endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The Oxford English has come out with its word of the year (2017), and it’s a word called – youthquake.

December – 18

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

December – 23

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

The UN security council approved tough new sanctions against North Korea in response to its latest launch of a ballistic missile that Pyongyang says its capable of reaching anywhere in US Mainland.
December – 24

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

December – 25

- An agreement was signed by Rosatom overseas and Sudan’s ministry of water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity in Khartoum, Sudan.

- Narendra Modi will be the first Indian PM in past 20 yrs to attend the annual meeting of World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland.

December – 26

- The UN General assembly has decided to mark the 100th anniversary of Nelson Mandela’s focusing on world peace the summit will be called “Nelson Mandela peace summit”

- Belgium appoints world’s first ever female ambassador to Saudi Arabia. Dominique Mineur who currently serves as the European Nations ambassador to the UAE.

December – 27

- Construction of Bangladesh’s first eco-friendly thermal power plant with ultra modern clean coal technology has started by Chinese consortium in Central Bangladesh at cost of USD 1.56 billion

- President Donald Trump signed the $1.5 trillion tax overhaul into law is expected to benefit big corporations and wealthy Americans more

- Guatemalan President Jimmy Morales has announced plans to move country’s embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.

December – 28

- Cultural authorities at UNESCO has recognized the skill of Ecuadorian artisans who make ‘panama Hats’
• India to overtake UK, France to become 5th largest Economy in 2018.

• Vin Diesel has been named the top grossing actor of 2017 by Forbes with $1.6 billion in global ticketing receipt from his film the Fate

• Insurance Regulatory and development authority of India.

• The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has allowed Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. Manufactured Dornier 208 to be used for civilian flight

December – 31

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

National News

December – 1

• West Bengal State Transport Minister Suvendu Adhikari mentioned that the state government has negotiated with the world Bank to avail subsidy to buy 130 electric buses

• The UK based Indian origin businessman have committed to projects worth nearly Rs.500 crore associated with clean ganga mission

• Mumbai is to host the 15th Mumbai International Film Festival for documentary. Short and Animation films from 28th Jan to 3rd Feb 2018.

• The Union Defence Ministry approved procurement of 260 software defined Radios (SDR) naval communication sets for Indian Navy at cost of Rs.49.

• India and Italy signed a Memorandum of understanding for enhanced co-operation in the health sector by exchanging and training of medical doctors, officials, other health professionals and experts.
• PM Modi will inaugurate the **Hindustan Times Leadership** Summit in **New Delhi** former US President Barack Obama, Afghanistan Chief Executive Abdullah, Union Minister Arun Jaitley, Ravi Shankar Prasad, UP CM Yogi Adityanath Chhattisgarh CM Dr. Raman Singh will also address different sessions during the two day event.

• The **Rs.1 currency note** has completed **100 years after the first note** which was printed in **England**, was issued on **November 30 1917 in India**.

• The US Agency for International Development announced $ 1 million to create awareness about Tuberculosis to help India in fight against the disease.

• **World AIDS Day –Dec 1** Theme: Let us resolve together for ending AIDS epidemic by 2030.

  **December – 2**

• Cabinet approves setting up of National Nutrition Mission (NNM) to take care of babies

• ‘**Shared Value Summit 2017**’ was held in **New Delhi** with the theme “Equity and empowerment”

• President of India inaugurated the **hornbill festival** and state formation day celebrations of **Nagaland**.

• **India** has been **awarded** with the certificate of commendation for its exemplary enforcement action to combat illegal **wildlife trade**.

  **December – 3**

• **India** has **won** the election of the council of **International Maritime Organisation** in **category – B** which represents the developing countries and countries with large interest in international sea – borne trade.

• The Housing and urban Affairs Ministry has approved the construction of **1.12 lakhs** more **affordable houses** for urban poor under the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana**.
- West Bengal assembly passed the west Bengal green university bill 2017 for setting up an environmental studies university at Hooghly district.

- Telangana announces at set up an exclusive innovation hub on the lines T.Hub for women called WE-Hub backing it with an exclusive Rs.15 crore fund.

- The Indian coast guard conducted Regional Level Marine Oil pollution Response Exercise ‘clean sea – 2017’ at sea off port Blair, capital of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

- Sushma Swaraj attended the Shanghai Co-operation Organization(SCO) Summit at Sochi in Russia.

- Kathakar an International storyteller’s festival held in New Delhi. It was inaugurated by minister of state for Home Affairs

- India and Spain to co-operate on Regional Rapid Rail project.

- Indian Railways introduces facility for booking tickets through BHIM App

- Ajeya Warrior – 2017 Indo – UK combined military exercise was held at Mahajan field.

- North Korea claimed that “Hwasong - 15” test fired on 29th November is a new type of Intercontinental Ballistic missile that can strike anywhere in US Mainland.

- Central Board of Direct Taxes entered into a Bilateral Advance pricing agreements these agreements are the first ever Bilateral APA with Netherland.

  December – 4

- Madame Tussauds has debuted in Delhi with 50 wax models of Indian and International celebrities

- Andhra Pradesh government has passed the bill of 5% reservation of Kapu community in the State

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts live with 7500 women workers via his NaMo App
- **Air force** and **coast Guard** have launched a massive **rescue** operation off the **Kerala** coast to save hundreds of **fisherman** Stranded in the rough sea hit by Cyclone **Ockhi**

- The government of India has increased the budget of **Agricultural Education** by **474%** this year as compared to the financial year **2013- 14** in order to adopt quality and holistic approach to higher agriculture education

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a unique **world class hospital** at **Swaminarayan Gurukul vidyapeeth** in Ahmedabad, **Gujarat**

- International Days of **Disabled persons** : **03 December**
  Theme: ‘Transformation towards sustainable and resilient society for all’

- Nation on **3rd December 2017** remembered India’s First president **Rajendra Prasad** on his **133rd birth day**

- National **Agriculture Education Day** – **03 December**

- The First phase of **Chabahar port** was inaugurated by Iranian president **Hassan Rouhani**

  **December – 5**

- Government proposes to register only **BS-VI vehicles** from **June 2020**

- The first ever International conference on **AYUSH** and wellness ‘**Arogya 2017**’, in **New Delhi**.

- **Telangana** government has signed an agreement with **Vindhya E-information private limited** to set up world’s first Information Technology (IT) **campus** for persons with **disabilities** that will focus on creating **employment** opportunities for them.

- On the auspicious inaugural ceremony of **World Telugu ceremony**, Telangana government will be launching its much awaited state song ‘**Telangana Bhu Matruke Suprabhatam**’

- **Indian Navy Day** observed as **4 December**
• World Soil Day – December 5
  Theme: caring for the planet starts from the ground.

• First meeting of fifth finance commission at North Block in New Delhi under the chairmanship of N.K. Singh.

• Uttar Pradesh’s Shamli district was included in the National Capital Region taking the total numbers of district in the NCR to 23.

• Amitabh Bachchan launched a book based on Indian cinema the book titled ‘Bollywood: The films! The songs! The stars! 

• The Government to Government umbrella agreement between India and Germany concerning financial co-operation in 2016 under Indo-German Development co-operation.

December – 6

• The Surface to Air missile AKASH with indigenous ration frequency Seeker against target Banshee has been successfully launched from Chandipur, Odisha

• The Madhya Pradesh Assembly unanimously passed a Bill awarding death to those found guilty raping girls aged 12 and below

• The 3rd edition of the dialogue between the NITI Aayog and the development Research council of China the DRC – NITI Aayog Dialogue was held in Beijing

• The 6th International Tourism Mart 2017 began in Guwahati, Assam

• The Indian government allowed over 1300 Buddhist refugees from Myanmar’s Rakhine region to enter Mizoram

• Technology giant google launched a light weight Android Oreo Go edition operating system designed for devices with RAM up to 1 GB

• UBE Armed Forces along with the UK, US and French armies are participating in Joint exercise in Abu Dhabi. The drill code is named as “Flag 4”
December – 7

- **India** and **Israel** are coming **together** to set up a centre of excellence in **Floriculture** at **Thally** in **Krishnagiri** district of **Tamil Nadu**

- **Utter Pradesh** has become the **first state to endorse** the **Central government draft bill** that makes instant triple **talaq a cognizable and non – bailable offence**

- **Telangana** state government has announced that all **households** in the state will have **broadband internet connection** by December next year after which **revolutionary changes** are expected in the **education and health sector**

- The **Kerala** government came out with a new **ordinance raising** the minimum age for **liquor consumption** from **21 to 23**

- With **19 countries** **ratifying its framework agreement**, the **International Solar Alliance** headquarterd **Gurugram** became the **first treaty – based** international government organization to be based in **India**

- The **ministry of Environment affairs** allowed **NGT chairperson** to constitute a **single member bench** in ‘exceptional circumstances’

- **Commerce and Industry minister Suresh Prabhu** Unveils **mid Term Review of Foreign Trade policy 2015 – 20** with a view to boosting exports

December – 8

- **Prime Minister Modi** inaugurated the ‘**Dr. Ambedkar International centre**’ at **Janpath, New Delhi**

- The **First International conference on sports Medicine and sports sciences SAICON 2017** was inaugurated in **New Delhi** by sports minister **Colonel Rajya Vardhan Rathore**

- The **Global partnership summit(GPS) 2017** is scheduled to be held at **Aero city, New Delhi**

- India’s **Kumbh Mela** has been recognised by **UNESCO as ‘intangible cultural heritage of humanity’”**
• Centre offers Rs. 2.5 lakhs to encourage inker – care marriage to all Couples where either the bride or bridegroom is Dalit

• PM Modi inaugurated the Dr, Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi for the 61st death anniversary of Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar

    December – 9

• India has been declared free from infective trachoma which is a contagious bacterial infection of the eye.

• President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates the Naval Maritime Aircraft Museum in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

• A public procurement portal ‘MSME Sambandh’ was launched by Shri Giriraj Singh, Minister of state (Independent Charge) for MSME in New Delhi.

• The Waste Management system being implemented in Kerala’s coastal town of Alappuzha, often called ‘the Venice of East’ has been recognized by UNEP as one of the five models across the world for fighting the pollution menace.

• Kacheguda Railway Station under the South Central Railway (SCR) has earned the unique distinction of being the first energy efficient ‘A1 category’ Railway station

• The first International Conference of sports Medicine and Sports Science SAICON 2017 was inaugurated in New Delhi.

• India has been admitted as the 42nd member of the Wassenaar Arrangement, a global export control regime.

• According to the World Energy Access report released by the International Energy Agency (IEA) puts India on course to achieving access to electricity for all in the early 2020.

    December – 10

• Haryana (unit 69 % score) has topped the list in the care of doing business rankings, according to government data.
• Minister of State for culture (Independent Charge) Dr. Mahesh Sharma inaugurated the Bodhi Parva BIMSTEC festival of Buddhist in New Delhi.

December – 11

• India to host South East Asian connectivity Summit in New Delhi Theme: ‘Powering Digital and Physical linkages for Asia in the 21st Century’

• UN women, Facebook inaugurates ‘We the Women’ event in Mumbai to empower and recognize the Magnificent Contribution of women in our society

• Central Government with soon issue universal ID cards to person with disabilities which will be Valid throughout India

• The Ministry of External affairs has through the official Twitter India’s public diplomacy shared pictures of traditional ‘thalis’ from all the 29 states of India

• Mehuli Ghosh and Tushar Mane became the first Indian Shooters to Secure the women’s and Men’s quota Places for the 2018 youth Olympic games by winning a gold and bronze each at the 10th Asian championship low Rifle/Pistol at Wako city, Japan

• Human Rights Day – 10th December Theme: Standup for Human Rights

• India’s GDP growth to Rise 7.5 % in 2018 and 7.7 % in 2019 says a report of Morgan Stanley

• India to achieve ‘Electricity for all by early 2020’s says International Energy Agency (IEA)

December – 12

• The Government has launched LaQshya a safe delivery mobile application for health workers who manage normal and complicated deliveries in peripheral areas

• Electronics and Information Technology minister Ravi Shankar Prasad launches first NIC – CERT a setup of National Informatics centre to prevent and predict cyber attacks on government utilities
• External Affairs minister Sushma Swaraj held the 15th Russia – India – China trilateral meet with Russian Foreign minister Sergey Lavrov and Chinese Foreign minister Wang Yi in New Delhi

• India’s first Electronic Manufacturing cluster (EMC) Will be Coming to Andhra Pradesh

• Hyderabad launched a drive to turn Hyderabad into “Beggar Free” city which was earlier put to halt after rumors that the drive was initiated because of US president Donald Trump’s daughter Ivanka Trump to the City

• West Bengal CM Mamta Banerjee announced a life insurance of ₹5 lakhs each for pilgrims. Visiting the state for the upcoming Gangasagar fair, the second biggest pilgrimage fair after Kumbh

• Union minister of state for Youth Affairs and sports col. Rajyavardhan Rathore confirmed union government will launch a ‘Khelo India’ programme at a cost of 1,756 crore rupees for the period 2017–18 to 2019-20

• India to host 3rd Annual meeting of Board of governors of Asian infrastructure Investment Bank at Mumbai.
  Theme: Mobilizing finance for infrastructure

• The 14th Inclusive Finance India Summit began in New Delhi

• Road Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari said the government is aiming to construct 40 km of road every day in the country next year

• Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra tops in highest number of Cyber Crimes

• The Finance minister holds his 5th pre – Budget consultation meeting with the leading economists in New Delhi

• Union government Fixed Rs.2,890 per grams as the price of new series of Sovereign gold bonds

• Rajasthan, First in India to offer e-mail ID’s in Hindi
• The second Un world Tourism Organization/UNESCO world conference on Tourism and culture was held in Muscat, capital city of Oman

December – 14

• 10 leaders of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will be taking part in the 2018 republic day

• Official logo for Allahabad Kumbh Mela 2019 related in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh The tagline for Kumbh Mela 2019 is ‘chalo chalo chalo, kumba chalo’

• Jammu Kashmir government will soon regularize as many as 60,000 daily wagers and casual labourers

• Karnataka government to introduce digital platform for hassle – free governance which will help to address the issue of common citizen

• To boost agriculture productivity of Nigeria, India has decided to share their agriculture expertise to make Nigeria food sufficient

• India to host 3rd Annual meeting of Boards of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB) at Mumbai in 2018

• India, Japan Australia agree to greater collaboration on maritime security

• Bihar government has launched safe city surveillance scheme for checking crime against Women

• West Bengal government is planning to convert the Sundarbans into a tourism centre of International Standards

• Union government signed US $250 million loan agreement with world Bank for SANKALP Project Skills Acquisition and Knowledge awareness for livelihood promotion

• The Yogi Adityanath Uttar Pradesh Wednesday gave its nod to a new law against organised crime in Uttar Pradesh. The State Cabinet has approved Uttar Pradesh control of organised crime Act 2017
• PM Modi has Commissioned India’s first modern conventional submarines INS Kalvari into Navy’s fleet in Mumbai

December – 15

• The home ministry has released Rs.174 cr to six states having an international border for development of infrastructure in forward areas

• India hosted 4th India – Australia - Japan trilateral meeting in New Delhi

• The Delhi government under Dr. Kirti Bhushan setup a nine members experts committee to look into the functioning to private hospitals and nursing homes and recommend norms to be followed the clinics, including capping the profit margin on medicine and consumables

• The Telangana government has announced to launch a mobile app ‘urban genie’ which will enable citizens in urban areas across the state to find certified technicians and workers

• Japan has decided to offer a grant worth 8.4 million yen for the construction of a vocational training centers for poor women and youth in Rajasthan's Baran district

• The winter session of Parliament begins with PM urging all political parties to extend co-operation for smooth conduct and pressing for a ‘national consensus’

• India and Morocco signed a MOU for Enhanced cooperation in the health sector in New Delhi

• The Union government Framed a scheme to set up 12 special courts for a year to fast track the trial of criminal cases against 1,581 Mps and MLAs

• Maharashtra government set to legalize all slums built till 2017. The State government plans to extend the cut off year to regularize 3.5 lakh unauthorized slums in the city to 2017 from 2011

• Telangana government rolled out the 24x7 power supply especially for farmers, now set to bear all the financial burden of the scheme by incurring it into the fiscal budget
• The National Energy conservation Day (NECD) – 14th Dec. This day is celebrated with an aim to demonstrate India’s achievement in energy efficiency and conservation

December – 16

• The Vice president of India, shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has said that the Vedas Preach world peace, Universal brotherhood and welfare of all

• Union Cabinet approved the introduction of New Central Scheme called “North East special Infrastructure Development scheme’ (NESIDS) and ‘Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources’ (NLCPR) with the overall development of the region

• Raksha Rajya Mantri Dr. Subash Bhamre inaugurated a four day 49th Annual conference of the Society of Nuclear Medicine International conference

• Union Cabinet chaired by PM Modi he approved the establishment International Training center for Operational Oceanography as a Category – 2 Centre (C2C) of UNESCO, in Hyderabad

December – 17

• Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the World Telugu conference which begins in Hyderabad

• Ram Nath Kovind laid the foundation stone of the “Nyaya Gram” project of the High Court of Allahabad

• India and Maldives have begun exercise Ekuverin their eighth annual joint military training event in Belagavi.

• Meghalaya has become the first State in India to operationalise law that makes social audit of government programmes and scheme a part of Government practice.

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 60MW Tuirial hydropower project in Aizawl.
The Union Cabinet approved a Bill that makes **instant triple talaq** a criminal offence and a Muslim husband resorting to instant talaq can be jailed up to three years.

According to the ‘**World Migration Report (2018)**’ published by the International Organisation for Migration the **Indian Diaspora is World’s largest.**

December – 18

**India** is the Second largest producer of **horticultural crops** and **Fruits after China**

**Preparations are on in full** suing across Haryana for the earthquake mock exercise to be held on **21,2017 across the State**

**International Herbal Fair** was started in **Bhopal from Dec 14** and it is inaugurated by Union Minister from Environment, **Forest and Climate change Dr Harsh Vardhan**

**A research institute** for the study of the ‘**Bhagavad Gita**’ will be soon set up by **Utter Pradesh government in temple town Mathura**

**Jokapatha Village**, a tribal village is Chhattisgarh’s **Balrampur district has got electricity connection for the first time**

**Samsung India** has entered into a **partnership** with UNESCO MGIEP (Mahatma Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development) to launch **360 video** and virtual Reality(**VR**) content of two magnificent Indian heritage sites the sun Temple in **Konark** and **Taj Mahal** in Area

December – 19

The government has approved setting up of a total **42 mega food parks** in the country to create modern **infrastructure for good processing**

**India** will host meeting of **WTO member countries in February 2018** to muster support for **food security** and other issues.
• Union petroleum minister **Dharmandra pradhan** inaugurated eastern India’s first compressed natural gas (CNG) stations at Chandrasekharpur and Patia in Odisha.

• **Ladakh** region of J and K is celebrating **Losar** Festival to mark the **New Year**.

**December – 20**

• **Andhra Pradesh** in association with UNESCO **Mahatma Gandhi** institute of **Education** for peace and **sustainable development** is planning to establish a centre of excellence for **children with learning differences** as well as ‘**gaming for e-learning hub**’

• **Goa** celebrated its **56th Liberation Day** on **19th Dec**

• The **Lok Sabha** was informed that the National entrance exam, the **NEET** and engineering entrance exam JEE twice a year to give an opportunity to the students to bring out their best performance the centre is Setting up a **National Testing Agency**

• **Andhra Pradesh** cabinet approved a scheme to provide a **pension** of **Rs.1500** for **transgender** above **18 years** of age in the state

**December – 21**

• **PM Modi** visited **Ockhi** affected **Lakshadweep. Tamil Nadu, Kerala** to take stock of situation and met affected people there he announced a relief package of **Rs.325 crore** for all 3 states and **ex-gratia assistance** of **Rs.2 lakh** to the next of kin of the deceased.

• **Telangana government’s prestigious Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation scheme (KLIS) has finally gets the green nod. The project will boost** to the state government

• **Assam** signed an **MoU with Isha foundation** to **conserve and rejuvenate the rivers** of Assam

• **ICRA Management consulting services an arm of ICRA** launched a set of **four fixed income indices including one on corporate bonds.**
• NITI Aayog proposes setting up a labour utilization fund in order to handle the challenge of growing redundancy of low skilled labour in India with increase of automation and advent of artificial intelligence

• Central government has sanctioned 42 mega food parks to be set up across India under Mega Food Park scheme

• Lok Sabha passed the central Road fund Bill 2017 which seeks to amend the central Road fund Act 2000. Which contains the provision for distributing cess levied and collected on high speed petrol and diesel for the development of national highways, rural roads, railways, state roads and border area roads

• Rajya Sabha unanimously passed Indian Institutes of management IIM Bill, 2017 which provides greater functional autonomy to Indian Institute of management and confers power to grant degrees instead of post-graduate diplomas.

• In a bid to cut power consumption the Indian Railways has laid out plan to make all stations 100 percent LED lit by March 31, 2018

• Uttar Pradesh state government under CM Yogi Adityanath has scrapped “Shravan Yatra” a scheme under which elderly citizens could undertake pilgrimage free of cost

• The Central government was committed to improve the purchasing power of farming community

December – 22

• India and Myanmar linked an agreement on restoration of normalcy and development of the Rakhine state

• The Indian Navy in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Navy successfully completed the second phase of the joint oceanographic survey

• Government launched project ‘DARPAN’ – Digital Advancement of Rural Post Office for a New India in Delhi
• Cabinet approves a new skill development scheme covering the textile sector’s entire value chain excluding spinning and weaving in the organised sector from 2017 – 18 to 2019 – 20 at an outlay of Rs.1300 cr.

• The government informed the Lok Sabha that it had so far infused a capital of Rs.51, 858 cr in Public Sector Bank under its ‘Indradhanush Plan’ since 2015 – 16

• The union cabinet has approved the Ministry of Railway transformative initiative to set up first ever National Rail and Transport University (NRTU) in Gujarat’s Vadodara.

• Indian Railways has planned to make all stations 100% LED lit by March 31, 2018

• Krishnapatnam port in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh is hosting the 9th edition of International Youth sailing competition.

• The 7th international coffee festival will be held in Bangalore

• Hamesha Vijayee exercise being held in Rajasthan.

    December – 23

• Indian Navy conducts Exercise Naseem – A1 – Bahr or Sea Breeze with Oman Navy

• A loan agreement has signed between India and Germany for Providing additional funding of EURO 20 million for the Pare hydroelectric plant project under Indo – German Bilateral Development co-operation

• National mathematics day observed on 22 December

• With an aim to bring foreign Policy to the masses the external affairs ministry has come up with an initiative – SAMEEP – student and MEA Engagement program

• India will be establishing centre of excellence in Information Technology (CEIT) at Al Azhar university, Egypt’s highest religious authority
• India’s First and only design University ‘ The world university’ of Design Opened its campus at sonipat, Haryana

• In a move aimed at combating black money stashed abroad, India signed an agreement with Switzerland that would allow automatic sharing of tax related information from Jan 1

• India has announced a development assistance of $25 million for Myanmar’s Rakhine State

• The minister of communication Manoj Sinha launched DARPAN. “Digital Advancement of Rural post office for a New India” project to improve the quality of service, add value to services and achieve financial Inclusion of the unbanked rural population

• Odisha Environment congress 2017 Kicked Off to foster sustainable River Basin Management

  December – 24

• The seventh edition of the India International Coffee Festival (IICF) will be held in Bengaluru.

• Maharashtra set to generate 25,000MW electricity through solar power. Rather Maharashtra as a state tops in generating power through renewable energy around 7500 MW.

• PM Modi held telephonic talks with Nepali congress president Sher Bahadur Deuba, assures assistance for peace and development of Nepal.

• Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh said the SSB is strengthening its position in Sikkim and Bhutan border area after Doklam issue between India and China.

  December – 25

• Union Rural development ministry in partnership with state governments has completed the ranking of 50,000 gram Panchayat under Mission Antyodya
• **India** to link **highway corridors to international** trade points for **Rs.25,000 crore** which will be carried out for facilitating trade with **Nepal, Bhutan Bangladesh and Myanmar.**

• Indian Railway Flagged off **India’s first air conditional sub-urban local train** for **Mumbai** commuters between **Berivali and churchgate** on the **Western Railway.**

• **PM Modi** inaugurated the **Botanical Garden Kalkaji** section (of Magenta line) of **Delhi Metro**

• Bangalore becomes first city to get its own logo was launched at the **Namma Bengaluru Habba festival** at **vidhana soudha,** in Bangalore.

• The centre has recognized **Odisha** as a “**champion state**” for recording the **highest growth in exports** during 2016-17

• The **Uttar Pradesh** government signed MoU with **South Korea** in the field of tourism, skill development, culture and farming

• To **enhance standards of cleanliness** on beaches the **environment ministry** has launched a **pilot project ‘Blue flag’** for its **clean up and development.**

• **Good Governance – 25th December.**
  It marks the **birth anniversary** of former **PM Vajpayee**

• Vice president (**Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu**) has inaugurated the centenary celebrations of **Yoga institute in Mumbai**

• **Jairam Thakur** will be **Himachal Pradesh** new CM.

  **December – 26**

• **Dr. Jitendra Singh** the union minister of state the ministry of Development of **North Eastern Region** has launched **electronics – Human Resource Management** system in **New Delhi.**

• **Hondo Motor** is planning to set up a **lithium-ion battery** manufacturing unit in India with the main aim to move only **potential electric vehicles** on roads by 2030.
• India is all set to get its first runway on a ‘Sea bridge’ as the Airports Authority of India has been given nod to extend Lakshadweep’s Agatti Airport.

• The world’s longest glass bridge opened in China to the public. It is located in Shijiazhang.

• Vijay Rupani was sworn in at a grand ceremony in the state capital of Gandhinagar as the CM of Gujarat State.

December – 27

• Home ministry has released 167 crore rupees to nine states with International border for the development of infrastructure in forward areas.

• Uttar Pradesh government launches free household power connection scheme ‘Prakash hai to vikas’ hai for the poor in the state to mark former PM Atal bihari vajpayee’s birthday on 25th December.

• The Government of India the Government of Tamil Nadu and the World Bank signed a $318 million loan agreement for the Tamil Nadu irrigated Agriculture modernization project to promote climate resilient agriculture technologies.

• The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development will soon get going on a Rs.8000cr find that the finance minister announced in this year budget to support the dairy sector.

• Central Government has drawn up tailor made action plan for improving the socio-economic conditions of 115 “most backward” district across India.

• In order to provide relief for disqualified directors of companies, union ministry of corporate Affairs will roll out ‘condonation of Delay scheme’ which will be operational from January 1 to March 31 2018

• The South Delhi Municipal corporation launched ‘Atal Jan Aahar Yojana’ for poor people to provide them meal at Rs.10 marking the Good Governance day

• Odisha to split tourism culture department and promote odia language and set up odia language commission
December – 28

- The government said it plans to complete the work of installing bio – toilets in all passenger train by March 2019.

- The much awaited India’s first pod taxi project has moved a step closer to reality after a high level panel recommended inviting fresh bids for the same conforming to the strictest safety standard on the lines prescribed by an American body.

- India has provided medical assistance worth about $1 million Yemen in response to a request from the Yemeni government.

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates conference at Acharya Nagarjuna University in Andhra Pradesh.

- The President of India Ram Nath Kovind dedicated to the people of Andhra Pradesh four projects of the State Government at function held at velagapudi
  - Fibregrid Project
  - Andhra Pradesh Surveillance Project
  - Drone Project
  - Free Space Optical Communication System

- On Dec 26, 2017 a team of Indian Air Force (IAF) mountaineers successfully scaled Mt Vinson in Antarctica and therefore completed “Mission Seven Summits” About Mission Seven Summit.

- It’s a series of Mountaineering Expedition to fly the Indian tricolor and the IAF Flag on the highest peaks in every continent.

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the centenary Conference of the Indian Economic Association in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh
  Theme: India’s development experience

- The five day Teesta Rangit Tourism Festival 2017 started in Darjeeling.
• **Atal Innovation mission** has selected additional 1500 schools for establishment of **Atal Tinkering Labs** there by taking the total number of schools selected so far to 2441
  Vision of AIM: ‘To cultivate one million children in India as the Innovators of tomorrow’

• **25th National children science congress** begun in Ahmedabad, Gujarat
  Theme: Science and Innovation for sustainable development
  
  December – 29

• The government has decided to make additional market borrowing of Only 50,000 crore in the remaining period of the current fiscal year to meet expenditure

• Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs has approved the construction of 5,45,090 more affordable house for the benefit of urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana with an investment of Rs.31,003 cr with central assistance of Rs. 8,107 cr

• Union Agriculture and Farmers welfare Minister Sri Radha Mohan Singh has launched Livestock Disease Forewarning - Mobile Application (LDF – Mobile App)

• Aiming to start Commercial seaplane operations before the 2019 general elections

• India has Successfully test – Fired its Indigenously development Advanced Air Defence supersonic interceptor Missile, capable of destroying any incoming ballistic missile in low altitude from a test range in Odisha

• The Parliament has Passed the Indian institute of Petroleum and energy Bill-2017 which aims to provide high quality education and research focusing on themes of Petroleum hydrocarbon and energy
  
  December – 30

• The Eighteenth meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) was held in New Delhi, under the chairman ship of Arun Jaitley
• ISRO has announced that it would launch 31 satellites, including India’s Cartosat – 2 series each observation space craft, in a single mission onboard its polar rocket on January 10.

• The last MIG – 27 aircraft roared over Hasimara Air Force base in Bengal for the last time as the IAF bade farewell to this legacy fleet in a function.

• Government think-tank NITI Aayog is slowest among 52 Central Ministries and Departments when it comes to addressing public grievances reveals a government report.

• More than 5,000 youths from different parts of the country will attend the 22nd National Youth Festival, scheduled to be held in Jaipur.

• State – run power giant NTPC group’s capacity will cross the 51,000 MW mark on 31 December with the beginning of commercial operations of Unit – 2 of the Kudgi super thermal project.

• Eighteenth meeting of the financial stability and development council (FDSC) was held in New Delhi, under the chairmanship of the Union Minister of Finance, Arun Jaitley.

• Kolkata Police has issued a notification that imposes a ban on public display of weapons in Kolkata, effective from 2 Jan 2018 to 1 Jan 2019.

• Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated the Centre for Entrepreneurship opportunities and Learning (CEOL) in Mallikatte, Mangaluru. This is aimed to promote startup Indira initiative in India.

• The Chhattisgarh Government signed a MOV with Central Government for the 2nd phase of Bharat Net Project.

• Nitin Gadkari flagged off cargo movement on the pandu – Dhubri (on National Water way 2) along the Brahmaputra River in Assam.

• Assam CM launches skill Development Training centers across the state.
• Communication Minister of State (Independent charge) **Manoj Sinha** informed the parliament that Central Government has approved **Rs.4066 crore** providing **internet connectivity** to people in all **gram panchayat** under Bharat Net Project

**Sports**

**December – 1**

• **Pankaj Advani** secures **IBSF World Snooker Championship** title at **A1 Arabi sports club** in **Doha**. **Advani** defeated **Amir Sarkhosh** of **Iran** 8-2 in the final

• **Mirabai Chanu** bagged **India’s First World weightlifting championship** gold in 22 years in **Anaheim, USA** She created a **new world record** of 194 kg lifting 85 snatch and **109 kg in clean and jerk**

• **Ankushita Boro**, a young girl from **Assam** has won the ‘**Best Boxer’** title in world youth Women’s Boxing Championship held in **Guwahati**.

• Odisha CM **Naveen Patnaik** unveiled the **logo and mascot** of the **Hockey men’s world Cup 2018** at Kalinga stadium in **Bhubaneswar**.

• **Abhishek Verma** won a **gold medal** and **Jyothi Surekha Vennam** a **bronz medal** at the **Asian Archery championship** which was hosted in **India**

**December – 2**

• Five time World Champion **M.C. Mary Kom** has **resigned** as the Nation Observer for Indian Boxing

• **Hockey World League (HWL)** final began at the **Kalinga Stadium** in **Bhubaneshwar**, **Odisha**

**December – 3**

• **Virat Kohli** became the fourth **fastest Indian bats** man to reach **5,000 runs**.
December – 4

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

December – 5

- Mumbai’s 18 – year old batsman Prithvi Shaw has been named the captain of the Indian under - 19.

- Deepika Kumari won a bronze medal at the Indoor Archery world cup stage 2 in Bangkok.

- The Final draw for the 2018 FIFA world cup was held in Russian capital MOSCOW.

December – 6

- Russia Banned from 2018 winter Olympics.

- India beat Nepal 3-0 to win the first ever South Asian regional Badminton Tournament.

- Afghanistan grabbed the ICC International cup defeating United Arab Emirates by 10 wickets on the fourth and final day at the Sheikh Zayed stadium in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

- Organizers of the golf world cup announced that Melbourne (City in Victoria, Austria) will host the grand team event for the third straight time in 2018.

December – 7

- A week after five time world champion Mary Kom resigned as the National Sports observer, India star wrestler and two time Olympic medallist Sushil Kumar also Stepped down from the position of wrestling.

- India wins first ever South Asian Regional Badminton Team championship.

- Mujeeb – Ur – Rehman Zadran the 16 yr became the youngest ever from Afghanistan to play International Cricket.
December – 9

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

December – 10

- Sports Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore has announced that India will host the senior women’s boxing championships next year and the senior Men’s world championship in 2021.

- India is all set to host its first-ever major boxing tournament for elite men and women-India open International boxing tournament from January 28 in New Delhi.

December – 11

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

December – 12

- India to host 81 matches from 2019-2023 says BCCI

- Shubhankar Sharma of India won the Joburg open golf tournament

- Australia retained their Hockey world league final title with Victory over Argentina

- India’s Saurabh Chaudhry qualified for the youth Olympic games with a gold medal and a junior world record in 10m air pistol at the ongoing Asia Youth Olympic games qualification tournament in Wako city, Japan

December – 14

- Indian’s men and women’s hockey teams remained in the 6th and 10th positions respectively in the ranking revealed by International Hockey Federation
• **India** has became the First ever team to register **300 + totals 100 times** in ODI’s after Posting 392/4 against Sri Lanka in **Mohali**

• **Rohit Sharma** became the first ever player in ODI history to **hit three double hundreds**, Slamming his third in the Mohali ODI against Sri Lanka

• **Sachin Siwach** maned the Asian Boxing confect rations **best youth Boxer of the year**

• **Anjum Moudgil** won the women’s 50m rifle prone **gold** medal at the **61st National Shooting** championship

    **December – 15**

• **Indore** to host **Ranji Trophy** finals **2017-18**

• BCCI lifts **Ban** on Rajasthan Cricket Association(RCA)

    **December – 17**

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

    **December – 18**

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

    **December – 19**

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

    **December – 20**

• India top ranked **Junior shuttlerr Aakarshi Kashyap** won **U-17 and U-19 singles title** at junior **Nationals** held in **Guwahati**
December – 21


- Kerala kings became the first ever T10 cricket league champion at Sharjah cricket stadium in Sharjah, UAE

- India thrashes Nepal to win South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) U-15 women’s championship Dhaka, Bangladesh.

December – 22

- India retains 105th spot while Germany finished first to be named the ‘Team of the Year’ in the FIFA rankings released recently.

December – 23

- Lionel Messi Beats Ronaldo To receive La Liga Best Player Award

- Indian Captain Mithali Raj was named in the ICC women’s ODI team of the year. Left Spinner Ekta Bisht to find place in Both ODI and T20 teams of the year announced by world body

- The Central English city of Birmingham to hast common wealth games in 2022

December – 25

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

December – 26

- India finished runners up after going down 1-0 to Bangladesh in the final of the SAFF U15 women’s championship in Dhaka Bangladesh.
December – 29

- Haryana shooter Anisha Sayyed won the women’s 25m Pistol with a new record at ongoing 61st National shooting championship competition in Kerala

December – 30

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

Banking and Finance

December – 4

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

December – 6

- The Asian Development Bank’s (ADB) Boards of Directors has approved debt financing and Partial risk guarantees totaling $583 million to develop the Reliance Bangladesh Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and power project

- India’s largest digital Bank Paytm payments bank has unveiled ‘Paytm Ka ATM’ outlets that allows customers to open Saving Accounts and deposit 1 withdraw money from their bank accounts

December – 7

- RBI Keeps Repo rate unchanged at 6% maintains neutral stance
  
  - Current monetary Policy rate
  
  - Repo rate : unchanged at 6%
  
  - Reverse Repo Rate : unchanged at 5.75%
  
  - Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate : 6.25%
• Bank Rate : 6.25 %
• Cash research ratio -> 4%
• Statutory liquidity Ratio : 19.5%

December – 10

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

December – 11

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

December – 14

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

December – 15

• The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB) has approved a USD 335 million loan to finance a 100 percent electric metro rail project in Bangalore
• The Reserve Bank of India(RBI) has imposed certain restriction on corporation Bank on carrying out banking activities as its share of bad loans rose sharply
December – 19

- AU Small Finance Bank has announced signing an MoU with Sahaj e-village for extending its banking service.

- YES Bank and the European Investment Bank will co-finance $400 million funding for renewable power generation.

December – 20

- As per Gout ministry the government will bear the Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charges on transactions up to Rs. 2000 made through debit cards, BHIM.UPI and Aadhaar enabled payment system to Promote digital

- The Government has engaged private lender ICICI Bank to enable online payments at 470 mandis integrated with national portal of electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)

December – 21

- A financing agreement for IDA credit worth USD 125 million for the “Skills Strengthening for industrial value Enhancement operation (STRIVE) project was signed by Government of India and the World Bank.

- The Reserve Bank of India has initiated “prompt corrective action” measure against state run lender Bank of India in the view of its high non-performing assets (NPAS)

- RBI puts United Bank of India on corrective action plan

December – 22

- Loan worth USD $40 million for a tourism project in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh was approved by the World Bank Board of Executive Directors.

- Samsung launched its ‘Bill payment’ on its flagship payment service Samsung pay in partnership with Axis Bank
December – 23

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

December – 24

- Airtel Payments Bank CEO Shashi Arora has quit the company after a recent controversy surrounding India’s largest telecom operator.

- SBI Card, the credit card issuer and Bharat petroleum the leading petroleum company in India announced the launch of the BPCL SBI Card the most rewarding fuel co-branded credit card in the country.

- India’s largest Mortgage lender HDFC has sold its realty business HDFC Reality and its digital real estate business HDFC developers to online classifieds player Quikr.

December – 25

- Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh top contributors of the GST for first five months.

- Public sector banks “Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of Indian public sector banks stood at Rs.7.34 lakh crore by end of Sep 2017.

December – 27

- India becomes Fifth largest economy in 2018 says the report or World Economic League table.

- According to data released by the Income Tax department only 2 crore Indians (1.71% of population) paid Income Tax in the assessment year (2015 – 2016)

- Samsung in partnership with Axis Bank launched its Bill payment on Samsung pay
December – 29

- The Government of India and World Bank signed an agreement for IBRD credit of USD 40 million from World Bank for “U.P Poor Tourism Development Project”

- According to research report by rating agency CARE, the 9.85% ratio of bad loans in bank has put India in the group of those nations that have very high non-performing assets. The only major countries with similar ratio are troubled EU Nation: Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain commonly referred as PIIGS. India at 5th Position in Non-Performing assets levels

December – 31

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

- Amount of capital Infusion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank</th>
<th>Amount of capital infusion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IDBI</td>
<td>2729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of India</td>
<td>2257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCO</td>
<td>1375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of Maharashtra</td>
<td>650 crore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Bank of India</td>
<td>323 crore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dena Bank</td>
<td>243 crore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Federal Bank announced a partnership with Abu Dhabi Based Lul-u-Exchange to leverage block chain technology across border remittance

Awards & Recognition

December – 3

- “Lipstick under My Burkha” which explores women’s feeling has bagged a top prize at the time global sustainability film award 2017.

- Miss World 2017, Manushi Chhillar was awarded the Indian of the year special achievement award by minister of finance and corporate affairs Arun Jaitley event at New Delhi
• Miss Korea Jenny Kim was crowned Miss supranational 2017 on Friday on Poland.

December – 5

• President Ram Nath Kovind confers national Awards for Divyangjan 2017 on the occasion of International Day of persons with Disabilities in New Delhi

• Indian Americans California Senator Kamala Harris topped the Prestigious foreign policy magazine’s 2017 list of 50 leading global thinkers which also features US Ambassadors the UN Nikki Haley

December – 6

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

December – 7

• The ‘silence breakers’ – the women behind this year’s me Too movement against Sexual harassment are named Time magazine’s 2017 ‘person of the Year’

• Indian Cricketer Yuvraj Singh will be promoting a UNICEF sport initiative for youngster in South Africa Power of Sports to shape the future of Adolescents

December – 8

• Aamir Khan’s Dangal unis Best Asian Film at Australia gala.

December – 9

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

December – 10

• Eminent Hindi writer ‘Mamta Kalia’ will be honoured with literary award Vyas samman for year 2017 for her novel Dukkham Sukkham.
December – 11

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

December – 12

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

December – 13

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

December – 15

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

December – 16

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

December – 19

- G Satheesh Reddy has been conferred with prestigious National Design award.
• **Eminent** poet **Joy Goswami** will be given the **31st Moortidevi award** for the year 2017.

  December – 20

• **India currently ranks 60th** out of global innovation Index (G11) 2017 as compared to **66th rank on the G11 2016**

  December – 23

• **Mamang Dai** and **Ramesh Kuntal Megh** win **Sahitya Academi** award for their Work. The Black hill a novel and **Vishw Mithak Sarit Sagar**, a literary criticism in **English and Hindi** respectively

• **UK** has topped the **Forbes ranking of best Countries in the world for business in 2018**

• **Shree Saini** from **Washington** crowned **Miss India USA 2017**

  December – 25

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

  December – 28

• **Singer K.S. Chitra** been selected for **2017 Harivarasanam** award by the **kerala govt** for her contribution to spread spirit of **secularism, equanimity** and universal **brotherhood**

• **Anushka Sharma** has been awarded for people for **Ethical Treatment of Animals 2017, Person of the year.**

• **Mayanka Patel** and **Poonam Gaur** crowned as **Mrs. India pride of Nation 2017**

  December – 30

• **Real Madrid forward, Cristiano Ronaldo** has won the Best Player of the year accolade at the **Globe soccer Awards**
• Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company limited has been awarded the Prestigious “Golden Peacock Award for Risk Management” for the year 2017

Appointment and Resigns

December – 2

• Shri Sunil Kumar Chourasia, has been appointed as the New Director General of Ordnance Factories (DGOF)

• Surya Prakash has been appointed as the chairman of the public broadcaster Prasar Bharati for a second term

December – 4

• British Singer Song writer Ellie Goulding is appointed as global goodwill Ambassador for UN Environment, joining the fight to save the lives and habitats of people and animals by cleaning up the planet’s air and seas, fighting climate change and protecting species

• Veteran Journalist A Surya Prakash appointment the chairman of the Prasar Bharati board for a second Consecutive term till Feb 8, 2020

December – 7

• Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar will promote the government’s flagship agriculture Schemes like Soil health cards and crop insurance

• Swiggy an online food delivery Startup has appointed Vishal Bhatia as CEO

December – 8

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

December – 11

• Uma Shankar appointment as RBI Executive Director
• **Sarvesh Tiwari** appointed as **President Para sports foundation**  
  December – 12

• **Rahul Gandhi** elected unopposed as **president** of **Congress**  
  December – 13

• **Nakul Chopra** elected as the **next chairman** of **BARC India**  
  December – 14

• Former Australia batsman **Brad Hodge** has been appointed as the **head coach** of the **Indian premier league** franchise Kings XI Punjab  
  December – 16

• **International Hockey Federation (FIH) Chief Narinder Batra** was elected the President of **Indian Olympic Association** in an **Annual General Body Meeting**  
  December – 18

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

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

• **Shri Pradeep Kumar Gupta** has been appointed as the **next ambassador** of **India to the Republic of Mali**  
  December – 19

• **Apple** has named **Michel Coulomb** as the **head of sales** for its operations in **India**.  
  December – 20

• National Green Tribunal (NGT) chairperson Justice **Swatanter Kumar** today **retired** from the **post after** completing his **five – year tenure**
December – 22

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

December – 24

- Lieutenant general B.S.Sahrawat took over the reins of National Cadet Corps as its Director general.

- Shri. M. Subbarayudu presently joint secretary in the ministry of external affairs has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to Republic of Peru.

December – 28

- Paul Antony appointed as Kerala chief secretary

- Abhay appointed as Director General of Narcotics Control Bureau(NCB)

December – 29

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

December – 30

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

December – 31

- Chander Prakash and Arun Sangwan took charge as state information commissioner of Haryana in Chandigarh.

- President Ram Nath Kovind appointed Vinay Sahasrabuddhe as the president of Indian Council of cultural Relations (ICCR)

- G. Rajesham Goud former chairman of Karimnagar Zilla parishad, will head Telangana State Finance Commission as its Chairman.
• Amardeep Singh Bhatia has been appointed as Director of Serious Fraud Investigation Office

Agreements and Approvals

December – 3

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

Books

December – 2

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

December – 26

• The way I see it – a Gauri Lankesh

Economy

December – 1

• GDP growth recovers to 6.3 pct in Second Quarter of FY 18.
• The data furnished by CGA showed that India’s budgetary Fiscal deficit for first Seven months of 2017-18 stood at 96.1 percent – Rs.5.25 lakh crore of the full years target of Rs.5.46 lakh crore.
December – 3

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

December – 5

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

December – 9

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

December – 11

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

December – 12

- **Global Investment bank Nomura** has predicted **India’s economy** to register a **7.5% growth rate in 2018**

- **India** ranks **100th** on the list of **prosperous countries** among **149 countries**

- **Norway** heads the **global prosperity Index** followed by **New Zealand**

December – 14

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

December – 26

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

December – 7

- France’s biggest rock star Johnny Hallyday passes away

December – 9

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

December – 11

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

December – 14

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

December – 22

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

December – 23

- Delhi ex-LT Governor Banwari Lal Joshi Passes away

December – 26

- Bengali film icon Partha Mukhopadhyay passes away at 70.
December – 27

- Legendary SA musician Robbie Malinga passes away

December – 28

- The creator of Buys Bunny Bob givens passed away

December – 31

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

Business

December – 5

- Bharti Airtel, telecommunications service provider, has acquired a strategic in Juggernaut Books, a digital platform to discover and read high quality affordable books and to submit amateur writing

- Paytm payments Bank rolled out paytm FASTag to enable electronic toll fee collection highways across the country

December – 8

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

December – 10

- In a statement released by the central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) the provisional figures of direct tax collections up to November this year show the net collection 14.4% higher than last year
December – 12

- **Apple** announced that it has **acquired** song recognition company **Shazam.** The deal is **worth $400 million**

- The **Asian Development Bank** has announced and approved **USD 346 million** to **Karnataka** to build their **upgradation project** of highways to the state government

December – 16

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

December – 17

- In order to provide seamless movement of goods across state borders, GST Council at its **24th Meeting** decided to make **electronic permits compulsory** for inter-state movement of goods.

- **UIDAI** has temporarily suspended telecom major **Bharti Airtel** and **Airtel payments** Bank’s “**Aadhaar linked e-kyc**” services for alleged misuse of the facility.

December – 19

- **Ride-sharing platform** Ola announces that it has acquired Food Panda’s India business from Germany’s **Delivery Hero** in exchange for Ola stock.

- **Bharti Airtel** entered into a **Millicom**’s operations in **Rwanda**

December – 20

- **Bharti Airtel and Tata** in October announced they have entered into an understanding to merge **consumer mobile Businesses** of Tata Teleservices Limited and Tata Teleservices Maharashtra Limited (**TTML**) into **Bharti Airtel.**

- The **Konkan Railway** and IIT Bombay signed a **MoU** to transform **George Fernandes Institute of Tunnel Technology** in **Goa** to a world-class centre of knowledge in tunnel and underground structure technologies.
• National Association of software and services (NASSCOM) and Dalian Municipal people’s Government signed a joint investment agreement to create a platform called the Sino-Indian Digital collaboration plaza (SIDCOP) in Dalian  

December – 25  

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

December – 28  

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

December – 30  

• Coming to the rescue of ailing banks the centre has pumped in capital of 7,577 crore in various weak public sector banks  

• India has the highest level of Non-Performing Assets (NPA) among BRICS countries and is ranked fifth on a list of countries, reported by CARE Rating  

December – 31  

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

Important Day  

December – 10  

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

December – 12  

• Universal Health Coverage Day on 12th December, 2017
December – 21

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

Science and technology

December – 1

- **Google** launches **Datally App** for quick data usage in real time which help users understand, control and save on the mobile data

- The **Ministry of skill development and Implementation Entrepreneurship’s implementation arm National skill Development corporation (NSDC) and Tourism and Hospitality sector skill council (THSC) signed a **Tripartite a MoU** with **Airbnb** to provide **hospitality skills training** to hospitality Micro entrepreneurs in **India**.

December – 12

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

December – 21

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

December – 25

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

December – 15

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