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AWARDS AND HONOURS

NAME OF THE AWARD	AWARD WINNER	KEY POINTS TO NOTE
Guinness records	Moscow	“Circle of Light” festival in the Russian capital
APJ Abdul Kalam Ignite Award	RoshanSori	for suggesting an idea for software register a vote given through an electronic voting machine
International Prize in Statistics	British statistician Sir David Cox	For major achievements using statistics to advance science, technology and human welfare.
Special Award for Excellence in MSME lending	State Bank of Patiala	S A Ramesh Rangan, Managing Director State Bank of Patiala
Best in Southern region Airport	Mangaluru International Airport (MIA)	The best in Southern region and third among all the 52 airports in the country.
Guinness World Record	The Congo River	which spans ten countries in Africa
2016 Seven Star Luxury Hospitality and Lifestyle Awards	train Maharajas’ Express Train	At Marbella in Spain
Chaplin Award	Robert De Niro	By Film Society of Lincoln Center
2016 Wildlife photographer of the year	American photographer Tim Laman	For his image ‘Entwined Lives’

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Wildlife Photographer Award, 2016 (Urban Wildlife category)	NayanKhanolkar	By the BBC and Natural History Museum in London.
Lifetime Achievement award	Sunil Gavaskar	By The Sports Journalists' Association of Mumbai
National Award	Actress Parineeti Chopra	For her 2012 film 'Ishaqzaade'
Highest French Honour Chevalier de la Legion d Honneur (Knight of the Legion of Honour)	MD KiranMazumdar-Shaw	The award was conferred by French Ambassador Alexandre Ziegler on behalf of the President of the French Republic.
24rd Ekalavya award for the year 2016.	Srabani Nanda	Ace sprinter and Olympian
Nobel Economics Prize	Oliver Hart and BengtHolmstrom of Finland	British-American economist
Martin Ennals Award	IlhamTohti	Chinese scholar In 2014, he was sentenced to life in prison for "separatism"
24rd Ekalavya award for the year 2016.	Srabani Nanda	Ace sprinter and Olympian
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Champion of Champions	Jitu Rai	For pistol shooting in 2016
Ian McKellen	UK Theatre Awards	For his individual contributions to British theatre.
India Building Congress (IBC) Award for Excellence	Chandigarh International Airports Limited (CHIAL)	For integrated terminal building
Golden Foot award.	Juventus' Gianluigi Buffon	
2016 Nobel Prize in Physics	J Michael Kosterlitz David J Thouless F Duncan Haldane	To discoveries of topological phase transitions and topological phases of matter.
Jergers Future Leaders of Audiology	Vinaya Manchaiah	Conferred by the American Academy of Audiology.
Knight in the National Order of Merit	Prajna Chowta	conferred with knighthood by France
2016 Sustainable Development Leadership Award	Pawan Chamling	He is Sikkim Chief Minister
Hall of Fame	U.R. Rao	Conferred by International Astronautical Federation (IAF)
Nobel Peace Prize 2016	Juan Manuel Santos	The president of Colombia
Top Growing Brand' of 2016	Facebook	It is Social networking giant
2016 Nobel prize in Chemistry	Jean Pierre Sauvage,	For developing the world's

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	J fraser Bernard L Feringa	smallest machines, work that could revolutionize computer technology
John F. Richards Prize 2016	NayanjotLahiri	For her book Ashoka in Ancient India
2016 Google Science Fair prize	KiaraNirghin	Google Science Fair held in United States.
first prize at the Swachh Bharat Short Film Festival (SBSFF)	Murga	Directed by Maharashtra Young filmmaker KatyayanShivpuri
cleanest school	KendriyaVidyalaya in Dehradun	On the occasion of Gandhi jayanthi
EU's prestigious 2016 Sakharov Prize	Nadia Murad and LamiyaAji Bashar	The annual Sakharov prize for freedom of thought
CAM International Film Festival Award	Daughters of Mother India	. The fest was organised by Arabic Egyptian Society for Culture, Media and Arts (CMA) in cairo.
La Liga Player of the Year	Antoine Griezmann	
Man Booker prize 2016	Paul Beatty	For The Sellout

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APPOINTMENTS

NAME	DEPT/FIELD
Kersti Kaljulaid	Estonian first female head
V Kalyana Rama	CMD of Container Corporation of India Ltd (CONCOR)
Roopa Ganguly	Member of Rajya Sabha
KJ Yesudas	The brand ambassadors of “Haritha Keralam” project in Kerala
Ashish Vohra	Head of Reliance Nippon Life Insurance
Parvez Ahmed	Chairman and CEO of J&K bank
Madhur Deora	Chief financial officer of Paytm
Antonio Guterres	Next UN Secretary-General
Sushil Chandra	Chairperson of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
Riyadh Mathew	Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI).
Somesh Sharma	President of The Indian Newspaper Society (INS)
R Subramania Kumar	ED of Indian Overseas Bank
R Ravindra	Ambassador to Guinea
S C Khuntia	Chief Secretary- Karnataka
Name of the Persons	Post/Department
Luo Zhaohui	China’s new ambassador to India
Yao Ming	First “ambassador to Mars

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AbdelilahBenkirane	Morocco's Prime minister
Ajay Kumar Bhalla	Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).
Rajeev Misra	The head of Soft Bank Vision Fund
Viratkohil	Valvoline ropes brand Ambassador
SainaNehwal	Member of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Athletes' Commission.
Amandeep Singh	the next Ambassador/PR of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament, Geneva
James Parker	president of global sales, Tata Communications
NavdeepSuri	India's new envoy to UAE
Anurag Thakur	Part of powerful ICC sub-committee
GeetaPhogat	DSP in Haryana Police
S.P Yadav	Urology Society of India
RenuKhator – An Indian-American academic	Member of the US Department of Homeland Security's Academic Advisory Council.
SN Ghormade	Director General of Naval Operations
Sunil Mishra	Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) of Odisha
Japan's Morinari Watanabe	President of International Gymnastics Federation

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P. S. Raman	Commissioner of World Free Zones Organisation (World FZO)
Wonder Woman	Honorary Ambassador of UN
Kristalina Georgieva	Chief Executive Officer of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
Borje Ekholm	President and CEO Ericsson

INDIAN AFFAIRS

[IRCTC registers 32% growth in 2015-16](#)

Riding on a robust performance of all its verticals, **the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)** achieved a turnover of **Rs 1,506 crore in 2015-16** as compared to **Rs 1,141 crore in 2014-15, registering a growth of 32 per cent.** The Railways PSU's net profit was pegged at **Rs 189 crore during FY16 as against Rs 131 crore a year earlier.**

[Swachh Bharat Abhiyan completes 2 years](#)

The **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** completes two years . Launched in 2014, the mission is a national campaign by the **Government of India** to clean streets, roads, and other infrastructure of the country. On October 2, 2014, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** launched the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, a mission to clean India's cities and villages.

[Nathuram Godse's statue unveiled on Gandhi Jayanti in Meerut](#)

The first ever bust of Nathuram Godse – Mahatma Gandhi's assassin-as installed and unveiled by **the members of Akhil Bharatiya Hindu Mahasabha** at their Sharda road office in **Meerut** on the occasion of Gandhi's birthday .The statue, which had drawn controversy in December 2014, was finally erected as the members of the Hindu outfit also observed Gandhi's birthday as 'Dhikkar Divas'.

[65,250 crore black money disclosed by deadline](#)

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said that **RS 65,250 crore in black or untaxed money** has been disclosed under the Centre's **Income Declaration Scheme (IDS)**. The one-time compliance

window closed. Under the scheme, launched on June 1, those who evaded taxes were allowed to avoid punishment by paying tax, penalty and cess totalling **45% of the declared income**.

[CBI files case against ex-Canara Bank CMD](#)

CBI has registered a case against former Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Canara Bank R K Dubey for allegedly allowing deviations in sanctioning credit limits to a company during his tenure as Executive Director at Central Bank of India.

CBI sources said the complaint was received against Dubey, who **retired as CMD of Canara Bank**, from Central Bank of India alleging that he conspired with two directors—**G K Dhawan and JanakDhawan**— of a transport company **J D Transport Pvt. Ltd, Delhi** to allow deviations in sanctioning credit facilities to the tune of **Rs 13.5 crore**.

[Govt unveils Urban Development strategy for 20 years](#)

The Centre has unveiled the **Urban Development strategy** for the next 20 years to use growing urbanization for rapid economic development. Housing and urban poverty alleviation minister **M Venkaiah Naidu** released “India Habitat III—National report” ahead of the **UN Habitat III Conference** in Quito, Ecuador later this month where a global New Urban Agenda for the next 20 years is going to be adopted.

[Jharkhand 1st state to implement DBT in kerosene](#)

Jharkhand has become the first state in the country to implement the **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** in **Kerosene** in four identified districts- **Chatra, Hazaribagh, Khunti and Jantara** from October 1. Under the DBTK Scheme, PDS kerosene is being sold at non-subsidised price, and, subsidy, as admissible, is being transferred to consumers directly into their bank accounts. The initiative aims at rationalising subsidy, based on the approach to cut subsidy leakages, but not subsidy per se.

[Goa mulling a ban on open defecation](#)

Goa is likely to **ban open defecation** in the near future, Chief Minister Laxmikant Parsekar hinted. He said there are few points in Goa where toilets are yet to be set up and once it is done, open defecation would cease to exist in the state. Goa which has best natural environment and touristic destination has **ample scope to keep the land clean**. We could be the first state where open defecation could be banned. We were offering floral tributes to a statue of Mahatma Gandhi, on his birth anniversary.

[India formally ratifies Paris climate change deal](#)

India formally joined the **Paris Climate Change Agreement** by submitting its instrument India formally joined the **Paris Climate Change Agreement** by submitting its instrument of ratification at UN headquarters in New York on Sunday – the birth anniversary of Mahatma

Gandhi. of ratification at UN headquarters in New York on October 2nd- the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

[RBI issued rs.100 coins on shastri's 100th birth anniversary](#)

The **Reserve Bank of India had issued Rs.100 coins** in 2004 to mark the 100th birth anniversary of India's second Prime Minister **LalBahadurShastri**. The coin, which has a portrait of the leader, is currently not in circulation but can be ordered exclusively. Notably, Shastri shares his birthday with Mahatma Gandhi on October 2.

[PrasarBharati CEO JawharSircar resigns](#)

PrasarBharati Corporation CEO JawharSircar has submitted his resignation four months ahead of the end of his tenure, which was to draw to a **close in February 2017**. As per rules of the PrasarBharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990, the CEO has to inform the administrative authority, which is the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, as he holds the office during the pleasure of the President of India.

[Gujarat, Andhra 1st to declare urban areas Open Defecation Free](#)

Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh became the first states to declare their urban areas as **Open Defecation Free (ODF)** on the **second anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Mission**. **All 110 cities and towns in Andhra Pradesh** were given the ODF tag by Chief Minister **N Chandrababu Naidu at an event in Tirupati**, while Gujarat gave ODF status to each of its **180 cities and towns** at a function in Porbandar attended by Union Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation Narendra Singh Tomar and Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani.

[CBSE to discontinue practice of re-evaluation of answer sheets from 2017](#)

The **Central Board of Secondary Education** has decided to discontinue **the provision of re-evaluation of answer sheets from 2017**. However, some system will still be in place for redress of genuine cases. Senior CBSE officials told media persons in New Delhi that since 2014, re-evaluation of answer sheets were done in around 10 subjects for class 12 examinations.

[New Solar powered Guard Van of Goods Train flagged off](#)

The **newly manufactured Guard Van of Goods Train** (8 wheeled) has been equipped for the first time with **Solar powered Light, Fan, and Mobile Charging Point** along with the facility of Zero discharge Bio Toilet. In keeping with the country's commitment to make India a 'Swachh Bharat', the Guard's toilet has also been modified to a zero discharge bio toilet.

[Election commission of India Collaborates With facebook to register Young voters](#)

Social networking site **Facebook** is partnering with the **Election Commission of India** in five states going to polls next year to run a **voter registration drive** aimed at encouraging youth to participate in the democratic exercise.

Facebook is collaborating with the Election Commission and the office of Chiefelectoral officers in poll-bound Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Goa, Manipur and Uttarakhand for the first time in the country to run a voter registration drive.

[Union Cabinet approves MoU between India and European Union on water cooperation](#)

The Union Cabinet gave its approval for the signing of MoU between **India and European Union** in the **field of water resources**. The MoU envisages strengthening the technological, scientific and management capabilities of India and the European Union in the field of water management on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.

[Union Cabinet Approves MoU between India and AARDO](#)

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between **India and the African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) for capacity building programmes in the field of rural development**.

[Reliance Infra sells transmission business to Adani](#)

Adani Transmission is now the largest private operator of power transmission networks in the country after buying the transmission assets of **Reliance Infrastructure (R-Infra)**. The Anil Ambani-promoted R-Infra has signed a binding agreement with Adani Transmission to sell its power transmission business and use the proceeds to pare its debt.

[Tendulkar 1st sportsman to be made 'Group Captain' of IAF](#)

Indian batting legend **Sachin Tendulkar** was honoured by being made an Honorary Group Captain of the Indian Air Force at the 83rd **Indian Air Force Day** celebrations at the Hindon Air Base. The Master Blaster, now retired from international cricket, thus became the first sportsperson to be made an Honorary Group Captain in the Indian Air Force.

[Petroleum Ministe launches LPG scheme PMUY in Maharashtra](#)

Union Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched the **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) in Maharashtra** to provide free LPG connections to BPL households. The move will **benefit 91 lakh households** living below the poverty line in Maharashtra over the next three years. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis who was also present gave away free LPGconnections to 10 women from BPL families.

[India host conference on Disaster management Reduction](#)

India will host the **Asian ministerial conference for disaster risk reduction** which will focus on partnership with governments and stakeholders to imbibe the practices in the region's development narrative. This is the first AMCDRR after the advent of the **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRRR)**, adopted at the third UN World Conference in Sendai, Japan in March, 2015. It will set the direction of Sendai Framework implementation in the region.

[Bathukamma Event Enters Guinness Book of World record](#)

Telangana state festival '**Bathukamma**' entered the **Guinness Book of World Records** as 9,292 women participated in the ceremony at L.B. Stadium that was also attended by Tennis star SaniaMirza. They achieved this feat despite bad weather and as they danced around bathukamma (flower stack, arranged with different unique seasonal flowers most of them with medicinal values).

[India's First International arbitration center inaugurated by DevendraFadnavis](#)

Maharashtra chief minister DevendraFadnavis inaugurated **India's first centre for international arbitration in Mumbai**. The Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA) will initially be located at Express Towers but Fadnavis promised a bigger and exclusive facility at the **BandraKurla Complex (BKC), Mumbai's only business district**.

[Screening of oral, cervix cancer to be mandatory from November](#)

The **Government of India** has prepared operational guidelines for the screening and management of Cancer in the country. Starting from November, the Union Health Ministry has made mandatory screening of oral, cervix and breast cancer for male and female above the age of 30. The first project will start in **Agartala** in November and then the government will take it forward.

[Sikkim to promote Kanchendzonga as eco-tourism destination](#)

The **Sikkim government** has formulated plans in association with the **Indian Mountaineering Federation (IMF)** to start circumambulation tours in the periphery of Mt Kanchendzonga, located at 28,169 feet. **India's highest mountain peak Mount Kanchendzonga and Kanchendzonga National Park**, recently declared a world heritage site, will be promoted as **eco-tourism destinations for trekking, mountaineering** and other adventure activities.

[Haryana plans to construct open jails](#)

The Haryana government is considering a proposal to install telephones in all state jails specifically for the use of prisoners. The police department sent the proposal to the

state government for approval a couple of months ago. The plan is **based on a similar one in Delhi's Tihar Jail**. Under the proposed plan one or two special telephones will be installed in all 18 prisons of the state — one for calling family members and the other for lawyers.

Telangana Gets 21 New districts

The **Telangana government created 21 new districts**, taking the total number to 31 in the state. **Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao** cut a ribbon in the **new district of Siddipet**, carved out of his native Medak district, marking its creation, while Legislative Assembly Speaker, state ministers and other dignitaries attended similar events in other new districts.

Global Hunger Index 2016

India ranked 97th out of 118 countries on the International Food Policy Research Institute's (IFPRI) Global Hunger Index (GHI) in 2016, behind Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, among others, but ahead of Pakistan and three other Asian countries. **It was positioned at 80 out of 104 countries the previous year.**

Cabinet Approvals: 13 October 2016

- Union Textiles Minister to Inaugurate India International Silk Fair
- PetroFed Signs MoU with TERI To Undertake a study On Climate Change Risks
- Meeting between, Commerce and Industry Minister Mrs. NirmalaSitharaman and Mr. Marcos Pereira, Minister of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services, Brazil.
- Bilateral Meeting of the Commerce and Industries Minister, MrsNirmalaSitharamanWith Wang Shouwen, Vice Minister For Ministry of Finance and Commerce, China.
- Cabinet Approves MoU between Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) On General Cooperation With the New Development Bank (NDB), Along With Other Development Financial Institutions of BRICS Nations
- Cabinet Approves New Link between Sahibganj Bypass In Jharkhand To Manihari Bypass In Bihar Including Four Lane Bridge On River Ganga
- Cabinet Approves MoU between India and the Russian Federation On Expansion of Bilateral Trade and Economic Cooperation
- Cabinet Approves MoU between India and Hungary On Cooperation In the Field of Water Management
- Cabinet Approves Redevelopment of Residential Colonies At West Ansari Nagar and AyurVigyan Nagar Campuses of AllMS, New Delhi
- Cabinet Apprised of the MoU between India and Qatar On Cooperation In the Field of Youth and Sports

[Goa Tourism launches amphibious bus](#)

Goa tourism is set to launch its **amphibious bus service** as it has now got all the required permissions, including the crucial permission from the transport department. AmphibianTours is planning to introduce six buses for tourists over a year. It will get two more buses from the manufacturer in the next six months and the remaining two in a year's time.

[42nd Edition of IHGF-Delhi Fair to Open on October 14, 2016](#)

More than 5,000 buyers from over 110 countries including the US, UK, Japan and France are expected to attend the 42nd edition of the gifts and handicrafts fair **IHGF-Delhi Fair Autumn 2016, to be held in New Delhi from October 14-18**. Products on display will include gifts and decoratives, furniture, home furnishing, houseware, fashion jewellery & accessories, lamps and lighting, carpets and rugs, bathroom accessories, garden decoratives, educational toys etc.

[Cabinet Approves Revision of Ethanol Price For Supply To Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies](#)

The Cabinet **Committee on Economic Affairs**, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, **has approved the mechanism for revision of ethanol price for supply to Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to carry out the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme**. Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme was launched by the Government in 2003 which has been extended to the Notified 21 States and 4 Union Territories to promote the use of alternative and environment friendly fuels.

[Cabinet Approves setting up of an IIM in Jammu](#)

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved **the establishment and operationalization of an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Jammu** in a transit/ temporary campus in the Old Government College of Engineering & Technology from the academic year 2016-17. The project will involve a cost of Rs.61.90 crore in the temporary campus, for the initial four years from 2016 to 2020. The student intake in the Post-Graduate Diploma Programme (PGDP) in Management this year is 54, which will progressively go up to cumulative student strength of 120 in the fourth year.

[Arunachal Pradesh becomes 14th state where BJP is in government](#)

The BJP in **Arunachal Pradesh** officially became a part of the **People's Party of Arunachal (PPA) government** with the induction of senior **BJP MLA TamiyoTaga in the council of ministers**. Arunachal Pradesh is now the **14th state having a coalition government**. PPA government is a **constituent partner of the North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA)**.

India has 4th highest number of Millionaires in Asia-Pacific

India is home to the **fourth-largest population of high net worth individuals (HNIs) in the Asia-Pacific**, with **total wealth of \$797 billion, says a report. Asia-Pacific (APAC)** is a region consisting of the whole of Asia as well as regions bordering the Pacific Ocean, especially the small nations of East Asia. The most commonly quoted figure for membership in the high net worth club is \$1 million in liquid financial assets.

Union Govt. to adopt three pronged approach to spur internal trade

The Centre has considered a **three-pronged approach to revitalise India's retail and wholesale trade**. This includes establishing a regulatory body for national internal trade (retail and wholesale), a comprehensive domestic trade policy and a Board for Internal Trade. The **NITI Aayog and the apex traders' body — the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT)** — during meetings slated for this week and the next, according to sources privy to the development.

Haryana starts 'farm tourism' scheme

Haryana's hinterlands into tourist hot-spots, the state government started the **'Farm Tourism'** scheme, under which registered farm owners can host tourists under holiday packages. The state government has started farm tourism to attract people to villages," Haryana Tourism Minister **Rambilas Sharma**. Holiday packages will be offered to tourists at registered farms near Delhi.

TRAI propose uniform Broad cast inter-connection norms

TRAI Proposed uniform inter-connection guidelines for transmission of TV channels across all available platforms like cable .The Authority is of the view that the **common regulatory framework** for inter-connection of all types of addressable systems will ensure a level-playing field among different service providers.

Kashmiri Red Stag to be declared as 'Critically Endangered'

The magnificent **Kashmiri Red Stag or Hangul** could finally get some protection with the **IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)** all set to declare it a **'critically endangered' species**. Known for its giant antlers bearing 11 to 16 points, Hangul has been hunted over centuries and its habitat destroyed, leading to its population in the wild plunging to a mere 150.

43rd India International Knit Fair to be held in TN

The **43rd India International Knit Fair** is scheduled between October 19 and 21 at India Knit Fair Complex, Tirupur, Tamil Nadu, India. Tirupur District Collector S Jayanthi is to inaugurate the event. Exhibitors would showcase Autumn/Winter and **Mid-summer collection 2017** at

this expo. A Sakthivel, Chairman, India Knit Fair Association, said that the response from overseas buyers and buying agents has been very encouraging.

[‘Unity in Diversity’ rally organised in Agra](#)

A unique walking rally with an aim to spread the message of ‘Unity in Diversity’ was held in the iconic city of Agra. People were seen dancing to the tunes of music during the rally. The rally of ‘Unity in Diversity’ under the aegis of Sanskar Bharti was taken out by theatre artists who had come from various states to take part in it.

[Irom names her party people’s Resurgence Justice Alliance’](#)

Rights activist Irom Sharmila announced the name of her party as **People’s Resurgence Justice Alliance**. She launched the party in Imphal. She had expressed her desire to contest Manipur Assembly election next year when she broke her fast in August and had stated that she wanted to be the chief minister to further her demands.

[India can now carry out nuclear attacks from sea, land, air](#)

India has to launch nuclear weapons from air, land and water, the **Arihant**, India’s first indigenously built naval ship, was reportedly commissioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in August this year, after it was declared ready for operations in February. The ship can carry nuclear tipped ballistic missiles or Ship Submersible Ballistic Nuclear. India’s land-based Agni missiles and fighter bombers have been able to launch nuclear missiles for some years now.

[Jharkhand to introduce pension for sports persons](#)

Jharkhand government will introduce a pension scheme for those sports persons who brought laurels to the state or the country, but are still working as daily wagers. **Chief Secretary Rajbala Verma** issued the direction today to prepare sport person pension scheme for those players who had brought glory for the state or country but still working as a daily wagers.

[Food Security Act to be implemented in Kerala in 2017](#)

A pilot project to supply ration food articles at the doorstep as part of implementing the Food Security Act would be launched in Kerala on November 1. Initially, the scheme would be launched at Kollam in the next month, a release from the State Food Minister P Thilothaman.

[Modi to inaugurate 1st National Tribal Carnival](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first National Tribal Carnival in Delhi on **October 25**, which intends to promote a sense of inclusiveness amongst the tribals. Making the announcement, Union Tribal Affairs Minister Shri Jual Oram said the carnival will showcase and promote various facets of tribal culture on a large scale.

[Paris Food Festival being held in Noida](#)

The **Parsi Food Festival** is being held at the ‘**Made in India**’ restaurant at the **Radisson Blu hotel in Noida** between **October 14 and 23**. The menu for the ten-day festival includes dishes like Kid Gosht and Chapat. A cooking class on Parsi cuisine was also conducted as part of the festival. **Made in India TM (MII)**, an award-winning Indian restaurant is a reflection of culinary time. The restaurant creates a theatrical experience by exaggerating objects which are predominant in India’s centuries old history.

[PM Modi Inaugurates 3 hydro projects in Himachal Pradesh](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **three hydropower projects of 1,752 MW capacity in Himachal Pradesh**. He dedicated the 520 Megawatt generation capacity third phase of **Parbati hydro power project, 412 Megawatt Rampur project and 800 Megawatt Kol Dam power project** to the nation. While inaugurating these projects, Modi said they would change the economic horizon of Himachal Pradesh.

[Mumbai ranked 39th on Global Power City Index](#)

London has topped the **2016 Global Power City Index** for the fifth consecutive year with **Mumbai ranked 39th** on the list of the world’s leading global cities for business, innovation and culture, according to a report released . The 2016 Global Power City Index (GPCI) report, which released by the Mori Memorial Foundation’s Institute for Urban Strategies.

[NGT bars UP from spending along Ganga](#)

The **National Green Tribunal** rapped **Uttar Pradesh government** for wasting crores of rupees of public money on **Ganga rejuvenation** and restrained it from spending on any major project except maintenance work on the stretch from Haridwar to Kanpur. The State of Uttar Pradesh and its authorities will not carry out any major project of **Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)/Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP)** except maintenance of pipelines, without specific direction of the NGT.

[Haryana increases retirement age of doctors to 65 yrs](#)

Reeling under acute shortage of doctors, **the Haryana government** has decided to increase their retirement age in the state **from 58 to 65 years**. The decision was taken after a meeting between Chief Minister **Manohar Lal Khattar** and **Health Minister Anil Vij along with officials of the health department**. The state government, earlier this year, had sent a proposal to the Centre for enhancing the retirement age of doctors to 62.

[Rajasthan, Bhojpuri languages to get official status](#)

Bhojpuri and Rajasthani are given the status of **official language** by including them in the **Eighth Schedule of the Constitution**. A study has been conducted as per the direction of the

Central government and on the basis of the report of the official language commission, three languages, including Rajasthani and Bhojpuri, would be included in the Eighth schedule of the Constitution.

[International conference on voter education begins in Delhi](#)

The **Election Commission of India** will hold the first ever **International Conference on Voter Education in New Delhi**. The topic of the Conference is Voter Education for Inclusive, Informed and **Ethical Participation**. The Conference will be inaugurated by the **Chief Election Commissioner DrNasimZaidi**. The Conference will see the launch of the ambitious project of VoICE.NET a Global Knowledge Network on voter education.

[NICPR and All India Institute of Ayurveda ink MoU for cancer research](#)

The **National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR)** has signed an MoU with **All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA)**, an autonomous institute under the Ministry of AYUSH, for **collaboration in the areas of cancer prevention**, research and care by setting up a Center of Integrative Oncology at NICPR-Noida

[Ram Vilas Paswan inaugurates Consumer Mela 2016](#)

Union Minister for **Consumer Affairs Ram Vilas Paswan** inaugurated **Consumer Mela 2016** in Connaught Place at **New Delhi**. The ‘mela’ has been organised to bring consumers, companies, regulators and Department of Consumer Affairs on one platform for Consumer Awareness and possible grievance redressals and on the spot registration of grievances. ‘Nukkadnataks’ on consumer awareness and swachhta and poster making competition by school children will be also organised during the event.

[Make in Odisha Conclave: CM Patnaik to meet foreign envoys](#)

Ahead of the ‘**Make in Odisha**’ conclave scheduled to be held on November 30-December 2016, **Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** on met envoys from over 25 countries at an ‘**Ambassadors Meet**’ organised in New Delhi. Delegates from Australia, Canada, France, Russia, Taiwan, Malaysia, Norway, Spain, Italy, UAE and Saudi Arabia attended the conference. The ‘**Make in Odisha**’ conclave is being organised by the Odisha government in collaboration with the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP).

[Centre to establish KrishiVigyan Kendra in each district](#)

The central government will establish at least one **KrishiVigyan Kendra (KVK**, agriculture science centre) in each of the 646 districts in country. Of this, 100 will have special facilities for skill development, while an equal number will be converted into pulses and **oilseeds hubs**, **agriculture minister Radha Mohan Singh**.

[Air India, BSNL to tie up for Wi-Fi facility on flights](#)

State-run carrier Air **India** is in talks **with telecom operator BSNL** to install **Wi-Fi facility** on its aircraft. In this regard, it also started talks with international onboard Internet providers. Air India is interested in installing Internet on board as it operates the longest flights out of India and the facility is offered by other **airlines, Chairman AshwaniLohani**.

[Jammu & Kashmir gets its first 'pain clinic'](#)

Jammu and Kashmir government has set up its **first pain clinic to treat patients suffering from various types of pains**. The clinic was inaugurated by J&K Legislative Assembly speaker **Kavinder Gupta**. The clinic was set up **at Gandhi Government hospital in Jammu** winter capital city and is also first-such clinic in northern India in health service department.

[Navi Mumbai stadium confirmed as U-17 FIFA WC venue](#)

Football's world governing body FIFA ratified **Navi Mumbai as a venue for the Under-17 World Cup to be held in India next year**. FIFA and Local Organising Committee (LOC) has decided the D Y Patil Sports stadium as one of the venues for the first ever FIFA under 17 World Cup in India.

[Vadorara gets India's First Eco friendly Airport](#)

India's **second eco-friendly airport** in **Vadodara** is all set to open its doors to passengers. Located on the city's outskirts, the new terminal is equipped with facilities of **international standard**. The facility has also been rated by Green Ratings of International Habitat Assessment, the highest national rating for green buildings conceived by The **Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**.

[Lodha panel to appoint independent auditor for BCCI: SC](#)

The **Lodha Committee** to appoint an **independent auditor to scrutinise the grant of contracts by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), the world's richest cricket body**. These reforms were made binding on the BCCI in a Supreme Court order on July 18 this year. **Both BCCI president Anurag Thakur and Secretary Ajay Shirke** will have to be present before the Lodha panel by December 3.

[35k cr petrochemical complex to be set up in Andhra](#)

Petro-chemical complex would be set up in **Andhra Pradesh** with an investment of **Rs 35,000 crore** during this financial year, **Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas DharmendraPradhan** addressing a public meeting at Vangali near after Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu laid the foundation stone for **Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy (IIPe)**.

[Regional air connectivity scheme launched](#)

The Government kick-started **the regional air connectivity scheme** by inviting submission of initial proposals from operators to fly to airports which do not have **regular flights** now. Operators have a six week window (till December 2) to submit their initial proposals. The Government will take two to three days to scrutinise the proposals and the entire process is likely to take 10 weeks to complete.

[Indore to get RS.50 crore Information Technology park](#)

In a bid to make the city an infotech hub on the lines of Bengaluru, Madhya Pradesh minister RajendraShukla laid the foundation stone for Rs.50-crore IT park here. The park, spread **over 2 lakh square feet**, will be built **at a cost of Rs.50 crore**. The foundation stone was laid on the eve of Global Investors Summit (GIS) in the city. A deadline of 18 months has been set to commission the new IT park.

[Andhra declares 245 mandals in 7 districts as drought-hit](#)

Andhra Pradesh Government declared **245 mandals** in seven **districts of the state as drought-affected during the Kharif agricultural season because of deficient rainfall during the southwest monsoon period**. As against the normal 556 mm, the state received 533.8 mm of rainfall between June 1 and September 2016.

[Bihar to start new public feedback programme](#)

Having discontinued “JanataDarbar”, the Bihar government is set to introduce a **“LokSamvad” programme** in an effort to get public feedback and suggestions to help improve its different programmes. The Bihar Cabinet gave its nod to **“LokSamvad”** under the Cabinet Secretariat department. It is set to start from December.

[Union Government inks loan pact with World Bank for Eastern Freight Corridor](#)

The government signed an agreement for a **\$650 million loan from the World Bank** towards **the third tranche for construction of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) designed for faster movement of goods between northern and eastern parts of India**. The project will benefit industries of northern and eastern India, which rely on railway network for transportation of material inputs.

[IIL develops CYSVAX, world's first vaccine to fight against tapeworms in pig](#)

Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) has unveiled a vaccine to fight against tapeworms in pigs. CYSVAX, the vaccine, is the world's first such, the Hyderabad-headquartered wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Dairy Development Board. The recombinant porcine (Pigs) Cysticercosis vaccine developed by IIL also has the potential to significantly reduce

the incidence of epilepsy in humans. Cysticercosis is a parasitic disease caused by ingesting the eggs of the pork tapeworm, Taeniasolium.

Rajasthan to launch India's 1st indigenous olive oil brand

After eight years of harnessing olive saplings brought from Israel, Rajasthan is all set to launch next month its own **brand olive oil**, which it claims, **will be the country's first indigenously-produced brand**. The state will be launching its olive oil under the brand 'Raj Olive Oil' at the Global Rajasthan Agri-tech Meet (GRAM).

UDAN takes off: Government invites airlines to kickstart regional flights

The Government kick-started the regional air connectivity (RCS) scheme by inviting initial proposals from operators to fly to airports which do not have regular flights. Operators have a six-week window (till December 2) to submit their initial proposals. The Government will take two-three days to scrutinise the proposals and the entire process is likely to take 10 weeks to complete.

Delhi government forms panel for report on solid waste management

The Delhi government formed a three-member committee which will submit a report on solid waste management by November 10. The decision to form the committee, which will be headed by Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain, was taken today at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister ArvindKejriwal at his official residence.

Govt to invest Rs1 lakh crore to boost road, inland water transport in Assam

Road and inland water communication in Assam is set to improve in the wake of the Centre deciding to invest nearly **Rs.1 lakh crore** to improve connectivity. Union Minister for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping **NitinGadkari** announced this while discussing several issues related to improvement of transport communication with Chief Minister **SarbanandaSonowal** in New Delhi.

CABE meeting to be held in New Delhi

The **Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE)**, which is considered the most important educational advisory body of the government, will meet in **New Delhi** on 25th October 2016, where Human Resource Development Minister PrakashJavadekar and education ministers of the states will be present. The CABE meeting is especially important as it comes at a time when the government is working on a New Education Policy.

India ranked among top 100 generous countries

India is becoming **more generous with larger number of people** stepping up to support others in tough times, according the **World Giving Index of global generosity**. India has re-entered the

list of top 100 most generous countries, by occupying the **91st rank** as opposed to the earlier 106th. Myanmar was the most generous country on Earth for the third year running.

[Arun Jaitley Launches SMS Alert Service](#)

Finance Minister **Arun Jaitley** on launched the **SMS alert service** for Tax Deducted at Source (**TDS**) for salaried class and the **CBDT** will soon offer this facility on a monthly basis. Jaitley said salaried class cannot afford to pay tax twice or indulge in litigations and hence they should be kept updated about their TDS deductions.

[Haryana government to observe next year as GaribKalyanVarsh](#)

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said that the state government has decided to observe 2017 as the “**GaribKalyanVarsh**“, with a host of schemes to be rolled out next year for the poor. The state government would come out with a number of **schemes for the welfare of the poor sections** of the society. He said emphasis would also be laid on generating maximum employment opportunities for the youth.

[Government launches Biotech-KISAN scheme to empower farmers, especially women](#)

The government announced the launch of two new programmes — **Biotech-KISAN** and **Cattle Genomics**. The programme is to form a network to farmers directly with the scientists and experts. The Prime Minister has emphasised that it is important for scientists to work on the problems being faced by our farmers. Biotech-KISAN is a new programme that empowers farmers, especially women farmers.

[India ranks 130th in World Bank's ease of doing business Index](#)

World Bank's **ease of doing business index**, **India** has managed to move up by only a single rank in the latest Doing Business Report 2017 by the bank. The country remains at the **130th position globally**, it was revealed. This is the same as last year, but qualifies for a single upward movement in rank as India's position in 2016 has been revised to 131 by the World Bank.

[World leaders' personal chefs meet in Delhi](#)

The personal chefs of world leaders are meeting in Delhi as part of the 40th Club des Chefs des Chefs, and are being hosted by President Pranab Mukherjee's personal chef, Montu Saini. The chefs, including that of US President Barack Obama, have visited a spice market and met Mukherjee. They will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and visit Chandni Chowk.

[Shooter Abhinav Bindra invests in tea startup Kettlery](#)

Ahmedabad-based specialty tea startup The Kettlery has raised seed funding from shooter and investor Abhinav Bindra's fund Shooting Star Sports LLP and Franchise India Brands. CPK

Food and Beverages Pvt. Ltd, which runs The Kettlery, received \$1 million (Rs 6.71 crore) in the seed round, SandeepKotecha, founder, The Kettlery.

All educational certificates to be digitized

A **national academic depository** (NAD) on the lines of a securities depository is set to come up in the next three months to **digitally store school learning certificates, degrees and other academic awards of institutions of higher education**. The depository would be established and operationalized within the next three months and would be rolled out throughout the country in 2017-18, the Union Cabinet decided.

IIID to conduct Design Yatra in Kozhikode

Aiming to spread awareness and take designs to the masses, India's first '**Design Yatra**', launched by the **Institute of Indian Interior Designer (IIID)**, will be in the city for three days from October 28. Launched on February 20 this year, the yatra will travel to 29 cities across the country by February 2017, covering 15,000 kms in three cars.

Odisha to set up early warning towers for cyclones

For timely dissemination of **cyclone and Tsunami alerts** among **coastal people**, the state government announced to set up 122 alert siren towers under the early warning dissemination system. Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** announced it here while dedicating 100 more multipurpose cyclone and flood shelters in 17 districts through videoconferencing from the state secretariat.

OdishaGovt to announce new tourism policy

Odisha Government is all set to unveil a **new tourism policy** soon with a focus on developing infrastructure and promoting hotel industry by providing incentives. "The draft is almost completed and the new policy will be declared after it is approved by the cabinet.

India, Russia agree to double the range of BrahMos Missile

India and Russia have approved the proposal to double the range of the **BrahMos**, world's first supersonic cruise missile at the **16th Russia-India intergovernmental commission** on military cooperation meeting. The 2.5 metric ton **Brahmos air-to-ground missile** will be fired from an **IAF (Indian Air Force) Sukhoi-30 MKI** fighter aircraft that has undergone modifications to accommodate the new weapon.

Union Government reconstitutes Inter-State Council

The Union Government has reconstituted the **Inter State Council (ISC) and the Standing Committee of the ISC** under Clause 2 of the Inter State Council order, 1990. The Inter-State

Council is a constitutional body to facilitate coordination between states and the center. It will be headed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Union Government recognizes Boxing Federation of India as National Sports Federation for Boxing

The Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has recognized **Boxing Federation of India (BFI)** as the National Sports Federation (NSF) for Boxing. This decision will give massive fillip to the recently-formed BFI and also give a boost to the sport of boxing which had suffered due to absence of an NSF in the discipline since 2012.

Railway Minister launches a new train service between AnandVihar to Ballia in Uttar Pradesh

Railways launched a new weekly **superfast train** services between **Ballia and AnandVihar** in **Uttar Pradesh** for the view of the growing demand of the passengers from the region, ahead of Diwali. Prabhu flagged off the train through video-conferencing in the presence of **Minister of State for Railways ManojSinha** and senior railway officials.

Himachal Pradesh becomes India's second open defecation free state

Himachal Pradesh was declared '**Open Defecation Free**' (ODF), the **country's second state**, after **Sikkim** to get this status under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's '**Swachh Bharat Mission**' to have toilet for every individual household. Among bigger states, however, Himachal Pradesh will be the first state to become ODF.

India 3rd in terror, insurgency related deaths

India ranks third among world nations most inflicted with terrorism and insurgency related deaths, after the areas ridden with violence by ISIS and Nigeria's Boko Haram, the Supreme Court. Making this submission, the Chhattisgarh government also claimed in the apex court that more people were being killed in this Naxal-affected state than terror-hit Jammu and Kashmir and the involvement of extreme left-wing activists in the area was adding fuel to the fire.

Odisha sets up committee to implement 7th Pay Commission

Odisha government said it has set up a fitment committee for implementation of **7th Pay Commission recommendations** for its employees and pensioners. The 7th Pay Commission headed by Justice A K Mathur had recommended a 23.55 per cent overall hike in pay, allowances and pensions for central government employees with effect from January 1 this year.

India Ranks Poorly In Commonwealth Youth Index

India has ranked very poorly at 133 in a new **Global Youth Development Index** compiled by the Commonwealth Secretariat on the countries' prospects for young people in employment,

education, health, civic and political spheres. India ranked **133rd in the index covering 183 nations**, below neighbouring countries like Nepal (77), Bhutan (69) and Sri Lanka (31) and trailing behind the South Asian average.

[Bullet train corridor construction to begin in 2017](#)

Moving swiftly to ensure faster train travel, Indian Railways is all set to begin construction work on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed corridor next year. Railway board member (traffic) Mohammed Jamshed said that the work for this bullet train corridor will start by next year. The Mumbai to Ahmedabad high-speed corridor will be built with the assistance of Japan. The corridor will be based on the Japanese Shinkansen high-speed technology.

[OCARE launches India's first dental insurance product](#)

Mumbai-based independent **Insurance Process as a Service (IPAAS)** platform, **OCARE** has launched the first ever dental insurance product in the country. A group insurance product aims to make dental treatments accessible, affordable and achievable for the end-users. With its nationwide effort, OCARE will offer group dental insurance to villages through gram panchayats of the country.

[HPE ties up with Intel to launch Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru](#)

Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) India joined hands with Intel to **launch a Centre of Excellence (CoE)** that would help demonstrate High Performance Computing (HPC) as a service for customers. The centre will also enable research institutions and academia to test their applications on the latest HPC platform innovations, enabled by Intel technologies, and accelerates HPC adoption in India.

[Jaipur Literature Festival to be held between January 19- 23](#)

Hailed as a confluence of ideas, thoughts and literature, **the Jaipur Literature Festival** has announced the dates for its upcoming edition. To be held **from January 19 to 23, 2017 this will be the festival's 10th edition.** Having hosted a string of illustrious public figures like Margaret Atwood, Mohammed Hanif, Oprah Winfrey, Orhan Pamuk, Pico Iyer, Salman Rushdie, Stephen Fry, Thomas Piketty, Vikram Seth among many others, this year's edition promises to be nothing different.

[Bengaluru, Delhi get ATMs that dispense gold coins](#)

A unique automatic telling machine (ATM) has grabbed the attention of people in **Bengaluru**, as instead of dispensing money, it accepts money from users and dispenses gold coins in exchange. This one of its kind experiment has been initiated **by online jewellery company Blue Stone** on the occasion of Diwali. The mechanism behind its usage is quite simple and a frequent ATM user can operate it without any hassle.

Portals of Gangotri shrine in Uttarakhand closed

Amid chanting of Vedic hymns, the sacred portals of the famous Gangotri shrine in Garhwal Himalayas in Uttarakhand have been closed today in view of the onset of winter. Devotees and locals thronged in large number to witness the annual event. The head priest of the shrine locked its doors at 12.30 pm in the presence of religious heads and administrative officials.

Maharashtra government organizes “Run for Unity” on 'RashtriyaEktaDiwas'

On the occasion of RashtriyaEktaDiwas, that is the Birth Anniversary of SardarVallabhbai Patel, Maharashtra Government today organized “Run for Unity” a special event in Mumbai. The Governor of Maharashtra CH VidyasagarRao flagged off the ‘Run. The birth anniversary of Sardar Patel, Independent India’s first Home Minister, is celebrated as ‘RashtriyaEktaDiwas’.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan: Govt, organisations making efforts to clean Ganga

Inspired by Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, the Government and voluntary organisations along with a number of people are making wholehearted efforts to make river Ganga clean and ensure its continuous flow in Uttarakhand. Swami ChidanandSaraswati of ParmathNiketan in Rishikesh stressed on the need to create awareness and develop green corridor along with green crematoriums on the river banks.

BANKING AND FINANCE

SBI becomes 1st domestic bank to open branch in Myanmar

The State Bank of India announced its entry into Myanmar by opening a branch in the capital city of Yangon, becoming the first domestic lender to do so. The Yangon branch is the 54th foreign branch of the nation’s largest lender, chairperson Arundhati Bhattacharya, who opened the office. This branch extends the global presence of SBI in 37 countries through 198 offices.

India’s GDP growth to remain 7.6% in 2016: World Bank

Ahead of the **Reserve Bank of India’s first monetary policy review**, the **World Bank** has said India’s GDP growth will remain robust at **7.6 per cent in 2016 and 7.7 per cent in 2017**. According to the World Bank, Indian economic growth remained robust, which is expected to support continued poverty reduction, as in the past. The main challenges remain domestic, and include policy uncertainty as well as fiscal and financial vulnerabilities.

Repo rate cut by 25 basis points to six-year low

In the first monetary policy review under **RBI Governor Urjit Patel**, the interest rate has been cut by 0.25 per cent to six-year low of 6.25 per cent in a unanimous decision by the new rate-

setting panel **Monetary Policy Committee**. The 6-member Monetary Policy Committee, headed by Patel, reduced repo rate or the short term rate at which central bank lends to banks, to 6.25 per cent.

Finance Ministry to set up public debt management cell

The Finance Ministry has set up a **Public Debt Management Cell (PDMC)** with a view to streamline government borrowings and **better cash management** with the overall objective of deepening bond markets.

- PDMC has been tasked to **plan government borrowings, including market borrowings and other borrowings, like Sovereign Gold Bond issuance.**
- Other function of the PDMC is to manage government's liabilities, monitor cash balances, improve cash forecasting, and foster a liquid and efficient market for government securities.

Standard Chartered Bank forms tie-up with Uber

Foreign lender **Standard Chartered Bank** announced a **tie-up with Uber** under which its credit cardholders, across six countries, will get a cash-back of up to **25 per cent for hailing cabs from the app**. In India, the cardholders will get a 20 per cent cash-back on all Uber rides, subject to cash—back cap of Rs. 600 per month. Additionally, first-time Uber users will get a discount of ₹ 50 for the first three rides.

Bank deposits to touch rs.100 lakh crore for the 1st time

Indian banks are staring at a deposit erosion of **Rs 1.5-2 lakh crore** between September and November as **Foreign currency non-resident deposits (FCNR)** mobilized in 2013 mature around that time. This could result in an acute liquidity shortage and a possible de-growth of balance sheets. At the deposit growth rate now, banks mobilize roughly Rs2.4 lakh crore of deposits in three months.

HSBC to wind up P-notes operations in India

HSBC is planning to wind up **participatory notes (P-notes)** operations in India, as tightening of regulatory framework has made the business unviable. P-notes' attractiveness has been on the wane following tightening of the regulations and the recent double tax avoidance agreement (DTAA) with Mauritius.

NABARD sanctions RS.19k cr loans for 50 irrigation projects

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) said it has sanctioned **Rs 19,702 crore loan to National Water Development Agency (NWDA) for 50 irrigation projects**. The loan is sanctioned under long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF), announced by Finance Minister ArunJaitley during the Budget 2016-17. This would help

create additional irrigation potential of 39.14 lakh hectares under these projects in 11 states, Nabard said in a statement.

CRISIL downgrades UCO Bank's tier-II bond rating

CRISIL has downgraded rating for **UCO Bank's** tier-II bonds from "AA-" to "A+" on significantly higher-than-expected deterioration in asset quality, which impacted the bank's profitability for quarter ended June. The bank's asset quality will continue to remain under pressure over the next few quarters, **CRISIL**.

SBI cuts lending rates by 0.15%, ICICI by 0.10%

Top two lenders in the country, State Bank of India (SBI) and ICICI Bank, announced a cut of 0.15% and 0.10% in their lending rates, respectively, under a new system of computation, signaling a further dip in borrowing costs ahead of the busy season. Private sector lender ICICI Bank was the first to announce a cut of 0.10% in its marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) across tenors, which was followed by a similar move by the country's largest lender SBI, but of a larger measure of 0.15%.

MMTC ties up with banks to sell Indian Gold Coin

Public sector major MMTC has joined hands with HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and Andhra Bank to retail gold coins with a new buyback option. Besides its own outlets across the country, MMTC has tied up with Indian Overseas Bank, Vijaya Bank, Federal Bank and YES Bank to sell gold coins in denominations of 5 gm and 10 gm coin and 20 gm bar.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

European Parliament ratifies Paris climate deal

The **European Parliament** has overwhelmingly backed the ratification of the **Paris climate deal**, in a vote attended by **UN chief Ban Ki-moon** that paves the way for the landmark pact to come into force globally. The vote of 610 for, 38 against and 31 abstentions puts the **European Union** on track to hand over its ratification to the United Nations, which would then tip the international community above the threshold needed for implementation.

Russia suspends plutonium disposal deal with US

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a decree to **suspend an agreement** with the United States on the disposing of **weapons-grade plutonium**, a further sign of worsening ties between the former Cold War foes. The deal, which was signed in 2000 and went into force under a 2010 agreement, is being suspended due to "the emergence of a threat to strategic stability and as a result of unfriendly actions by the United States of America towards the Russian Federation.

[Palmyra temple destroyed by ISIS recreated in Rome](#)

A UNESCO-sponsored exhibition featuring the replicas of ancient works from Iraq and Syria that were destroyed by the Islamic State was launched in Rome. It features a reconstruction of the Temple of Bel at Palmyra, a room of the State Archives of Ebla and the winged bull of Nimrud. The works were reconstructed using robots and 3D printers. The project was overseen by archaeologists and art historians.

[UN ratifies 1st ever pact to curb aircraft emissions](#)

The United Nations has ratified an agreement to curb the **aircraft emissions**, the first such pact to set worldwide limits on a single industry. **The pact, adopted by 191 nations, sets the countries' airline emission in 2020 as their 'allowed discharge' limit.** Airlines which will emit in excess will have to buy carbon credits to compensate for the discharge.

[Ethiopia declares emergency over anti-government protests](#)

The unrest has cast a shadow over **Ethiopia**, whose state-led industrial drive has created one of **Africa's fastest growing economies** but whose government also faces criticism at home and abroad over its authoritarian approach to development. Ethiopia declared a state of emergency after more than a year of unrest in its Oromiya and Amhara regions, near the capital Addis Ababa, where protesters say the government has trampled on land and other political rights.

[Amity University to open 1st US branch in 2017](#)

One of India's largest colleges, **Amity University**, is expanding into the **US with the purchase of one campus in New York** and a proposal to buy two more, drawing opposition from state officials in Massachusetts about the quality of the education. Amity paid \$22 million last month to buy a Long Island branch of St. John's University in New York City, which was selling the campus and shifting to a smaller site on Long Island.

[World Economic Forum to set up tech-focused hub](#)

World Economic Forum is establishing a new center in **San Francisco** to connect tech companies and policymakers in the heart of the **world's technology industry**. The World Economic Forum, which organises the annual Davos meeting of international leaders, has opened an office in San Francisco to focus on policy and regulatory issues surrounding new technologies such as artificial intelligence, drones, digital currencies and the Internet of Things.

[China, Russia to hold joint anti-missile drills](#)

China and Russia will hold their second **joint anti-missile drills** next year, Chinese state media after **South Korea and the United States angered the two countries with plans to deploy a U.S. anti-missile system in South Korea.** The Chinese and Russian militaries held their first such

exercises in May as Washington and Seoul were in discussions over installing the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system to protect against any North Korean threats.

[Philippines planning to ban smoking](#)

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte is set to sign a regulation this month **banning smoking** in public across Southeast Asia's second-most populous country, rolling out among the toughest anti-tobacco laws in the region. Public health campaigners who have long battled against the **country's hefty tobacco lobby** welcomed the push to end smoking in public places.

[Russia backs permanent deployment of air force in Syria](#)

Russia's upper house of the parliament has approved an agreement with the **Damascus government** that allows the **Russian Air Force to stay indefinitely in Syria**. A total of 158 of 170 senators at the Federation Council voted in favor of the deal, which was unanimously passed last week by the State Duma, the lower house of the Russian legislature, with all 446 deputies present at the session supporting the accord.

[Tuberculosis claimed 3 lives per minute in 2015: WHO](#)

Tuberculosis is killing more people than thought, yet governments are not doing enough to bring the debilitating infectious disease under control, the **World Health Organisation** has said. The latest WHO figures show TB has been taking a much greater toll in **India** than previously believed. The disease claims the lives of 1.8 million people worldwide each year, not the 1.5 million it was previously thought.

[Philippines invite UN to probe Drug related killings](#)

The Philippines has sent an invitation to **United Nations rapporteur Agnes Callamard to probe the increasing number of drug-related killings in the country**. Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea said the palace has sent the invitation to Callamard and is awaiting her response. The Philippine government is urging Callamard to also look into the killings of law enforcers, who were also killed in the campaign **to eradicate illicit drugs**.

[Jubilant gets USFDA nod for urinary incontinence drug](#)

Jubilant Life Sciences has received the final approval from the US health regulator for Darifenacin Extended-Release Tablets, used for the treatment of urinary incontinence condition. The company has "received Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) final approval for Darifenacin Extended-Release Tablets, 7.5 mg and 15 mg, the generic version of Enablex of Allergan Plc, which is used for the treatment of urinary incontinence.

[197 nations agree to phase out super greenhouse gases](#)

In a historic step towards realizing the **Paris Agreement on climate change**, nearly **200 nations unanimously decided global phase out of super greenhouse gases**, replacing them with climate-friendly alternatives. The heat-trapping organic compounds –**HFCs (hydro fluoro carbons)** are the super greenhouse gases used in refrigeration and air-conditioning world over.

[Israel freezes ties with UNESCO](#)

Israel has suspended ties with **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)**, after a draft decision that Israel says ignores Judaism's ties to the religion's holiest site. The draft decision notes the importance of Jerusalem to all three monotheistic religions, Christianity, Judaism and Islam, but makes no mention of why the city is significant to Christians or Jews.

[China to sign \\$24b loans to Bangladesh](#)

China is set to loans worth more than \$24 billion to Bangladesh during President Xi Jinping's state visit on 14 October 2016. President Xi's visit, described by Chinese media as a "milestone," will mark the first visit by any Chinese head of state to Bangladesh in three decades.

[US navy commissions "Batman" stealth warship](#)

The **US Navy** has commissioned its largest, most expensive and technologically advanced destroyer, The **USS Zumwalt**. The Zumwalt, costing nearly **USD 4.4 billion**, is striking in appearance, with sharp angles and weaponry concealed behind flat surfaces, a design that makes it many times more difficult to spot on radar than conventional destroyers.

[12,000 people flee as typhoon this Philippines](#)

Typhoon Sarika smashed into the main **Philippine island of Luzon**, ripping off roofs, toppling power lines and forcing more than **12,000 people to flee to safer ground**. Minor landslides and flooding were also reported a day after the cyclone brushed past a remote island and left one person drowned and three others missing. Minor landslides were also reported as well as floods.

[China launches its longest manned space mission](#)

China launched its longest manned space mission, sending two astronauts into orbit to spend a month aboard a space laboratory that is part of a broader plan to have a permanent manned space station in service around 2022.

Chinese astronauts Jing Haipeng, 50, and Chen Dong, 37, were blasted off into space by Shenzhou-11 (heavenly vessel) spacecraft from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre near the Gobi Desert in northern China.

The Shenzhou-11 was put into orbit by a Long March-2F carrier rocket.

[Finland is the safest country in the world: WEF](#)

Finland is the **safest country** on The Earth, According to Global Travel and Terrorism Report by the World Economic Forum (WEF). **India** meanwhile comes down at the **11th most unsafe countries** in the world. Qatar and the United Arab Emirates follow Finland in the ranking. Their high position is bound to surprise some, given their location in the troubled Middle East. Iceland and Austria complete the top five.

[Vodafone partners with Hi-Web to enter Iranian market](#)

Vodafone has agreed a **partnership with Iranian internet firm HiWeb** to help **modernise its network**, the companies said on Tuesday, making the British company the latest Western firm to enter Iran after sanctions were lifted. Vodafone, the world's second-largest mobile phone company, said the agreement to help modernise HiWEB's network and IT infrastructure would also benefit its multinational corporate clients when they travel to Iran.

[Burundi first nation to quit war crimes court](#)

Burundi is set to become the first nation to withdraw from the International Criminal Court in a move that underlines the depth of the crisis in the country and comes amid widespread antipathy in Africa towards the court. President Pierre Nkurunziza, who critics accuse of human rights abuses, signed a decree that paves the way for his east African nation's departure from the court.

[Beijing to have world's biggest air purifier to fight smog](#)

China will deploy **world's largest outdoor air purifier** designed by a Dutch engineer in its **smog-hit capital Beijing**, as the thick **heavily-polluted haze** returned to haunt the city, driving people indoors. The seven-meter-tall tower, brainchild of Dutch designer Daan Roosegaarde, is undergoing last-minute checks in Beijing's 751 D Park art area.

[Power Grid's board approves investments of ₹1k crore](#)

Power Grid Corp has said its board had approved proposals to invest Rs.1,184.45 crore in power transmission projects across India. The company's board of directors, in its on Saturday, approved three investment proposals. The board approved the proposal "Augmentation of Transformation Capacity in Southern Region" at an estimated Rs.167.75 crore, with commissioning schedule of 30 months from the date of approval.

Chinese researchers develop algorithms for smart energy grid

Researchers at China's Northeastern University have proposed an **algorithm to construct an energy grid** that distributes power similar to data flow on the internet. The proposed 'energy internet' would use a main power grid combined with decentralized generators, including fuel, wind turbines and solar power, to distribute energy to multiple micro grids within each designated network.

1st ever international trade using blockchain tech made

The first cross-border transaction between banks using multiple **blockchain** applications has taken place, Commonwealth Bank of Australia and Wells Fargo & Co said, resulting in a shipment of cotton to China from the United States. The blockchain trade, for 88 bales, summed \$35,000, Commonwealth Bank.

Pakistan ranked second worst country in gender gap index

World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap Report 2016 reports that Pakistan ranks 143 out of 144 countries in the gender inequality index, standing way behind **Bangladesh and India who rank 72nd and 87th** respectively. For the second consecutive year, Pakistan has been ranked the second-worst country in the world for gender inequality.

India abstains from voting on nuclear arms ban at UN

A **UN General Assembly** committee has adopted a **resolution to launch negotiations** next year on a **new treaty outlawing nuclear weapons**, even as **India abstained** saying it is not convinced the move can lead to a comprehensive instrument on nuclear disarmament. The General Assembly's First Committee, which deals with disarmament and international security, adopted the draft resolution on nuclear disarmament negotiations.

First case of Zika virus reported in Myanmar

The first case of the **mosquito-borne virus** in the Southeast Asian country, state-owned **Myanmar**, a pregnant foreign woman in Myanmar's largest city Yangon has been **diagnosed with Zika**. The **World Health Organisation (WHO)** warned earlier this month that **Zika** was likely to spread throughout Asia after being detected in 70 countries, including at least 19 in the **Asia Pacific region**.

World's largest marine park created in Antarctica

A **landmark international agreement to create the world's largest marine park in the Southern Ocean** has been brokered in Australia, after five years of compromises and failed negotiations. More than 1.5m sq km of the Ross Sea around Antarctica will be protected under the deal brokered between 24 countries and the European Union.

[Gambia withdraws from ICC over 'humiliation' of Africans](#)

Gambia has announced its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court, accusing the Hague-based tribunal of “persecution and humiliation of people of colour, especially Africans”. Announcement comes after similar decisions earlier this month by South Africa and Burundi to abandon the institution, set up to try the world’s worst crimes.

[EU, Canada sign landmark CETA deal](#)

European Union, EU and Canada have signed a landmark trade deal. The deal was signed by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and top European Union officials in Brussels.

Prime Minister Robert Fico of Slovakia, which currently holds the EU Presidency, said, the final approval of the deal is a milestone in the European Union's trade policy. The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, known as CETA, required all European Union member states to endorse it. All 28 European Union states approved the deal when consensus was reached.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

[PM Modi wishes China on their National Day](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of China as the country celebrated its 67th National Day on today. Highlighting the strategic relationship between the two Asian superpowers, PM Modi said that close cooperation between India and China has the potential to shape a “peaceful and stable future for Asia”.

[India, Singapore sign three agreements](#)

India and Singapore have signed three agreements, including two in the area of skill development, following delegation-level talks headed by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** and Singapore Premier **Lee HsienLoong**, who is on visit to Delhi. One memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Singapore’s Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Education Services (ITEES) and India’s National Skill Development Corporation on collaboration in technical and vocational education and training.

[The 6th BRICS Science & Technology Senior Official Meeting \(SOM\) was organized at Jaipur.](#)

India will host the **8th BRICS Summit, in Goa on 15-16 October 2016 during its Chairmanship of BRICS**, which it assumed on 15 February 2016.). The meeting was chaired by the Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr. Harsh Vardhan. As the precursor the same, the 4th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Ministerial Meeting was convened on 8 October, 2016 at Jaipur.

[India 12th top foreign holder of US government bonds](#)

India is the **12th largest foreign holder of the US government securities** with exposure to the tune of \$ 118.9 billion as of March-end. Despite reducing its exposure to \$ 1.245 trillion, **China remained the top holder** of these securities in March, as per the latest data released by the US Treasury Department. China owned bonds valued at \$ 1.252 trillion in February. China is followed by Japan with securities to the tune of \$ 1.137 trillion.

[India, Russia Sign units at Kudankulam](#)

India and Russia for setting up **units 5 and 6** of the **Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KNPP)** are at an advanced stage and a general framework agreement could be announced after talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of BRICS Summit in Goa.

[India, Germany to collaborate for rail projects worth Rs.1 lakh crore](#)

India would collaborate with **Germany** on projects for improving rail connectivity of Indian ports. The two countries will work together on projects worth Rs 1 lakh crore being implemented by **the Indian Port Rail Corporation Ltd.** Gadhari on met with his German counterpart and Infrastructure Minister Alexander Dobrindt and his delegation.

[India, Algeria mull fertilizer Joint venture](#)

India to initiate a joint venture arrangement with Algeria for a multi-billion dollar fertilizer plant located in the North African country seemed to have moved to the front burner following a meeting between Algerian Minister for Industry and Mining and the Indian Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh L. Mandavia.

[India to lease 2nd Akula-class nuclear sub from Russia](#)

Russia has agreed to lease a second **nuclear submarine to India** in a deal which will cost **around USD 2 billion**. The deal was struck during the meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin on October 15 on the sidelines of the **BRICS meet in Goa**. However, it was not part of the slew of announcements made after the talks.

[India, Myanmar up coordination on border security](#)

India and Myanmar agreed to **coordinate with each other on border security** as Prime Minister Narendra Modi reaffirmed New Delhi's commitment to help develop Myanmar. India shares a 1,600-km border with Myanmar. Security has been an issue with insurgent groups from the northeast taking refuge in Myanmar territory.

[India, china hold joint military exercise in ladakh](#)

Indian and Chinese armies conducted a day-long **exercise focused on humanitarian aid and relief**, where a fictitious situation of an earthquake was emulated. The statement called it a part of “ongoing initiative to enhance interaction and cooperation between India and China”, and added that it increased “trust and cooperation between the two border guarding forces along the **LAC in Eastern Ladakh**”.

[Exhibition showcasing Indians' history launched in Singapore](#)

An exhibition on 200-year-old history of Indians showcasing early days of cattle traders, laundry men and brick-makers has been launched in Singapore. Trade and industry minister S Iswaran launched the exhibition at the Indian Heritage Centre (IHC) in the “Little India” precinct. The exhibition has over 100 new artefacts including items belonging to the Hindu temples and mosques in Little India as well as old photographs dating back as far as the 1890s.

[Taiwan makes visa formalities easier for Indians](#)

Taiwan has announced a simplified group visa policy to encourage tourist groups from Southeast Asian countries, including India and Indonesia, to visit the nation. The group visa is free of cost for five or more people and is aimed at promoting Taiwan as a destination for exhibitions and conferences. Taiwan is also being promoted as a locale for shooting movies.

[Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise Mitra Shakti 2016 begins](#)

The fourth edition of the **India-Sri Lanka** Joint Military Exercise ‘**MITRA SHAKTI 2016**’ is being conducted at Sinha Regimental Centre in Ambepussa, Sri Lanka from October 24 to November 6. The main focus of this edition of the joint exercise is to enhance inter-operability while carrying out Counter Insurgency (CI)/Counter Terrorism (CT) operations under the United Nations Mandate.

[India, Iran to sign Farzad-B gas field deal by February next year](#)

India and Iran agreed that aim to strike a deal early next year on the **Farzad-B gas field** in the Persian Gulf, the Indian Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry announced. The Farzad-B natural gas field was discovered four years ago. It is estimated to hold **18.75 trillion** cubic feet of gas, according to the latest estimates.

[Singaporean navy's vessel arrives at Vizag](#)

As a part of “SIMBEX-16”, the ongoing Bilateral Naval Exercise between Navies of the Republic of Singapore and India, RSS Formidable, of Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) reached Visakhapatnam on a five-day visit to the Eastern Naval Command, ENC.

RSS Formidable is the first of the six multi-role stealth frigates which forms part of the 185 Squadron based at Changi.

[India, China hold discussions on NSG issue in Beijing](#)

India and China held discussions on Nuclear Suppliers Group, NSG issue in Beijing. Joint Secretary, Disarmament and International Security Affairs in Ministry of External Affairs met DG of Department of Arms Control in Chinese Foreign Ministry, Wang Qun. The first such meeting was held in New Delhi on the 13th of last month. Sources added that talks were substantive and constructive. The two countries will continue engagement to discuss India's membership in the elite group.

MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

[Make Mytrip buys rival ibibo Group](#)

Makemytrip and Ibibo have agreed to **merge in a stock transaction**, representing the coming together of India's largest travel booking portals and presaging what many believe is an impending consolidation in the country's consumer internet sector. The value of the combined entity, people familiar with the transaction estimated it at about **\$1.8-\$2 billion**.

[Wipro acquires US cloud firm Appirio for \\$500 million](#)

IT major Wipro has acquired for \$500 million, **Appirio, a US-based services firm** with a large offshore presence that helps corporates implement cloud applications such as Salesforce. Appirio is the second biggest acquisition by Wipro, after Infocrossing, which it bought for \$ 600 million in 2007. Appirio was founded by Chris Barbin, Mike O'Brien, Glenn Weistein and Narinder Singh in 2006. The nearly decade old firm had revenues of \$ 200 million in 2015.

[HCL to acquire US-based Butler Aerospace for \\$85mn](#)

IT services major HCL Technologies will acquire **Butler America Aerospace for \$85 million in cash**, a move aimed at strengthening its position in the aerospace and defence engineering services space. Butler Aerospace provides engineering, design services and aftermarket engineering services to US aerospace and defence customers, providing those services in areas of mechanical and structural design, electrical design, tool design and aftermarket engineering services.

[IBM acquires Bengaluru-based Sanovi for an undisclosed sum](#)

American technology giant, **IBM** has acquired home-grown **Sanovi Technologies** to bolster its **cloud offerings** for an undisclosed sum. **Bangalore based Sanovi** provides **hybrid cloud**

recovery, cloud migration and **business continuity software** for enterprise data centers and cloud infrastructure.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

[Gandhi only Indian to be named TIME's Person of the Year](#)

The Mi-17 V5 helicopter is the latest acquisition in the IAF and forms the backbone of the Medium lift helicopter fleet. The aircraft is a state of the art platform equipped with advanced avionics and has proved to be an asset to the IAF in various operations and exercises. The father Air Vice Marshal Manavendra Singh AVSM VrC VSM and son Flight Lieutenant Siddharth Singh flew as pilots in a Mi-17 V5 helicopter for the first time.

[ISRO successfully launches GSAT-18 from Kourou in French Guiana](#)

India's latest communication satellite **GSAT-18** is successfully launched by a heavy duty rocket of ArianeSpace from the spaceport of Kourou in French Guiana. **GSAT-18**, built by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**, aims at providing telecommunications services for the country by strengthening ISRO's current fleet of 14 operational telecommunication satellite.

[European Space agency to attempt Mars landing on October 19](#)

ESA plans to build on the legacy of British Mars lander Beagle 2 by placing the **Schiaparelli module on the Red Planet** in October. A new image shows **the desert plane on Mars, where ESA** will land the Schiaparelli module on 19 October this year. This will be the first European landing attempt on the red planet since 2003's ill-fated Beagle 2. **Known as Meridiani Planum**, this area of Mars is relatively flat which makes it as safe as possible for the landing attempt. NASA's Opportunity rover landed here in 2004.

[NASA develops electroactive bandage to speed up wound healing](#)

US space agency NASA has developed a **high-tech electroactive bandage** that creates an electric charge to help promote **the healing process of wounds**. Electroactive material is so sensitive that a push or even blow on it can create an electric charge. The fibres of the gauze are made of electroactive material Polyvinylidene Fluoride (PVDF) which are stimulated by the heat of the body and the pressure of cell growth, thus no external power source is required.

[New dwarf planet found in solar system beyond Pluto](#)

A new face has been added to the solar system's family portrait, Scientists have discovered a **new dwarf planet looping around the sun** in the region beyond Pluto. The dwarf planet, **called 2014 UZ224**, measures about 330 miles (530 kilometers) across and is located about 8.5 billion miles (13.7 billion km) from the sun, on Oct. 11.

[ISRO plans to set up telescope on the moon](#)

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is exploring possibilities of setting up a telescope on moon as part of enhancing its scientific observation capacity. The space agency is expecting the second moon mission to take place by the end of next year, said A S Kiran Kumar, chairman of the ISRO. The agency is looking at what could be the next Astrosat-follow on mission.

[September 2016 is the warmest on record: NASA](#)

Last month was **the warmest September in 136 years of record-keeping**, meaning 11 of the past 12 consecutive months dating back to October last year have set new monthly high-temperature records, NASA said. According to a monthly analysis of global temperatures by scientists at **NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) in the US, September 2016's temperature was a razor-thin 0.004 degrees Celsius warmer than the previous warmest September in 2014.**

[Scientists launch new Antarctic research mission](#)

More than 50 researchers from 30 countries are to carry out the first scientific full **circumnavigation of** Antarctica in an attempt to measure pollution and climate change. The international team will cruise on Russian research vessel **AkademikTreshnikov**, leaving Cape Town on December 20 and returning on March 18 next year, braving hostile conditions in an effort to gain a deeper understanding of humankind's effect on the Southern Ocean.

[Qualcomm announces world's first 5G modem](#)

The **San Diego-based mobile chip giant** announced it will be launching the **world's first 5G modem**, called the **Snapdragon X50**. The chip could theoretically support download speeds on your smartphone of up to 5 gigabits per second. The average 4Gdownload speed in the United States is 9.9 megabits per second (short of the global average of 13.5 Mbps), according to study from Open Signal published.

[Climate change could push 122mn into extreme poverty: UN](#)

Climate change could sink up to **122 million more people** into **extreme poverty by 2030**, mostly in South Asia and Africa, where small farmers would see their output plummet, the **UN warned**. In an annual report, the **UN's Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)** warned that a worst-case scenario involving high-impact climate change would pound the communities that rely on agriculture for their livelihood.

[Russia to lease another nuclear powered submarine to India](#)

Russia has agreed to lease out a **second nuclear attack submarine of the Akula class to India** this month in a deal worth around \$2 billion. The lease of the first Akula-class submarine that the **Indian Navy calls INS Chakra** expires in 2021. The lease deal for the second nuclear submarine was finalised at a summit-level meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

[Hydrogen Map of Milky Way Created](#)

Using two of the **world's largest configurable telescopes**, scientists have created the **most detailed map** yet of hydrogen atoms the Milky Way. It's called the **HI4PI map**, and it was produced using data from the **Max-Planck radio telescope in Germany**, and the **CSIRO radio telescope in Australia**. The stunning image was compiled from more than a million individual observations, and approximately 10 billion individual data points.

[ICGS Aryaman and Atulya Commissioned into Indian Coast Guard](#)

Indian Coast Guard Ships (ICGS) 'Aryaman' and 'Atulya', the 18th and 19th in the series of 20 Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs), designed and built by Cochin Shipyard Limited, were commissioned. The commissioning was done by Financial Adviser to Defence Services Sunil Kumar Kohli. Additional Director General K Natarajan, Coast Guard Commander (Western Seaboard), was present on the occasion.

ENVIRONMENT

[Brazil opens Latin America's first elephant sanctuary](#)

Brazil has opened up the **first sanctuary in Latin America for elephants** previously in captivity, an idyllic retreat that could eventually house as many as 50 of the giant animals. Elephant Sanctuary Brazil, in the central Brazilian state of **Mato Grosso**, was founded by the US-based non-profit organization Global Sanctuary for Elephants, and it already has its first two residents.

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SPORTS

WINNER	TITLE	SPORT/ VENUE
India	Kabaddi World Cup 2016	Ahmedabad, India
Andy Murray 2016	Shanghai Open	China
North Korea	2016 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup	
Indian shuttler SourabhVerma	Chinese Taipei Open wins men's singles title	Taipei City.
Indian boxer NeerajGoyat	WBC welterweight Asia title	New Delhi
India	TIFSA World Games	Jakarta, Indonesia.
Indian Railways	World Railway Shooting Championship Cup	Saint Mandrier, France.
Annu Rani	56th Open National Athletics Championships	2014 Incheon Asian Games held in Lucknow.
Manikandan Kumar	Gold medal in the IFSC Para Climbing Cup	United Kingdom
KierenDsouza	Complete world's toughest race	Run between Athens and Sparta in Greece
JituRai	silver medal in ISSF World Cup	At Bologna, Italy.
Daniel Ricciardo	2016 Malaysian Grand Prix	Selangor, Malaysia.
GaganjeetBhullar	6th Asian Tour title	Korea Open 2016 in Incheon, South Korea.
India	4th men's Under-18 Asia Cup hockey	Dhaka(Bangladesh).
Bajrang	Mayor's Trophy International Invitational Wrestling competition	Freestyle wrestler
AndyMurray	China Open	Tennis

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RuthvikaShivaniGadde	The women's singles title at the Russian Open	Vladivostok
Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N Sikki Reddy	Mixed doubles title at the Russian Open	
JituRait	International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Champions Trophy	pistol shooter
NicoRosberg	Japanese Grand Prix	Formula One championship drivers'
Jason Yengkhom	World Junior Wushu Championship	Burgas, Bulgaria

OBITUARY

NAME OF THE PERSON	FIELD
AndrzejWajda	Polish director
ShahlylaAhmadzaiBaloch	Pakistan women's football striker
Dario Fo	Italian playwright and actor
Yusuf Arakkal	Noted artist
HeisnamKanhailal	Eminent Manipuri theatre personality
Kigeli V	The last king of Rwanda
MewaRamgobin	South African struggle icon
SatydevKatara	Politician
TilakHazarika	Eminent journalist and writer of Assam
Mehar Mittal	legend of comedy in Punjabi
Junko Tabei	The first woman to climb Mount Everest

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IMPORTANT DAYS

DATE	OBSERVED DAY
1st Monday of October	World Habitat Day
October 1	World Vegetarian Day, International Day of the older/Elderly
October 2	Gandhi Jayanti, International Day of Non-Violence
October 3	World Nature Day
October 4	World Animal Day
October 5	World Teacher's Day
October 6	World Wildlife Day
October 8	Indian Air Force Day
October 9	World Postal or Post office Day
October 10	World Mental Health Day, National Post office Day
October 11	International Day of the Girl Child
2nd Thursday of October	World Sight Day
October 12	World Arthritis Day
October 13	International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction
October 14	World Standards Day
October 15	Global Hand Washing Day, International Day of Rural Women, World White Cane Safety Day, World Student day
October 16	World Food Day
October 17	International Poverty Day for it's Eradication

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October 20	World Osteoporosis Day, World Statistics Day, National Solidarity day
October 24	UN Day, World Development Information Day, World Polio Day
October 27	World day for Audio Visual Heritage Infantry Day
October 28	International Animation Day National Chocolate Day National Pharmacy Buyer Day National Ayurveda Day
October 24th – 30th	Disarmament Week
October 29	International Internet Day
October 31	World Savings Day or world Thrift day, Halloween Day World Cities Day National Unity Day

THANK YOU 😊 😊 😊