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National

India Makes it to Top 100 in 'ease of doing business': World Bank

- i. **India broke into the top 100** in the **World Bank's Ease of Doing Business rankings**, notching up the biggest improvement among all countries on the back of big gains on a number of measures.
- ii. The rise to the 100th position from 130 last year made India one of the top 10 best-improved countries and rounded off a day of good news on the economic front for the government. The World Bank's **'Doing Business 2018 — Reforming to Create Jobs'** report ranks 190 countries on the basis of a combined score on 10 parameters.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Jim Yong Kim is the President of World Bank.
- The World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C., United States.

India Tops List of New Tuberculosis Cases in 2016: WHO

- i. **India topped the list of seven countries**, accounting for 64 percent of the 10.4 million new tuberculosis (TB) cases worldwide in 2016, according to a new report by the World Health Organisation.
- ii. India was followed by Indonesia, China, Philippines, Pakistan, Nigeria and South Africa, according to a **Global TB Report 2017** released by the WHO. An estimated 1.7 million people died from TB in 2016. Also, India along with China and the Russia accounted for almost of half of the 490,000, Multidrug-Resistant TB (MDR-TB) cases registered in 2016.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- TB is a disease which in humans is usually caused by bacteria called Mycobacterium tuberculosis (M. tuberculosis).
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is the WHO's Director General.
- WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

Govt Sets up Arun Jaitley-Panel to Oversee PSU Bank Mergers

- i. The government set up a ministerial panel, **led by finance minister Arun Jaitley**, to consider and oversee **mergers among the country's 21 state-run banks**.
- ii. Members of the panel on PSU bank consolidation include railway and coal minister Piyush Goyal, and defence minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- The State Bank of India merged operations of five of its associate banks and Bharatiya Mahila Bank with itself have marked the first consolidation move in the sector following the bad loan crisis.
- The merger has reduced the number of state-controlled banks to 21 from 26.

Mukesh Ambani Becomes Asia's Richest Person: Forbes

- i. **Chairman of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Mukesh Ambani** overtook **China's Hui Ka Yan** to become Asia's richest person with a total wealth of \$42.1 billion, according to **Forbes' real-time billionaire's list**.
- ii. Ambani's personal wealth rose by \$466 million. On the other hand, the wealth of China Evergrande Group's Chairman Hui Ka Yan slumped by \$1.28 billion to \$40.6 billion. Globally, **Ambani stood at the 14th spot on Forbes' real-time billionaire's list**, which is based on the value of person's stock holding and assets on a real-time basis.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- RIL had recently become the first Indian company to hit the market capitalization of Rs 6 lakh crore.

Maximum Age of Joining NPS Increased from 60 to 65 years: Finance Ministry

- i. **The Ministry of Finance** increased the maximum age of joining the **National Pension System (NPS)** from the

existing 60 years to 65 years under NPS - Private Sector (i.e. all citizen and corporate model).

ii. In accordance with several initiatives undertaken by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) during the last few years, now any Indian citizen, resident or non-resident, between the age of 60 - 65 years, can join NPS and continue up to the age of 70 years.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- The subscriber joining NPS beyond the age of 60 years will have the same choices of pension fund and investment, as those individuals who subscribe to it before the age of 60 years.

Gender Vulnerability Index: Goa Safest, Bihar Least Safe

i. Goa is safest for girls, and Bihar least safe, according to a newly-formed Gender Vulnerability Index (GVI) by NGO Plan India. National Capital Delhi ranks only better than Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

ii. The GVI attempts to "generate a normative consensus" on the status of girls and women in India and takes into account four core dimensions: Education, health and survival, poverty, protection.

Top Three Safest States-

1. Goa (Safest),
2. Kerala,
3. Mizoram.

Least Safe States-

1. Bihar (Least Safe),
2. Uttar Pradesh,
3. Delhi.

India Slips 21 Slots on WEF Gender Gap index

i. India slipped 21 places on the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap index to 108, behind neighbours China and Bangladesh, primarily due to less participation of women in the economy and low wages, according to the WEF Global Gender Gap Report 2017.

ii. India's latest ranking is 10 notches lower than its reading in 2006 when the WEF started measuring the gender gap. According to the Report, India has closed 67 percent of its gender gap. Bangladesh ranked 47th while China was placed at 100th.

Top 3 Countries in the List are-

1. Iceland,
2. Norway,
3. Finland,

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The World Economic forum Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Klaus Schwab is the Founder and Executive Chairman of WEF.

Maharashtra Govt Adds 18m to Shivaji statue, to be World's Tallest at 210m

i. The 210-metre-high statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj has received environmental clearance, making it the world's tallest statue, once built.

ii. The Maharashtra Coastal Zone Management Authority (MCZMA) approved the government's application to increase the height from the earlier proposed 192 metres. Currently, the Spring Temple Buddha statue, which stands at 208 metres in China, is the world's tallest statue.

PM Modi Inaugurated World Food India 2017

i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the most anticipated International Mega Food event- World Food India 2017, the biggest congregation of global investors and business leaders of major food companies.

ii. The event is organised by the **Food Processing Industries Ministry in Delhi**. The three-day event aims to transform food economy and realise the vision of doubling of farmers' income by establishing India as a preferred investment destination.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- This is the first time that India is hosting such an event for the food processing sector.
- Harsimrat Kaur Badal is the Minister of Food Processing Industries.

Chanda Kochhar, Priyanka Chopra Among World's Most Powerful Women: Forbes

i. Five Indian women led by ICICI Bank chief executive officer (CEO) and managing director (MD) **Chanda Kochhar and including Bollywood star Priyanka Chopra**, have featured on the list of the world's 100 most powerful women compiled by Forbes. The list was topped by **German Chancellor Angela Merkel**.

ii. **Kochhar was ranked 32**, while HCL Corp. CEO Roshni Nadar Malhotra took the 57th position. Priyanka Chopra was at 97.

The Top 3 Women in the List are-

1. Chancellor of Germany- **Angela Merkel**,
2. UK Prime Minister- **Theresa May**,
3. Co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation- **Melinda Gates**,

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Angela Merkel retained the top spot for the seventh consecutive year and 12 times in total.

Walmart India Launched India's First Fulfillment Centre in Mumbai

i. **Walmart India launched its first fulfilment centre in Mumbai**. The fulfilment centre is a new format of its cash-and-carry store model that will focus exclusively on FMCG products and staples and will not stock fresh food or electronics.

ii. The company has also planned another fulfilment centre in Lucknow.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Krish Iyer is the President and CEO of Walmart India.

Allahabad to Get India's First Black Buck Conservation Reserve

i. **Uttar Pradesh cabinet** decided to make **India's first conservation reserve for blackbuck in Allahabad's Meja**. The decision taken for the protection of black deer will also help in wooing tourists.

ii. In addition to this, the other decisions taken by the UP cabinet includes developing eco-tourism in nearly two dozen places in the state. Apart from this, the decision to open 13 commercial courts in the state was also taken.

BRO Builds World's Highest Motorable Road in Ladakh

i. **The Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** has built the **world's highest motorable road at a height of over 19,300 feet**. The road has been constructed in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir.

ii. The 86-kilometre long strategic road has been constructed **under 'Project Himank' of the BRO**.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Lt Gen SK Shrivastava is the Director General Border Roads Organization.

Technical Education can not be Provided Through Correspondence Courses- Supreme Court

i. **The Supreme Court** has ruled that **technical education cannot be provided through correspondence courses**. The Apex Court restrained educational institutions from providing courses in technical education like engineering through distance learning programme.

ii. Two years ago, the Punjab and Haryana high court had ruled that a degree in 'computer science' obtained through distance mode could not be considered at par with one attained by attending regular classes.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Justice Dipak Misra is the present and 45th Chief Justice of India.

Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana launched to Promote Philately

i. Minister of Communications Shri Manoj Sinha launched a Pan India scholarship program for school children called Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana to increase the reach of Philately.

ii. Under the scheme of **SPARSH (Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby)**, it is proposed to award annual scholarships to children of Standard VI to IX having good academic record and also pursuing Philately as a hobby. The amount of Scholarship will be Rs. 6000/- per annum @ Rs. 500/- per month.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Philately is the hobby of collection and study of Postage stamps.

India's Largest CDQ Facility at Tata Steel Kalinganagar

i. Tata Steel has established India's largest Coke Dry Quenching (CDQ) facility, capable of handling 200 metric tonnes per hour, at its state-of-the-art steel plant at Kalinganagar Industrial Complex in Jajpur district of Odisha.

ii. CDQ is a heat recovery system to cool hot coke from coke ovens. It is one of the best energy-efficient and environment-friendly facility in steel production where hot coke removed from coke ovens at a temperature of around 1,000 degree Celsius is cooled and kept dry with the inert gas.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Natarajan Chandrasekaran is the Chairman of TATA Steels.

Bengaluru Beats San Francisco in Confidence to Go Digital

i. India's Silicon Valley - 'Bengaluru' - is the best host among **45 cities worldwide**, according to a report from the **Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU)**. Bengaluru expressed the highest confidence in their digital environment based on people and skills, financial environment, innovation and entrepreneurship and new technology development.

ii. San Francisco came in second followed by two other Indian cities, Mumbai and New Delhi while Tokyo, Yokohama and Berlin brought up the rear.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Bengaluru- Silicon Valley- Capital of Karnataka - Best Digital city acc. to EIU Report.**

India Re-elected Member of UNESCO's Executive Board

i. India has been re-elected as the member of the UNESCO's executive board, its top decision-making body. The election was held **at the 39th session of the General Conference** of the UNESCO in Paris, France.

ii. The General Conference consists of the representatives of the States Members of the organisation. Each country has one vote, irrespective of its size or the extent of its contribution to the budget.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- UNESCO- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.**
- Director-General (Present)- Irina Bokova, Headquarters- Paris, France.**

Telangana Govt. Declares Urdu as Second Official Language

i. Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao declared Urdu as the **state's second official language**. Every office in the state will now have an Urdu speaking officer. **ii.** According to the CM, the demand to make Urdu a second language had been there for a long time.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- First Official Language- Telugu.**

In a First, Kerala Launched 'She Pad' Scheme for School Girls

i. Kerala government launched “She Pad,” a scheme to distribute **free sanitary napkins to girl students from classes VI to XII in government and aided private schools** affiliated to the state school board.

ii. This is the first time that a state government is distributing sanitary napkins to school students. In this academic year, the scheme will be implemented in 300 schools in 114 panchayats by the Kerala Women Development Corporation.

Indian Railways Launches Main Arch on World's Highest Bridge on Chenab

i. The Indian Railways has launched the **main arch of the world's highest bridge on the River Chenab in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district** which will provide direct connectivity to the Kashmir Valley.

ii. The iconic bridge will soar 359 metres above the bed of the River Chenab and will be 30 metres higher than the iconic Eiffel Tower in Paris.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Piyush Goyal is the Present Minister of Railways.

Environment Ministry Forms 7-Member Panel for Air Pollution in Delhi-NCR

i. The Union environment ministry formed a seven-member committee **headed by environment secretary**, to formulate short and long-term measures to solve the problem of air pollution in the Delhi-NCR region.

ii. Delhi's air quality plunged this week with the air quality index (AQI), which measures the concentration of pollutants in the air, 465, indicating severe levels of pollution.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:** Dr. Harsh Vardhan.

Haryana, First State in India to Treat Hepatitis-C Patients with Oral Medicine

i. Haryana has emerged as the **first state in the country** to treat **Hepatitis-C patients through oral medicine**, according to the health minister Anil Vij of the state.

ii. This medicine would be provided free of cost to permanent residents of all categories at district level. The medicine and treatment costs about Rs 28,000 to Rs 30,000 in the market, but the state government would provide this facility free of cost.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Haryana CM-** Manohar Lal Khattar, **Governor-** Kaptan Singh Solanki.

India's First Cartoon Network Theme Park to Come up in Gujarat

i. India will soon have the **first Cartoon Network-branded theme park**. Turner International India, which owns the Cartoon Network brand, has entered into a brand partnership with Gujarat based real estate, entertainment and hospitality group Rajgreen for the launch of a 61,000 square meter property Amaazia, in Surat.

ii. To be launched in the first quarter of 2019 on a budget of Rs 450 crore, the amusement park will be located at Surat, in Gujarat. Amaazia will be Cartoon Network's first brand association for an amusement park in India.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. In Asia, it has two such partnerships, Cartoon Network Amazon Water Park in Pattaya, Thailand and in IMG Worlds of Adventure in Dubai it has an entire Cartoon Network Zone.

Varanasi Tops The List of Country's Most Polluted City

i. A report by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has found that the air quality of holy city **Varanasi is most polluted** among the 42 cities monitored recently.

ii. Varanasi's Air Quality Index (AQI) was at an alarming **491**, followed by **Gurugram at 480**, Delhi at 468, Lucknow at 462 and Kanpur at 461. Notably, pollution level is categorized as ‘severe’ when the AQI ranges between **401 and 500**.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Varanasi-** one of the oldest city in the world.
2. It is the Lok Sabha Constituency of **PM Narendra Modi**

India Sixth Most Vulnerable Country Facing Extreme Weather Events: Report

- i. **India is the sixth most vulnerable country in the world** in terms of facing extreme weather events, according to the report released by the Germanwatch.
- ii. The Germanwatch is an independent Berlin-based development and environmental organisation and it has released its latest global climate risk index (CRI). The Index put the United States (US) at 10th position.

The top 3 countries in the list are-

1. Haiti,
2. Zimbabwe,
3. Fiji, .

37th India International Trade Fair Begins in New Delhi

- i. **37th India International Trade Fair (IITF)** has begun at **Pragati Maidan in New Delhi**. The 14-day annual event has been organised by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO). It was inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- ii. This year the theme of the fair is **“Startup India Standup India”**. **Vietnam is the Partner Country, while Kyrgyzstan is the Focus Country**. Jharkhand is participating as a Partner State in the event.

For first time, Mumbai to Host Asian Bankers Association Summit

- i. For the first time, the nation's financial capital- **Mumbai will host the 34th annual conference of the Asian Bankers Association (ABA)**.
- ii. The two-day conference will be held with the theme **'Asia's turn to transform'**. The event is expected to see the presence of over 160 domestic as well as international bankers.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Asian Bankers Association (ABA)**- founded in 1981.

UP Tops in Mobilising Jan Dhan Accounts

- i. **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)** which was launched to further the financial-inclusion process in the country have gathered momentum in some northern States post demonetisation. **With its area and size of population, Uttar Pradesh tops in opening new PMJDY accounts**.
- ii. In fact, one-fifth of the more than five crore new PMJDY accounts in the Indian banking system came from Uttar Pradesh alone. Bihar, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal cumulatively added another 2.2 crore new accounts in the last one year.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **PMJDY**- was launched in 2014.

India's 1st Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit Begins in Chhattisgarh

- i. **India's first Tribal Entrepreneurship Summit** began in **Dantewada, Chhattisgarh**. The event has been organized by **NITI Aayog in partnership with the government of United States of America**.
- ii. The event is a part of 8th Global Entrepreneurship Summit being held in India.

India's First Wave-Powered Navigational Buoy Launched in Chennai

- i. **India's first wave-powered navigational buoy**, developed by the **National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT)**, to guide ships in and out of ports, was launched in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**. The buoy, deployed at Ennore Kamarajar Port, will help ships, moving in and out of the harbour, navigate through a designated channel.
- ii. According to the NIOT, the buoy's beacon, for guiding ships, is powered by wave energy while conventional ones use solar power. The buoy stores energy generated by waves in a battery.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Tamil Nadu CM- Edappadi K Palaniswami, Governor- Banwarilal Purohit**.

India to Become 3rd Largest Economy by 2028- BofA ML Report

- i. A report by **Bank of America-Merrill Lynch** has stated that in the next decade, **India will overtake Japan to become the third-largest economy**.

ii. The report also adds that India is likely to become the world's fifth largest economy by 2019. As per data available in the report, India is likely to cross Germany and Japan in nominal GDP by 2028, assuming that the nation witnesses a 10% growth every year for the next 10 years.

Ambanis Top Forbes List of Asia's Richest Families

i. **India's Ambani family has topped the Forbes list of Asia's Richest Families for the first time with a net worth of \$44.8 billion**, up \$19 billion from the previous year. The collective wealth of Asia's 50 richest families on the list is a record \$699 billion, according to the Forbes.

ii. Top 3 Families in Asia-

- 1. India's Ambani Family- \$44.8 billion.**
2. Korea's Lee family- \$40.8 billion.
3. Hong Kong's Kwok family- (\$40.4 billion).

iii. Top 3 Families in India-

- 1. India's Ambani Family- (Rank 1; \$44.8 billion).**
2. Premji family (Rank 11; \$19.2 billion net worth).
3. Mittal family (Rank 14; \$17.2 billion).

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Forbes-** American business magazine, **Founded in-** 1917.
2. **Headquarters-** New York City, USA.

Venkaiah Naidu Inaugurates AP AgTech Summit-2017

i. **Vice president M Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated a three-day AP AgTech Summit-2017** in the coastal city Visakhapatnam.

ii. This summit is organized by the Andhra Pradesh Government in association with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Dahlberg Advisors

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Andhra Pradesh CM-** Nara Chandrababu Naidu, **Governor-** E.S L. Narasimhan.

India's First Mega Coastal Economic Zone to Come up in Maharashtra

i. The government has given the go-ahead for **setting up India's first mega coastal economic zone (CEZ)** at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Maharashtra as part of a plan to develop 14 such industrial clusters to spur manufacturing and generate jobs.

ii. The plan envisages a total investment of Rs 15,000 crore in the first phase and creation of more than 1.5 lakh jobs.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Maharashtra CM-** Devendra Fadnavis, **Governor-** CV Rao.

India becomes Second Largest Fish Producing Country in the World

i. Combining the production of all types of fisheries (capture and culture), the total fish production has reached at about 11.41 million tonnes in 2016-17 and India has become the second largest fish producing country in the world, Union Agriculture Minister Radhan Mohan Singh stated while addressing a conference on the occasion of World Fisheries Day in New Delhi.

ii. The scheme 'Blue Revolution' has been launched with the outlay of Rs. 300 crore for the integrated development of the Fisheries sector in the country. As a result, overall fish production has registered an increase of about 18.86% in comparison to the last three years, whereas inland fish production has registered a growth of more than 26%.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- China is the largest fish producer country in the world.
- Blue Revolution: Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries.

Bamboo not a 'tree' any more: President Clears Ordinance Amending Forest Act

i. President Ram Nath Kovind has cleared an ordinance amending the Indian Forest Act, 1927. The ordinance omits bamboo grown in non-forest areas from the definition of trees, thereby exempting it from requiring permits for felling or transportation.

ii. Before the ordinance was issued, the definition of tree in the Act included palm, bamboo, brushwood and cane. Bamboo grown in forest areas shall continue to be governed by the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

India urges UN to declare 2018 as 'International Year of Millets'

i. Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh has sent a proposal to United Nations for declaring 2018 as "International Year of Millets" to raise awareness among consumers, policy makers, industry and research sector.

ii. Promotion of production and consumption of millets through conscious efforts at global level is likely to contribute substantially in the fight against targeted hunger and mitigate the effect of climate change in long run.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Headquarter of United Nations (UN)- New York, USA
- Secretary general of UN- Antonio Guterres

Global University Employability Ranking 2017 – IISc Ranks 29th in the World

i. Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has ranked 29th among the top 150 universities on Global University Employability Ranking 2017 published by Times Higher Education.

ii. Other than IISc, only two institutes from India featured among the top 150. Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) ranked 145th and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) ranked 148th.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Indian Institute of Science located in Bengaluru, India.
- Anurag Kumar is the director of IISc.

World's First 3D Sanskrit Film Anurakthi Screened at 2017 IFFI Goa

i. World's first Sanskrit 3D film 'Anurakthi' was among the main attraction in 3D category at the International Film Festival of India in Panaji in Goa.

ii. The motto of making the film is to make the Sanskrit language relevant even for today. The movie directed by Asokan PK revolves around the traditional art form of Kerala, Koodiyattam.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- IFFI was founded in 1952 and held annually in Goa.

Trump Tower Launched in Kolkata

i. The iconic Trump Tower comprising 140 ultra-luxury apartments has been launched in Kolkata and its Indian developers are expecting to garner around Rs 700 crore in sales from this project.

ii. This is the third Trump Tower to be launched in India. Realty firms Unimark Group, RDB Group and Tribeca Developers have already sold about 50 per cent units since the project was soft-launched in mid-October.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- The US President Donald Trump is the founder of the Trump Organization.
- India already has Trump-branded project in Pune partnering Panchshil Realty.

Odisha Launches Rs 96-cr Scheme to Increase Fish Production

i. Odisha government launched a scheme to boost fish production in the state with a budgetary provision of Rs 96 crore. The 'Fish Pond Yojana' scheme was launched by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, while inaugurating a workshop on 'Doubling of Farmer Income through Dairy and Allied Farming Practices' in Bhubaneswar.

ii. The scheme aims to create additional 2,200 hectare of fresh water aquaculture farming with 50 per cent financial assistance to farmers.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Current Governor of Odisha is Senayangba Chubatoshi Jamir

48th Edition of International Film Festival of India Concludes

i. The festival concluded with the world premiere of Indo-Argentinian co-production "Thinking of Him", directed by Pablo Cesar. The closing ceremony was attended by Goa Chief Minister, Manohar Parikkar, Union Minister Smriti Irani.

ii. The legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan was honoured with the Indian film personality of the year Award at the glittering Closing Ceremony. The award was presented by Union Minister Smirit Irani and Akshay Kumar.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Panaji is capital of Goa.
- Mridula Sinha is the Governor of Goa.

Hyderabad Metro Rail Opens to Public

i. The Hyderabad Metro Rail opened for public with the passengers describing their first-time travel by it as a "convenient, comfortable and awesome experience". Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the first phase of the elevated Hyderabad Metro Rail project at the Miyapur station.

ii. The metro rail commenced its operations between Miyapur and Nagole, having a total distance of 30 kms and 24 stations, the concessionaire, L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Ltd.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Hyderabad is capital city of Telangana.
- K Chandrashekar Rao is CM of Telangana.

One rupee note turns 100 on 30th November 2017

i. This smallest paper denomination note from India has traveled through a glorious historical journey all over the world since it was issued for the public. As the argument over the government's decision to scrap high-value currency notes is still raging, our one rupee note has completed a century! The first one rupee note was printed in India on November 30, 1917, with the photo of King George V. This was the time when India was under the British rule

ii. The origin of the 1 Rupee note lies in the World War I where the inability to mint coins forced the then colonial authorities to shift to printing Re 1 notes in 1917.

International

Michael Jackson Named Top-Earning Dead Celebrity for 5th Time

i. **Michael Jackson is atop the Forbes list of top-earning dead celebrities** for the fifth straight year, with \$75 million (all figures in US).

ii. **Golf legend Arnold Palmer claims the No. 2 spot** with \$40 million and **Peanuts creator Charles Schulz ranks third** with the income of \$38 million. The list is compiled from information gathered from pretax income from Oct. 15, 2016, through Oct.15, 2017 before deducting cuts for agents, managers, and lawyers.

Fake News' Named Word of the Year 2017

i. **Fake news**, a term popularised by U.S. President Donald Trump, **has been named the word of the year by Collins dictionary** due to its widespread use around the world.

ii. The U.K.-based lexicographer found that the use of “fake news” registered a 365% rise in the last 12months. **'Fake news' takes over from Brexit** — which was named the definitive word last year.

World's Third Largest Book Fair Opens in Sharjah

i. With more than 1.5 million book titles and 1,650 publishing houses from 60 countries, **Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF)** opened its doors to public and trade visitors. It is the third largest book fair in the world.

ii. The book fair was held under the theme **'A World in My Book'**. The event has been organised by **Sharjah Book Authority (SBA)**. Sharjah also inaugurated **Sharjah Publishing City (SPC)** which is the **world's first specialised book publishing free zone**.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Sharjah is a city in the UAE.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has recently announced Sharjah as the 'World Book Capital 2019'.

China Unveils Asia's Largest Island-Building Vessel

i. **China unveiled Asia's largest artificial island-building ship**. The 140-metre-long vessel, which has been dubbed

as "**magic island maker**", is capable of digging 6,000 cubic metres an hour, which is equivalent to three standard swimming pools.

ii. The vessel is expected to be delivered in June 2018 after being tested completely. The boat named **Tian Kun Hao** is equivalent of three standard swimming pools.

'Paradise Papers' to Be Monitored Through Reconstituted Multi Agency Group

i. Revelations made in the media under the name '**Paradise Papers**' [based upon expose done by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ)] indicate that out of 180 countries represented in the data of offshore entities held by persons of different nationalities, **India ranks 19th in terms of a number of names.**

ii. 714 Indians reportedly appear in the tally. Further, the Government has directed that **investigations in cases of Paradise Papers will be monitored through a reconstituted Multi Agency Group, headed by the Chairman, CBDT Sushil Chandra.**

Guinea Becomes New Member Of International Solar Alliance

i. **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj** held a meeting with **Guinea's Foreign Minister, Mamady Toure**, during the course of which the latter handed over his country's instrument accession to the **India-initiated International Solar Alliance (ISA).**

ii. According to a statement issued by the External Affairs Ministry, Sushma Swaraj and Toure exchanged views on a broad range of subjects covering bilateral friendship and cooperation.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Guinea-** New member of International Solar Alliance
2. **Guinea Capital-** Conakry, Currency- Guinean Franc.
3. Bilateral trade between India and Guinea- **\$634.15 million in 2016-17.**

31st ASEAN Summit 2017 Highlights

i. The **31st ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Summit** was held in **Manila, Philippines.** **Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte** chaired the summit. The Summit, with the theme "**Partnering for Change, Engaging the World**".

ii. The ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (ABIS) 2017 is a 3-day conference of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) being held from November 12 to November 14.

India-Bangladesh Inaugurated Train Service between Kolkata and Khulna

i. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and his **Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina** jointly inaugurated the long-awaited direct train-service between **Kolkata and Khulna** through video-conferencing. The new train service is called **Bandhan Express.**

ii. The train will run in either direction twice a week and **cover the 177 km distance** between Kolkata and Khulna within 4 1/2 hours.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Bandhan Express-** Between Kolkata (India) and Khulna (Bangladesh).
2. **Bangladesh Capital-** Dhaka, **Currency-** Taka.
3. **PM-** Sheikh Hasina, **President-** Abdul Hamid.

Bank of China Begins Operations in Pakistan

i. **Bank of China** has formally launched its **operations in Pakistan**, with its **first branch inaugurated in Karachi.** The bank would strengthen the "brotherly relations" between the two countries in the financial sector.

ii. As per the officials, the increased diversity of foreign banks would increase the country's economic resilience.

1. **Pakistan PM-** Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, **President-** Mamnoon Hussain.

Hong Kong, World's Top City for International Visits

i. **Hong Kong** remains the **world's most visited city by international travelers** in spite of strained relations with

neighboring China.

ii. In a report on the top 100 city destinations that highlights the growth in Asian tourism, **market research firm Euromonitor International** said 25.7 million arrivals are expected in Hong Kong in 2017. The figure is down 3.2 percent compared with 2016.

Top 3 Countries in the list are-

1. Hong Kong.
2. Bangkok.
3. London.

1. **Hong Kong**- world's most visited city- according to Euromonitor International.
2. **Hong Kong- an Autonomous Territory.**

Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Summit Held in Vietnam

i. **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting** was held in Da Nang, Vietnam. The theme of this meeting was '**Creating New Dynamism, Fostering a Shared Future**'.

ii. Leaders of 21 Pacific Rim countries attended this meeting. This was the first APEC meeting for several leaders including United States **President Donald Trump**, South Korean President Moon Jae-in and New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. **The APEC summit for 2018 will be held in Papua New Guinea.**

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)** Established in- 1989, Headquarters- Singapore, Current Chairperson- Tran Dai Quang.
2. 2016 APEC held in- **Lima, Peru.**

Founding Ceremony of International Solar Alliance Held in Germany

i. A Curtain Raiser Event for the **Founding Ceremony of the International Solar Alliance (ISA)** was held in Bonn, Germany.

ii. **Shri Anand Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** was present at the event from the Indian side.

About the ISA-

The ISA was jointly launched on 30 November 2015 by Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, and then-President of France, H.E. Francois Hollande, on the sidelines of the UNFCCC Conference of Parties 21 (CoP21) at Paris, France. The ISA is a treaty-based alliance of 121 prospective solar-rich Member Nations.

Saudi Arabia Recognizes Yoga as Sport

i. **The Saudi Arabian government** has approved the practice of yoga as a sports activity, claimed a social media post of Nouf Marwaai, founder of the Arab Yoga Foundation in the Saudi kingdom.

ii. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has recognized the practice of Yoga as an approved sport, which can be practiced freely there.

China Launches World's First All-Electric Ship

i. **China has launched world's first all-electric ship** that can travel up to 80 km with 2000-tonnes cargo after a two-hour charge.

ii. The 70.5-metre-long ship, which weighs about 600 tonnes, was launched in Guangzhou in South China's Guangdong Province. The vessel, manufactured by the Guangzhou Shipyard International Company Ltd, is powered by a 26-tonne lithium battery.

iii. It can cruise at the top speed of 12.8 km per hour.

Syria Signs up Paris Agreement on Climate Change

i. According to the UN report, **Syria has officially signed up to the Paris Agreement**, leaving the United States as the only country to reject the global climate-rescue pact.

ii. Syria became the 169th of 196 countries that are members of the UN climate convention to take the legal step of ratification. After Nicaragua signed up in October 2017, Syria and USA were the only countries not to have adopted the pact.

Important Takeaway from above news-

1. **Syria Capital-** Damascus, **Currency-** Syrian pound, **Syrian President-** Bashar al-Assad.
2. **UN Secretary-General-** Antonio Guterres.

US Approves First Pill with Digital Tracking Device

i. The Food and Drug Administration has approved the first drug in **the United States** with a digital ingestion tracking system, in an unprecedented move to ensure that patients with mental illness take the medicine prescribed for them.

ii. The drug **Abilify MyCite**, developed by **Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd**, was first approved by the FDA in 2002 to treat schizophrenia.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **US President-** Donald Trump (45th)

1st WHO Global Ministerial Conference on Ending TB held in Russia

i. The WHO Global Ministerial Conference “**Ending TB in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response**” was held in **Moscow, Russia**.

ii. It aims to accelerate implementation of the WHO End TB Strategy - with immediate action. A Ministerial Declaration was signed at the Conference, containing bold commitments by countries to accelerate action to end TB and meet the milestones towards the 2030 SDGs.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **WHO Director-General-** Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, **Headquarter-** Geneva, Switzerland.
2. TB is a disease which in humans is usually caused by bacteria called **Mycobacterium tuberculosis (M. tuberculosis)**.
3. **Russia Capital-** Moscow, **President-** Vladimir Putin.

Qatar, the Richest Country in the World Per Capita

i. Based on the per capita income of its people, **Qatar has been named the world's richest country as per the recent International Monetary Fund (IMF) report.** The per capita GDP (gross domestic product) of Qatar is over Rs. 81 lakh.

ii. With per capita GDP of over Rs. 38 lakh, the United States is at No. 12. India, with a GDP of over Rs. 4 lakh per person, is not even in the top 100.

iii. Top 3 Countries in the list are-

1. **Qatar-** GDP of Rs. 81 lakh per person.
2. **Luxembourg-** GDP of Rs. 70 lakh per person.
3. **Singapore-** GDP of Rs. 60 lakh per person.

Beyonce Named 2017's Highest-Paid Woman in Music- Forbes

i. American singer Beyonce has been named the **highest-paid woman in music in 2017 by the Forbes**. Her earnings, mainly from album 'Lemonade' and Formation World Tour, have been estimated to be \$105 million (Rs682 crore).

ii. Adele, with earnings of \$69 million came second while Taylor Swift, with earnings of \$44 million, was ranked third on the list.

Top 3 highest-paid woman in music in 2017 are-

1. **Beyonce** (\$105 million)

2. **Adele** (\$69 million)
3. **Taylor Swift** (\$44 million)

World's First AI Politician Developed

- i. Scientists have developed the world's first artificial intelligence politician that can answer a person's queries regarding local issues such as policies around housing, education and immigration.
- ii. The virtual politician, called SAM, was created by Nick Gerritsen, a 49-year-old entrepreneur in New Zealand. The AI politician is constantly learning to respond to people through Facebook Messenger as well as a survey on its homepage.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Capital of New Zealand Wellington.
- PM of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern.



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Defence

Indian Air Force Contingent in Israel to Participate in 'Ex Blue Flag-17'

- i. A 45 member contingent of the **Indian Air Force** had left for Israel to participate in exercise '**Blue Flag-17**'. Blue Flag is a bi-annual multilateral exercise which aims to strengthen military cooperation amongst participating nations.
- ii. The exercise is being conducted **at Uvda Air Force Base in Israel**.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- The team consists of personnel from various combat elements of the IAF and is led by Gp Capt Maluk Singh VSM.
- This is the first time the Indian Air Force is operating with Israeli AF in a multilateral exercise setting.
- Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa is the 25th Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Air Force.

- Kazakhstani tenge is the currency of Kazakhstan.

India Successfully Tests its First Fully Indigenous 'Glide Bomb'

- i. The **Indian Air Force**, along with the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** successfully tested an **indigenously developed lightweight 'Glide' bomb** in Chandipur in Odisha.
- ii. With this DRDO announced that this bomb will soon be inducted into the armed forces. **Named SAAW (Smart Anti Airfield Weapon)**, it was dropped from an IAF aircraft at the Integrated Test Range (ITR).

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- S Christopher is the present Chairman of DRDO.
- General Bipin Rawat is the present and 27th Chief of Army Staff.

Long-Range Cruise Missile 'Nirbhay' Test-Fired

- i. India conducted a flight test of its **indigenously designed and developed long-range sub-sonic cruise missile 'Nirbhay'**. It can carry warheads of up to 300 kg from a test range **at Chandipur along the Odisha coast**.
- ii. This was the fifth experimental test of the homegrown missile system. The test fire was carried out by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- S. Christopher is the present Chairman of DRDO.

India, Bangladesh Joint Military Combat Exercise 'Sampriti' Begins

- i. **Army personnel of India and Bangladesh** are going to take part in a joint training exercise '**Sampriti-7**' in Meghalaya and Mizoram. This is the **7th edition of the joint training exercise**.
- ii. The 13-day exercise will be conducted at India's Jungle Warfare School at Vairengte in Mizoram and at the Joint Training Node at Umroi in Meghalaya.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- The joint exercise was first held in Assam in 2011 and since then both the countries have been hosting the exercise alternatively.
- In 2016, the training exercise was conducted in at Bangabandhu Cantonment in Ghatail of Bangladesh.

Brahmos Flight test from IAF's Su-30MKI Fighter Aircraft

- i. Brahmos, the world's fastest supersonic cruise missile created history after it was successfully flight-tested first time from the Indian Air Force's (IAF) frontline fighter aircraft Sukhoi-30MKI against a sea-based target in the Bay of Bengal.
- ii. The successful maiden test firing of Brahmos Air Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) from Su-30MKI will significantly bolster the IAF's air combat operations capability from stand-off ranges.

Shubhangi Swaroop Indian Navy's First Female Pilot

- i. In a first, a woman has been inducted as a pilot in the Indian Navy. Shubhangi Swaroop, who hails from Uttar Pradesh, will soon be flying Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft.
- ii. Three other women cadets, Astha Segal from New Delhi, Roopa A from Puducherry and Sakthi Maya S from Kerala, also created history by becoming the country's first women officers at the Naval Armament Inspectorate (NAI) branch of the Navy.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- The Navy has the following three Commands, each under the control of a Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief:-

Defence of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Exercise (DANX-17)

- i. Defence of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Exercise (DANX) was conducted under the aegis of Andaman & Nicobar Command. The five day exercise started on 20 Nov 2017 and culminated on 24 Nov 2017.
- ii. From the planning stage onwards, joint planning and integrated approach was adopted for synergistic application of forces. Main objective of the exercise was to practice & validate procedures and drills of all the Command forces aimed at defending Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

International Multilateral Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise 2017 begins in Bangladesh

- i. The International Multilateral Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise 2017 (IMMSAREX 2017) began in Cox Bazar, Bangladesh.
- ii. Admiral Sunil Lanba, Chief of the Naval Staff of Indian Navy, is attending the exercise. The exercise held under

the aegis of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS). Indian Naval Ships (INS) Ranvir, Sahyadri, Gharial and Sukanya along with one Maritime Patrol Aircraft P-8I participating in the exercise. An 'Extraordinary Conclave of Chiefs (ECoC)' meeting of IONS also held on 28 November 2017.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) was started as an initiative by Indian Navy in 2008.

Indo-Kazakhstan joint exercise 'Prabal Dostyk 2017' begins

i. A 14 days joint training exercise 'PRABAL DOSTYK 2017' between the Indian Army and the Kazakhstan Army commenced at Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.



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Appointments or Resign/Retired

Vikram Singh Appointed Private Secretary to President

i. Railway officer **Vikram Singh** was appointed **Private Secretary to President Ram Nath Kovind**. Singh is a 1997 batch officer of the Indian Railway Traffic Service.

ii. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment to the post for a period of two years.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Ram Nath Kovind is the 14th President of India.

Ajay Bisaria Named India's Next High Commissioner to Pakistan

i. **India has appointed Ajay Bisaria** as the next high commissioner to Pakistan. He is currently ambassador to Poland. Bisaria takes over from Gautam Bambawale, who was last month appointed India's ambassador to China.

ii. Bisaria was in charge of the Eurasia desk that looks after India's ties with Russia and the Central Asian republics, prior to his appointment as India's ambassador to Poland.

Neelamani N. Raju Appointed Karnataka's First Woman Police Chief

i. **Neelamani N. Raju** has been appointed as **Karnataka's first woman Director General and Inspector General of Police**.

ii. She will take over from **Rupak Kumar Dutta**, who is retiring from service.

Lebanese Prime Minister Announced Resignation

i. **Lebanese Prime Minister Saad al-Hariri** resigned from his post. He was in Saudi Arabia's capital, Riyadh when he announced the resignation.

ii. His father, former Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri, was assassinated in 2005.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- The Capital of Lebanon is Beirut.
- Its Currency is Lebanese pound.

Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia named Finance Secretary

i. **Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia** has been designated as the **new Finance Secretary**. Adhia is a 1981 batch IAS officer of Gujarat cadre. The vacancy was caused following the superannuation of Ashok Lavasa in October 2017.

ii. There are five departments under the Finance Ministry- Expenditure, Economic Affairs, Financial Services, Revenue and Department of Investment and Public Asset management (DIPAM).

Other Secretaries-

1. Rajiv Kumar- Financial Services Secretary.
2. Ajay Narayan Jha- Expenditure Secretary,
3. Subhash Chandra Garg- Economic Affairs Secretary.

Bhaskar Ganguly Appointed AIFF Ombudsman by Supreme Court

i. **The Supreme Court** had appointed **former football captain Bhaskar Ganguly** as ombudsman, according to the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

ii. As per the AIFF, the apex court also appointed **S Y Quraishi**, former Chief Election Commissioner of India, who has also served as Secretary in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India as the ombudsmen to formulate the AIFF Constitution.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **AIFF President-** Praful M Patel, **Headquarter-** Dwarka, New Delhi.

Sujoy Ghosh Resigns as Jury Head of 48th International Film Festival of India

i. Filmmaker **Sujoy Ghosh** has resigned as **Head of the jury of the Indian Panorama of the 48th International Film Festival of India (IIFI)**.

ii. His resignation came following the elimination of the two films "**Sexy Durga**" and "**Nude**" from the final list of films. Instead of Nude, the Hindi movie Pihu by Vinod Kapri was finalised as the opening film of the festival.

Bangladesh Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha Resigns

i. **Bangladesh Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha** has resigned about six weeks after he went on leave amid criticism by the government over a Supreme Court verdict which scrapped Parliament's power to remove judges on grounds of misconduct and incapacity.

ii. Justice Sinha's term was scheduled to expire in January 2018. He is the first top judge of the country to step down.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Bangladesh Capital-** Dhaka, **Currency-** Taka.
2. **PM-** Sheikh Hasina, **President-** Abdul Hamid.

BSE Appoints S Ravi as its New Chairman

i. Eminent chartered accountant **Sethurathnam Ravi** has been appointed as the **chairman of the leading Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)**.

ii. Ravi, who was a public interest director at the BSE, **replaced Dhirendra Swarup**.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. BSE Ltd, the first ever stock exchange in Asia established in 1875.
2. It is the first in the country to be granted permanent recognition under the Securities Contract Regulation Act, 1956.

RBI Governor Urjit Patel Appointed to Advisory Board of BIS

i. RBI Governor Urjit Patel was appointed to the **Financial Stability Institute Advisory Board of the Bank of International Settlement (BIS)**. The Bank of International Settlement is a global financial organization owned by major central banks from across the world.

ii. The Financial Stability Institute (FSI) of the BIS assists financial sector authorities worldwide in strengthening their financial systems.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. The FSI was jointly **created in 1998** by the BIS and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision.
2. **FSIAB-** Financial Stability Institute Advisory Board.
3. **BIS-** Bank of International Settlement.

India's Nominee Dalveer Bhandari Re-elected to ICJ

i. India's nominee to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Dalveer Bhandari was re-elected to the fifth and the last seat of the world court after Britain withdrew its candidate from the election.

ii. Mr. Bhandari received 183-193 votes in the General Assembly and secured all the 15 votes in the Security Council after separate and simultaneous elections were held at the **UN headquarters in New York.**

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. The permanent members of the Security Council are **USA, Russia, France and China.**
2. The **UK is the fifth permanent member** of the Security Council.
3. **International Court of Justice Headquarters-** The Hague, Netherlands.

Emmerson Mnangwa to be Sworn in as Zimbabwe's New President

i. Zimbabwe's former Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa will be sworn in as the President of the country. Speaker of Parliament Jacob Mudenda stated that the ruling ZANU-PF party has nominated him to fill the vacancy left by Mr Robert Mugabe. Mr Mugabe stepped down after 37 years ruling the country.

ii. Mr Mnangagwa's dismissal from the Vice President post led the ruling party and the military to intervene and forced Mr Mugabe to resign.

Nirmala Sitharaman Elected IDSA President

i. Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has been elected as President of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA).

ii. The previous Defence Minister, Manohar Parrikar, had resigned from the post after shifting to Goa as Chief Minister.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- IDSA was set up in 1965 by the Ministry of Defence as an autonomous think tank.

NK Singh appointed as 15th Finance Commission chairman

i. The government announced that former revenue secretary NK Singh will be the chairman of the 15th Finance Commission (FC) that will recommend distribution of taxes between the Centre and the states

ii. Other members of the commission are former department of economic affair secretary Shaktikanta Das, Anoop Singh, professor at Georgetown University, former chief economic advisor Ashok Lahiri, agricultural expert and NITI Aayog member Ramesh Chand. Chand and Lahiri are part time members. The commission has to submit its report by

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Finance Commission was established by the President of India in 1951.

Shaktikanta Das Named India's G20 Sherpa

- The Ministry of Finance appointed former economic affairs secretary Shaktikanta Das as India's G20 Sherpa for the Development Track of the grouping.
- There are two tracks in G-20 — Finance Track and Development Track. Finance Track is managed by the secretary (economic affairs) as India's Deputy to G-20 and the Development Track is coordinated by the Sherpa.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Finance Minister of India is Arun Jaitley.



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Honours/ Awards

K Satchidanandan Selected for Ezhuthachan Puraskaram

- Noted Malayalam Poet and literary critic, **K Satchidanandan**, has been selected for **Ezhuthachan Puraskaram 2017**. This is Kerala government's highest literary honour.
- The award is for his contributions to Malayalam literature and poetry. This award has been Instituted in the name of Ezhuthachan, the father of Malayalam language, the award carries a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh and a citation.

Important Takeaways from Above News-

- Satchidanandan' s literary career began with the publication of 'Kurukshestram', a collection of essays on poetry (1970) and 'Anchusooryan', a collection of poems (1971).

Mumbai's Restored Royal Opera House Bags UNESCO Heritage Award

i. Almost a year after it reopened, The **Royal Opera House** has been awarded the **UNESCO Asia-Pacific Award for Cultural Heritage Conservation**.ii. The building was closed to the public in 1993 and sat crumbling for years before a restoration project was undertaken eight years ago to replicate the heritage structure. It was originally inaugurated by Britain's King George V in 1911 and completed in 1916.

Hindi Writer Krishna Sobti to Receive 2017 Jnanpith Award

i. **Renowned Hindi litterateur Krishna Sobti** has been chosen for 53rd Jnanpith Award for the year 2017, the Jnanpith Selection Board announced.

ii. Born in 1925 in Gujarat, now in Pakistan, Sobti, 92, is known for experimenting with new writing styles and creating "bold" and "daring" characters in her stories who were ready to accept all challenges.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- She has been the recipient of many coveted awards in the past, including Hindi Akademi Awards, Shiroman Awards, Maithli Sharan Gupt Samman, Sahitya Akademi Fellowship and Padma Bhushan.
- Jnanpith Award for 2016 was given to Shankha Ghosh.
- Jnanpith Award is India's highest literary honour.
- It was instituted in 1961 by Bharatiya Jnanpith trust founded by the Sahu Shanti Prasad Jain family.

Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple Wins UNESCO Asia Pacific Award of Merit 2017

i. The **Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple of Srirangam in Tamil Nadu** won UNESCO Asia Pacific Award of Merit 2017 for the cultural heritage conservation program.

ii. It is **first temple from Tamil Nadu** to win the prize from the UN body. The two key parameters that made the temple most eligible to win the award are its traditional method of renovating temple premises.

Indian Short Film 'The School Bag' Wins Award in Montreal

i. Indian short film **'The School Bag'** has won the **'Best Short Film Award'** at the **South Asian Film Festival of Montreal (SAFFM)**. It tells a story based in Pakistan.

ii. The movie is directed by **Dheeraj Jindal**. Actress **Rasika Dugal** plays the mother in the short film.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. Montreal- City in Canada.

Apollo Munich Health Insurance Wins 'General Insurance Company of the Year'

i. **Apollo Munich Health Insurance Company**, a joint venture between integrated healthcare provider, Apollo Hospitals Group, and the Munich Re Group was **conferred with the 21st Asia Insurance Industry Awards in the "General Insurance Company of the Year" category**.

ii. It is the first standalone health insurer in Asia-Pacific region to win General Insurance Company of the Year at AIIA.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Apollo Munich Health Insurance**, CEO- Antony Jacob.
2. **Headquarters- New Delhi, Founded- 2007.**

Israel Honors Natalie Portman with 'Jewish Nobel Prize'

i. **Natalie Portman** has been awarded **Israel's 2018 Genesis Prize** in recognition of her commitment to social causes and deep connection to her Jewish and Israeli roots.

ii. The **\$1 million award**, known as **"the Jewish Nobel Prize,"** is granted each year to a person recognized as an inspiration to the next generation of Jews through professional achievement and commitment to Jewish values. Ms. Portman is the **fifth winner and first woman to receive the prize**.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- **Israeli PM-** Benjamin Netanyahu, **Capital-** Jerusalem
- **Natalie Portman-** won the 2011 Best Actress Academy Award for “Black Swan”.

UNHCR to Get Mother Teresa Award 2017 for Social Justice

i. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has been named as the **recipient of the Mother Teresa Memorial Award** for Social Justice, 2017.

ii. The UNHCR provides humanitarian aid to innumerable people internally displaced by conflicts and helping stateless people all over the world. Harmony Foundation has instituted the only official award in memory of Mother Teresa. Harmony Foundation's theme for 2017 is **Compassion Beyond Borders**.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Harmony Foundation Chairman-** Abraham Mathai.
2. **Mother Teresa Memorial Award-** instituted in 2005.
3. **Past Awardees-** The Dalai Lama, Malala Yousefzai, Anna Hazare, Colin Gonsalves.

UNESCO Confirms France's Audrey Azoulay as New Head

i. UNESCO member states confirmed the nomination of **France's former culture minister Audrey Azoulay** to head the cultural agency. 45-year-old Azoulay becomes **UNESCO's second woman director general**.

ii. Azoulay succeeds Irina Bokova of Bulgaria, whose eight-year term. Ms Azoulay was France's Minister of Culture and Communication from February 2016 to May 2017. Ms Azoulay is the 11th Director-General of UNESCO. **She will take office on 15 November 2017.**

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **UNESCO-** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
2. **Director-General (Present)-** Irina Bokova, **Headquarters-** Paris, France.

Kevin Lilliana of Indonesia Won Miss International 2017

i. Kevin Lilliana of Indonesia was crowned **Miss International 2017 by Verzosa in Tokyo**, beating 68 candidates from across the globe.

ii. Other awardees include-

1. **First runner-up:** Chanelle Wilhelmina Maria (Curacao),
2. **Miss National Costume:** Natsuki Tsutsui (Japan),
3. **Miss International Asia:** Nam Seung Woo (Korea).

India's Manushi Chhillar crowned Miss World 2017

i. India's Manushi Chhillar has won the coveted Miss World 2017 crown at a grand event in China, bringing to an end the country's dry spell of 17 years at the top pageant contest. The first and the second runners-up were **Miss Mexico, Andrea Meza and Miss England Stephanie Hill, respectively.**

ii. The 20-year-old from Haryana, who is a medical student, edged out top five contestants from England, France, Kenya and Mexico. Chhillar was presented the crown by Stephanie Del Valle, the last year's Miss World winner from Puerto Rico at the event in Sanya City Arena in China which was televised live globally.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Chhillar is the sixth Indian to win the coveted crown.
- Reita Faria- 1966
- Aishwarya Rai- 1994
- Diana Haydon- 1997
- Yukta Mookhey- 1999
- Priyanka Chopra- 2000

Former PM Manmohan Singh to get Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

i. Former prime minister Manmohan Singh will receive the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and

Development this year for his leadership of the country between 2004 and 2014 and for enhancing India's stature globally.

ii. The award, comprising a cash prize of Rs.25 lakh and a citation, was instituted by the Indira Gandhi Memorial trust in 1986 and previous recipients include the former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, former President of the Czech Republic Vaclav Havel, and organisations such as the United Nation's Human High Commissioner for Refugees and ISRO.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Dr Manmohan Singh- India's fourteenth Prime Minister
- Born- 26th September 1932 in Punjab province of undivided India.
- He was also former Governor of RBI.

Veteran Journalist Manik Banerjee Gets IMF Award

i. Veteran journalist Manik Banerjee, who is also an acclaimed mountaineer was presented with the 'Life Time Achievement Award' by the Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF).

ii. Banerjee was presented the award in recognition of his achievements in mountaineering over a period of four decades.

IFFI Nominates Nine Movies for ICFT UNESCO Gandhi Medal

i. The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) has nominated nine movies for this year's International Council for Film, Television and Audio-visual Communication (ICFT) UNESCO Gandhi Medal. Out of nine films, five are from India.

ii. The Indian films competing for the prestigious ICFT UNESCO Gandhi Medal are Kshitij - A Horizon, Manusangada, Poorna, Railway Children and Take-Off. The foreign films in the fray are Amok from Poland, Khibula - a co-production of Germany, France and Georgia, The Last Painting from Taiwan and Women of The Weeping River - a joint production of the US and UK.

Golden Temple Awarded 'Most Visited Place of the World'

i. The Golden Temple has been awarded the 'most visited place of the world' by 'World Book of Records' (WBR), a London-based organisation.

ii. General secretary of WBR India chapter, Surbhi Kaul, and president of WBR Punjab chapter, Randeep Singh Kohli, gave this award to Shriomani Gurdwara Pharbandhak Committee (SGPC) chief secretary Roop Singh and other senior officials at Teja Singh Samundari Hall, Amritsar.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Golden temple is in Amritsar, Punjab.
- Chief Minister of Punjab is Amarinder Singh.

Miss South Africa Demi-Leigh Nel-Peters is Crowned Miss Universe 2017

i. Miss South Africa Demi-Leigh Nel-Peters was crowned Miss Universe 2017 at the AXIS theater at Planet Hollywood casino-resort on the Las Vegas Strip, with Miss Colombia and Miss Jamaica making it to the final three

ii. Demi-Leigh Nel-Peters, 22, who helps train women in self-defense, unleashed a big smile when she won. She hails from Western Cape Province and recently earned a business management degree from North-West University.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Capital of South Africa is Cape Town.

Professor Hiroshi Marui conferred with 3rd ICCR Distinguished Indologist Award

i. President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the 3rd Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Distinguished Indologist Award on Professor Hiroshi Marui of Japan at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

ii. Professor Marui has spent over 40 years working on Indian philosophy and Buddhist Studies. He is President of

Japanese Association of Indian and Buddhist Studies and has made significant contribution to Indology in Japan.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Indology is academic study of history, cultures, languages and literature of India and is a subset of Asian studies.
- The first ICCR award was given to Prof. Heinrich Freiherr Von Stietencron of Germany in 2015

French film on AIDS wins Best Film Award at IFFI 2017

i. Robin Campillo's French film 120 Beats Per Minute, about a passionate fight against indifference towards AIDS, won the prestigious Golden Peacock award for best film at the controversy-ridden 48th International Film Festival of India. The film's actor Nahuel Perez Biscayart won the Silver Peacock in the best actor male category.

ii. Malayalam film Take Off, which is loosely based on the evacuation of nurses from Kerala, who were stranded in Iraq's Tikrit in 2014, won two awards at the festival's Indian Panorama section, winning Silver Peacocks for best direction (Mahesh Narayanan) and best actor female (Parvathy). Actor Amitabh Bachchan was also presented the Indian film personality of the year award.

Aung San Suu Kyi stripped of Freedom of Oxford Award

i. Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi has been stripped of the Freedom of Oxford award over her "inaction" in handling the raging Rohingya refugee crisis and turning a "blind eye to violence" in the country that forced over 600,000 people to flee to Bangladesh. ii. Oxford City Council in London voted unanimously to permanently remove the honour given to 72-year-old Suu Kyi in 1997.

Bastar police force gets the 'Police Oscar Award'

i. Bastar police are in the headlines once again. The International Association of Chiefs of Police IACP has recognized Bastar police for its role in better community policing.

MS Duhan, DDG(E) wins Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Award

i. M. S Duhan, DDG(Engineering) Doordarshan Delhi has won prestigious Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Award for his Article titled "Structural mechanics of TV Towers: Strengthening for hauling up of the additional DTT Antennas" during 54th ABU General Assembly meeting held at Chengdu, Sichuan, China.

Harvard honours Elton John for efforts towards fighting HIV, AIDS

Harvard Foundation has honoured legendary singer Elton John for his contribution in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

Canadian filmmaker Atom Egoyan to get lifetime achievement award at IFFI

i. Acclaimed Canadian filmmaker Atom Egoyan will be honoured with a lifetime achievement award at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

ii. Egoyan is best known for his films "Exotica", "The Sweet Hereafter" and "Chloe".

Sports

Gagan Narang Wins Silver in Commonwealth Shooting Championships

i. Olympic bronze-medallist Gagan Narang won a silver medal in the men's 50m rifle prone event at the Commonwealth Shooting Championships in Gold Coast, Australia. Annu Raj Singh has also won the bronze medal in the women's 50m pistol competition.

ii. London Olympics bronze medallist Narang, who is appearing in his first major tournament since the 2016 Rio Olympics, shot a total of 617.6 in the qualification to end fourth.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Heena Sidhu clinched a gold medal in women's 10m air pistol event.

Kidambi Srikanth Achieves Career Best World No. 2 Ranking

i. India ace Kidambi Srikanth has grabbed a career-best ranking of World No. 2 after jumping two places in the latest BWF ranking. Srikanth now has 73,403 points and is 4527 points away from World Champion Viktor Axelsen of Denmark.

ii. In women's singles, P V Sindhu, who also reached the semifinals at France, was static at World No. 2, while former World No. 1 Saina Nehwal was also steady at the 11th spot.

iii. The sports Championship won this year (2017) by Kidambi Srikanth are as follows-

1. Denmark Open Superseries Trophy,
2. Australia Open Super Series,
3. Indonesia Open Super Series,
4. French Open Title.

Mary Kom Named Women's Youth World Championships Ambassador

i. Five-time world champion and Olympic bronze medalist MC Mary Kom has been named as the ambassador of the upcoming AIBA Women's Youth World Championships. ii. The event, which is being hosted in Guwahati, Assam is scheduled to be held from November 19 to 26.

India End Commonwealth Shooting Championship at Top with 20 Medals

i. The Indian shooting contingent finished the Commonwealth Shooting Championship 2017 with the best tally of 20 medals.

ii. Indian shooters won a total of six gold, seven silver and seven bronze medals in the competition. On the competition's final day, Satyendra Singh and Sanjeev Rajput won a gold and a silver respectively in the men's 50m rifle three positions.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- The Championship was held in Brisbane, Australia.

Shiv Kapur Clinches Panasonic Open Title

i. Shiv Kapur clinched his first Asian Tour title in India, bagging the Panasonic Open by three strokes, after bringing home a card of four-under 68 in the fourth and final round at the Delhi Golf Club.

ii. It is second Asian Tour title of the season for Kapur, who fired five birdies against one bogey to stay three strokes clear off a pack of fellow Indians.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- Kapur had won the Yeangder Heritage in April and finished second at the Thailand Open this season.
- He had won his first Asian tour title in 2005 at the Volvo Masters of Asia.

Indian Women Win Asia Cup, Qualifies for Hockey World Cup

i. India has defeated China 5-4 via shootout to win the women's Asia Cup hockey title 2017. With this, India also qualified for World Cup 2018 as Continental champion.

ii. Savita Punia was adjudged Goalkeeper-of-the-Tournament while Monica won the Woman-of-the-Match award. Skipper Rani scored twice while Monica, Lilima Minz and Navjot Kaur scored a goal each in the shootout.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

- It was in 2004 when the Indian women's team had clinched the Asia Cup trophy by beating Japan 1-0.
- The Championship was held in Kakamigahara, Japan.

Mary Kom Strikes Gold at Asian Women's Boxing Championships

i. M.C. Mary Kom (48kg) notched up her fifth gold medal at the Asian Women's Boxing Championships in Vietnam. She has defeated North Korea's Kim Hyang Mi.

ii. This is Mary Kom's first international gold medal since the 2014 Asian Games. Mary Kom's last medal came in the 2014 Asian Games in Incheon.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. This is Mary Kom's **sixth medal in the Asian Women's Boxing Championships** and fifth gold medal.

Prannoy Defeats Srikanth to Emerge as New National Champion

i. H.S Prannoy defeated World No 2 Kidambi Srikanth in a thrilling finale to claim the men's singles title at the 82nd Senior National Championship, in Nagpur, Maharashtra. ii. Second seed Prannoy, who achieved his career-best ranking of World No. 11 recently, saw off top seed Srikanth 21-15 16- 21 21-7 in a 49-minute clash.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **H.S Prannoy- won 82nd Senior National Badminton Championship- Defeated- Kidambi Srikanth.**

India Unveil Logo, Mascot and Song for AIBA Youth Women's World Boxing Championship

i. Assam's famed one-horned rhino was unveiled as the official mascot of the 2017 AIBA(Amateur International Boxing Association) Youth Women's World Boxing Championship in Guwahati.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. AIBA Youth Women's World Boxing Championship-

- **Mascot-** one-horned rhino 'Guppy'
- **Official Anthem-** 'Make Some Noise'
- **Venue-** Guwahati, Assam.

Saina Nehwal Beats PV Sindhu to Become National Champion for 3rd Time

i. World number 11 Saina Nehwal became the national champion for the third time, defeating world number 2 PV Sindhu in the women's singles final of Senior National Badminton Championships, in Nagpur, Maharashtra.

ii. Nehwal, who had previously won senior nationals in 2006 and 2007, won with the scoreline of 21-17, 27-25. Saina has played nationals thrice, winning the title each time.

Bharat Khandare, First Indian Fighter to be Signed for UFC

i. Bharat Khandare became the first India-born fighter to be signed by Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) as the Mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter.

ii. Khandare will make his debut at UFC Fight Night in Shanghai, China on November 25th. It will be the first UFC event held on mainland China and will air live on UFC Fight Pass in the United States. Khandare was born in Maharashtra.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Arjan Singh Bhullar**- 1st **Indian-origin** fighter to be signed by the UFC.

France Named as Host of 2023 Rugby World Cup

i. France will host the 2023 Rugby World Cup to stage one of the world's best attended and lucrative sporting events.

ii. The country beat strong bids by South Africa and Ireland, but the award represents a repudiation of the sport's leadership which have transformed the quadrennial tournament into a multi-million-pound enterprise.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

2. **France Capital**- Paris, **Currency**- Euro, **President**- Emmanuel Macron.

Pankaj Advani Lifts IBSF World Billiards Championship

i. Ace Indian cueist Pankaj Advani lifts the **IBSF World Billiards Championship**. Pankaj Advani clinched his 17th world title **at Doha, Qatar** after defeating his arch-rival Mike Russell of England 6-2 to defend the 150-up format title which he won in Bengaluru 2016.

ii. Advani is the winner of maximum number of world titles in any sport by an Indian.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Qatar Capital**- Doha, **Currency**- Qatari riyal.

Aditi, First Indian to Qualify for LPGA Tour Championships

i. Aditi Ashok has qualified for the season-ending CME Group Tour Championship on the LPGA, becoming the first from the country to play in the prestigious meet.

ii. The 19-year-old prodigy from Bengaluru is one of the eight rookies to make it to the Tour Championships in what is one of the strongest fields in women's golf.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. Aditi Ashok has won two LET events in 2016 and one in 2017.
2. **LPGA**- Ladies Professional Golf Association, **Founded**- 1950.

Pakistan's Saeed Ajmal Retires from All Cricket

i. Pakistan off-spinner Saeed Ajmal announced his retirement from all forms of cricket two years after losing his wicket-taking bite with a remodeled bowling action that was twice deemed illegal.

ii. Ajmal was once celebrated as the world's number one bowler in one-day internationals (ODIs) and Twenty20 cricket, and was almost as successful in Tests. Ajmal took 178 wickets in 35 Tests.

Sebastian Vettel Wins Brazilian Grand Prix

i. Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel took his first victory since July at the Brazilian Grand Prix, where Lewis Hamilton battled from the back to finish fourth.

ii. Vettel controlled the race after taking the lead from pole position man Valtteri Bottas' Mercedes at the start.

Yuki Bhambri beats Ramkumar Ramanathan to win ATP Challenger

i. India's tennis star Yuki Bhambri clinched his first title of the 2017 season on the ATP Challenger Tour following a come-from-behind win over compatriot Ramkumar Ramanathan in the final of the KPIT-MSLTA Challenger in Pune.

ii. Yuki, country's top singles player, overcame Ramanathan 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 in a little over two hours at Balewadi Sports Complex.

Ethiopians Birhanu Legese, Almaz Ayana win Delhi Half Marathon

i. Ethiopians Birhanu Legese and Almaz Ayana won the Delhi Half Marathon, 2017. In the Men's section, Legese clocked 59 minutes 46 seconds to claim the first spot, while his countryman Andahmlak Belihu finished second and Kenyan-American Leonard Korir came third. India's Nitendra Rawat finished 10th.

ii. In the Women's section, it was a clean sweep for Ethiopia, with world recorded holder Almaz Ayana finishing at the top of the podium. She clocked one hour, seven minutes and 11 seconds. Ababel Yeshaneh claimed the second spot, with Netsamet Gudeta coming third.

Grigor Dimitrov Beats David Goffin to Lift ATP Finals Title

i. **Grigor Dimitrov** has won the ATP Finals Title in London, UK. The sixth-seeded Bulgarian claimed the title at the season-ending ATP Finals to beat David Goffin 7-5, 4-6, 6-3 in the final.

ii. Dimitrov claimed his first Masters title in Cincinnati in August, and having risen to a career-high No. 3-ranking with victory in London.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **ATP-** Association of Tennis Professionals.
2. **Roger Federer** holds the record for the most singles titles in ATP.

Women's Youth World Boxing Ch'ship Begins in Guwahati

i. **Women's Youth World Boxing Championship** begins in Guwahati, Assam. Three young boxers will lock horn in the preliminaries. In 54 kilogram category, Shashi Chopra will play in 60 kg category, Mizoram's Vanlalhriapii will bout against Korean player and Astha Pahwa will take on opponent from Bulgaria in 69 kg.

ii. Assam Chief Minister Sarbanand Sonowal has inaugurated the event. The finals will be held on November 26.

Afghanistan Wins Maiden Under-19 Asia Cup IN Cricket.

i. **Afghanistan stunned favourites Pakistan** by a massive 185 runs to clinch their **maiden Under-19 Asia Cup title**, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

ii. Ikram Ali khil was the man of the match against Pakistan U19 in the ACC U19 Youth Asia Cup Final for his 107 not out and Mujeeb Zadran was the man of series for his 20 wickets in the tournament.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Malaysia Capital-** Kuala Lumpur, **Currency-** Malaysian ringgit

Lionel Messi wins fourth European Golden Shoe Award

i. Lionel Messi drew level with Cristiano Ronaldo's tally of four European Golden Shoes after receiving the award at a ceremony in Barcelona, Spain. The FC Barcelona superstar claimed the prize – handed to Europe's top goalscorer – for his 37 LaLiga strikes in 2016-17.

ii. It is the fourth time Messi has taken the honours, after his successes in 2010, 2012 and 2013.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Lionel Messi is an Argentine professional footballer.
- Messi plays for Spanish club FC Barcelona.

Ritu Phogat wins silver in U-23 Senior World Wrestling Championship

i. Ritu Phogat has clinched the silver medal in Under-23 Senior World Wrestling Championship at Poland. The 23-year-old, lost against Turkish Wrestler Demirhan in the gold medal bout of women's 48 kilogram category.

ii. In Semifinal, Ritu defeated Chinese Wrestler Jiang Zhu 4-3 points to reach the finals.

Serene Valtteri Bottas Wins Abu Dhabi Grand Prix

i. Valtteri Bottas won the season-ending Abu Dhabi Grand Prix from pole position, beating his Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton as Formula One's season finale petered out into a procession.

ii. The Finnish driver comfortably secured the third win of his F1 career, all this season since joining from Williams. It was his 22nd career podium and 13th with Mercedes. Third spot in Abu Dhabi Grand Prix was occupied by Ferrari's

Sebastian Vettel. This race took place at Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

India claim 5 gold medal, become champions at World Youth Boxing

i. India won 5 gold medals at the AIBA World Women's Youth Boxing Championships, in Guwahati.
ii. Nitu (48kg), Jyoti Gulia (51kg), Sakshi Choudhury (54kg), Shashi Chopra (57kg) and Ankushita Boro (64kg) won gold medals for India in the finals. Jyoti Gulia also qualified for next year's Youth Olympic Games in Argentina. Ankushita was named the boxer of the tournament.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- President of Boxing Federation of India is Ajay Singh.

Indian Men's and Women's Teams Win 2017 Asian Kabaddi Championships

i. The Indian men's and women's kabaddi teams were both crowned the champions of Asia after beating Pakistan and South Korea in Gorgan, Iran.
ii. Star raider Ajay Thakur led from the front in the men's final, as India beat their arch-rivals Pakistan 36-22. The Indian women's team beat South Korea 42-20 in their final.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Captain of Indian women's kabaddi team is Mamatha Poojary.
- Capital of Iran is Tehran

7th world military games to be held at Wuhan in China

i. The 7th international military games will be held in Wuhan city in the central China's Hubei Province. The International Military Sports Council (CISM)'s Military World Games is a top sport event for military personnel.
ii. It comprises 329 competitions in 27 categories and is expected to attract around 8,000 participants from more than 100 countries and regions.

Emblem-consists of a dove, a star, ribbons and other elements

Mascot-Bing Bing. Its design is based on the Chinese sturgeon, a critically endangered fish known as the "panda in water".

Slogan-Military glory, world peace

Important Takeaway from above news-

- International Military Sports Council (CISM) founded in 1948 and headquarters in Brussels, Belgium

Olympics: IOC bans Five more Russians for life over Sochi Doping

i. Five more Russian competitors from the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, including two gold medallists, have been banned for life over anti-doping rule violations by International Olympic Committee (IOC).
ii. Dmitrii Trunenkov and Aleksei Negodailo, both in the gold-medal winning four-man bobsleigh team, plus biathlon relay silver medalists Yana Romanova and Olga Vilukhina, who also won silver in the 7.5 kilometers event. Sergei Chudinov, who came fifth in the men's individual skeleton, was also disqualified for doping breaches.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Headquarters of IOC- Lausanne, Switzerland.
- The 2020 Summer Olympics held in- Tokyo (Japan) in 2020.
- President of IOC- Thomas Bach.

Mirabai Chanu wins gold medal at IWFWWC

i. Mirabai Chanu became the first Indian in over two decades to claim a gold medal at the World Weightlifting Championship in Anaheim, USA. Chanu lifted 85kg in snatch and 109kg in clean and jerk to total an impressive 194kg in the women's 48kg, in the process setting a new national record.

ii. Olympic bronze medalist Karnam Malleshwari had won the top prize in worlds twice- in 1994 and 1995. Some of the world's top weightlifting nations such as Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Azerbaijan could not take part in the competition due to issues related to doping.

Odisha CM Unveils Logo & Mascot of Hockey World Cup 2018

i. Logo and mascot of Hockey World Cup 2018 have been unveiled at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. Odisha had successfully hosted the Asian Athletics Championships recently.

ii. As many as 16 countries, including hosts India, will participate in the 14th edition of the Hockey World Cup. The Chief Minister also launched the countdown timer for the international event scheduled to be held in Bhubaneswar next year.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- The 2014 Men's Hockey World Cup was held in The Hague, Netherlands.

Obituaries

Padma Shri Awardee Author Manu Sharma Passes Away

i. **Noted author and Padma Shri awardee Manu Sharma** died in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh following a prolonged illness. He was 89.

ii. He was nominated as one of the navratna of the Swachha Bharat Abhiyan by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Manu Sharma**- recipient of Yash Bharti Award of the Uttar Pradesh government.
2. **Famous Book**- Krishna Ki Atmakatha.

Former Nepal PM Kirti Nidhi Bista Passes Away

i. **Former Prime Minister of Nepal Kirti Nidhi Bista** passed away at Kathmandu, Nepal. He was 90 and suffering from cancer.

ii. Bista was born in Kathmandu on 15th January 1927. **He first became Prime Minister of Nepal in 1969.** Bista served three times as Prime Minister from 1969 to 1970, 1971 to 1973 and 1977 to 1979.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. **Nepal Capital**- Kathmandu, **Currency**- Nepalese rupee.
2. **PM Nepal**- Sher Bahadur Deuba, **President**- Bidhya Devi Bhandari.

Legendary Hindi Poet Kunwar Narayan Passes Away

i. **Eminent Hindi poet and Jnanpith awardee Kunwar Narayan** passed away in New Delhi. He was 90.

ii. Born on 9 September 1927 in Uttar Pradesh's Faizabad, Kunwar Narayan was known for his poetry, stories, and critiques. His first poetry collection was "**Chakravayuh**".

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. Kunwar Narayan was honored with Jnanpith Award in 2005 and Padma Bhushan in 2009.

Ex-Union Minister Priya Ranjan Dasmuni Passes Away

i. Congress leader and former **Union Minister Priya Ranjan Dasmuni** passed away aged 72, after being in coma for 9 years.

ii. Dasmuni served as the All India Football Federation President for almost 20 years and was **the first Indian to serve as a match commissioner in a FIFA World Cup game.** He was paralysed after suffering a stroke in 2008.

Former Wimbledon Champion Jana Novotna Passes Away

- i. **Czech tennis player Jana Novotna**, a Wimbledon champion in 1998 and 16-time Grand Slam winner in doubles and mixed doubles, has died at the age of 49 after a long battle with cancer.
- ii. Novotna entered the tennis Hall of Fame in 2005. Novotna was a three-time Olympic medalist and a member of Czechoslovakia's 1988 Fed Cup championship team.

Important Days with theme

World Pneumonia Day: 12 November

i. World Pneumonia Day is annually held on November 12 to raise awareness of pneumonia, promote prevention and treatment, and generate action to fight the illness.

Theme: "Stop Pneumonia: Invest in Child health."

World Diabetes Day: 14 November

i. The World Diabetes Day (WDD) was observed globally on 14 November. The theme for 2017 WDD is 'Women and diabetes - Our right to a healthy future'.

ii. Diabetes is the ninth leading cause of death in women globally, causing 2.1 million deaths each year.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. The World Diabetes Day 2017 theme aims to promote affordable access to the essential diabetes medicines and technologies for all women.

19th November: World Toilet Day

i. In a bid to help break taboos around toilets and make sanitation for all a global development priority, the United Nations General Assembly designated 19 November as World Toilet Day. World Toilet Day has previously been marked by international and civil society organizations all over the world. However, it was not formally recognized as an official UN day until 2013.

ii. 2017 theme: Wastewater

Universal Children's Day: 20 November

i. The United Nations Universal Children's Day is celebrated every year on November 20 to promote international togetherness and improve children's welfare around the world.

ii. The theme of UCD 2017 is 'Kids Take Over'. The special day established in the year 1954, offers an opportunity for communities around the globe to promote children's rights in order to create a better world for kids.

Important Takeaways from Above News -

1. On 20th November- the Declaration of the Rights of the Child was adopted by the UN in 1959.

2. On 20th November- in 1989 the UN General assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

26th November: Constitution Day

i. 26th November is Constitution Day. On the day in 1949, the constitution was adopted which came into force on January 26, 1950 marking the beginning of a new era in the history of India. From 2015, the Government is observing 26th November as Constitution Day.

ii. The HRD Ministry has launched a Digital Signature campaign to generate awareness on fundamental duties enshrined in the Constitution. People can join the campaign by filling a form online.

Important Takeaway from above news-

- Minister of Law and Justice- Ravi Shankar Prasad
- Dr BR Ambedkar is known as the Father of Indian Constitution.

Source of Information

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CLAT coaching by NLU grads