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February 2017

The definitive magazine for Bank, SSC and Govt. Exam aspirants



Union **BUDGET** 2017

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It is our distinct honour and privilege to introduce the author of the guest editorial for this special online issue, Mr. Aditya Iyenger, who has journalism flowing in his veins. After a successful stint in various newspapers and news television, Mr. Iyenger currently holds a plethora of responsibilities including Social Media, Marketing, Corporate Communications, Strategy Management and Editor of Advanc'edge Magazine for IMS Learning Resources Pvt. Ltd. In his spare time, he plays the guitar to soothe his nerves when he isn't waxing eloquent in the English language. The contributions in this editorial read through an exploration of how notions of womanhood and manhood have been and continue to be lived.

All of us talk of gender equality. But what IS equality, really? For a few, it is an easily-defined concept. For many, however, there are myriad layers of disparities and discrepancies and discrimination veiled beneath a semblance of equality. Some layers are just beneath the surface, rearing their ugly head at the slightest hint of upsetting the male-accepted concept of equality. Other layers lurk in deeper waters, where people aren't even aware that they are biased against the fairer sex.

Whichever way you look at it, a lot of women have surmounted unimaginable odds to achieve recognition, both in work, businesses, and society at large. And while we delight in celebrating the successes of the famous, we often overlook the trials of the unnoticed, the women who tirelessly and silently carry on their work at home, at offices, at various businesses, with refugees and the disadvantaged, in war torn countries or in oppressive regimes. We celebrate a Malala, but we don't speak of the girl next door who teaches orphans every evening of the week. We celebrate a Suu Kyi, but we forget the lady in our society who takes care of refugees from other parts of the world. We celebrate an Adele, but forget the woman in the next building who's been teaching children to sing for the last 30 years.

We are used to celebrating the success, but we overlook the cogs in the wheel who make that success possible.

Throughout our lives, all of us will find such people around us. Whether you're a woman or man, whether you're placed in a Bank or a multinational, or placed in your dream company, or working in your dream sector – remember to notice, appreciate and celebrate the mothers and sisters and wives and all the other women who work silently around you to make the world just that little bit better.

This Women's Day, our wishes go to everyone, both the successful, and those who make them successes.

Aditya Lengar



Guest Editor

FOREWORD

As your train races up the roller coaster to its highest point, you brace yourself for the free fall, waking up the entire zoo in your stomach. The Indian economic bandwagon is in a similar situation. This Government has presented three budgets until 2016. With two more years to go before the next general elections, the time had come to zoom ahead and clock high rates of growth. Finance Minister Jaitley has precisely done this, albeit with a dose of sobriety. For all those who expected dollops of populist measures that invariably bleed the exchequer, it was a dampner of sorts. But economists have hailed this year's Finance Bill as a prudent and mature initiative to propel the nation towards higher altitudes of prosperity.

Change is the only constant. India is turning a new leaf. The metamorphosis has to be gradual and needs to be implemented with an inclusive approach. We stand on the brink of rationalization of taxes through the enactment of the GST Bill. Corporates await clear guidelines as proposed in the Bankruptcy Bill. Across the country, developmental activities are being initiated through multiple schemes that have the potential to bring about a significant transformation in the lifestyles of every Indian. Emphasis has been placed on elevating the youth through skill development and providing more opportunities in the education sector. This Government has been intent on displaying their willingness to implement change for the better, an instance being the demonetization drive to wipe out the parallel economy.

These are exciting times. The zip and vigour displayed by a new band of young leaders to effect change and positivity is notable. A few lines from Lord Alfred Tennyson's striking poem comes to mind:

*“Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.”*

Despite a volatile international situation, India has managed to maintain a remarkably stable economy over the last few years. Upheavals like the aftermath of Brexit, mixed signals emanating from the new government in the US, economic consolidation in China pose major challenges to the Indian Government like never before. The proposals in the Finance Bill, 2017 have been well received and promise to effectively take on the uncertainty of the future with confidence.

Invest your precious time in going through our special analysis of the Budget. You are in the right country at the right time. Your future rocks. You have choices that no previous generation ever had. Use this power wisely and build your future carefully. There are no limits to what you can achieve.

Anant Subramaniam





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Union Budget 2017

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley arrives at Parliament to present the Union Budget 2017-18

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley presented the Union Budget 2017, his fourth annual budget, on 1st February. In India, the budget is meant to be a roadmap to economic progression, and not just a statement of accounts. The budget this year had a long list of giveaways and government programs—the farming sector, the rural population, the youth, the poor and underprivileged health care, infrastructure, the financial sector for stronger institutions, speedy accountability, public services, prudent fiscal management and tax administration for the honest.

Following are the highlights of Mr. Jaitley's Budget speech:

Demonetisation: Demonetisation is expected to have a momentary impact on the economy.

- Effects of demonetisation not expected to spill over to the next fiscal year, says Finance Minister.
- Demonetisation is said to be a bold and influential measure that will lead to higher and cleaner GDP.
- Another benefit will be that demonetisation will help in transfer of resources from tax evaders to the government.

Rural Population: More steps are promised to be taken for the benefit farmers and the weaker sections of the society.

- The government intends to bring 1 crore households out of poverty by 2019. Over 3 lakh crore rupees will be spent on the polishing the lives of the rural population.
- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employee Guarantee Act will now double farmer's income.
- MGNREGA will take up five lakh farm ponds during 2017-18.



- Women participation is expected to be up to 55% in MGNREGA.
- To ensure effective working of MGNREGA, space technology will be used.
- The government intends to complete 1 crore houses for those without homes and also states that the country is on its way to achieve 100% rural electrification by March 2018.
- Rupees 19,000 crore will be allocated for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna.
- Remarkable progress has been seen when it comes to Swachh Bharat Mission. Sanitation coverage has increased from 42% in October 2013 to 60% at present.

Agriculture:

- Sowing farmers should now feel sheltered against natural calamities.
- A sum of Rs. 10 lakh crore is dispensed as credit to farmers, with 60 days interest waiver.
- NABARD fund will be increased to Rs. 40,000 crore from 20,000 crore last year.
- Mini labs will be set up by the government in Krishi Vigyan Kendras for the purpose of soil testing.
- Dairy processing infrastructure fund will be initially created with a capital of Rs. 2000 crore.
- A model law related to contract farming will be prepared and shared with the States accordingly.

Health Care facilities:

- Maternity benefit will be given to pregnant women under a nationwide scheme where Rupees 6,000 will be transferred to each person.
- The aim is to eradicate tuberculosis by 2025.
- Around 1.5 lakh health sub centers will now be transformed in health wellness centers.
- Two new All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) will be set up in Jharkhand and Gujarat.
- Necessary steps will be taken for the structural transformation of the regulatory framework for medical education and practice.

Facilities for the people:

- Rupees 500 crore has been assigned for Mahila Shakthi Kendras.
- A total sum of Rs. 1, 84,632 crore will be kept aside for women and children.
- Affordable housing will be given infrastructure status.
- Banks have now started reducing lending rates for housing due to surplus liquidity.
- Rupees 52,393 crore is allocated to Scheduled Caste
- Now Aadhaar-based smartcards will be issued to senior citizens to monitor their health status

Railways:

- Total amount of money allocated for railways is Rupees 1,31,000 crore.
- In additions to that, no service charge will now be included while booking tickets with IRCTC.
- In order to enhance passenger safety, Raksha coach will be set up with a corpus of Rupees 1 lakh crore for a period of five years.
- Unmanned level crossings to be eliminated by 2020
- 3,500 km of railway lines are to be commissioned this year; as opposed to 2,800 km last year.
- “Clean my coach” SMS service will be started from 2017 onwards.
- Coach Mitra Facility will now commence to record and implement all coach related complaints.
- The goal is to have Bio-toilets for all trains by the year 2019
- 500 stations to be made differently-able friendly
- Railways will now partner with top logistics players for front end and back end solutions for certain commodities.

Infrastructure:

- A total allocation of Rs. 39,61,354 crore
- A sum of Rupees 64,000 crore has been issued for highways.
- High speed internet facility to reach 1, 50,000 Gram Panchayats.
- New Metro rail policy to be announced with new modes of financing.
- 2,000 km for coastal connectivity of roads.

Financial segment:

- More than 90% of FDI inflows are now automated.
- Shares of IRCTC will now be listed on the Stock Exchange.
- Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) to be abolished in 2017-18.
- A Computer emergency response team is to be formed for financial sector.
- Rupees 2, 44,000 crore has been allocated for Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna.
- Two new schemes have been launched to promote the Digital India BHIM app. The two schemes are referral bonus for users and cash back for traders.
- Negotiable Instruments Act might be amended.
- Chandigarh is now kerosene free however, 84 new government schemes are on the DBT platform.
- Head post office will now be known as the central office for rendering passport services.
- Steps have been taken for quick and easy online booking system for Army and Defense Personnel.
- For big-time offences - including economic offenders fleeing India, the government will introduce a legislative change or new law to confiscate the assets of these people within the country.

Energy Sector:

- A strategic policy for crude reserves will soon be set up
- Rupees 1,26,000 crore worth of energy production based investments have been received.
- A new Trade Infra Export Scheme will be launched anytime soon.

Funding of Political Parties:

- Maximum amount of cash donation for political parties from any one source has reduced massively from Rupees 20,000 to Rupees 2,000. Political parties will be entitled to receive donations by cheque or digital mode from donors.
- An amendment is being proposed to RBI to enable issuance of electoral bonds. Donor can purchase these bonds from banks or post office via cheque or digital transactions and they can be redeemed only by registered political parties.



Personal Income Tax:

- Existing rate of tax for individuals between Rs. 2.5- Rs 5 lakh reduced to 5% from 10%. All other categories of tax payers in subsequent brackets will get benefit of Rs 12,500.
- People filing income tax returns for the first time will not come under the government scrutiny.
- One simple page returns for people with annual income of rupees 5 lakhs other than business income.
- 10% surcharge on individual income above Rs. 50 lakh and up to Rs 1 crore to make up for Rs 15,000 crore losses due to cut in personal I-T rate. 15 surcharge on individual income above Rs.1 crore to remain.

Income	Tax rate
--------	----------

Individual tax payers

Up to Rs 2,50,000	No tax
Rs 2,50,001 to Rs 5,00,000	5%
Rs 5,00,001 – 10,00,000	20%
More than Rs 10,00,000	30%

Senior citizens who are 60 years old and above but less than 80 years

Up to Rs 3,00,000	No tax
Rs 3,00,001 to Rs 5,00,000	5%
Rs 5,00,001 to Rs 10,00,000	20%
More than Rs 10,00,000	30%

Senior Citizens who are 80 years old and above

Up to Rs 5,00,000	No tax
Rs 5,00,001 to Rs 10,00,000	20%
More than Rs 10,00,000	30%

(Surcharge of 10 per cent on income of all individuals above Rs 50 lakh and less than Rs 1 crore and surcharge of 15 per cent on income above Rs 1 crore).

Tax Proposals:

- It is a known fact that India's tax to GDP ratio is not quite favorable. Also, proportion of direct tax to indirect tax is not constructive at all.
- Out of 13.14 lakh registered companies, only 5.97 lakh companies have filed their returns for the year 2016-17.
- 1.95 crore individuals showed income between Rupees 2, 50,000 to 5, 00,000. Out of 76 lakh individual assesses declaring income of more than Rupees 5, 00,000, around 56 lakh are salaried employees. Whereas, only 1.72 lakh people showed income of more than Rupees 50 lakhs per year.

- Between Nov 8 to Dec 30: Deposits between Rs 2 lakh and Rs 80 lakh was made in 1.09 crore accounts.
- Rate of growth of advance tax in Personal income tax is 34.8% in last three quarters of this financial year.
- Holding period for long term capital gain now lowered to 2 years
- It is now proposed to have MAT carried forward for 15 years.
- Capital gains tax to be exempted for persons holding land from which land was pooled in for creation of state capital of Telangana.
- In order to make Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) more practical, propose to reduce tax for small companies of turnover of up to Rs 50 crore to 25%. The reason for this is that about 67 lakh companies fall in this category and 96% of companies to get this benefit.
- Basic customs duty for LNG now to be reduced from 5% to 2.5%
- Income Tax Act to be amended, no transaction above Rs 3 lakh to be permitted in cash anymore.
- Limit of cash donation to charitable trust has been capped down to Rs 2,000 from Rs 10,000.
- Net revenue loss in direct tax could be something around Rs. 20,000 crore.

Fiscal Situation of the Country:

- Total expenditure for the year is Rupees 21, 47,000 crore out of which:
- Rs. 3,000 crore is under Department of Economic Affairs for implementing the Budget announcements.
- Defense expenditure, excluding pension is provided at Rs 2,74,114 crore
- Expenditure in science and technology shall be allotted Rs. 37,435 crore
- Total resources transferred to States and the Union Territories is Rs 4.11 lakh crore
- Recommended fiscal deficit for three years with deviation of 0.5% of GDP- 3%
- Pegged fiscal deficit of 2017-18 at 3.2% of GDP and remain committed to achieving 3% in the next year.

Revenue deficit - 1.9 %





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Personality of the Month

Donald John Trump is an American business mogul, television personality, politician, and the 45th President of the United States. Trump won the presidential election on November 8, 2016, against Democratic rival Hillary Clinton, and assumed office on January 20, 2017. Assumed presidency at the age of 70, he is the oldest and the wealthiest person, the first without former military or governmental service, and the fifth elected with less than a plurality of the national popular vote.

Trump received an Economics Degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1968. Later, he took charge of his family's real estate and construction firm, Elizabeth Trump & Son, which was later, renamed as The Trump Organization. During his business career, Trump has constructed, modernized, and managed numerous office towers, hotels, casinos, and golf courses. He owned the Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants for a couple of years. He also hosted *The Apprentice*, a reality television series on NBC. According to *Forbes*, Trump is 113th richest American and 324th richest person in the world, having a net worth of \$4.5 billion.

In June 2015, he announced his candidacy for the 2016 election, and materialized as the front-runner among 17 contenders in the Republican primaries. His final opponents suspended their campaigns in May 2016. His campaign gained exceptional media coverage and international attention.

First 100 days

The inauguration of Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States was held on Friday, January 20, 2017. In his first week as president, Trump signed six executive orders. His first order as president stood to minimize "the economic burden" of the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare. That same week, Trump withdrew the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, re-instated the Mexico City Policy, reopened the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipeline construction projects and launched the process to build a new Mexico border wall and reinforce border security.



People in the News

Senior IAS officer Ajay Tyagi appointed as SEBI Chairman - February 11, 2017



The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has agreed to appoint senior bureaucrat Ajay Tyagi (58) as the new chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Mr. Tyagi will have tenure of 5 years or he will hold the office until the age of 65 years until further orders. Tyagi will succeed UK Sinha whose term ends on March 1, 2017. The search-cum-selection panel lead

by the cabinet secretary suggested his name.

Ajay Tyagi is 1984 batch IAS (Indian Administrative Services) officer of Himachal Pradesh cadre. Preceding this appointment, he was Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, handling the capital market area. He had also served as the chairperson of the panel as appointed by the finance ministry. The panel supervised the merger of the Forward Markets Commission (FMC) with the SEBI. He has also represented India at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which is an intergovernmental organization set up to battle money laundering, terror financing and other related threats.

Dr Vijay Bhatkar appointed new vice-chancellor of Nalanda University - January 28, 2017



Dr. Vijay Bhatkar the architect of India's first supercomputer-the Param series is appointed as the chief chancellor of Nalanda University by President Pranab Mukherjee. He will serve his tenure for three years from the date of appointment under section 11(3) of Nalanda University Act. Dr Vijay succeeds George Yeo, the former Foreign Minister of Singapore who actually resigned after the Board of University was reconstructed.

Dr. Bhatkar is one of the much-admired scientists and IT leaders of India. He is also the founder and executive director of C-DAC, India's national project in supercomputing. Along with that, he has also attributed towards the creation of several national institutions. He also was member of the scientific advisory committee to the cabinet of Union Government and as of the governing council of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). Bhatkar studied at the Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi) and the Maharaja Sayaji Rao University. He has been conferred upon many

awards and honours including Padma Shri, Maharashtra Bhushan, Padma Bhushan (2015) for his contribution to field of science and technology.

Delhi Police Commissioner Alok Verma appointed as new CBI Director - January 19, 2017



Reputed Delhi Police Commissioner and Senior IPS officer Alok Kumar Verma was recently appointed as new the

Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation. He will serve of two years. A three member committee comprising of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Justice J.S Khehar and Congress Leader Mallikarjun Kharge was set up to appoint Alok Kumar. He will take over from interim director Rakesh Asthana, who was handed the wheel of the premier investigating agency after former director Anil Sinha retired on December 2, 2016.



Awards & Honours

59th Grammy awards 2017 - February 14, 2017



The 59th Annual Grammy Awards this year was held the Staples Center in Los Angeles, California. The ceremony threw light on the best recordings, compositions, and artists of the eligibility year from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016. In this edition of awards, British singer Adele won the most awards in five different categories. She also fashioned history by becoming first artist to win the

top three categories twice (for first time in 2012).

This year it was a pompous moment for all Indians since Indian-American tabla player Sandeep Das won Grammy Awards for the Best World Music Album with Yo-Yo Ma.

List of winners:

- Album of the year: 25 – Adele
- Record of the year: Hello – Adele
- Song of the year: Hello – Adele
- Best rap album: Chance the Rapper – Coloring Book
- Best urban contemporary album: Beyonce – Lemonade
- Best country solo performance: My Church – Maren Morris
- Best rock song: Blackstar – David Bowie
- Best pop duo/group performance: Stressed Out – Twenty One Pilots
- Best new artist: Chance the Rapper
- Best pop vocal album: Adele – 25
- Best pop solo performance: Hello – Adele
- Best R&B performance: Solange – Cranes In the Sky.
- Best R&B song: Maxwell – Lake By the Ocean

- Best rap performance: Chance The Rapper featuring Lil Wayne & 2 Chainz - No Problem.
- Best rap/sung performance: Drake - Hotline Bling.
- Best R&B album: Lalah Hathaway - Lalah Hathaway Live
- Best rap song: Drake - Hotline Bling
- Best metal performance: Megadeth - Dystopia
- Best rock performance: David Bowie - Blackstar
- Best dance recording: The Chainsmokers - Don't Let Me Down

Brief history about Grammy Awards:

Grammy Awards are the music industry's most prestigious and celebrated award presented annually by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS) of the United States. The first Grammy Awards function was held on 4th May 1959 and was originally called Gramophone Awards. The nominations include artists and technical professionals for their outstanding achievements in the English-language music industry at the annual presentation ceremony. The four main categories of award are Record of the Year, Album of the Year, Song of the Year and Best New Artist.

70th BAFTA Awards 2017 - February 14, 2017



The 70th British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Awards ceremony held at the Royal Albert Hall in London witnessed some extraordinary talent this year. The BAFTA awards were bestowed for the outstanding performances in films and documentaries screened in British Cinemas in 2016. La La Land won the most awards, winning five and was also most nominated in 11 categories.

The winners are as follows:

- Best Film: La La Land
- Best Director: Damien Chazelle (La La Land)
- Best Actor: Casey Affleck (Manchester by the Sea)
- Best Actress: Emma Stone (La La Land)
- Best Supporting Actor: Dev Patel (Lion)
- Best Supporting Actress: Viola Davis (Fences)
- Best Original Music: La La Land
- Best Original Screenplay: Manchester by the Sea

- Best Adapted Screenplay: Lion
- Best Cinematography: La La Land
- Best Editing: Hacksaw Ridge
- Best British Short Film: Home
- Best British Film: I, Daniel Blake
- Best Film not in the English Language: Son of Saul
- Best Documentary: 13th
- Best Animated Film: Kubo and the Two Strings
- Best Costume Design: Jackie
- Best Make Up & Hair: Florence Foster Jenkins
- Best Sound: Arrival
- Best Special Visual Effects: The Jungle Book
- Best British Short Animation: A Love Story
- Rising Star Award: Tom Holland
- BAFTA Fellowship: Mel Brooks
- Outstanding British Contribution to Cinema: Curzon Cinemas
- Best Production Design: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them
- Best Debut by a British Writer, Director or Producer: Babak Anvari (Writer/Director), Emily Leo, Oliver Roskill, Lucan Toh (Producers) for Under the Shadow

About British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Awards

The British Academy Film Awards is an annual award ceremony presented by British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) to commemorate the best British and international contributions to film industry. The award was established in 1947 by the British Film Academy. In 1958, the academy merged with The Guild of Television Producers and Directors to form The Society of Film and Television and later BAFTA in 1976. The award presented consists of a theatrical mask designed by famous American sculptor Mitzi Cunliffe.

Surgeon Raghu Ram awarded 2016 B C Roy Award - February 9, 2017



Dr P Raghu Ram, President of Association of Breast Surgeons of India was recently honored with the prestigious Dr B C Roy national award for his outstanding service in the field of socio-medical relief. President Pranab Mukherjee will confer this award on Doctors day observed every year on 1st July. He is known to be the youngest surgeon ever from the Telugu states to receive this award. The award recognizes Dr Ram's momentous contribution towards humanizing the delivery of breast health care in India. Besides, it also recognizes his efforts for creating

the much-needed awareness about importance of early detection of breast cancer in Telugu states through a number of initiatives.

The BC Roy Award is the highest recognition for medical practitioners in India. The Medical Council of India (MCI) instituted it in 1976 in memory of renowned physician and former West Bengal Chief Minister Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy.

Padma Awards 2017 - January 26 2017



President Pranab Mukherjee announced the names of recipients of year 2017 Padma awards viz. Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. He approved conferment of Padma Awards on 89 persons. The list includes 7 Padma Vibhushan, 5 Padma Bhushan and 75 Padma Shri Awardees. Out of these selected 89 persons, 19 are women and 5 awardees are from the category of foreigners, NRIs, PIOs while 6 are posthumous awardees. This edition of list includes more than 15 unsung persons and also people who rendered selfless service at the grassroots. Padma Awards, the country's highest civilian awards given in various disciplines- art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc.





PADMA VIBHUSHAN: It is the second highest civilian award. It is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service.

Awardee	Field of Prominence
Sharad Pawar	Public Affairs
Murli Manohar Joshi	Public Affairs
P.A. Sangma (posthumous)	Public Affairs
Sunder Lal Patwah (posthumous)	Public Affairs
K.J.Yesudas	Art - Music
Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev	Others - Spiritualism
Udipi Ramachandra Rao	Science & Engineering

Padma Bhushan: It is the third highest civilian award. It is awarded for distinguished service of high order.

Awardee	Field of Prominence
Vishwa Mohan Bhatt	Art - Music
Devi Prasad Dwivedi	Literature & Education
Tehemton Udawadia	Medicine
Ratna Sundar Maharaj	Others-Spiritualism
Swami Niranjana Nanda Saraswati	Others-Yoga
H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn (Foreigner)	Literature & Education
Cho Ramaswamy (Posthumous)	Literature & Education – Journalism

Padma Shri: It is the third highest civilian award. It is awarded for distinguished service of high order.

Awardee	Field of Prominence
Basanti Bisht	Art-Music
Chemanchery Kunhiraman Nair	Art-Dance
Aruna Mohanty	Art-Dance
Bharathi Vishnuvardhan	Art-Cinema
Sadhu Meher	Art-Cinema
T K Murthy	Art-Music
Laishram Birendrakumar Singh	Art-Music
Krishna Ram Chaudhary	Art-Music
Baoa Devi	Art-Painting
Tilak Gitai	Art-Painting
Aekka Yadagiri Rao	Art-Sculpture

Jitendra Haripal	Art-Music
Kailash Kher	Art-Music
Parassala B Ponnammal	Art-Music
Sukri Bommagowda	Art-Music
Mukund Nayak	Art-Music
Purushottam Upadhyay	Art-Music
Anuradha Paudwal	Art-Music
Wareppa Naba Nil	Art-Theatre
Tripuraneni Hanuman Chowdary	Civil Service
T.K. Viswanathan	Civil Service
Kanwal Sibal	Civil Service
Birkha Bahadur Limboo Muringla	Literature & Education
Eli Ahmed	Literature & Education
Narendra Kohli	Literature & Education
G. Venkatasubbiah	Literature & Education
Akkitham Achyuthan Namboothiri	Literature & Education
Kashi Nath Pandita	Literature & Education
Chamu Krishna Shastry	Literature & Education
Harihar Kripalu Tripathi	Literature & Education
Michel Danino	Literature & Education
Punam Suri	Literature & Education
VG Patel	Literature & Education
V Koteswaramma	Literature & Education
Balbir Dutt	Literature & Education Journalism
Bhawana Somaaya	Literature & Education-Journalism
Vishnu Pandya	Literature & Education-Journalism
Subroto Das	Medicine
Bhakti Yadav	Medicine
Mohammed Abdul Waheed	Medicine
Madan Madhav Godbole	Medicine
Devendra Dayabhai Patel	Medicine
Harkishan Singh	Medicine
Mukut Minz	Medicine
Arun Kumar Sharma	Others-Archaeology
Sanjeev Kapoor	Others-Culinary





Meenakshi Amma	Others-Martial Art
Genabhai Dargabhai Patel	Others-Agriculture
Chandrakant Pithawa	Science & Engineering
Ajoy Kumar Ray	Science & Engineering
Chintakindi Mallesham	Science & Engineering
Jitendra Nath Goswami	Science & Engineering
Daripalli Ramaiah	Social Work
Girish Bhardwaj	Social Work
Karimul Hak	Social Work
Bipin Ganatra	Social Work
Nivedita Raghunath Bhide	Social work
Appasaheb Dharmadhikari	Social Work
Baba Balbir Singh Seechewal	Social Work
Virat Kohli	Sports-Cricket
Shekar Naik	Sports-Cricket
Vikasa Gowda	Sports-Discus Throw
Deepa Malik	Sports-Athletics
Mariyappan Thangavelu	Sports-Athletics
Dipa Karmakar	Sports-Gymnastics
P. R. Shreejesh	Sports-Hockey
Sakshi Malik	Sports-Wrestling
Mohan Reddy Venkatrama Bodanapu	Trade & Industry
Imrat Khan (NRI/PIO)	Art-Music
Anant Agarwal (NRI/PIO)	Literature & Education
H.R. Shah (NRI/PIO)	Literature & Education-Journalism
Suniti Solomon (Posthumous)	Medicine
Asoke Kumar Bhattacharyya (Posthumous)	Others-Archaeology
Dr. Mapuskar (Posthumous)	Social Work
Anuradha Koirala (Foreigner)	Social Work



The grand Annual 62nd Jio Filmfare Awards event organised by the Filmfare magazine was held in Mumbai, Maharashtra. It honored the best Indian films of the year 2016. *Dangal* was adjudged as the Best film. Neerja and Kapoor & Sons with 5 awards each were the film winning highest number of awards.

Awards in various categories are :

- Best Actor: Aamir Khan (*Dangal*).
- Best Actress: Alia Bhatt (*Udta Punjab*).
- Best Film: *Dangal*.
- Best Director: Nitesh Tiwari (*Dangal*).
- Lifetime Achievement: Shatrughan Sinha.
- Best Debut Director: Ashwini Iyer Tiwari (*Nil Battey Sannata*).
- Best Supporting Actor: Rishi Kapoor (*Kapoor & Sons*).
- Best Supporting Actress: Shabana Azmi (*Neerja*).
- Best Male Debut: Diljit Dosanjh (*Udta Punjab*).
- Best Female Debut: Ritika Singh (*Saala Khadoos*).
- Best Singer (male): Arijit Singh (*Ae Dil Hai Mushkil*).
- Best Singer (female): Neha Bhasin (*Sultan*).
- Best Music Director: Pritam (*Ae Dil Hai Mushkil*).
- Best Lyricist: Amitabh Bhattacharya (*Ae Dil Hai Mushkil*).



62nd Jio
FILMFARE
A W A R D S
2017

Sports Current Affairs

81st National Badminton Championship Winners - February 8, 2017



Sourabh Verma has won the men's singles title in the 81st Senior National Badminton Championships tournament. In the final match, held at Patna (Bihar), he defeated Lakshya Sen by 21-13, 21-12 score.

Other Category winners

- Women's Singles title: Rituparna Das won the Women's Singles title by defeating Reshma Karthik by 21-12, 21-14 score.
- Women's doubles event: Duo of Aparna Balan and Prajakta Sawant won the title by defeating the pair of Shikha Gautam and Sanyogita Ghorpade by 21-9, 21-11 score.
- Men's doubles event: Duo of Satwik Sai Raj and Chirag Shetty won the title by defeating Nand Gopal K and Sanyam Shukla by 21-17, 16-21 and 21-16 score.

- Mixed doubles event: Duo of Satwik Sai Raj and Maneesha K won the title by defeating the pair of Venkat Gaurav Prasad and Juhi Dewangan by 21-14, 21-18 score.

Government Constitutes Task Force to prepare Action Plan for Next three Olympic Games - January 31, 2017



Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the constitution of eight members Task Force committee for preparing action plan for next three Olympic Games 2020, 2024 and 2028. It has been given three months' time to submit its report

regarding a comprehensive action plan including short, medium and long-term measures for effective participation of Indian sports-persons in the Olympic games.

The members of Task force: Pulella Gopichand, Abhinav Bindra, Rajesh Kalra, Om Pathak, Viren Rasquinha, S. Baldev Singh, Prof. G.L. Khanna and Sandeep Pradhan.

Terms of Reference of Task Force

- Suggest a comprehensive action plan for effective participation of Indian sportspersons in the next three Olympic Games.
- Suggest effective methods to identify core probable medal prospects for 2020 Olympics, their coaches and support staff.
- Suggest effective talent identification system for 2024 and 2028 Olympics. Identify components of world class support system for elite sportspersons and lay down further the pathway.

- Suggest ways to achieve synergy in the efforts of key stakeholders within Union Government and across State Governments, Indian Olympic Association (IOA), National Sports Federations, NGOs, etc.
- Suggest ways to significantly improve the standards of coaching and sports scientist within the country and to create and upgrade sports infrastructure required to train top-level athletes.

SC appoints Committee of Administrators headed by Vinod Rai to run BCCI - January 30, 2017



The Supreme Court has appointed former Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) Vinod Rai as head of four-member Committee of Administrators to run Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Other three members

of the committee are noted historian Ramachandra Guha, former Indian women's cricket team captain Diana Edulji and managing director of IDFC Limited Vikram Limaye. They will function as the interim bosses of the BCCI and run the day-to-day administration of cricket body till the Lodha Committee reforms are fully implemented and elections held.

In its earlier order of January 2, 2017 the Supreme Court had removed Anurag Thakur as BCCI president, Ajay Shirke as BCCI secretary and disqualified all the board and its state association office bearers after they had failed to implement new norms set by the Justice Lodha Committee. In its order SC had indicated that it would soon appoint a panel of administrators to carry out the reforms in the BCCI to make its affairs transparent.

International Current Affairs

February 13: World Radio Day - February 13, 2017



The World Radio Day is observed every year on 13th February to celebrate radio as the medium for entertainment, information and the mode for communication. 2017 Theme: "Radio is You". It is a call for greater participation of audiences and communities in the policy and planning of radio broadcasting.

The UNESCO at its 36th General Assembly in 2011 had proclaimed

13th February as World Radio Day. It was subsequently adopted as an International Day by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). On this day in 1946, United Nations Radio had transmitted (broadcasted) its first call sign. The first WRD was officially celebrated in 2012.

World's smallest pacemaker unveiled in US - February 4, 2017



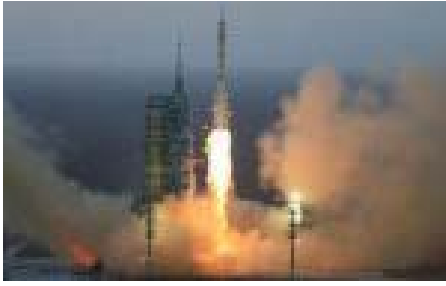
Scientists for the first time have successfully implanted world's smallest pacemaker dubbed

as Micra Transcatheter Pacing System (TPS) in a patient in United States. The pacemaker about size of large vitamin capsule is for patients with bradycardia, a condition characterised by a slow heart rate, usually fewer than 60 beats per minute.

What is Bradycardia?

Patients with bradycardia have lower heart rate and their heart is unable to pump enough oxygen-rich blood to the body during normal activity or exercise, causing dizziness, shortness, fatigue of breath or fainting spells. Pacemakers are the most common way to treat bradycardia to help restore the heart's normal rhythm and relieve symptoms by sending electrical impulses to the heart to increase the heart rate.

China successfully tests DF-5C missile with 10 nuclear warheads - February 3, 2017



China has successfully tested a new version of a DF-5C missile that can carry up to 10 nuclear warheads in January 2017. The flight test of the missile was carried using 10 multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles, (MIRVs), from the Taiyuan Space Launch Centre in Shanxi province and to an impact range in the western Taklamakan desert.

This development indicates shift in China's nuclear deterrence policy to modify older its arsenal of rockets with new MIRV busses. It means that China intends to increase the number of nuclear warheads it possesses. It is currently estimated to have about 250.

Seven new countries join BEPS agreement - January 30, 2017



Seven new countries Lithuania, Gabon, Hungary, Indonesia, Malta, Mauritius and Russia - have signed Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement for Country-by-Country Reporting (CbC MCAA). With this, the

total number of signatories has increased to 57 including India (signed in May 2015). CbC MCAA is a tax co-operation agreement to enable automatic sharing of country-by-country information.

The CbC MCAA aims to boost transparency by multinational enterprises (MNEs) by allowing signatories to bilaterally and automatically exchange country-by-country reports. This exchange of information is facilitated as part of Action 13 of the base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) Action Plan adopted by the OECD and G20 countries in 2013. The agreement will help to ensure that tax administrations obtain better understanding of how MNEs structure their operations and also ensure that the confidentiality and appropriate use of such information is safeguarded.

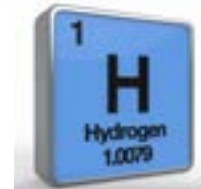
Japan successfully launches first military communications satellite - January 27, 2017



Japan has successfully launched its first military communications satellite Kirameki-2 (kee-RAH-meh-kee 2) satellite. It was launched on board of H-2A rocket that lifted off from the Tanegashima Space Center in southern Japan. The satellite separated from the rocket and entered a designated orbit.

The Kirameki-2 satellite has been designed to upgrade Japan's existing communication network in the face of China's increasingly assertive maritime activity and North Korea's missile threat.

Physicists create a new form of Hydrogen - January 20, 2017



Physicists from Austria have created new form of Hydrogen i.e. negatively charged hydrogen clusters. It is a previously unseen form of hydrogen. For the past forty years, existence of hydrogen in ion clusters was known and is positively-charged clusters have already exists.

How negatively charged Hydrogen Clusters were created?

Researchers first injected cold liquid helium droplets with hydrogen molecules to form clusters with a neutral charge. Then they exposed these hydrogen-infused droplets to an electron beam. This caused some hydrogen molecules to ionize and be flung out into the surrounding vacuum as negatively charged hydrogen ions. Soon, the nearby hydrogen molecules started clustering around the negatively charged ions to create negatively charged hydrogen clusters that could boast a few, or many molecules each. The newly created negatively charged hydrogen clusters existed only for microseconds (1 microsecond = 0.000001 seconds). But it was enough time for researchers to determine their geometric structures.

National Current Affairs

ISRO successfully launches record 104 satellites in single mission - February 15, 2017



Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) created history by successfully launching a record 104 satellites in single mission. These satellites were launched on board of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C37, on its 39th mission from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

Of the total 104 satellites, three were Indian and remaining 101 belonged to international customers. India's three satellites

included earth-mapping Cartosat-2 satellite (main payload) and nanosatellites INS-1A and INS-1B.

Foreign Satellites: Of the 101 co-passenger satellites, 96 belong to US and remaining 5 from Israel, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, respectively. Around 90 small satellites belonged to US-based company Planet Inc. They are named 'Doves' and their constellation will be used to image the earth at low cost.

This mission beat the previous record held by Russia, which in 2014 had catapulted 37 satellites in a single launch, using a modified inter-continental ballistic missile. It also broke ISRO's previous national record set in June 2016, after it had successfully launched 20 satellites, including 13 from the US in single mission.

IMF opens technical assistance and training centre SARTTAC in New Delhi - February 15, 2017



The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has opened a first-of-its-kind South Asia Training and Technical Assistance Centre (SARTTAC) in New Delhi for economic capacity building in South Asia.

It will work to support local member countries of South Asia viz. India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka to build human and institutional capacity and implement policies for growth and poverty reduction.

In 2016, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde and Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had signed a Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) to establish a capacity development centre for South Asia. SARTTAC is financed mainly by its six member South Asia countries with additional support from Australia, South Korea, European Union and United Kingdom.

No need to stand if National Anthem is part of film: SC - February 15, 2017

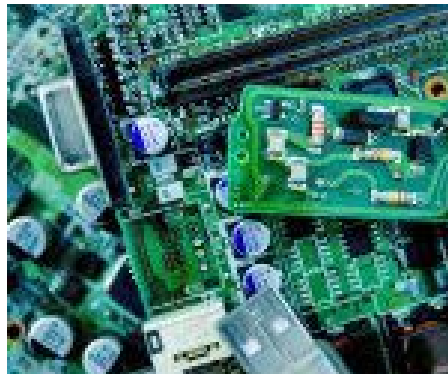


The Supreme Court has clarified that there is no need to stand inside a cinema hall when the national anthem is featured as a part of a film, documentary or a newsreel. This is second clarification issued by SC on its November 2016 order, directing all persons to stand up when the national anthem is sung or played in a cinema theatre.

In November 2016, Supreme Court had issued an order making mandatory for cinema halls to play the national anthem before film screenings. It also had directed all those present there to stand up to show respect. It also had ordered cinema halls to display the national flag on the screen when the anthem was played. The apex court had mentioned that this practice will instil a feeling

of committed patriotism and nationalism. The order was issued on a writ petition filed by Shyam Narayan Chouksey in October 2016.

Union Government plans to invest Rs.2,200 crore in electronic technology start-ups - February 13, 2017



The Union Government is targeting an investment of about Rs. 2,200 crore in start-ups working on new technologies in the electronic sector under the Electronics Development Fund (EDF) by 2019. This investment aims at creating an eco-system to make India a global hub for electronics manufacturing. Earlier, Government had approved Rs.681 crore as seed capital for building a total corpus of over Rs 6,800 crore under the EDF meant to support entrepreneurship and innovation in electronics and IT.

EDF is the mother fund or fund of funds that will contribute to various funds for those who invest the money in companies for creation of intellectual property rights (IPR) in the field of electronics and IT.

Government constitutes inter-departmental task force to crack down on benami firms - February 11, 2017



The Union Government has constituted inter-departmental task force comprising members of various regulatory Ministries and enforcement agencies to crack down on benami firms. It is first major post-demonetisation move undertaken by Government for unearthing black money from shell companies used for large-scale money laundering and tax evasion.

There are about 15 lakh registered companies in India, but only 6 lakh of them file their annual returns. It has raised suspicion that a large number of these companies are indulging in financial irregularities. During a small sample analysis of such companies conducted by Government has found that Rs.1,238 crore in cash was deposited in these entities during the November-December 2016 period, after demonetisation. It also has been found that 560 beneficiaries have laundered money to the extent of Rs. 3,900 crore with the help of 54 professionals, who have been identified by the Government.

*Kerala's Nilambur teak to get GI tag -
February 10, 2017*



Kerala's Nilambur teak known internationally for its superior timber quality and elegant appearance will be added to the list of Kerala produces with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. In this regard, IPR Cell of the Kerala Agricultural University (KAU) with the support of the Nilambur Teak Heritage Society, the Kerala Forest Research Institute (KFRI) and the Department of Forests have applied for GI tag.

GI tag is an insignia on products having a unique geographical origin and evolution over centuries with regards to its special quality or reputation attributes.

Benefits of GI Status (i) Legal protection to the products (ii) Prevents unauthorised use of a GI tag products by others (iii) Helps consumers to get quality products of desired traits (iv) Promotes economic prosperity of producers of GI tag goods by enhancing their demand in national and international markets.

*Union Government launches Measles Rubella vaccination campaign -
February 6, 2017*



The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched Measles Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign in the country at Bengaluru, Karnataka. It is largest ever in any campaign against these two diseases will start from five States/UTs viz. Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Goa and Lakshadweep covering nearly 3.6 crore target children.

The MR campaign is largest ever vaccination campaign aimed to target around 41 crore children across the country against two diseases. Under it all children aged between 9 months and less than 15 years will be given a single shot of Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccination free-of-cost across irrespective of their previous vaccination status or disease status. Measles vaccine is currently provided under Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). However, rubella vaccine will be a new addition to it. After the completion of the campaign, MR vaccine will be introduced in routine immunization and will replace measles vaccine, given at 9-12 months and 16-24 months of age of

child. Measles immunization will directly contribute in reduction of under-five child mortality and with combination of rubella vaccine, it will control rubella and prevent CRS (congenital rubella syndrome) in country population.

*HRD ministry to set up NTA to
conduct exams for higher, secondary
education - February 6, 2017*



The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRB) will soon set up a department - National Testing Agency (NTA) to conduct examinations for higher and secondary education. NTA will be the single authority that will conduct entrance tests for all higher institutions like JEE, NEET, NET and other prestigious exams.

Establishment of NTA will free CBSE, AICTE and other agencies from conducting various exams and enable them to focus on their core areas and work on improving the quality of education. Its main purpose is to bring reforms in the education system. Initially examinations like IIT, NIT and even university exams will be conducted by NTA. Later on secondary school exams will also be handed over to it. Initially, the CBSE staff will be deployed in this

department and but later on the specialised people will be hired in the NTA.

Ken-Betwa River linking project receives environment, forest & tribal clearances - January 13, 2017



The ambitious Ken-Betwa river linking project has received formal environment, forest and tribal clearances. The project aims at addressing water needs of

dry swathes in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The Union Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation is working out the funding pattern with NITI Aayog. The Ministry is pursuing NITI Ayog to change its funding pattern of Centre state share from 60:40 to 90:10 for the project as it is a special project.

It is India's first river interlinking project that will connect Ken river in Madhya Pradesh with the Betwa in Uttar Pradesh. The project was envisaged first in 1980 to transfer surplus river water to dry and arid areas of Bundelkhand

region. It will help irrigate an area of 6.35 lakh hectares annually in Bundelkhand region. Of this, 3.69 lakh hectares will be covered in Madhya Pradesh's Tikamgarh, Chattarpur and Panna districts. The remaining 2.65 lakh hectares of area falls in Uttar Pradesh's Jhansi, Mahoba and Banda districts.

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Banking & Finance Current Affairs

RBI Current Rates: (As on 16/02/2017)

Policy Repo Rate	:	6.25%
Reverse Repo Rate	:	5.75%
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	:	6.75%
Bank Rate	:	6.75%
CRR	:	4%
SLR	:	20.50%

RBI Reference Rate

INR / 1 USD	:	67.0467
INR / 1 Euro	:	71.5053
INR / 100 Jap. YEN	:	59.1500
INR / 1 Pound Sterling	:	83.7614

Base Rate : 9.25% - 9.65%

MCLR (Overnight)	:	7.75% - 8.20%
Savings Deposit Rate	:	4.00%
Term Deposit Rate > 1 Year	:	6.50% - 7.00%

Money Market

Call Rates	:	4.75%-6.25% *
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* as on previous day

Government Securities Market

7.72% GS 2025	:	7.1781%
91 day T-bills	:	6.1908%*
182 day T-bills	:	6.2239%*
364 day T-bills	:	6.2985%*

* cut-off at the last auction

Capital Market

S&P BSE Sensex	:	28301.27*
Nifty 50	:	8778.00*

* as on 16/02/2017

*Union Cabinet approves merger of SBI, 5 associate banks
- February 15, 2017*



The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the merger of State Bank of India (SBI) with five of its associate/ subsidiary banks. These five subsidiary banks are State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Hyderabad, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala and State Bank

of Travancore. The Union Cabinet also approved the introduction of a Bill in Parliament to repeal the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959 and the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956.

The acquisition of subsidiary banks of SBI is considered an important step towards strengthening the banking sector through consolidation of public sector banks (PSBs). It is in pursuance of the Indradhanush action plan of the Central Government. In 2015, SBI was ranked 52 in the world in terms of assets, however the merger will allow its entry up to top 50. The merger does not include Bharatiya Mahila Bank (BMB) and its proposal is still under consideration.

Government to come out with 2nd PSB recapitalisation plan Indradhanush 2.0 - February 13, 2017



The Union Government is planning to come out with 'Indradhanush 2.0', a comprehensive plan for recapitalization of public sector lenders. Indradhanush 2.0 will be finalised by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) after completion of Asset Quality Review (AQR) which is likely to be completed by end of March 2017. It aims to clean up the balance sheets of PSBs to ensure banks remain solvent and fully comply with global capital adequacy norms, Basel-III. Besides, revised programme of capitalization will be also issued as part of it.

Basel III is a global, voluntary regulatory framework on bank capital adequacy, market liquidity risk and stress testing. It was agreed by Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) members in 2010-11. It focuses primarily on the risk of a run on the bank, requiring differing levels of reserves for different forms of bank deposits and other borrowings.

Basel series of norms are broad supervisory standards formulated by BCBS to ensure that financial institutions have enough capital on account to meet obligations and absorb unexpected losses.

RBI to set up committee on strengthening cyber security - February 9, 2017



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to set up an inter-disciplinary Standing Committee on cyber security to examine various threats and suggest measures to deal with it. The committee will suggest appropriate policy interventions to strengthen cyber security and resilience in a bid to strengthen cyber security system.

The committee has been set up based on the recommendations of the expert panel on information technology examination and cyber security headed by Meena Hemachandra. In recent times, banks have taken steps to strengthen their defences against cyber-attacks, but the diverse and ingenious nature of recent attacks has necessitated an ongoing review of the cyber security landscape and emerging threats.

RBI to set up separate Enforcement Department - February 9, 2017



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to set up separate Enforcement Department to effectively monitor banks in case they violate regulations and speed up regulatory compliance. The department will be operational from April 1, 2017 i.e. the next financial year (2017-18). It will mainly deal with the penalties imposed on banks for violation of norms.

Currently, the banking and non-banking supervision departments against banks violating rules determine the penalties. The Enforcement Department will serve as centralized department to deal with penalties imposed on banks. This will help RBI follow-up and maintain a record on banks performance. It will deal with cases of non-compliance with regulations

noticed either through the surveillance process or otherwise.


India Post gets payments bank license from RBI - January 30, 2017



India Post under Department of Posts (Union Ministry of Communications and Information Technology) received final payments bank license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). With this, India Post became the third entity after Bharti Airtel and Paytm to receive final payments bank license to rollout of banking operations commercially under the permit.

Payments banks are a new model of banks conceptualized by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to meet government's financial inclusion target. It will be set up as a differentiated bank and will confine its activities to acceptance of demand deposits, remittance services, Internet banking and other specified services but cannot undertake lending services. Payments banks can accept deposits up to Rs. 1 lakh per account from individuals and small businesses. They can issue ATM/debit cards but not credit cards. They can also issue other prepaid payment instruments. They can distribute non-risk sharing simple financial products like mutual funds and insurance products. Non-resident Indians (NRIs) are not be allowed to open accounts in payment banks. This new model of banking allows mobile firms, supermarket chains and others to cater to banking requirements of individuals and small businesses.





General Knowledge Quiz

Quiz: 1

- Who among the following was the winner of best actor in 62nd Hindi Filmfare Awards 2017 ?
A. Shahid Kapoor B. Amir Khan
C. Manoj Bajpayee D. Ranbeer Singh
- “Let’s read together” programme was held in which state’s government-run schools?
A. Rajasthan
B. Madhya Pradesh
C. Manipur
D. Himachal Pradesh
- With which of the following is the Central Government’s ‘Stand up India’ scheme to promote entrepreneurship?
A. Women and Minorities
B. SC/ STs and Women
C. SC/ STs and Minorities
D. All of the above
- Which public sector bank has won the National MSME Excellence Award 2017?
A. Punjab National Bank
B. Corporation Bank
C. ICICI Bank
D. State Bank of India
- Who has been selected for the 2016 Vyas Samman?
A. Vishwanath Tripathi
B. Padma Sachdev
C. Surendra Verma
D. Sunita Jain
- The India Vetiver Network (INVN) has been launched in which state?
A. Kerala B. Tamil Nadu
C. Karnataka D. Assam
- Who is the author of the book “Hema Malini: Beyond the Dream Girl”?
A. Pooja Gautam
B. Ram Kamal Mukherjee
C. Rakesh Anand Bakshi
D. Shantanu Ray Chaudhuri
- Which Bollywood actress has been appointed the new Brand Ambassador of the Swachh Bharat Campaign?
A. Anushka Sharma
B. Deepika Padukone
C. Aishwarya Rai
D. Priyanka Chopra

9. The book "Between Two Worlds - The Assamese Sikhs" has been authored by whom?
 - A. Amrit Lal Nagar
 - B. Aga Shahid Ali
 - C. Abhijit Bhaduri
 - D. Bimal Phukan
10. From which state / Union territory, the "Measles-Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign" has been launched?
 - A. Puducherry
 - B. Goa
 - C. Karnataka
 - D. Tamil Nadu
11. Which state government has launched "Chief Minister Samagra Gramya Unnayan Yojana (CMSGUY)" to develop villages of the state?
 - A. Tripura
 - B. Odisha
 - C. Assam
 - D. Kerala
12. Who is author of the book "A Great Reckoning - A Chief Inspector Gamache Thriller"?
 - A. James
 - B. Bimal Phukan
 - C. K K Paul
 - D. Louise Penny
13. Which committee will be constituted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on cyber security?
 - A. N K Singh committee
 - B. Meena Hemachandra committee
 - C. Ravi Iyer committee
 - D. Tushar Krishna committee
14. Which country to host the 2017 IAAF World Athletics Championship?
 - A. Russia
 - B. United Kingdom
 - C. United States
 - D. France
15. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) to set up India's first school on Quality and Reliability (Q&R)?
 - A. IIT Bombay
 - B. IIT Indore
 - C. IIT Kharagpur
 - D. IIT Madras
16. "Dulari Kanya" scheme has been launched by which state government to check infant mortality?
 - A. Arunachal Pradesh
 - B. Himachal Pradesh
 - C. Madhya Pradesh
 - D. Andhra Pradesh
17. Which state government has recently announced a total ban on polythene bags from May 2017?
 - A. Chhattisgarh
 - B. Madhya Pradesh
 - C. Rajasthan
 - D. Gujarat
18. Who has been appointed the interim Managing Director and CEO of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)?
 - A. Seema Biswas
 - B. Nihar Gupta
 - C. S R Reddy
 - D. A P Singh
19. The book "Mother Teresa: The Final Verdict" has been authored by whom?
 - A. Nitin Bose
 - B. Ritika Bhattacharya
 - C. Aroup Chatterjee
 - D. Kanishka Gupta
20. The book "The man who could never say No" has been authored by whom?
 - A. N N Saxena
 - B. Vikram Seth
 - C. S Muthiah
 - D. Gopalkrishna Gandhi

Quiz: 2

1. What is the theme of 2017 International Mother Language Day (IMLD)?
 - A. Languages and cyberspace
 - B. Mother tongue instruction and inclusive education
 - C. Towards Sustainable Futures through Multilingual Education
 - D. Books for mother tongue education
2. Which Indian institute has won the International Mercury Awards for the year 2016-17?
 - A. Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services(INCOIS)
 - B. All India Institute of Medical Sciences(AIIMS)
 - C. Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI)
 - D. Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII)

3. Which public sector bank has launched mobile wallet "Bataua" for digital payments?
 - A. Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC)
 - B. Punjab National Bank (PNB)
 - C. Canara Bank
 - D. Central Bank of India (CBI)
4. Who is the author of the book "Every Time It Rains"?
 - A. Vikram Seth
 - B. Nikitha Singh
 - C. Mahi Jadon
 - D. Amitav Ghosh
5. Which union minister has launched the "Cyber Swachhta Kendra" for Botnet cleaning and Malware analysis?
 - A. Jagat Prakash Nadda
 - B. Ravi Shankar Prasad
 - C. M Venkaiah Naidu
 - D. Arun Jaitley
6. Altamas Kabir, the former Chief Justice of India (CJI) has passed away. He hailed from which of the following states?
 - A. Kerala
 - B. Tamil Nadu
 - C. Uttar Pradesh
 - D. West Bengal
7. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who has won the 2017 Rotterdam Tennis Tournament, is belonged to which country?
 - A. Belgium
 - B. France
 - C. United States
 - D. Germany
8. Which state government has launched "Kakatiya Hub for Social Innovation" India's first social innovation centre?
 - A. Tamil Nadu
 - B. Andhra Pradesh
 - C. Telangana
 - D. Kerala
9. Which NGO has bagged the IMC Ram Krishna Bajaj National Quota award in the NGO category?
 - A. Abhinav
 - B. Annamrita
 - C. Akshaya Patra
 - D. Swayam Shikshan Prayog
10. In which state India's first-ever floating elementary school has started?
 - A. Manipur
 - B. Mizoram
 - C. West Bengal
 - D. Assam
11. Who is the author of the book "Welcome to Nowhere"?
 - A. David Olusoga
 - B. Malorie Blackman
 - C. Revathi Suresh
 - D. Elizabeth Laird
12. Jehan Daruvala, who won the 2017 New Zealand Grand Prix, is belonged to which country?
 - A. Pakistan
 - B. Nepal
 - C. India
 - D. Afghanistan
13. GNFC township, which has become the India's first-ever cashless township, is in which state?
 - A. Maharashtra
 - B. Gujarat
 - C. West Bengal
 - D. Assam
14. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched a record 104 satellites from which rocket vehicle?
 - A. PSLV-C38
 - B. PSLV-C37
 - C. PSLV-C36
 - D. PSLV-C35
15. The world's longest elevated cycle path has opened in which country?
 - A. Japan
 - B. China
 - C. France
 - D. Brazil
16. Which state tourism department has tied up with an online travel company "MakeMyTrip" to promote its home-stay scheme?
 - A. Rajasthan
 - B. Madhya Pradesh
 - C. Odisha
 - D. Assam
17. Which operation has been launched by the Income Tax Department (ITD) to track deposits post demonetisation?
 - A. Operation Track Black Money
 - B. Operation Clean Money
 - C. Operation Clean Deposits
 - D. Operation Track Money
18. The book "The Secret Chord" has been authored by whom?
 - A. Alice Hoffman
 - B. Geraldine Brooks
 - C. T D Ramakrishnan
 - D. Tishani Doshi

19. The book “My Odyssey: Memoirs of the Man behind the Mangalyaan Mission” has been authored by whom?
- G Madhavan Nair
 - K Radhakrishnan
 - Shailesh Nayak
 - A S Kiran Kumar
20. Who has been bestowed with the highest peace time gallantry decoration “Ashok Chakra” on the 68th Republic Day of India?
- Nirbhay Singh
 - Harpreet Sandhu
 - Hangpan Dada
 - Kapil Yadav

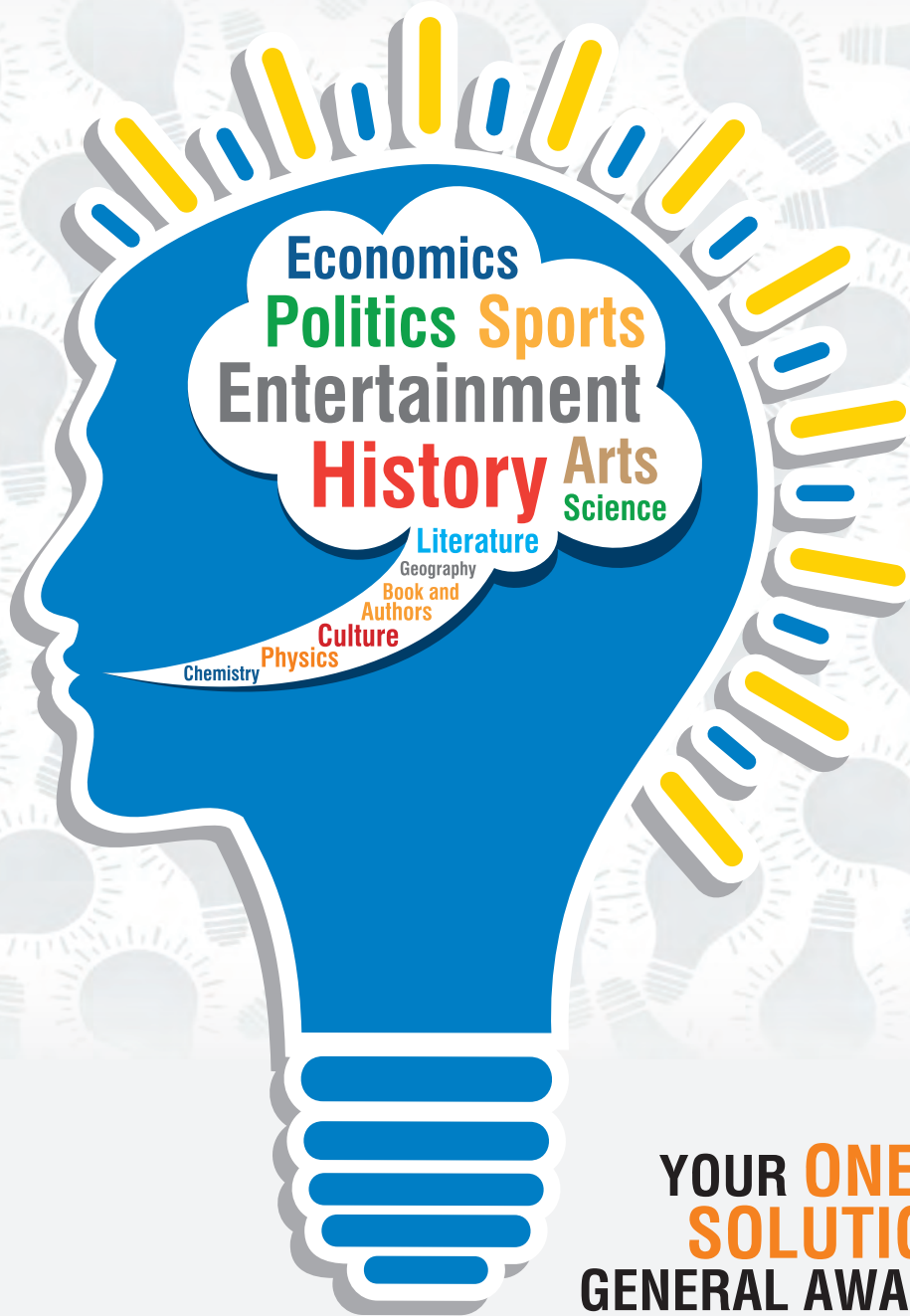
ANSWER KEYS

QUIZ-1

1-B	2-B	3-B	4-B	5-C	6-B	7-B	8-A	9-D	10-C
11-C	12-D	13-B	14-B	15-C	16-A	17-B	18-D	19-C	20-C

QUIZ-2

1-C	2-D	3-A	4-B	5-B	6-D	7-B	8-C	9-B	10-A
11-D	12-C	13-B	14-B	15-C	16-B	17-B	18-B	19-B	20-C



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