NATIONAL AFFAIRS

- 'Swachhta Pakhwada' was inaugurated at the head office of 'Shipping Corporation of India' in Mumbai.
- India-made suburban train "Medha" of 105 km flagged off by railway minister SureshPrabhu.
- Krishi Unnati Mela is jointly organised by the Indian Council of Agricultural research and the Union ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's welfare.
- Abhay Command & Control Center Is India's First One-Stop Crime Control Room In Rajasthan
- Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) in New Delhi celebrated its 5th foundation day
- > The country's first-of-its-kind dictionary introduced, which aims to bring together various sign languages for speech and hearing impairments.
- ➤ International Yoga Film Festival at Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) auditorium in the Capital.
- > IIT-Kharagpur gets supercomputing facility under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
- ➤ Tanstia-FNF service centre have signed an MoU with IIT-Madras for technology transfer of water treatment analysis in rural areas.
- ➤ NABARD has projected credit potential of Rs 1.72 lakh crore towards the priority sector lending by the banks in Rajasthan for the year 2017-18.
- Trip Advisor's Top 25 Asia list, Bali in Indonesia ranked number one in the list.
- Government of India signed MoUwith Asian Development for \$350 million loan for improving major district roads in Madhya Pradesh
- Union Environment Ministry and the Southern Bench of National Green Tribunal (NGT) ordered to shut the two oil firms of KTV
- APOLLO tyres and Department of Defence is joined to develop new tyres for defence services.
- Kandla Port Trust is planning to raise \$150 million through ECBs (external commercial borrowings).

- The 'Sustainable Water Security Mission' which was launched by Former CM J. Jayalalithaa is set to restart in Chennai.
- > The first battalion of 9th Gorkhas celebrated 200-years of its raising in Secunderabad, Telangana.
- Murugappa group firm's Carborundum Universal, has become the most advanced and integrated electro-mineral complexes in the world.
- Reliance Infrastructure has emerged as the lowest bidder for the development of a Rs. 800crore national highway project in Tamil Nadu.
- National chopper operator Pawan Hans launched its "Delhi Darshan" rides with a 10 minute sortie costing Rs.2,499 per person.
- Osmania University will host the 105th Indian Science Congress. Theme for the session is "science and technology reaching the unreached".
- ➤ Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC), CBEC is being renamed as the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC), after getting legislative approval.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been named for Time magazine's annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world.
- State-run Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) will sanction Rs 13,000 crore for clean energy projects next fiscal
- > India has become the third largest aviation market in terms of domestic passenger traffic, beating Japan.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:

- ➤ Lok Sabha passed the Finance Bill making Aadhaar mandatory for tax returns and getting a permanent account number (PAN) for 2017-18,
- > As per the revised UN report Norway is the world's happiest country. In the study of 155 countries, India ranked at 122 in 2017 report
- ➤ Italy ranks first in the world's healthiest country list. India ranks 143 in a list of 188 countries.
- ➤ World Economic Forum's list of 100 Young Global Leaders under 40 years of age, 5 Indians have been name in the list
- India and Pakistan agreed on redesigning the Miyar Hydroelectric project, of Indus Water Commissioners in Islamabad.

- > Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen launched the island's first every home-built submarine project.
- India notified the Third Protocol amending the existing India-Singapore Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA).
- > The global networking giant Cisco unveiled its first 'Made in India' router which can be used by small and medium businesses (SMBs)
- > President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina started off the 46th 'Independence Day' Bangladesh.

BANKING & BUSINESS:

- Power Finance Corporation and Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company signs MOU to meet operational requirements under the UDAY scheme.
- ➤ Ed CIL Bags Rs. 70 Crore Orders From Mauritius to supply 26,800 educational tablets.
- > Realty firm Super tech invests Rs.4000 Crore on 'Affordable Homes
- Vodafone and Idea to become the world's second largest merger
- > Standard Chartered has sold almost 4% stakes in Redington ltd for Rs.176 crore. It was bought by Dahlia Commodities services private ltd.
- India Ranks 87th on energy architecture performance on World Economic Forum
- ➤ India's GDP growth is expected to slow to 6.7 per cent in the Jan-Mar quarter of this fiscal year.
- > Indian Overseas Bank will get Rs.1100 crore as 'turnaround linked capital' infusion from the government. to enhance their capital base
- Bank of Baroda has raised Rs.1000 crore by issuing Basel III compliant additional tier I bonds.
- ➤ HDFC plans to raise Rs.1498 crore by issuing debentures with a view to augment its long term resources of the capital of the Corporation.
- > South Indian Bank has introduced Aadhaar-based payment app 'SIB M-Pay'.
- > Repco Home Finance Ltd made a tie up with National Housing Bank for implementation of credit linked subsidy scheme for the middle income group.

- World Bank signed a USD 100 million credit agreement with the Centre and Uttarakhand to improve quality of healthcare services in the state.
- Samsung launched its digital payment application called "Samsung Pay"
- ➤ Bharti Airtel acquires Tikona Digital Networks' 4G business for Rs.1,600 crore, in the 2300 MHz band in Gujarat, U.P. (East), U.P. (West), Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh circles.
- Tata Capital launched a mobile app 'myLoan' to extend its personal loans offering to young.
- Amazon, Grofers and Big Basket has entered into proposal to invest \$500 million in India's e-retail of food products.
- Qbera in association with RBL Bank, has launched its operations focusing on loans for those earning less than Rs.6 lakh per annum
- ➤ Karnataka bank introduced a card product "Money plant TM Rupay" with withdrawal limit of Rs.75000 and purchase limit of Rs. 2 lakh per day.
- ➤ In order, India has signed a 100 million US dollar agreement with World Bank to develop Uttarakhand health systems.
- Axis Bank will open an international finance branch at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) in Gandhinagar,.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- Japan launched a new satellite in Tanegashima to track land and maritime movements in North Korea.
- Scientist has developed a new bio-gel material which changes shape in response to its environment
- Broadband speed testing firm Ookla says Airtel as India's fastest network.
- ➤ An Indian-origin surgeon in U.K., with the help of a 3D printer, has successfully reconstructed a 53-year-old cancer patient's jaw.
- ➤ The fully indigenous cryogenic upper stage is ready to be flagged off from ISRO Propulsion Complex, on March 27th in Satish Dhawan Space Centre Sriharikota.
- NASA will send its next generation atomic clock into space later this year, for safely navigating future human exploration of the solar system.

Australian night parrot came three years after the bird was declared extinct and 2000 km from where it was first rediscovered.

APPOINTMENTS

- Sowmya Swaminathan, appointed to expertise and coordinate the global fight against antimicrobial resistance in UN
- ➤ Ex-Air-Asia CFO Ankur Khanna appointed as the CFO of International Cricket Council.
- Mr. Upendra Tripathy is appointed as the Interim Director General of the International Solar Alliance on a full time basis
- Madhabi Puri Buch as new whole time member of SEBI for a period of 3 years.
- Beijing favourite Carrie Lam was selected as Hong Kong's new leader and the first leadership vote since mass "Umbrella Movement" rallies

AWARDS

- NASA paid a tribute to the singer American singer song-writer Chuck Berry by sending his song to space in the deep space
- > Anupam Kher of Bollywood will be awarded Kala Ratan Award.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- March 21st World Forestry Day. Theme 2017: Forests and Energy
- March 21st International Day For Elimination Of Racial Discrimination.
 Theme "Racial profiling and incitement to hatred, including in the context of migration"
- ➤ March 22nd "World Water Day"Theme for the year 2017 is "Wastewater".
- ➤ World Meteorological Day March 22nd. Theme of 2017 "Understanding Clouds"
- ➤ March 24 World TB Day. The theme for the year 2017 is "Unite to End TB".

SPORTS

- Pujara, in Ranchi, was unbeaten on 186 against Australia when he faced the 496th ball of his innings and bettered Dravid's record.
- ➤ National record holder K.T. Irfan won the bronze in the 20km men's event in the Asian race walk championships.

- Roger Federer claimed a record-equalling fifth ATP Indian Wells Masters title with Novak Djokovic
- > Tamil Nadu became a five-time winner of the Vijay Hazare Trophy.
- > Vidhya Pillai Bags Silver In World Women's Snooker Championship
- Neeraj Kumar won gold in men's standard pistol in the 11th Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi Masters shooting championship.
- > Indian para athletes bagged eight medals, including three gold, at the 'Ninth Fazza International IPC Athletics GP', in Dubai.
- Ravindra Jadeja grabs top spot in bowling and Cheteshwar Pujara second in batting list
- Ankur Mittal clinched the double trap gold in the final of the shotgun World Cup.
- > Gatrode is sports drink brand of Pepsico, has roped in PV Sindhu, badminton player as its brand ambassador.
- ➤ The Bhakshi stadium in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir is all set to be developed into a world-class facility as per the FIFA norms for Rs. 48 crore.
- Sebastian Vettel beats Lewis Hamilton to win the season-opening Australian Grand Prix.

OBITUARY

- Former Rajya Sabha member Pyarimohan Mohapatra, the Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Biju Patnaik passes away
- Former Tour de France champion Roger Pingeon has died of a heart attack at the age of 76.
- ➤ George E. Bria, the Associated Press reporter and chief U.N. correspondent died. He was 101.
- Gujarati Poet Chinu Modi passed away.
- > David Rockefeller, the billionaire businessman and philanthropist, died.
- Martin McGuinness, the Irish Republican Army (IRA) fought for Northern Ireland's peace, died
- Prominent Tamil writer and Sahitya Akademi award winner Ashokamitran died.