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Current Affairs One Liners August 14-21

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Current Affairs One Liners

August 14-21

NATIONAL

1. The nation is celebrating its **71st Independence Day** today and the main function was held at the Red Fort in the national capital where Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** unfurled the National Flag synchronized with 21-Gun Salute. The Prime Minister called for an end to the "chaltahai" attitude of complacency, and its replacement with an attitude of "**badalsaktahai**" for positive change.

2. Maharashtra Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** launched "**Namo YuvaRojgar Kendra**" an initiative providing job opportunities to unemployed youth in Mumbai. There are various schemes like **farmers weekly market, farmers mobile market and mother's tiffin**, under this YuvaRojgar Kendra and they can get fresh and healthy food, as well as farm, produce procured directly from farmers.

3. **Infusion Nurses Society (INS)** – a global authority in infusion therapy launched **India's first online course** on Infusion Therapy for nurses, under which it **aims** to train over 3,000 nurses in the vital medical procedure.

4. President **Ram Nath Kovind** has approved **112 Gallantry Awards** to armed forces and paramilitary personnel on the occasion of the 71st Independence Day. The Awards includes **5 Kirti Chakras, 17 Shaurya Chakras, 85 Sena Medals (Gallantry), three NaoSena Medals (Gallantry) and two VayuSena Medals (Gallantry)**. Of all 112, **19** are posthumous.

5. **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** launched a website to honour all the gallantry award

winners since Independence

<http://gallantryawards.gov.in>

6. **India** will host the **next steering committee** meeting of the proposed **1,814 kilometre-long Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI)** gas pipeline, senior officials on both sides confirmed.

7. **Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis** inaugurated the next **generation projection mapping system** at the iconic Gateway of India in south Mumbai.

8. **Indian Air Force** embarked upon an all women camel expedition along with Border Security Force from **Utarlai** (Barmer, Rajasthan) to **Attari** (Amritsar, Punjab). The expedition will conclude on **30 Sep 17**. The team was flagged off from **Air Force Station Uttarlai**. The expedition is planned with a team of 10 Women Air Warriors of IAF and 10 Women personnel from BSF.

9. The main building of the **Uttarakhand secretariat** will be named after former **President A P J Abdul Kalam** and this announcement was made by Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat on Independence Day.

10. **India's first railways disaster management** village expected to come up near **Bengaluru at a place called Hejjala** by **December 2018**. It will be used to replicate train accidents so that real time rescue operations could be carried out to improve such efforts.

11. A limited edition silver coin on Lord Krishna will be released on Janmashtami on August 15 by the Republic of Chad in commemoration of the 5,244th birth anniversary of the Hindu God.

12. A special programme would soon be launched to prevent the spread of malaria in remote areas of Odisha's Ganjam district. The

programme has been christened as "DurgamaAnchalare Malaria Nirakaran" (DAMON)

13. The **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, CCEA** has approved the proposal of **Department of Investment and public Asset Management, DIPAM** for the **strategic disinvestment**.

14. The Union Cabinet has approved raising extra budgetary resources up to **9,020 crore rupees** for **Long Term Irrigation Fund in 2017-18**. Finance Minister **ArunJaitley** said that the amount will be raised by **NABARD through Bonds**.

15. The **Union Law Ministry** forwarded to the **President** the Tamil Nadu government's proposed ordinance on **one-year exemption from NEET**. The ordinance will be applicable for only government medical colleges in the State.

16. The Union Cabinet chaired by the **Prime Minister ShriNarendraModi** has given its approval to the proposal to complete the balance works of the **North Koel Reservoir Project in Jharkhand and Bihar** at an estimated expenditure of **Rs.1622.27 crore** to be incurred during three financial years from the start of the project.

17. In order to facilitate the availability of **FASTags** for **Electronic Toll Collection**, NHA has taken two revolutionary steps in consultation with **RBI** and **NPCI**. These include online sale of **FASTags** and **offline sale** through **Common Services Centre (CSC)** near toll plazas.

18. The **Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region (I/C)**, Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, **Dr. Jitendra Singh** said that a North Eastern Cultural and Information Centre will be set up in Delhi soon. The project is expected to be completed within **1-2 years** and at a cost of approximately **Rs. 50-55 crores**.

19. **Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi** launched the **Indira Canteen scheme** a Karnataka state government initiative named after former prime minister Indira Gandhi aimed at **providing food at low cost to the urban poor**.

20. **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**, under the Ministry of Power, today signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)** under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) for distribution of energy efficient appliances under the flagship **UnnatJeevan by Affordable LEDs** and appliances for All **(UJALA) scheme**.

21. The Union Cabinet chaired by the **Prime Minister ShriNarendraModi** has accorded its approval for creation of a **non-lapsable pool** in the Public Account for secondary and higher, education known as **"Madhyamik and UchchatarShikshaKosh" (MUSK)** into which all proceeds of "Secondary and Higher Education Cess" will be credited.

22. Union **Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan**, launched the **"Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali"** campaign.

23. The Prime Minister interacted with Young Entrepreneurs at the **"Champions of Change"** initiative organised by **NITI Aayog at PravasiBharatiya Kendra**.

24. **Industries in the north eastern and Himalayan states** will continue to get **tax exemption till March 2027**, albeit as refund, under the current GST regime which was rolled out on July 1

25. The **Union Cabinet** cleared a MoU signed between **India and Sweden** on **intellectual property right (IPR) cooperation**, aimed at benefiting entrepreneurs, investors and businesses. This meeting is chaired by Prime Minister NarendraModi. It will enable India to

exchange experiences in **innovation and IP ecosystems**.

26. An **MoU** was signed between **Government eMarketplace (GeM) SPV** and the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**, in the presence of Smt **NirmalaSitharaman, Commerce & Industry Minister at UdyogBhawan, New Delhi**. Smt S RadhaChauhan, CEO GeM and ShChandrajit Banerjee, DG, CII signed the MoU on behalf of GeM SPV and CII respectively.

27. Centre has **doubled** the child care **allowance for women employees** with disabilities to **three thousand rupees per month**.

28. **Union Minister for Textile and Information & Broadcasting, SmritiIrani** will arrive in **Ranchi** to inaugurate **Orient Craft Textile facility at Irba near Ranchi in Jharkhand**. It is being organised under special make in Jharkhand drive, called "**Momentum Jharkhand**".

29. A two day **Chief Electoral Officers'** Conference of all States and Union Territories commenced in New Delhi. It was inaugurated by **Shri. A.K. Joti, Chief Election Commissioner of India** and **Shri. O.P. Rawat, Election Commissioner of India**.

30. **NavikaSagarParikrama** is a project wherein a team of six women officers of the Indian Navy would circumnavigate the globe on an **Indian-built sail boat INSV Tarini**.

31. The **last date for filing returns** and **payment of taxes** under the **GST regime** has been **extended** by **five days**. The returns can now be filed till the 25th of this august month For taxpayers who have to claim credit for past taxes paid by filing form **TRANS 1**, the last date for returns will be **August 28th**.

32. **MIT World Peace University**, the first of its kind in India, was inaugurated by **Chief Minister of Maharashtra DevendraFadnavis**.

33. The **Centre** has approved a nearly **Rs 32,000 crore** plan for the **Coast Guard** that will give more teeth to **the maritime security agency** in maintaining **vigil on coastal waters**

34. **Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare JP Nadda** will launch **15 medical outlets of AMRUT Deendayal in Assam, Uttar Pradesh** and **Punjab** through Video Conference from Shimla. The purpose of AMRUT Deendayal programme is to provide different kind of medicines and equipment's on **cheap rates** to the patients. The **discount up to 60 percent** on MRP is provided to the patients.

35. The **Assam government** has proposed ambitious project to improve rural road connectivity. Managing Director of Assam State Transport Corporation A P Tiwari said that government is mulling to start **Chief Minister's LokParivahanYojna**.

36. **State-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC)** will invest about **Rs 52,000 crore** in expanding **Paradip refinery** and setting up **petrochemical complex** after the **Odisha government** agreed to restore part of tax incentives.

37. The Union government is all set to double the **metro rail network** over the **next 18 months**, adding **three new cities** to the **metro map**. **Lucknow Metro** would be the **first** off the block as it has received **safety clearance** and would be inaugurated within this month

38. The **Ministry of Defence** has decided to **delegate administrative and financial powers** to the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** to avoid delays on account of references between the Chief Engineer, HQ DGBR and the Ministry. A chief engineer of the BRO can accord administrative approval up to **Rs. 50 crore**, ADGBR up to **Rs. 75 crore** and DGBR up to **Rs. 100 crore**.

39. The Prime Minister, **Shri Narendra Modi**, reviewed the progress of two key schemes related to the **agriculture sector – Soil Health Cards; and PradhanMantriFasalBimaYojana**.

40. The **Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM)**, a professional body

under the aegis of the **Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP)**, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, is organizing a three-day workshop on **Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)** from 22nd – 24th August, 2017, in **New Delhi**. **ShriRajnath Singh, Union Minister of Home Affairs**, will be the Chief Guest.

41. **Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, Renewable Energy and Mines, ShriPiyushGoyal**, addressed a distinguished gathering of delegates attended **8th World Renewable Energy Technology Congress in New Delhi**. The Minister also gave away Energy and Environment Foundation Global Excellence awards 2017 during the inaugural session of the conference.

INTERNATIONAL

1. **India and Turkmenistan** discussed joining the **Ashgabat Agreement** that envisages establishment of International Transport and Transit Corridor between Iran, Oman and Turkmenistan.

2. **Melbourne** has been declared the **most liveable city** in the world for the seventh year running by the **Economist's annual global liveability survey**, while **Sydney** remains in 11th place. It is the **first time** in the survey's 15-year history that a city has held the No 1 rank in its own right for seven consecutive years.

3. **Italy** will host a summit of **Group of Seven Interior Ministers** centered on security issues in the fall. Italian Interior **Minister Marco Minniti** said, the meeting is being organised at the request of Italy's G-7 partners- **Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan and the United States**.

4. **Nepal and China** signed **three pacts** to further boost their **ties in power and energy sectors**. The pacts were signed to undertake a feasibility study to **excavate natural gas and petroleum** in the Himalayan country, including in the southern Terai plains.

5. **China** announced **USD 1 million assistance** to **flood-hit Nepal** as the country's **Vice Premier Wang Yang** held talks with his Nepalese counterpart on **ways to enhance bilateral ties**.

6. **President Donald Trump** has **signed** into law an **updated veterans' education bill** that marks the largest expansion of college assistance for military **veterans** in a decade.

7. Despite growing tensions with China, official sources said the Indian Navy would join the **People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy** in a maiden maritime search and rescue exercise to be chaired by **Bangladesh** at the **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)** in November this year.

8. The **Nepal** government has announced to release **Rs.1 billion** to **flood and landslide victims**. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Prime Minister Disaster Relief Fund Committee held at Kathmandu.

9. **India and Russia** will hold a **mega military exercise** in **October** involving their armies, navies and the air forces for the first time to further ramp up military ties.

10. The exercise "**Indra**", which will be held in **Russia from 19 to 29 October**, will primarily focus on achieving coordination between forces of the two countries in a **tri- services integrated theatre** command scenario

11. **India** is deploying along its volatile border with **Pakistan a smart Israel-developed fencing system having a 'quick response team'** mechanism which strikes when the CCTV-powered control room detects an infiltration attempt. The BSF is implementing an ambitious project called the **Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS)** as part of the NarendraModi government's plan to completely seal the Indo-Pak and India-Bangladesh borders in the next **few years**.

12. According to the **global leader in broadband testing Ookla, Norway** has the **fastest mobile Internet** in the world. In only 13 months, Norway has jumped from 11th to first place on the list of world best providers of fast Internet connection.
13. **India and Turkmenistan** reviewed the entire **bilateral relations** and took stock of the progress achieved in key areas like **energy, trade and security**, the Ministry of External Affairs said. The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of **Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov** led a high-level delegation comprising senior officials of the **Government of Turkmenistan to New Delhi** from August 13-15
14. **SpaceX** successfully launched **Hewlett Packard Enterprise's (HPE) 'Spaceborne Computer'** towards the International Space Station using **Falcon 9 rocket**.
15. **Sir David Attenborough** finally earned his wings after scientists named a **100-million-year-old damselfly** after the veteran broadcaster and naturalist. Researchers led by Professor Edmund A. Jarzembowski have formally named the insect as **Mesostictadavidattenboroughi** as a belated 90th birthday present to the world's most famous naturalist.
16. **Qatar** has launched a **new direct route** between the **country's Hamad Port and Pakistan's port of Karachi**.
17. The **US and Japan** have agreed to **advance their multilateral security and defence cooperation with countries like India, South Korea and Australia, amidst China's** growing assertiveness in the **Asia Pacific region**.
18. **Five Indian-origin persons** have featured in Fortune's annual list of **40 young and influential people (40 under 40) in the field of business inspiring others with their**

work. The Indian-origin 26-year-old **Divya Nag** who oversees Apple's ambitious ResearchKit and CareKit programmes has been ranked 27th. **Rishi Shah, 31**, and **Shradha Agarwal, 32**, who helm more than 10-year-old health-tech firm Outcome Health have been ranked **38th** on the list. **Leila Janah (31)** CEO and founder of non-profit Samasource has been ranked **40th** on the list.

19. **Emma Stone** has been named **Hollywood's best-paid female actor** in Forbes' annual list of top earners. The 28-year-old made \$26m in the last 12 months

20. US President **Donald Trump** and Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** agreed to enhance **peace and stability** in the Indo-Pacific region by establishing a new two-by-two ministerial dialogue. The new format would include **External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj** and **Defence Minister Arun Jaitley** and their American counterparts **Secretary of State Rex Tillerson** and **Defence Secretary James Mattis**.

21. **China** launched its **first cyber court specialising** in handling internet-related cases in the **e-commerce hub of Hangzhou** amid a spike in the number of online disputes.

22. **NASA** has launched the **latest in a series of satellites** aimed at ensuring astronauts at the **International Space Station can communicate with Earth**.

23. The **\$408 million** Boeing-made **Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS-M)** soared into space atop an Atlas V rocket that launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

24. The annual ten day "**Ulchi Freedom Guardian**" joint military exercise between the **US and South Korea** began.

BANKING & BUSINESS

1. **Government** has directed internet majors – **Google, Facebook, Whatsapp, Instagram,**

Microsoft and Yahoo – to immediately remove the links of **dangerous** online game “**Blue Whale Challenge**”, which has led to suicide of children in India and other countries. **Mumbai** and **West Midnapore** district have reported deaths linked to this game.

2. Retail inflation rose to **2.36 per cent** in July this year, chiefly driven by hardening prices in sugar and confectionery items, pan, tobacco, and intoxicants. Retail inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, had stood at 1.46 per cent in June.

3. Wholesale inflation rose to **1.88 per cent** in July this year, year-on-year, as the prices of some commodities increased. Inflation based on the wholesale price index had stood at 0.9 per cent in June this year, and 0.63 per cent in July last year.

4. The country’s exports grew **3.9 percent** in July this year, on a yearly basis, to 22.5 billion dollars. Exports rose due to an increase in shipments of petroleum, chemicals and marine products. Official data showed that imports rose **15.4 per cent** in July, to 34 billion dollars, due to a rise in inward shipments of crude oil and gold.

5. ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched a **new website ‘PlanYourGoal.com’** to **help users plan their investments** according to their future financial goals.

6. The **government** has imposed a **new penalty of \$ 264 million** (about Rs 1,700 crore) on **Reliance Industries Ltd** and its partners for producing less than the targeted natural gas from eastern offshore KG-D6 fields in 2015-16.

7. Reserve Bank has made **Aadhaar linkage** mandatory for **farmers** who wish to avail short-term crop loans in 2017-18. In a notification issued from Mumbai, RBI has advised banks to make **Aadhaar linkage compulsory to ensure hassle-free benefits to farmers under the Interest Subvention Scheme.**

8. The international exchange from **BSE, IndiaINX**, received an approval from the regulator, **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**, to commence trading in Gold Options contracts – the **first for India at GIFT IFSC.**

9. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has conferred the ‘**best performance award**’ for 2015-16 and 2016-17 to **Karnataka VikasGrameen Bank (KVGB)** for its work in the **field of credit-linking joint liability groups (JLGs).**

10. The **Kumbakonam-headquartered bank** introduced the option of an “**instant credit card**” for free for its **Net banking** customers. And, the product, which was soft-launched, seems to have caught the fancy of its customers instantly.

11. A Grant Agreement from the **Global Environment Facility (GEF)** of the World Bank of **USD 24.64 million** for “**Ecosystem Service Improvement Project**” was signed by Shri **Sameer Kumar Khare, Joint Secretary (MI)**, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. **HishamAbdoKahin**, Acting Country Director for India on behalf of the World Bank. The project’s duration is **5 years**

12. KarurVysya Bank unveiled the **Aadhaar Enrolment Centre** here following UIDAI’s directive last month.

13. HDFC Bank Ltd cut interest rates on most of its savings accounts to **3.5% from 4%.** Customers with savings bank account balance of **5 million rupees** and above will continue to earn interest at **4 percent per annum.**

14. RBI will shortly issue new banknotes of Rs **50 denomination** in the **Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series.**

A **RBI press release** has informed that the base

colour of the **new notes** will be **fluorescent blue** and its dimension will be **66 mm x 135 mm**.

15. The new notes will bear the picture of the **iconic stone chariot at Hampi**, Karnataka on the reverse, depicting the country's cultural heritage along with the **Swachh Bharat logo, year of printing, numeral 50 in devnagiri** and the language panel.

16. HDFC Bank cuts its savings bank interest rate, another private sector lender, this time **ICICI Bank** has cut its rate too. The bank announced that it has **slashed its interest rate by 50 basis points to 3.5 per cent** on deposits **below Rs 50 lakh**.

17. **BSNL** unveiled its mobile wallet in partnership with **MobiKwik** to enable one-tap bill payment for its over **100 million subscribers**. The subscribers will also be able to use the digital wallet at over 1.5 million merchants across India.

18. **Telecom regulators of 23 countries** from the **Asia-Pacific** will meet in **Delhi** this month to discuss challenges in **framing rules for digital ecosystem** and regional roaming, among others. Regulatory heads of **Australia, Afghanistan, Iran, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vanuatu, Fiji** and some others are slated to attend the international meet.

19. **Union Bank of India** entered into a **corporate agency** agreement with **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** and **Cholamandalam MS General Insurance** for distribution of their insurance products.

20. The **first regional centre** of the **New Development Bank**, set up by India and other BRICS nations, was officially opened by **South African President Jacob Zuma** and the **banks Indian head K V Kamath**. The idea was proposed by India at the **4th BRICS summit in 2012** at New delhi.

21. **State-run power transmission utility Power Grid Corp** said it will get a loan of **\$500 million** from the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** for its various projects.

22. The **mergers of regional rural banks** that are ordered by the government are **now exempt** from seeking **CCI approval**, according to a notification a move that will lead to faster closure of such transactions. The exemption has been granted for a period of **five years**.

23. The **government** has **extended till March** a cash back scheme that **offers incentives** of up to **Rs.1,000** to merchants for accepting payments through the Bharat Interface for Money (**BHIM**) application.

24. **Axis Bank** will waive **12 equated monthly installments** (EMIs) on regular repayments of loans of up to **Rs. 30 lakh** under the new scheme **ShubhAarambh Home Loans**.

AWARDS

1. **Corporation Bank** has bagged the **best performance awards** for **SHG-bank linkage programme** for 2015-16 and 2016-17 among commercial banks operating in Karnataka from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (**NABARD**).

2. The **US-based Marconi Society** has announced its **Lifetime Achievement Award** to **Indian-born Stanford University professor Thomas Kailath**, for his outstanding contributions to modern communications.

3. **BappiLahiri**, 1st music director who composed songs for **Bharat RatnaShri. AtalBihari Vajpayee & Bharat Ratna Dr. Ambedkar** gifted the CDs to Honorable President of India **Mr. Ram NathKovind**

4. **Reliance Power** said its **Sasan captive coal mine** has been awarded the **National Safety Award** (Mines) for 2013 and 2014. Under "**commendable safe work environment and safety practices**" category.

5. **Dr Nanda Kumar Jairam**, CEO, Chairman and Group Medical Director, **Columbia Asia Hospitals**, India, has been awarded the '**Healthcare Personality of the Year**' award.

6. A **12-year-old Rahul Doshi Indian-origin boy** has been crowned as the **UK's 'Child Genius'** in a **popular television quiz**

competition. He won the **Channel 4 show 'Child Genius'**.

7. **Oinam Bembem Devi**, the **flag bearer of Indian women's football** over the past two decades was named the **winner** of the prestigious **Arjuna Award**. Bembem becomes the **second Indian woman footballer** to win the award, the first being Shanti Mullick in 1983.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNS

1. IFCI Ltd, a government company, is set to have a new Managing Director & CEO in **E Sankara Rao**, who is currently Chief General Manager at India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL).

2. **Tilak Marapana** of the **United National Party (UNP)** assumed charge as **Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister** here, following his predecessor Ravi Karunanayake's resignation.

3. **Santosh Sharma** was appointed as **chairman and managing director (CMD) of Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL)**. He is currently director (operations) in the same company.

4. **Auto major Tata Motors** announced the appointment of **P B Balaji** as its group **Chief Financial Officer**. He will replace C Ramakrishnan

5. **UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres** has appointed senior **UN official Ruby Sandhu-Rojon** as his **new Deputy Special Representative for West Africa and the Sahel**.

6. **Shashi Shekhar Vempati**, **chief executive officer (CEO)** at public broadcaster **Prasar Bharati** has been appointed as the **chief of Rajya Sabha TV**.

7. The chief executives of **Intel Corp., Merck & Co. Inc.** and **Under Armour Inc.** **resigned** from U.S. President **Donald Trump's American Manufacturing Council**, following Mr. Trump's initially tepid response to weekend violence at a rally of white supremacists in Charlottesville, Virginia.

8. **Vishal Sikka** has resigned as the **Chief Executive Officer** and **Managing Director of Infosys**. **Pravin Rao** has been appointed as the

interim CEO. **Sikka** will now be the executive **vice-chairman** of the company.

9. **Brazilian star Neymar** has become a **goodwill ambassador for Handicap International**, pledging to work for millions who are 'less visible' but deserve equality.

10. **General Motors India** announced the appointment of **Sanjiv Gupta** as the **new President and Managing Director** of the company.

11. **Pakistan's High Commissioner-designate Sohail Mahmood** arrived in India and took charge at the **Indian High Commission**. Mahmood served as the Ambassador of Pakistan to Thailand from **2009-2013**.

12. **Pakistan-origin singer Adnan Sami**, who got Indian citizenship last year, and **eminent Carnatic musician** and playback singer **K J Yesudas** have been nominated as trustees of the city-based **Bharat Bhavan**, a senior Madhya Pradesh government.

13. Rear Admiral **Travis Sinniah** was appointed as the chief of **Sri Lanka's naval forces**, making him **the first** from the minority Tamil community to head the Navy since the brutal civil war erupted in the country 45 years ago.

14. **Russian President Vladimir Putin** appointed career diplomat **Nikolay Kudashev** as **Russia's new ambassador to India**.

15. The **information and broadcasting ministry** constituted a steering committee for the **International Film Festival of India (IFFI)** with film director **Nagesh Kukunoor** and **lyricist Prasoon Joshi** among its members. The IFFI is proposed to be held from November 20-28 in Goa.

16. **Karur Vysya Bank Ltd** has informed BSE that the **Reserve Bank of India** has accorded their approval for the appointment of **Shri P R Seshadri** as **Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer** of the Bank

17. **Stephen Bannon**, the **chief strategist** of US President Donald Trump, steps down even as

US administration is engulfed in a storm over latter's remarks on **Charlottesville violence**.

18. Dr. (Ms.) MamtaSuri took charge as **Executive Director, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)** in New Delhi.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. **US scientists** have been **successful** in developing a **plant-based Zika vaccine** that could be more effective and economical to produce than other Zika medicines.

SPORTS

1. Cristiano Ronaldo has been suspended for **five games** after he was sent off in **Real Madrid's** 3-1 win against Barcelona in the Spanish Super Cup first leg.

2. India won **10 medals**, including two gold, in the 6th Golden In all, India won two gold, four silver and four bronze medals in the Glove women's Boxing Tournament at **Vojvodina, Serbia**.

3. Indian men's hockey team overcome **world No. 4 Netherlands** with an exciting encounter. Led by **Manpreet Singh**, the team last night featured nine players from the junior team, but still beat an experienced Netherlands squad through goals from Gurjant (4th minute) and Mandeep (51). India, thus, won the three-match series.

4. LakshyaSen clinched the Bulgaria Open International Series title after notching up a hard-fought win over Croatia's **ZvonimirDurkinjak** in the men's singles final in **Sofia, Bulgaria**.

5. Alexander Zverev kept his winning streak alive with a victory over **Roger Federer in the Rogers Cup final in Montreal, Canada**.

6. RafalNadal is set to return to world number one for the **first time** in three years after Roger Federer withdrew from the **Cincinnati Masters** with a back injury.

7. American tennis player Serena Williams has topped the **Forbes' list of**

highest paid female athletes of 2017, with **\$27** million in earnings between June 2016 and June 2017.

8. Indian consulate in Toronto observed **Independence Day** on **August 15**, one group of participants at the celebrations stood tall – members of the Indian contingent that had just won a record haul of **37 medals** at the World Dwarf Games in Canada.

9. RinkuHoodabags silver at World U-20 Para Athletics Championships.

10. **India captain ViratKohli** continued to be the world's top-ranked one-day batsman in the latest ICC ODI rankings. And in the **Second** placed is Australian **David Warner**.

11. The **Indian pair of SoumyajitGhosh and G Sathiyam** came close to toppling the top-seeded Japanese duo of Jin Uda and Maharu Yoshimura, only to end with a **silver** in the **men's doubles** at the **Bulgaria Open** in Panagyurishte

OBITUARY

1. Australia's former Olympic and world cycle champion **Stephen Wooldridge died** at the age of just 39.

2. Veteran photographer S Paul died in New Delhi at the age of 88.

3. Former Kerala advocate general M K Damodaran passed away in Kochi after a prolonged illness

4. Jerry Lewis, one of Hollywood's **most successful comedians** died in **Las Vegas**. He is one of the most popular comic actors of the 1950s and '60s.

HISTORIC EVENTS OF THE DAY

DATE	DAY
19 th August	World Bee Day
19 th August	World Humanitarian Day
19 th August	World Photography Day

1. The nation is remembering former **Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi** on his **73rd birth anniversary**. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was born on **20th August 1944**. He served as the Prime Minister from 31st October 1984 to 2nd December 1989. He was assassinated on 21st May, 1991 at Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu during a poll campaign.

2. **World Mosquito Day** was first established in **1897**, when the link between mosquitos and malaria transmission was discovered by **Sir Ronald Ross**. It is celebrated on **20th August** every year. Theme of 2017: "**Protect Yourself from Mosquito Bites**".

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