

NATIONAL

- India's Kumbh Mela has been recognised by UNESCO as an **"intangible cultural heritage of humanity"**. The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage under the UN body inscribed Kumbh Mela on the "Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" at its **12th session in Jeju, South Korea**.
- **Uttarakhand** signed a MoU with **Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) India Pvt Limited** for establishing e-health centers in the State. According to the MoU signed, the HPE company **will facilitate telemedicine service at four community health centers in the State**.
- India will open centres of excellence for farmers in India to encourage research in agriculture sector announced by **Israel's Agriculture Minister Yair Shamir**.
- **India** has been **declared free from infectious Trachoma** which is a contagious bacterial infection of the eye. It causes inflamed granulation on the inner surface of the lids. Releasing the **National Trachoma Survey Report (2014-17) in New Delhi**.
- **Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry** has signed an agreement with **German firm GIZ** for technical cooperation in the implementation of transport projects in Coimbatore, Bhubaneswar and Kochi. The agreement has been signed by the ministry's officer on special duty **Mukund Kumar Sinha**, and GIZ Country Director Wolfgang Hanning in the presence of Housing and Urban Affairs Minister **Hardeep Singh Puri**.
- The First International Conference on Sports Medicine and Sports Sciences **SAICON 2017** was inaugurated by the Minister of State (I/C) Youth Affairs and Sports **Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore**. Additionally, **'Khelo India'** programme has been chalked out to tap talent at the school and college level.
- An **International conference** is being organized on the **Ground water** issues in the country with a theme of **"Ground water Vision 2030- Water Security, Challenges and Climate Change Adaptation"** from December 11 to 13, 2017. The conference will be inaugurated by **Shri Nitin Gadkari**.
- **Kacheguda Railway Station** under the South-Central Railway (SCR) has earned the unique distinction of being the first Energy Efficient **'A1 Category'** Railway Station on Indian Railways.
- **Half a billion people** have gained access to electricity in India since 2000, almost doubling the country's electrification rate, according to the **World Energy Access report** released by the **International Energy Agency (IEA)**. This "remarkable" growth puts India on course to achieving access to **electricity for all** in the early **2020s**.
- The CPI(M)-led **Kerala government** decided to raise the **minimum age for consuming liquor from 21 to 23**. The government will make suitable amendments to the existing liquor policy and bring an ordinance for this. Kerala has the **second highest level of per capita liquor consumption** for any Indian state following Andhra Pradesh.
- Shri J P Nadda launches new initiatives on Universal Health Coverage Day. The Union Health Minister and MoS (Finance) launched **"LaQshya" – Labour Room Quality Improvement Initiative and mHealth- a Safe Delivery Mobile Application for health workers**.
- Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology inaugurated the **"NIC-CERT"**, a setup of National Informatics Centre to prevent and predict cyber attacks on government utilities. It was launched in **New Delhi**.

- The 15th Russia, India, China (RIC) Foreign Ministerial meeting **was held in New Delhi**. The three foreign ministers will exchange views on major international and regional issues of common concern and deepen trilateral pragmatic cooperation.
- **Uttar Pradesh** stands on top of recording highest number of cyber crimes in India followed by **Maharashtra**.
- The **Bihar government** has launched a new scheme, “**Safe City Surveillance Scheme**” for checking crime against women. The primary objective is **to provide security and assistance 24*7 to reduce the crime rate**.
- The state cabinet ratified the proposal of “**Seva Sindhu**”, a common citizen platform **to promote the delivery system of government services and to address the issues of the common citizen**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses at the Annual General Meeting of Federation Of Indian Chamber Of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). It was **held in New Delhi**. **The theme is ‘Indian Business in a New India’**
- The second **UN World Tourism Organization/UNESCO** World Conference on Tourism and Culture was held in Muscat, Capital city of Oman. **The Minister of State for Culture (Independent Charge) and Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Dr Mahesh Sharma** led the Indian delegation.
- According to the UN report, Indian economy is likely to grow by **7.2 percent in 2018** and go up further to **7.4 percent in 2019** on the back of strong private consumption, public investment and the ongoing structural reforms.
- Uttar Pradesh Governor Ram Naik unveiled the new multi-coloured logo for the Kumbh Mela at a function in the Raj Bhawan at Lucknow. The festival is scheduled **to be held in Allahabad in January 2019**. The logo comprising of **temples, seers, kalash (pitcher) and a ‘Swastika’**.
- The Union Government signed **US \$250 million** loan agreement with World Bank for “**Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion**”.
- The **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** approved its first loan to China to reduce its dependence on coal by over **600,000 tonnes** annually by building a natural gas distribution network for villages. **China** is the **Largest Shareholder of AIIB**. **India** is the **second largest shareholder** with 7.5 percent followed by **Russia** 5.93 percent and **Germany** 4.5 percent.
- **Sri Lanka** formally handed over its **southern strategic port of Hambantota** to China on a **99-year lease**. Two Chinese firms managed by China Merchants Port Holdings Company (CM Port) and Sri Lanka Ports Authority will own port and the investment zone around it.
- Buddhist monk **Dhammapiya from Tripura** has been elected as the new secretary general of the **International Buddhist Confederation (IBC)**.

INTERNATIONAL

- In a major development, leading export control regime Wassenaar Arrangement decided to admit India as its new member. The decision was taken at the groupings plenary **meeting in Vienna**. India will become the Arrangement's **42nd participating state** as soon as the necessary procedural arrangements for joining the WA are completed.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said it has approved a **further \$44.5 million credit for Madagascar**. It is to support the country's economic recovery.
- The **Taj Mahal**, India's iconic ivory-white marble mausoleum in Agra, is the **second-best UNESCO world heritage site** in the world, according to a new survey.
- Musician Diddy was **on the top of Forbes' annual world's highest-paid musician**. The list is based on pretax income from June 1, 2016, through June 1, 2017.
- A unit of China Three Gorges Corp. is building a **1 billion yuan (\$151 million)** floating solar power plant, the world's biggest, **in the nation's eastern province of Anhui**. The project features panels fixed to floats on the surface of a lake.
- US President Donald Trump signed a **692 billion dollar** defence budget. The budget would give legislative authority to implement his South Asia strategy and authorise critical missile capabilities to confront North Korea's threats.
- Alphabet Inc's Google launches **artificial intelligence (AI)** research center in **China**. The research center is the first of its kind in Asia and will comprise a small team operating out of its existing office in Beijing.

APPOINTMENTS

S.No	Name	Post	Post Previously Held by
1.	Beata Szydło	Poland Prime Minister	(Resigned)
2.	Mateusz Morawiecki	Poland Prime Minister	(Appointed)
3.	Shri Azar A.H.Khan	Next Ambassador of India to Turkmenistan	-
4.	Deepak Parekh	International Ambassador for campaigning the UK Capital to the World	-
5.	Raffaele Bergamasco	Performance Director for senior women pugilists	-
6.	Uma Shankar	RBI Executive Director	Meena Hemchandra

AWARDS

S.No	Award Name	Awarded To
1.	Vyas Samman for her novel “ Dukkham Sukkham ”	Mamta Kalia (Renowned Hindi Scholar & Writer)
2.	Yeraringan’ Award	Prof. M.S. Swaminathan
3.	Chairman of BARC (Broadcast Audience Research Council India)	Nakul Chopra (succeeds Viacom18 Group CEO Sudhanshu Vats)

BUSINESS

- **Axis Securities**, a subsidiary of Axis Bank become the first-ever broking arm of a bank to take membership of a commodity exchange **by registering itself with NCDEX**. It is announced by **Axis Securities Managing Director, Arun Thukral**.
- The government **extended the deadline** for mandatory **linking of PAN with Aadhaar** by three months to **March 31, 2018**.
- India’s Maruti Suzuki became **India’s sixth most valued firm**, crossing India’s largest lender **SBI**. Maruti Suzuki’s market **capitalisation stood at ₹2.74 trillion**, marginally ahead of SBI’s market value of **₹2.71 trillion**. **Reliance Industries** is the country’s **most valued company**.

SPORTS

- The Indian captain is the current **No. 1 in ODIs and T20 formats**. Root is third behind Smith and Kohli, with Pujara fourth, Williamson fifth and Warner at sixth.
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- The Real Madrid striker claimed the La Liga title as well as the Champions League in another trophy-laden year, beating Messi and Neymar. He clinched **Ballon d’Or 2017 for fifth time** to equal **Lionel Messi’s** record haul.
- Visually impaired swimmer **Kanchanmala Pande** scripted history becoming the **first Indian to win gold** at the **World Para Swimming Championship** in Mexico. Pande, who works with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), stood first in the in 200 meters medley event in S-11 category.
- India started with a bang at the **10th Asian Airgun Shooting Championships**, collecting **five medals** on the event’s opening day in Wako City, Japan.
- The Chief Minister of Goa Manohar Parrikar has launched India’s first mobile food testing laboratory in Goa. Parrikar unveiled the vehicle, **worth Rs 41 lakh, in presence of Goa Food and Drugs Administration minister Vishwajit Rane**.
- India hosted “Bodhi Parva: BIMSTEC Festival of Buddhist Heritage” at the **Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi** as part of celebrations of 20th Anniversary of

BIMSTEC and was was inaugurated by **Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Culture Dr. Mahesh Sharma.**

❖ **Hockey World League Final (HWLF)**

- 🏆 Winner (Gold) – Australia
- 🏆 Runner (Silver) – Argentina
- 🏆 Bronze – India

- **India bagged 21 medals** at the 10th Asian Championship 10m Rifle/Pistol **at Wako City Japan and also booked 4 Youth Olympic Games quotas.**
- Shubhankar Sharma wins in Joburg Open, claiming his First European Title. It was held in **Randpark Golf Club, South Africa.**

OBITUARY

1. **Lalji Singh** – “Father of DNA Fingerprinting in India”

2. **Sukharanjan Sengupta** - Veteran Journalist

IMPORTANT DAYS & EVENTS

Day	EVENT	THEME
10 th December	World Human Rights Day	Let's Stand up for equality, Justice and Human Dignity