



CURRENT AFFAIRS

September 2016

1. Renowned sand artist _____ has won the people's choice prize for his sand sculpture titled "Mahatma Gandhi- World Peace" at the ninth Moscow Sand Sculpture Championship 2016

- a) Nittish Bharti b) Sudarsan Pattnaik c) Rahul Arya d) Manas Kumar

Answer b) Sudarsan Pattnaik. Renowned sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik has won the people's choice prize for his sand sculpture titled "Mahatma Gandhi- World Peace" at the ninth Moscow Sand Sculpture Championship 2016. Sudarsan has already won a gold medal for the 15-foot-high sculpture which he created at the championship held in April 2016. The sand art depicted the message of non-violence and peace.

2. Which State governor took additional charge of Tamil Nadu state?

- a) Maharashtra b) Kerala c) Assam d) Punjab

Answer a) Maharashtra. President Pranab Mukherjee gave Maharashtra Governor C. Vidyasagar Rao additional charge of Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat Governor Om Prakash Kohli of Madhya Pradesh. The tenure of Tamil Nadu Governor K. Rosaiah ended while that of Madhya Pradesh Governor Ram Naresh Yadav will come to an end on September 7.

3. Who has been sworn in as the new president of Brazil?

- a) Dilma Rousseff b) Jair Bolsonaro c) Michel Temer d) Eduardo Cunha

Answer c) Michel Temer. Michel Temer has been sworn in as the new president of Brazil after Dilma Rousseff was stripped of the presidency by the Senate in an impeachment trial. Temer took an oath of office a few hours after the Senate voted 61-20 to remove Rousseff from office for breaking fiscal laws in her management of the federal budget.

4. In which country Buddhists celebrated Pancha Daan festival?

- a) Nepal b) China c) India d) Japan

Answer a) Nepal. Buddhists in Nepal celebrated Pancha Daan, or the festival of five summer gifts, on August 30. Pancha Daan is known as the festival of five summer gifts, which include rice grains, unhusked rice grains, salt, money and pulses – all of which are needed for one's daily life. These gifts are all donated to the gods and in the name of charity. This can be the five traditional gifts to gifting people some very unusual things.

5. La Tomatina festival celebrated in _____

- a) Australia b) China c) Spain d) Iceland

Answer c) Spain. The Spanish town of Bunol celebrated one of the world's most popular food fights, La Tomatina festival in the town of Bunol on August 31. Thousands of people have pelted each other with tons of ripe tomatoes, creating a red, mushy mess in the annual "Tomatina" street battle in eastern Spain. At the fiesta in Bunol August 31, 160 tons of tomatoes were offloaded from six trucks into the crowd packing the town's streets for the hour-long battle that attracts many foreigners.

6. Which smart phone manufacturer company has finally launched its own mobile payment service?

- a) Samsung b) Gionee c) Lenovo d) Xiaomi

Answer d) Xiaomi. Chinese smartphone manufacturer Xiaomi has finally launched its own mobile payment service. Just like Samsung, Google and Apple, Xiaomi can also boast of its own payment service, 'Mi Pay'. This ensures it can now compete actively with the likes of Android Pay, Apple Pay and Samsung Pay. The Mi Pay is as per now only available in China and not as widespread as the other mobile payment services.

7. Who is the new President of Gabon Country?

- a) Omar Bongo b) Nicolas Sarkozy c) Ali Bongo Ondimba d) Jean Ping

Answer c) Ali Bongo Ondimba. Gabon's incumbent President Ali Bongo was declared the winner of the presidential election by the country's Interior Ministry. The Ministry said Bongo won his second term in the EU-monitored elections with 49.80% of the votes, while his rival candidate Jean Ping won 48.23%. According to reports, Jing's supporters have started protests and denounced the elections.

8. The Indian Railways has launched a scheme to provide passengers with a travel insurance coverage of up to ₹10 lakh for a premium of _____

- a) 1 rupee b) 5 rupees c) 92 Paise d) 50 Paise

Answer c) 92 Paise. The Indian Railways has launched a scheme to provide passengers with a travel insurance coverage of up to ₹10 lakh for a premium of 92 paise. The insurance applies to Indian citizens, children above the age of five, and non-suburban commuters. "Irrespective of class, destination and distance... the rate of premium and coverage will be uniform," an official said.

9. Microsoft plans to open a cybersecurity centre in _____

- a) Bangalore b) Delhi c) Hyderabad d) Mumbai

Answer b) Delhi. Microsoft plans to open a cybersecurity centre at Connaught Place, New Delhi to assist the government and private agencies with all-round intelligence to counter cyber attacks in the country. Microsoft has seven such centres globally, including a small office in Gurgaon that opened in June. The new centre will be modelled on Microsoft's biggest cybersecurity setup at its Washington headquarters.

10. Which State government increase maternity leave for female state government employees from six months to nine months recently?

- a) West Bengal b) Tamil Nadu c) Andhra Pradesh d) Bihar

Answer b) Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa said the government will increase maternity leave for female state government employees from six months to nine months, fulfilling an electoral promise. Adding that maternity leave for state government employees was 90 days from 1980 to 2011, Jayalalithaa said her government had initially increased the maternity leave to six months.

11. Actor _____ will be awarded an honorary Oscar by the Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts & Science

- a) Amitabh Bachchan b) Kamal Hasan c) Shah Rukh Khan d) Jackie Chan

Answer d) Jackie Chan. Actor Jackie Chan will be awarded an honorary Oscar by the Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts & Science. Chan along with documentary maker Frederick Wiseman, British

film editor Anne V Coates and casting director Lynn Stalmaster will be the recipients of the 2016 Governors Awards. Academy President Cheryl Boone Isaacs called the four "true pioneers and legends in their crafts".

12. Former Indian cricketer _____ launched SRT Sports, his own sports management company

- a) Sachin Tendulkar b) Rahul Dravid c) Virender Sehwag d) Sourav Ganguly

Answer a) Sachin Tendulkar. Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar launched SRT Sports, his own sports management company. The former cricketer has roped in former Tata Group senior executive Mrinmoy Mukherjee as the Chief Executive Officer of the company. "SRT Sports Management's promise is to build around three key pivots of trust, transparency, and performance", said Mukherjee.

13. Islam Karimov who passed away recently, he was a president of _____

- a) Kazakhstan b) Tajikistan c) Uzbekistan d) Kyrgyzstan

Answer c) Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan's state media announced that the country's President Islam Karimov has passed away, hours after the Uzbek government stated that he was critically ill. Karimov had ruled Uzbekistan since 1989 as an autocrat and has reportedly named no successor. Karimov's elder daughter Gulnara was seen as a potential heir before Karimov placed her under house arrest in 2014.

14. Trinamool Congress became India's _____ national party after it was recognised as a 'State party' in West Bengal, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur

- a) Seventh b) Eighth c) Ninth d) Tenth

Answer a) Seventh. The Election Commission confirmed that the Mamata Banerjee-led All India Trinamool Congress is now a 'National party'. Trinamool Congress became India's seventh national party after it was recognised as a 'State party' in West Bengal, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur. The party will now be allotted its flower and grass symbol exclusively to contest elections across India.

15. Solung festival celebrated in _____

- a) Andhra Pradesh b) Arunachal Pradesh c) Madhya Pradesh d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer b) Arunachal Pradesh. The Northeast region is home to a number of tribes, each with a distinct culture and rich heritage. The Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh recently celebrated the Solung Festival, which is associated with farming. In Delhi, people from the Adi tribe organized a special event to celebrate the festival.

16. India and _____ signed 12 Agreements to boost bilateral ties

- a) Singapore b) China c) Vietnam d) Spain

Answer c) Vietnam. India and Vietnam signed 12 agreements in a wide range of areas covering defence, IT, space, double taxation and sharing white shipping information, signalling a strong upward push in their strategic ties. The agreements were signed by officials of the two sides in presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Xuan Phuc.

17. _____ has become the 17th state after Orissa to ratify the GST Bill

- a) Sikkim b) Arunachal Pradesh c) Punjab d) Rajasthan

Answer d) Rajasthan. The Rajasthan Assembly approved the Constitutional Amendment Bill on Goods and Services Tax (GST) unanimously. Rajasthan has become the 17th state after Orissa to ratify the GST Bill. Notably, the tax reform bill has already fulfilled the requirement of approval from at least 16 state/UT legislatures and can be sent to President Pranab Mukherjee for his approval.

18. The Puducherry Assembly becomes _____ state to ratified the Constitution Amendment Bill on the Goods and Services Tax

- a) 13th b) 14th c) 15th d) 16th

Answer c) 15th. The Puducherry Assembly ratified the Constitution Amendment Bill on the Goods and Services Tax. With Odisha becoming the 15th state to pass the same, the bill has now got the required number of states' assent before the President can notify it as a law. The Centre seeks the GST rollout by April 1, 2017.

19. Which airline company has launched an in-flight entertainment service named 'JetScreen'?

- a) Spice Jet b) Vistara c) Jet Airways d) Air India

Answer c) Jet Airways. Airline company 'Jet Airways' has launched an in-flight entertainment service named 'JetScreen', which will reportedly allow passengers to stream 220 hours of digital content on smartphones, tablets or laptops for free. The service will use an onboard wireless streaming technology. The airline claims that this is a 'first-of-its-kind' service in the Indian domestic flying space.

20. India sends _____ athletes to Rio Summer Paralympic Games

- a) 10 b) 17 c) 19 d) 23

Answer c) 19. The largest-ever Indian Paralympic contingent left for Rio de Janeiro for Summer Paralympic Games. The team of 19 athletes will be looking to better the medal haul India enjoyed at the Rio Games. This year, India has athletes participating in the Games which start on 7th September and ends on 18th September.

21. _____ was declared 'Saint Teresa of Calcutta' in canonization ceremony headed by Pope Francis in the Vatican

- a) Souer Emmanuelle b) Mary c) Teresa of Avila d) Mother Terasa **Answer**

d) Mother Terasa. Pope Francis declared Mother Teresa a saint on 4th september 2015 honoring the nun who cared for the world's most destitute and holding her up as a model for a Catholic Church that goes to the peripheries to find poor, wounded souls. Applause erupted in St. Peter's Square even before Francis finished pronouncing the rite of canonization at the start of Mass, evidence of the admiration Mother Teresa enjoyed from Christians and non-Christians alike.

22. Who has taken over as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of (Manganese Ore India Limited) MOIL?

- a) Rakesh Chaudhari b) Vijay Chaudhari c) Varun Chaudhari d) Mukund Chaudhari

Answer d) Mukund Chaudhari. Mukund Chaudhari has taken over as Chairman and Managing

Director (CMD) of (Manganese Ore India Limited) MOIL. A city-based miniratna company. The MOIL, which is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Steel, is the largest producer of Manganese Ore in the country. Chaudhari was holding the post of Director (Finance) a chartered accountant by profession.

23. Which state government launched the Biju Kanya Ratna Yojana (BKRY) for the development of girls in three districts of the state?

- a) Kerala b) Assam c) Odisha d) Haryana

Answer c) Odisha. The Odisha government launched the Biju Kanya Ratna Yojana (BKRY) for the development of girls in three districts of the state. The objective of the scheme is to improve Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) and Child Sex Ratio (CSR) in the three districts. Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the scheme at the state secretariat.

24. BHEL has commissioned the fourth and last unit of the 4×40 MW Teesta Low Dam Hydro Electric Project (HEP) Stage-IV in _____

- a) Maharashtra b) West Bengal c) Andra Pradesh d) Gujarat

Answer b) West Bengal. State-run BHEL said it has commissioned the fourth and last unit of the 4×40 MW Teesta Low Dam Hydro Electric Project (HEP) Stage-IV in West Bengal. A run-of-the-river Greenfield project located in Darjeeling district of West Bengal, Teesta HEP has been set up by NHPC Ltd, on the River Teesta, BHE. BHEL was entrusted with the Electrical & Mechanical (E&M) works for four units of 40 MW each by NHPC Limited.

25. Urjit Patel has assumed charge as the _____ governor of the Reserve Bank of India

- a) 25th b) 27th c) 23rd d) 24th

Answer d) 24th. Urjit Patel has assumed charge as the 24th governor of the Reserve Bank of India, announced the central bank. Patel was serving as RBI's deputy governor since January 2013 and was in charge of monetary policy. Among his assignments as deputy governor, Patel chaired the Expert Committee to Revise and Strengthen the Monetary Policy Framework.

26. Which Bank has launched a card-less mobile-based payment solution 'mVisa', to make payments at retail outlets easier?

- a) RBL Bank b) Axis Bank c) ICICI Bank d) DCB Bank

Answer d) DCB Bank. The DCB Bank, a new-generation private sector bank, has launched a card-less mobile-based payment solution 'mVisa', to make payments at retail outlets easier. It will allow customers to pay through their smartphones by scanning the unique Quick Response (QR) code. The bank has equipped over 1,000 retail outlets with 'mVisa' and plans to expand to over 25,000 shops across India.

27. As many as _____ states in the country have agreed to form a joint venture with the Railways for creating more infrastructure facilities

- a) 10 b) 12 c) 14 d) 16

Answer d) 16. As many as 16 states in the country have agreed to form a joint venture with the Railways for creating more infrastructure facilities, Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu said on Saturday. The Ministry has also written to the Tamil Nadu government to explore the possibility of redeveloping the railway stations in the state by forming a joint venture, he added.

28. Which telecom company has made an offer of less than ₹1 per GB stating that from September 9?

- a) Reliance JIO b) Airtel c) BSNL d) Idea

Answer c) BSNL. State-owned telecom operator BSNL has made an offer of less than ₹1 per GB stating that from September 9 it will give “unlimited” wireline broadband services priced at a monthly pack of ₹249. The 'Experience Unlimited BB 249' plan will enhance customer experience and attract new users, BSNL stated. Notably, this offer follows Reliance Jio's launch announcement earlier this week.

29. Which country recently unveiled its first ever driverless bus service, which will be deployed in the city for a month-long trial period?

- a) Australia b) Spain c) Dubai d) Singapore

Answer c) Dubai. Dubai recently unveiled its first ever driverless bus service, which will be deployed in the city for a month-long trial period. The service includes 10-seater electric buses that can travel at a speed of 40 kmph. The bus can adapt its speed to the surrounding environment and even come to a complete halt if a pedestrian crosses its path.

30. Which state board has decided to link Aadhaar card number of the students with their examination forms to avoid duplication?

- a) Gujarat b) Rajasthan c) Bihar d) Punjab

Answer c) Bihar. To clean up the examination system after the toppers scam, the Bihar School Examination Board has decided to link Aadhaar card number of the students with their examination forms to avoid duplication. This initiative is the first by any state board in the country. This would add greater transparency and facilitate easier access to the documents.

31. Cricketer _____ launched his own fashion brand YouWeCan Fashion (YWC Fashion)

- a) Rohit Sharma b) Yuvraj Singh c) MS Dhoni d) Ravichandran Ashwin

Answer b) Yuvraj Singh. Cricketer Yuvraj Singh launched his own fashion brand YouWeCan Fashion (YWC Fashion). Cricketers including Dwayne Bravo, Chris Gayle and Bollywood actors Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone and others were present during the launch. "YWC's motto is 'Live, Dare, Inspire!'" said Singh. Sale proceeds from the apparel brand will contribute to Singh's NGO YouWeCan started in 2012.

32. Who won the Italian Grand Prix title 2016?

- a) Nico Rosberg b) Sebastian Vettel c) Lewis Hamilton d) Fernando Alonso

Answer a) Nico Rosberg. Mercedes' German Formula One racer Nico Rosberg won the Italian Grand Prix ahead of teammate Lewis Hamilton, and Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel in Monza. With the win, Rosberg closed the difference between him and Hamilton to two points in the drivers' tally. Notably, this was Rosberg's maiden victory at the Italian Grand Prix.

33. The World Health Organization has certified _____ as a malaria-free nation

- a) India b) Sri Lanka c) USA d) Australia

Answer b) Sri Lanka. The World Health Organization has certified Sri Lanka as a malaria-free nation,

in what it called a “truly remarkable” achievement. WHO regional director Poonam Khetrpal Singh said in a statement that Sri Lanka was among the most malaria-affected countries in the mid-20th century. Sri Lanka is the second country in the WHO South-East Asia Region to eliminate malaria after Maldives.

34. Health Ministry launched campaign to eradicate leprosy, who is the Union minister of Health and Family welfare?

a) Chaudhary Birender Singh b) Radha Mohan Singh c) Jagat Prakash Nadda d) Harsh Vardhan
Answer c) Jagat Prakash Nadda. The Health Ministry launched a two-week-long massive campaign to eradicate leprosy by focusing on 149 endemic districts across the country. In a first, the Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC) aims to cover more than 1,600 blocks in the 149 districts across 20 states where nearly 3 lakh health teams will undertake door-to-door visits to detect leprosy cases.

35. Which State Government has decided to develop 340 villages as Horticulture Villages?

a) Punjab b) Haryana c) Maharashtra d) Gujarat
Answer b) Haryana. Haryana Government has decided to develop 340 villages as ‘Horticulture Villages’ at a cost of Rs 93 crore during the Golden Jubilee year of the State. It has also decided to establish 140 clusters in these villages.

36. Which IT company has partnered with Thanjavur-based SASTRA Deemed University to train over 2,000 teachers from Tamil Nadu?

a) Wipro b) TCS c) Infosys d) HCL
Answer b) TCS. IT major Tata Consultancy Services announced that it has partnered with Thanjavur-based SASTRA Deemed University to train over 2,000 teachers from Tamil Nadu on digital teaching methods, and also set up a teachers training centre at the varsity campus. More than 2,000 school teachers from various educational institutions across Tier-II and -III cities from Tamil Nadu would be trained at the training centre.

37. Which country has ranked on top in terms of offering the least-expensive flight prices?

a) USA b) Dubai c) India d) China
Answer c) India. India has ranked on top in terms of offering the least-expensive flight prices, making it the best value location for international and domestic flights worldwide, a survey by a global travel website stated. India's average flight cost was \$3.25 per 100 km of travel, considering both domestic and international journeys. In contrast, United Arab Emirates offers the most expensive tickets.

38. Lindsay Tuckett who passed away recently was a/an

a) Politician b) Actor c) Cricketer d) Journalist
Answer c) Cricketer. Lindsay Tuckett passed away in Bloemfontein at the age of 97. Cricket South Africa (CSA) has paid rich tribute to Lindsay Tuckett. He represented South Africa in nine Test matches against England between 1947 and 1949.

39. Consumers in India can now dial _____ and get an update from their respective power

distribution companies about outages in their area through the 'Urja Mitra Helpline'.

- a) 12101 b) 12301 c) 14401 d) 14101

Answer c) 14401. Consumers in India can now dial 14401 and get an update from their respective power distribution companies about outages in their area through the 'Urja Mitra Helpline'. DoT has created the helpline to facilitate power distribution companies to provide information about outages to customers.

40. Which country officially received certificates from World Health Organisation (WHO), declaring the country YAWS and maternal and neonatal tetanus free?

- a) USA b) India c) Sri Lanka d) Singapore

Answer b) India. India officially received certificates from World Health Organisation (WHO), declaring the country YAWS and maternal and neonatal tetanus free. The certificates were presented to Union health minister JP Nadda at the 69th Session of the WHO regional committee for south-east Asia region held in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

41. _____ has completed its \$67-billion deal to acquire EMC Corp, creating the world's largest privately-controlled technology company

- a) Dell b) Lenovo c) Microsoft d) HP

Answer a) Dell. Dell Inc has completed its \$67-billion deal to acquire EMC Corp, creating the world's largest privately-controlled technology company. The new company — Dell Technologies — will comprise Dell, Dell EMC, Pivotal, RSA, SecureWorks, Virtustream and VMware. It employs about 1.4 lakh people globally and will be headquartered at Round Rock, Texas.

42. India and _____ agreed to expand their bilateral preferential trade agreement (PTA)

- a) Germany b) Egypt c) Chile d) China

Answer c) Chile. India and Chile agreed to expand their bilateral preferential trade agreement (PTA) with both sides offering to lower or eliminate tariffs on a number of items traded with each other. The agreement was signed in a meeting between Commerce Secretary Rita Teatoria and the South American country's Ambassador to India Andres Barbe Gonzalez.

43. How many countries are participating in the second World Nomad Games being held in Kyrgyzstan?

- a) 40 b) 50 c) 60 d) 70

Answer a) 40. Forty nations, including India, are participating in the second World Nomad Games being held in Kyrgyzstan between September 3 and 8. Some of the events include eagle hunting, bone throwing as well as a form of polo where in two teams battle over a dead goat. The World Nomad Games are aimed at celebrating the nomadic heritage of Central Asian nations.

44. Which State celebrated the festival of Nuakhai?

- a) Punjab b) Assam c) Kerala d) Odisha

Answer d) Odisha. Western Odisha celebrated the festival of Nuakhai, the agrarian festival of the region, with religious fervour. The celebrations began with the Nabanna in which the newly harvested rice was offered to Goddess Samaleswari as per the stipulated Lagna, the auspicious

moment. The deity was adorned with new saree and ornaments on the occasion.

45. Who won the prestigious J.C. Daniel Award for his overall contribution to the Malayalam film industry?

- a) Bharath Gopi b) Sukumaran c) K.G. George d) Nedumudi Venu

Answer c) K.G. George. Veteran award-winning film director K.G. George won the prestigious J.C. Daniel Award for his overall contribution to the Malayalam film industry. The award will be given away along with the State Film Awards at a function to be held at Palakkad.

46. Who has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL)?

- a) A.C. Prathap Kumar b) P.K. Singh c) C.K. Asnani d) C.K. Ansari

Answer c) C.K. Asnani. C.K. Asnani, a chemical engineer from Osmania University, has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), an undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy. Mr. Asnani was earlier associated with Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad and was the Director (Technical) of Indian Rare Earths Limited, Mumbai, before the present assignment, according to a company release.

47. PepsiCo CEO and chairman Indra Nooyi is the _____ most powerful woman in Fortune list

- a) Third b) Fourth c) Tenth d) Second

Answer d) Second. PepsiCo CEO and chairman Indra Nooyi is the only Indian-origin woman in Fortune's 51 Most Powerful Women list that is topped by Mary Barra, CEO and chairman of General Motors. Nooyi was ranked second on the list, same as 2015. In 2014, she was ranked third. The list comprises 22 CEOs of major companies and many more corner office contenders across industries. The 2016 list has nine newcomers and one return candidate.

48. Which State government has signed a MoU to develop education infrastructure in the state?

- a) Rajasthan b) Assam c) Haryana d) Telangana

Answer a) Rajasthan. Rajasthan government has signed a MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with an education under which the firm will adopt 50 Adarsh and Utkarsh Vidyalayas in the state and try to fill the infrastructure gap. The organisation, Gems education, will contribute towards curriculum enhancement and capacity building.

49. _____ has become the first state in the country to roll out the ambitious "Twitter Seva" project

- a) Uttarakhand b) West Bengal c) Madhya Pradesh d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer d) Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the country to roll out the ambitious "Twitter Seva" project, and in one go 122 Twitter handles were unveiled in the state capital. Director General of UP police Javeed Ahmad said that in the coming days, this service would be integrated with the "Dial-100" project which is slated to be launched in October.

50. India signed an open skies agreement with _____

- a) Norway b) Germany c) Greece d) Japan

Answer c) Greece. India signed an open skies agreement with Greece. At present, there are no direct flights between India and Greece and passengers travel one stop via Gulf States or Turkey to Greece. In fact, there was no air services agreement between India and Greece till now thus preventing the start of air services between two countries.

51. International Literacy Day is observed on?

- a) September 8 b) September 9 c) September 10 d) September 11

Answer a) September 8. The world gears up to celebrate International Literacy Day on 8 September. The theme for 2016 is Reading the Past, Writing the Future. After UNESCO officially proclaimed the day as International Literacy Day on 17 November 1965, communities all around the world have been commemorating the day by holding various programmes and events. This would be the 50th celebration of the historic event.

52. Which State government planning to introduce a subsidised meal programme under which a thali (full meal) at ₹10 would be provided to the poor people?

- a) Gujarat b) Bihar c) Andra Pradesh d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer d) Madhya Pradesh. Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan is reportedly planning to introduce a subsidised meal programme under which a thali (full meal) at ₹10 would be provided to the poor people. Chouhan is expected to make an announcement on September 25, which is the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay. Earlier, similar schemes were launched in Tamil Nadu and Odisha.

53. Which country will become the first country to buy data from the 'Panama Papers'?

- a) Denmark b) India c) Singapore d) China

Answer a) Denmark. Denmark will become the first country to buy data from the 'Panama Papers' and will use it to probe possible tax evasion by its citizens featured in the leaked files, according to reports. Denmark's Tax Minister Karsten Lauritzen said they will pay up to \$1.3 million for the data leaked from the Mossack Fonseca law firm based out of Panama.

54. The 28th and the 29th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit held at

- a) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia b) Vientiane, Laos c) Naypyidaw, Myanmar d) Bangkok, Thailand

Answer b) Vientiane, Laos. The 28th and the 29th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit concluded on 8 September 2016 at Vientiane, Laos. The theme for the 2016 summit was Turning Vision into Reality for a Dynamic ASEAN Community. H.E. Thongloun Sisoulith, Prime Minister of the Lao PDR, was the Chairperson of the summit that was held from 6 September 2016 to 8 September 2016. The Summit was attended by the leaders of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations. They are Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Cambodia.

55. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?

- a) Anand Kumar b) J. Satyanarayana c) Sankar Raman d) S Muralidharan

Answer b) J. Satyanarayana. The Union Govt. has chosen a retired IAS officer and former DEITY

Secretary J. Satyanarayana as the Chairperson of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAIU). He succeeds former Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani (first Chairman of the UIDAI) and had stepped down from the post in 2014.

56. Who has been appointed managing director (MD) & chief executive officer (CEO) of IDBI Asset Management Company (AMC)?

- a) Sanjay Mishra b) Dillip Kumar Mandal c) Ragavendra Rao d) Arun Sharma

Answer b) Dillip Kumar Mandal. Dilip Kumar Mandal has been appointed managing director (MD) & chief executive officer (CEO) of IDBI Asset Management Company (AMC). Prior to joining IDBI AMC, Mandal was chief general manager & zonal head of retail banking group, IDBI Bank, covering the states of Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, and based at Bhubaneswar. IDBI Bank is an Indian government-owned financial service company, formerly known as Industrial Development Bank of India, headquartered in Mumbai, India.

57. In which event Mariyappan Thangavelu won the gold medal while compatriot Varun Singh Bhati clinched the bronze at the Rio Paralympics?

- a) Swimming b) Shooting c) High Jump d) Discuss throw

Answer c) High Jump. In a historic moment for India, Mariyappan Thangavelu won the gold medal while compatriot Varun Singh Bhati clinched the bronze in the men's high jump T-42 event at the Rio Paralympics. This is India's first medal at the 2016 Paralympic Games, and with Bhati's bronze, India now has two medals in this edition. Thangavelu also became the first Indian high jumper to win a Paralympics gold. HN Girisha was the first Indian high-jumper to win a medal, at the 2012 Paralympic Games.

58. Who became the first Indian to win a medal at the Six-Red World Championships, after winning bronze at the 2016 edition of the tournament?

- a) Rajinder Singh b) Anuja Thakur c) Pankaj Advani d) Subhash Agarwal

Answer c) Pankaj Advani. Indian cueist Pankaj Advani became the first Indian to win a medal at the Six-Red World Championships, after winning bronze at the 2016 edition of the tournament. Advani, who lost out to China's Ding Junhui in the semi-finals, said, "Winning the first medal for India in this championship, with this level of competition means you have done well."

59. Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned the offshore patrolling (OPV) vessel _____ at Goa Shipyard Ltd

- a) Chakra b) Rana c) Ganga d) Sarathi

Answer d) Sarathi. Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned the offshore patrolling (OPV) vessel, Sarathi, at Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL), the defence shipyard in south Goa. This vessel is the third in the series of six OPVs built by the shipyard for Indian Coast Guard. The ceremony was attended by Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar, Director General of Indian Coast Guard Vice Admiral Rajendra Singh, Chairman and Managing Director of GSL Shekhar Mittal, commanding officer of OPV Sarathi Atul Joshi and others.

60. _____ surgeons have successfully performed the world's first robotic operation inside the eye

- a) USA b) UK c) India d) Russia

Answer b) UK. British surgeons have successfully performed the world's first robotic operation inside the eye, potentially revolutionising the way such conditions are treated. The procedure was carried out at John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford. "With a robotic system, we open up a whole new chapter of eye operations that currently cannot be performed," said the Surgeon Robert MacLaren.

61. The two day BRICS Wellness Workshop held at _____

- a) Mumbai b) Delhi c) Hyderabad d) Bangalore

Answer d) Bangalore. Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs Ananth Kumar has inaugurated the two day BRICS Wellness Workshop at Bengaluru (Karnataka). The Workshop has been organised by Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of External Affairs with support of Government of Karnataka.

62. India won _____ golds, _____ silver and _____ bronze medals in the recently-concluded International Table Tennis Federation Junior and Cadet Open Championships

- a) Four, Two and Ten b) One, Two and Three c) Three, Four and Five d) Four, One and Five

Answer d) Four, One and Five. India won four golds, one silver and five bronze medals in the recently-concluded International Table Tennis Federation Junior and Cadet Open Championships, to finish second to Taipei in the medals tally. India's four golds included wins in the junior boys, girls and cadet girls singles, besides the junior boys doubles title. India's Manav Thakkar won himself two golds.

63. Pakistan appoints _____ as manager of national cricket team

- a) Wasim Bari b) Wasim Raja c) Mushtaq Mohammad d) Majid Khan

Answer a) Wasim Bari. Former Pakistan Test captain Wasim Bari has been appointed as the new manager of the national team for the coming 'home' series against the West Indies in the UAE. Wasim Bari has been appointed as manager for the West Indies series since Intikhab Alam's contract expires on September 30.

64. _____ has maintained top spot as a centre for business, finance and culture, widening its lead over its competitors

- a) Mumbai b) London c) Washington d) Tokyo

Answer b) London. London has maintained top spot as a centre for business, finance and culture, widening its lead over its competitors. PwC's Cities of Opportunity 7 report measures 30 cities across 10 indicators including transportation and infrastructure, the ease of doing business, demographics and livability, technology readiness and cost.

65. CBDT has launched _____ facility to resolve income tax grievances

- a) e-bharat b) e-nivaran c) e-taxes d) e-payers

Answer b) e-nivaran. CBDT has launched the ambitious e-nivaran facility for online redressal of taxpayers grievances related to refunds, ITRs and PAN among others as part of its initiative to reduce instances of harassment of the public when it comes to complaints related to the I-T department. An

exclusive e-nivaran (electronic resolution) link has recently been activated on the e-filing portal of the department <https://incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in>

66. A newly found asteroid, named _____, came within 40,000 km of Earth

- a) 2015 RB5 b) 2016 RB1 c) 2017 AB4 d) 2016 CH7

Answer b) 2016 RB1. A newly found asteroid, named '2016 RB1', came within 40,000 km of Earth .which is less than one-tenth of the moon's distance from Earth. The 7-16 metres wide asteroid was first spotted on September 5, 2016. Scientists have predicted that it was the closest the asteroid would come near the Earth for at least the next 50 years.

67. Which State government signed a MoU with Singapore government for smart integrated township?

- a) Haryana b) Kerala c) Maharashtra d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer d) Himachal Pradesh. Himachal Pradesh government signed a preliminary Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Singapore government for developing a smart integrated township in Jathiadevi near Shimla airport. The MoU was signed between Himachal Pradesh Housing and Urban Development Authority (HIMUDA) and Asian Pacific Singapore Enterprise in the presence of Urban Development and Town and Country Planning and Housing minister Sudhir Sharma.

68. Cabinet approved MoU between India and _____ on cooperation in the field of National Housing Policy Development and Management

- a) South Africa b) Greece c) Kenya d) Poland

Answer c) Kenya . The Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post-facto approval for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Kenya on cooperation in the field of National Housing Policy Development and Management (NHPDM). The MoU was signed on 11th July, 2016 at Nairobi during the visit of the Prime Minister of India.

69. Digital payments and e-commerce platform _____ launched an Aadhaar-based eKYC (E-Know Your Customer) service

- a) Amazon b) Paytm c) Flipkart d) Snapdeal

Answer b) Paytm. Digital payments and e-commerce platform Paytm launched an Aadhaar-based eKYC (E-Know Your Customer) service. KYC is a customer identification procedure followed by banks and wallet companies. KYC-enabled Paytm customers are allowed a wallet balance limit of up to ₹1 lakh, as opposed to ₹10k for non-KYC ones. Paytm is set to launch its payments bank before November.

70. Who won the US Open title 2016 in men's category?

- a) Andy Murray b) Roger Federer c) Novak Djokovic d) Stanislas Wawrinka

Answer d) Stanislas Wawrinka. Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka defeated world number one and the defending champion Novak Djokovic on to win his maiden US Open title and third Grand Slam overall. Coming into the tournament final with only four wins in 23 head-to-head matches, the 31-year-old denied Djokovic a chance to win his third Grand Slam title of 2016 and 13th of his career.

71. _____ has become the second state in the country after Gujarat to achieve 100 per cent electrification of households

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Rajasthan c) Andra Pradesh d) Haryana

Answer c) Andra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has become the second state in the country after Gujarat to achieve 100 per cent electrification of households. JM Financials published the report based on a national-level survey on electrification in various states.

72. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs met and approved the proposal for initiation of the Phase of Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP).

- a) First b) Second c) Third d) Fourth

Answer c) Third. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs met and approved the proposal for initiation of the Third Phase of Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP). The project will be implemented as a 'Central Sector Scheme' with total project outlay of Rs. 3600 crore.

73. According to a new IRCTC directive, _____ would soon become mandatory for booking rail tickets.

- a) Aadhar Card b) Voter ID c) Pan Card d) All of the above

Answer a) Aadhar Card. According to a new IRCTC directive, Aadhaar cards would soon become mandatory for booking rail tickets. Aadhaar cards would be compulsory for both reserved and unreserved categories, for online as well as counter tickets, it added. The directive would reportedly be effective starting December 2016. Notably, 96% Indians already have an Aadhaar Card.

74. Which State tourism department is organising its first Vintage Bike and Car Festival on October 1?

- a) Goa b) Rajasthan c) Telangana d) Tamil Nadu

Answer a) Goa. The Goa Tourism department is organising its first Vintage Bike and Car Festival on October 1, with over 50 vintage vehicles slated to drive down the city during the day-long event. The Tourism department spokesperson said the vehicles would be dated from 1933 to 1970 and include cars such as "Chevrolet, Mercedes, Volkswagen and bikes like Norton, BSA and BMW."

75. Indian kickboxer _____ won the bronze medal at the World Martial Arts Masterships 2016

- a) Deepika Rai b) Anuradha Rai c) Sushmita Rai d) Sakshi Rai

Answer c) Sushmita Rai. Indian kickboxer Sushmita Rai won the bronze medal at the World Martial Arts Masterships 2016, held at Cheongju, Chungcheongbuk-do of South Korea. The competition, which is considered by many as the equivalent of Olympics for the martial arts, was attended by 2,073 participants from 87 countries. Rai was a part of the 12-member Indian contingent participating in the week-long event.

76. Who has taken charge as the Chairman & Managing Director of Shipping Corporation of India for a period of three years?

- a) Suresh Kumar b) Anoop Kumar c) Praveen Kumar d) Aravind Kumar

Answer b) Anoop Kumar. Anoop Kumar Sharma has taken charge as the Chairman & Managing Director of Shipping Corporation of India for a period of three years. The Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) is a Government of India Public Sector Enterprise with its headquarters in Mumbai that operates and manages vessels that services both national and international lines.

77. The third edition of BRICS Urbanisation Forum Meet with the Theme _____ has begun in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

- a) Rural Transition in BRICS b) Urban Development in BRICS
c) Urban Transition in BRICS d) Urban Trading in BRICS

Answer c) Urban Transition in BRICS. The third edition of BRICS Urbanisation Forum Meet with the Theme 'Urban Transition in BRICS' has begun in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh . The three days conference was inaugurated by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu in the presence of Union Minister of Urban Development, M. Venkaiah Naidu. The summit will deliberate on the transition and challenges being faced in urbanization in the BRICS nations –Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

78. The fifth edition of Dharamshala International Film Festival (DIFF) will begin on

- a) October 2 b) November 3 c) December 4 d) January 1

Answer b) November 3. The fifth edition of Dharamshala International Film Festival (DIFF) will begin on November 3 in the mountain town of McLeod Ganj, Dharamshala. The four-day festival has announced its first six films– South Korean drama “A Korean in Paris”, cinematographer- director Rajiv Ravi’s “Kammattipaadam”, Marathi film “Lathe Joshi”, “Sonita”, which is about Afghan rapper Sonita Alizadeh, British documentary “Syrian Love Story” and Thai film “The Island Funeral”.

79. Hindi Diwas is observed on?

- a) September 11 b) September 12 c) September 13 d) September 14

Answer d) September 14. Hindi Diwas is being celebrated throughout the country on September 14. President Pranab Mukherjee will present the Rajbhasha awards at Rashtrapati Bhawan. The Rajbhasha awards were instituted by the Department of Official Language of Home Ministry to recognize the excellent contribution of Ministries, Departments and Nationalized Banks in the field of Hindi.

80. Which company has agreed to buy Samsung’s printer business for \$1.05 billion (£788 million)?

- a) Dell b) HP c) Lenovo d) Microsoft

Answer b) HP. HP Inc. an American technology company has agreed to buy Samsung’s printer business for \$1.05 billion (£788 million) in an attempt to “disrupt” the \$55bn photocopying industry. As part of the deal, HP will swallow up 6,500 patents related to printing and Samsung’s team of 1,500 researchers and engineers. Samsung has also agreed to buy between \$100m (£75m) and

\$300m (£225m) in HP shares through open-market purchases after the sale is completed.

81. Which state government has announced to launch free tiger safaris at Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve for school children belonging to financially weaker sections?

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Kerala c) Maharashtra d) Rajasthan

Answer c) Maharashtra. Maharashtra government has announced to launch free tiger safaris at Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve for school children belonging to financially weaker sections, beginning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birth anniversary on September 17. The free safaris, aimed at "raising awareness about tiger and forest conservation", will be offered two days a week, Forest Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar said.

82. The Union Rural Development Ministry has allowed cash payment to job card holders under MGNREGA in _____

- a) Arunachal Pradesh b) Andhra Pradesh c) Madhya Pradesh d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer a) Arunachal Pradesh. The Union Rural Development Ministry has allowed cash payment to job card holders under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in Arunachal Pradesh, officials said. This arrangement came after the state government's request, which cited inadequate bank and postal service in some areas. A payment committee will be constituted to monitor cash proceedings, they added.

83. Which city has been named the most sustainable city in the world by global design and consultancy firm Arcadis?

- a) London b) Zurich c) Singapore d) Stockholm

Answer b) Zurich. Zurich in Switzerland has been named the most sustainable city in the world by global design and consultancy firm Arcadis. Singapore and the Swedish capital of Stockholm have been placed second and third respectively, while Vienna and London complete the top five. The 2016 Sustainable Cities Index examined 100 cities across the sectors 'People, Planet and Profit'.

84. Who has been elected as UEFA's seventh president at an extraordinary congress in Athens?

- a) Angel Maria Villar b) Michael Van Praag c) Aleksander Ceferin d) Peter Ceferin

Answer c) Aleksander Ceferin. Slovenia's Aleksander Ceferin has been elected as UEFA's seventh president at an extraordinary congress in Athens. Ceferin is an accomplished lawyer with little record in football before he became head of the Slovenian federation in 2011. In a vote for the UEFA presidency, he hammered the body's vice president Michael van Praag of the Netherlands 42-13 in what many saw as a call for change.

85. Which Bank has bagged the second prize under Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar for the year 2015-16?

- a) Syndicate Bank b) Indian Bank c) Vijaya Bank d) Allahabad Bank

Answer c) Vijaya Bank. Vijaya Bank has bagged the second prize under Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar for the year 2015-16. The prize was accepted by Kishore Sansi, Managing Director & CEO Vijaya Bank, from President Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhavan Auditorium, New Delhi. Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh, MoS for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju and others also took part in the function.

86. Indian-American physician-author _____ has been selected for the prestigious 2015 National Humanities Medal

- a) Jhumpa Lahiri b) Khaled Hosseini c) Siddhartha Mukherjee d) Abraham Verghese

Answer d) Abraham Verghese. Indian-American physician-author Abraham Verghese, whose work has emphasised empathy in medicine, has been selected for the prestigious 2015 National Humanities Medal. Verghese is known for his emphasis on empathy for patients in an era in which technology often overwhelms the human side of medicine. Currently a professor of medicine at the Stanford School of Medicine, 61-year-old Verghese has authored several acclaimed books, including “My Own Country” and “Cutting for Stone”.

87. Who has been appointed as Director, Research Centre Imarat (RCI) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)?

- a) Ganesha Murthy b) Narayana Murthy c) Sundara Murthy d) Aravind Murthy

Answer b) Narayana Murthy. Top scientist B.H.V.S. Narayana Murthy has been appointed Director, Research Centre Imarat (RCI) of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). RCI is a premier DRDO laboratory of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex spearheading the design, development and delivery of state-of-the-art avionics systems for the entire Indian missile development programme.

88. The Naropa festival began at the 17th century Hemis Monastery in _____

- a) Ladakh b) New Delhi c) Mumbai d) Bangalore

Answer a) Ladakh. The Naropa festival, which is held every 12 years, began at the 17th century Hemis Monastery in Ladakh. The main events at the week-long Naropa festival, a celebration of the 1,000th birth anniversary of Saint Naropa, are the display of six bone ornaments and the unfurling of the ancient silk Thangka (Tibetan Buddhist painting) of Buddha Amitabha.

89. Which country celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival?

- a) Japan b) USA c) India d) China

Answer d) China. Chinese communities are celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival, a harvest festival which takes place on the 15th day of the eighth month of the Lunar calendar. People celebrate the festival by gazing at the moon, as well as eating ‘moon cakes’ made of wheat flour and stuffing. The festival is also celebrated in Singapore, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

90. Which Bank has been asked to pay a fine of \$14 billion by the US Department of Justice to settle an investigation into mis-selling of mortgage-backed securities?

- a) Deutsche Bank b) HSBC Bank c) Federal Bank d) Citi Bank

Answer a) Deutsche Bank. Deutsche Bank has been asked to pay a fine of \$14 billion by the US Department of Justice to settle an investigation into mis-selling of mortgage-backed securities. The malpractices by several leading banks are cited as the primary reason for the 2008 financial crisis. The verdict comes on the eighth anniversary of the fall of Lehman Brothers.

91. ONGC inked a deal to buy extra 11% stake in _____ Vankor fields

- a) Dubai b) Iran c) Japan d) Russia

Answer d) Russia. State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corp. Ltd (ONGC) has signed definitive agreements with Russia's national oil company Rosneft PJSC to acquire an additional 11% stake in its unit, JSC Vankorneft, which has a licence to produce hydrocarbons from the Vankor field in Siberia. The definitive agreement was signed in Moscow by Narendra K. Verma, chief executive officer and managing director of ONGC's overseas arm ONGV Videsh Ltd, and Igor Sechin, chairman of Rosneft's board of directors.

92. _____ has won the Platinum Award for Inclusive Insurance at the SKOCH Insurance Awards 2016

- a) Janalakshmi Financial Services Pvt Ltd b) Grama Vidiyal Micro Finance Ltd
c) Ujjivan Financial Services Ltd d) Disha Microfin Pvt Ltd

Answer c) Ujjivan Financial Services Ltd. Ujjivan Financial Services Ltd, a microfinance institution, has won the Platinum Award for Inclusive Insurance at the SKOCH Insurance Awards 2016. The platinum award is the highest independent honour given for inclusive insurance and was presented to Ujjivan for the company's exemplary work on financial inclusion initiatives, exceptional customer service, insurance penetration and for covering the highest number of lives through insurance.

93. _____ was formally appointed UNODC Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking

- a) Eva Abu Halaweh b) Kate Kelly c) Juliette Binoche d) Nadia Murad Basee Taha

Answer d) Nadia Murad Basee Taha. Nobel Peace Prize nominee Nadia Murad Basee Taha – who survived trafficking at the hands of ISIL, was formally appointed UNODC Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking. As UNODC Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking, Nadia's main goal is to focus on advocacy initiatives and to raise awareness around the plight of millions of victims of trafficking, especially refugees, women, and girls.

94. India's largest mobile payment and commerce platform, _____ has emerged as the most credible and convenient payment option on the IRCTC platform

- a) Paytm b) Oxigen c) Freecharge d) Mobikwik

Answer a) Paytm. India's largest mobile payment and commerce platform, Paytm has emerged as the most credible and convenient payment option on the IRCTC platform. The Paytm Wallet is already accepted on the IRCTC platform and this native integration of Paytm's payment gateway to IRCTC's app is a showcase of its trust in Paytm's technology. The tie-up with India's largest rail ticketing platform is a major step towards Paytm aim to bring the convenience of digital payments to travelers.

95. The Indian Navy launched country's latest missile destroyer _____, at Mumbai's Mazagon Docks

- a) Agni b) Mormugao c) Nirbhay d) Brahmos

Answer b) Mormugao. The Indian Navy launched country's latest missile destroyer, the Mormugao, at Mumbai's Mazagon Docks. The indigenous content of the ship is 68%, Navy chief Sunil Lanba said. The Mormugao is the second of a class of Project 15B destroyers, slated to be the most advanced Indian destroyer. The ship will be inducted into the Navy two years later.

96. Which State government will confer this year's 'Banga Bibhushan' award to legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar?

- a) Maharashtra b) Haryana c) Assam d) West Bengal

Answer d) West Bengal. To honour legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar's contributions to Bengali songs, the West Bengal government will confer this year's 'Banga Bibhushan' on her. "Lata Mangeshkar has sung innumerable memorable Bengali songs," West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said. Adding that the award will be conferred to Mangeshkar after the Durga Puja, Banerjee said, the singer has agreed to accept the award.

97. India ranked _____, out of 159 countries and territories on the 'Economic Freedom of the World' rankings

- a) 121 b) 112 c) 113 d) 133

Answer b) 112. India has slipped by 10 positions to 112th, out of 159 countries and territories according to the Economic Freedom of the World: 2016 Annual Report. China, Bangladesh and Pakistan lagged behind India at 113th, 121st and 133th ranks respectively; Bhutan (78), Nepal (108) and Sri Lanka (111) were better placed on the World Economic Freedom Index. Hong Kong has the highest level of economic freedom worldwide, followed by Singapore, New Zealand, Switzerland, Canada, Georgia, Ireland, Mauritius, the UAE, Australia, and the UK.

98. Cricketers _____ and _____ were conferred with the coveted Arjuna Award for this year and the previous year respectively

- a) Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma b) Ajinkya Rahane and MS Dhoni
c) Murali Vijay and Rohit Sharma d) Ajinkya Rahane and Rohit Sharma

Answer d) Ajinkya Rahane and Rohit Sharma. Cricketers Ajinkya Rahane and Rohit Sharma were conferred with the coveted Arjuna Award for this year and the previous year respectively by Sports Minister Vijay Goel. They were given a statuette, a certificate, ceremonial dress and prize money of ₹5 lakh. They could not earlier receive the awards from the President, as they were participating in international tournaments.

99. Deaf Indian shooter _____ won the bronze medal in her first-ever international competition at the 1st World Deaf Shooting Championships held in Kazan

- a) Mithali Priya b) Priyesh Deshmukh c) Poonam Raut d) Anuja Patil

Answer b) Priyesh Deshmukh. Deaf Indian shooter Priyesh Deshmukh won the bronze medal in her first-ever international competition at the 1st World Deaf Shooting Championships held in Kazan. The Pune-based 23-year-old, who only began playing the sport three years ago, won the medal after scoring 180.4 points in the final of the women's 10-metre air rifle category.

100. Who won the Singapore Grand prix Title 2016?

- a) Lewis Hamilton b) Nico Rosberg c) Sebastian Vettel d) Daniel Ricciardo

Answer b) Nico Rosberg. Mercedes F1 team's German driver Nico Rosberg won the Singapore Grand Prix on Sunday, his 200th race, ahead of teammate Lewis Hamilton and Red Bull's Australian driver Daniel Ricciardo. With the win, Rosberg now leads Hamilton by eight points in the F1 drivers' championship table. The result also marks 31-year-old Hamilton's 99th podium finish in Formula One.

101. Edward Albee who passed away recently was a/an

- a) Actor b) Journalist c) Politician d) Author

Answer d) Author. Pulitzer-winning US playwright Edward Albee, author of masterpieces such as Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf at age 88. Considered one of the most important American playwrights of his time, Albee wrote a variety of intense, controversial plays diving into anxieties, disillusionments and death.

102. Which State has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16?

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Kerala c) Telangana d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer d) Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16, pushing the previous year's topper Maharashtra to the third spot. Andhra Pradesh attracted an investment of Rs 21,914 crore out of the Rs 1,38,700 crore gross investments across India. Gujarat retained the second place attracting 14.5 percent of investments, up from 9.5 percent in 2014-15.

103. Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the PARAM-ISHAN supercomputing facility at _____

- a) IIT, New Delhi b) IIT, Mumbai c) IIT, Guwahati d) IIT, Kanpur

Answer c) IIT, Guwahati. Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the PARAM-ISHAN supercomputing facility at IIT, Guwahati. While some institutions already have supercomputers, the number of such institutes will rise and go up to 60 as the government is focussing on providing advanced infrastructure.

104. Which state would be developed as the capital of Ayurveda and Yoga?

- a) Haryana b) Punjab c) Gujarat d) Assam

Answer a) Haryana. Haryana Health Minister Anil Vij said the state would be developed as the capital of Ayurveda and Yoga. With a view to achieve this target, the state government has already passed the proposal for setting up AYUSH University in Kurukshetra. Mr. Vij said a five-storey civil hospital was being constructed in Ambala Cantt at a cost of Rs 40 crore which would have Cath Lab, AYUSH services and other necessary facilities.

105. As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, _____ has launched its second Federal Skill Academy at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

- a) State Bank of India b) Syndicate Bank c) ICICI Bank d) Federal Bank

Answer d) Federal Bank. As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, Federal Bank has launched its second Federal Skill Academy at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu with the first being inaugurated last year at Ernakulam, Kerala. The Academy at Coimbatore will be initially providing an in-demand CNC Machine Operator Certificate Course in Milling & Turning which will be certified by COINDIA.

106. First Indian music and dance festival starts in _____

- a) Australia b) USA c) China d) Malaysia

Answer a) Australia. A first-of-its-kind Indian music and dance festival aimed to showcase the country's rich and diverse culture was kicked off in iconic Sydney Opera House in Sydney, Australia.

The 10-week festival "Confluence: Festival of India" was inaugurated by Union Tourism and Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma with spectacular joint performances by Indian and Australian artists.

107. Which state government has announced free bus rides for the girl school students in the state recently?

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Haryana c) Rajasthan d) Kerala

Answer b) Haryana. Haryana Transport Minister Krishan Lal Panwar has announced free bus rides for the girl school students in the state. The order came following complaints by some girl students of Khandra village. Instructions have also been issued to the officials of the Transport Department to behave properly with women and senior citizens.

108. A 3-day international seafood show held in _____

- a) Mumbai b) Hyderabad c) Visakhapatnam d) Chennai

Answer c) Visakhapatnam. A 3-day international seafood show held in Visakhapatnam. Themed 'Safe and Sustainable Indian Aquaculture', the event will have participation of 2,000 delegates from India and 200 from abroad. They will discuss technological advances and sustainable practices followed in fisheries capture and culture to ensure quality of seafood for both domestic and export markets.

109. India ranked _____ in the medals' table at the Rio Paralympics 2016

- a) 7th b) 35th c) 43rd d) 63rd

Answer c) 43rd. China finished on top of the medals' table at the Rio Paralympics with 239 medals, while India ended their campaign at 43rd spot with four medals. This was India's best-ever performance at the Paralympics, with two golds, one silver and one bronze. China's tally included 107 golds, followed by Great Britain at second spot with 147 medals, comprising 64 golds.

110. Who has been appointed as the next envoy of India to Sweden?

- a) Shyam Sharan b) Gopalkrishna Gandhi c) Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit d) Monika Kapil Mohta

Answer d) Monika Kapil Mohta. Monika Kapil Mohta has been appointed as the next envoy of India to Sweden. Mohta is a 1985 batch Indian Foreign Services officer and is presently the Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. Previously, she has served as the ambassador of India to Poland and Lithuania. She is expected to take up her assignment shortly. The two countries have a cordial relationship and growing economic cooperation.

111. Charkhi Dari is 22nd district of _____

- a) Telangana b) Rajasthan c) Kerala d) Haryana

Answer d) Haryana. Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced a district status for Dadri, the biggest sub-division in the state, increasing the district count of Haryana to 22 from 21. The government will soon start up the process in this direction and it would speed up the ongoing development process in the area. The chief minister said development projects worth Rs 112 crore had been completed in Dadri constituency during the two years of the BJP government.

112. _____ will host its first ever dessert festival 'Dessert Goals', a festival dedicated to all things dessert, on October 23

- a) Kuala Lumpur b) Washington c) London d) New York

Answer d) New York. New York will host its first ever dessert festival 'Dessert Goals', a festival dedicated to all things dessert, on October 23. There will be a photo garden featuring candy-inspired props and a candy wall, as well as sweet-themed demonstrations. Tickets to the dessert festival, which will also feature workshops and tastings, start at \$10. Dessert Goals fest will be taking over Williamsburg's Dobbin Street with treats from 20 vendors.

113. The first 'food waste' supermarket has opened in _____

- a) Russia b) India c) UK d) Singapore

Answer c) UK. Believed to be the first 'food waste' supermarket in the United Kingdom, the 'Real Junk Food Project' has opened in England. The supermarket sells food that has been discarded by other supermarkets and businesses, and for which customers can 'pay as they feel'. Real Junk Food Project founder Adam Smith said there are plans to open other 'food waste' supermarkets.

114. Google launched its smart messaging app which named as _____

- a) Hallo b) Allo c) Cello d) Allow

Answer b) Allo. Google launched its smart messaging app Allo which is the first product to have the 'Google Assistant' which will rival Apple's Siri and Microsoft's Cortana. Assistant can be used within Allo to look up movie times and local restaurants among other things. Google Allo, available for Android and iOS, also 'learns' from users' conversations and suggests 'smart' replies.

115. Board of Control for Cricket in India has named _____ as the new chairman of selectors

- a) Dinesh Mongia b) Sourav Ganguly c) Ajay Jadeja d) MSK Prasad

Answer d) MSK Prasad. Board of Control for Cricket in India has named former wicket keeper MSK Prasad as the new chairman of selectors. In their 87th Annual General Meeting (AGM), the board also announced that Ajay Shirke has been re-elected as the board secretary. The other members in the new selection panel include former cricketers Gagan Khoda, Devang Gandhi, Sarandeep Singh and Jatin Paranjpe. Prasad made his debut for India in 1998 and went on to play six Tests and 17 One-Day Internationals. He retired from all forms in 2008.

116. Curtis Hanson who passed away recently was a/an

- a) Movie Director b) Actor c) Economist d) Politician

Answer a) Movie Director. Filmmaker Curtis Hanson, who won an Oscar for the 1997 film 'L.A. Confidential', has passed away at the age of 71. He is said to have died of natural causes at his home in Los Angeles on Tuesday. Hanson, known for films like '8 Mile;' and 'Wonder Boys', retired from films as he was reportedly suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

117. India has pledged financial assistance worth 30.29 million Nepali Rupees for construction of a new college building in _____ district

- a) Udaipur b) Jaipur c) Patna d) Kanpur

Answer a) Udaipur. India has pledged financial assistance worth 30.29 million Nepali Rupees for construction of a new college building in Udayapur district in the country. A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding was signed among Indian Embassy, Local Development Officer, Udayapur district, and Shri Narad Adarsha Education Campus of Udayapur district for the construction of the campus building, according to a press release issued by the Indian mission.

118. Which Bank has emerged as India’s most valuable brand for the third consecutive year, ranking first on the BrandZ Top 50 list released by WPP Group?

- a) Axis Bank b) ICICI Bank c) HDFC Bank d) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer c) HDFC Bank. HDFC Bank has emerged as India’s most valuable brand for the third consecutive year, ranking first on the BrandZ Top 50 list released by WPP Group. Valued at \$14.4 billion, it was the only Indian brand in the BrandZ Top 100 most valuable global brands list released earlier. HDFC Bank was followed by Airtel and SBI in the list.

119. Which State government reduced the stamp duty on the purchase of land and houses in the name of women to 4% from 5%?

- a) Haryana b) Bihar c) Odisha d) Tamil Nadu

Answer c) Odisha. The Odisha government reduced the stamp duty on the purchase of land and houses in the name of women to 4% from 5%. The decision was taken on the basis of the provisions under the state government’s Policy for Girls and Women, 2014. The rate of stamp duty in the state is generally 7% of the land cost.

120. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurated the “Incredible India Tourism Investors Summit (IITIS)-2016” organized by Ministry of Tourism at _____

- a) Mumbai b) Hyderabad c) Bangalore d) New Delhi

Answer d) New Delhi. Arun Jaitley, Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs inaugurated the “Incredible India Tourism Investors Summit (IITIS)-2016” organized by Ministry of Tourism at Delhi. IITIS is a platform for domestic and international investors to meet project owners from across Indian states and the private sector. Highlights of this summit are State Presentations encompassing all investible Properties, Session on Why Invest in India, MSME in tourism sector, Panel discussions on core infrastructure for tourism, Session on Start-ups, digital India, Investing into Swadesh Darshan, PRASAD, MICE and Niche Tourism Products, B2B meetings and signing of MoUs.

121. Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) has launched an application _____ that would allow new customers to open an account

- a) Kotak New b) Kotak Now c) Kotak Acc d) Kotak Sav

Answer b) Kotak Now. Private lender Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) has launched an application 'Kotak Now' that would allow new customers to open an account in a more simpler and cost-effective manner. This is for the first time that a domestic lender has come up with such facility where a customer can open a bank account using its application. 'Kotak Now' is in sync with Prime Minister's vision of 'Digital India'.

122. First Jesse Owens Award goes posthumously to _____

- a) Mike Tyson b) Bruce Lee c) Muhammad Ali d) Rahman Ali

Answer c) Muhammad Ali. The first Jesse Owens Olympic Spirit Award will recognize the late

Muhammad Ali. The Owens Award was started this year, the 80th anniversary of Owens' four-gold-medal performance at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, and is to be presented annually to recognize people who have served as an inspiration in society. Ali won the gold medal at the Rome 1960 Olympics, then took three world heavyweight championships in 1964, 1974 and 1978.

123. Who has been appointed as new Ambassador to the US?

- a) Ranjan Mathai b) Arun Kumar Singh c) Navtej Singh Sarna d) Arjun Singh Gupta

Answer c) Navtej Singh Sarna. India's High Commissioner to the UK, Navtej Singh Sarna, has been appointed the new Ambassador to the US. He will succeed the current envoy Arun Singh. A 1980- batch Indian Foreign Service officer, Sarna will take over from Arun Kumar Singh, who has retired from the service. Sarna, who has authored several books, fiction as well as non-fiction, had succeeded Ranjan Mathai as India's envoy to the UK.

124. _____ will be the new Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, the nation's largest company

- a) Sanjiv Singh b) Rajeev Singh c) Abhishek Singh d) Mukesh Singh

Answer a) Sanjiv Singh. Sanjiv Singh will be the new Chairman of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, the nation's largest company. Singh, 56, who is currently Director of Refineries at IOC, was selected for the top job after government head hunters Public Enterprise Selection Board (PESB) interviewed eight candidates. A Chemical Engineer from IIT-Roorkee, Singh joined IOC in December 1981 as

Trainee Engineer and has worked in various positions at Mathura, Barauni and Panipat refineries of the company.

125. Which state Government allotted Rs 204 crore for 'Thaaliku Thangam' scheme under marriage assistance programme?

- a) Kerala b) Tamil Nadu c) Andra Pradesh d) Telangana

Answer b) Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu government has allotted Rs 204 crore towards the implementation of enhanced gold scheme under a marriage assistance programme. Rs 204 crore has been allotted for 'Thaaliku Thangam' (Gold for Mangalsutra) scheme for the year 2016-17 to benefit 12,500 women. Assistance of Rs 25,000 for beneficiaries who have passed Class X and Rs 50,000 to those with an undergraduate degree or diploma is also given as part of the scheme.

126. Cabinet approved Rs.1102 crore cable link to _____

- a) New Delhi b) Puducherry c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands d) Laskshadweep

Answer c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The NDA Govt Cabinet on Sep 21, 2016 approved a Rs 1,102.38 crore project for a direct communication link through a dedicated submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) between the mainland and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The project to be completed by December 2018, will link Chennai with Port Blair and five other islands of Little Andaman, Car Nicobar, Havelock, Kamorta and Great Nicobar.

127. Government of India has picked three economists _____ for a new monetary policy committee (MPC) to set interest rates

- a) Chetan Ghate, Arvind Subramanian and Ravindra Dholakia
- b) Rangarajan, Pami Dua and Ravindra Dholakia
- c) Chetan Ghate, Pami Dua and Ravindra Dholakia
- d) Chetan Ghate, Bimal Jalan and Ravindra Dholakia

Answer c) Chetan Ghate, Pami Dua and Ravindra Dholakia. India's government has picked three economists from the academic world for a new monetary policy committee (MPC) to set interest rates, as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gets ready for a landmark switch in the way it decides policy. The non-RBI members named are Chetan Ghate, a professor at Indian Statistical Institute; Pami Dua, a director at the Delhi School of Economics; and Ravindra Dholakia, a professor at the Indian Institute of Management in Ahmedabad, in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state of Gujarat.

128. World's first CO2-emission-free train, which will be powered by hydrogen, was unveiled at

- a) Russia
- b) Germany
- c) France
- d) USA

Answer b) Germany. World's first CO2-emission-free train, which will be powered by hydrogen, was unveiled at a trade show in Germany. The train 'Coradia iLint' was developed by French company Alstom and will start operating in Germany next year. The train will run using electricity stored in batteries, which are powered by a hydrogen tank on the train's roof.

129. Government of India to liberalise the e-tourist visa, which will allow travellers to stay in India for _____ days, instead of the 30-days

- a) 60
- b) 100
- c) 150
- d) 180

Answer b) 100. The central government has put forward a proposal to liberalise the e-tourist visa, which will allow travellers to stay in India for 100 days, instead of the 30-day period that the e-tourist visa currently allows. Additionally, the Centre is also planning to introduce multiple entries for foreign nationals. The scheme has been proposed to boost foreign arrival in India.

130. India is the _____ largest seafood exporter in the world

- a) Second
- b) Third
- c) Fifth
- d) Seventh

Answer d) Seventh. India is the seventh largest seafood exporter in the world, MoS for Commerce Nirmala Seetharaman said at the International Seafood Show in Visakhapatnam. The Minister gave the credit for this achievement to entrepreneurs and aqua producers. Notably, India exported quality seafood worth \$4.7 billion in 2015-16 and expects to achieve an export target of \$10 billion by 2020.

131. India and _____ have joined hands to promote sustainable tea production and consumption

- a) China
- b) Nepal
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Bangladesh

Answer a) China. India and China have joined hands to promote sustainable tea production and

consumption. The United Planters' Association of Southern India (UPASI) and China Tea Marketing Association (CTMA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard. This MoU is the first step towards greater regional cooperation between Indian and Chinese tea industries, which produce and consume the highest volume of tea in the world. The funding support for this region would be around €15 million by 2020.

132. Industrialist _____ was conferred the 10th Annual Clinton Global Citizen Award for leadership in business and philanthropy

- a) Azim Premji b) Adi Godrej c) Sunil Bharti Mittal d) Dillip Shanghvi

Answer b) Adi Godrej. Industrialist Adi Godrej, the Chairman of Mumbai-based Godrej Group, was conferred the 10th Annual Clinton Global Citizen Award for leadership in business and philanthropy, an official said here on Wednesday. The award recognizes Godrej's "leadership in transforming the intersection of business and philanthropy and making the Godrej Group a global example of what can be achieved through inclusive, sustainable business strategies".

133. Who won the Pan Pacific Open doubles title 2016 in women's category?

- a) Zhaoxuan Yang and Chen Liang b) Sania Mirza and Barbora Strýcová
c) Sania Mirza and Chen LiangSania d) Zhaoxuan Yang and Barbora Strýcová

Answer b) Sania Mirza and Barbora Strýcová. Indian tennis star Sania Mirza won her 40th WTA doubles title after winning the Pan Pacific Open title in Tokyo. Sania and her Czech partner Barbora Strýcová, playing together in their third tournament, defeated China's Zhaoxuan Yang and Chen Liang 6-1, 6-1 in the 52-minute long tournament final.

134. Reoti Saran Sharma who passed away recently, he was a well known writer of _____ language

- a) Bengali b) Urdu c) Hindi d) Both Urdu and Hindi

Answer d) Both Urdu and Hindi. Well known Hindi and Urdu writer Reoti Saran Sharma died in New Delhi. He was 92 years. He was a Pioneer in radio plays in All India Radio and was conferred with Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for 2007 for his contribution to theatre. He was also awarded Sahitya Kala Parishad and Ghalib Award.

135. Who has been appointed as Additional Secretary in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council?

- a) Piyush goyal b) Arun Goyal c) Prasad Goyal d) Saanjay Goyal

Answer b) Arun Goyal. Senior IAS officer Arun Goyal has been appointed as Additional Secretary in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council. The Council, headed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, is mandated to decide on tax rate, exempted goods and the threshold limit. The Appointments Committee of Cabinet has approved Goyal's appointment against the newly created post, an order issued by Department of Personnel and Training.

136. _____ and French Development Agency (AFD) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoUs) on urban mobility

- a) Chandigarh Administration b) Lakshadweep Administration
 c) Puducherry Administration d) Delhi Administration

Answer a) Chandigarh Administration. Chandigarh Administration and French Development Agency (AFD) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoUs) on Chandigarh Smart City Project and 'Technical Cooperation' in the field of Sustainable Urban Mobility. The MoUs were signed by K K Jindal, Secretary Transport, Chandigarh Administration and Minister Counsellor, Embassy of France in India, Jean Marc FENET and Director French Development Agency, Nicolas Fornage.

137. Two Indian-American scientists _____, have received the MacArthur grant 2016 for 'exceptional creativity' in their fields of interest

- a) Ashok Das and Manu Prakash b) Subhash Kot and Manu Prakash
 c) Subash Kot and Jogesh Pati d) Shok Das and Jogesh Pati

Answer b) Subhash Kot and Manu Prakash. Two Indian-American scientists Dr Subhash Kot and Dr Manu Prakash, who studied at the Indian Institute of Technology, have received the MacArthur grant 2016 for 'exceptional creativity' in their fields of interest. They will be awarded a grant of \$625,000 (approximately ₹4 crore) each over a period of five years. A total of 23 people were awarded this year.

138. _____ began operating the world's largest radio telescope, the FAST (Five-hundred-metre Aperture Spherical Telescope)

- a) China b) India c) Singapore d) Russia

Answer a) China. China began operating the world's largest radio telescope, the FAST (Five-hundred-metre Aperture Spherical Telescope). Measuring 500 metres across, the telescope took five years and \$180 million to complete, and will be used to search for gravitational waves and signs of extraterrestrial life. It will reportedly take three years for its calibration before becoming fully operational.

139. How many Indian cities have made it to the Master card Global Destinations Cities Index of 'Top 100 destination cities for 2016'?

- a) 7 b) 10 c) 3 d) 5

Answer d) 5. Five Indian cities have made it to the Mastercard Global Destinations Cities Index of 'Top 100 destination cities for 2016', with Mumbai ranking at number 27, Chennai at the 30th rank, New Delhi at number 48, Kolkata at 62nd rank, and Pune at the 91st, MasterCard said in a press release. In the Fastest Growing Destination Cities category, Mumbai and Chennai ranked 14 and 19, respectively, with at least one million overnight visitors in 2016.

140. Indian table tennis player _____ won India's first international men's singles table tennis title

- a) Kamlesh Mehta b) Anthony Amalraj c) Abhishek Yadav d) Sathiyam Gnanasekaran

Answer d) Sathiyam Gnanasekaran. Indian table tennis player Sathiyam Gnanasekaran won India's first international men's singles table tennis title in half a decade, after securing the Belgian Open on Saturday. The 24-year-old paddler defeated Cedric Nuytinck 15-13, 11-6, 11-2, 17-15, to win his maiden men's singles title. With the win, Sathiyam could enter the world top 125 for the first time in his career.

141. Which country introduced credit cards for the 1st time in the Islamic Republic's history?

- a) Iraq b) Iran c) Afghanistan d) Gambia

Answer b) Iran. The Central Bank of Iran is allowing local financial institutions to issue credit cards for the first time in the Islamic Republic's history. The full introduction of the cards could take some time as local banks will need to get used to the credit card system, according to the head of Iran's central bank Valiollah Seif.

142. The world's largest flower, Rafflesia arnoldii, has bloomed in two different locations in

- a) India b) USA c) Indonesia d) Singapore

Answer c) Indonesia. The world's largest flower, Rafflesia arnoldii, has bloomed in two different locations in the rainforests of Indonesian island Sumatra. The giant red flower, which smells of rotting flesh, has no stems, leaves or roots and blooms only for a couple of days. The flower has recently made an appearance in the Taba Penanjung Forest and the Tebat Monok Forest. The plant is named after the founder of modern Singapore, Sir Stamford Raffles and the British botanist Joseph Arnold.

143. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched _____ foreign satellites from 20 countries till September

- a) 45 b) 58 c) 74 d) 81

Answer c) 74. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched 74 foreign satellites from 20 countries till date, according to ISRO's commercial arm Antrix Corporation. In August, Antrix said it has bagged orders for the launch of 68 more foreign satellites. Notably, India's rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) will launch five more foreign satellites on Monday, in ISRO's longest mission so far.

144. Who has been appointed as the new chiefs of Central Industrial Security Force?

- a) AK Singh b) OP Singh c) PK Singh d) VK Singh

Answer b) OP Singh. The government has appointed OP Singh, SP Singh and RK Pachnanda as the new chiefs of Central Industrial Security Force, National Security Guard and National Disaster Response Force, respectively. All the three officers are from the Indian Police Service's 1983 batch. However, the government cancelled the appointment of PC Thakur as Director General, Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards.

145. Who has been appointed as the new chiefs of National Disaster Response Force?

- a) A P Maheshwari b) D K Pandey c) RK Pachnanda d) Ramesh P Singh

Answer c) RK Pachnanda. The government has appointed OP Singh, SP Singh and RK Pachnanda as the new chiefs of Central Industrial Security Force, National Security Guard and National Disaster Response Force, respectively. All the three officers are from the Indian Police Service's 1983 batch. However, the government cancelled the appointment of PC Thakur as Director General, Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards.

146. The 2nd meeting of the High Level Group of Eminent Experts to strengthen the SAARC Anti-Terrorism Mechanism was held in _____

- a) Male, Maldives b) New Delhi, India c) Kathmandu, Nepal d) Kabul, Afghanistan

Answer b) New Delhi, India. The 2nd meeting of the High Level Group of Eminent Experts to strengthen the SAARC Anti-Terrorism Mechanism was held in New Delhi. Delegations from all eight SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) member countries participated in the conference. SAARC members are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

147. World Tourism Day is observed on?

- a) September 26 b) September 27 c) September 28 d) September 29

Answer b) September 27. The World Tourism Day (WTD) is being observed annually on 27th September to raise awareness about the importance of tourism. The purpose of WTD is to foster awareness among the international community of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic value. The event seeks to address global challenges outlined in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to highlight the contribution the tourism sector can make in reaching these goals. Theme: 'Tourism for all – promoting universal accessibility'.

148. Model-actor _____ has completed the 42.2 km Berlin Marathon in 4 hours and 32 minutes

- a) Arjun Rampal b) Milind Soman c) Dino Morea d) Rahul Dev

Answer b) Milind Soman. Model-actor Milind Soman has completed the 42.2 km Berlin Marathon in 4 hours and 32 minutes. Soman, a fitness enthusiast, is also the brand ambassador of 'Pinkathon', India's biggest 'women only' marathon. Milind Soman was born in a Maharashtrian middle-class family in Glasgow, Scotland.

149. Who won the Polish Open squash Title 2016?

- a) Rasika b) Yelyzaveta Zharka c) Rituparna d) Sanjana Santosh

Answer c) Rituparna. Rituparna beat Rasika 11-21 21-7 21-17 in a 40-minute clash. Women's doubles pair of Sanjana Santosh and Arathi Sara Sunil also clinched the title after defeating top seeds Natalya Voytsekh and Yelyzaveta Zharka 19-21 21-19 21-14 in the final that lasted more than an hour.

150. Indian NGO _____ has won the inaugural FIFA Diversity Award

- a) FIFA Soccer b) Youth Soccer c) Slum Soccer d) None of these

Answer c) Slum Soccer. Indian NGO Slum Soccer has won the inaugural FIFA Diversity Award. The award was created by FIFA to recognise outstanding organisations, group initiatives and football personalities that are standing up for diversity and inspire unity, solidarity and equality among all people. Slum Soccer uses football to connect individuals, teach life skills and work towards improving the living conditions of women and marginalised populations in Indian society.

151. Gurgaon will now be known as _____, with the Centre approving the name change

- a) Gurgarm b) Gurugaon c) Gurugrama d) Gurugram

Answer d) Gurugram. Gurgaon will now be known as Gurugram, with the Centre approving the

name change. Presiding over the first meeting of the state-level 'Swarna Jayanti Celebrations Committee' at Panchkula near in Chandigarh, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said now both the city as well as the district of Gurgaon would be known as Gurugram.

152. Food processing Minister _____ laid the foundation stone of a mega food park project in Ludhiana

- a) Harsimrat Kaur Badal b) Maneka Gandhi c) Uma Bharti d) Smriti Irani

Answer a) Harsimrat Kaur Badal. Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid the foundation stone of a mega food park project in Ludhiana to be developed at a cost of Rs 117.61 crore. This mega food park is expected to provide direct and indirect employment to about 6,000 people and benefit about 25,000-30,000 farmers in its catchment area.

153. Microsoft partners _____ for cloud-connected cars

- a) Bajaj b) Nissan c) Fiat d) Honda

Answer b) Nissan. Technology Company Microsoft has partnered with the alliance between automotive manufacturers Renault-Nissan to work on connected car technologies. The services will provide advanced navigation, remote monitoring of car features, and over-the-air updates for cars connected to Microsoft's cloud computing platform Azure. Renault-Nissan aims to develop over 10 autonomous vehicles by 2020.

154. India has been ranked _____ among the 138 countries in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index 2016-17

- a) 31 b) 39 c) 56 d) 63

Answer b) 39. India's ranking on the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index for 2016-17 has improved 16 places to 39, making it the fastest riser among the 138 nations surveyed. India's competitiveness improved across the board, particularly in goods market efficiency, business sophistication, public institutions, and innovation. Switzerland topped the rankings, followed by Singapore and the US.

155. World Rabies Day is observed on?

- a) September 26 b) September 27 c) September 28 d) September 29

Answer c) September 28. The World Rabies Day is observed on 28 September across the world to raise awareness about the rabies disease and its preventable measures. Observance of the day seeks to raise awareness about the impact of rabies on animals and human beings. It also seeks to share information on how to prevent the disease. 2016. Theme: "Rabies: Educate. Vaccinate. Eliminate".

156. Shimon Peres who passed away recently, he was a former President and Prime Minister of

- a) Iran b) Singapore c) Malaysia d) Israel

Answer d) Israel. Former Israeli PM and Nobel laureate Shimon Peres (93) passed away while being treated at a hospital in Israel's capital Tel Aviv on Wednesday. He was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace prize for his role in the Oslo Accords, which created the Palestinian Authority and form the basis of negotiations to fulfill the "right of the Palestinian people to self-determination".

157. Which airport becomes Asia-Pacific's first carbon neutral airport?

- a) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport b) Indira Gandhi International Airport
c) Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport d) Chennai International Airport

Answer b) Indira Gandhi International Airport. The GMR consortium-AAI run Delhi Indira Gandhi International Airport has become the first carbon neutral airport in Asia-Pacific following a series of measures taken by it to reduce carbon footprint, including setting up of a 7.84 MW solar power plant. The announcement was made by the international body of aerodrome operators across the world, ACI during the Airport Carbon Accreditation certificate presentation ceremony in Montreal, Canada.

158. The United States has named diplomat Jeffrey DeLaurentis as its first official ambassador to _____ in over 50 years

- a) Cuba b) Germany c) Pakistan d) China

Answer a) Cuba. The United States has named diplomat Jeffrey DeLaurentis as its first official ambassador to Cuba in over 50 years. However, the nomination needs to be confirmed by the Senate, where it is likely to be opposed just like President Barack Obama's outreach to the Communist regime in Cuba. DeLaurentis is currently the Chargé d'Affaires at the US Embassy in Havana and previously worked in Bogota and at the United Nations.

159. World Maritime Day is observed on?

- a) September 27 b) September 28 c) September 29 d) September 30

Answer c) September 29. World Maritime Day is observed on September 29. The theme was chosen to focus on the critical link between shipping and global society and to raise awareness of the relevance of the role of International Maritime Organization (IMO) as the global regulatory body for international shipping. The importance of shipping to support and sustain today's global society gives IMO's work a significance that reaches far beyond the industry itself.

160. Which city is the most polluted Indian city in terms of air pollution, according to a World Health Organisation Report?

- a) Mumbai b) Bangalore c) Chennai d) Gwalior

Answer d) Gwalior. Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior is the most polluted Indian city in terms of air pollution, according to a World Health Organisation report. Indians living outside the Himalayan belt and Kashmir are exposed to air pollution beyond the WHO safe limits, the report added. Notably, Delhi does not feature in the list of the top ten most polluted Indian cities.

161. _____ government signed an agreement with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to boost the content of Mana TV

- a) Andhra Pradesh b) Assam c) Telangana d) Rajasthan

Answer c) Telangana. The Telangana government signed an agreement with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to boost the content of Mana TV, an initiative started in undivided Andhra Pradesh, for the benefit of the viewers in the state. Mana TV was started to provide programmes on distance education, telemedicine, and agriculture extension. This agreement would also provide coaching to students.

162. The largest ballpoint pen in the world measures 18.53 feet in length and weighs 37.23 kg made in _____

- a) USA b) China c) India d) Australia

Answer c) India. The largest ballpoint pen in the world measures 18.53 feet in length and weighs 37.23 kg. The pen, made in India, is engraved with scenes from Indian mythology and is 38 times the size of a regular pen. The inventor of the ballpoint pen, Ladislao José Biro, was born 117 years ago on September 29, 1899 in Hungary.

163. The Indian Railways introduced a sub-quota of ___per cent for women in allotment of each of the reserved catering units

- a) 25 b) 33 c) 50 d) 75

Answer b) 33. The Indian Railways introduced a sub-quota of 33 per cent for women in allotment of each of the reserved catering units and also launched a new 'Train at a Glance' and time table effective from October 1. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu said: "The introduction of new policy providing sub-quota of 33 per cent to women in catering units is a step towards women empowerment and their increased participation in the railways."

164. Which country plans to introduce disabled-friendly tourism routes?

- a) India b) Thailand c) USA d) Poland

Answer b) Thailand. The Thai government plans to create eight routes through the country that will be completely accessible to visitors with disabilities. Thailand's Minister for Tourism and Sports, as she launched the initiative, at the United Nations' World Tourism Day conference in Bangkok.

165. The UK signed the £18 billion (around ₹1.5 lakh crore) Hinkley Point C nuclear deal with _____ and _____

- a) France and China b) India and China c) France and Russia d) Germany and China

Answer a) France and China. The UK signed the £18 billion (around ₹1.5 lakh crore) Hinkley Point C nuclear deal with France and China. The reactor is Britain's first in decades and is being built by French utility firm EDF with one-third financial backing from China. The deal had been delayed over concerns over the involvement of Chinese state-owned companies.

166. _____ won the Under-18 Asia Cup hockey tournament title 2016

- a) Bangladesh b) Sri Lanka c) India d) Pakistan

Answer c) India. India won the Under-18 Asia Cup hockey tournament after beating hosts Bangladesh 5-4 in the final. After the score line was tied at 4-4, Indian colts scored their fifth goal in the final twenty seconds of the match to clinch the title. The Indian team had beaten Pakistan 3-1 earlier to enter the final.

167. Former cricketer Max Walker who passed away recently, he was from _____

- a) India b) South Africa c) Australia d) New Zealand

Answer c) Australia. Former Australian cricketer Max Walker, whose awkward and unorthodox bowling action earned him the nickname 'Tangles', passed away on Wednesday. Cricket Australia on Wednesday said Walker died after a battle with cancer. Walker played 34 Tests between 1972 and '77, taking 138 wickets at an average of 27.47, including six five-wicket hauls. He also took 20 wickets in 17 one-day internationals from 1974-81.

168. Renowned writer Syed Shamsul Haq who passed away recently, he was from _____

- a) India b) Bangladesh c) Nepal d) Malaysia

Answer b) Bangladesh. Syed Shamsul Haq, one of Bangladesh's best known writers passed away at the age of 81 and due to lung cancer. Mr. Haq's literary life and career spread across genres and was known for equal mastery over novels, poetry, essays and plays. He was also vocal against religious fundamentalism. He was born on 27 December 1935 in Kurigram in then Bengal Presidency of British India.

169. Which cricket stadium is the world's 2nd largest cricket stadium?

- a) Salt Lake Stadium b) Eden Garden Stadium c) Wankhede Stadium d) Chinnaswamy Stadium

Answer b) Eden Garden Stadium. Kolkata's Eden Gardens, which is currently hosting India's 250th home Test, is the second-largest cricket ground by capacity. The ground, with a capacity of 66,000, is only behind Australia's Melbourne Cricket Ground which can seat almost 90,000 people. However, prior to Eden Gardens' renovation in 2011, it was the largest cricket ground, with a capacity of around 1,20,000.

170. International Translation Day is observed on?

- a) September 27 b) September 28 c) September 29 d) September 30

Answer d) September 30. The International Translation Day is being observed today on 30 September across The world with the theme "Translation and Interpreting: Connecting Worlds". This is the annual event for the translation community and event is marked with a series of dedicated events, seminars and symposiums across the world. Established by the International Federation of Translators (FIT), the annual celebration of the International Translation Day is an opportunity to pay tribute to the work of translators who endeavour to make the world a slightly smaller place by breaking down language barriers.

171. State-owned NTPC announced the listing of its Rs 2,000 crore Green Masala Bonds in

- a) Bombay Stock Exchange b) London Stock Exchange
c) Tokyo Stock Exchange d) Singapore Stock Exchange

Answer d) Singapore Stock Exchange. State-owned NTPC announced the listing of its Rs 2,000 crore Green Masala Bonds on the Singapore Stock Exchange. NTPC has become the flag bearer for Rupee denominated Indian paper bringing in a new set of investors to meet the financing needs of the Indian Infrastructure sector on listing of Rs.2000 Crore Green Masala Bonds at Singapore Stock Exchange. NTPC Director (Finance) K Biswal NTPC was the special speaker at the event where he highlighted to a large audience the PSU's Green Masala Bonds issue for financing renewable energy projects.

172. Who has been conferred with the prestigious Moortidevi Award of Bharatiya Jnanpith for the year 2015 at function in New Delhi?

- a) Bhoopal Reddy b) Katti Padma Rao c) Kalakaluri Enoch d) Tanikella Bharani

Answer c) Kalakaluri Enoch. Noted Telugu writer Prof. Kalakaluri Enoch has been conferred with the prestigious Moortidevi Award of Bharatiya Jnanpith for the year 2015 at function in New Delhi. The award was given for his novel Ananta Jeevanam. The novel was thought-provoking and contemplative as it depicted the struggle of the weak, the downtrodden and the common man of Rayalaseema. This is the first time a Telugu writer was selected for the award.

173. Which State government state government will provide body cameras to traffic police personnel for their safety?

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Maharashtra c) Punjab d) West Bengal

Answer b) Maharashtra. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said the state government

will provide body cameras to traffic police personnel for their safety, besides announcing other measures for the welfare of the force. The move comes in the wake of police constable Vilas Shinde's death after being hit on the head with a wooden plank by a biker in Mumbai.

174. _____ is the wealthiest city in the country, according to the New World Wealth Report

- a) Mumbai b) Chennai c) Hyderabad d) Bangalore

Answer a) Mumbai. India's financial capital Mumbai, which is worth over ₹52 lakh crore, is the wealthiest city in the country, according to the New World Wealth Report. Mumbai is also home to 45,000 millionaires and 28 billionaires, the report added. Mumbai is followed by Delhi (around ₹30 lakh crore) and Bengaluru (around ₹21 lakh crore) at the second and third places respectively.

175. World Heart day is observed on?

- a) September 29 b) September 25 c) September 28 d) September 30

Answer a) September 29. Heart day is observed on September 29. Heart Day is part of an international campaign to spread awareness about heart disease and stroke prevention. This is the perfect day to quit smoking, get exercising and start eating healthy – all in the name of keeping your

ticker in good working order, and improving the health and well-being of people the world over. This year theme is creating heart-healthy environments.”

176. A new species of a ground-dwelling lizard has been discovered in _____

- a) Agra b) Pune c) Madurai d) Mumbai

Answer d) Mumbai. A new species of a ground-dwelling lizard has been discovered in Thane's Badlapur forested belts in Mumbai, 130 years after the last such gecko was discovered, and has been named after a Bengaluru-based scientist Varad Giri. The species, of the genus *Cyrtodactylus* known in Southeast Asia, India and Sri Lanka, is a member of the subgenus *Geckoella*, which are small ground-dwelling geckos largely found in leaf litter in forests.

177. _____ and _____ have signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of peaceful atomic energy use

- a) India and USA b) Iran and China c) Russia and Sweden d) Russia and Cuba

Answer d) Russia and Cuba. Russia and Cuba have signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of peaceful atomic energy use. The agreement was signed between Russian state nuclear agency Rosatom and Cuba's Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment in Vienna. The agreement was signed on the sidelines of International 60th Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference held in Vienna, capital city of Austria.

178. Who has been named as 'Best Businessman' at GQ Awards 2016?

- a) Binny Bansal b) Anupam Mittal c) Vijay Shekhar Sharma d) Sumit Jain

Answer c) Vijay Shekhar Sharma. GQ has named Vijay Shekhar Sharma, the founder and CEO of India's largest payments and commerce company, Paytm in the much prestigious 'GQ Awards 2016, Men Of The Year'. The annual list recognizes excellence across sectors – from cinema and fashion to business and sports. Vijay is the first Indian startup entrepreneur to be recognised among the GQ

Men of the Year. In his acceptance speech, he dedicated the award to the incredible efforts of the ingenious team at Paytm.

179. Indian women's kabaddi team won _____ in Asian Beach Games 2016

- a) Gold b) Silver c) Bronze d) None of these

Answer a) Gold. Indian women's kabaddi team won the country's first gold medal at the Asian Beach Games 2016, defeating Thailand. The team has set the record by winning five consecutive gold medals at the Games since 2008, defeating Thailand every time in the final. Meanwhile, Indian men's kabaddi team won the silver after losing out to Pakistan in the final.

180. The World Bank announced that current President _____ has been unanimously reappointed as its head for a second five-year term, which begins on July 1, 2017

- a) Christine Lagarde b) Raguram Rajan c) Ban Ki Moon d) Jim Yong Kim **Answer**

d) Jim Yong Kim. The World Bank announced that current President Jim Yong Kim has been unanimously reappointed as its head for a second five-year term, which begins on July 1, 2017. The US administration had nominated the Korean-American doctor for the post last month. "I would focus on building a more inclusive world free of poverty," Kim said in a statement.

181. _____ is the world's deadliest country for outdoor air pollution, according to analysis by the World Health Organisation (WHO)

- a) India b) USA c) China d) Japan

Answer c) China. China tops the World Health Organisation's (WHO) list for the world's deadliest air pollution, with over one million people dying in the country in 2012 from dirty air. China is followed by India (6,21,138 deaths), and Russia (1,40,851 deaths). Notably, WHO claims that air pollution kills 30 lakh people worldwide every year.

182. _____ has ratified the multilateral convention on administrative assistance in taxation matters

- a) India b) USA c) Switzerland d) China

Answer c) Switzerland. Paving the way for the automatic exchange of tax information with India and other nations, Switzerland has ratified the multilateral convention on administrative assistance in taxation matters. In this move marks a significant step in the continuing global efforts to crackdown on illicit fund flows in the system and do away with banking secrecy practices. In efforts to clamp down on the black money menace, India has been seeking tax information from various countries, including Switzerland.

183. RBI approves Rs 26,000 crore CCL for paddy procurement in _____

- a) Gujarat b) Punjab c) Rajasthan d) Bihar

Answer b) Punjab. The Punjab government has asked the SBI-led consortium of banks, which advances it a cash credit limit (CCL) every harvest for foodgrain procurement, to restructure an accumulated outstanding of Rs 21,000 crore. Separately, the Reserve Bank of India Monday approved the release of Rs 26,000 crore CCL for paddy procurement in Punjab, which commences in less than a week on October 1.

184. Who has been appointed as India's High Commissioner to the UK?

- a) Arjan Singh b) Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha c) Prabhat Prakash Shukla d) Subimal Dutt

Answer b) Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha. Senior IFS officer Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha was appointed as India's High Commissioner to the UK succeeding Navtej Sarna. Sinha, an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1981 batch, is currently serving as India's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka. Sarna has been appointed as India's Ambassador to the US. The government had appointed 1988- batch IFS officer Taranjit Singh Sandhu as the next High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka to replace Sinha.

185. Arnold Palmer who passed away recently was a/an

- a) Cricketer b) Golfer c) Hockey Player d) Football Player

Answer b) Golfer. American golf legend Arnold Palmer has died in Pittsburgh at the age of

87. Palmer, one of golf's greatest players whose immense popularity drew a legion of fans known as "Arnie's Army" and helped propel the game just as television was coming of age, died on Sunday, the US Golf Association and golf media reported.

186. to host 2026 Asian Games

- a) India b) China c) Russia d) Japan

Answer d) Japan. Japan's Aichi prefecture and its capital city Nagoya were confirmed as co-hosts of the 2026 Asian Games. The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) formally endorsed the bid after Aichi Prefecture governor Hideaki Ohumra and Nagoya city mayor Takashi Kawamura presented their joint offering to the OCA General Assembly in Danang, which is currently hosting the fifth Asian Beach Games.

187. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched its satellite _____ for ocean and weather-related studies from Sriharikotta

- a) BCATSAT – 1 b) MCATSAT – 1 c) SCATSAT – 1 d) SCATBAT – 1

Answer c) SCATSAT – 1. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched its satellite SCATSAT-1 for ocean and weather-related studies from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. The satellite carrying the 377 kg SCATSAT-1 and seven other satellites, this was the first mission of PSLV in which it launched its payloads into two different orbits. The expected lifespan of SCATSAT-1 is expected to be five years. ISRO's SCATSAT-1 can generate accurate data on wind patterns over the ocean surface.

188. Who has been appointed as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Djibouti recently?

- a) Anurag Srivastava b) Deepak Bojwani c) Navdeep Singh Suri d) Hardit Malik

Answer a) Anurag Srivastava. Shri Anurag Srivastava (IFS: 1999), presently Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, has been concurrently accredited as the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Djibouti, with residence in Addis Ababa. He is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

189. The world's first non-rectangular football field has been made in _____

- a) Thailand b) Argentina c) Russia d) Germany

Answer a) Thailand. The world's first non-rectangular football field has been made in Thailand by Thai real estate developer, AP Thailand, in the Khlong Toei community of Bangkok, which is considered to have no usable space left. The developers aim to promote relationships among the people in the community alongside highlighting the importance of developing "useful spaces".

190. Who has been appointed as the new chiefs of National Security Guard?

- a) Ashok Singh b) JK Singh c) RK Singh d) SP Singh

Answer d) SP Singh. The government has appointed OP Singh, SP Singh and RK Pachnanda as the new chiefs of Central Industrial Security Force, National Security Guard and National Disaster Response Force, respectively. All the three officers are from the Indian Police Service's 1983 batch. However, the government cancelled the appointment of PC Thakur as Director General, Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards.

191. _____ and _____ have the youngest population in India

- a) Tamil Nadu and Kerala b) Bihar and Uttar Pradesh
c) Gujarat and Rajasthan d) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

Answer d) Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. UP and Bihar have the youngest population in India while Kerala and Tamil Nadu have the oldest population, stated Census 2011 data, compiled by Bengaluru-based

Takshashila Institution. The median age in India rose from 22.51 years to 24 years between 2001-2011. Median age is the age that divides a population into two numerically equal groups.

192. Who has opened the Smithsonian Institution's first national museum about African-American history in Washington DC?

- a) Barack Obama b) Bill Clinton c) Hilary Clinton d) Vladimir Putin

Answer a) Barack Obama. President Barack Obama heralded the opening of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, an institution dedicated to the many threads of black suffering and triumph. The first black president of the United States cut the ribbon to inaugurate the striking 37,000-square-meter bronze-clad edifice before thousands of spectators gathered in the nation's capital to witness the historic opening.

193. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched _____ small satellites into two different orbits in space on board its workhorse launch vehicle, the PSLV

- a) Five b) Six c) Seven d) Eight

Answer d) Eight. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched eight small satellites into two different orbits in space on board its workhorse launch vehicle, the PSLV. This was the first time ISRO launched satellites into two different orbits on the same flight. "With today's launch, the PSLV's capability to launch satellites into two different orbits has been successfully demonstrated.

194. India's emerging player _____ bagged the Under-19 Asian Junior Individual squash championship title in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- a) Saurav Ghosal b) Velavan Senthilkumar c) Anuroop d) Abdul Bari

Answer b) Velavan Senthilkumar. India's emerging player Velavan Senthilkumar bagged the Under-19 Asian Junior Individual squash championship title in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He beat Jordan's Mohammad Al-Sarraj.

195. Who has been elected as the President of the Boxing Federation of India?

- a) Kamal Singh b) Ajay Singh c) Yadav Singh d) Raman Singh

Answer b) Ajay Singh. SpiceJet Chairman and Managing Director Ajay Singh were elected as the President of the Boxing Federation of India. Singh is also among the Vice Presidents of the Uttarakhand Boxing Association. The Federation went to polls after four years of administrative turmoil, with the election likely to benefit the country's boxers, who could not compete under the national flag.

196. National Mission on Bioeconomy was launched in _____ by the Institute of Bio-resources and Sustainable Development (IBSD)

- a) Mumbai b) Jaipur c) Shillong d) Hyderabad

Answer c) Shillong. National Mission on Bioeconomy was launched in Shillong by the Institute of Bio-resources and Sustainable Development (IBSD) under the Ministry of Science and Technology. The mission focuses on sustainable utilization of renewable biological resources for food, bio-based products and bio-energy through knowledge-based approaches. It could have the potential to generate new solutions for the planet's major challenges in the field of energy, health, food, water, climate change and deliver social, environmental and economic benefits.

197. India and _____ have reached an agreement to establish an air corridor to facilitate trade between the two nations through air

- a) China b) USA c) Afghanistan d) Germany

Answer c) Afghanistan. India and Afghanistan have reached an agreement to establish an air corridor to facilitate trade between the two nations through air. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani had earlier urged India to use an air route for trade to help free the 'landlocked' country from the

constraints of its neighbours. Notably, Pakistan has denied Afghanistan land access for trade with India.

198. A new species of pikas, a small mammal in the rabbit family, has been discovered in

- a) Kerala b) Tamil Nadu c) Meghalaya d) Sikkim

Answer d) Sikkim. A new species of pikas, a small mammal in the rabbit family, has been discovered in the Himalayas of Sikkim. Identified as 'Ochotona sikimaria', the species was discovered through a study based on genetic data and skull measurements. Pikas look like tailless rats and are sensitive to climate change, which has earlier caused several of them to go extinct.

199. _____ becomes the first state to adopt Centre's Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP) in all its urban local bodies (ULB)

- a) Gujarat b) Punjab c) Rajasthan d) Bihar

Answer c) Rajasthan. Rajasthan becomes the first state to adopt Centre's Street Lighting National Programme (SLNP) in all its urban local bodies (ULB). Almost 5 lakh conventional streetlights have been replaced with LED streetlights across the state. The project has been funded by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a public energy services company under the administration of Union ministry of power at no cost to the state.

200. Lopamudra Raut has bagged the second runner-up spot at Miss United Continents, She belongs to _____

- a) USA b) Singapore c) Poland d) India

Answer d) India. Lopmudra Raut has bagged the second runner-up spot at Miss United Continents, which was held in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Jeslyn Santos from Philippines won the title of Miss United Continents. Lopamudra Raut is an Indian model and beauty queen from the state of Maharashtra.

201. Jagdish Gagneja who passed away recently was a/an

- a) Politician b) Journalist c) Sportsmen d) Author

Answer a) Politician. Senior RSS leader Jagdish Gagneja, who was shot at in Jalandhar by unidentified assailants in August, died at a hospital in Ludhiana. He was also the Vice-President of the Punjab unit of the Sangh Gagneja, 65, breathed his last at 9.16 am at the Hero DMC Heart Institute, Dr GS Wander, Director of the Institute.

202. The eighth edition of India-Russia Joint Military Exercise _____ has begun in the Ussiriysk District in Vladivostok, Russia

- a) SHAKTI 2016 b) HAND-IN-HAND 2016 c) INDRA 2016 d) SURYA KIRAN 2016

Answer c) INDRA 2016. The eighth edition of India-Russia Joint Military Exercise 'INDRA-2016' has begun in the Ussiriysk District in Vladivostok, Russia. Main focus of this edition of the joint exercise is on 'Counter-Terrorism Operations in semi mountainous and jungle terrain under United Nations Mandate'. To achieve interoperability in joint operations, troops from both sides would acquaint themselves with the respective approach to such operations.

203. Who has been elected as president of the prestigious Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)?

- a) Arvind Mayaram b) Bimal Jalan c) Nandan Nilekani d) Vijay Kelkar

Answer d) Vijay Kelkar. Former petroleum secretary Vijay Kelkar has been elected president of the prestigious Indian Statistical Institute (ISI). Kelkar succeeded former RBI governor C Rangarajan. He was elected at the general body meeting of the institute, which functions under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

204. Insurance regulator IRDAI has imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on _____ Company for violations of various norms

a) Exide Life Insurance b) HDFC Life Insurance c) SBI Life Insurance d) Reliance General Life Insurance
Answer c) SBI Life Insurance. Insurance regulator IRDAI has imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on SBI Life Insurance Company for violations of various norms. Inspection reports indicated that it had done 621 policies after expiry of licence. Authority renewed the expired licence of the corporate agent from a retrospective date i.e licence expiry date, which is only for operational convenience but doesn't mean that insurer is allowed to procure business during the licence expiry period while the renewal application was under process.

205. India ranked _____ among 188 nations in health study

a) 83 b) 112 c) 143 d) 163

Answer c) 143. The Global Burden of Disease study has ranked India 143 in a list of 188 countries, citing mortality rates, malaria hygiene and air pollution as major challenges. The US was ranked 28, while the UK was listed in the top five spots. Notably, Iceland topped the health index, and the Central African Republic was ranked the lowest.

206. Which Country has been named the best destination for expats for the second year in a row by the annual HSBC Expat Explorer Survey?

a) India b) China c) Sweden d) Singapore

Answer d) Singapore. Singapore has been named the best destination for expats for the second year in a row by the annual HSBC Expat Explorer Survey. New Zealand and Canada have ranked second and third respectively, while the Czech Republic and Switzerland have completed the top five. Meanwhile, India has ranked 26th on the list.

207. Government of India signed a contract to buy 36 rafale jets for Rs.58 crores from

a) France b) Russia c) Germany d) USA

Answer a) France. India has signed a contract to from French defence major Dassault Aviation for around Rs.58,000 crore in an effort to modernise Indian Air Force's ageing fleet. The deal was finalised with the signing of the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) by the Minister for Defence, Manohar Parrikar, and his French counterpart, Jean-Yves le Drian, at the Ministry of Defence.

208. The book "Citizen and Society," written by _____

a) Narendra Modi b) Sumitra Mahajan c) Meira Kumar d) Hamid Ansari

Answer d) Hamid Ansari. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, attended the function for the release of the book "Citizen and Society," written by the Vice-President Shri Hamid Ansari. The book was released by the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, at Rashtrapati Bhawan. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister congratulated the Vice President for presenting his thoughts to the future generations through the book.

209. Which Bank has entered into agreements with private insurers Cigna TTK and Reliance General Insurance to provide health and general insurance services to its customers?

a) Andhra Bank b) Allahabad Bank c) Syndicate Bank d) Bank of India

Answer a) Andhra Bank. Public sector lender Andhra Bank said that it has entered into agreements with private insurers Cigna TTK and Reliance General Insurance to provide health and general insurance services to its customers. The agreement was signed by Andhra Bank Executive Director S K Kalra, MD and CEO of Cigna TTK Health Insurance Sandeep Patel and CEO of Reliance General Insurance Rakesh Jain. Andhra Bank shares closed at Rs. 60.95 apiece, down 0.08 percent from their

previous close.

210. The National Society for Change for Childhood Cancer will be organising a first-of-its-kind exhibition 'CanKids-Kidscan' at _____

- a) Red Fort b) Qutb Minar c) Taj Mahal d) India Gate

Answer c) Taj Mahal. The National Society for Change for Childhood Cancer will be organising a first-of-its-kind exhibition 'CanKids-Kidscan' on childhood cancer awareness at the iconic Taj Mahal in Agra from September 25 to 27. As per a press release issued by the organizers, the exhibition will include 'Chalo Chalein Taj programme' under which around 1,500 cancer-affected children and their families will visit the Taj Mahal. Street play by childhood cancer survivors will also be shown at the function.

211. Who has been appointed as chairperson of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India?

- a) Vishwanathan b) Madhusudan Sahoo c) Muthu Kumar d) Raman Sharma

Answer b) Madhusudan Sahoo. Madhusudan Sahoo was appointed as chairperson of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India. Sahoo is presently member of Competition Commission of India. The Appointments Committee of Cabinet has approved his appointment to the post for five years, an order issued by Department of Personnel and Training.

212. _____ was ranked the best university in the world in Times Higher Education University Rankings

- a) Stanford University b) University of Oxford
c) University of Cambridge d) California Institute of Technology

Answer b) University of Oxford. UK-based University of Oxford was ranked the best university in the world in Times Higher Education University Rankings, pushing US-based California Institute of Technology, the five-time topper of the list, to the second spot. Stanford University, University of Cambridge, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology took the third, fourth, and fifth spots respectively.

213. Who has been named the captain of the all-time India Test XI chosen by cricket magazine Wisden?

- a) Virat Kohli b) Kapil Dev c) MS Dhoni d) Rahul Dravid

Answer c) MS Dhoni. Mahendra Singh Dhoni has been named the captain of the all-time India Test XI chosen by cricket magazine Wisden. The celebrated team has been picked ahead of India's 500th Test which will be played against New Zealand in Kanpur. The openers in the side are Sunil Gavaskar and Virender Sehwag, followed by Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, VVS Laxman, all-rounder Kapil Dev and Dhoni the wicket-keeper batsman.

214. Which country will host the 2017 global conference of the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP)?

- a) India b) Russia c) Turkey d) Poland

Answer c) Turkey. Istanbul in Turkey will host the 2017 global conference of the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP). The Spain-headquartered IASP is the largest worldwide network of science parks and areas of innovation, uniting technology parks, business incubators and institutions, and it has a Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

215. Which film is India's official entry to Academy Awards 2017 in the Foreign Language Film Category?

- a) Duronto b) Visaranai c) Masaan d) Bahubali

Answer b) Visaaranaai. Tamil film 'Visaaranaai' is India's official entry to Academy Awards 2017 in the Foreign Language Film category. Featuring Dinesh, Anandhi and Aadukalam Murugadoss in the lead roles, the film focuses on corruption and police brutality. Directed by Vetrimaaran and produced by Dhanush, 'Visaaranaai' won three National Awards this year, including the best Tamil film award.

216. _____ has topped Forbes' annual list of India's 100 richest tycoons for 2016

- a) Ratan Tata b) Mukesh Ambani c) Dilip Shanghvi d) Hinduja brothers

Answer b) Mukesh Ambani. Reliance Industries Limited Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped Forbes' annual list of India's 100 richest tycoons for 2016. With a net worth of \$22.7 billion (₹1.52 lakh crore), Ambani has retained the number one spot for the ninth consecutive year. Sun Pharmaceuticals MD Dilip Shanghvi (\$16.9 billion) and Hinduja brothers (\$15.2 billion) ranked second and third respectively on the list.

217. Adani Enterprises commissioned a 648 MW solar power plant in _____, which it claims is the world's largest solar plant at a single location

- a) Telangana b) Tamil Nadu c) Maharashtra d) Odisha

Answer b) Tamil Nadu. Adani Enterprises commissioned a 648 MW solar power plant in Tamil Nadu, which it claims is the world's largest solar plant at a single location, with an investment of ₹4,550 crore. This is a part of the company's plans to achieve a solar power generating capacity of 3,500 MW by March 2017.

218. _____ has approved a \$631-million loan to the proposed Vishakhapatnam-Chennai industrial corridor (VCIC), the first coastal one in the country

- a) New Development Bank b) World Bank c) Reserve Bank of India d) Asian Development Bank

Answer d) Asian Development Bank. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$631-million loan to the proposed Vishakhapatnam-Chennai industrial corridor (VCIC), the first coastal one in the country. The Manila-Based regional development financing bank approved the loan which will help develop infrastructural amenities and industrial capabilities in and around major cities in Andhra Pradesh such as Vishakhapatnam, Kakinada and the proposed state Capital of Amravati.

219. Who received the ICC Test Championship mace for leading the side to the top of the ICC Test Team Rankings?

- a) Virat Kohli b) Misbah-ul-Haq c) Steve Smith d) Kane Williamson

Answer b) Misbah-ul-Haq. Pakistan captain Misbah-ul-Haq received the ICC Test Championship mace for leading the side to the top of the ICC Test Team Rankings for the first time since the current rankings system was introduced in 2003. ICC Chief Executive David Richardson presented the mace to Misbah at the Gaddafi Stadium.

220. India's e-commerce giant _____ announced crossing 100 million registered customers on its platform

- a) Snapdeal b) Paytm c) Flipkart d) Shopclues

Answer c) Flipkart . India's e-commerce giant Flipkart announced crossing 100 million registered customers on its platform, becoming the first e-commerce company in the country to achieve the milestone. Launched in 2007, Flipkart has raised over \$3.15 billion to date. "9 years, 100 million @Flipkart registered customers... so humbled and proud! Thank you!" tweeted Flipkart Co-founder and CEO Binny Bansal.

221. _____ is the best workplace for women in India

- a) Sikkim b) Karnataka c) Tamil Nadu d) Assam

Answer a) Sikkim. Sikkim is the best workplace for women in India while Delhi is the worst

workplace, claimed a report prepared jointly by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, a top American think-tank, and Nathan Associates. Delhi came last due to formal restrictions on women working at night, low justice, workforce participation scores, and lack of incentives for female entrepreneurs.

222. The International Day of Peace ("Peace Day") is observed around the world each year on

- a) September 20 b) September 21 c) September 22 d) September 23

Answer b) September 21. The International Day of Peace ("Peace Day") is observed around the world each year on 21 September. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution

36/37, the General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to "commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples."

223. Railways has launched _____ to facilitate access to wheelchairs, battery operated cars and porter services

- a) Yatri Rail Sewa b) Bharat Mitra Sewa c) Yatri Mitra Sewa d) Yatri Mitra Services

Answer c) Yatri Mitra Sewa. In a move to make rail travel comfortable for elderly, differently-abled and ailing travelers, Railways has launched 'Yatri Mitra Sewa' to facilitate access to wheelchairs, battery operated cars and porter services. 'Yatri Mitra' or 'Passenger Friend' can be a "Sahayak (assistant)" or any other person nominated for the purpose. The service will be available at major railway stations across the country.

224. Who will be honoured as the 2016 humanitarian of the year by students and faculty at the Harvard Foundation?

- a) Su Su Lwin b) Malala Yousafzai c) Aung San Suu Kyi d) Michelle Yeoh

Answer c) Aung San Suu Kyi. Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi (ahng sahn soo chee) of Myanmar will be honored as the 2016 humanitarian of the year by students and faculty at the Harvard Foundation. Suu Kyi gained international prominence as the General Secretary of the newly formed National League for Democracy in Myanmar in 1990. She became one of the world's most well-known political prisoners during her 15 years of house arrest for participating in protests against the government.

225. Narottam Mohanty who passed away recently was a/an

- a) Actor b) Football referee c) Cricketer d) Journalist

Answer b) Football referee. Odisha's first ever football referee, centenarian Narottam Mohanty

passed away. He was 100 years old when he breathed his last after a massive heart attack at his residence. Mohanty was also considered as the oldest citizen of Baripada town.

226. Which company unveiled a prototype of the world's first 1 TB SD memory card?

- a) Sony b) SanDisk c) Samsung d) Transcend

Answer b) SanDisk. US-based flash memory products maker SanDisk unveiled a prototype of the world's first 1 TB SD memory card. The card's storage space is more than the storage space offered by the base configuration of most home computers. The company has not revealed the pricing or availability of the card yet.

227. Who has been appointed as chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)?

- a) Deepak Gupta b) Dinesh Kumar c) Prakash Mishra d) Alka Sirohi

Answer d) Alka Sirohi. Former IAS officer Alka Sirohi has been appointed as chairman of Union

Public Service Commission (UPSC), in place of Deepak Gupta who demits office on Tuesday. President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed Sirohi to perform the duties of the post of the chairman, UPSC, with effect from September 21, an order issued by Department of Personnel and Training said.

228. India has successfully test-fired a long range surface-to-air missile which named as _____, as part of its efforts to bolster its defence capability

- a) Agni – 5 b) K – 7 c) Barak – 8 d) Barak - 7

Answer c) Barak – 8. India has successfully test-fired a long range surface-to-air missile, as part of its efforts to bolster its defence capability. 'Barak-8' from the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) base at Chandipur in Odisha. The missile can hit the target within a range of 70 km and can carry a payload of 60kg. It has been jointly developed by India and Israel.

229. World Bank has announced investment of nearly 1000 crore rupees in _____ for the betterment of the inland waterways

- a) Andra Pradesh b) Bihar c) Assam d) Tamil Nadu

Answer c) Assam . World Bank has announced investment of nearly 1000 crore rupees in Assam for the betterment of the inland waterways. It was conveyed to State Transport Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary by Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari. The Union Minister also assured to re-construct jetty for which 100 percent assistance will be given by the Centre.

230. Who has been appointed as Executive Director of Canara Bank?

- a) S K Lavanya b) P V Bharathi c) J R Indra d) C V Menaka

Answer b) P V Bharathi. Canara Bank appointed P V Bharathi as Executive Director with effect from September 15. Currently she was working as the General Manager of Canara Bank.

231. The state government in association with International Labour Organisation (ILO) organized a two-day long national conference at _____

- a) New Delhi b) Maharashtra c) West Bengal d) Odisha

Answer d) Odisha. The state government in association with International Labour Organisation (ILO) will organize a two-day long national conference on labour in the city from September 20. This was informed by state labour minister Prafulla Mallick at a press meet. Union minister of state for labour and employment Bandaru Dattatreya, labour ministers and chairpersons of labour welfare boards of 29 states will attend the conference. Odisha is organizing such an event for the first time.

232. Who has been chosen for the prestigious N Mohanan Suvarna Mudra Award 2016?

- a) S Janaki b) M Leelavathi c) S Sathiyavathi d) K Subhashini

Answer b) M Leelavathi. Eminent Malayalam critic and academician Dr M Leelavathi has been chosen for the prestigious N Mohanan Suvarna Mudra Award 2016, instituted in memory of well-known short story writer N Mohanan. The honour comprises a gold medal of one sovereign. An expert panel, comprising journalists M G Radhakrishnan and M Saritha Varma and Athmaraman, selected Leelavathi for the biennial award considering her contributions to Malayalam language and literature.

233. Who has become the World Bank's Country Director for India?

- a) Jim Yong Kim b) Raguram Rajan c) Junaid Ahmad d) Onno Ruhl

Answer c) Junaid Ahmad. Junaid Ahmad has become the World Bank's Country Director for India, replacing Onno Ruhl who served a four-year term based out of the national capital. Hailing from Bangladesh, Ahmad was Chief of Staff to the World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim before being

elevated to the current position.

234. Indian shooters have won _____ medals in the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in Azerbaijan

- a) Five b) Six c) Seven d) Eight

Answer c) Seven. Indian shooters have won seven medals, including three golds and one silver, to lead the medal tally at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup in Azerbaijan. Subhankar Pramanik won India's first gold in the 50-metre rifle prone event, while Sambhaji Patil won the individual and team gold medals in the men's 25-metre standard pistol team event.

235. _____ won the 85kg wrestling gold at the Cadet World Championships held in Georgia

- a) Deepak Punia b) Vijendar Singh c) Sushil Kumar d) Yogeshwar Dutt

Answer a) Deepak Punia. Deepak Punia, the son of a former milkman Subhash Punia, won the 85kg wrestling gold at the Cadet World Championships held in Georgia. The 17-year-old defeated wrestlers from Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, USA and Turkey to be crowned as the world champion. Deepak is only the third cadet world champion from India after the tournament was restarted in 2011.

236. Ramnaresh Sarwan announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, he played for which country?

- a) India b) South Africa c) West Indies d) Sri Lanka

Answer c) West Indies. Former West Indies captain Ramnaresh Sarwan announced his retirement from all forms of cricket in Guyana. Sarwan played 87 Tests for West Indies scoring 15 centuries and captaining the team in four matches. He played 181 ODIs for his country, the last one being against India in June 2013, which was also his last international match.

237. India finished _____ in the medals tally at the Track Asia Cup 2016 which concluded in New Delhi.

- a) Second b) Third c) Fifth d) Tenth

Answer a) Second. India finished second in the medals tally at the Track Asia Cup 2016 which concluded in New Delhi. India won a total of 16 medals, two behind table toppers Hong Kong who finished with 18. India's medals included five golds, four silvers and seven bronze, with 21-year-old Indian Deborah Herold winning three gold medals and one silver.

238. The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) is planning to install pizza-vending machines at _____

- a) Delhi b) Hyderabad c) Mumbai d) Bangalore

Answer c) Mumbai. The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) is planning to install pizza-vending machines at the Kalyan, LTT, Mumbai Central, CST and Andheri local train stations in Mumbai. Working like an ATM, the machine will dispense freshly made thin-crust pizzas within five minutes. There already houses a pizza-vending machine, according to reports.

239. Which State government announced the set up of 'Amma Marriage Halls' to help poor people conduct weddings by paying a reasonable rent?

- a) Rajasthan b) West Bengal c) Tamil Nadu d) Gujarat

Answer c) Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu CM Jayalalithaa announced the set up of 'Amma Marriage Halls' to help poor people conduct weddings by paying a reasonable rent. Initially, 11 such marriage halls would be established at 11 places at a cost of ₹83 crore. These halls would have air-conditioned make-up rooms, and separate rooms for the bride, the groom, and the guests.

240. State Bank of India (SBI) has cut deposit rates by up to ___ basis points (bps) in some maturities, even as credit growth remains sluggish

- a) 50 b) 10 c) 25 d) 75

Answer c) 25. State Bank of India (SBI) has cut deposit rates by up to 25 basis points (bps) in some maturities, even as credit growth remains sluggish. India's largest lender has cut deposit rates by 25 bps for deposits less than Rs1 crore with maturity of more than 455 days but less than 3 years from the beginning of this month, according to data on the SBI website.

241. Indian Test captain Virat Kohli has been appointed the brand ambassador of

- a) State Bank of India b) Indian Bank c) Punjab National Bank d) Punjab and Sind Bank

Answer c) Punjab National Bank. Punjab National Bank has engaged Mr. Virat Kohli as Brand

Ambassador of the Bank. On this occasion, Mr. Virat Kohli informed Mrs. Usha Ananthasubramanian, Managing Director and CEO along with Sh. K.V. Brahmaji Rao and Dr. Ram S. Sangapure, Executive Directors of the Bank and other senior officials that 'PNB is Mera Apna Bank' as he is an account holder of the Bank since the age of 16 years.

242. A 78-year-old Indian-origin British obstetrician and member of the UK Parliament _____ Won 'Lifetime Achievement Award' In UK

- a) Abdul Munaf Patel b) Narendra Babubhai Patel c) Urjit Patel d) Ramesh Patel

Answer b) Narendra Babubhai Patel. A 78-year-old Indian-origin British obstetrician and member of the UK Parliament has been honoured by a leading publishing group for his work in the medical profession and being incredible role model for social justice, equality and those less fortunate. Lord Narendra Babubhai Patel was given the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' during the Asian Achievers Awards for his work in the medical profession and public life in Britain over the years.

243. Indian wrestler _____ won a gold medal in women's freestyle wrestling 38 kg event at the World Cadet Wrestling Championships

- a) Sakshi b) Manisha c) Priya d) Saina

Answer b) Manisha . Indian wrestler Manisha won a gold medal in women's freestyle wrestling 38 kg event at the World Cadet Wrestling Championships in Tbilisi, Georgia. Manisha defeated Bulgarian cadet wrestler Petya Zarkova Delcheva 5-4 to win India's first medal at the Championship. Another Indian wrestler Ankush lost the bronze medal match against Egypt in the same event.

244. Who will be representing India at the upcoming 17th Summit of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM) to be held at Margarita Island in Venezuela?

- a) Narendra Modi b) Hamid Ansari c) Arun Jaitley d) Sushma Swaraj

Answer b) Hamid Ansari. Vice-President Hamid Ansari will be representing India at the upcoming 17th Summit of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM) to be held at Margarita Island in Venezuela from September 17-18. This will be the second time that the Prime Minister of India will not be representing the country at the Summit. India is one of the founding members of the Non Aligned Movement and it hosted the 7th NAM Summit in 1983 in New Delhi.

245. Uttarakhand Governor K K Paul released a book titled 'Shanti ki Talaash mein Zindagi' written in Hindi by _____

- a) Kiran Desai b) Anita Desai c) Radhika Nagraath d) Arundhati Roy

Answer c) Radhika Nagraath. Uttarakhand Governor K K Paul released a book titled 'Shanti ki Talaash mein Zindagi' written in Hindi by Haridwar-based author and journalist Radhika Nagraath. Describing the book as a result of in-depth study of life and people, Paul said it highlighted the importance of

leading a life that avoids engaging itself with the superficial side of things.

246. Bihar CM Nitish Kumar launched website on 350th Prakash Utsav of _____

- a) Guru Amar Das b) Guru Gobind Singh c) Guru Hargobind d) Guru Nanak

Answer b) Guru Gobind Singh. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar launches a three-day international Sikh convention would be held here ahead of the Prakash Utsav of Guru Gobind Singh. He launched a website to provide information on the celebration of 350th Prakash Utsav of the Sikh guru early next year. The website has been developed by tourism department and provides information to visitors about how to reach Patna and where to stay during the function, he said at the function held on the occasion.

247. Global taxi aggregator Uber is teaming up with _____ to push up the number of drivers on its platform to over one million

- a) Ford b) Tata c) Maruti Suzuki d) Mahindra

Answer c) Maruti Suzuki. Global taxi aggregator Uber is teaming up with Maruti Suzuki to push up the number of drivers on its platform to over one million. According to a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the companies, carmaker Maruti Suzuki will assess and train 30,000 commercial drivers for Uber, over the next three years. Driver training and on-boarding programmes will be organised, which are required to join the Uber platform. Maruti has 370 driving schools and six institutes of driving and traffic research.

248. Two India-born MIT scientists _____ and _____ won prestigious US awards

- a) Ramesh Raskar and Dinesh Bharadia b) Amit Mishra and Kalyan Singh
c) Manoj Kumar and Dinesh Bharadia d) Ramesh Raskar and Naresh Yadav

Answer a) Ramesh Raskar and Dinesh Bharadia. Two Indo-American scientists from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have been conferred with prestigious awards for their path-breaking inventions. Nasik-born Ramesh Raskar, an imaging scientist and inventor at MIT, has been awarded the \$500,000 Lemelson-MIT Prize 2016, it was announced at Cambridge, in Massachusetts. Dinesh Bharadia, researcher at MIT, won the Paul Baran Young Scholar Award of the US-based Marconi Society.

249. Which State Vikas Grameena Bank has bagged four awards for inclusive insurance for 2016 from Skoch Group?

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Karnataka c) Rajasthan d) Assam

Answer b) Karnataka. Dharwad based Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank has bagged four awards for inclusive insurance for 2016 from Skoch Group. S Ravindran, chairman, received the award from Sameer Kochhar, chairman of Skoch Group, in Hyderabad. The bank, which operates in nine districts of Karnataka covering 57 taluks, has brought 28 lakh people under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojna, PM Suraksha Bima Yojna and PM Jan Dhan Yojna.

250. The Indian football team to be ranked _____ as per the latest Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) rankings

- a) 163 b) 148 c) 152 d) 156

Answer b) 148. The Indian football team jumped four places to be ranked 148th as per the latest Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) rankings. This is the first time since April 2015 that the team has entered the top-150 international rankings. Earlier in September, India had defeated the then 114th placed Puerto Rico 4-1 in an international friendly.

251. German automaker Mercedes-Benz inaugurated its largest parts warehouse in the luxury

car segment and a vehicle preparation centre in _____

- a) Mumbai b) Hyderabad c) Ahmadabad d) Pune

Answer d) Pune. German automaker Mercedes-Benz inaugurated its largest parts warehouse in the luxury car segment and a vehicle preparation centre in Pune. Mercedes also inaugurated its biggest South-Asian retail training academy in the city. The parts warehouse will cater to over 50 locations, while the academy can offer training to 225 participants per day, the firm said.

252. Which country announced additional \$1 billion assistance towards reconstruction projects in war-torn Afghanistan?

- a) USA b) Pakistan c) China d) India

Answer d) India. India announced additional \$1 billion assistance towards reconstruction projects in war-torn Afghanistan, reports said. This comes after talks were held between Indian PM Narendra Modi and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani in Delhi. Further, India has also agreed to supply 1.75 lakh tonne wheat to Afghanistan, which is facing food shortage.

253. Banks depositing _____ to reduce zero-balance accounts

- a) Rs. 100 b) Rs. 1 c) Rs. 1000 d) Rs. 5000

Answer b) Rs. 1. Facing "pressure" to show a decline in zero-balance accounts under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, bank officials have themselves been depositing ₹1 in several accounts, an Indian Express report revealed. As per RTI data, PSU banks hold 1.05 crore Jan Dhan accounts with ₹1-deposits. Notably, zero-balance accounts' proportion fell from 76% in September 2014 to 24.35% in August 2016.

254. In line with the Centre's 'Start Up India' initiative, Chhattisgarh CM _____ launched the 'Start Up Chhattisgarh' programme to encourage entrepreneurs in the state

- a) Raman Singh b) Nitish Kumar c) Pinarayi Vijayan d) Devendra Fadnavis

Answer a) Raman Singh. In line with the Centre's 'Start Up India' initiative, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh launched the 'Start Up Chhattisgarh' programme to encourage entrepreneurs in the state. The government also announced the setting up of a dedicated startup centre. Further, the startups can avail free electricity for the first 10 years and 100% subsidy on land purchase or lease.

255. Reliance Communications board approved a merger with _____, making it the largest-ever consolidation deal in India's telecom sector

- a) Airtel b) Vodafone c) Aircel d) Idea

Answer c) Aircel. Reliance Communications board approved a merger with Aircel, making it the largest-ever consolidation deal in India's telecom sector. The Reliance Communications and Aircel joint venture will have a net worth of ₹35,000 crore, with a combined subscriber base of 19 crore. The merger will be reportedly completed in six months with a new name for the merged entity.

256. India's top women bankers, _____ are among the '50 most powerful women' based outside the US

- a) Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chanda Kochhar and Shikha Sharma
b) Indra Nooyi, Chanda Kochhar and Shikha Sharma
c) Arundhati Bhattacharya, Nita Ambani and Shikha Sharma
d) Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chanda Kochhar and Naina Lal Kidwai

Answer a) Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chanda Kochhar and Shikha Sharma. India's top women bankers, State Bank of India's (SBI) chief Arundhati Bhattacharya, ICICI head Chanda Kochhar and Axis Bank chief executive Shikha Sharma, are among the '50 most powerful women' based outside the US, according to a list by Fortune, which is topped by Banco Santander's boss Ana Botín.

257. _____ has declared itself free from avian influenza (H5N1), commonly known as bird flu

- a) India b) Sri Lanka c) USA d) China

Answer a) India. India has declared itself free from avian influenza (H5N1), commonly known as bird flu. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has declared India free from avian influenza from September 5, 2016. Avian influenza is a disease occurring among birds that particularly affects domestic poultry such as chickens, turkeys and ducks. The virus can also infect humans causing death in some cases

258. Actor _____ will receive the Britannia Humanitarian Award at the British Academy Britannia Awards in California

- a) Danny Boyle b) Hayden Christensen c) Jonny Lee Miller d) Ewan McGregor

Answer d) Ewan McGregor. Actor Ewan McGregor will receive the Britannia Humanitarian Award at the British Academy Britannia Awards in California. The 45-year-old "Trainspotting" star will be feted on October 28 by organizers at The British Academy of Film and Television Arts Los Angeles for "using the art form of the moving image. To create positive social change and actively shine a light on important humanitarian issues.

259. Ramsewak Shrivastava who passed away recently was a/an

- a) Actor b) Author c) Politician d) Journalist

Answer d) Journalist. Veteran journalist Ramsewak Shrivastava (84) passed away in New Delhi due to age-related ailments He had worked with weekly 'Dinmaan', DainikJagran, Navbharat Times and Times group.

260. Who will be the India's flag-bearer at the closing ceremony of the Rio Games on September 18?

- a) Deepa Malik b) Thangavelu Mariyappan c) Devendra Jhajharia d) Varun Singh Bhati

Answer b) Thangavelu Mariyappan. Thangavelu Mariyappan, who became only the third Indian ever to clinch a gold medal in the Paralympics, will be the country's flag-bearer at the closing ceremony of the Rio Games on September 18. Mariyappan, who was five-years-old when his right leg was crushed by a speeding bus, won the yellow metal in the T-42 High Jump event.

261. Who is the new Prime Minister of Kazakhstan?

- a) Nursultan Nazarbayev b) Bakytzhan Sagintaev c) Alexander Lukashenko d) Islam Karimov

Answer b) Bakytzhan Sagintaev. Bakytzhan Sagintaev appointed as Prime minister of Kazakhstan by Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev. Kazakhstan, a Central Asian country and former Soviet republic.

262. _____ and Reliance Jio signed an intra-circle roaming agreement for 2G and 4G services

- a) Airtel b) BSNL c) Vodafone d) Idea

Answer b) BSNL. State-owned telecom operator Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Reliance Jio signed an intra-circle roaming agreement for 2G and 4G services. This will allow the subscribers of the two companies to utilise their networks across India and offer a better quality of services for both voice calls and data. Earlier, Vodafone had signed a similar pact with BSNL.

263. Who has been honoured with the 'Tamil Ratna' award in USA?

- a) Subramanian Swamy b) P Chidambaram c) Pon Radhakrishnan d) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer a) Subramanian Swamy. Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Subramanian Swamy has been honoured with the 'Tamil Ratna' award by a body of Tamil diaspora here for fighting corruption and

working for more transparency in the functioning of the government. The AmericaTamil Sangam awarded the Tamil Ratna to the senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP, who is currently on a visit to the US.

264. Who became India's first female Paralympic medallist after winning the Silver in the F-53 shot put event at Rio Paralympics?

- a) Sakashi Malik b) Deepa Malik c) Richa Malik d) Priya Malik

Answer b) Deepa Malik. Deepa Malik became India's first female Paralympic medallist after winning the Silver in the F-53 shot put event at Rio Paralympics. The 45-year-old has won a total of 54 national gold medals and 13 international medals in swimming, javelin throw and shot put. Notably, a spinal tumour left Deepa paraplegic and confined her to a wheelchair in 1999.

265. After introducing 'Twitter Sewa' for redressal of telecom and postal grievances, the government launched a toll-free number _____ to register postal complaints

- a) 1993 b) 1904 c) 1924 d) 1900

Answer c) 1924. After introducing 'Twitter Sewa' for redressal of telecom and postal grievances, the government launched a toll-free number 1924 to register postal complaints. It will initially be operational for 12 hours on working days and has been started in Hindi, Malayalam, and English. Notably, Department of Posts (DoP) is the 8th largest department in terms of number of complaints.

266. _____ and _____ have started naval drills in the disputed South China Sea

- a) China and Russia b) Japan and Russia c) India and USA d) Pakistan and China

Answer a) China and Russia. China and Russia have started naval drills in the disputed South China Sea. China claimed that the "routine" drills, which are expected to last eight days, are only aimed at strengthening cooperation. This comes amid tensions in the contested waters after a UN court ruled that China does not have "historic rights" over the region.

267. Joint Indian-US army exercise _____ to begin in Uttarakhand

- a) Hand-in-Hand-2016 b) YUDH ABHYAS-2016 c) LAMITYE-2016 d) SURYA KIRAN-2016

Answer b) YUDH ABHYAS-2016. As part of the ongoing Indo-US defence cooperation, a joint military training 'Exercise YUDH ABHYAS-2016' would be conducted in the foothills of Himalayas at Chaubattia in Uttarakhand from September 14 to 27, Under the aegis of Headquarter Central Command, the venture is a series of one of the longest running joint military training and a major ongoing bilateral defence cooperation endeavours between India and US.

268. Robots have been used to perform kidney transplants for the first time in _____

- a) Russia b) Japan c) UK d) China

Answer c) UK. Robots have been used to perform kidney transplants for the first time in the UK. One of the patients, who had previously undergone a kidney transplant by traditional open surgery, reported significantly less pain with the robotic method. Another patient reported a faster post-operative recovery time. Both the patients were reportedly able to recover using only paracetamol rather than morphine.

269. Arunachal Pradesh governor _____ was removed from his post

- a) Ramnaresh Yadav b) Balram Das Tandon c) Jyoti Prasad Rajkhowa d) Om Prakash Kohli

Answer c) Jyoti Prasad Rajkhowa. Arunachal Pradesh governor Jyoti Prasad Rajkhowa was removed from his post. A communique from Meghalaya governor V Shanmuganathan will take over the additional duties as Arunachal governor. The President has directed that Shri J.P. Rajkhowa shall cease to hold the office of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and has appointed Shri V.

Shanmuganathan, Governor of Meghalaya, to discharge the functions of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, in addition to his own duties, until regular arrangements for the office of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh are made.

270. Government of India has issued fresh guidelines for flexi-fund for CSS. Expand CSS?

- a) Cabinet Sponsored Schemes b) Centrally Special Schemes
c) Centrally Sponsored Schemes d) Centrally Service Schemes

Answer c) Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Government has issued fresh flexi-fund guidelines that will give more freedom to states in spending money under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) to meet local developmental requirements. Under the new norms, flexi-funds in each CSS has been increased from the current 10 per cent to 25 per cent for states and 30 per cent for Union Territories.

271. _____ and _____ have emerged the cleanest districts in India

- a) Trichy and Kochi b) Trichy and Sindhudurg c) Mandi and Kochi d) Mandi and Sindhudurg

Answer d) Mandi and Sindhudurg. Mandi in Himachal Pradesh and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra have emerged the cleanest districts in India according to a report released in New Delhi by Drinking Water and Sanitation Minister Narendra Singh Tomar. A total of 22 hill districts and 53 plain areas were assessed under the Gramin Swachh Survekshan launched in May this year. Mandi was judged as the cleanest district in 'Hills' category and Sindhudurg cleanest in the 'Plains' category.

272. Who won the U.S. Open men's doubles championship title 2016?

- a) Roberto Bautista Agut and Bruno Soares b) Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares
c) Pablo Carreno Busta and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez d) Jamie Murray and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez

Answer b) Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares. Jamie Murray of Britain and Bruno Soares of Brazil won the U.S. Open doubles championship for their second Grand Slam title this year, beating Spaniards Pablo Carreno Busta and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez 6-2, 6-3. The No. 4-seeded Murray and Soares, who won the Australian Open in January, are the first winners of multiple major men's doubles titles in a season since Bob and Mike Bryan won three in 2013.

273. According to a survey conducted by Virtuoso, an international luxury travel network, _____ is the best adventure destination for luxury travel

- a) India b) USA c) Iceland d) Switzerland

Answer c) Iceland. According to a survey conducted by Virtuoso, an international luxury travel network, Iceland is the best adventure destination for luxury travel. Galapagos in Ecuador was ranked second while Costa Rica and Chile's Patagonia tied for the third spot. Additionally, activities like hiking, biking and kayaking have been listed as activities preferred by "active and specialty travellers".

274. Which Telecom Company and BSNL signed an all-India 2G intra-circle roaming pact to share each other's network?

- a) Airtel b) Aircel c) Vodafone d) Reliance JIO

Answer c) Vodafone. Private operator Vodafone and state-owned BSNL signed an all-India 2G intra-circle roaming pact to share each other's network, Vodafone said. The partnership will help Vodafone strengthen its 2G network reach, especially in rural areas and that of BSNL in urban areas, it added. Reportedly, Vodafone and BSNL have a combined user base of over 28.8 crore in India.

275. 'Six Machine' is a autobiography of _____

- a) Chris Gayle b) Virender Sehwag c) Brian Lara d) Kumar Sangakkara

Answer a) Chris Gayle. Explosive West Indies opener Chris Gayle launched his autobiography 'Six

Machine', which contains extensive details about his life and career. The book was unveiled Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) President Anurag Thakur. Thakur said: "The title of Chris Gayle's autobiography, 'Six Machine' aptly describes him and it has indeed been sheer delight to witness the cricket phenomenon created by him.

276. Which State has bagged the 9th Global Agriculture Leadership Award 2016?

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Sikkim c) Odisha d) Maharashtra

Answer c) Odisha. Odisha has bagged the 9th Global Agriculture Leadership Award 2016 in recognition of its efforts towards development of agriculture and bringing rural prosperity. Odisha Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Minister Pradip Maharathy received the award from Haryana Governor K S Solanki at a function at New Delhi.

277. Who won the US Open mixed doubles championship title 2016?

- a) Mate Pavic and Laura Siegemund b) Rajeev Ram and CoCo Vandeweghe
c) CoCo Vandeweghe and Laura Siegemund d) Mate Pavic and Rajeev Ram

Answer a) Mate Pavic and Laura Siegemund. Croatian Mate Pavic and his German partner Laura Siegemund defeated Americans Rajeev Ram and CoCo Vandeweghe to win the US Open mixed doubles championship. Pavic-Siegemund, who won the match 6-4, 6-4, did not drop a set during the tournament. Both Pavic and Siegemund, who paired up shortly before the tournament, were playing their first Grand Slam final.

278. Which State Chief minister has received 'Pangkor Dialogue Award 2016' in Malaysia?

- a) Nagaland b) West Bengal c) Haryana d) Tamil Nadu

Answer a) Nagaland. Nagaland Chief Minister T R Zeliang has received 'Pangkor Dialogue Award 2016' in Malaysia for the efforts made by the people of the state for environmental preservation and promotion. He was awarded by the organisers- Institute DarulRudzuan and Malaysian government. He appealed to the people of Nagaland to continue environmental preservation and development. Mr.Zeliang told that the people of Naga should cooperate with the government to undertake mass tree plantation every year and preserve natural flora and fauna.

279. _____ has completed the acquisition of 100 percent shares of L&T General Insurance Company (L&T Insurance)

- a) Future Generali India Insurance Company Ltd b) ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd
c) Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd d) HDFC Ergo General Insurance Company Ltd

Answer d) HDFC Ergo General Insurance Company Ltd. HDFC Ergo General Insurance Company (HDFC ERGO) has completed the acquisition of 100 percent shares of L&T General Insurance Company (L&T Insurance) for Rs. 551 crore. The company has recently received approvals from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDA) and Competition Commission of India. Mukesh Kumar, Executive Director at HDFC ERGO has been appointed as the new Managing Director & CEO of L&T General Insurance Company Limited.

280. Who has been appointed as director of Syndicate Bank?

- a) Vijay Gokhale b) Rakesh Sharma c) Jayant Purushottam Gokhale d) Udhaya Kumar

Answer c) Jayant Purushottam Gokhale. Jayant Purushottam Gokhale has been appointed director of Syndicate Bank. The Centre has nominated Gokhale as part-time non-official director under the chartered accountants category for a period of three years. His appointment is subject to his resignation from the board of LIC Nomura Mutual Fund Asset Management Company, before joining the bank's board.

281. Which country has completed 20,000 kilometres of bullet train tracks across the country?

- a) USA b) UK c) India d) China

Answer d) China. China completed 20,000 kilometres of bullet train tracks across the country, the longest such network in the world. This comes amid China's competition with Japan to market bullet trains to countries like India. Currently, China is conducting a feasibility study for Chennai-Delhi bullet train network, while Japan is working on the ₹97,636-crore Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train corridor.

282. The Central government has decided to ban the use of polythene within a 100-metre radius of all national monuments starting from _____

- a) January 1 b) December 1 c) October 2 d) November 5

Answer c) October 2. The Central government has decided to ban the use of polythene within a 100-metre radius of all national monuments starting October 2, as a part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swachh Bharat campaign. Earlier in March, the government had banned the manufacturing of plastic bags of below 50 microns as thinner bags currently pose a major threat to the environment.

283. Which Bank announced the deployment of 'software robotics in over 200 business processes across various functions of the bank?

- a) Axis Bank b) HDFC Bank c) ICICI Bank d) Federal Bank

Answer c) ICICI Bank. India's largest private bank ICICI announced the deployment of 'software robotics in over 200 business processes across various functions of the bank. At ICICI Bank, software robots have reduced the response time to customers by up to 60% and increased accuracy to 100% thereby sharply improving the bank's productivity and efficiency.

284. Which country conducted its fifth nuclear test recently?

- a) South Korea b) North Korea c) China d) India

Answer b) North Korea. North Korea confirmed it has conducted its fifth test of a nuclear weapon, the second this year. The design of a nuclear warhead intended for placement on a ballistic missile. there was no leakage of radioactivity. China's Ministry of Environmental Protection said radiation levels in its border region with North Korea were normal.

285. _____ India - Kazakhstan joint bilateral military exercise _____ began in Karaganda region of Kazakhstan.

- a) Mithra Shakti-16s b) PRABAL DOSTYK-16 c) Nomadic Elephant-16 d) Surya kiran-16

Answer b) PRABAL DOSTYK-16. As a part of India's continued efforts to strengthen Indo-Kazakhstan relations, troops of Indian and Kazakhstan armies are presently engaging in a joint exercise 'PRABAL DOSTYK-16. The Indian Army is being represented in the exercise by platoon strength. The Kazakhstan Army contingent comprises a platoon from Special Operating Force's unit. Combat battle drills and physical fitness will be the focal point of the exercise.

286. Which State government launched the "Scooty for College Girls" Scheme?

- a) Karnataka b) Tamil Nadu c) Jammu and Kashmir d) Punjab

Answer c) Jammu and Kashmir. Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti launched the "Scooty for College Girls" Scheme. As part of the launch function, Mufti took a ride on a Scooty in a bid to popularise its use. Under this scheme, 312 applications were received from Women's College Gandhi Nagar but only 150 were selected. Eligibility for a Scooty was based on minimum percentage and the annual family income of 65 per cent and Rs.4 lakh respectively.

287. Which State has been ranked the best among 26 Indian states in the sanitation

- a) Toward a Special, Invigorated, Interconnected and Exclusive World Economy
- b) Toward a Technical, Talented, Interconnected and Inclusive World Economy
- c) Toward an Accessible, Invigorated, Interconnected and Inclusive World Economy
- d) Toward an Innovative, Invigorated, Interconnected and Inclusive World Economy

Answer d) Toward an Innovative, Invigorated, Interconnected and Inclusive World Economy. The 11th G20 Summit 2016 began at the Chinese city of Hangzhou. Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with various world leaders, including US President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping, are participating in the meeting in the capital city of South Eastern Zhejiang province. The theme of 2016 G20 Summit was Toward an Innovative, Invigorated, Interconnected and Inclusive World Economy.

294. Which Life Insurance Company has received SEBI's approval to raise an estimated Rs.5,000 crore through an initial public offering?

- a) Aviva Life Insurance Company
- b) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company
- c) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company
- d) Aegon Life Insurance Company

Answer c) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company. ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company has received markets regulator SEBI's approval to raise an estimated Rs.5,000 crore through an initial public offering. It is the first by an insurer in India and the biggest in nearly six years.

295. _____ Government of India has approved projects worth about _____ crore under 'Swadesh Darshan' scheme for five states

- a) 200 crore
- b) 350 crore
- c) 400 crore
- d) 450 crore

Answer d) 450 crore. The government has approved projects worth about Rs 450 crore under 'Swadesh Darshan' scheme for five states. The scheme was launched with an objective to develop 13 theme-based tourist circuits in the country and the approval for five was given in a meeting of the central sanctioning and monitoring committee (CSMC).

296. _____ has become the country's first female cricketer to be awarded life membership of the Lord's-based Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).

- a) Mithali Raj
- b) Anjum Chopra
- c) Anju Jain
- d) Thirush Kamini

Answer b) Anjum Chopra. Former Indian women's team captain Anjum Chopra has been awarded a honorary life membership of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) along with former men's team stalwarts Zaheer Khan and Virender Sehwag. She is the first Indian woman cricketer to get the prestigious life membership of MCC.

297. Which team put up a total of 263/3 against Sri Lanka at the Pallekele stadium, thereby registering the highest ever score in T20I history?

- a) South Africa
- b) Australia
- c) India
- d) New Zealand

Answer b) Australia. Australia put up a total of 263/3 against Sri Lanka at the Pallekele stadium; thereby registering the highest ever score in T20I history. The Aussie innings was boosted by opener Glenn Maxwell's 145*(65), the second-highest individual score in T20I history. Australia's total score surpassed the previous best score of 260/6, scored by the Lankans against Kenya in 2007.

298. Which University remained India's top ranked university according to the QS World University Rankings 2016-17?

- a) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore
- b) Indian Institute of Technology (IITc), Bombay
- c) University Of Hyderabad
- d) Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune

Answer a) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore. Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore

remained India's top ranked university according to the QS World University Rankings 2016-17. Its global ranking, however, dropped five notches to 152 as compared to last year. Other Indian universities in the top 400 hundred are IITs – Delhi (185), Bombay (219), Madras (249), Kanpur (302), Kharagpur (313) and Roorkee (399).

299. _____ education department has partnered with US-based technology firm Cisco to promote digital learning across the state using virtual digital room solutions

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Goa c) Rajasthan d) Manipur

Answer c) Rajasthan. Rajasthan's education department has partnered with US-based technology firm Cisco to promote digital learning across the state using virtual digital room solutions. Cisco and SIEMAT have committed to 50,000 man hours of training annually through the virtual digital classrooms.

300. _____ launched one-step offline payments with 'Bubble Pin'

- a) Paytm b) Freecharge c) Helpchat d) Mobikwik

Answer d) Mobikwik. Leading fin-tech player in India Mobikwik, is trusted by over 32 million users has launched one-step offline payments with 'Bubble Pin'. This pin can be generated on the MobiKwik app by clicking on 'Pay at store' and is valid for 60 seconds. To make a payment, all a user needs to do is share this pin with the merchant. The pin is a combination of numbers and alphabets. Bubble pin also makes the transaction more secure as no phone number is required to be shared.

301. _____ celebrated Mother Teresa's sainthood with a four day Mother Teresa International Film Festival (MTIFF) 2016

- a) Meghalaya b) Kerala c) Manipur d) Haryana

Answer a) Meghalaya. Meghalaya celebrated Mother Teresa's sainthood with a four day Mother Teresa International Film Festival (MTIFF) 2016. The MTIFF 2016 celebrates the canonisation of Mother Teresa and the festival concludes on September 9 here before moving to Jowai from September 14 to 17.

302. _____ Nalinidhar Bhattacharyya who passed away recently, he was a noted _____ poet

- a) Tamil b) Hindi c) Assamese d) Malayalam

Answer c) Assamese. Noted Assamese poet, literary critic and author and winner of the Sahitya Akademi award Nalinidhar Bhattacharyya passed away at a private hospital in Guwahati. Bhattacharyya, aged 95, was suffering from age-old ailments. Bhattacharyya was a former principal of Arya Vidyapeeth College, Guwahati, his younger brother and another well-known Assamese litterateur Birendra Kumar Bhattacharyya had won the Jnanpith Award in 1979 and later also headed the Sahitya Akademi.

303. Olympic gold-medallist Abhinav Bindra announced his retirement. He was related to the game of _____

- a) Tennis b) High Jump c) Shooting d) Swimming

Answer c) Shooting . Olympic gold-medallist shooter Abhinav Bindra announced his retirement from shooting. He said, "It is time to move on, hand over the baton to the younger generation." Bindra added, "I came fourth in Rio and now retiring after playing for two decades. In Rio, I didn't win a medal and stood fourth but it gave me a great closure."

304. Which Bank will enable business customers to open new accounts by taking a selfie, a move aimed at streamlining its application process?

- a) HDFC Bank b) Axis Bank c) Kotak Mahindra Bank d) HSBC Bank

Answer d) HSBC Bank. Banking multi-national HSBC will enable business customers to open new accounts by taking a selfie, a move aimed at streamlining its application process. The clients using the bank's mobile application will be required to take a self-portrait using phone's front camera, which will then be cross-checked with the image on the ID using proprietary facial tracking technology.

305. India ranked _____ in income inequality list

- a) Third b) Seventh c) Fifth d) Second

Answer d) Second. India is the second most 'unequal' country after Russia in terms of wealth and its distribution among masses, with 54% of the wealth being held by millionaires, a report by a wealth research firm said. India is among the 10 richest countries, but the average Indian is poor and the gap between rich and poor is quite high, it added.

306. Aiming to raise awareness and change perceptions regarding the Denotified Tribes, the '1st Nomad Film Festival' is held in __

- a) Mumbai b) Delhi c) Agra d) Bangalore

Answer b) Delhi. Aiming to raise awareness and change perceptions regarding the Denotified Tribes, the '1st Nomad Film Festival' is being held at the India Islamic Cultural Centre in Delhi. It will showcase short films as well as documentaries on the lives of the tribes. The tribes were listed as 'Criminal Tribes' under the 1871 Criminal Tribes Act during British rule.

307. Which country airport is experimenting with Hitachi's EMIEW3 humanoid robot assistants in its passenger terminal?

- a) China b) Japan c) USA d) India

Answer b) Japan. Tokyo's Haneda airport is experimenting with Hitachi's EMIEW3 humanoid robot assistants in its passenger terminal. For a two-week period, the robots will direct visitors to an information display, and answer questions in both English and Japanese. This precedes a full scale robot assistant program due to start later this year, in which robots will physically guide users to desired locations.

308. _____ A two-day world coin and currency exhibition-cum-auction is being held in _____

- a) Maharashtra b) Karnataka c) West Bengal d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer c) West Bengal. A two-day world coin and currency exhibition-cum-auction is being held in West Bengal's Siliguri district. Organised by the Numismatic Society of Calcutta, the event features avast collection of coins, medals, stamps, and currency notes from across the world, some even dating back to 600 BC. Further, it will see around 26 stall exhibits from more than 195 countries.

309. Prime Minister Narendra Modi flew into the Vietnam to discuss ways to boost defence, who is the President of Vietnam?

- a) Nguyen Xuan Phucand b) Tran Dai Quang c) Dinh La Thang d) Nguyễn Tấn Dũng

Answer b) Tran Dai Quang. Prime Minister Narendra Modi flew into the Vietnamese capital on his maiden visit to hold wide-ranging talks with the country's top leadership on ways to bolster strategic bilateral ties in key areas like defence, security, counter terrorism and trade. Modi will hold extensive talks with Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phucand call on President Tran Dai Quang on 05 sep 2016. He is also scheduled to meet Communist Party General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong and National Assembly Chairwoman Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan.

310. _____ India's _____ first International conference on cooking gas held in _____

- a) Odisha b) Sikkim c) Nagaland d) Haryana

Answer a) Odisha. State-owned petroleum companies will hold the nation's first international conference on cooking gas at Bhubaneswar in Odisha. The two-day meeting will deliberate on the need for an LPG-enabled household and use of traditional cooking fuels.

311. **Bedi launched 'Shramdaan movement' in _____ village** **Lt Governor Kiran**

- a) Delhi b) Andaman and Nicobar c) Lakshadweep d) Puducherry

Answer d) Puducherry. Puducherry Lt Governor Kiran Bedi launched 'Shramdaan movement' as part of Swachh Bharat and Swachh Puducherry initiative at a remote village here. "Shramdaan is a habit and a movement, and every one irrespective of status should be involved in the drive against garbage. Launching the movement at Seliamedu village in Bahoor commune Panchayat limits, she urged people to ensure that the goal of clean Puducherry's achieved.

312. **_____ High Court becomes the fourth state to provide E-stamp facility**

- a) Tamil Nadu b) Rajasthan c) Punjab d) Bihar

Answer b) Rajasthan. Rajasthan High Court becomes the fourth state to provide E-stamp facility. As a new initiative of information and technology, e-Stamp Facility was inaugurated in Rajasthan High Court Jodhpur and Jaipur bench simultaneously. In Jaipur, eCourt Fees Centre was inaugurated by Chief Justice Navin Sinha while in Jodhpur, the facility was launched by Justice Govind Mathur.

313. **_____ has won the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy**

- a) The Jan Sikshan Sansthan (JSS), Delhi b) The Jan Sikshan Sansthan (JSS), Malappuram
c) The Jan Sikshan Sansthan (JSS), Mumbai d) The Jan Sikshan Sansthan (JSS), Hyderabad

Answer b) The Jan Sikshan Sansthan (JSS), Malappuram. The Jan Sikshan Sansthan (JSS), Malappuram, has won the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy. The award has been conferred on the JSS in recognition of its literacy-linked skill development activities among the underprivileged in rural areas.

314. **Teachers Day is observed on?**

- a) September 04 b) September 05 c) September 06 d) September 07

Answer b) September 05. Shri Pranab Mukherjee presented National Awards to meritorious teachers from across the country at a function held at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi on the occasion of Teachers' Day (September 5, 2016). He conveyed his 'Guru Pranam' to all teachers on Teachers' Day.

315. **Who has been made an honorary life member of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), becoming the 24th Indian cricketer to be bestowed the honour?**

- a) Rahul Dravid b) Zaheer Khan c) Sachin Tendulkar d) VVS Laxman

Answer b) Zaheer Khan. Former pacer Zaheer Khan has been made an honorary life member of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), becoming the 24th Indian cricketer to be bestowed the honour. "MCC has elected Zaheer Khan as an Honorary Life Member of the Club," the Club said in a statement. Zaheer is the second former India international to be elected in recent weeks following Virender Sehwag, who became an Honorary Life Member last month.

316. **Aiming to promote avian tourism, the forest department will host its first "Bird Festival" in the state in November**

- a) Kerala b) Tamil Nadu c) Rajasthan d) Goa

Answer d) Goa. Aiming to promote avian tourism, the Goa forest department will host its first "Bird Festival" in the state in November, state Environment and Forest Minister Rajendra Arlekar said. Goa

is home to nearly a third of all the bird species in the country,” he added. The event will include bird-watching sessions at the state’s numerous wildlife sanctuaries.

317. India and_ agreed to expand defence cooperation

- a) Iran b) Egypt c) Germany d) China

Answer b) Egypt. PM Narendra Modi and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi have decided to step up defence and security cooperation to deal with radicalisation and terrorism, during bilateral talks held in India on Friday. Modi said that the two countries agreed on an “action-oriented agenda” in various sectors. Reportedly, the countries will also expand trade relations to exploit new economic opportunities.

318. E-retailer_ has launched its own private cloud platform called Cirrus

- a) Amazon b) Snapdeal c) Filpkart d) Paytm

Answer b) Snapdeal. E-retailer Snapdeal has launched its own private cloud platform called Cirrus, in an attempt to cut costs and enhance performance across its applications. Spanning across three data centre regions, with a server architecture of 1,00,000 cores and 16 PB of storage, the open-sourced

Cirrus will analyse big data to build personalised and relevant consumer experiences, Snapdeal said in a statement.

319. Odisha becoming the_ state to ratify the Bill the requirement of 50 percent of states and UTs ratifying it has been completed

- a) 16th b) 18th c) 19th d) 20th

Answer a) 16th. The goods and services tax (GST) constitutional amendment Bill crossed an important landmark with Odisha becoming the 16th state to ratify the Bill the requirement of 50 percent of states and UTs ratifying it has been completed. Dubbed as the biggest tax reform in India, GST will subsume most indirect taxes, like excise duty, service tax and VAT.

320. Narendra Modi has announced Rs 200cr package to engage_____ PM youths in sports

- a) Gujarat b) Jammu and Kashmir c) Telangana d) Odisha

Answer b) Jammu and Kashmir. In a step to encourage Jammu & Kashmir’s youth towards sports, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a special package of Rs. 200 crore. The package provides for construction of indoor sporting halls in all districts of the State with a view to provide playing facilities to youth during long winter in the state.

321. Who has been unanimously elected as the National President of the Indian Medical Association for the year 2016-17?

- a) R N Tandon b) Ravi Wankhedkar c) K K Aggarwal d) T G Ganesh Kumar

Answer c) K K Aggarwal. Cardiologist K K Aggarwal has been unanimously elected as the National President of the Indian Medical Association for the year 2016-17. Mr. Aggarwal is currently the Secretary General of the doctors association. Dr Ravi Wankhedkar from Maharashtra will be the National President for the year 2017-18 and Dr R N Tandon will take over as Honorary Secretary General. The new team will take over on December 28.

322. Lal Zakir who passed away recently was a/an

- a) Poet b) Actor c) Novelist d) Both a and c

Answer d) Both a and c. Poet and novelist Kashmiri Lal Zakir passed away at the age of 97. Condoling

the death of Zakir, who was also the Chairman of the Haryana Urdu Academy, state Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said, "With the death...Urdu and Hindi literature have lost a doyen." He had been conferred with the Fakhr-e-Haryana by the state government, Khattar added.

323. Who has been appointed as bowling coach of the Bangladesh cricket team on a three-year contract?

- a) Curtly Ambrose b) Carl Hooper c) Courtney Walsh d) Joel Gamer

Answer c) Courtney Walsh. West Indies great Courtney Walsh is set to take over as bowling coach of the Bangladesh cricket team on a three-year contract. Walsh, who was the first bowler to take 500 test wickets, has worked as a West Indies selector since he retired as a player but has not held a senior coaching role at the international level.

324. Which State has inked a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Airport Authority of India (AAI) to develop 11 small airports?

- a) Bihar b) Maharashtra c) Gujarat d) Telangana

Answer c) Gujarat. The Gujarat government has inked a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Airport Authority of India (AAI) to develop 11 small airports and airstrips under the Centre's Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) to boost regional air connectivity in the State.

325. Who has been appointed as Managing Director and chief executive of SBI Mutual Fund?

- a) Arundhati Rao b) Archana Rao c) Divya Rao d) Anuradha Rao

Answer d) Anuradha Rao. Sbi Mutual Fund has appointed Anuradha Rao as its Managing Director and chief executive. Rao was Deputy Managing Director at Sbi handling New Business Portfolio. She has also worked as the Chief General Manager of personal Banking at the bank. She took charge from Dinesh Kumar Khara, who has been appointed Managing Director of State Bank Of India (Associate & Subsidiaries). Rao has been appointed as the new MD and CEO of Sbi Funds Management Pvt Ltd effective August 25, 2016. Rao has over three decades of vast experience in Banking and allied sectors.

326. The Election Commission (EC) announced that voting in the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Council elections will only be done with a ___ sketch pen

- a) Red b) Green c) Orange d) Violet

Answer d) Violet. The Election Commission (EC) announced that voting in the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Council elections will only be done with a violet sketch pen, manufactured especially for this purpose. The pen would be manufactured by a firm approved by the EC. This comes after the votes of 12 Congress MLAs were declared void for using a wrong pen.

327. With 86.4% literacy, the community has the highest proportion of literates among all communities in India

- a) Muslim b) Hindu c) Christian d) Jain

Answer d) Jain. With 86.4% literacy, the Jain community has the highest proportion of literates among all communities in India, the 2011 Census data has revealed. Jains also have the highest number of graduates among them at 11.42 lakh or 25% of their population, the data stated.

Meanwhile, Muslims were revealed as the least educated, with 42.7% of the 17.22 crore being illiterate.

328. The first BRICS film festival held in _____

- a) Mumbai b) New Delhi c) Hyderabad d) Bangalore

Answer b) New Delhi. The first BRICS film festival held in New Delhi. Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Rajyavardhan Rathore and Minister of State for External Affairs V. K. Singh will inaugurate the festival. The film festival is the run up to the BRICS summit which will be held in Goa next month. The five-day festival will act as a platform for people of the film industry of member countries to explore areas of cooperation in the domain of cinema, culture and cuisine.

329. The two-day "BRICS Convention on Tourism" held at _____

- a) Maharashtra b) Madhya Pradesh c) New Delhi d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer b) Madhya Pradesh. The two-day "BRICS Convention on Tourism" held at world heritage site Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh. Union Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma will inaugurate the convention. Delegations from the BRICS countries India, Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa will participate in it. The convention is being organised as a precursor to 'The BRICS Summit' to be held in Goa in October this year.

330. World Coconut is observed on?

- a) September 1 b) September 2 c) September 3 d) September 4

Answer b) September 2. 2nd September is celebrated as World Coconut Day to honor the significance of coconut and to inculcate the awareness for encouraging investment for the benefits of coconut farmers.

331. The Ministry of Home Affairs had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of _____ submits report to the Union Home Minister

- a) R M Lodha b) Ramesh Gupta c) Mudgal d) Madhukar Gupta

Answer d) Madhukar Gupta. The Ministry of Home Affairs had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Madhukar Gupta, Retd. Home Secretary in April, 2016, for strengthening border protection and addressing the issue of gaps and vulnerability in border fencing along Indo-

Pakistan Border. The Committee has made a detailed study through discussions on threat perception, field visits and detailed discussion with stakeholders.

332. Gujarat Governor _____ took additional charge of Madhya Pradesh State

- a) C. Vidyasagar Rao b) Om Prakash Kohli c) Balram Das Tandon d) Keshari Nath Tripathi

Answer b) Om Prakash Kohli. President Pranab Mukherjee gave Maharashtra Governor C. Vidyasagar Rao additional charge of Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat Governor Om Prakash Kohli of Madhya Pradesh. The tenure of Tamil Nadu Governor K. Rosaiah ended while that of Madhya Pradesh Governor Ram Naresh Yadav will come to an end on September 7.

333. India has been ranked _____ amongst 160 countries compared to rank of 54 in Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2016

- a) 21 b) 56 c) 49 d) 35

Answer d) 35. India has now been ranked 35 amongst 160 countries compared to rank of 54 in Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2016. This is a jump of 19 places. The World Bank has recently released a Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2016 report titled "Connecting to Complete 2016". The Logistics Performance Index Report is published by World Bank every two years.

334. Which Island was declared the largest river island in the world, by Guinness World Records?

- a) Agatti Island b) Willington Island c) Majuli Island d) Pamban Island

Answer c) Majuli Island. Majuli Island on the Brahmaputra in Assam was declared the largest river

island in the world, toppling Marajo in Brazil, by Guinness World Records. The river island covers an area of around 880 km². According to Guinness World Records, the island lost around one-third of its area in the last 30-40 years due to frequent flooding of the river.