



CURRENT AFFAIRS (NOVEMBER - 2017) :

National

- ⇒ Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the Sardar Sarovar Dam to the nation, 56 years after its foundation stone was laid by the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in 1961. The States to be benefited by the dam are Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The delay in the completion of the dam was due to various reasons like inter-state disputes, land acquisition and environmental problems. It also saw a massive movement, the 'Narmada Bachao Andolan' led by Medha Patekar.
- ⇒ The Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe came to India to attend the 12th Indo-Japan annual summit held in Ahmedabad. 15 key agreements and MoUs were signed to increase mutual cooperation in the areas of manufacturing, civil aviation, science & Technology, connectivity and skill development. Both the PMs jointly laid the foundation stone for India's first high speed bullet train project between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.
- ⇒ The President of Switzerland Doris Leuthard visited India recently and held talks on bilateral, regional and international issues and also on combating tax evasion and black money. The two sides also inked two pacts for cooperation in the railway sector.
- ⇒ Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a long discussion with the Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in China. The meeting assumed tremendous significance in the wake of more than two months' long stand-off between India and Chinese forces at the Doklam plateau at the tri-junction of India, Bhutan and Chinese boundaries. Both the sides tried to put the Doklam stand-off behind as they agreed to strengthen cooperation between defence personnel to avoid a repeat of the border row.
- ⇒ Prime Minister Narendra Modi, after visiting China, arrived at Nay Pyi Taw, the capital of Myanmar. He met Myanmar's State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi, the De facto head of Myanmar and expressed his concern over extremist violence in Rakhine. The two countries signed 11 agreements including one on maritime security cooperation. Modi also visited the 'Mazar' of the last Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar.
- ⇒ A writ petition was filed recently by an NGO 'We the Citizens', challenging the validity of both Article 35A and article 370. Article 35A is a provision incorporated in the Constitution giving the Jammu and Kashmir legislature a 'carte blanche' to decide who all are 'permanent residents' of the state and confer on them special rights and privileges in public sector jobs, acquisition of property in the State and other public aid and welfare schemes. Article 370 gives autonomous status to the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

In fact, Article 35A is the sole provision in the Constitution which was discussed neither in the Constituent Assembly nor in the Parliament. Article 370 was only a temporary provision to help bring normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir. The Supreme Court Bench referred the issue to a three judge bench.

International

- ⇒ The 9th BRICS Summit was held in Xiamen, China. BRICS is a grouping of world's emerging and developing economies and consists of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The 43-page 'Xiamen Declaration' expressed concern over the security situation in the region and violence caused by the Taliban, ISIS, Al-Qaeda, Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad etc. Pakistan rejected the statement by BRICS that terror groups based on its soil such as LeT and JeM pose a threat to regional security.
- ⇒ North Korea recently tested a hydrogen bomb or H-bomb, which was far more powerful than the nuclear tests it carried out earlier. Kim Jong-un, the supreme leader of North Korea threatened 'to sink Japan and reduce the United States to ashes and darkness'. The North Korea has been subjected to seven rounds of United Nations Security Council sanctions over the nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, but it never bothered. (Atomic bombs or A-bombs work on the principle of nuclear fission whereas H-bombs work on nuclear fusion and are far more powerful.)
- ⇒ North Korea fired a missile that flew over Japan and landed in the Pacific, about 2000 km east of Hokkaido, a Japanese island. The missile covered a distance of about 3,700 km – enough to reach the US territory of Guam.
- ⇒ Palestine has become a member of the International Police Organisation (Interpol). Its headquarter is in Lyon, France.
- ⇒ The international community has accused Myanmar of committing genocide against the Rohingya Muslims. The Rohingas are a stateless group of people concentrated in western Myanmar and facing brutal assaults from the country's military. The Rohingas are often described as 'the world's most persecuted minority'.
- ⇒ India refused to be a part of the 'Bali Declaration' adopted at the 'World Parliamentary Forum on Sustainable Development' held at Nusa Dua in Bali, Indonesia. India's objection was that it carried 'inappropriate' reference to violence in Rakhine State of Myanmar from where 1,25,000 Rohingas have fled to Bangladesh. With this, India showed its solidarity with Myanmar.



Economy

- ⇒ Under the money circulation and credit control policy of the RBI, the existing rates (as on 8.11.2017) are :
- * Repo Rate (*Repo Rate is the rate at which commercial banks borrow money from the central bank, i.e., RBI*) : 6%.
 - * Reverse Repo Rate (*Reverse Repo Rate is the rate at which the commercial banks deposit their surplus money to the central bank*) : 5.75%
 - * Statutory Liquidity Ratio (*SLR is the percentage of deposits that commercial banks have to maintain with themselves*) : 19.5%
 - * CRR (*Cash Reserve Ratio is the proportion of deposits which the banks have to keep with the central bank*) : 4%
 - * Bank Rate (*Bank rate is the rate at which central bank, i.e. RBI, rediscounts the bills of exchange of commercial banks*) : 6.25%
 - * MSF (*Marginal Standing Facility is the loan banks are permitted to avail themselves from the RBI on overnight basis, using its SLR securities*) : 6.25%.
 - * Base Rate (*Base Rate reflects the actual cost of banks that has to be covered through lending. Banks cannot lend money below the Base Rate, which varies from bank to bank*) : 8.95% - 9.45%.
 - * Term Deposit (Fixed Deposit) Rate (more than 1 year): 6.25% - 6.75%.
 - * MCLR: 7.70% - 8.05%.
 - * Savings A/c.: 3.50% - 4.00%.
- (MCLR, the Marginal Cost of Fund-based Lending Rate, is the new benchmark lending rate at which banks will now lend to new borrowers. Till 31 March 2016, banks used the Base rate as the benchmark lending rate. MCLR is built on four components – Marginal cost of funds, Negative carry on account of CRR, Operating costs and Tenor premium).
- ⇒ According to CIBIL, the credit rating company, the wilful defaulters with outstanding loan balances of over ₹ 25 lakh (where suits have been filed) owed banks around ₹ 1.09 lakh crore as on March, 2017. The RBI lays down four scenarios under which a person or a company can be declared a wilful defaulter –
- The borrower fails to meet his dues even if he has the ability to pay.
 - The borrower has diverted the money away from the intended purpose.
 - The money is siphoned off and used by the borrower for purposes which are unrelated to his operation.
 - The borrower sells off the asset which he bought with the loan taken, without the knowledge of the bank.
- ⇒ According to a study by the RBI, Gujarat accounted for the highest share in total cost of private corporate investment for 2016-17. Next comes Maharashtra followed by Andhra Pradesh.
- ⇒ The Reserve Bank of India revealed that ₹ 15.28 lakh crore, or 99% of the ₹ 15.44 lakh crore scrapped currency notes came back to the central bank between the government's demonetisation and June 30, 2017.
- ⇒ Three districts – Gorakhpur in UP, Koraput in Odisha and Thane in Maharashtra initiated India's ambitious 'Zero Hunger' programme on October 16 (World Food Day). This programme was initiated under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the UN to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice and tackle climate change by 2030.
- ⇒ According to the Bibek Debroy Committee report on urban poor, 59% households (i.e., 6 out of every 10) in urban areas will be eligible for the assessment for identifying whether they are entitled for government's social welfare schemes. The committee recommended that the following be excluded automatically from being eligible for social benefits in urban areas –
- Those having a four-room house or a four wheeler or an air conditioner.
 - Those owning all the three items – refrigerator, washing machine and a two-wheeler.
- And the following be automatically included –
- Those who are houseless or have a house with polythene wall or roof.
 - No income or households without adult male.
 - Household headed by a child.
- The rest of the households will be assessed to find whether they can also be included in the list of beneficiaries.
- ⇒ The first regional centre of the New Development Bank, set-up by India and other BRICS nations has officially been opened at Johannesburg by South African President Jacob Zuma and the bank's President K V Kamath. The headquarters of NDB is in Sanghai, China.
- ⇒ The government has sold its 7% stake in India's largest power producer NTPC which has fetched about ₹ 9100 crore to the exchequer. NTPC is the fourth-largest public sector undertaking (PSU) in terms of market capitalisation, after ONGC, SBI and Coal India.
- ⇒ Five Indians have made it to the World Economic Forum's 100 Young Global Leaders list. They are – Paytm founder and CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma; The Tamara Hospitality Promoter and director Shruti Shibulal; Bilppar founder and CEO Ambarish Mitra; editor-at-large of Fortune India Hindol Sengupta and Swaniti Initiative founder and CEO Rwitwika Bhattacharya Agarwal.
- ⇒ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana, named 'Saubhagya' to provide electricity to all households in the country by December 2018.



- ⇒ India has maintained its top rank in milk production. The country has achieved an annual output of 155.48 million tons of milk during 2015-16, i.e., 19% of world milk production. The government has set a National Goal of 300 million tons of milk production by 2023-24.
- ⇒ Three Indians have made it to the Forbes' special list of world's 100 Greatest Living Business Minds. They are – Laxmi Mittal, the Chairman and CEO of Arcelor Mittal; Ratan Tata, the Tata Group's Chairman Emeritus and Vinod Khosla, the co-founder of Sun Microsystems.
- ⇒ The Ministry of Civil Aviation has revised the rules for the passengers who engage in unruly behaviour on board aircrafts. This promulgation of the 'No-Fly List' in India is unique and first-of-its-kind in the world. The revised rules define three categories of unruly behaviour –
- Level 1 refers to behaviour that is verbally unruly and calls for debarment up to 3 months.
 - Level 2 indicates physical unruliness and can lead to the passenger being debarred from flying for up to 6 months.
 - Level 3 indicates life-threatening behaviour where the debarment would be for a minimum of 2 years.
- ⇒ Bharat Petroleum Corporation has become the 8th Maharatna Company. The other 7 are – BHEL, Coal India Ltd., GAIL, IOC, NTPC Ltd., ONGC and SAIL.
- ⇒ The government of India announced the setting up of an Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM), headed by Dr. Bibek Debroy. The EAC-PM made a comeback after over 3 years. In its earlier avatar, it was known as the PM's Economic Advisory Council (PMEAC). The Council will analyse any issue, economic or otherwise, referred to it by the Prime Minister.
- ⇒ There has been a steady rise in indirect taxes. The combined share of customs and excise duties, service tax and VAT in India's gross domestic product (GDP) reached an all-time high of 10.5% during 2016-17.
- ⇒ India ranked 103rd out of total 130 countries surveyed in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Human Capital Index (GHCI), 2017. The index takes into account 'the knowledge and skill people possess that enable them to create value in the global economic system' to measure the human capital rank of a country. Norway topped the list followed by Finland and Switzerland.
- ⇒ In the World Economic Forum's annual Global Competitiveness Index 2017, India ranked 40th among 137 economies.
- ⇒ State Bank of India has launched 'SBI Intelligent Assistant' (SIA) that can respond to customer inquiries on the bank's retail products from visitors to its website.
- ⇒ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has launched a Central Database christened as 'Envoy' which contains all Insurance Sales Persons in the country.
- ⇒ Private Sector lender HDFC Bank Ltd. has been declared a Domestic-Systemically Important Bank (D-SIB). With this, the bank has joined the group of SBI and ICICI Bank Ltd., which have been tagged as D-SIBs or 'too-big-to-fail' category.
- ⇒ HDFC Bank has launched an all-in-one offering 'Digi PoS Machine' that offers a complete suite of digital payment solutions.
- ⇒ An RBI-appointed committee on Household Finance has suggested that banks link their home loan rates to the RBI's repo rate instead of the MCLR (Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate).
- ⇒ Google has launched a UPI-based payment app in India named Google Tez for making online transactions.
- ⇒ Habib Bank, Pakistan's largest private lender, after nearly 40 years of operation, has been ordered by the US banking regulators to shut down its New York office. The order came after Habib Bank repeatedly failed to pay heed to concerns over possible terrorist financing and money laundering.
- ⇒ India's foreign-exchange (Forex) reserve rose past \$ 400 billion for the first time ever.
- ⇒ The Indian Commodity Exchange (ICEX) launched the world's first diamond futures contracts to provide exporters with a hedging tool. India is a global diamond polishing hub where 14 out of every 15 rough diamonds in the world are polished.
- ⇒ The government has decided to double the upper limit of tax-free gratuity payable to private and public sector employees to ₹ 20 lakh.

Sports

- ⇒ India defeated Australia 4-1 in the 5 ODI match series. Hardik Pandya was adjudged the Man of the Series. In the second ODI in Kolkata, spinner Kuldeep Yadav made a hat-trick. He became the third Indian bowler to achieve this feat after Kapil Dev and Chetan Sharma.
- ⇒ India Red clinched the Duleep Trophy in cricket by defeating India Blue in the final at the Ekana Stadium, Lucknow.
- ⇒ Rafael Nadal of Spain defeated Kevin Anderson of South Africa to win the US Open tennis tournament Men's Single's. In the US open Women's Singles final, Sloane Stephens of the USA defeated her compatriot Madison Keys.
- ⇒ Olympic and World badminton silver medalist P V Sindhu defeated the World badminton champion Nozomi Okuhara to win the Korea Open Super Series to win the trophy.
- ⇒ MS Thej Kumar became the first Chess Grandmaster from Karnataka and 50th from India.



- ⇒ India will host the 2019 edition of the Commonwealth Weight-lifting Championship.
- ⇒ Harinder Pal Sandhu clinched the Malaysian Squash Tour title, 2017.
- ⇒ M S Dhoni has become the first wicket-keeper to have 100 stumping to his name in ODI by breaking the record of Sangakara of Sri Lanka.
- ⇒ Indian basketball captain Amritpal Singh became the first Indian to join an Australian National Basketball League team 'Sydney Kings'.
- ⇒ Barcelona and Argentina football player Lionel Messi became the first player to score 350 goals in La Liga of Spain.
- ⇒ Sjoerd Mrijne of Holland, current chief coach of India women's team has been appointed new coach of men's senior team.
- ⇒ The official song for the FIFA Under-17 World football tournament is 'Kar Ke Dikhla De Goal' written Amitabh Bhattacharya and composed by Pritam.

Awards

- ⇒ Eminent Odia poet and short story writer Banaj Devi was chosen for the prestigious 'Sarala Award' for her short story compilation 'Kathapua'. The award is given every year by the Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust.
- ⇒ Prof. C N R Rao, the eminent scientist and the Bharat Ratna awardee has been chosen for the Von Hippel Award for 2017 for his outstanding contribution to material research. He is the first Asian to win this prestigious honour which is given by the US-based Material Research Society (MRS).
- ⇒ Salman Khan was honoured with the Global Diversity Award, 2017 at Britain's House of Commons for his commendable contribution to the Indian Film Industry and for his philanthropic activities through his Being Human foundation.
- ⇒ Ria Sharma of India and four other activists were honoured with the 2017 Goalkeepers Global Goals Awards at Gotham Hall in New York for their efforts to create positive impact in people's lives and accelerate progress towards the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their countries.
- ⇒ Konkani writer Mahabaleshwar Sail was honoured with the coveted Saraswati Samman for 2016 for his novel 'Hawthan'. The award is instituted by the K. K. Birla Foundation and carries a plaque and a cash prize of ₹ 15 lakh.
- ⇒ In the 74th annual Venice International Film Festival (in Italy), the 'Golden Lion for the Best Film' award was given to 'The Shape of Water, by Guillermo del Toro'.
- ⇒ Ten scientists have been chosen for the coveted Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award for 2017. Every year Indian scientists below 45 years are chosen for the prestigious science awards for their works in the field of science and technology.

- ⇒ Indian human rights lawyer Colin Gonsalves and three others were declared joint winners of the coveted Right Livelihood Award by the Stockholm-based award committee for their courageous work in human rights, public health and good governance.
- ⇒ Veteran badminton player Prakash Padukone has been chosen for the Badminton Association of India's first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ⇒ Gujarat International Finance-Tech City (GIFT City), India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) has won the prestigious Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) Service Excellence Award. The award has been given for its contribution to the growth of the International Financial Services and Technology Hub in India.
- ⇒ Reliance Foundation has been awarded with the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar for its contribution to the promotion of sports. Nita Ambani, the Chairperson of the foundation collected the award from the President Ram Nath Kovind. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan also received this award for its Identification and Nurturing of Budding and Young Talent programme.

Persons

- ⇒ J Y Pillay of Indian Origin has taken over as Singapore's acting President until a new Head of the state is elected.
- ⇒ Halimah Yacob, of Indian descent, has become the first woman president of Singapore.
- ⇒ Rajiv Mehrishi, former Union Home Secretary is the new Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. He replaced Shashi Kant Sharma. The CAG is ranked 9th from the top (the President) and enjoys the same status a Judge of the Supreme Court.
- ⇒ Peggy Whitson, the American astronaut returned to the earth after 288 days' space stay. She set the record of longest space stay by a woman.
- ⇒ Peter Thomson has been appointed the first special envoy of the UN for the oceans by the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres. He will seek to galvanize efforts to protect the world oceans.
- ⇒ Ajay Bhushan Pandey, the Chief Executive of Aadhaar authority UIDAI has been given additional charge as Chairman of the Goods and Service Tax Network (GSTN).
- ⇒ Sunil Arora has been appointed one of the two Election Commissioners of India. He replaced Nasim Zaidi. The other Commissioner is Om Prakash Rawat. Achal Kumar Jyoti is the Chief Election Commissioner.
- ⇒ Rajiv Gauba has been appointed new Union Home Secretary for a fixed period of two years. He replaced Rajiv Mehrishi, who joined as new CAG.



- ⇒ Prince Charles has become the longest-serving Prince of Wales. He broke the record of Queen Victoria's eldest son Albert. The Prince of Wales is historically the title bestowed upon the heir to Britain's throne.
- ⇒ Parineeti Chopra is the first Indian woman Ambassador to encourage Indians to visit Australia. She has been presented the Friend of Australia (FoA) recognition by the Australian Consul General.

Died

- ⇒ Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh, India's first five-star officer passed away.
- ⇒ Nancy Hatch Dupree, an American historian who spent decades in Afghanistan working to preserve the heritage of the war-torn country, passed away.
- ⇒ Ahmed Khan, a member of India's gold winning football team at the first Asian Games 1951, passed away.

Miscellaneous

- ⇒ A nine-judge bench at the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that Right to Privacy is a fundamental right because it is intrinsic to the Right to Life and Personal Liberty. It is guaranteed in Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Earlier an eight-judge bench and a six-judge bench had ruled that privacy is not a fundamental right. This judgement may be a blow to Aadhaar as the Centre now has to convince the Supreme Court that forcing citizens to give a sample of their fingerprints and their iris scan does not violate privacy.
- ⇒ Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL), under the Ministry of Power, government of India, has launched UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable Lighting for All) Scheme in the State of Melaka, Malaysia.
- ⇒ US Defence Secretary James Mattis recently visited India and discussed key bilateral, regional and international issues including terrorism emanating from Pakistan. Indian Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman emphasised that India wouldn't send troops to the war-torn Afghanistan and it would continue to provide development assistance to that country.
- ⇒ Kenya's Supreme Court nullified President Uhuru Kenyatta's election as unconstitutional and called for new elections.
- ⇒ A referendum was held recently in the Kurdistan region of Iraq. 92% of the voters approved their separation from Iraq. However, neither the Iraq government nor the US and its allies approved it.
- ⇒ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the leading destination for Indian job-seekers in the Gulf, surpassing Saudi Arabia. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is an alliance of six countries : Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman. Bihar occupied the top position in terms of such emigration followed by UP during the first half of 2017.

- ⇒ Hindi Movie 'Newton', directed by Amit Masurkar has been selected as India's official entry in the Best Foreign Language Film category at the 90th Academy Awards, popularly known as Oscar Awards for 2018. Saudi Arabia, the only country in the world where woman were not allowed to drive a car, has lifted the ban.
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- ⇒ A pharaonic tomb belonging to a royal goldsmith who lived more than 3,500 years ago has been discovered on the West bank of the river Nile in Egypt.
- ⇒ Water-poor country Jordan has launched a project using sea-water to produce crops with clean energy.
- ⇒ In a bid to make its transport service more eco-friendly, the Himachal Pradesh government launched India's first electric bus service between Mandi and Rohtang Pass.
- ⇒ India will soon begin the \$ 87 billion project of connecting the country's 60 major rivers including the mighty Ganga. This will reduce not only the farmers dependence on fickle monsoon, but also the hazards of flood and draught to a large extent.
- ⇒ According to a new study, Parali Island, one of the biodiversity-rich uninhabited islands of Lakshadweep has vanished due to coastal erosion and another four such territories in the sea are shrinking fast.
- ⇒ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated a state-of-the-art planetarium named after the former President APJ Abdul Kalam at Sambhalpur.
- ⇒ NASA's Cassini Spacecraft has discovered steep-sided canyons, hundreds of meters deep on Saturn's moon Titan that are flooded with liquid. The finding represents the first direct evidence of the presence of liquid-filled channels on Titan.
- ⇒ According to a new research carried out by the Yale University research team, there are more than three trillion trees exist on the earth – nearly 422 trees per person.
- ⇒ Bonderam, a very popular monsoon festival has been celebrated on the Island of Divar in Goa.
- ⇒ M Venkaiah Naidu, the Vice President of India performed the Bhoomi Poojan for the Ranchi Smart City. Ranchi in Jharkhand is the first city in the country where Booomi Pujan Programme for building Smart City is concluded.
- ⇒ Ahmedabad has been formally accorded the status of India's first World Heritage City by UNESCO.
- ⇒ Hurricane 'Irma', which devastated a vast area including the north-eastern Caribbean and the Florida Keys in the USA became the first storm in the world to sustain winds of 185 miles per hour for more than 24 hours. It was the longest storm to sustain this speed since the 1970s.



EXCELLENT TUTORIAL

Jadavpur : 9433267091, 033-24187224; Dumdum : 9748326310, 033-25483118

- ⇒ Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Harsh Vardhan inaugurated a two-day conference on 'Sustainable landscape and forest ecosystem : Theory to Practice' in New Delhi. The Minister also launched 'Wood is Good' campaign on the occasion under the Forest-Plus programme.
- ⇒ The Indian Coast Guard Ship 'Varuna', which was part of the First Training Squadron of the Navy, has been decommissioned after about 30 years of service.
- ⇒ Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani launched state-wide 'Gyan Kunj Project' in the schools to produce world-class students.
- ⇒ India handed over an off-shore patrol vessel 'Varuna' to Sri Lanka for training and surveillance purposes. India earlier handed over two offshore patrol vessels to Sri Lanka – Varaha in 2006 and Vighraha in 2008.
- ⇒ The third-generation fire-and-forget anti-tank guided missile 'Prospina' (earlier known as Nag) is back in the desert ranges of Rajasthan for trial.
- ⇒ India and the USA conducted the joint exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' 2017 at Joint Base Lewis-Mechord in the USA.
- ⇒ Sri Lankan Naval ships 'Sayura' and 'Sagara' visited Visakhapatnam harbour to participate in the 5th edition of 'SLINEX' 2017, a bilateral naval exercise between India and Sri Lanka.
- ⇒ The indigenous sniper rifle has been launched at the Rifle Factory, Ishapore, just outside Kolkata. With this, India will no longer need to import the preferred German sniper rifle Heckler & Koch (H & N).
- ⇒ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj made a three-day visit to Vladivostok, Russia to attend the third edition of Eastern Economic Forum.
- ⇒ The first National Canine Seminar was organised at the National Security Guard (NSG) Campus in Manesar (Gurugram), Haryana. The focus was to discuss and deliberate the techniques of dog training in fight against terrorism.
- ⇒ Telengana has launched country's first water ATM at Nalgonda X Roads in Hyderabad to provide affordable safe water across Hyderabad. The initiative is supported by USAID (United States Agency for International Development) under the Urban WaSH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Alliance partnership.
- ⇒ Gobindobhog rice, a speciality from Burdwan district of West Bengal, has got the Geographical Indication (GI) status. As a result, the rice from other regions or other varieties cannot be branded as 'Gobindobhog'.
- ⇒ India is buying 200 'Ka-226 T' military helicopters from Russia. 60 will be procured in fly-away condition while 140 will be produced in India in collaboration with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL).
- ⇒ The 12th edition of Nepal-India joint military exercise 'Surya Kiran' has been conducted in Rupandehi district of Nepal.
- ⇒ President Ram Nath Kovind laid the foundation stone of the second phase of link IV pipeline canal of Saurashtra Narmada Avtaran Irrigation (SAUNI) Yojana in Rajkot. The project is aimed at bringing the water of the Narmada river to the reservoirs of parched Saurashtra region.
- ⇒ The two-day 'North-East Calling' festival, to showcase the rich culture of the North-East was held in Delhi recently.
- ⇒ The National Nutrition week was observed throughout the country from September 1 to 7, 2017.
- ⇒ The three-day International Hindu Conference was held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- ⇒ The East African nation Kenya has imposed the world's toughest law against plastic bags. Production, sale or even use of plastic bags will result in imprisonment of up to four years or a fine of \$ 40,000.

Books & Authors :

- ⇒ Hawthorn – Mahabaleshwar Sail
- ⇒ I Do What I Do – Raghuram Rajan
- ⇒ The Golden House – Salman Rushdie
- ⇒ Empire – Devi Yeshodharan
- ⇒ 30 Second Thrillers – K V Sridhar
- ⇒ Who Me Poor? – Gayatri Jayaraman
- ⇒ Hit Refresh – Satya Nadella
- ⇒ How India Sees the World : Kautilya to the 21st Century – Shyam Saran
