



CURRENT AFFAIRS (DECEMBER - 2017) :

National

⇒ The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by the PM Narendra Modi approved two new World Bank supported schemes –

- Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP). It aims at enhancement of inclusion of marginalised communities including SC, ST, Women and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) to provide skill training opportunities.

- Skill Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE). It aims to incentivise ITIs to improve overall performance including apprenticeship by involving SMEs, business association and industry clusters.

Both the schemes are aimed at institutional reforms and improving quality and market relevance of skill development training programmes in long and short term Vocational Education and Training (VET).

⇒ The Centre has launched a six-year project called 'SECURE Himayala' to ensure conservation of locally and globally significant biodiversity, land and forest resources in the high Himalayan ecosystem spread over four States in India. The project SECURE Himalaya includes Changthang (J & K), Lahaul, Pangi and Kinnaur (Himachal Pradesh), Gangotri-Govind and Darma-Byans Valley in Pithoragarh (Uttarakhand) and Kanchen junga – Upper Teesta Valley (Sikkim).

⇒ President Ram Nath Kovind on the occasion of World Tourism Day (September 27), launched 'Incredible India 2.0 Campaign' and 'Adopt a Heritage' project.

Incredible India 2.0 Campaign will be focusing on Specific promotional plans, with greater emphasis to be given to social media. Adopt a Heritage project plans to entrust heritage sites to the public sector and private sector companies and individuals for the development of tourist amenities.

⇒ In his first foreign trip after taking oath as the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind made a state visit to Djibouti and Ethiopia. Djibouti (capital – Djibouti) is a small country in the Horn of Africa and is a strategically located country just off the Gulf of Aden. Kovind thanked Mr. Guelleh, the President of Djibouti for his country's support during Operation Rahat for evacuating Indians from war-torn Yemen in 2015. India extended a credit of \$ 49 million to Djibouti for a cement plant.

In Ethiopia (capital – Addis Ababa), Mr. Kovind met Ethiopian President Mr. Teshome and announced that India would extend a credit of \$ 195 million to Ethiopia for power transmission sector and another \$ 2 million for medicines.

⇒ The 14th annual summit of India and the European Union was held in New Delhi. India was represented

by the PM Narendra Modi while EU was represented by Donald Tusk, the president of European Council and Jean Claude, the President of European Commission. Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to further deepen and strengthen Indo-EU strategic partnership.

⇒ The four South Asian Countries signed the BBIN-MVA (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal Motor Vehicles Agreement) in June 2016. But recently the upper house of Bhutan's parliament voted against the deal on fears of environmental destruction and degraded security. Recently Bangladesh also expressed its reluctance.

⇒ Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman commissioned the indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare stealth INS Kiltan in Visakhapatnam. This is the third of the four Kamorta-class corvettes built under project 28 at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers in Kolkata. INS Kiltan gets its name from one of the islands in Minicoy island in the Lakshadweep. It is Indian Navy's first major warship to have a superstructure of carbon fibre composite material imported from Sweden.

⇒ Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani visited India recently and had a dialogue with the PM Narendra Modi. India reaffirmed its pledge to set up reconstruction initiatives and economic development in Afghanistan.

⇒ Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni visited India and had discussions with PM Narendra Modi. The Italian PM described India as an 'Asian Superpower' and signed six agreements with India covering energy cooperation, diplomatic training and railways.

International

⇒ The USA has announced that it will withdraw from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) accusing the body of 'anti-Israel bias'. Israel also announced its withdrawal from UNESCO. The USA had already withheld its funding for UNESCO since 2011, when the body admitted Palestine as a full member.

⇒ The 86th International Police Organisation (Interpol) General Assembly has voted to admit the State of Palestine and the Solomon Islands as new member countries. Admission of Palestine is a diplomatic blow to Israel, which has been opposing Palestine's move to join international bodies.

⇒ The Parliament of Catalonia, one of Spain's Wealthiest and most productive regions declared independence from Spain on October 27, in defiance of the central government in Madrid. Before that, a referendum was held in which 90% of the electorals voted in favour of independence. But Spain's Constitutional Court annulled the Catalan parliament's unilateral declaration of independence. Catalonia's President Carles Puigdemont fled the country and took shelter in Belgium.



⇒ The 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. The Congress endorsed a second five-year term for its President Xi Jinping and appointed a new set of leaders backed by him. The CPC enshrined President Xi Jinping's political doctrine and his name in the Constitution, elevating him to the level of icons Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping and making him one of the most powerful leaders in the past three decades. Until now only 'Mao Zedong Thought' and 'Deng Xiaoping Theory' were included in the charter by their names. Now 'Xi Jinping Thought' has also made its place in the Constitution.

China's target is to complete the mechanisation of the armed forces by 2020 and modernise the army, navy and air force in terms of organisational structure and weaponry by 2035.

Economy

⇒ Under the money circulation and credit control policy of the RBI, the existing rates (as on 20.11.2017) 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% - 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).

⇒ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) relaxed norms for issuance of rupee-denominated overseas bonds, popularly known as masala bonds. After a review, the RBI said that masala bonds will no longer form part of the limit for Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) in corporate bonds. They will form part of the External Commercial Borrowings (ECBs) and will be monitored accordingly.

⇒ The RBI said that all non-banking players engaged in the business of peer-to-peer (P2P)* lending would be classified as non-banking financial companies (NBFC).

⇒ The state-owned Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) became the first Indian financial institution to raise funds overseas. These funds are termed as 'green masala bonds'.

'Masala bonds' are issued abroad but denominated in rupees. 'Green' bonds are meant for financing projects seen as beneficial for the environment.

⇒ According to the World Bank's 'Doing Business 2018 : Reforming to Create Jobs' report released recently, India's rank in ease of doing business jumped 30 places to 100 among 190 countries. India's rank was 130 in 2016.

⇒ The government has approved the biggest highway construction plan so far in the country, to develop approximately 83,677 km of roads at an investment of ₹ 6.92 lakh crore by 2022. Of this, 34,800 km of roads will be created under the Bharatmala Pariyojana which was announced earlier, with an outlay of ₹ 5.35 lakh crore. A total of 14.2 crore man-days of work will be generated through road construction.

⇒ The government announced an unprecedented ₹ 2.11 lakh crore plan for recapitalisation of the public sector banks, spread over two years in a bid to push growth and create jobs. The non-performing assets of PSU banks has increased to ₹ 7.33 lakh crore as on June 2017.

⇒ India has been ranked at the 100th position among 119 countries on Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2017 report released by Washington-based International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). In 2016, India was placed at 97th position. The GHI is prepared by ranking countries on a 0 to 100-point scale calculated by taking into account four indicator parameters with different weights : (i) Undernourished population (1/3rd weight), Child Wasting (1/6th weight), Child Stunting (1/6th weight) and Infant Mortality rate (1/3rd weight).

⇒ India has registered a significant decline in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) – giving a major boost to the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme of the government. According to a recent bulletin, IMR of India has declined by 3 points (8%), from 37 per 1000 live births in 2015 to 34 per 1000 live births in 2016.

* A P2P lender is a fin-tech platform which helps lenders and prospective borrowers get in touch with each other.



- ⇒ Reliance Industries Ltd. Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped Forbes' annual list of India's 100 richest tycoons with a net worth of \$ 38 billion. Mukhes Ambani is followed by Azim Premji of Wipro (\$ 19 billion).
- ⇒ The RBI formed a high-level task force on public credit registry (PCR), headed by YM Deosthalee as the Chairman. The task force will mainly review the current availability of information on credit in the country; will assess the gaps in Indian policy that could be filled by a comprehensive public credit registry and will make suggestions based on the study of the best international practices on public credit registry.
- ⇒ Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) has bagged the 10th spot in the latest edition of Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI), London. It is an underconstruction central business district between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar, built on 359 hectares of land.
- ⇒ Singapore topped the Global Passport Power Rank 2017 of Arton Capital, the global financial advisory firm, becoming the first Asian country to top the index of world's most powerful passport. Singaporeans can visit 159 countries of the world either without a visa or visa on arrival.
- ⇒ A 21-member Committee on corporate governance, headed by Uday Kotak has submitted its report to the SEBI.
- ⇒ The Central government entity Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) has awarded a contract to Tata Motors to procure 10,000 electric vehicles for government departments.
- ⇒ The RBI has opened a branch (sub office) in Dehradun, U.P. Presently the RBI has four zonal offices (Mumbai, Chennai, Delhi and Kolkata), 19 regional offices and 10 sub offices.
- ⇒ India has been ranked the 40th most competitive economy on the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index. On the list of 137 countries, Switzerland got the top position followed by the USA and Singapore.
- ⇒ According to Brand Finance's 'Nation Brands 2017', India is ranked the 8th most valuable nation brand in the world while the USA retained the top position followed by China.
- ⇒ The Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) suspended the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) on account of undue third-party interference. The PFF office and accounts are controlled by a court appointed administrator.
- ⇒ England won its maiden FIFA Under-17 Football World Cup for the first time defeating Spain 5-2 in the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata. Brazil secured the third position. Abel Ruiz was the captain of Spain while Joel Latibeaudiere led the England team.
Brazil won the Fair Play trophy. England's Rhian Brewster claimed the Golden Boot honour. Brazil's goalkeeper Gabriel Brazao won the Golden Glove honour. Golden Ball honour went to England's Phil Foden.
- ⇒ India emerged champion of the Asia Cup Hockey Title 2017 by defeating Malaysia in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- ⇒ Gaganjeet Bhullar clinched the Macao Open golf tournament.
- ⇒ K. Srikanth defeated Lee-Hyum il of South Korea in Odense, Denmark to win the Denmark Open Superseries Men's Singles Badminton crown. It was the third superseries badminton crown of K.Srikanth this year after his title triumph in Australian Open and Indonesian Open.
- ⇒ K. Srikanth scripted history as he became the first Indian badminton star to clinch four superseries titles in a year when he clinched the French Open Badminton Superseries Men's Singles title in Paris.
- ⇒ Defending Champion Patna Pirates clinched the third Pro-Kabaddi League title in a row as it defeated Gujarat Fortune in the final in Chennai.

Awards

- ⇒ Gurbax Singh Sandhu, a long-standing Indian boxing coach has been honoured with the Vayoshreshtha Samman, a scheme of National Awards for Senior Citizens. He was India's longest-serving men's national coach for two decades.
- ⇒ Eminent scientist and Bharat Ratna awardee CNR Rao has become the first Asian to be chosen for the prestigious Van Hippel Award for his immense contribution in material research.
- ⇒ Lal Bahadur Shastri National Awards for Excellence in Public Administration, Academics and Management for the year 2017 has been given to Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak.
- ⇒ The annual Anna Politkovskaya Award, 2017 was given jointly to journalist-activist Gauri Lankesh posthumously and to a Pakistani activist Gulalai Ismail who is fighting against Islamic extremism.
- ⇒ Real Madrid Club's star footballer Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal was honoured with the FIFA Men's Player of the Year Award for the fifth time. The Netherland's Lieke Martens won the FIFA Women's Player of the Year award.

Sports

- ⇒ India clinched the Paytm India-New Zealand ODI series by defeating the visiting team by 2-1 matches. Kane Williamson was the captain of New Zealand. India skipper Virat Kohli was declared Man of the Series.
- ⇒ South African batsman David Miller set the record of the fastest century (in 35 balls) in the T-20 International match against Bangladesh.



- ⇒ Carnatic vocalist TM Krishna has been chosen for the coveted Indira Gandhi Award for National Integration for 2015-16 for his outstanding services in promoting and preserving national integration in the country.
- ⇒ Veteran actress Helen Mirren has been chosen for the 45th annual Chaplin Award for 2018 for her fifty year long service to the film-world as an actress.
- ⇒ American short story writer and novelist George Saunders won the 2017 Man Booker Prize for his first novel 'Lincoln in the Bardo'.
- ⇒ Venezuela's democratic opposition won the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for freedom of thought.
- ⇒ Eminent writer-lyricist Javed Akhtar has been honoured with the Hridaynath Mangeshkar Award for 2017.
- ⇒ Nobel Prizes, 2017 –
 - Physics – Three American scientists Rainer Weiss, Barry C Barish and Kip S. Thorne for decisive contributions to the LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory, USA) for detection and observation of gravitational waves.
 - Chemistry – Jacques Dubochet (Switzerland), Joachim Frank (USA) and Richard Henderson (UK) for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution.
 - Physiology (Medicine) – Three American scientists Jeffrey C. Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W. Young for their discovery of molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm.
 - Literature – British writer Kazuo Ishiguro.
 - Peace – International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Vienna.
 - Economics – Richard H. Thaler of USA for his contributions to behavioural economics.

Alfred Nobel in his will made provisions for five categories of prizes – Physics, Chemistry, Physiology (Medicine), Literature and Peace. These prizes are being given since December 10, 1901. In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's Central Bank) established the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economics in memory of Alfred Nobel.

Persons

- ⇒ Dineshwar Sharma, former Intelligence Bureau (IB) Chief has been appointed government's special representative to carry forward a dialogue with all sections of people in Jammu and Kashmir.
- ⇒ Rajnish Kumar has been appointed new Chairman of SBI. He replaced Arundhati Bhattacharya.
- ⇒ Anupam Kher has been named Chairman of the prestigious Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune. He has succeeded controversial Gajendra Chauhan, whose appointment in 2014 had triggered widespread student protests. Mr. Kher is the only person who earlier headed CBFC and National School of Drama.

- ⇒ Audrey Azoulay of France has been selected as the Director General of UNESCO.
- ⇒ Jagmeet Singh of Indian Origin has been elected leader of the New Democratic Party, becoming the first non-white politician to head a major political party in Canada.
- ⇒ New Governors –
 - Banwarilal Purohit – Tamil Nadu
 - Brigadier (Retd.) B D Mishra – Arunachal Pradesh
 - Satya Pal Malik – Bihar
 - Jagdish Mukhi – Assam
 - Ganga Prasad – Meghalaya
 - Admiral (Retd.) Devendra Kumar Joshi – Andaman & Nicobar (Lieutenant Governor)

Died

- ⇒ Kundan Shah, the veteran director, best known for the dark comedy 'Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro', passed away. He made his directorial debut on television in 1986 with the popular series 'Nukkad'.
- ⇒ Tom Alter, the veteran theatre, television and film actor passed away.
- ⇒ Makhan Lal Fotedar, a veteran Congress leader passed away.
- ⇒ Vladimir Voevodsk, one of the most brilliant and revolutionary mathematicians passed away.
- ⇒ I. V. Sasi, a well-known South Indian film director passed away.
- ⇒ Hugh Hefner, the creator of adult magazine 'Playboy', died at his home, the Playboy Mansion in Los Angeles, USA.
- ⇒ Satish Chandra, the veteran historian of medieval India passed away.

Miscellaneous

- ⇒ President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the 5th edition of India Water Week (IWW) with the theme 'Water and Energy for Inclusive Growth' in New Delhi on October 10.
- ⇒ President Kovind launched *Mata Amritanandamayi Math's* clear water known as 'Jiwamritam' filtration system in Kollam, Kerala. the initiative envisaged to provide clean drinking water to 10 million villagers across the nation.
- ⇒ Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan unveiled the 3rd National Wildlife Action Plan for 2017-31 to chalk out future road map for wildlife conservation. It is the first wildlife action plan to recognise concern related to climate change impact on wildlife.
- ⇒ Multi-agency humanitarian assistance and disaster relief exercise 'Pralay Sahayam' was recently held in Hyderabad to create public awareness about man-made and natural climate change and urban disasters including flooding. The two-day exercise was jointly organised by Telangana State government in association with all Central and State agencies and National Disaster Relief Forces.



- ⇒ Central government has launched 'Divyang Sarathi' mobile app for the differently-abled. This mobile application will bound to empower the 'Divyangjans' by providing easier and convenient access of information to them. (Divyangjan – differently-abled).
- ⇒ The Union Ministry of Labour and Employment launched Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour (PENCIL) Portal at National Conference on Child Labour in New Delhi. The PENCIL portal is an electronic platform that aims at involving Centre, State, District, Governments, Civil Society and General Public in achieving the target of child labour free society.
- ⇒ A camera trap evidence confirmed the presence of snow leopard in the high altitude region of Arunachal Pradesh. Snow leopards are endangered species with a population between 3920 and 6390 globally.
- ⇒ India's largest floating solar plant has been completed at the Banasura Sagar reservoir in Wayanand, Kerala.
- ⇒ A committee, headed by the NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Dr. Rajiv Kumar, has been constituted to study and offer suggestions on how to better utilise the water resources in the North-eastern region.
- ⇒ A high level committee headed by T K Viswanathan has submitted its report to the Union government regarding amendment in the rules to deal with hate-speech on the internet.
- ⇒ India received its first shipment of US crude oil at Paradip Port in Odisha, following the recent commitments to US oil purchase by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and BPCL. This is the first out of a series of shipments as promised under the deal.
- ⇒ India has identified 140 vulnerable locations along the 4096 km long India-Bangladesh border that can be exploited for illegal crossing over the Rohingyas of Myanmar. These posts are being strengthened by deploying more security personnel and surveillance gadgets.
- ⇒ UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath flagged off 50 buses under the 'Sankalp Seva' service in Lucknow. These buses will connect as many as 6000 villages. The CM also said that to honour the sacrifices of the martyrs, the state government will construct 'Gaurav Marg Path'.
- ⇒ Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone of the country's first ever Industrial Training Institute (ITI) for the differently-abled persons at Borboruah in Dibrugarh.
- ⇒ Odisha government launched 'SAMPURN' (*Sish Abond Matru Mrityuhara Purna Nirakaran Abhiyan*) programme to increase institutional deliveries in order to reduce infant mortality as well as mother mortality rate.
- ⇒ Indian naval ships Satpura and Kadmat participated in Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with Japanese Marine Self Defence Force in pursuance of India's Act East Policy.
- ⇒ The State-owned Mazagaon Dock Limited in Mumbai delivered the first of six Scorpene class submarines named INS-Kalvari to the Indian Navy.
- ⇒ The Meenakshi Temple in Madurai has been adjudged the best 'Swachh Iconic Place' in India.
- ⇒ Kandla Port Trust, located on the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat is one of the twelve major ports in the country. The Kandla Port Trust has recently been renamed as Deendayal Port Trust.
- ⇒ The Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIST), Shibpur and Esri India Technologies announced the launch of a Centre of Geospatial Excellence (CoGE) in the eastern region. It will launch various short and long-term programmes that will focus on fundamental geoinformatics and its applications in various government programmes, like Smart Cities, Digital India and Clean Ganga.
- ⇒ The Jaipur Airport retained the top position as the best airport of the world in the category of 2 to 5 million passengers every year in the Airport Service Quality. Srinagar was ranked at the second position in the same category.
- ⇒ Monarch Airlines, Britain's largest carrier suddenly ceased its operations and left approximately 1,10,000 travellers stranded abroad. This became the biggest airline failure in the history of British aviation.
- ⇒ India's target of at least 90% vaccine coverage by the year 2020 has now been advanced to December 2018 with the launch of Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI). Through this programme, the government aims to reach each and every child under 2 years of age and all those pregnant women who have been left uncovered under the routine immunisation programme.
- ⇒ In an attempt to end gender bias in women against women, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is undertaking an online campaign #IamThatWoman. Through this campaign, the Ministry seeks to highlight the various aspects of women standing 'by' and 'for' women.
- ⇒ In view of the Supreme Court direction, the government had set up the Committee on Haj Policy under the Chairmanship of former Secretary Afzal Amanullah to review the existing policy and suggest a framework for new Haj Policy, 2018-22. The committee recommended phasing out of subsidy for Haj Pilgrims and allowing women devotees above 45 years of age to travel in a group of at least four without a male.



EXCELLENT TUTORIAL

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

- ⇒ Tokyo has once again topped the list of The Economist's 'Safe Cities Index', 2017 while Delhi ranked 43rd and Mumbai 45th.
- ⇒ Twitter has announced a test project called tweets to be expanded to 380 characters – double the existing limit – in the latest effort to boost flagging growth at the social network.
- ⇒ The Archaeological Survey of India, Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with National Geographic Society, hosted an international conference on 'Dialogue of Civilisation – IV' at Delhi, Gandhinagar and Dholavira.
- ⇒ 'Me Too', a hashtag campaign spread virally on Twitter and other social media platforms encouraged survivors of sexual assault and harassment, in the wake of sexual misconduct allegations against the Hollywood film producer Harvey Weinstein. Millions of people have used the hashtag, popularised by actress Alyssa Milano, to come forward with their experiences against many celebrities.
- ⇒ External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj opened the new 'Chancery Complex' of the Indian High Commission in Dhaka. The High Commissioner office was previously operated from a house in Gulshan area of the city.
- ⇒ PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the first phase of the 'Ghogha-Dahej Ro-Ro ferry service, which will connect Ghogha in Saurashtra's Bhavnagar district with Dahej in Bharuch district across the Gulf of Khambhat, also known as Gulf of Cambay along the Arabian sea coast.
- ⇒ The first ever ASEAN-India music festival was presented at Purana Qila in New Delhi. The festival was organised to celebrate the 25th year of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations. The theme of this commemorative year was 'Shared Values, Common Destiny'.
- ⇒ A gunman of Nevada, USA, opened fire from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel towards an open-air music festival, killing 59 people.
- ⇒ The third India International Science Festival was held in Chennai.
- ⇒ The 2017 Global Entrepreneurship Summit will be held in Hyderabad.
- ⇒ Manipur's traditional festival 'Mera Houchongha' has been celebrated at the Manipur Royal Palace (Sana Konung) in Imphal.
- ⇒ Bathukamma festival was celebrated with great fervour in Telangana and in some parts of Andhra Pradesh. People celebrate and worship Goddess Bathukamma for 9 days during the Navaratri.

Books & Authors :

- ⇒ India @ 70 Modi @ 3.5 – Ashok Malik & Bibek Deb Roy.
- ⇒ The Singing Tree – Ken Youngstein
- ⇒ Lincoln in the Bardo – George Saunders
- ⇒ Tiding of Troubled Times – Manish Tiwari
- ⇒ The Book of Chocolate Saints – Jeet Thayil
- ⇒ The Sleep Walker's Dream – Dhrubajyoti Borah
- ⇒ The Coalition Years : 1996-2012 – Pramals Mukherjee
