BANKING TERMS

RBI Rates

Key Rates	31st Aug , 2015
Bank Rate	8.25%
Repo Rate(Policy Rate)	7.25%
Reverse Repo Rate(Policy Rate)	6.25%
MSF(Marginal Standing Facility Rate)	8.25%
SLR	21.5%
CRR	4%
Base Rate	9.70-10.00%

VARIOUS RBI RATES

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is the central banking institution of India. RBI control the monetary policy Rupee as a sole controller. RBI also controls the liquidity flow of money) in Indian Market by Changing its Policy rates and Reserve ratios. RBI have three rates: Bank Rate, C7+89RR,SLR.

Bank Rate: A bank rate is a rate at which the RBI lends money to the commercial banks for the long term and rediscount the foreign currency bills.

Cash Reserve Ratio: Cash reserve Ratio CRR) is the amount of cash funds that the banks have to maintain with RBI. If RBI decides to increase the percent of this, the available amount with the banks comes down. RBI is using this method increase of CRR rat5), to drain out the excessive money from the banks.

Statutory Liquidity Ratio : Statutory Liquidity Ratio is the amount a commercial bank needs to maintain in the form of cash, or gold or government approved securities Bonds) before providing credit to its customers.

Repo rate : Repo rate is the rate at which the RBI lends shot-term money to the banks. When the repo rate increases borrowing from RBI becomes more expensive. Therefore, we can say that in case, RBI wants to make it more expensive for the banks to borrow money, it increases the repo rate; similarly, if it wants to make it cheaper for banks to borrow money, it reduces the repo rate.

Reverse Repo rate : Reverse Repo rate is the rate at which banks park their short-term excess liquidity with the RBI. The RBI uses this tool when it feels there is too much money floating in the banking system. An increase in the reverse repo rate means that the RBI will borrow money from the banks at a higher rate of interest. As a result, banks would prefer to keep their money with the RBI.

MSF Rate:- Marginal Standing Facility MSF) is the rate at which scheduled banks could borrow funds overnight from the Reserve Bank of India RBI) against approved government securities..This was introduced in the monetary policy of RBI for the year 2011-2012. Banks can borrow funds through MSF when there is a considerable shortfall of liquidity. This measure has been introduced by RBI to regulate short-term asset liability mismatches more effectively To provide greater liquidity cushion the Reserve Bank of India RBI) introduced Marginal Standing Facility or MSF. RBI announced the introduction of MSF on May 3, 2011 and it was effected from May 9, 2011.

Base Rate:-The Base Rate is the minimum interest rate of a Bank below which it cannot lend, except for DRI advances, loans to bank's own employees and loan to banks' depositors against their own deposits.

BANKING SYTEM IN INDIA

Reserve Bank of India: It is the Central Bank of the country. The Reserve bank of india was established in 1935 with a capital of Rs.5 crore This capital of Rs.5 crore was divided into 5 lakh equity shares of Rs. 100 each in the beginning the ownership of almost all the share capital was with the non-government shareholders In order to prevent the centralization of the equity shares in the hands of a few people

The Reserve Bank of India was nation- alised on January 1.1949. The general administration and direction of RBI is managed by a Central Board of Directors consisting of 20 members which includes 1 Government official appointed by the Union Government of india to give representation to important stratas in economic life of the country Besides 4 directors are nominated by the Union Government to represent local boards. Apart From the central board there are 4 local board also and their head offices are situated in Mumbai Chennai Kolkata and New Delhi 5 members of local boards are appointed by the Union Government for a period of 4 years The local boards work according to the instruction and orders given by the Central.

- Governor : Raghuram Govind Rajan

List of Deputy Governor:

- Name: Urijit Patel
- Name: S.S.Mundra.
- Name: H.R.Khan
- Name: R.Gandhi.

Nationalization

From mid-50(1945-1955)onwards, there was gradual expansion of banking sector in India.SBI, ICICI, PNB, BoB all start opening more and more branches but still target audience= merchants, urban (upper) middle class and industrial houses

- ✓ Branches increased? YES
- ✓ Rural penetration? NO
- ✓ Did they help aid in Five year plans like giving cheap loans to farmers and micro-enterprises? NO
- ✓ All these banks were in the hands of industralists. (who owned majority shareholding => can vote majority of board of directors=> bank's policy decision will only be made to suit those industrialists e.g. opening branches near factory- townships, giving loans @cheap rate for setting up new factories and so on.

- ❖ Government gets impatient with all this.
- ❖ Starts nationalizing banks (By taking over the ownership from those industrialists).In the year 1969 RBI nationalised 14 Private sector banks having deposits more than 50 Cr.Than later in the year 1980 RBI nationalised 6 private sector banks having deposits more than 200 Cr.Than in year 1993 New bank of india was merged into PNB so now we have 19 Nationalised Banks.

Bank licences: 1st Round (1993)

- RBI invites application 1993
- New private banks start Operation: 1994-95 onwards
- Total ten private banks given licences: 6 still running + 4 closed down.

6 running

1. HDFC
2. UTI=>became Axis bank
3. IDBI
4. IndusInd
5. DCB
6. ICICI

New Bank licences 2nd round (2001)

- 2001: applications invited
- 2003-04: winners launch banks.

From the earlier #EPICFAIL of those four banks, RBI also learned lesson.This time RBI gave licence only two strongest contenders:

1. Kotak Mahindra
2. Yes Bank

New Bank licences 3rd Round (2013-14)- Bimal Jalan Committee

- 2010: Finance minister says we need to give more licences.
- 2013, February: RBI invites applications with following conditions:

In principle approval

- Within 18 months
- must get net worth Rs.1000 crore
- Must open 25% branches in unbanked rural areas.
- once they fulfill above conditions, RBI will give them licence under Banking Regulation Act, 1949
- Once they get licence under BRA, then we can open current account, savings account etc.

Bandhan Microfinance and IDFC

Bandhan Microfinance	IDFC (Infrastructure Development and Financial Corporation)
West Bengal	Mumbai
Chandra Shekhar Ghosh-CMD	Rajiv Lall-CMD

IMPORTANT BANKING TERMS

1. **Bounce**
   Meaning: when a check cannot be paid or accepted by a bank because of a lack of money in the account:
   Example: I had to pay a penalty fee when my check bounced.
   Example: Would you cash a check for me?

2. **Credit**
   1. Money in your bank account.
   Example: I was relieved to see from my statement that my account was in credit
   2. A method of paying for goods or services at a later time, usually paying interest as well as the original money.
   Example: They decided to buy the car on credit.

3. **Credit card**
   Meaning: a small plastic card which can be used as a method of payment, the money being taken from you at a later time.
4. **Debit**

   Meaning: (a record of) money taken out of a bank account.
   The account was in debit at the end of the month (= more money had been spent than was in the account at that time).
5. **Debt**

   Meaning: money, which is owed to someone else, or the state of owing something:
   Example: He managed to pay off his debts in two years.
   Example: The firm ran up huge debts.

6. **Direct debit: Meaning:** an arrangement for making payments, usually to an organization, in which your bank moves money from your
account into the organization's account at regular times:

7. **Payee**

Meaning: a person who money is paid to or should be paid to.

8. **Travelers cheque**

Meaning: a piece of paper that you buy from a bank or a travel company and that you can use as money or exchange for the local money of the country you visit

9. **Cheque**Cheque is a negotiable instrument containing conditional order to pay sum of money to the person mentioned on it or to the bearer of the instrument.

10. **Crossing:** Two parallel lines drawn on the top left corner of the cheque

11. **Account Payee Cheque**: Account payee cheque can be routed only through accounts

12. **Post dated Cheque**: The date on the check beyond today's date then cheque becomes post dated.

13. **Stale Cheque**: A cheque which has completed the stipulated validity period of the cheque is called as the stale cheque (The validity period of 6 months as at present)

14. **Mutilated cheque**: It is a damaged cheque

15. **Bounced Cheque**: It is nothing but an ordinary bank check that any bank can refuse to encash or pay because of the fact that there is no sufficient balance in the bank account of the originator

16. **At Par cheque**: It is payable anywhere in India

17. **Multi city cheque**: A cheque which is payable in any branch of a particular bank

18. **Travelers Cheque**: Cheques issued by a bank and function as cash but are protected against loss or theft when travelling.

19. **Money Laundering**: Conversion of money which is illegally obtained

20. **Collateral**: A borrower needs to provide some kind of security to the bank in case of high ticket loans, such security is called 'collateral'

21. **Floating Rate**: An interest rate that is referenced to a market rate and is revised as per the change in the interest rates in the economy. When interest rates in the economy rise, floating rates rise and vice versa

22. **Inflation**: Decreasing the value of money in this state money looses the value hence prices will go up

23. **CBS:-C**onsolidated Banking Statistics/Core Banking Solution

Definition-CBS Is the process which is completed in a centralized environment i.e. under which the information relating to the customer's account like financial dealings, profession, income, family members, etc. These info is stored in a central server of the bank which is available toall the networked branches instead of the branch server. The word core in CBS is stands for Centralized Online Real time Environment (Core).

24. **ECS-Electronic Clearing Scheme**

Definition-ECS is an electronic mode of funds transfer from one bank account to another.It can be used by institutions for making payments such as distribution of dividend interest, salary, pension, among others.It can also be used to pay bills and other charges such as telephone, electricity, water or for making equated monthly installments payments on loans a well as SIP investments. ECS can be used for bothcredit and debit purposes.

25. **EMI-Equated Monthly Installments**

Definition-EMI is equated monthly installment. EMI is monthly basis repayment of the loan amount taken. A loan amount, be it home loan, car loan or personal loan is paid back through a series of monthly payments. The monthly payment is in the form of postdatedcheques drawn in favour of lender. EMI are paid until the total amount due is paid up. EMI is directly proportional to the loan amount taken and inversely proportional to time period.

26. KYC-Know your customer

A standard form in the investment industry that ensures investment advisors know detailed information about their clients' risk tolerance, investment knowledge and financial position.

27. NFA-Non-Foreign Exchange Assets:The value of overseas assets owned by a nation, minus the value of its domestic assets that are owned by foreigners, adjusted for changes in valuation and exchange rates.

A nation's Net Foreign Assets (NFA) position is also defined as the cumulative change in its current account over time. The net foreign assets position indicates whether the nation is a net creditor or debtor to the rest of the world. A positive NFA balance means that it is a net lender, while a negative NFA balance shows that it is a net borrower. An alternative definition of "Net Foreign Assets" from the World Bank is that it is the sum of foreign assets held by monetary authorities and deposit money banks, less their foreign liabilities.

28. OD-Over Draft:The word overdraft means the act of overdrawing from a Bank account. In other words, the account holder withdraws more money from a bank account than has been deposited in it.

29. OMO-Open Market Operations:When the central bank chooses to buy or sell govt bonds in the open market, in order to increase or decrease the amount of money as well as interest rates in the banking system.

30. POS-Point OF Sales:The place where sales are made. On a macro level, a point of sale may be a mall, market or city. On a micro-level, retailers consider a point of sale to be the area surrounding the counter where customers pay.Also known as "point of purchase"

31. SHGs-Self-Help Groups

Self Help Group is a homogeneous group of micro entrepreneurs with affinity among themselves, voluntarily formed to save whatever amount they can conveniently save out of their earnings and mutually agree to contribute to a common fund of the group from which small loans are given to the members for meeting their productive and emergent credit needs at such rate of interest, period of loan and other terms as the group may decide.

32. Banking Ombudsman Scheme 2006

i. The Banking Ombudsman Scheme enables an expeditious and inexpensive forum to bank customers for resolution of complaints relating to certain services rendered by banks.

ii. The Banking Ombudsman is a senior official appointed by the Reserve Bank of India to redress customer complaints against deficiency in certain banking services.

iii. All Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Scheduled Primary Co-operative Banks are covered under the Scheme.

33. Bank Notes in India

Contemporary Currency notes have 15 languages on the panel which appear on the reverse of the note.

Soiled Notes: Soiled notes are those which have become dirty and slightly cut. Notes which have numbers on two ends, i.e.notes in the denomination of Rs.10 and above which are in two pieces, are also treated as soiled note. The cut in such notes, should, however, not have passed through the number panels.

Mutilated Notes: Notes which are in pieces and/or of which the essential portions are missing can also be exchanged. Essential portions in a currency note are name of issuing authority, guarantee, promise clause, signature, Ashoka Pillar emblem/portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, water mark.

Imperfect banknotes: Imperfect banknote means any banknote, which is wholly or partially, obliterated, shrunk, washed, altered or indecipherable but does not include a mutilated banknote.

34. Currency Printing in India

India Security Press (Nasik stamps)- Postal Material, Poatal Stamps, Non-Postal Stamps, Judicial and Non-judicial Stamps, Cheques, Bonds, NSC, Kisan Vikas Patra, Securities of State Governments, Public Sector Enterprise and Financial Corporations.

Security Printing Press (Hyderabad)- Established in 1982 for meeting the demand for postal Material by southern states It also fulfils the demand for Union Excise Duty Stamps of the Country.

Currency Notes Press (Nasik Road) – Since 1991, this press prints currency notes of Rs 1, Rs.2, Rs.5, Rs.10, Rs.50, and Rs.100. (Earlier printing of Rs.50, and Rs.100 currency notes was not done here).

Bank Notes Press (Dewas)- Currency notes of Rs.20, Rs.50, Rs.100 and Rs.500 are printed here.

Modernized Currency Notes Press –two new modernized currency notes press are under establishment at Mysore (Karnataka) and Salboni (West Bengal).

Security Paper Hoshangabad (Established in 1967-68) makes production of bank and Currency notes paper.
Coins are minted at four places- Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Noida.

35. **Basis points:** It is the increase in interest rates in percentage terms. For instance, if the interest rate increases by 50 basis points (bsp), then it means that interest rate has been increase by 0.50%. One percentage point is broken down into 100 basis points. Therefore, an increase from 2% to 3% is an increase of one percentage point or 100 basis points.

36. **Credit Rating Agency in India & World**

Indian credit rating industry mainly comprises of CRISIL, ICRA, CARE, ONICRA, FITCH (India Ratings & Research) & SMERA.

- CRISIL - Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited, Headquarter – Mumbai
- ICRA - Investment information and credit rating agency Headquarter - Gurgaon, India
- CARE - Credit Analysis and Research Headquarters – Mumbai
- ONICRA - Headquarter - Gurgaon, India
- SMERA - Headquarters – Mumbai
- Fitch (India Ratings & Research) - Headquarters – Mumbai
- Note: CRISIL is the largest credit rating agency in India, with a market share of greater than 60%.

Leading Credit Rating Agency in World –

- Standard & Poor's (S&P) – Headquarter – New York, US
- Moody's – Headquarter - New York, US
- Fitch - Headquarter - New York, US
- DBRS (Dominion Bond Rating Service) - Headquarter - Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Egan – Jones - - Headquarter – Pennsylvania, US

37. **CURRENCY FUTURE:** A transferable futures contract that specifies the price at which a specified currency can be bought or sold at a future date It helps participants hedge their risks in more currencies Exporters companies and retail investor can benefit from it from fed 1, 2010, SEBI has permitted currency future in Euro, Yen & Pound Sterling before this only Dollar Rupee Contract were permitted.

38. **PRIORITY SECTOR LENDING:** In India every Domestic Commercial Bank has to lend 40% of its total lending (NBC = Net Bank's Credit) to the Priority Sector and Foreign Bank also have to provide 40% to these sector Indian banks have to lend 18% to Agricultural Sector and 10% to Weaker Sections. (Priority Sector includes SC/ST, Minority Community, Small & Marginal Farmers, Artisans & distressed urban poor, Small Business, Retail Trade, Self Help Group, NGO and Food & Agro processing Section, education etc.

39. **INTEREST RATE SWAPS:** An Interest rate swap is the transfer of contractually agreed between two counterparties of their respective Interest rate obligation Interest rate swaps are commonly used as a means of converting fixed rate to floating rate debt and vice versa.

40. **NFS** (National Financial Switch): It facilitates interconnectivity between banks' switches and interbank payment Gateway for authentication & routing the payment details of various E- commerce & E-Govt activities (Retail Banking). Now NFS has been overtaken by NPCI (National Payment Corporation of India)

41. **CURRENCY PEG**: Means a fixed exchange rate A fixed exchange rate is usually used to stabilize the value of a currency against the currency it is pegged to this makes trade and investments between the two countries easier and more predictable and is especially useful for small economies where external trade forms a large part of their GDP China is highly successful at maintaining a currency peg using a government monopoly over all currency conversion between the Yuan and other currencies A country's exchange rate regime under which the government or central bank ties the official exchange rate to another country's currency (or the price of gold) the purpose of a fixed exchange rate system is to maintain a country's currency value within a very narrow band. Also known as pegged exchange rate.

42. **Fiscal Deficit**: This is the gap between the Government's total spending and the sum of its revenue receipts and on-debt capital receipt. It represents the total amount of borrowed funds required by the Government to completely meet its

expenditure The gap is bridged through additional borrowing from the Reserve Bank of India, issuing Government securities etc. Fiscal deficit is one of the major contributors to inflation.

43. **Primary Deficit:** The primary deficit is the fiscal deficit minus interest payments. It tells how much of the Government's borrowings are going towards meeting expenses other than interest payments.

44. **Deficit Financing:** It is a practice resorted to by modern government of spending more money than it receives in revenue. It is a policy of bridging a deficit between governments expenditure and revenue Deliberately budgeting for a deficit is called deficit financing This practice was popularized by Prof. J. M. Keynes to deal with the depression and unemployment situations and to stimulate economic activity deficit financing, though having inflationary effects has now become a common practice in all countries.

45. **World Bank vs IMF**

World Bank and IMF are two very important specialized agencies of United Nations. To understand the roles, functioning and responsibilities of these autonomous bodies, World Bank and IMF, a brief look into history is necessary. In 1944, with World War II raging, delegates from 44 allied nations gathered in Bretton Woods, Washington, US and finalized Bretton Woods agreement which gave birth to World Bank and IMF.

World Bank

World Bank was set up under Bretton Woods system on 27 December, 1945 in Washington D.C. An international financial institution, World Bank has an aim to reduce poverty in member states. It provides loans for economic programs to countries. It is guided by a commitment to promote foreign investment, particularly capital investment, and international trade. It provides technical and financial assistance to poor countries for development of infrastructure such as building roads, hospitals, schools etc. Nearly all countries of the world are members of World Bank.
Traditionally, World Bank President comes from US.
Jim Yong Kim, is the President of the World Bank.

IMF

IMF was also founded on 27 December, 1945 in Washington D.C with the objective of promoting global monetary cooperation and international trade. It seeks to promote employment and secure financial stability in member countries. IMF looks into macroeconomic policies of countries to see its impact on exchange rates of currencies and also the balance of payments problems of member states. It engages in providing loans at lower rates of interest thus acting as the biggest international lender. Traditionally, IMF President comes from Europe.
Chritstine Lagarde is the chairman of IMF

Differences between World Bank and IMF

In recent times, the functions and roles of the two international institutions have often overlapped, so much so, that it has become difficult to demarcate the differences between the two.
But broadly speaking, while IMF concerns itself with macroeconomic policies of member states, balance of payment problems, international trade policies and exchange rates of different currencies, World Bank takes up cases of different countries on individual level. It concerns itself with economic policies within a country, look for ways to improve economic conditions, and also how to correct government spending to improve the situation. World Bank takes up development projects in different countries by providing financial assistance on easy terms.

46. **Vostro, Nostro and Loro accounts**

Vostro Account: (Italian, from Latin, Voster; English, 'yours')
Account held by a foreign bank in a domestic bank is called Vostro account. A Vostro is our account of your money, held by us. A Vostro account with a credit balance (i.e. a deposit) is a liability, and a vostro with a debit balance (a loan) is an asset.
For example Bank A(Barclays Bank of UK) opening an account in Bank B(ICICI Bank of India), this is Vostro account for Bank B(ICICI Bank of India).

Nostro Account: (Italian, from Latin, Noster ; English, 'ours')
Account held by a particular domestic bank in a foreign bank is called Nostro account. A Nostro is our account of our money, held by you. A bank counts a Nostro account with a credit balance as a cash asset in its balance sheet.
Here in the above example given in Vostro account the same account is a Nostro account for Bank A(Barclays Bank of UK), or if Bank B(ICICI Bank of India) opens an account in Bank A(Barclays Bank of UK) then that account is a Nostro account for Bank B(ICICI Bank of India). Nostro accounts are usually in the currency of the foreign country. This allows for easy cash management because currency doesn't need to be converted.

Loro Account: (Italian, from Latin, Loro; English, 'theirs').

An account held by a domestic bank in itself on behalf of a foreign bank.The latter in turn would view this account as a Nostro account. A Loro is our account of their money, held by you. Loro account is a record of an account held by a second bank on behalf of a third party; i.e, my record of their account with you. In practice this is rarely used, the main exception being complex syndicated financing.

If any other bank for the purpose of a transaction refer to an account maintained by yet another bank in some other countries it is known as loro account.

An expression used, for example, by one bank when telling another bank to transfer money to the account of a third bank. In correspondent banking, an account held by one bank on behalf of another bank (the "customer bank"); the customer bank regards this account as its "Nostro account". The Loro account is an account wherein a bank remits funds in foreign currency to another bank for credit to an account of a third bank.

47. Bank For International Settlements - BIS

DEFINITION OF 'BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS - BIS'

An international organization fostering the cooperation of central banks and international monetary policy makers. Established in 1930, it is the oldest international financial organization, and was created to administer the transaction of monies according to the Treaty of Versailles. Among others, its main goals are to promote information sharing and to be a key center for economic research.

Essentially, the BIS is a central bank for central banks; it does not provide financial services to individuals or corporations. The BIS is located in Basel, Switzerland, and has representative offices in Mexico City and Hong Kong. Member banks include the Bank of Canada, the Federal Reserve Bank and the European Central Bank.

48. SARFAESI Act and Rules

SARFAESI Act (The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002) was enacted to regulate securitization and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interest created in respect of Financial Assets to enable realization of such assets.

The SARFAESI Act provides for the manner for enforcement of security interests by a secured creditor without the intervention of a court or tribunal. If any borrower fails to discharge his liability in repayment of any secured debt within 60 days of notice from the date of notice by the secured creditor, the secured creditor is conferred with powers under the SARFAESI Act to

a) take possession of the secured assets of the borrower, including transfer by way of lease,assignment or sale, for realizing the secured assets

b) takeover of the management of the business of the borrower including the right to transferby way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured assets,

c) appoint any person to manage the secured assets possession of which is taken by thesecured creditor, and

d) require any person, who has acquired any of the secured assets from the borrower andfrom whom money is due to the borrower, to pay the secured creditor so much of the money as if sufficient to pay the secured debt.

The assets portfolio of the banks is required to be classified as

(1) standard assets (2) sub-standard assets (3) doubtful assets and (4) loss assets.

Standard asset is one that does not disclose any problems and which does not carry more than normal risk attached to the business .An asset which has been classified as NPA for a period not exceeding 12 months is considered as **sub standard asset.**

Doubtful asset is one which has remained NPA for a period exceeding 12 months.

An asset which is considered uncollectible and loss has been identified by the bank or internal or external auditors or the RBI inspection and the loss has not been written off is regarded as **loss asset**.

49. FINANCIAL INCLUSION

Financial inclusion involves

1) Give formal banking services to poor people in urban & rural areas.

2) Promote habit of money-savings, insurance, pensioninvestment among poor-people.

3) Help them get loans at reasonable rates from normal banks.So they don't become victims in the hands of local moneylender.

Some Important initiatives for financial inclusion:

1) Lead banking scheme (LBS).
2) No frills account.
3) BSBDA
4) Business Correspondents (BC) system.
5) Swabhiman Campaign
6) PMJDY

50. BASEL-3 NORMS

The Basel Committee is the primary global standard-setter for the prudential regulation of banks and provides a forum for cooperation on banking supervisory matters. Its mandate is to strengthen the regulation, supervision and practices of banks worldwide with the purpose of enhancing financial stability.

Stefan Ingves, Governor of Sveriges Riksbank(SWEDEN), is the chairman CHAIRMAN of the Basel Committee.

Basel III Accord - Basel 3 Norms

Basel III or Basel 3 released in December, 2010 is the third in the series of Basel Accords. These accords deal with risk management aspects for the banking sector.

What does Basel III is all About ?

According to Basel Committee on Banking Supervision "Basel III is a comprehensive set of reform measures, developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, to strengthen the regulation, supervision and risk management of the banking sector".

What are the objectives / aims of the Basel III measures?

Basel 3 measures aim to:

→ improve the banking sector's ability to absorb shocks arising from financial and economic stress, whatever the source.
→ improve risk management and governance.
→ strengthen banks' transparency and disclosures.

What are Three Pillars of Basel III Norms?

Pillar 1: Minimum Regulatory Capital Requirements based on Risk Weighted Assets (RWAs) : Maintaining capital alculated through credit, market and operational risk areas.(MAINLY THAT CAPITAL WHICH CAN ABSORB RISK.)

Pillar 2 : Supervisory Review Process : Regulating tools and frameworks for dealing with peripheral(OUTER) risks that banks face.

Pillar 3: Market Discipline : Increasing the disclosures that banks must provide to increase the transparency of banks

What are the Major Features of Basel III ?

(a) Better Capital Quality : One of the key elements of Basel 3 is the introduction of much stricter definition of capital. It means capital with the higher loss-absorbing capacity. This in turn will mean that banks will be stronger, allowing them to better withstand periods of stress.

(b) Capital Conservation Buffer: Another key feature of Basel iii is that now banks will be required to hold a capital conservation buffer of 2.5% of RWAs. CCB-aims to conserve the capital of banks by making a buffer/reserve FOR CRISIS situation . The aim of asking to build conservation buffer is to ensure that banks maintain a cushion of capital that can be used to absorb losses during periods of financial and economic stress.

(c) Countercyclical Buffer: The countercyclical buffer has been introduced with the objective to increase capital requirements in good times and decrease the same in bad times. The buffer will slow banking activity when it overheats and will encourage lending when times are tough

i.e. in bad times. The buffer will range from 0% to 2.5% of RWAs, consisting of common equity/shares or other fully loss-absorbing capital.

(d) Minimum Common Equity and Tier 1 Capital Requirements : The minimum requirement for common equity, the highest form of loss-absorbing capital, has been Minimum Common Equity(the highest form of loss-absorbing capital) raised under Basel III from 2% to 4.5% of total risk-weighted assets. The overall Tier 1 capital requirement, consisting of not only common equity but also other qualifying financial instruments, will also increase from the current minimum of 4% to 6%. Although the minimum total capital requirement will remain at the current 8% level.

(e) Leverage Ratio: A leverage ratio is the relative amount of capital to total assets (not risk-weighted). This aims to put a cap on swelling of leverage in the banking sector on a global basis. 3% leverage ratio of Tier 1 will be tested before a mandatory leverage ratio is introduced in January 2018.

(f) Liquidity Ratios: Under Basel III, a framework for liquidity risk management will be created. A new Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) and Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) are to be introduced in 2015 and 2018, respectively.

FACTS

- Minimum Ratio of Total Capital To RWAs--10.50%
- Minimum Ratio of Common Equity to RWAs--4.50% to
- 7.00%
- Tier I capital to RWAs--6.00%
- Core Tier I capital to RWAs--5.00%
- Capital Conservation Buffers to RWAs--2.50%
- Leverage Ratio--3.00%
- Countercyclical Buffer--0% to 2.50%

BANKING NEWS

1) Bandhan Bank has become the first micro-finance company in India to start operation as full-fledged scheduled commercial bank. The bank was inaugurated by Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in Kolkata, ushering in a new era in country's banking sector to reach out to the unbanked population.It was established in 2001 as a not-for-profit micro-finance enterprise by Chandra Shekhar Ghosh with an aim to alleviate poverty by empowering women. Later in 2006, it had transformed itself into a non-banking finance company (NBFC).
2) A Reserve Bank of India (RBI) committee has recommended conversion of Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) with business size of 20,000 crore rupees or more into regular banks. This recommendation was given by the High Powered Committee on UCBs headed by RBI Deputy Governor R Gandhi in its report.
3) There are total 27 PSBs in India – 19 Nationalised banks + 6 State bank group (SBI + 5 associates) + 1 IDBI bank (Other Public Sector-Indian Bank) = 26 PSBs + 1 Bhartiya Mahila Bank.
4) The country's largest lender State Bank of India launched an initiative to provide doorstep services and expedite home loan application process.The initiative known as 'Project Tatkal' will help get the loan within 10 days after receipt of application form and relevant supporting documents, the bank said in a release.
5) FIPB (Foreign Investment Promotion Board) approved Kotak Mahindra Bank's proposal to increase FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) to 55%.
6) Corporation Bank launched MUDRA card based on the RuPay platform under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY).Shishu–loan up to Rs50, 000, Kishore–loan up to Rs 5 lakh, Tarun–loan upto Rs 10 lakh.
7) HDFC Bank became the first bank in India to launch Watch Banking for Apple Watch.
8) RBI Banned FDI in manufacturing of tobacco products.
9) India will contribute USD 18 billion to the forex reserves pool set up by BRICS nations.
10) Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) signed a multilateral agreement to cooperate with New Development Bank (NDB) along with other member development banks of BRICS nations.
11) Chief Economic Advisor Arvind Subramaniam revealed that Indirect tax collections grown up by 37.5% during the first quarter of current fiscal year 2015.
12) YES Bank received approval from the RBI to set up IFSC Banking Units(IBUs) in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City(GIFT).
13) Karnataka gets its first skin bank at Victoria Hospital, Bengaluru (Chennai, Delhi and Mumbai).
14) Reserve Bank of India has constituted a committee with the objective of working out a 5 year measurable action plan for financial inclusion, headed by RBI Executive Director Deepak Mohanty.
15) Service tax to go up to 14%.The tax is levied on all services, except a small negative list.
16) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) got the approval from Bangladesh's insurance sector regulator to operate in Bangladesh.
17) Government has earmarked Rs.7, 940 crore for capital infusion in PSBs in 2015-16.
18) State Bank of India launched SBI eforex, Internet- based platform that enables customers to book their foreign exchange transactions online.
19) India is planning to inject about $3 billion into state-owned banks and could double that amount next year.
20) Fifty nations, including India, sign agreement on China-led AIIB (Asian InfrastructureInvestment Bank)-USD 100 billion.
21) RBI Instructs Banks to appoint Internal Ombudsman-to improve their customer service.
22) First facial recognition ATM developed in China-singhua University and Tzekwan Technology.
23) SBI next after ICICI to launch contact less debit and credit cards-SbilNTOUCh.
24) RBI relaxes 2-factor authentication norms for contactless cards upto Rs.2, 000.
25) HDFC Bank launches medical prepaid card-Apollo Medical Benefits Card.
26) Federal Bank Launches Co- Branded Credit card in partnership with SBI Cards.
27) SBI inks pact with Amazon, snapdeal & paypal for payment-develop payment &commerce solutions for customers.
28) Cosmos Bank ties up with New India Assurance and LIC Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana.
29) IRCTC partners with myDala.com to offer deals to its customers-1.2million daily visitors, partner with Airtel, Amazon, Pizza Hut, KFC and UBI.
30) Snapdeal acquires mobile e-commerce platform MartMobi-Hyderabad.
31) ICICI Bak ollaoatio ith Teh Mahida lauhed a paet seie Tap-n-Pabased On the near-field communications (NFC) technology.
32) Bank of Baroda tied up with UAE Exchange for instant money transfer-to offer instant money transfer facility to Non-resident Indian (NRI) customers.
33) Snapdeal acquired mobile recharge service FreeCharge in a cash and stock deal.
34) Dena Bank inked MoU with Life Insurance Corporation-provide insurance cover to all Aadhaar-linked savings account holders.

35) RBI notified hike in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) cap in Insurance Sector to 49 percent from the present 26 percent from the present 26 percent.
36) Reserve Bank of India granted 'in-principle' approval to 11 applicants to start payments banks. The selected applicants are: Reliance Industries Airtel M Commerce Services Tech Mahindra Vodafone m-pesa Aditya Birla Nuvo Department of Posts Cholamandalam Distribution Services Fino PayTech PayTm National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL) Sun Pharma.
37) State run insurer, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has launched its maiden unit linked insurance plan (ULIP) product across the country. The ULIP which is also called as 'New Endowment Plus' offers investment-cum-insurance provision during the term policy providing dual benefit for the policy holder.
38) Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launched two funds the India Aspiration Fund (IAF) and SIDBI Make in India Loan for Enterprises (SMILE) under Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in line to carter funding for start-ups and to aid small enterprises in India.
39) India's largest private sector lender ICICI Bank has launched 'Smart Vault' first of its kind fully automated digital locker facility in India. It was launched by Managing Director (MD) and CEO of ICICI Bank, Chanda Kochhar in New Delhi.
40) India's largest banking entity State Bank of India (SBI) launched a Mobile wallet application dubbed as 'SBI Buddy'.
41) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has appointed Kishor Piraji Kharat as its new Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer.
42) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) suspends licence of seven non-banking finance companies (NBFCs). The seven NBFCs whose licences were suspended are – Religare Finance, Artisans Micro Finance, Eden Trade & Commerce, RCS Parivar Finance, Nott Investments, Dewra Stocks & Securities, and Swetasree Finance.
43) P S jayakumar: MD and CEO of Bank of Baroda (BoB). Rakesh Sharma: MD and CEO of Canara Bank.
44) Union Government has launched a seven pronged plan called Indradhanush Mission to revamp functioning of public sector banks (PSBs). The seven shades of Indradhanush mission include appointments, de-stressing PSBs, capitalisation, empowerment, framework of accountability and governance reforms. It seeks to achieve the objective of economic growth revival through improving credit and minimising the political interference in the functioning of PSBs.
45) India's third largest private sector lender, Axis Bank has launched the first Contactless Debit, Credit and Multi-Currency Forex Card in association with VISA payWave in the country.
46) Union Government has decided to set up a Bank Board Bureau (BBB) to monitor key performance indicators of two dozen public sector banks (PSBs). It was announced by Union Finance Minister Arun Jailtley as part of a sevenpronged revamp plan for PSBs dubbed as Indradhanush (rainbow) plan.
Facts about Bank Board Bureau
- Bank Board Bureau (BBB) will start the functioning from next financial year i.e. from 1st April 2015 and the selection of its member will start in the next six months.
- It will replace existing system Appointments Board in which appointments for top level jobs at PSBs are made by an appointments committee led by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor.
- Composition: The BBB will be a body of 'eminent' professionals and shall consist of only one government official. It will be six members body with at least 3 former bankers, 2 professionals and secretary, department of financial services representing government.
- Functions: Give recommendations for appointment of fulltime Directors as well as non-Executive Chairman of PSBs.
- Give advice to PSBs in developing differentiated strategies for raising funds through innovative financial methods and instruments and to deal with issues of stressed assets.
- Guide banks on mergers and consolidations.

47) India's largest private sector lender Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) Bank has launched 'ICICI Bank Saral-Rural Housing Loan' Scheme for weaker sections of society. The scheme is new home loan proposition of the bank with special interest rate to cater people from rural areas including women borrowers as well as from weaker sections.
48) Union Government has launched Suraksha Bandhan drive in a Mission Mode through participating insurance companies and banks. The drive aims at taking forward Union Government's objective of creating a universal social security system in the country, especially for the poor and the under-privileged sections.
49) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will soon issue 10 rupee denomination coins to commemorate International Yoga Day which is being observed every year on 21 June.
50) Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) launched a mobile banking app 'Kotak Bharat' aiming to provide mobile banking services to customers in the remotest regions of India.
51) EMudhra Limited, a leading certifying firm in the country for digital signatures launched first of its kind eSign services in the country as part of the Digital India Vision. ESign is an online electronic signature service legally valid and secure under the Information Technology Act, 2000.
52) HDFC Bank, India's second-largest private sector lender has launched a 10-second paperless instant loan Scheme for its existing customers. The 10-second loan Scheme was launched as part of HDFC Bank's digital banking platform GoDigital. With this, HDFC bank became first banking institution to completely automate the entire process of loan approval and

disbursement. Under this scheme, bank will now disburse personal loans to its customers in just 10 seconds and a pre-approved loan amount will be available to them 24×7.

53) India's largest private sector lender Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) Bank has launched voice password facility for users. This service will facilitate its customers to make transactions using their voice rather than using traditional means of authentication like entering id and password.
54) ICICI Bank's first branch in China was inaugurated in Shanghai, a major global financial hub. It was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the presence of ICICI Bank's MD and CEO Chanda Kochhar.
55) Bharatiya Mahila Bank (BMB) has won The Asian Banker Achievement Award 2015. The award was presented to the BMB in the Technology Implementation category of Best Outsourcing Project (New Bank). Usha Ananthasubramanian, Chairman and Managing Director of BMB received the award at a function held in Hongkong as a part of The Asian Banker Summit 2015.
56) India's largest private sector lender Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) Bank has launched a payment service Tap-n-Pay. It was launched by bank in collaboration with Tech Mahindra. This payment service is based on the near-field communications (NFC) technology which will enable its customers make over-the-counter payments without using cash.
57) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 8 April 2015 launched Micro Units Development Re-finance Agency (MUDRA) Bank in New Delhi. MUDRA Bank will act as a regulator for 'Micro-Finance Institutions' (MFIs) involved in manufacturing, trading and service activities to promote their growth. The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana will be the main support system for the bank and will be the part of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). The MUDRA bank was proposed in Budget 2015-16 by Union Government with an initial corpus of 20,000 crore rupees. Apart from this, 3,000 crore rupees also has been earmarked as credit guarantee corpus.
58) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed a US $400 million currency swap agreement with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.
59) SBI Life Insurance has launched a new product, 'Smart Humsafar', a plan which offers multiple benefits of savings and insurance cover for husband and wife under a single policy.The product provides financial protection to husband and wife under a single policy. In case of death of one of the spouses, a payment of sum assured is made to the surviving spouse, in addition to waiver of future premiums.In the event of death of surviving spouse during the reminder of the policy term, the nominee gets the sum assured plus all the accrued bonuses. The basic sum assured with all accrued bonuses will be paid upon survival of any or both lives on maturity.

AWARDS /HONOURS

1) French President Francois Hollande handed the highest honour of France, the Legion d'honneur to 3 US citizens and a UK citizen for disarming a suspected Islamist militant on a train in Paris.
2) Historian and author Babasaheb Purandare was awarded by Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2015 in the literature category
3) President Pranab Mukherjee awarded the 24th Saraswati Samman for 2014 to Dr. M. Verappa Moily , LS MP for his Kannada epic Sri Ramayana Mahanveshanam
4) Indian sociobiologist Raghavendra Gadgakar was awarded the highest civilian honour of Germany, Cross of Order of the Merit for his contribution in the field of sociobiology and strengthening research between the two nations
5) S. Haider, the Diplomatic and Strategic Affairs Editor at The Hindu has won the Prem Bhatia Memorial Award for Excellence in Political Reporting and Analysis 2014
6) Mathematician and Doctor A. Krishna has won the Ramanujan Prize for 2015. He won the award for his work in the field of algebraic cycles, algebraic K-theory and the theory of motives. - He is currently professor of Mathematics at TIFR.
7) Whistleblower civil servant Sanjeev Chaturvedi and human rights activist Anshu Gupta are among 5 persons from India, Laos, Myanmar and Philippines to receive Asia's Ramon Magsaysay Award.2002 Indian Forest Service Officer Chaturvedi was former CVO at AIIMS and he took a tough stand against graft. Anshu Gupta is the founder of NGO Goonj
8) PM Narendra Modi presented senior Hindu journalist Gargi Parsai with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research award
9) Helena Ndume of Namibia and Jorge Sampaio of Portugal were awarded the Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize awarded by the UN.Ndume is an ophthalmologist who has been treating blindness and eye related illness in Namibia and across the developing world is one of the first awardees of this prize.Sampaio, the ex president of Portugal from 1996 to 2006 was awarded for his help in the restoration of democracy in Portugal
10) Indian hockey player Major Dhyan Chand will be conferred with the Bharat Gaurav Lifetime Achievement Award by Sanskriti Yuva Sanstha at the House of Commons inside the British Parliament.
11) Noted Indian agricultural scientist Dr Modadugu Vijay Gupta has been chosen for the inaugural Sunhak Peace Prize. He will receive the first Sunhak Peace Prize in South Korean Capital city of Seoul along with President of Kiribati Islands Anote Tong. Dr. M. V. Gupta has been selected for this award for his pioneering work in the blue revolution. He has invested his entire life to developing sustainable aquaculture as an alternative solution to the future food crisis.
12) A Syria-based woman journalist Zaina Erhaim has won the prestigious 2015 Peter Mackler Award for Courageous and Ethical Journalism.

13) Punjabi University of Patiala has clinched the prestigious sports award Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) trophy for year 2014. The Trophy will be awarded to Univeristy on 29 August 2015 on the occasion of National Sports Day.
14) Eminent Historian writer Babasaheb Purandare has been conferred with Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2015.
15) Bangladesh novelist Zia Haider Rahman has won James Tait Black award 2015, UK's oldest literary prize for his first novel, In the Light of What We Know.
16) TPP Nair, Romeo James and SP Misra have been recommended for prestigious Dhyan Chand award 2015..
17) Former Jalore Electoral Officer (EO) Rajan Vishal has been chosen for Election Commission's Zonal award under the Best Electoral Practices Award-2014.
18) Sayed Raza, well known modern India artist was honoured with the the Commandeur de la Legion d' Honneur (the Legion of Honour).The award was presented by French Ambassador Francois Richier and is France's highest civilian honour.
19) Sir Fazle Hasan Abed has won this year's World Food Prize Award.His dedication for service to human development through the construction of the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee operating in 10 nations across the world was acknowledged by M. S. Swaminathan.
20) Sanjeev Galande was selected for the G D Birla Award for Scientific Research for 2014.He is the 24th recipient of this award .Galande is the professor of Biology and Team Leader at the Centre of Excellence in Epigenetics, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune.
21) The nation's low cost Mars Mission has been presented with a space pioneer award for 2015 by the US National Space Society during the 34th Annual International Space Development Conference.ISRO won the award for the low cost Mars Mission which was successful in the first attempt.
22) 'Buddha In A Traffic Jam' film has won the best original screenplay in a Foreign Language award at the Madrid International Film Festival. The film is a political satire directed by filmmaker Vivek Agnihotri.
23) Four Indian-Americans have been honoured withprestigious Great Immigrants, The Pride of America award 2015. They are among 38 distinguished personalities from more than 30 countries around the world who have been honoured with this year's award. 4 Indian-Americans are Preet Bharara: US Attorney, Southern District of New York. Rakesh Khurana: Dean of Harvard College and Marvin Bower Professor of Leadership and Development. Madhulika Sikka: Vice President and Executive Editor of .Mic. Abraham Verghese: Physician, Professor and Author.
24) R Paul Singh, Indian-American professor has been selected for 2015 World Agriculture Prize laureate.
25) Darshan Jain, an Indian-American teacher has been selected for prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.
26) One of the foremost south Indian classical vocalists, Sanjay Subrahmanyam has been selected for the 'Sangita Kalanidhi' award 2015.
27) Eminent Historian-writer Ramachandra Guha has been selected for Japan's Fukuoka Prize 2015 in n the Academic category. Apart from him Thant Myint-U (Grand Prize category) and Minh Hanh (Arts and Culture category) were also chosen for this edition of award. They have been selected for their outstanding contributions to academia, arts and culture across Asia.
28) Former West Indies paceman Sir Wesley Winfield Hall has been inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame. He is 80th cricketer to be inducted in the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame and 18th from West Indies.
29) 16th edition of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) informally known as the "Bollywood Oscars," was held in Malaysia. The award ceremony was held in Putra Indoor Stadium Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The 2015 IIFA Awards honoured the best films of 2014 and the ceremony took place from June 05 to 07, 2015. Haider was awarded the most awards (09). Winners Popular Awards Best Film: Queen. Best Director: Rajkumar Hirani – PK. Best Actor In A Leading Role: Shahid Kapoor –Haider as Haider Meer. Best Actress in a Leading Role: Kangana Ranaut – Queen as Rani Mehra.
30) Gurnimrat 'Nimmy' Sidhu, an Indian-origin teacher has been honoured with 'University of Oxford Inspirational Teacher Award'.
31) French film Dheepan has been awarded Palme d'Or Award at 68th Cannes Film Festival. The film is directed by Jacques Audiard.
32) Indian film Masaan has won the prestigious critics prize in the Un Certain Regard category at the 68th Cannes Film Festival after it was premiered on May 20, 2015. The film is directoral debut of Neeraj Ghaywan
33) 2015 Man Booker International prize winner is Hungarian writer Laszlo Krasznahorkai

The 61-year old writer was among 10 writers that also comprised India-origin Amitav Ghosh.

Man Booker International Prize is awarded once every 2 years.

34) The Dadasaheb Phalke Award was conferred on 77 year old legendary actor Shashi Kapoor
35) Vice Chairman of India Today Group Shekhar Gupta is the first recipient of the freshly instituted best journalism award named after veteran journalist Rangaswami Parthasarathy.
36) Well known tennis player Rafael Nadal was conferred the Golden Medal for Merit in Work, a top civilian honour in Spain.It is given to those with exemplary performance in any profession
37) Two Indians Dr. Ananda Kumar and Dr. Pramod Patil won the Whitney Awards (also called Green Oscar) for contribution to wildlife conservation.
38) Novelist Siddartha Gigoo won the 2015 Commonwealth Short Story Prize for Asia region for his work Umbrella Man.

39) Vice President Mohammed Hamid Ansari conferred the Pt. Haridutt Sharma Award to senior journalist Anurradha Prasad in New Delhi. She was bestowed with this award for her contribution in the field of Journalism, Writing and Social Services.
40) Syrian journalist and rights activist Mazen Darwish was honoured with UNESCO-Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize 2015.
41) Pakistan has conferred the top civilian award Nishan-e-Pakistan on Chinese President Xi Jinping for outstanding contributions in relations between the two nations
42) Aditi Arya from Delhi won the Femina Miss India 2015 title at the 52nd edition of the beauty contest held at Mumbai's Yash Raj studio
43) Prakash Singh Badal is the first Indian CM to be conferred the second highest civilian honour Padma Vibhushan.He is also the one of the oldest CMs to head the state at 87
44) Indian Space Research Organisation/ISRO has been chosen for the Gandhi Peace Prize 2014 for the contribution to the development of the nation through space technology and satellite based services.
45) Nobel laureate John F. Nash Jr was conferred the Abel Prize 2015 for work on partial differential equations.
46) The winners of the 62nd National Film Awards have been announced and are as follows: Best Hindi Film: Queen. Best Actress: Kangana Ranaut-Queen.Best Actor: Vijay-Nanu Avanalla Avalu: Kannada.Best Direction: Srijit Mukherji-Chotushkone: Bengali.Best Film On Environment Conservation/ Preservation: Ottaal: Malayalam.Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment: Mary Kom.
47) 50th Jnanpith Award was conferred on eminent Marathi litterateur Bhalchandra Nemade
48) Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor conferred with prestigious Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Award 2015.
49) Uttar Pradesh government has conferred Sahitya Shiromani Samman upon noted Hindi poet Gopal Das Neeraj. Along with Gopal Das Neeraj, veteran Hindi litterateur Uday Pratap Singh was also conferred with Sahitya Shiromani award and cash prize of 21 lakh Rupees.
50) Eminent freedom fighter and educationist Madan Mohan Malviya was conferred with Bharat Ratna (posthumously), highest civilian award of the country.
51) President Pranab Mukherjee on 27 March 2015 conferred country's highest civilian award Bharat Ratna on former Prime Minister (PM) Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
52) Indian contemporary artist Bharti Kher was awarded with France's highest cultural award Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters (Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres).
53) Noted Hindi poet Gopaldas Neeraj was awarded with first National Kavi Pradeep Samman.
54) Renowned water conservationist and environment activist Rajendra Singh has been conferred with 2015 Stockholm Water Prize.

NEW SCHEMES LAUNCHED BY MODI GOVERNMENT

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana is National Mission for Financial Inclusion. It was first announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15 August 2014. Its objective is to eradicate financial exclusion by covering all households in the country with banking facilities and having a bank account for each household. The nationwide scheme was launched on 28 August 2014. The objective of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is to ensure access to financial services viz. Banking, Savings & Deposit Accounts, Remittance, Credit, Insurance, and Pension in an affordable manner. Under this scheme, an account can be opened in any bank branch or Business Correspondent (Bank Mitra) outlet. PMJDY accounts are being opened with Zero balance. The scheme has also entered into Guinness book of world records to get 12.7 crore bank accounts opened in the last 6-8 months.Several key features of the scheme include:Interest on deposit,Accidental insurance cover of Rupee One Lakh,No minimum balance required,Life insurance cover of Rs.30,000/-,Easy Transfer of money across India

Digital India Programme :Transform so far agrarian Indian economy to a knowledge-centric economy ,Plug the widening digital divide in Indian society,give India equal footing with the developed world in terms of development with the aid of latest technology.KEY AREAS : Broadband highways,Total mobile connectivity,Public Internet Access Programme,e-Governance,e-Kranti (electronic delivery of public services),Information revolution,Boost to electronics firms,Employment (1.7 crore direct and 8.5 crore indirect opportunities),Early harvest program,Connect citizens by social network called MyGov,Envisages as Net-Zero Electronics Import Target by 2020,Also includes development of an electronic development fund.

Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

On the birth anniversary of Jayaprakash Narayan, PM Modi launched the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana keeping his commitment, he made to the nation in his Independence Day speech.The scheme is properly and religiously implemented will revolutionize the village economies and culture. It encourages MPs or ansads to identify and develop one village from their respective constituency as a model village by 2016 and two more by 2019. This will ensure development of 2500 villages.

Soil health card Scheme: Under this scheme, the Center plans to target over 14 crore farmers in the next 3 years to check the

excess use of fertilizers. Soil Health Card is used to assess the current status of the soil health and when used over time to determine the changes in soil health that are affected by land management. It displays soil health indicators and associated descriptive terms.

Jan Aushadhi Campaign: Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers recently in the Rajy Sabha released a scheme for the Jan Aushadhi generic drugs to make available at affordable prices. Thus branded generic medicines will be made available to the poor at affordable prices, with the same and equivalent quality, efficacy and safety as compared to branded generic medicines.

Ustad Scheme
USTAD stands for upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development Scheme. It was recently launched by Union Minister of Minority Affairs Dr. Najma Heptullah in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh in order to improve degrading conditions of world famous Banaras Saree weavers who belong to minority communities.

Sukanya Samriddhi account--Clearly, this Budget has focused on developing a robust social security system, which has not been touched for a while. The emphasis on this measure is of prime importance and the fruits of the same will need to be seen in the times to come.Under this scheme a saving account can be opened by the parent or legal guardian of a girl child of less than 10 years of age (born on or after: 02-December-2003; For FY 2014-15) with a minimum deposit of 1,000/- in any post office or authorised branches of commercial bank. For the FY 2015/16 Government of India has declared an interest rate of 9.2 per cent on SSY scheme. It was 9.1% for FY 2014-2015; yearly compounded. The account will remain operative for 21 years from the date of opening of the account or till marriage of the girl child. Partial withdrawal up to 50 per cent of the account balance is allowed, only once after the girl child completes age of 18 years, for the purpose of financing her higher education. Per girl child only single account is allowed. Parents can open this account for maximum two girl child. In the event of birth of twin girls in 2nd birth or birth of 3 girl child's in 1st birth itself, this facility will be extended to third child. Minimum deposit amount for this account is 1,000/- and maximum is Rs 1, 50,000 /- per year. And also money to be deposited for 14 years in this account Passbook facility is available for the Sukanya Samriddhi Account From the FY 2015-16, the interest earned in this account will be exempted from taxes.

'Housing for All by 2022' scheme
Housing for all by 2022: Sardar Patel Urban Housing Mission is a proposed scheme of the NDA government which would endeavour to build 30 million houses by 2022 for the economically weaker sections and low income groups.

Namami Gange Project
Namami Gange Project or Namami Ganga Yojana is an ambitious Union Government Project which integrates the efforts to clean and protect the Ganga River in a comprehensive manner. It its maiden budget, the governnment announced Rs. 2037 Crore towards this mission. The project is officially known as Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission project or 'Namami Ganga Yojana'

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) is a proposed scheme by the Government of India which envisages connecting the irrigation system's three crucial components – The Field application, water sources & distribution network for optimal usage.

National Ayush Mission
Government has permitted the launching of National Ayush Mission (NAM) to attend to the gaps in health services in vulnerable and far-flung parts of the country. The judgment to launch the NAM was taken in a meeting of the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.Via the AYUSH Mission (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy), the Govt. is looking forward to address gaps in health services by backing the attempts of state governments for delivering Ayush health services and education in the country, mainly in vulnerable and remote areas.

Jeevan Pramaan
Jeevan Praman is a major step towards self-certification and has been launched for the benefit of the pensioners.Under the present system for payment of pension, every pensioner has to submit a life certificate in November every year to the respective bank to continue seeking pension without any delays. The government had eased the process by allowing the pensioners to submit the same at any branch of the concerned banks. In order to further ease the process Government of India launched Jeevan Pramaan or Digital Life Certificate based on Aadhaar Biometric Authentication.

Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana
Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana has been launched on pilot basis in only 1 block in each of the 10 states viz. Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Telangana, Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat. The overall objective of the scheme is to raise the level of Tribals by focusing on the below:Provision of a better living standard and quality of life, Improving access to and quality of education, Generating resources for long-term and sustainable growth,Bridging infrastructural gaps

, Protection of tribal culture.

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana

Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (Traditional Farming Improvement Programme) has been launched to support and promote organic farming and thereby improving soil health. This will encourage farmers to adopt eco-friendly concept of cultivation and reduce their dependence on fertilizers and agricultural chemicals to improve yields.

Mudra Bank and Pradhanmantri Mudra Yojana

MUDRA stands for Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency. Key points are as follows:
The government has announced that a MUDRA Bank will be set up as a statutory body. For this, the government will place a Mudra Bank bill in the parliament and get it passed.The core objective of the bank is to fund the unfunded. It will finance to "Last Mile Financiers" of small/micro businesses. The lending priority will be given to SC/ST enterprises.The bank has been allotted a Refinance Fund of Rs. 20,000 Crores from the shortfalls of Priority Sector Lending.It will regulate and refinance all MFI who lend to MSME engaged in small manufacturing, trade or services. It will partner all state/regional level coordinators to provide easy finance to even the remote investors.

Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana

This is a General Insurance Scheme which provides an insurance cover at a minimal annual premium for death or disability of the person due to accidents.The risk coverage of the scheme for accidental death or full disability is Rs. 2 lakhs and for partial disability is Rs. 1 lakh.Anyone who falls in the age-bracket of 18-70 years can avail the benefit of this scheme and get enrolled.He should have a bank account linked with his Aadhaar card. He/she has to fill a simple form before June 1, every year and also declare the name of his nominee. The people who subscribe have to renew it every year or give instructions of auto-debit to bank every year to avoid hassles. The annual premium is a meagre amount of Rs. 12. This is comparatively very reasonable as similar insurance in private sector would have a premium of Rs. 100, as per experts. The payments will be automatically debuted from the subscriber's account annually.It will be offered by all the public-sector insurance companies like New India Assurance Company, National Insurance Company, United India Insurance Company, The Oriental Insurance Company etc.

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

This is a Life Insurance scheme which guarantees cover of Rs. 2 lakhs in case of natural or accidental death. Anybody who has an Aadhaar number with a linked bank account and falls in the age- bracket of 18-50 years can enrol for the same.The annual premium for the scheme is Rs. 330 which has to be automatically debited from the subscriber's bank account. Anyone can either renew the scheme annually or opt for the long-term provision in which case the amount will be automatically deducted from the The scheme will be majorly implemented by Life Insurance Corporation of India. Other insurers can also join if willing.

Atal Pension Yojana

Atal Pension Yojana would gradually replace the Swavalamban Scheme which did not cover many people due to ambiguities in benefits after 60. Also, latter did not have minimum guaranteed pension provision. The main attraction of Atal Pension Yojana is that it guarantees a minimum pension amount at the age of 60, to subscribers which will vary from Rs. 1000 per month; Rs. 2000 per month; Rs. 3000 per month; Rs. 4000 per month and Rs. 5000 per month depending upon their contributions.The minimum age of joining APY is 18 years and maximum age is 40 years.The minimum period of contribution by subscriber is 20 years or more.The Central Government will contribute 50% of the subscriber's contribution or Rs. 1000 per annum for a period of 5 years. This provision is for people who are non-tax payers and join NPS before 31stDecember, 2015.

Self Employment and Talent Utilization (SETU) Scheme

SETU or Self Employment and Talent Utilization Scheme is a techno-financial, incubation and facilitation programme to give support and encouragement to young start-ups and other self- employment technology-intensive ideas. An allocation of Rs. 1000 Crore has been made for SETU Scheme. This amount will initially rest with the NITI Aayog. It will involve setting up of incubation centres and enhance skill development. It aims to create around 100,000 jobs through start-ups.

Shramev Jayate (Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Shramev Jayate Karyakram)

Shramev Jayate program aimed at creating conducive environment for industrial development and ease of doing business through introduction of several labour reforms. This program was launched to support the 'Make in India' campaign of India for encouragement of manufacturing sector, thus felt need to bring labour reforms. This program targets to benefit at least four crore labourers.

Mission Indradhanush

Mission Indradhanush was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on December 25, 2014. Indradhanush mission has been adopted to achieve target of full immunisation of un- vaccinated subjects from seven diseases by 2020.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching

(PMMMNMTT): Launched in March 2015.Concerned Ministry: Ministry of Human Resource Development.Under the scheme Government will set up 50 Centres of Excellence for Curriculum and Pedagogy with necessary emphasis on Maths and Science.

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan: Launched in December 2014. The program was launched with an aim to connect institutions of higher education, including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Science Education & Research (IISERs) etc. with local communities to address the development challenges through appropriate technologies so as to ensure sustainability.

UDAAN is an initiative of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to enable disadvantaged girl students and other students from SC/ST & minorities to transit from school to post-school professional education especially in Science and Math.

The AICTE scheme **PRAGATI** (Providing Assistance for Girls' Advancement in Technical Education Initiative) envisages selection of one girl per family where family income is less than 6 lakhs / annum on merit at the qualifying examination to pursue technical education.

Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM): Launched on 2nd October, 2014. The scheme aims at attaining an Open Defecation Free India by 2nd October, 2019, by providing access to toilet facilities to all rural households and initiating Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities in all Gram Panchayats to promote cleanliness.Under SBM, the incentives for Individual Household latrines (IHHLs) have been enhanced from Rs.10, 000/- to Rs. 12,000/- to provide for water availability.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Programme: Launched on 22nd January, 2015 at Panipat, Haryana Nodel Agency: Ministry of Women and Child Development Scheme has been introduced for survival, protection & education of the girl child. It aims to address the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) through a mass campaign across the country targeted at changing societal mindsets & creating awareness about the criticality of the issue.

National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) to beautify and improve the amenities and infrastructure at pilgrimage centres of all faiths.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1-Dec World AIDS Day
3-Dec World Disability Day
4-Dec Navy Day
7-Dec Armed Force Flag Day
10-Dec Human Rights Day
11-Dec UNICEF Day
23-Dec Kisan Divas (Farmer's Day)
26-Dec Boxing Day
7-Nov World Cancer Awareness Day
12-Nov World Pneumonia Day
14-Nov children's day
14-Nov World Diabetes Day
19-Nov World Toilet Day
25-Nov International Day of Violence against Women
1-Oct World Vegetarian Day
2-Oct International Day of Non-Violence
5-Oct World Teacher's Day
8-Oct Air Force Day
10-Oct World Mental Health Day
11-Oct International Girl Child Day
15-Oct Global Handwashing Day
16-Oct World Food Day
24-Oct United Nations Day
31-Oct National Integration Day
5-Sep Teachers' Day (India)
8-Sep International Literacy Day
14-Sep Hindi day
15-Sep International Day of Democracy
16-Sep World Ozone Day
21-Sep International Day of Peace
24-Sep World Heart Day
27-Sep World Tourism Day
Aug 6Hiroshima Day
Aug 9Quit India Movement Day
Aug 12International youth Day
Aug 14Pakistan's Independence Day
Aug 15India's Independence Day
Aug 19World Photography Day
Aug 20Sadbhavana Diwas
Aug 29National Sports Day of India (Dhyanchand's Birth Day)
July 4 Independence Day (USA)
July 11 World Population Day
July 12 Malala Day
July 18 International Nelson Mandela Day
July 26 Kargil Diwas Day
July 28 World Hepatitis Day
July 29 World Tiger Day
June 5- World Environment Day.
June 14- World Blood Donor Day
June 17- World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought.
June 20- World Refugee Day.
June 21-1st International Yoga Day-21st June, 2015. Father's Day.
June 23- Public Service Day.
May 1- International Labours Day.
May 3 -World Press Freedom Day.
May 5- World Asthma Day (1st Tuesday) & International Day of the Midwife.
May 8- World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.
May 9-10- World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD).
May 10- Mothers Day
May 11- National Technology Day.
May 12- International nurses day
May 21- Anti Terrorism Day/ Martyrdom of Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi
May 29- International Day of UN Peacekeepers.

May 31- World No Tobacco Day.
April 7World Health Day
April 14B.R. Ambedkar Remembrance Day
April 18World Heritage Day
April 22World Earth Day
April 23World Books Day
March 03-World Wildlife Day, National Defence Day.
March 04-National Security Day (Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas), World Day of Fight against Sexual Exploitation.
March 08-World Women's Day
March 12-World Kidney Day.
March 15-World Consumer Rights Day.
March 20-International Day of Happiness, International Day of Forests.
March 22-World Water Day.
March 23-World Meteorological Day.
March 24-World Tuberculosis Day, International Day for Achievers.
March 25-International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery
March 27-World Theatre Day.
March 28-Earth Hour
February 2- World Wetland Day.
February 4- World Cancer Day
February 10- National Deworming Day.
February 13- World Radio Day.
February 22- Central Excise Day.
February 28- National Science Day
January 09 - Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
January 10- World Hindi Day.
January 12-National Youth Day.
January 15 - 67th Army Day
January 18-National Immunization Day(Polio Day).
January 23 - 118th Birth Anniversaries of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
January 24-National Girl Child Day.
January 25 - National Voters Day, National Tourism Day
January 28- 150th Birth Anniversary Lala Lajpat Rai
January 30-67th Death Annievsary Mahatma Gandhi (Martyrs' / Sarvodaya Day), National Cleanliness Day.

ECONOMIC SURVEY

Presented By - Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitely on 27 February.

What is Economic Survey - The Economic Survey reviews the developments in the Indian economy over the previous 12 months, summarises the performance on major development programmes and highlights the policy initiatives of the government and the prospects of the economy in the short to medium term.

Highlights of the Economic Survey 2014-15

- GDP growth is expected to accelerate to between 8.1 and 8.5 percent in 2015-16.
- Inflation is likely to remain in the 5-5.5 percent range in 2015- 16.
- The current account deficit estimated to be 1.0 percent in the fiscal year 2015-16.
- Food grains production for 2014-15 is estimated at 257.07 million tones.
- India ranks well above the mean for its investment grade category (BBB), and also above the mean for the investment category above it (on the basis of the new growth estimates).
- Expenditure control and expenditure switching from consumption to investment will be the key to growth in the short-run.
- It calls for complementing Make in India initiative with Skill India initiative to enable a larger section of the population to benefit from the structural transformation that such sectors will facilitate.
- The Model APMC Act, 2003 should be amended along the lines of the Karnataka Model that has successfully introduced an integrated single licensing system.
- The Survey calls for adhering to the medium-term fiscal deficit target of 3 percent of GDP. This will provide the fiscal space to insure against future shocks and also to move closer to the fiscal performance of its emerging market peers.
- It also calls for moving toward the golden rule of eliminating revenue deficits and ensuring that, over the cycle, borrowing is only for capital formation.
- Expenditure control combined with recovering growth and the introduction of the GST will ensure that medium term targets are comfortably met.
- In the short run, the need for accelerated fiscal consolidation will be conditioned by the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC).
- Food Subsidy Bill stands at 107823.75 crore rupees during 2014-15 (up to January 2015) which means an increase of 20 percent over previous year.
- The direct fiscal cost of select subsidies is roughly 378,000 crore rupees or 4.2 percent of GDP in 2011-12.
- 41 percent of subsidy given for the PDS kerosene is lost as leakage and only 46 percent of the remaining 59 percent is consumed by households that are poor.
- The JAM Number Trinity – Jan Dhan Yojana, Aadhaar, Mobile – can enable the State to transfer financial resources to the poor in a progressive manner without leakages and with minimal distorting effects.
- The railways public investment multiplier (the effect of a 1 rupee increase in public investment in the railways on overall output) is around 5.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) Vice President of India, Shri Hamid Ansari has released the book-Modern Thought Leaders- Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Lectures (1997-2014) released by the Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management and McGraw Hill.
2) Book entitled "Making India Awesome" written by Chetan Bhagat was released by Rupa publications recently.
3) Book entitled "Mrs Funnybones: She's Just Like You and a Lot Like Me" written by Bollywood actress Twinkle Khanna was recently released and is about the life of a modern Indian woman.
4) PM Shri Narendra Modi released the book entitled "Early Hindu Temples of Gujarat," by Varun Maira, saying that temples were "living history."
5) Vice President of India Shri.H. Ansari released the book entitled "Locale, Everyday Islam and Modernity" authored by Shri M. Raisur Rahman which covers North Indian history on Qasbahs.
6) Shri Hamid Ansari, the Vice President of India released a book called "Swatantrata Senani Raja Mahendra Pratap" edited by Shri Raghuvir Singh 'Arvind'.
7) The book entitled Beyond Doubt: A Dossier on Gandhi's Assassination compiled and introduced by Indian civil rights activist Teesta Setalvad and published by Tulika Books was recently released.
8) The book entitled Benazir Bhutto: A Multidimensional Portrait written by Dr Anna Suvorova of Russia devoted to the life and work of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto (1953-2007) was recently launched.
9) Book on PM Narendra Modi entitled "Modi –Incredible emergence of a star" composed in Chinese language was launched by Tarun Vijay, BJP MP and journalist.
10) Vice President of India, Hamid Ansari launched a book named "K.G. Saiyidain – A Life in Education" edited by Zakia Saiyidain Zaheer and Syeda Saiyidain Hameed.
11) The launch of Mani Shankar Aiyar's book "One Year of Modi Government-Achhe Din? Ha! Ha!!þ" was followed by panel discussions.
12) Booker Prize awardee Amitav Ghosh released his new novel "Flood of fire" which concluded the Ibis trilogy.
13) Ex TRAI Chairman Pradip Baijal has authored "The Complete Story of Indian Reforms: 2G, Power & Private Enterprise: A Practitioner's Diary".
14) Book titled "Unbelievable- Delhi to Islamabad" written by senior advocate Prof. Bhim Singh was released by Vice President Hamid Ansari in New Delhi.
15) Book entitled China-Confucius in the Shadows was launched by Indian vice president Hamid Ansari.Book was written by Ms. Poonam Surie, Adjunct Fellow at Institute of Chinese Studies.
16) Amitav Ghosh is the only Indian author among 10 finalists for the 2015 Man Booker International Prize for his contribution to English language writing.
17) Book entitled "Indian Parliamentary Diplomacy- Speaker's Perspective" composed by former LS speaker Meira Kumar was recently released.
18) Book entitled "Editor Unplugged: Media, Magnates, Netas and Me" composed by Vinod Mehta was released.
19) The book entitled "Fragile Frontiers: The Secret History of Mumbai Terror Attacks" was authored by S. K. Rath.
20) Salman Rushdie will be releasing his first novel in over 7 years. Entitled Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights, it is billed as an eternal love story blending history and mythology.
21) Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri has authored the book entitled Neither a Hawk nor a Dove.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1) World Health Organisation (WHO) has announced Cuba has become the first country to eliminate the transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and syphilis from mother to baby.
2) Iran and P5+1 countries comprising of the United States, the United Kingdom (UK), Russia, China, France and Germany on 14 July reached an agreement on the Iran nuclear programme.
3) Japan committed 6.1 billion US dollars (750 billion Japanese Yen) in Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Mekong Region countries for the next three years. The decision was taken by Japan during the seventh Mekong-Japan Summit held in Tokyo. The Mekong region countries include Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.
4) Ameenah Gurib-FakimProminent scientist Ameenah Gurib-Fakim was on 5 June sworn in as President of Mauritius.
5) South Korea's Justice Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn was on 18 June appointed as the country's new Prime Minister.
6) David Cameron's Conservative Party on 8 May won the United Kingdom General election 2015 by securing 331 seats in a Parliament of 650.With this win, David Cameron will become Prime Minister for second term
7) World Health Organization (WHO), a U.N. health agency on 9 May declared Liberia Ebola-free.
8) Pakistan and Russia have agreed to hold first-ever joint military exercises as part of their enhanced defence cooperation.
9) Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir has won Presidential re-election
10) North Korea and Russia will mark 2015 as a year of friendship
11) Greece Parliament has elected Zoe Konstantopoulou, a member of the left wing party Syriza as its new President
12) United National Party (UNP) led United National Front for Good Governance (UNFGG) has emerged as largest group by winning 106 seats out of total 225 seats in Sri Lankan Parliamentary election 2015. Leader of the UNFGG and UNP and current Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe is expected to form a new government

13) China and Pakistan have signed 20 more agreements worth 1.6 billion dollars to implement the ambitious China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project.
14) Australian government has announced to cut country's greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions by 26-28 per cent of 2005 levels by 2030 as part of negotiations on a global climate deal.
15) in line with economic slowdown in China, the People's Banks of China devalued yuan by 2 per cent against the US dollar.
16) India has decided to boycott the 61st Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) which is scheduled to be held in Islamabad in September 2015.
17) Indian-American Atul Keshap has been appointed as the United States (US) Ambassador to Maldives and Sri Lanka.
18) Pakistan was formally conferred Associate Membership status by European Organisation for Nuclear Research (also known as CERN).
19) India will host second edition meeting of Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) on 21 August 2015 in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
20) Cyclone Komen made landfall in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh.
21) India is going to become the most populous nation in the world by surpassing China in 2022. It was revealed in recently released United Nation's report titled 'World Population Prospects
22) South Korea has declared the deadly outbreak of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) outbreak in the country has over.
23) Jorge Sampaio and Helena Ndume have been awarded with the inaugural Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize
24) China has successfully tested the power system of Long March-5, a fifth generation of carrier rocket belonging to China's Long March family of rockets.
25) United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO) has named Conakry, the Capital city of the Republic of Guinea as the World Book Capital for year 2017. At present, Incheon city of South Korea is World Book Capital for year 2015.
26) Noted Canadian author Naomi Klein has won the 36th edition of American Book Award 2015.
27) The official nationality preference survey in recently swapped 162 enclaves on India- Bangladesh border under the Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) has ended.
28) China has set up the world's largest cancer registry system in a bid to fight the cancer diseases with more-targeted and evidence-based intervention programmes.
29) India and Kyrgyzstan have signed 4 pacts/ agreements to enhance bilateral cooperation between the two nations. These agreements were inked during the two-day visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Kyrgystan as part of his official visit to 5 Central Asian countries and Russia. India and Turkmenistan have signed 7 pacts/ agreements to enhance bilateral cooperation between the two nations.
30) United States has approved major Non-NATO Ally (MNNA) status to Tunisia.
31) India has been accorded full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) along with Pakistan at its Ufa summit held in Russia.
32) ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C-28 on 10 July 2015 successfully put five satellites of United Kingdom into designated orbits.
33) The powerful Typhoon Linfa has hit the southern China
34) Prince Saud al-Faisal, former foreign minister of Saudi Arabia passed away in United States.
35) 39th session World Heritage Committee (WHC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, (UNESCO) has inscribed 24 new sites into the World Heritage List. Decision in this regard was taken at WHC's annual meeting held in Bonn, Germany.
36) China has nominated its former finance Minister Jin Liqun as the Presidential candidate for $100 billion Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).
37) Professor Lord Kamlesh Patel has become the first British Asian to be appointed as Director of England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).
38) Pune's prestigious Fergusson College, has been accorded the special heritage status by the University Grants Commission (UGC).
39) United States (US) won the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup. It is overall third world cup title of US.
40) Chile won South America's most prestigious football trophy, the Copa America title 2015 for the first time. It is Chile's first ever international trophy in Football.
41) Acclaimed Pakistani Urdu novelist Abdullah Hussain passed away in Lahore
42) Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain won 2015 Birtish Grand Prix of Formula One (F1).
43) Fazle Hasan Abed of Bangladesh has been named as the winner of the 2015 World Food Prize.
44) R Paul Singh, Indian-American professor has been selected for 2015 World Agriculture Prize laureate.
45) Greece has become the first developed nation to default on International Monetary Fund (IMF) debt. It has defaulted on a 1.7 billion dollars payment to IMF.
46) Cuba has become the first country in the world to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis. It was announced by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
47) Finnish telecom engineer and father of messaging service (SMS) technology Matti Makkonen passed away
48) India is fourth largest carbon emitter in the world in terms of per capita emission accounting for 6.6 % of global emissions for the year 2012. Top 3 emitters are: China (25.26%), US (14.4%), European Union (10.16%)

49) Joint military training exercise code named 'Silk Route- 2015′ between China and Sri Lanka has begun at Buttala in Central Sri Lanka.
50) Typhoon Kujira has made landfall in south China's Hainan island province.
51) The world's first electric passenger aircraft named BX1E was manufactured in China.
52) As per recently released Global Peace Index (GPI) for year 2015, India was placed at 143th rank out 162 countries.
53) Top 3 peaceful countries: Iceland (1st), Denmark (2nd), Austria (3rd).Top 3 least peaceful countries: North Korea (153rd), Pakistan (154th), And Congo (155).
54) United Kingdom (UK) celebrated 800 years of signing of Magna Carta on 15 June 2015.
55) Mogens Lykketoft from Denmark was unanimously elected as President of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
56) Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs V K Singh inaugurated first India-China Yoga College at Yunnan Minzu University in Kunming, China.
57) As per recently released report by British Petroleum (BP) Energy Company, United States (US) became the world's largest oil producer in 2014 surpassing Saudi Arabia.
58) India and Netherlands have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of Measles- Rubella Vaccines.
59) Prominent scientist Ameenah Gurib-Fakim was sworn in as President of Mauritius. With this she became first woman to become President of Indian Ocean island nation which is a ceremonial position.
60) Edward Snowden, former US security contractor and electronic surveillance whistleblower has been awarded a Norwegian prize for freedom of expression (also known as Bjornson Prize).
61) According to recently released United Nations (UN) annual hunger report titled The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015, India was placed at top in the World Hunger list.
62) Two Indian peacekeepers have been chosen posthumously for United Nation's Dag Hammarskjold Medal. They are Lance Naik Nand Ram and Raju Joseph.
63) Republic of Ireland on 23 May 2015 became first country in the world to constitutionally legalise same-sex marriage.
64) Parvinder Singh Batth, an Indian-origin Conservative party councillor was chosen as the mayor of United Kingdom's Wokingham Borough Council.
65) India assumed the presidency of the 68th World Health Assembly (WHA) held in Geneva after a gap of 19 years.
66) The French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo was presented a Freedom of Expression Courage award from the PEN American Center.
67) Syrian journalist and rights activist Mazen Darwish was honoured with UNESCO-Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize 2015.
68) Seychelles, an archipelago of 90000 inhabitants became the 161st member of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
69) Mohammed bin Nayef was appointed as Crown Prince and as Deputy Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia by King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud.
70) Ms. Raja Rajeswari became the first Indian-born woman to be appointed a judge in New York City.
71) India was placed at 117th position in the recently released World Happiness Report 2015 among the 158 studied nations. Top five countries: Switzerland (1st), Iceland (2nd), Denmark (3rd), Norway (4th) and Canada (5th).
72) India is going to chair the ninth International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) council meeting to be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).
73) President Barack Obama met with representatives from all six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries – at Camp David Summit on 14 May 2015 to assuage Gulf Arab fears about both current nuclear negotiations between Iran and a United States-led international coalition and Tehran's destabilizing activities in the Middle East.

STATE'S NEWS

1) Adani Group has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Tamil Nadu Govern-ment to set up 650 Mega Watt (MW) solar power plants in Ramanathapuram district.
2) Uttar Pradesh has highest number of households with a mobile phone (86.63 per cent). In other hand Odisha (33.56 per cent) has the least number of households with a mobile phone as per the Socio Economic and Caste Census 2011.
3) Asia's first ever institute to train young women to join armed forces Mai Bhago Armed Forces Preparatory Institute was inaugurated by the Union Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar and Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal in Mohali, Punjab.
4) Union Urban Development Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu on 9 June announced that Jind and Karnal districts of Haryana and Muzaffarnagar of Uttar Pradesh have been included in the National Capital Region (NCR).
5) Kerala Government has declared June 22 as 'Snake Bird Day' in a bid to protect the endangered species which is also known as Indian darter.
6) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 10 May inaugurated the upgraded IISCO Steel Plant (ISP) in Burnpur, West Bengal.
7) Punjab Agriculture Department on 13 May launched a pan-state programme to monitor the soil health of every farm in the state by issuing them personalised Soil Health Cards (SHCs).
8) Indian Army on 26 April conducted a major exercise 'Akraman-II' in Rajasthan.
9) State Government of Kerala on 19 April 2015 launched Subodham project, to help people in the state to overcome addiction to liquor.

10) Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar on 8 March launched a scheme for girl child – 'Aapki Beti Humari Beti' – with an aim to combat the problem of declining child sex ratio in the state.
11) Maharashtra Government has launched 'Bhagyashree Scheme' for girl child from Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, on 8 March.' Bhagyashree Scheme' has replaced the state government's previous 'Sukanya Scheme'. Bollywood actress Bhagyashree is the brand ambassador of the scheme
12) Assam government has on 15 March launched the "Momai Tamuli Barbaruah Krishak Bondhu Scheme" to increase agricultural production.
13) Gujarat is set to become the first state in India to launch 'Agro-Solar Policy' to encourage the farmers to tap the solar energy
14) Gujarat High Court has stayed implementation of the compulsory voting in the panchayat and municipal polls
15) Himachal Pradesh Government has launched Rajiv Gandhi Illuminating Scheme for Hill Town Advancement (RISHTA) project, which is an efficient smart LED based street lighting project.
16) Tamil Nadu state has topped in organ donation in the country.
17) Kerala Government has declared state totally digital, thus becoming first state in the country to achieve it
18) Acharya Dev Vrat was sworn in as the Governor of Himachal Pradesh
19) Maharashtra government has roped Superstar Amitabh Bachchan as its new ambassador for the Tiger Conservation Project.
20) Goa Tourism Minister Dilip Parulekar has been conferred with the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) and Safari India South Asia Travel Award 2015.
21) Haryana Government launched Thari Pension, Thare Pass project to directly transfer pension into the bank accounts of beneficiaries.
22) The first Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Kerala started functioning from a temporary campus at Palakkad district
23) India's first Integrated Underwater Harbour Defence and Surveillance System (IUHDSS) was commissioned in Kochi, Kerala.
24) Wildlife researchers have discovered new frog species in Netravali forest sanctuary of Goa. The discovered species has been christened as 'Indirana Salelkari'
25) Maharashtra Cabinet has approved Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Jan Van Vikas Scheme for for development of villages around tiger reserves.
26) A new species of cyprinid freshwater fish named Puntius Dolichopterus has been discovered in Kerala's Kayamkulam city.
27) The annual Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra, largest-ever religious congregation in Odisha has begun at Puri district on 18 July 2015.
28) India's first defence industrial park will be set up at Ottappalam in Palakkad district of Kerala.
29) World's largest religious congregation Sinhastha Kumbh Mela has begun at Trimbakeshwar, Nashik district of Maharashtra.
30) A new tiny butterfly species christened Banded Tit (Hypolycaena Narada) has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh
31) Uttarakhand became first Indian state to install a system to detect earthquakes and disseminate warnings.
32) The Guinness Book of World Records has recognised a record created in Madhya Pradesh on 'World Hand washing Day' in 2014.
33) Nadia district in West Bengal has won the United Nations Public Service Award 2015 in the category of improving delivery of public services for or eliminating open defecation in the district.
34) Satnam Singh Bhamara became the first Indian born basketball player to be drafted in the National Basketball Association (NBA). The 19-year-old Satnam hails from a small village Ballo Ke in Barnala district of Punjab.
35) Rajasthan has become number one state in the country in terms of total installed capacity of solar energy.
36) Kerala government has appointed Tennis Icon Steffanie Graf as Ayurveda brand ambassador.
37) Maharashtra has officially declared Blue Mormon species as State butterfly as part of state symbols
38) Punjab state is celebrating the 350th years of foundation of holy city Sri Anandpur Sahib.
39) Three day long tourism promotional Ladakh Singhey Khababs Sindhu (also known as Sindhu Darshan) Festival has begun in Jammu and Kashmir's Ladakh region.
40) Punjab government has announced that year 2015-16 will be will be observed as development year to give further fillip to the all-round development of the state.
41) Lt General (Retd) Nirbhay Sharma has sworn-in as the 17th governor of Mizoram.
42) Meghalaya has achieved 100 percent success in implementing Union Government's flagship scheme for financial inclusion-Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY).
43) Ms. Draupadi Murmu was sworn in as the first woman and overall ninth Governor of Jharkhand
44) Gujarat won the Syed Mushtaq Ali T-20 cricket trophy for the tournament season 2014-15.
45) Delhi government has launched First E-ration card service in India.

CONFERENCES

1) The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) 2015 summit was held on 9-10 July 2015 in Ufa, Russia. Leaders and officials from the four SCO observer countries of Mongolia, Iran, Pakistan and India were also present at the summit. India has been accorded full accorded the full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) at its Ufa summit technically; India will become the member of SCO by 2016 after completion of certain procedures. The SCO group has six full time members at present namely China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
2) The 46th Session of Indian Labour Conference was held on 20 July in New Delhi.

3) G7 Summit 2015 was held at Schloss Elmau in Bavaria, Germany from 7- 8 June 2015. This was the 41st G7 summit and the theme for the summit was "Think Ahead. Act Together". The Summit focused on the global economy as well as on key issues regarding foreign, security, environment and development policy.
4) Nuclear Energy6th National Conference on Nuclear Energy was held in New Delhi on 15 May 2015. The Conference was organised by ASSOCHAM with the theme Nuclear Energy: a Clean Energy option.
5) The 5th meeting of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Health Ministers was held on 8 April 2015 in New Delhi. The meet ended with the adoption of Delhi Declaration on Public Health Challenges.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1) Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-D6 was successfully launched on 27 August 2015. It was launched from the Second Launch Pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR (SDSC SHAR), Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
2) NASA announced that it successfully flight tested Prandtl-d aircraft. It was a prototype of Prandtl-d aircraft which will be the first airplane to be launched on Mars between 2020 & 2024
3) Union Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju on 13 July launched the GPS-Aided Geo Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) system, which would make airline operations more efficient and reduce costs. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) developed the system
4) India has been ranked at 12th place in terms of power generation from nuclear source, as per the report published by the Power Reactor Information System (PRIS) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). India also holds 6th position in terms of the number of reactors in operation in the country.
5) India's first indigenously-built largest aircraft carrier INS Vikrant was on 10 June successfully undocked at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) in Cochin district of Kerala.
6) NASA on 1 May ended the operations of MESSENGER Mission. MESSENGER stands for MErcury Surface, Space ENvironment, GEochemistry and Ranging and it was launched on 3 August 2004 to study Mercury's atmosphere.
7) Columbia University scientists have created the world's first self-powered camera.
8) Indian Navy's new stealth destroyer named INS Visakhapatnam was launched on 20 April at the Mazgaon Docks Ltd (MDL) in Mumbai, Maharashtra
9) China successfully tested the power system (engines) of its stated to be the largest space launch vehicle viz. Long March-5 carrier.
10) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a poly-herbal medicine by the trade name of Lukoskin for the treatment of Leucoderma.
11) Multi-Application Solar Telescope (MAST), Asia's biggest telescope was inaugurated at the Udaipur Solar Observatory in Rajasthan.
12) US Software giant Microsoft launched its new operating system Windows-10 with a host of new features. It was launched by Microsoft's India-born CEO Satya Nadella at a global launch event held in Kenya. Cortana: Microsoft's voice-based smart assistant similar to Apple's Siri and Google's Iris.
13) Former President of India A.P.J. Abdul Kalam passed away due to massive cardiac arrest in Shillong, Meghalaya
14) ISRO has successfully test-fired Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mark III project's high-thrust cryogenic rocket engine.
15) Scientists at CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC) have discovered a new class of exotic subatomic particles called the Pentaquarks.
16) Four Indian scientists from the Aligarh based Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College (JNMC) under Aligarh Muslim University have jointly awarded the prestigious William Harvey Award 2015. They were selected for this award in the field of Hematology for their work in the rare Hemoglobin C (Hb C) disease. Recipients of Award are Saeedul Hasan Arif Kafeel Akhtar. Shagufta Qadri. Suhailur Rahman.
17) Nationwide mobile number portability (MNP) has become operational from 3 July 2015.
18) Prof. Sanjeev Galande has been selected for the prestigious G D Birla award for Scientific Research 2014.
19) Indian Telecom major Bharti Airtel has launched 4th Generation (4G) services in Mysuru (or Mysore), Karnataka. Bharti Airtel is first Telecom major in India to launch 4G LTE services in the country. They had launched the India's first 4G services in Kolkata in April 2012.
20) Union Government has launched Augmented Reality technology based mobile application named 'Sakaar' to highlight the achievements of the Department of Space.
21) Advanced version of indigenous Pinaka mark-II rockets were successfully tested on 30 May 2015 in Pokhran field firing ranges in Rajasthan
22) 15-year-old Indian-origin student, Pratap Singh from United Kingdom (UK) has won prestigious award Institute of Physics (IOP) Prize.
23) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) on 28 March 2015 successfully launched fourth navigation satellite Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)-1D.
24) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25 March 2015 launched Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI) platform.
25) Pakistan successfully tested its first indigenously built all-weather armed drone named Burraq and a laser guided missile named Barq.

PERSON IN NEWS

1) IT secretary RS Sharma has been appointed the Chairman of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
2) Ashish Bahuguna, former agriculture secretary, has been appointed as the chairman of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
3) Russian cosmonaut Gennady Padalka has set a Guinness World Record for spending longest time in space with a total of 804 days
4) Petteri Taalas, Director-General of the Finnish Meteorological Institute, was on 4 June appointed as the next Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for a four-year mandate starting 1 January 2016
5) K V Chowdary, former chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), was on 10 June sworn in as the new Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) by President Pranab Mukherjee. Vijai Sharma, the senior most information commissioner, was also sworn in as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) by the president.
6) President of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Sepp Blatter has resigned on 2 June amid a corruption scandal which under investigation in United States.
7) Nek Chand Saini, creator of Chandigarh's iconic Rock Garden passed away on 12 June in Chandigarh.
8) Eminent banker Kundapur Vaman Kamath was on 11 May 2015 appointed as the first President of the New Development Bank (NDB) of BRICS nations. He will have of five year term after the bank becomes operational within one year.
9) President of India Pranab Mukherjii on 12 May 2015 appointed four Governors and transferred two others.

Following are newly appointed Governors :-
1) Jharkhand – Draupadi Murmu
2) Tripura – Tathagata Roy
3) Arunachal Pradesh – J P Rakkhowa
4) Meghalaya – V Shanmuganathan

10) Nasim Zaidi took over as the 20th Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India on 19 April.He is India's 20th CEC and succeeded Hari Shankar Brahma, who had retired on April 18, 2015.
11) Michael Rudenko, a committee member of the Minor Planet Center on 1 April officially named a minor planet as 4538 Vishyanand, to honour India's first chess grandmaster
12) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24 August 2015 inaugurated birth centenary celebrations of freedom fighter Rani Gaidinliu. She was born in northeastern state of Manipur.
13) Justice Madanlal Laxmandas Tahaliyani has sworn-in as the new Lokayukta of Maharashtra.
14) Ranil Wickremesinghe has sworn-in as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka for fourth time.
15) Union Government has appointed Ashwani Lohani as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state owned national carrier Air India Ltd.
16) India's First Lady Suvra Mukherjee, wife of President Pranab Mukherjee passed away in New Delhi.
17) Ram Nath Kovind sworn-in as 36th Governor of Bihar
18) The founder of Hero Cycle and a leading industrialist Om Prakash Munjal breathed his last
19) President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed former IAS officer Om Prakash Rawat as an Election Commissioner (EC) in the Election Commission of India (ECI).
20) Professor Raghavendra Gadagkar has been conferred with highest civilian award of Germany, Cross of Order of the Merit.
21) Russian journalist and social activist Zhanna Nemtsova was awarded with Poland's Solidarity Prize 2015.
22) Mathematician Dr. Amalendu Krishna has won the Ramanujan Prize for year 2015. He has been bestowed with this award for his outstanding contributions in the area of algebraic cycles, algebraic K-theory and the theory of motives.
23) Noted Hindi litterateur Kashinath Singh has been chosen for the Bharat Bharti literary award for year 2014.
24) Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has recommended name of Indian Tennis legend Sania Mirza for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award 2015.
25) Veteran Sri Lankan historian Santasilan Kadirgamar passed away in Colombo
26) Cyclist Chris Froome from Britain of Team Sky has won the 102nd edition Tour de France.
27) President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed 2 members of Anglo-Indian Community to Lok Sabha. Professor Richard Hay: He hails from Kerala. George Baker: He hails from West Bengal and is actor by profession.
28) Ajay Mathur has been appointed as Director-General (DG) of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).
29) 20 year old Indian-American Amitoj Chhabra has won the Junior Title at the US Powerlifting Association National Championships 2015.
30) Flipkart-owned online and mobile fashion store Myntra has appointed Ananth Narayanan as its chief executive officer (CEO)
31) Ajay Kumar Pandey was appointed as new Managing Director and Group CEO of Gandhinagar based Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
32) Noted artist Sayed Haider Raza was conferred with highest French Civilian Award Commandeur de la Lgion dHonneur (the Legion of Honour).
33) Lt Gen Man Mohan Singh Rai has been appointed as new Vice-Chief of the Indian Army.
34) Former world junior champion and Grandmaster Abhijeet Gupta won the 19th Commonwealth Chess Championship.
35) India's legendary batsman and Bharat Ratna recipient Sachin Tendulkar has been voted the 'Best Test player' of the 21st century in an online poll.

36) Sahitya Akademi has conferred prestigious 'Bhasha Samman' on four scholars(K Meenakshi Sundaram, Acharya Munishwar Jha, Charu Chandra Pande and Mathuradutt Mathpal)for their contribution to classical and medieval literature in various languages
37) Indian spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar has been conferred with Colombia's highest civilian award, Orden de la Democracia Simon Bolivar en el grado de cruz Caballero
38) Former Pakistan cricket team captain Zaheer Abbas has been selected the new President of International Cricket Council (ICC) for one year term
39) One of the foremost south Indian classical vocalists, Sanjay Subrahmanyam has been selected for the 'Sangita Kalanidhi' award 2015
40) Eminent Historian-writer Ramachandra Guha has been selected for Japan's Fukuoka Prize 2015 in n the Academic category
41) Astronomers have named a newly discovered galaxy as CR7 (COSMOS Redshift 7) after Portuguese footballer Cristiano Ronaldo
42) Eminent scientist and Bharat Ratna awardee C.N.R. Rao was conferred with Japan's highest civilian award the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star
43) Sunil Chhetri has become the first Indian footballer to score 50 international goals.
44) Bibek Debroy Committee on the restructuring of Indian Railways has submitted its final report to the Union Ministry of Railways
45) Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Parkash Singh Badal was conferred the prestigious 14th Sant Namdev National Award- 2015 by Pune based Sarhad foundation
46) Union Home Ministry has appointed Senior IPS Officer RC Tayal as the new Director General (DG) of India's elite counter-terror force National Security Guard (NSG)
47) Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee will be conferred with Friends of Bangladesh Liberation War Award by Bangladesh government
48) Meena Hemchandra was appointed as the Executive Director of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
49) Union Information and Broadcasting (I&B) ministry has appointed Veena Jain as director general (news) in Doordarshan (DD)
50) Eminent scientist Dr. Selvin Christopher has been appointed as the Director General (DG) of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) along with the rank of a secretary
51) Hungarian writer Laszlo Krasznahorkai has won the prestigious Man Booker International Prize for 2015
52) Veteran actor and film producer Shashi Kapoor has been conferred with prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke Award 2014
53) President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed Retired IAS officer Achal Kumar Jyoti as the Election Commissioner
54) Novak Djokovic, the world's top ranked tennis player, was on 26 August 2015 appointed as the Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), after having served as the UNICEF's Serbia Ambassador.

DEFENCE NEWS

1) The US military has launched the largest NATO airborne drills dubbed as Swift Response 15 since the end of the Cold War to enhance security and stability in the European region.
2) India-US Combined Military Training Exercise YUDH ABHYAS 2015 will be held from 9th September 2015 at Joint Base Lewis McChord in United States.
3) India's Kalyani Group and Israel's Rafael have partnered to produce Spike Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) in India.
4) INS Astravahini, indigenously built torpedos launch and recovery vessel was decommissioned after its service for almost 31 years to the nation.
5) Indigenously developed Nag anti-tank guided missile was successfully tested from a helicopter platform.
6) China has conducted the fourth successful test of a new Wu-14 hypersonic strike vehicle which is capable of delivering nuclear weapons.
7) India's first indigenously-built largest aircraft carrier INS Vikrant was successfully undocked at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) in Cochin district of Kerala.
8) Tripura government has decided to withdraw the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), 1958 from the remaining areas of the state.
9) Bilateral naval exercise SIMBEX-15 between India and Singapore commenced on 23 May 2015 in Singapore.
10) Indigenously-developed beyond visual range air-to-air Astra missile was successfully test fired at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, and Odisha.
11) INS Kavaratti, Indian Navy's latest anti-submarine warfare class stealth corvette was launched on 19 May 2015 in Kolkata.
12) Indian Navy has commissioned INS Sardar Patel naval base in Porbandar, Gujarat in the presence of Gujarat Chief Minister Anandiben Patel and Admiral RK Dowan.
13) Indian Army and Bank of India (BOI) on 8 May 2015 signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Defence Salary Package.
14) Indian Army inducted the first regiment of the indigenously-developed surface-to-air Akash missile system.
15) 14th edition of Indo-French naval exercise Varuna concluded on 2 May 2015 in Goa.
16) Indian Army has named the rescue and aid to Nepal 'Operation Maitri' or friendship which was aftermath of 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Nepal.

17) First indigenously-built Scorpene Submarine on 6 April 2015 was undocked at the Mazagaon Dockyard Limited (MDL) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
18) A group of Indian Air Force personnel successfully completed an India-UK air and ground exercise Indradhanush that saw Indian Sukhoi Su-30s pitted against their Royal Air Force counterparts flying Eurofighter Typhoon.
19) Exercise AJEYA WARRIOR, a Joint Exercise between the armies of India and UK, will be conducted from 13 June to 28 June 2015 at Westdown Camp, Salisbury Plains Training Area, and UK.
20) INS Saryu, an indigenously built NOPV based at the Andaman and Nicobar Command, shall be participating in a week long ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Disaster Relief Exercise (DiREx) 2015.

SPORTS NEWS

1) **Wimbledon Tennis Championship 2015 Winners**
Men's Singles: Novak Djokovic of Serbia on 12 July won men's singles title of Wimbledon. In the final clash played in London, Serbian Djokovic defeated Roger Federer of Switzerland. It is Djokovic's 3rd Wimbledon title and overall 12th men's single Grand Slam title.
Women's Singles: Serena Williams (US) won Wimbledon women's singles title. In the final match played she defeated Garbine Muguruza of Spain.It is Williams' sixth Women's Singles Wimbledon title and overall 21th Grand Slam title.
Women's Doubles Title: Sania Mirza (India) and Martina Hingis (Switzerland) pair won the 2015 women's Doubles Wimbledon Title.
Mixed Doubles Title: Leander Paes (India) and Martina Hingis (Switzerland) pair won the 2015 Mixed Doubles Wimbledon Title.
2) India on 5 July won the South Asian Basketball (SABA) Championship title. In the final played at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru, Karanataka, India defeated Sri Lanka 93-44. It was 4th edition of the championships.
3) **French Open Tennis Tournament – 2015 Winners**
Women's Singles: - Serena Williams of United States won French Open women's single title on 6 June. In the final match she defeated Lucie Safarova of Czechoslovaki. This was her third French Open title (earlier she had won in 2002, 2013) and overall 20th Grand Slam title.
Men's Singles: - Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland won his first French Open title of Tennis on 7 June. In the final clash played at Roland Garros in Paris, Wawrinka defeated Novak Djokovic of Serbia.It was his first his first French Open title second grand slam title after Australian Open 2014.
4) Serbia won the FIFA U-20 World Cup by defeating Brazil on 20 June at the final match held at the North Harbour Stadium in Auckland, New Zealand.
5) China won the 2015 Nongfu Spring Snooker's World Cup on 21 June by defeating Scotland 4-1 in the final match held at Wuxi near Shanghai in China.India stood at the third position in the competition, the best finish so far for India
6) Mumbai Indians (MI) on 24 May won the eight edition of Indian Premier League (IPL) 2015 by defeating Chennai Super Kings (CSK).In the final match played at Eden Gardens, Kolkata they defeated CSK by 41 runs. This was the second title triumph for Mumbai Indians after their maiden win back in 2013.
* **Man of the Match** – Rohit Sharma (Mumbai Indians)
* **Player of the Tournament** – Andre Russell
* **Orange Cap (Most Runs)** – David Warner (Sunrisers Hyderabad)
* **Purple Cap (Most Wickets) -** Dwayne Bravo (Chennai Super Kings)
* **Emerging Player** – Shreyas Iyer (Delhi Daredevils)
* **Most Valuable Player** – Andre Russell (Kolkata Knight Riders)
* **Fair play Award** – Chennai Super Kings
Prize Money :-
* **Champions** – Mumbai Indians (Rs 15 crore prize money)
* **Runner-up** – Chennai Super Kings (Rs 10 crore)
Captains of the two teams :-
* **Mumbai Indians** – Rohit Sharma
* **Chennai Super Kings** – MS Dhoni
7) World Women Chess Championship 2015 was won by Mariya Muzychuk of Ukraine.
8) Sri Lanka great Kumar Sangakkara has been honoured with the Cricketer of the Year in the 2015 edition of the prestigious Wisden Cricketers' Almanack on 8 April.
9) New Zealand won the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup men's Hockey Tournament title on 12 April.In the final clash played at the Sultan Azlan Shah Stadium in Ipoh, Malaysia, New Zealand defeated World Champions Australia 3-1.India won Bronze Medal (third position) by beating south Korea by 4-1 in the penalty shoot-out.
10) The Laureus World Sports Awards for the year 2015 were given in seven categories on 15 April at Shanghai in China. Ace tennis star Novak Djokovic of Serbia and sprinter Genzebe Dibaba of Ethiopia were named as the Laureus World Sportsman and Sportswoman of the 2015 respectively.
11) Novak Djokovic of Serbia won the Monte-Carlo Masters title of Tennis on 20 April. He defeated Berdych of Czech Republic in the men's singles final.

12) Karnataka on 12 March won their eighth Ranji Trophy title of cricket. In the title clash played at the Wankhede stadium in Mumbai, Karnataka defeated Tamil Nadu by an innings and 217 runs. Karnataka defeated Tamil Nadu by an innings and 217 runs in the final day of match played at the Wankhede stadium in Mumbai.The man of the match was Karnataka's Karun Nair who had scored 338 runs.
13) **India Open Super Series Badminton 2015 Winners**
Women's Singles: - India's ace shuttler Saina Nehwal on 29 March won India Open Super Series Badminton omen's Singles 2015 Title. She defeated Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon in the final match played at Siri Fort Indoor Complex in New Delhi.
Men's Single's:- India's Srikanth Kidambi has won India Open Super Series Badminton Men's Singles 2015 Title. In the final match he defeated Denmark's Viktor Axelsen.
14) Australia on 29 March 2015 won the ICC Cricket World Cup 2015 for the record fifth time. In the final match Australia defeated co-hosts of the tournament, New Zealand by 7 wickets played at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), Australia. Australia fast bowler Mitchell Starc was named the Player of the Tournament who finished with a figure of 22 wickets in the tournament. He was tied with New Zealand left-arm seamer Trent Boult for taking highest wickets in the tournament. Australian all-rounder James Faulkner was adjudged man of the match, while the man of the series award went to Mitchell Starc. He finished the tournament with 22 wickets.
15) Ace shuttler Saina Nehwal on 28 March created history by becoming first Indian woman to be ranked number one in the world in Badminton World Federation (BWF) rankings in Women's Singles category.
16) West Indies' opener Chris Gayle made his name into history books by becoming the first ever batsman to score a double-century in the ICC World Cup. He achieved this feat against Zimbabwe in a Pool B clash in Canberra on 24 February 2015
17) Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2015 Directorate General of Military Training (DGMT) – for identifying and nurturing of young talent in sports. Coal India Limited (CIL) – for encouraging sports through Corporate Social Responsibility. Haryana State Police- For employing sportspersons and sports welfare measures. Sports Coaching Foundation (SCF) - For development of sports.
18) World number two, Roger Federer from Switzerland has won the Cincinnati Masters title for record seventh time in men's singles title category.
19) Jamaican athlete Usain Bolt has won world 100 metre title in the World Athletics Championships held in Beijing, China
20) Ace Indian golfer Aditi Ashok won the prestigious Ladies British amateur stroke-play Championship 2015 at Leeds, United Kingdom.
21) Bangladesh has won maiden Under-16 South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) championship title 2015.
22) Former Olympic champion Sebastian Coe from United Kingdom has been elected as President of International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).
23) Andy Murray of Great Britain has won Rogers Cup Masters Tournament 2015 also known as the Canada Masters.
24) Defending champion Carolina Marin Martin of Spain has won the prestigious World Badminton Championship 2015 in women's single category. In the final match she defeated India's Saina Nehwal by two set score of 16-21 and 19-21.
25) International Olympic Committee (IOC) has officially recognised 'Frisbee' as an Olympic sport.
26) Ace Indian gymnast Dipa Karmakar has won bronze medal in women's vault event at the 6th Senior ART Gymnastics Asian Championships held in Hiroshima, Japan.
27) Union Government has conferred Arjuna Award on Indian cricket team off-spinner bowler Ravichandran Ashwin. With this Ashwin became 48th cricketer to receive the prestigious award.
28) Former South African all-rounder cricketer Clive Rice passed away in Johannerburg, South Africa.
29) Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has constituted IPL working group to study the verdict of the Justice RM Lodha Committee. Decision in this regard was taken in the IPL governing council meeting held in Mumbai after the Lodha committee ruled the suspension IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals (RR) for two years on the verdict of 2013 IPL Betting Scandal.
30) International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned Pakistan's all-rounder cricketer Mohammad Hafeez from bowling in international cricket for a period of one year.
31) Defending champions India have retained the South Asian Basketball Championship (SABA) title. It was the 4th edition of the Championships.
32) Indian pair of Jwala Gutta and Ashwni Ponappa won the women's doubles title of the Canada Open Badminton tournament.
33) India has been ranked third in Anti-Doping Rule Violations Report for year 2013 released by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
34) Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni is the only Indian to find place in the Forbes magazine's list of 100 World's Highest-Paid Athletes 2015 He was placed at 23rd on the Forbes list with total earnings of 31 million dollars
35) India's Sundaram Ravi was inducted into the Elite Panel of International Cricket Council (ICC) Umpires for year 2015-2016.
36) Ace Indian archer Deepika Kumari has clinched the bronze medal in the women's individual Women's Recurve event at Antalya Archery World Cup held in Turkey.
37) Railway Sports Promotion Board has won the 5th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship 2015.
38) Sania Mirza on 12 April 2015 created history by becoming the first Indian female tennis player to achieve the world number one rank in doubles category.
39) Ace Indian shooter Jitu Rai on 12 April 2015 won a bronze medal in the 10m air pistol event at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup in Changwon, South Korea.

40) Malli Mastan Babu, one of India's top mountaineers passed away. His dead body was recovered in the Andes Mountains between Argentina and Chile after he went missing on 24th March, 2015 during an expedition to Cerro Tres Cruces Sur.
41) Veteran hockey player Balbir Singh Senior was awarded Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award by Hockey India.
42) Union Government has selected legendary boxer and five-time world boxing champion MC Mary Kom as Brand Ambassador for the North East Region.
43) Usain Bolt won the rematch and 200m gold as he ran a wonderful bend to once again leave rival Justin Gatlin chasing silver and fresh air.
44) England won Ashes Test Searies against Australia 3-2. Chris Rogers of Australia and Joe Root of England both man of the series.
45) Beijing, which staged the Summer Games seven years ago, was awarded the rights to the 2022 Winter Games defeating Almaty (Kazakhstan), setting up the Chinese capital to become the first city to host both versions of the Games in more than a century of Olympic history.
46) India won 3 match ODI series against Zimbabwe 3-0. Man of the Series : Ambati Rayudu.
47) **Dronacharya Award 2015**

S.No	NAME OF THE COACH	DISCIPLINE
1	Shri Naval Singh	Athletics-Para-sports
2	Shri Anoop Singh	Wrestling
3	Shri Harbans Singh	Athletics- Lifetime
4	Shri Swatantar Raj Singh	Boxing- Lifetime
5	Shri Nihar Ameen	Swimming-Lifetime

48) Dhyan Chand Award 2015

S. No.	NAME OF THE SPORTSPERSON	DISCIPLINE
1	Mr. Romeo James	Hockey
2	Mr. Shiv Prakash Mishra	Tennis
3	Mr. T.P.P. Nair	Volleyball

49) **Arjuna Awards 2015**

S. No.	Name of the sportsperson	Discipline
1	Naib Subedar Sandeep Kumar	Archery
2	Ms. M.R. Poovamma	Athletics
3	Mr. Kidambi Srikanth Nammalwar	Badminton
4	Mr. Mandeep Jangra	Boxing
5	Mr. Rohit Sharma	Cricket
6	Ms. Dipa Karmakar	Gymnastic
7	Mr. Sreejesh P.R.	Hockey
8	Mr. Manjeet Chhillar	Kabaddi
9	Ms. Abhilasha Shashikant Mhatre	Kabaddi
10	Mr. Sawarn Singh	Rowing
11	Mr. Anup Kumar Yama	Roller Skating
12	Mr. Jitu Rai	Shooting
13	Shri S. Sathish Kumar	Weightlifting
14	Mr. Bajrang	Wrestling
15	Ms. Babita Kumari	Wrestling
16	Ms. Yumnam Sanathoi Devi	Wushu
17	Mr. Sharath M. Gayakwad	Para-Swimming

ECONOMY & BUSINESS NEWS

1) Corporation Bank on 4 July launched country's first MUDRA (Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency) card under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) in Mangalore, Karnataka.

2) A Special Currency Swap Agreement was signed between Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Central Bank of Sri Lanka on 17 July. As per this agreement, Central Bank of Sri Lanka can draw up to 1.1 billion US dollar for a maximum period of six months. This special arrangement is in addition to the existing Framework on Currency Swap Arrangement for the SAARC Member Countries.
3) Seven Indian companies were listed among the world's 500 largest companies in the Fortune Global 500 list for 2015 that was released on 22 July. The list has been topped by Wal-Mart, which retained its top spot.
4) The Forbes Asia's Fabulous 50 list of the year 2015 was released on 23 July. India has secured the second highest position in the Forbes Asia Fabulous 50 list with 10 Indian companies featuring in the list. China secured No 1 position in the list with 25 companies.
5) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its second bi-monthly policy announced on 2 June has reduced the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 25 basis points from 7.5 per cent to 7.25 per cent with immediate effect. However, the cash reserve ratio (CRR) of scheduled banks was kept unchanged at 4 percent of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL). The reverse repo rate under the LAF stands adjusted to 6.25 per cent, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the bank rate to 8.25 per cent.
6) World Bank Group's latest Global Economic Prospects (GEP) report released on 10 June puts India at the top of the growth chart of major economies. With an expected growth of 7.5 percent this year, India is, for the first time, leading the World Bank's growth chart of major economies. According to the report China is likely to grow at 7.1 percent. The Bank expects developing countries to witness a rise in growth to 5.2 percent in 2016 and 5.4 percent in 2017.
7) India was placed at 61st position in terms of foreigners' money in Swiss banks. This was revealed by latest data released by Swiss National Bank (SNB), the central bank of Switzerland on 21 June 2015. As per the data, India now accounts for a meager 0.123 per cent of the total global wealth worth 1.6 trillion US dollars in Switzerland's banking system. Indians' money in Swiss banks declined by over 10 percent to about 1.8 billion Swiss francs (1.98 billion US dollars or 12615 crore rupees) in 2014.
8) US magazine Forbes on 6 May released Global 2000 Companies list. According to the list, India is home to 56 of the world's 2000 largest and most powerful public companies. The list is topped by US (579 companies), followed by China (232 companies) and Japan (218 companies). Reliance Industries, the topmost India Company is ranked 142 on the list, down from last year's 135th spot.
9) SBI Chief Arundhati Bhattacharya, ICICI bank head Chanda Kochhar, Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw and HT Media Chair Shobhana Bhartia were listed in the 12th Forbes'100 Most Powerful Women List, which was released on 26 May. Arundhati Bhattacharya ranked 30th on the list, followed by Kochhar on the 35th spot, Mazumdar-Shaw (85) and newcomer on the list Bhartia is on the 93rd spot. The world's most powerful woman in the list is German Chancellor Angela Merkel who fetched the first spot.
10) Union Minister of Commerce & Industry on 2 April unveiled Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-2020. The new trade policy will incorporate government ambitious initiatives such as Make in India, Digital India mission, Skill India programme, ease of business in order to boost jobs and take India's exports to 900 billion dollars by 2020. In the new policy FTP2015-20, two new schemes Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) were introduced.
11) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 8 April launched the Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Ltd. (MUDRA) Bank in New Delhi.The bank will provide credit of up to 10 lakh rupees to small entrepreneurs and act as a regulator for Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs). The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana will be the main support system for the bank and will be the part of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). MUDRA Bank has been started with an initial corpus of Rs. 20,000 crore. Apart from this, Rs. 3,000 crore has been earmarked as credit guarantee corpus.
12) Union Finance Ministry appointed committee chaired by retired SC judge A P Shah has recommended that Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) should not be imposed on FIIs retrospectively for the period preceding 1st April 2015
13) Union government has announced to sell 10 per cent stake in state owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).
14) Three Indian companies Hindustan Unilever Sun Pharma Industries and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and have been named among the world's 100 most innovative companies by Forbes. Hindustan Unilever the FMCG has been ranked 41 on the list whereas TCS stood at number 64 and Sun Pharma at 71 in the Forbes list of 'The World's Most Innovative Companies'.
15) In order to reduce air pollution due to vehicles the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways issued a notification to introduce Bharat Stage IV (BS-IV) compliant four wheeler vehicles though out the country from 1 April 2017.
16) As per the fourth advance estimate released by Agriculture Ministry on 17 August, the estimated foodgrain production have declined by 4.66 per cent to 252.68 million tonnes (MT) in 2014-15 crop year due to poor monsoon and unseasonal rains.
17) World's largest bicycle manufacturer Hero Cycles acquired majority stake in UK-based Avocet Sports for an undisclosed amount.
18) Mumbai based Real estate listing portal Housing.com has acquired Bengaluru-based customer relationship management software company HomeBuy360.
19) On the eve of celebration of 69th Independence Day at Red Fort Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a new campaign 'Start-up India; Stand up India' an initiative to promote bank finance for Start-ups (an entrepreneurial venture).
20) Two Indian technology tycoons Azim Premji chairman of Wipro and Shiv Nadar founder of HCL bagged place in Top 20 on Forbes' first ever list of '100 Richest People In Technology'.

21) India's largest private sector lender Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) Bank has launched 'ICICI Bank Saral-Rural Housing Loan' Scheme for weaker sections of society. The scheme is new home loan proposition of the bank with special interest rate to cater people from rural areas including women borrowers as well as from weaker sections.
22) On 10 August Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has launched a new mobile app 'Disha' to aid digital literacy in Bihar.
23) To commemorate the 1905 Swadeshi movement the Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced August 7 as 'National Handloom Day' at the function held in Chennai.
24) Facebook, the social networking leader has unveiled a new compressed version of its application called 'Facebook Lite' in India to reach out its users who have slow data connections.
25) Kazakhstan, a member of the Russia-led economic blocks became 162th member of World Trade Organization (WTO). Kazakhstan's entry has ended its long wait of 20 years to become a member of WTO as its accession talks were initiated in 1996.
26) The IT Secretary Ram Sevak Sharma was appointed as the chairman of telecom regulator Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
27) Nestle India's MD Etienne Benet has step down from his post, he will be replaced by Nestle Philippines Chairman and CEO Suresh Narayanan. Etienne Benet will be relocated to Nestle's head office in Switzerland while Mr. Narayanan will take over from August 1.
28) KFC and the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) have entered into partnership to launch a delivery system for commuters on trains. Under e-catering service initiatives commuters now can place order for KFC meal while booking tickets through IRTC website.
29) ndian pharmaceutical major Lupin has acquired US based Gavis Pharmaceuticals in cash-free and debt-free transaction for 880 million dollars (around 5,606 crore rupees).
30) Seven Indian companies have found their place in 2015 Fortune 500 Global Companies list compiled by Fortune Magazine. They are Indian Oil: ranked 119th with revenues of 74 billion dollars. Reliance Industries: ranked 158th with revenues of 62 billion dollars. Tata Motors: ranked 254th with revenues of 42 billion dollars. State Bank of India (SBI): ranked 260th with revenues of 42 billion dollars. Bharat Petroleum: ranked 280th with revenues of 40 billion dollars. Hindustan Petroleum: ranked 327th with revenues of 35 billion dollars. Oil and Natural Gas: ranked 449th with revenues of 26 billion dollars. Top 5: Walmart (1st) of US, Sinopec Group (2nd) of China, Royal Dutch Shell (3rd) of Netherlands, China National Petroleum (4th) and Exxon Mobil (5th) of US.
31) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a committee to prepare a 5 year action plan to spread the reach of financial services across country to unbanked population.The committee will be headed by RBI executive director Deepak Mohanty and comprise total of 14 members
32) Union government has appointed Sriram Kalyanaraman as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Housing Bank (NHB) for a period of five years.
33) State run telecom giant Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) launched pre-paid card linked mobile wallet service 'Speed Pay'. It was launched by Union Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad in New Delhi. This service was launched by BSNL has launched the service in partnership with IT company Pyro. It Allows BSNL customer to transfer money, pay for services and withdraw cash of up to 1 lakh rupees. It also allows its customers to load money even if they are not having a bank account. Money loaded in this wallet can be transferred to a bank account and can be withdrawn at any BSNL outlets or bank branches.
34) Top 10 world's biggest employers are: US department of Defense: It is the world's biggest employer with over 3.2 million employees. People's Liberation Army (PLA): Chinese military is 2nd biggest employer with 2.3 million employees. Walmart: US supermarket giant is 3rd biggest employer with 2.1 million workers. McDonald's: Fast food giant is the 4th biggest employer with 1.9 million employees. National Health Service of UK: It is 5th biggest employer with 1.7 million. China National Petroleum Corporation: It is 6th biggest employer with 1.6 million employees. It is Chinese state-run company. State Grid Corporation of China: It is 7th biggest employer with 1.5 million employees. Indian Railways: 1.4 million staff. Indian Army: 1.3 million employees.
35) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has extended the date to exchange pre-2005 bank notes till December 31, 2015 for third time.
36) Rajasthan has become number one state in the country in terms of total installed capacity of solar energy. Top five states in India are (in terms of installed capacity) Rajasthan: 1047 MW. Gujarat: 1000 MW. Madhya Pradesh:563 MW. Maharashtra: 363 MW. Andhra Pradesh: 247 MW.
37) Employee Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has notified an order to make Universal Account Number (UAN) mandatory for all its employers. It will be mandatory for all employers covered under the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.
38) Domestic e-commerce giant Snapdeal has acquired Gurgaon based mobility solutions company Letsgomo Labs.
39) State owned telecommunications giant Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has launched free pan India roaming scheme.
40) A case was lodged in Barabanki court in Uttar Pradesh against Nestle India over inadequate safety standards of its product Maggi. Earlier, Uttar Pradesh Food Safety and Drug Administration (UP FDA) had asked Nestle India to withdraw a batch of Maggi noodles from the market after they had found that it contained high level of lead and Monosodium glutamate (MSG), a taste enhancer.

41) Union government has constituted a 10-member committee to review and revitalise public private partnership (PPP) mode of infrastructure development. The committee will be chaired by former finance secretary Vijay Kelkar and submit its report within a period of 3 months from the date of its Constitution.
42) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 26 May 2015 launched India's first television channel DD Kisan dedicated to farmers in New Delhi. The 24X7 channel is owned by public service broadcaster Doordarshan (DD) and is dedicated to agriculture and allied sectors.
43) Recently released UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) Report for Mid update -2015 has projected that India's economic growth will surpass China's growth in 2016. The report has projected India's economy to grow by 7.6 per cent in year 2015 and 7.7 per cent in 2016. While, it has projected China's economic growth will be 7 per cent in year 2015 and 6.8 per cent in 2016.
44) Maharashtra Government has decided to allow women employees to work in night shifts.
45) Union Cabinet gave its approval to 5 per cent disinvestment in National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) and 10 per cent in Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).
46) Online marketplace Flipkart has acquired mobile marketing start-up Appiterate in order to strengthen its mobile platform.
47) Real estate portal PropTiger.com has acquired its rival Makaan.com to ramp up its presence in India's secondary property market.
48) Indian GDP has crossed USD 2 trillion mark as per data released by World Bank. India added the next trillion after the USD 1 trillion mark in just 7 years.
49) India will be the third largest economy by 2030 after China and the US according to an Economist Intelligence Unit report.
50) India will sign an agreement with US under FATCA/Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) to facilitate automatic transmission of information and eliminate black money.
51) Moody's has said that India will grow at 7.5% in 2015-2016 which is the highest among G20 economies
52) World Bank has projected India's GDP to grow to 7.5% in the current fiscal on account of enhanced economic activity and more stability. Further acceleration to 7.9% in 2016-2017 and 8% in 2017-2018 is also projected by the Indian Development Update Report of WB

NATIONAL NEWS

1) Tamil Nadu Gov said that an award would be constituted in the name of former President A P J Abdul Kalam and his birthday would be observed as "Youth Renaissance Day"(oct 15th).
2) India to celebrate 'Handloom Day' on August 7- launched by Honble prime minister in Chennai.
3) India ranks 14th out of 22 countries on TB prevalence- WHO Global tuberculosis Report 2014-2.6 million cases.
4) Union home ministry announced the renaming of the "tourist visa on arrival scheme (VoA)" as "etourist visa" aiming to avoid inconvenience to foreign tourists-150 countries.
5) 1st All-Women Trans Continental Road Expedition flagged off from Delhi to London by Union Minister for Chemical & Fertilisers & Minister of State for Youth Affairs & Sports-12,000 kms
6) 46th Session of the Indian labour Conference held on July 20-21, 2015 in New Delhi-inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi. Government raised the daily minimum wage from Rs. 137 to Rs. 160
7) India's 1st air freight station in the private sector come up at Irungattukottai near Chennai.
8) PM Modi launches 'Skill India' Campaign ON World Youth Skills Day on 15th July 2015- Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)
9) Ira Singhal-topper of UPSC examination was brand ambassador for the programmes of department of empowerment of persons with disabilities
10) Union home ministry declared whole of Nagaland as a disturbed area for a further period of one year from June 30, 2015.
11) Indian Army launched Operation Shiva to provide security to those devotees taking part in the 59-day-long annual Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir
12) Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar launched software - ARPAN 3.0(Army Record Office Process Automation 3.0) to digitise records of over 12 lakh soldiers of the Indian Army.
13) Digital India Programme: The project is intended for completion by 2019.This will be chaired by the Ministry of Communications and IT.Three key areas 9 Pillars of Digital India: Broadband Highways, Universal Access to Phones, Public Internet Access Programme, e-Governance – Reforming government through Technology ,e-Kranti – Electronic delivery of services ,Information for All,Electronics Manufacturing – Target NET ,ZERO Imports ,IT for Jobs , Early Harvest Programmes.
14) Rabindranath Tagore 154th birth anniversary-May 07.
15) Samajwadi water ATM scheme launched by the gov of UP- Samajwadi Shudha Payjal Yojnas- Mr.Akilesh Yadav, CM of UP.
16) 12th International Water Expo – Mumbai.
17) Narendra Modi-1st Indian PM to visit Israel and Palestine.
18) HP becomes 1st state to implement ABPS(Aadhaar based Payment System)
19) Union Government has declared the names of 98 cities for its ambitious Smart Cities Project. Of the total 98 cities, 13 were selected from Uttar Pradesh, 12 from Tamil Nadu, 10 from Maharashtra, 7 from Madhya Pradesh, 3 each from Bihar and

Andhra Pradesh. These selected cities will get two crore rupees each for the preparation of the smart city plan with the prime motive to enhance urban life with very practical and realistic approach.

20) India has inked an information exchange agreement on tax matters with Seychelles in order to curb tax evasion and boost its efforts to fight against black money.
21) As per recently released 2011 census data on religion, the proportion Muslim population in India has increased by 0.8 per cent and Hindu population has declined by 0.7 per cent. This religion based data during 2001-2011 was released by the Registrar General and Census Commissioner. The total population of India was 121.09 crore population of which 96.63 crores are Hindus, 17.22 crores are Muslims, 2.78 crore are Christians. Sikhs constitutes 2.08 crore, Buddhist 84 lakh, Jains 45 lakh and other religions and persuasions 79 lakh. Growth Rate: The overall decadal population growth rate was 17. 7 per cent. The growth rate of Muslims was 24.6 per cent, Hindus 16.8, Christians 15.5, Sikh 8.4, Buddhist 6.1 and Jain 5.4 per cent. Sikh population has declined by 0.2 per cent and Buddhist by 0.1 per cent. There has been no significant change in the population of Jains and Christians. Top 5 states/UTs having highest Muslim Population: Lakshadweep (96.2 per cent), Jammu & Kashmir (68.3), Assam (34. 2), West Bengal (27) and Kerala (26.6).
22) Union Government has launched a telemedicine initiative dubbed as Sehat to provide healthcare facilities in rural areas in collaboration with Apollo Hospitals.
23) Union Government has constituted a three member panel to assess the situation over the student protest in Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) in Pune. The three member panel has been constituted by Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B). It will will be headed by the Registrar of Newspapers (RNI) S M Khan and comprise of two officials from I&B Ministry.
24) Union Government has announced 1.25 lakh crore rupees special package for poll bound Bihar as part of Prime Minister's Bihar Package.
25) Union Government's ambitious Pratyaksha Hastaantarit Laabh (PAHAL) scheme has been acknowledged as the world's largest cash transfer program (households) by the Guinness Book of World Records.
26) Union Government has launched the School Nursery Yojana in a bid to bring school students closer to nature by involving them in raising of saplings in school nurseries.
27) Union Ministry of Rural Development has launched 'SAMANVAY' web portal to monitor progress and implementation of the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) for development of Gram Panchayats. It was launched by Union Rural Development Minister Chaudhary Birender Singh.
28) Dr Suniti Solomon, pioneer of Human immunodeficiency virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) research and treatment in India passed away in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
29) Union Government has announced to roll out e-tourist visa facility to Chinese nationals from July 30, 2015. Hong Kong and Macao nationals will also be provided with e-tourist visa facility along with Chinese citizens.
30) Delhi Lt Governor Najeeb Jung approved appointment of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Swati Maliwal as Chairperson of Delhi Commission for Women (DCW).
31) Union Government launched Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DUGJY) in Patna, Bihar. The flagship scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with an aim to provide 24×7 uninterrupted electricity supply to each rural household across the country by 2022
32) Union Government has launched a national campaign Surakshit Khadya Abhiyan in a bid to create awareness and capacity building on Safe and Hygienic food for all.
33) FSSAI is a nodal statutory agency responsible for protecting and promoting public health in India through the regulation and supervision of food safety. FSSAI was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and operates under aegis of Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
34) The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is considered as gateway for India to expand trade and investment links with Central Asia and Eurasia. Its importance was highlighted in India's Foreign Trade Policy of India 2015-20.
35) India and United States (US) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation to establish the PACESetter Fund in New Delhi. The MoU was signed by Richard Verma, US Ambassador to India and Upendra Tripathy, Secretary, Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). The PACESetter Fund seeks to support the Promoting Energy Access through Clean Energy (PEACE) track of the US-India Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE).
36) Union home ministry has declared entire Nagaland state as a 'disturbed area' for one year period with an immediate effect from June 30, 2015.
37) World Bank has ranked the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Gurantee Act (MGNREGA) as the world's largest public works programme.
38) National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) survey has pegged literacy rate in the rural areas at 71 per cent and 86 per cent in the urban areas in year 2014.
39) Union Cabinet has given nod to rename Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) as the Renewable Energy Corporation of India (RECI).
40) Union Cabinet has approved setting up 6 new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) in the country.Now the total strength of IIMs increases to 19 from 13. These new IIMs will be located at Bodh Gaya (Bihar), Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Sirmaur (Himachal Pradesh), Amritsar (Punjab) and Sambalpur (Odisha).
41) Union Government has launched Bhuvan Ganga Mobile Application and Web Portal to aid flagship mission to Clean Ganga.

42) Indian Railways has named Haridwar Mail as Yoga Express with an immediate effect. In this regard the train No 19031/19032 Ahmedabad-Haridwar-Ahmedabad famously known as Haridwar Mail has been christened as Yoga Express.
43) India's first green police station was inaugurated on the occasion of World Environment Day at Maurice Nagar in north Delhi.
44) Union Government has launched Khoya Paya web platform for people to directly report, track and upload information on missing children.
45) President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the 50th Anniversary of India's first historic climb of Mt. Everest in 1965 at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan. This function was organized by the Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF) to celebrate the historic climb of Mt. Everest in 1965 by an Indian team led by Captain Mohan Singh Kohli.
46) Union Government formally launched Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development (USTAAD) Scheme. It was launched by Union Minister of Minority Affairs Dr. Najma Heptullah in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh in order to improve degrading conditions of world famous Banaras Saree weavers who belong to minority communities.
47) Union Ministry of Labour and Employment has appointed K Satish Reddy as the chairman of the National Safety Council (NSC).
48) In recently released 2015 Mother's Index in the State of the World's Mothers (SOWM) report titled The Urban Disadvantage, India was placed at 140th position out of 179 countries.
49) India was placed at 117th position in the recently released World Happiness Report 2015 among the 158 studied nations. The report was published by the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN). Key facts from report Top five countries: Switzerland (1st), Iceland (2nd), Denmark (3rd), Norway (4th) and Canada (5th).
50) Senior diplomat Dr. Mohan Kumar has been appointed the India's next Ambassador to France.
51) The Supreme Court (SC) struck down the Section 66A of the Information and Technology Act 2000 calling it unconstitutional and untenable.
52) The Union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) to provide skills training to youth across the country.
53) 8th edition of India-Nepal Combined Exercise Surya Kiran VIII concluded at Salijhandi in Nepal.
54) 8th edition of India-Nepal Combined Exercise Surya Kiran VIII concluded on 8 March 2015 at Salijhandi in Nepal.
55) Prime Minister visited to the five Central Asian States — Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. All central Asian countries are very rich in energy resources
56) Union cabinet gave 4 month extension to 7th pay commission headed by justice mathur till 31st December 2015.The Sixth Pay Commission was implemented with effect from 1 January 2006, the fifth from 1 January 1996 and the fourth from 1st January 1986.
57) After successful implementation of 'Operation Smile' (Bengaluru police has rescued over 164 children, who were pushed into the begging racket by the mafia. And the project to rehabilitate them is appropriately titled `Operation Smile'.), the railway police started implementing 'Operation Muskaan' to trace missing and destitute children and reunite them with their parents.
58) To ensure women safety, Delhi Police has launched operation Shishtachar where policewomen dressed in plain clothes travel in public transport in the city to catch eve-teasers and other people who harass women during their daily commute.

RECENT VISITS OF PRIME MINISTER

1.Uzbekistan
Highlights
(i) Signed 3 agreements mainly to boost cooperation between their foreign offi ces and in the field of culture and tourism.
(ii) President: Islam Karimov
(iii) Prime Minister: Shavkat Mirziyoyev
(iv) Currency: Uzbekistani som
(v) Capital: Tashkent

2.KAZAKHSTAN
Highlights
(i) Agreements: Both the countries signed 5 agreements which include defence, railways and uranium supply, cooperation in the framework of the International North South Transport Corridor and to improve surface connectivity.
(ii) President: Nursultan Nazarbayev
(iii) Prime Minister: Karim Massimov
(iv) Currency: Kazakhstani tenge
(v) Capital: Astana

3. RUSSIA
Highlights
(i) He went to attend 7th BRICS Summit and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit.
(ii) President: Vladimir Putin
(iii) Prime Minister: Dmitry Medvedev
(iv) Currency: Russian ruble
(v) Capital: Moscow

4.TURKMENISTAN
Highlights
(i) Both the countries signed 7 agreements in the fields of defence, supply of chemical products, foreign affairs, sports, science and technology, medicine and tourism.
(ii) President: Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow
(iii) Currency: Turkmen new manat
(iv) Capital: Ashgabat

5.KYRGYZSTAN
Highlights
(i) The countries signed 4 agreements on cooperation in defence,culture, Election Commissions and in the sphere of
Standards.

(ii) President: Almazbek Atambayev
(iii) Prime Minister: Temir Sariyev
(iv) Currency: Kyrgyzstani som
(v) Capital: Bishkek

6.TAJIKISTAN
(i) The countries signed 2 agreements in the field of culture and human resource development. India is to set up computer labs in 37 schools in Tajikistan.
(ii) President: Emomali Rahmon
(iii) Prime Minister: Kokhir Rasulzoda
(iv) Currency: Tajikistani somoni
(v) Capital: Dushanbe

7.UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
(i) Both the countries decided to set up a multi-billion dollar fund to raise $75 billion to support investment in India‘s investment sector. PM Narendra Modi offered $1 trillion.
investment opportunity to UAE.
(ii) President: Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
(iii) Prime Minister: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
(iv) Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham
(v) Capital: Abu Dhabi

EARLIER VISITS OF PM

1. China: 14 – 16 May
* Highlights:
Modi will a three-nation tour of China, Mongolia and South Korea from May 14 to 19.
*According to officials, the visit is aimed at giving a boost to the East Asia policy aligning it with Make in India initiatives and bringing momentum to the country‘s foreign policy in the strategically significant region.
A. During the Modi's visit, India would seek greater market
access, removal of non-tariff barriers and investments in sectors such as defence.
B. China has already signed MoUs to set up industrial parks in India.
Key persons--Xi Jinping (President)

2. Mongolia: 16 – 17 May
Highlights:
A. Mongolia and India are keen to move forward on the MoU for
Uranium supply that the two countries had entered in 2009.
B. Mongolia is keen on Indian helping the country in cyber
security.
C. Help in border patrolling is another area where the two
countries will be stepping up the ties.
* Key person --Chimed Saikhanbileg—PM

3. South Korea: 18 – 19 May
Highlights:
A. His visit to South Korea has a definite Make in India angle to it.
B. India is keen on getting investment and going for joint
manufacturing in areas where South Korea has a technological edge.
C. In the manufacturing sector, South Korean companies including Samsung, LG and Hyundai that have strong presence in India.
* Key person --President Park Geun-hye , Prime minister—Lee Wan-koo

4. Canada: 14 – 16 April
Highlights:
* The first official visit by an Indian PM in over 40 years, is a sure sign that relations between our two countries are reaching new heights.
A. The visit, which resulted in several new bilateral agreements and commercial deals worth over $1.6 billion.
B. These include energy, railway transportation, education and skills development, space cooperation, and maternal,
newborn and child health.
C. One of the commercial agreements signed was for a Canadian company, Cameco, to supply over 3.175 million kg of uranium concentrate to India over the next five years for the generation of electricity.
* Key person --Stephen Harper-PM

5. Germany: 12 – 14 April
Highlights:
The PM‘s visit to Germany was widely covered by the media there especially his inauguration of the famous Hannover industrial fair along with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.
A. Both leaders spoke in favour of a free trade agreement
between the European Union and India. PM Modi said that
this was important for the expansion of India as a manufacturing hub.
B. The joint statement by both countries recognized the establishment of a working group on urban development.
* Key Persom- Germany chancellor Angela Markel

6. France: 9 – 12 April
Highlights:
* 20 pacts signed between India and France
*Participate in the Make In India programme in defense, civil nuclear power and food processing
* India asked France to supply 36 Rafale fighter jets in _fly-away‘ condition
* Key Person-French President Francois Hollande.

7. Singapore: 29 March

Highlights:
A. Prime Minister Modi attended the state-funeral of Lee Kuan Yew,
* The first Prime Minister of Singapore.
* There, at the sidelines, he met several world leaders including Israeli President.
*It was his first visit to Singapore and he is expected to visit again during the later part of the year for golden jubilee
celebration of India-Singapore diplomatic relation.
* Key Person- PM- Lee Hsien

8. Sri Lanka - 13 – 14 March
Highlights:
4 agreements with Sri Lanka:
* Customs pact to balance trade,
* Credit line of more than $300 million,
* Currency swap agreement.
* Visa on arrival for Sri Lankan nationals in India.
* Prime Minister Narendra Modi today flagged off a train service at the north-western Sri Lankan town of .The newly constructed 63-km railway track between Madhu Road and Talaimannar Pier is the last segment of the 265-km long.
* Key persons—President -Maithripala SirisenaRanil Prime minster –Wickremesinghe

9.Mauritius - 11 – 13 March
* Highlights:
AGGREMENTS: Total 5
A. India Offers $500 Million Credit to Mauritius During PM Modi's Visit, 5 Pacts Signed.
Indian line of credit of $ 200 million initially meant for the light railway transit system to projects in the water and energy sector.
B. Modi was the Chief guest at the Mauritian National Day on 12
March
* Key persons--PM of mauritius—aniruthJugnauth

10. Seychelles - 10 - 11 March
Highlights:
A. AGREEMENTS: Total 4
* Hydrography
* Renewable energy
* Infrastructure
* Development and sale of navigation charts and electronic
navigational charts
* Key person---President James Alix

KEY APPOINTMENTS

1) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has appointed Kishor Piraji Kharat as its new Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer.

2) Former Cabinet secretary Ajit Kumar Seth has been appointed as the Chairman of the government's head-hunter, Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB)

3) Larsen and Toubro has appointed former Infosys executive Sanjay Jalona as the Managing Director and CEO of its subsidiary L&T Infotech, IT arm of L&T.

4) The Centre has appointed senior IPS officer Anil Kumar Sinha as the new Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

5) Former Uttar Pradesh Chief Secretary Anoop Mishra, will be the new Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha.

6) Government has appointed former IAS officer Deepak Gupta as a new chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

7) Senior IPS officer Dineshwar Sharma was appointed as new Director of Intelligence Bureau (IB).

8) Union Government has appointed Manoj Mishra as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state-run National Fertilizers Ltd (NFL).

9) Union Ministry of Finance has appointed M J Joseph as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA).

10) President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed Mr. Arvind Saxena as Member of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). With this appointment Mr. Saxena became first officer from Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) to become member of UPSC.

11) Union government has appointed Sriram Kalyanaraman as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Housing Bank (NHB) for a period of five years.

12) Union Information and Broadcasting (I&B) ministry has appointed Veena Jain as director general (news) in Doordarshan (DD).

13) Eminent scientist Dr. Selvin Christopher has been appointed as the Director General (DG) of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) along with the rank of a secretary.

14) Lt Gen Man Mohan Singh Rai has been appointed as new Vice-Chief of the Indian Army.

15) The IT Secretary Ram Sevak Sharma was appointed as the chairman of telecom regulator Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)

16) Union Government has appointed former IAS officer Ashish Bahuguna as the chairman of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

OBITUARY

1. Former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam passes away.
2. Eminent Sanskrit Scholar and Indologist NR Varhadpande passed away.
3. Former Australian Cricketer Arthur Morris passes away.
4. The founder of Hero Cycle Om Prakash Munjal passes away.
5. Matti Makkonen, Father of SMS technology passes away
6. Former Chief Justice of India Y K Sabharwal passed away.
7. Renowned Urdu novelist Abdullah Hussain passed away.
8. Prince Saud al-Faisal, World's longest serving Foreign Minister passes away.
9. Famous Hollywood actor Umer Sharif passed away.
10. Legendary music composer MS Viswanathan passes away.

11. Former BSFI president Pashupatinath Roy died.
12. Iconic musician Joan Sebastian passed away.
13. Veteran Telugu playback singer V Ramakrishna passes away.
14. Jules Bianchi: F1 driver dies from Suzuka crash injuries.
15. Godfather actor Alex Rocco dies at 79
16. Uruguayan soccer legend Alcides Edgardo Ghiggia died
17. Dr. Suniti Solomon, Pioneering Indian HIV/AIDS Researcher, Dies at 76.
18. Former South African cricketer Clive Rice passes away.
19. Physicist P. Hariharan passes away.
20. Archie Comics cartoonist Tom Moore dies at 86.
21. US country singer Lynn Anderson passes away.
22. Colonel Harwant Singh (Retd), World War-II hero passes away.
23. Poet, freedom fighter Kayyara Kinhanna Rai passes away.
24. Frances Oldham Kelsey, the anti-thalidomide Canadian doctor, died.
25. Hollywood Actor George Cole passed away.
26. Last surviving Dambusters Pilot Les Munro died.
27. British singer Cilla Black passed away.
28. Sister Nirmala, who succeeded Nobel laureate Mother Teresa as the superior-general of the Missionaries of Charity, died.She was 81.
29. James Horner, celebrated composer of musical scores for several smash-hit movies, including Titanic and Avatar , died in a plane crash at the age of 61, colleagues said.
30. Former Union Minister Sheila Kaul, a sister-in-law of Jawaharlal Nehru and oldest surviving former parliamentarian, died after brief illness at a hospital.
31. Renowned Urdu novelist Abdullah Hussain passed away:He authored the bestseller and critically acclaimed novel Udas Naslain, it is considered as a masterpiece of Urdu literature.
32. Adelaide Crows football coach Phil Walsh died: Phil Walsh, 55, who turned to coaching after a long playing career, was killed.
33. Patrick Macnee, star of The Avengers, died.
34. Veteran Journalist Praful Bidwai passed away.
35. Titanic composer James Horner died.
36. Former Indian women's hockey captain Shashi Bala died.
37. Former Turkey President Suleyman Demirel died.
38. Las Vegas casino tycoon Kirk Kerkorian died.
39. Sheila Kaul, former Governor of Himachal Pradesh, died.
40. Veteran actor Sir Christopher Lee died at the age of 93.
41. Chandigarh's Rock Garden creator Nek Chand died.
42. Former Indian Cricketer Hemant Kanitkar died.
43. Hemant Sonawala, the pioneer of India‘s IT industry, died.
44. Doris Hart, winner of three Wimbledon titles in a day, died at 89: She retired from professional tennis in 1955 and was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1969.
45. Nobel Awardee mathematician John Forbes Nash Jr. died.
46. Veteran jazz musician Bob Belden passed away.
47. Eminent Economist Mrinal Datta Chaudhuri passed away.
48. Actress Sudha Shivpuri died: Shivpuri gained popularity for her role as Baa in television show Kyuki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, the longest running TV show of Ekta Kapoor.
49. Riley B. King, the King of Blues, passed away.
50. Bengali Writer Suchitra Bhattacharya passed away.
51. Peter Gay, Eminent American historian on European Thought passed away.
52. Eminent historian Amalendu Guha passed away.
53. Oscar Holderer, the US moon rocket expert, died: Holderer was one of about 120 engineers who moved to the US after World War II and brought technology used in the German V2 rocket.
54. Lu Ping, Chinese diplomat who oversaw Hong Kong transition, died.
55. Michael Blake, Oscar-winning author, passed away.
56. Baleshwar Ram, former Union Minister passed away.
57. Former Bengal U-19 Cricket captain Ankit Keshri died.
58. Former Chief Minister of Odisha Janaki Ballabh Patnaik died.
59. Stanislav Gross, Former Czech Republic Prime Minister, died.
60. Former Nepalese Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa died.
61. Nobel laureate German Novelist Gunter Grass died.
62. 1971 War Hero Lt General Hanut Singh Died.
63. Former Air Chief Marshal of IAF Hrushikesh Moolgavkar died.
64. Former Australia Cricket Captain Richie Benaud died.
65. Jnanapith awardee Tamil writer Jayakanthan died.
66. India‘s ace mountaineer Malli Mastan Babu died.
67. Renowned Hindi poet Kailash Vajpeyi died

IMPORTANT STATIC G.K FOR IBPS-RRB:2015

THERMAL POWER PLANTS (TPS) IN INDIA

- Mundra TPS, Kutch, Gujarat
- Vindhyachal TPS, Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh
- Talcher Super TPS, Angul, Odisha
- Sipat TPS, Bilaspur , Chhattisgarh
- Korba Super TPS, Chattisgarh
- Rihand TPS, Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh
- Jharsuguda TPS, Odisha
- Tiroda TPS, Maharashtra
- Anpara TPS – Uttar Pradesh
- Barauni TPP – Bihar
- Bellary TPP – Karnataka
- Durgapur TPP – West Bengal
- Sikka TPS – Gujarat
- Satpura TPS – Madhya Pradesh
- Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station – UP
- Wanakbori TPS – Gujarat

NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN INDIA

- Narora atomic power plant - Narora, UP
- Rajasthan atomic power plant: Rawatbhatta, Rajasthan (India & Candada)
- Tarapur atomic power plant – Maharashtra (India & US)
- Kakarpar atomic power plant - Gujarat
- Madras atomic power plant - Tamilnadu
- Kaiga atomic power plant - Karnataka
- Kundankullam : in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu (India & Russia)
- Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant - Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra (India & France)

DAMS IN INDIA

- Tehri Dam: on Bhagirathi River, Uttarakhand
- Lakhwar Dam on Yamuna river, Uttrakhand
- Iduuki Arch Dam – on Periyar river, Kerala
- Koyna Dam – on Koyana river, Maharshtra
- Bhakra nangal Dam: on Sutlej River, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.
- Sardar Sarovar Dam: on Narmada River, Gujarat
- Srisailam dam: on Narmada River, Andhra Pradesh
- Ranjit Sagar Dam: on Rav river, Punjab
- Baglihar Dam: on Chenab river , J& K
- Cheruthoni (Eb) Dam: on Cheruthoni, Kerala
- Hirakud Dam: on Mahanadi River, Orissa
- Nagarjuna sagar Dam: on Krishna River, Andhra Pradesh
- Indira SagarDam: on Narmada River, Madhya Pradesh
- Ukai Dam: on Tapi river, Gujarat
- Maithon Dam: on Barakar river, Jharkhand
- Krishnarajsagar Dam: on kaveri river, Karnataka
- Mettur Dam: on Kaveri River, Salem district in Tamil Nadu
- TungaBhadra Dam – on Tungabhadra rive, Karnataka

FOLK DANCES IN INDIA

- Changu: Odissa and Andhra Pradesh
- Gair: Rajasthan.
- Garba, Dandiya Rass: Gujarat
- Ghoomar: Rajasthan.
- Karagam: Tamil Nadu.
- Lavani: Maharashtra
- Odissi: Orissa
- Rauf – Jammu & Kashmir
- Nautanki, Thora, Chappeli, Raslila, Kajri - UP
- Classical dances in India

- Kathak: Uttar Pradesh.
- Bihu: Assam
- Bharat Natyam: Tamil Nadu
- Kuchipudi: Andhra Pradesh.
- Kathakali: Kerala.
- Chhau: Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal
- Bhangra: Punjab.
- Khantumm – Mizoram

LINES B/W DIFFERENT COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD

- Durand Line: Pakistan and Afghanistan
- Mc. Mohan Line: India(Arunachal Pradesh Region) and China
- Radcliff Line: India and Pakistan
- Line of Control :It divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan.
- Hidden berg Line: Germany and Poland
- Maginot Line: France and Germany
- Older Neisse Line: Germany and Poland
- Mannerheim Line :Russia and Finland border.
- Siegfried Line : Germany and France.
- 17th Parallel: North Vietnam and South Vietnam
- 24th Parallel : India and Pakistan.
- 26th Parallel : Australia & South Africa
- 38th Parallel: North Korea and South Korea
- 49th Parallel: Canada and USA

ORGANISATIONS & THEIR HEAD

1) RBI- Raghuram Govinda Rajan & Deputy Governors:
   a. Shri S. S. Mundra
   b. Shri R. Gandhi
   c. Dr. Urjit R. Patel
   d. Shri H R Khan
2) SEBI-U.K. Sinha
3) NABARD-Harsh Kumar Bhanawala
4) FICCI-Jyotsna Suri
5) IBPS- Anup Shankar Bhattarcharya
6) RAW-Rajinder Khanna
7) IB-Dineshwar Sharma
8) CBI-Anil Sinha
9) UPSC-Deepak Gupta
10) SSC-Amitava Bhattacharyya
11) UGC- Ved Prakash
12) Indian Army-Lt. Gen. Dalbir Singh Suhag
13) Indian Airforce-Arup Raha
14) Indian Navy-Admiral Robin K Dhowan
15) BSF - D.K. Pathak
16) ISRO - Kiran Kumar
17) NASSCOM President-R Chandrasekaran
18) ASSOCHAM-Rana Kapoor
19) DRDO-S.Christopher
20) SBI-Arundhati Bhattacharya
21) IRDA-T.S.Vijayan
22) TRAI-Ram Sewak Sharma
23) World Bank-Jim Yong Kim
24) IMF-Christane Legard

CM'S IN 2015 AUGUST

1. Andhra Pradesh-N. Chandrababu Naidu
2. Arunachal Pradesh-Nabam Tuki
3. Assam-Tarun Gogoi
4. Bihar-Nitish Kumar
5. Chhattisgarh-Raman Singh
6. Delhi-Arvind Kejriwal
7. Goa-Laxmikant Parsekar
8. Gujarat-Anandiben Patel
9. Haryana-Manohar Lal Khattar
10. Himachal Pradesh-Virbhadra Singh
11. Jammu and Kashmir-Mufti Mohammad Sayeed
12. Jharkhand-Raghuvar Das
13. Karnataka-Siddaramaiah
14. Kerala-Oommen Chandy
15. Madhya Pradesh-Shivraj Singh Chouhan
16. Maharashtra-Devendra Fadnavis
17. Manipur-Okram Ibobi Singh
18. Meghalaya-Mukul Sangma
19. Mizoram-Lal Thanhawla
20. Nagaland-T. R. Zeliang
21. Odisha-Naveen Patnaik
22. Puducherry-N. Rangaswamy
23. Punjab-Parkash Singh Badal
24. Rajasthan-Vasundhara Raje
25. Sikkim-Pawan Kumar Chamling
26. Tamil Nadu-Jayalalithaa

27. Telangana-K. Chandrashekar Rao
28. Tripura-Manik Sarkar
29. Uttar Pradesh-Akhilesh Yadav
30. Uttarakhand-Harish Rawat
31. West Bengal-Mamata Banerjee

IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONS

1. United Nation (UN) – is an intergovernmental organization established on 24 October 1945 to promote international cooperation.
Headquarter – New York , Head – Ban ki-moon Member -South Sudan new member country . Total– 193 members.

2. WTO (World Trade Org.) –Kazakhstan new member country. Total – 162 members.
Headquarter – Geneva, Switzerland, Head – Roberto Azevêdo.

3. World Bank - The World Bank is a United Nations international financial institution that provides loans to developing countries for capital programs.
Headquarter - Washington D.C. (United States) President – Jim Yong Kim
Member - South Sudan new member country. Total– 188 members.

4. IMF – The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization that was initiated in 1944 at the.Bretton Woods Conference and formally created in 1945 by 29 member countries.
Headquarter – Washington DC . (United States) President –Christine Lagarde
Member - South Sudan new member country. Total– 188 members

5. European Union – Croatia new member country. Total– 28 member countries.
Headquarter – Brussels, Belgium President of the European Commission: Jean-Claude Juncker.

6. Eurozone - The growth of the eurozone is an ongoing process within the European Union (EU). All Member states of the European Union, except for Denmark and the United Kingdom are obliged to adopt the euro as their sole currency once they meet the criteria.
Member – The eurozone currently comprise 19 EU states.
Note: i). Latvia becomes the 18th Member State to adopt the euro on 1 January 2014.
ii. Lithuania has been approved for euro adoption on 1 January 2015.

7. ASEAN - Association of Southeast Asian Nations is a political and economic organisation of ten countries located in Southeast Asia, which was formed on 8 August 1967.
Headquarter – Jakarta, Indonesia Member - 10 member countries (India is not the member of ASEAN)

8. APEC – Asia – Pacific Economic Cooperation –is a forum for 21 Pacific Rim member economies that seeks to promote free trade and economic cooperation throughout the AsiaPacific region. It was established in 1989 Headquarter – Singapore Member – 21

9. OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) is an international organization and economic cartel whose mission is to coordinate the policies of the oilproducing countries.
Headquarter – Vienna, Austria , Member - 12 member countries. President - Diezani Alison-Madueke

10. NATO (North Atlantic treaty Organization): NATO‘s essential purpose is to safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and military means.
Headquarter – Brussels, Belgium Member – 28 Member Countries.

11. SAARC (South Asian Association of Regional CoOperation): is an economic and geopolitical organization of eight countries that are primarily located in South Asia or the Indian subcontinent.

Headquarter – Kathmandu, Nepal – 8 Member Countries. Secretary-General: Arjun Bahadur Thapa.

12. ICJ (International Court of Justice): is the primary judicial branch of the United Nations. It is based in the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. Its main functions are to settle legal disputes submitted to it by states and to provide advisory opinions on legal questions submitted to it by duly authorized international branches, agencies, and the UN General Assembly.
Headquarter The Hague, Netherlands.

IMPORTANT REGULATORS IN INDIA

Regulator	Sectors	Chairman	Headquarte
Reserve Bank of India (RBI)	Financial system and monetary policy, Money Market	Raghuram Rajan	Mumbai
Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)	Security & Capital Market, stock broking & Merchant Banking, Nidhis, Chit Fund Companies	U.K. Sinha	Mumbai
Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA)	Insurance industry	T. S. Vijayan	Hyderabad
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)	Telecommunication Industry	Ram Sewak Sharma	New Delhi
Forward Markets Commission	Commodity Market	Ramesh Abhishek	Mumbai
Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)	Pension Sector	Hemant Contractor	New Delhi

LIST OF WORLD COUNTRIES & THEIR CAPITAL

A
Afghanistan - Kabul
Albania - Tirana
Algeria - Algiers
Andorra - Andorra la Vella
Angola - Luanda
Antigua & Barbuda - Saint John's
Argentina - Buenos Aires
Armenia - Yerevan
Australia - Canberra
Austria - Vienna
Azerbaijan - Baku
B
Bahamas - Nassau
Bahrain - Al-Manamah
Bangladesh - Dhaka
Barbados - Bridgetown
Belarus - Minsk
Belgium - Brussels
Belize - Belmopan
Bhutan - Thimphu
Bosnia & Herzegovina - Sarajevo
Botswana - Gaborone
Brazil - Brasilia
Brunei - Bandar Seri Begawan
Bulgaria - Sofia
Burkina Faso - Ouagadougou
Burundi – Bujumbura
C
Cambodia - Phnom Penh
Cameroon - Yaounde
Canada - Ottawa
Cape Verde - Praia
Central African Republic -Bangui
Chad - N'Djamena
Chile - Santiago
China - Beijing
Colombia - Bogota
Comoros - Moroni
Congo - Brazzaville
Congo Democratic Republic of the - Kinshasa
Costa Rica - San Jose
Cote d'Ivoire - Abidjan
Croatia - Zagreb
Cuba - Havana
Cyprus - Nicosia
Czech Republic - Prague
D
Denmark - Copenhagen
Djibouti - Djibouti City
Dominica - Roseau
Dominican Republic - Santo Domingo
E
East Timor - Dili
Ecuador - Quito
Egypt - Cairo
El Salvador - San Salvador
Equatorial Guinea - Malabo
Eritrea - Asmara
Estonia - Tallinn
Ethiopia - Addis Ababa
F
Fiji - Suva
Finland - Helsinki
France - Paris
G
Gabon - Libreville
Gambia - Banjul
Georgia - Tbilisi
Germany - Berlin
Ghana - Accra
Greece - Athens
Grenada - Saint George's
Guatemala - Guatemala City
Guinea - Conakry
Guyana - Georgetown
H
Haiti - Port-au-Prince
Honduras - Tegucigalpa
Hungary - Budapest
I
Iceland - Reykjavik
India - New Delhi
Indonesia - Jakarta
Iran - Tehran
Iraq - Baghdad
Ireland - Dublin
Israel - Jerusalem
Italy - Rome
J
Jamaica - Kingston
Japan - Tokyo
Jordan - Amman
K
Kazakhstan - Astana
Kenya - Nairobi
Kiribati - Tarawa Atoll
Korea North - Pyongyang
Korea South - Seoul
Kosovo - Pristina
Kuwait - Kuwait City
Kyrgyzstan - Bishkek
L

Laos - Vientiane
Latvia - Riga
Lebanon - Beirut
Lesotho - Maseru
Liberia - Monrovia
Libya - Tripoli
Liechtenstein - Vaduz
Lithuania - Vilnius
Luxembourg - Luxembourg
M
Macedonia - Skopje
Madagascar - Antananarivo
Malawi - Lilongwe
Malaysia - Kuala Lumpur
Maldives - Male
Mali - Bamako
Malta - Valletta
Marshall Islands - Majuro
Mauritania - Nouakchott
Mauritius - Port Louis
Mexico - Mexico City
Micronesia - Palikir
Moldova - Chisinau
Monaco - Monaco
Mongolia - Ulaanbaatar
Montenegro - Podgorica
Morocco - Rabat
Mozambique - Maputo
Myanmar (Burma) - Rangoon
N
Namibia - Windhoek
Nauru - no official capital; government offices in Yaren District
Nepal - Kathmandu
Netherlands - Amsterdam
New Zealand - Wellington
Nicaragua - Managua
Niger - Niamey
Nigeria - Abuja
Norway - Oslo
O
Oman - Muscat
P
Pakistan - Islamabad
Palau - Melekeok
Palestinian State*
Panama - Panama City
Papua New Guinea - Port Moresby
Paraguay - Asuncion
Peru - Lima
Philippines - Manila
Poland - Warsaw
Portugal - Lisbon
Q
Qatar - Doha
R
Romania - Bucharest
Russia - Moscow
Rwanda - Kigali
S
Saint Lucia - Castries
Saudi Arabia - Riyadh
Senegal - Dakar
Serbia - Belgrade
Seychelles - Victoria
Sierra Leone - Freetown
Singapore - Singapore
Slovakia - Bratislava
Slovenia - Ljubljana
Solomon Islands - Honiara
Somalia - Mogadishu
South Africa –Cape Town
South Sudan - Juba
Spain - Madrid
Sri Lanka - Colombo; Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte (legislative)
Sudan - Khartoum
Sweden - Stockholm
Switzerland - Bern
Syria - Damascus
T
Taiwan - Taipei
Tajikistan – Dushanbe Tanzania - Dar es Salaam
Thailand - Bangkok
Trinidad and Tobago - Port-of Spain
Tunisia - Tunis
Turkey - Ankara
Turkmenistan - Ashgabat
U
Uganda - Kampala
Ukraine - Kyiv
United Arab Emirates – Abu Dhabi
United Kingdom - London
United States of America - Washington D.C.
Uruguay - Montevideo
Uzbekistan - Tashkent
V
Vanuatu - Port-Vila
Vatican City (Holy See) – Vatican City
Venezuela - Caracas
Vietnam - Hanoi
Y
Yemen - Sanaa
Z
Zambia - Lusaka
Zimbabwe – Harare

IMPORTANT CURRENCIES

A
Afghanistan -- Afghan Afghani
Argentina -- Peso
Australia --- Dollar
Austria ---European euro
B
Bangladesh--- Taka
Bhutan ---- Ngultrum
Brazil --- Real
C
Canada ---- Dollar
Chile ---- Peso
China --- Yuan
Cuba --- Peso
D
Denmark --- Krone
E
Egypt --- Pound
F
France --- Euro
G
Germany --- Euro
H
Hong Kong --- Dollar
I
India --- Rupee
Indonesia --- Rupiah
IMF --- Special Drawing Rights
Iran --- Rial
Iraq --- Dinar
J
Japan --- Yen
L
Lithuania --- Euro
M
Malaysia --- Ringgit
Maldives --- Rufiyaa
Mexico --- Peso
N
Nepal --- Rupee
Netherlands -- Euro
Norway -- Krone
North Korea -- Won
P
Pakistan -- Rupee
Philippines --- Peso
Portugal ---- Euro
Q
Qatar ---- Riyal
R
Russia ---- Ruble
S
Saudi Arabia -- Riyal
Singapore -- Dollar
South Africa -- Rand
South Korea -- Won
Sri Lanka -- Rupee
Switzerland - Franc
Syria --- Pound
T
Thailand --- Baht
Turkey --- Lira
U
Ukraine --- Hryvnia
UAE -- Dirham

UK -- Pound	V	Z
USA --- Dollar	Vatican --- Euro	Zimbabwe -- Dollar

Previous Year General Awarenes Questions asked in IBPS RRB 2014

1. What is the full form of CST? - Central Sales Tax
2. What is the full form of NABARD? - National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Developemnt
3. What is the full form of UGC? - University Grants Commission
4. What is the full form of SLR? - Statutory Liquidity Ratio
5. Who is Vladimir Putin? - Russian President
6. Ajiknkya Rahane is related to which game? - Cricket
7. What is purpose of Jan Dhan Yojna? - Minimum one account for every family
8. Who issues RuPay card? - NPCI
9. RuPay card is linked with a bank account, how much insurance cover is linked with that account? - Rs. 1Lakh
10. Who is Robin Williams? - Hollywood Actor
11. Who is P.J Kurien? - Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha
12. According to Budget 2014, how many new Govt. Medical Colleges will be opened? - 12
13. Who is regarded as Chairperson of Planning Commission of India? - Prime Minister of India
14. What is the amount charged for ATM transactions after 5 times? - Rs. 20
15. Which Addition of game Rafael Nadal is associated - Tennis
16. In budget 2014, there was proposal of running how many passenger trains? - 8
17. The First Bullet Train will start on which Route? - Mumbai - Ahmadabad
18. How much is the tax Exemption for Senior Citizens in Budget 2014? - Rs. 3,00,000
19. Rate of Interest for Farmers under Interest Subvention Scheme scheme? - 7%
20. Who was the flag Bearer for India in Commonwealth Games 2014? - Vijay Kumar
21. How many Deputy Governors are there in RBI? - 4
22. Kundakulam Project is started in which state? - Tamil Nadu
23. Number of total new trains as per Budget 2014? - 58
24. The word 'Strike' is related to which game? - Baseball
25. Hardware park is proposed for which state? - Andhra Pradesh
26. What percent of money is increased for cleanliness in budget? - 40%
27. Who is all time highest goal scorer of Germany? – Miroslav Klose
28. Who is Wilfried Bony? - Football Striker from Ivory Coast
29. Saji Thomas is related to which game? - Rowing
30. Bhamashah Yojna in Rajasthan is for what purpose? - Women Empowerment
31. On which date Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan started - 2nd October, 2014
32. In which state Congress won all the 3 seats? - Uttarakhand
33. Bank Capitalization related to -? - Basel III Norms
34. Which country is the top source of FDI? - Singapore
35. Swaccha Bharat Abhiyan is hoping to be ended by? - 2019
36. According to the Judicial Appoints Commission, who can appoint a judge? - two eminent persons to be nominated by the Prime Minister, the CJI and the Leader of Opposition of the Lok Sabha.

Previous Year General Awarenes Questions asked in IBPS RRB 2014

1. Which state in India has highest rural population - U.P
2. What is the currency of Finland – Euro
3. What is the capital of Egypt - Cairo
4. Where will 2015 BRIS Summit be organised - Ufa, Russia
5. When is World diabetes day observed - 14th November
6. Which movie directed by Muzaffar Ali (film maker) has won Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award winner- Umrao Jaan
7. What is the role of Chief Operating Officer (COO) appointed by RBI – as a 5th Deputy Governor of RBI
8. Dipika Pallikal and Joshana Chinappa related to which sport – Squash
9. Dronacharya Award Selection Committee is headed by whom Ajitpal Singh
10. RBI imposing a limit on ATM transactions is applicable for which of the following cities - Pune and Raipur
11. The Nobel Prize 2013 in physics conferred to Brit Peter Higs and - Belgian Francois Englert
12. Who wrote the Vijay Mallya Story - K Giriprakash
13. What is the minimum capital according to RBI issued draft guidelines for setting up small banks and payment banks -

100 crore
14. Which of the following is the composite art form composed of story telling, poetry, music, drama, dance, and philosophy originated in A.P and Telangana - Hari Katha
15. Who is the head of Governance of Boards of Banks in India - PJ Nayak
16. Commercial Paper (CP) is issued in which form – promissory note.
17. Union cabinet approved Ken-Betwa river link will benefit which two states - UP & MP
18. Who got field‘s medal by International Mathematical Union's (IMU) - Manjul Bhargava
19. Who is the Minister of Consumer Affairs, food & PD - Ramvilas Paswan
20. How much capital to be infused in banks to meet Basel-III norms by 2018 as per union budget – Rs 2.40 lakh crore
21. What is the capital of Australia? Canberra
22. Which insurance company will insure under Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana - LIC
23. Nimmo Bazgo hydropower project is located in which district of J&K- Leh
24. Which country will host 7th IBSA summit – India
25. RBI asked banks not to impose penalties not maintaining minimum balance on which of the following accounts - any inoperative account
26. Which model of first ever Smartphone was launched in 1994 - IBM Simon
27. What is the maximum amount that can be transferred to Nepal from any of the NEFT-enabled branches in India – 50,000
28. BKS Iyengar who passed away recently was a renowned ..... - Yoga teacher
29. DICGC does not cover insurance for ..... - Deposits of Government's account
30. How much is the fund allocated for Deendayal Upadhya Gram Jyoti Yojana - 500 cr
31. What is the currency of Netherlands - Euro
32. When is Human Rights day observed - Dec 10
33. Which of the following is the Largest indigenously built warship - INS kamorta
34. which micro-finance company got the license from RBI - Bandhan
35. What is the full form of AIMA - All India Management Association
36. Who has been awarded with Business leader of the year award by AIMA - Mr M. G. George Muthoot, Chairman, The Muthoot Group
37. 2nd Summer Youth Olympic Games will be held in ..... -Nanjing, China
38. Which country is largest wind power producer - China
39. What is the definition of stale cheque in India - check that is 3 months or older than the date
40. The concept of BRIC was introduced by which economist -James O'Niel
41. What is the full form of CTS - Cheque Truncation System
42. Roger Federer related to which game – Tennis 43. Which bank launched first equated EMI on debit cards – ICICI
44. 24 engineering students died in river beas of Himachal Pradesh. The water came from which dam - Larji Dam
45. Which of the following feature of RTGS is not true - It is used for small transactions
46. Which state has Highest urban population according to census 2011 - Maharashtra
47. Which Irish author Created the character Dracula – Bram Stoker
48. Who is the Regulator of Forwards and Futures market – Forward Market Commission (FMC)
49. Which two countries participated in Surya Kiran VII Exercise - India & Nepal
50. Rongali Bihu is celebrated in which state – Assam
51. Who was given Best parliamentarian award was given to - Karan Singh and Sharad Yadav
52. 1st ever smartphone was created by which company – IBM Simon
53. The Note which is partially - fully obliterated is ..... - mutilated Note
54. What is the full form of E-BAAT - Electronic Banking Awareness and Technology
55. What is the name of the scheme launched by Health ministry as a part of "Anti tobacco campaign" - Sunita
56. Who is the head of the SIT on Black Money- M.B. Shah
57. What was the name of the committee who recommended CPI formula? - Urjit Patel Committee
58. What is the full form of CTBT - Comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty
59. Where is the Chandraprabha wildlife sanctuary located? - U.P. Varanasi
60. FII is regulated by ..... - SEBI
61. 1200 megawatt Lanco power plant in Udupai is established by which company? - Adani group
62. According to Railway Minister, In rail budget how many people travel daily by train- 23 million
63. JUAL ORAM Ministry of Tribal Affairs come from which constituency - Sundarghar, Odisha
64. Where is India's first skill development centre situated? –Jaipur, Rajasthan

PREVIOUS YEAR GENERAL AWARENES QUESTIONS ASKED IN IBPS RRB 2014

1. How many number of trains were promised during the rail budget? - 27
2. To which game the term "Hole" associated with : Golf
3. What is the full form of COO : Chief operating officer
4. What is the full form of ARC : Asset Reconstructing Company
5. Which of the following position, HR khan is associated with : Deputy governor

6. How many new IIMs have been approved to be opened : 5
7. How many free transactions are allowed from different bank ATM in metro cities :3
8. What is the revised age under Juvenile Crime Act - 16-18
9. M vijay is related to which of the following games : Cricket
10. Who scored highest run in 5th test from Indian Cricket Team : MS Dhoni
11. Who was the first president of India ? : Rajendra Prasad
12. What is the capital Mizoram :Aizawl
13. What is the currency of Bangladesh : TAKA
14. What is the name First satellite sent by India : Aryabhatta
15. KYC related to which process : Opening bank account
16. which Cricketer soon became a politician in Pakistan : Imran khan
17. Adani invested 15.5 bn in which country : Australia
18. Udupi thermal power plant purchased by which company :Adani
19. Maryam Mirzakhani belongs to which country : Iran
20. Sergio Ramos is associated with which sport : Football
21. What is the Education Cess : 3%
22. Boko haram organisation is from which country ? Nigeria
23. Operation Vijay is related to which of the following places :Kargil
24. Which of the following group won Ashok Chakra Winner :Major Mohit Sharma (Posthumous), Havildar Rajesh Kumar (Posthumous). Major D. Sreeram Kumar
25. SEBI related to which of the following : Money Market

PREVIOUS YEAR GENERAL AWARENES QUESTIONS ASKED IN IBPS RRB 2014

1. Bharat Bill Payment System - "any where any time payment system"
2. FDI in insurance sector - 49%
3. Proposed number of IIMs in Union Budget – 5
4. Serena Williams related to – Tennis
5. How many gold medals India got in commonwealth games – 15
6. Paran Kumar – Cartoonist
7. One question related to INS Kolkata?
8. In which city of Japan Mou signed for making Varanasi smart city – Kyoto
9. Minister of Parliamentary affairs state – Prakash Javadekar
10. Minimum pension under EPFO: Rs 1000
11. In one time how many Rs currency printed by RBI
12. According Census 2011 which state has highest population: Uttar Pradesh
13. Which Metro city celebrated its 375th anniversary: Chennai
14. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee National Rural Mission: stop migration from rural areas to cities
15. Go India Smart Card by: Northern Railways
16. Teenage Swimmer USA Create World Record: Katie Ledecky
17. Kuchipudi is a classical dance of : Andhra Pradesh
18. AIMA Entrepreneur of the year: Mr Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, Chairman and Managing Director, Bandhan Financial Services.
19. International Day against drug abuse- June 26