

AWARDS & HONOURS

TERI, The Energy Resources Institute, was ranked number two by the International Center for Climate Governance (ICCG), an internationally-renowned body whose activities focus on the design of climate policy and related governance issues. The New Delhi-based think tank was ranked under the category '**2016 Top Climate Think Tanks in the Rest of the World--Absolute Global Rankings**' during ICCG's 23rd annual conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) in Greece. TERI conducts research for sustainable development of India.

Tata Steel won the Prime Minister's trophy for being the **best performing integrated steel plant** in the country during 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Raipur's Swami Vivekananda Airport was ranked **first in Customer Satisfaction** among 49 airports in the country. Raipur Airport achieved 4.84 score on a five point scale index in the latest CSI survey conducted by an independent agency for the period of January-June 2017, followed by Udaipur, Amritsar and Dehradun airports in that sequence.

Indian Railways achieved a major landmark in the field of Eco friendly fuel technologies at Indian Railways Organization for Alternate Fuel (IROAF) which was awarded the coveted National level "**Golden Peacock Award for the Year 2017 for Eco-Innovation**" for substitution of fossil fuels (Diesel) by environment friendly CNG in DEMU passenger train services. Use of CNG in Train Sets for passenger transportation has been done for the first time in the world. Golden Peacock Awards, instituted by the Institute Of Directors (IOD), India in 1991, are now regarded as a benchmark of Corporate Excellence worldwide.

Indian-Americans, Adobe chief Shantanu Narayen and former US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, were among 38 immigrants to be honoured this year for their role in helping advance the country's (US) society, culture and economy. They were honored with the prestigious '**Great Immigrants' annual award** on US's Independence Day on July 4.

Writer Preeti Shenoy was honoured with the **Indian of the Year award**. Shenoy, who is one of India's top five highest selling women authors, was awarded by Brands Academy, one of the most reputed branding companies in India to recognise the achievements of personalities who have contributed towards building up the reputation of the country.

The U.S. Department of State honored Mr. Mahesh Muralidhar Bhagwat, I.P.S., Commissioner of Police, Rachakonda in Telangana State, as a 2017 **Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report Hero**. At the release of 2017 TIP Report in Washington D.C., Mr. Bhagwat was recognized for his dynamic leadership as the first police commissioner of the Rachakonda Commissionerate in India, his vital role in elevating human trafficking as a government priority, and his innovative approach to investigating cases and dismantling trafficking operations.

BUSINESS & CORPORATE

Reliance Jio launched the Asia-Africa-Europe (AAE-1) submarine cable system, claiming that it is the world's longest 100Gbps technology-based submarine system and will stretch for over 25,000km from Marseille, France to Hong Kong. The project is a combination of leading telecom service providers from Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

BILLS / ACTS / COMMITTEES / SCHEMES / POLICIES

- The Union Cabinet gave its approval for the Joint Interpretative Notes (JIN) on the Agreement between India and Bangladesh for the Promotion and Protection of Investments. The JIN would impart clarity to the interpretation of the existing Agreement between India and Bangladesh for the Promotion and Protection of Investments (BIPA). The JIN includes interpretative notes to be jointly adopted for many clauses, including, the definition of investor, definition of investment, exclusion of taxation measures, Fair and Equitable Treatment (FET), National Treatment (NT) and Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment, expropriation, essential security interests and Settlement of Disputes between an Investor-and a Contracting Party. Joint Interpretative Statements in general play an important supplementary role in strengthening the investment treaty regime.
- India and Israel signed 7 agreements on areas including space, tech and agriculture during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Israel.
- Six states / Union Territories (UT) - Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Telangana, Puducherry and Arunachal Pradesh - formally adopted the Centre's Government e-Marketplace (GeM) initiative. It aims to ensure that public procurement of goods and services in India worth over Rs. 5 lakh crore annually is carried out through the online platform for transparency.
- President Pranab Mukherjee launched four digital initiatives in the field of education- Swayam — an indigenously designed massive open online course (MOOC), Swayam Prabha — 32 Direct-to-Home channels for transmitting high-quality educational content, the National Digital Library containing 6.5 million books, and the National Academic Depository for authenticating all certificates issued by institutions. These initiatives are aimed to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio in the higher education from 24.5 (2015-16) to 30 by 2020.
- The Union Ministry of Power announced that about 97% of the total outstanding debt of all state power distribution companies (discoms) has been covered under the Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY).

ECONOMY & FINANCE

- The Union Cabinet approved the proposal to introduce a Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill, 2017. The Bill would provide for a comprehensive resolution framework for specified financial sector entities to deal with bankruptcy situation in banks, insurance companies and financial sector entities. The Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance, Bill 2017 when enacted, will pave the way for setting up of the Resolution Corporation. It would lead to repeal or amendment of resolution-related provisions in sectoral Acts as listed in Schedules of the Bill. It will also result in the repealing of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961 to transfer the deposit insurance powers and responsibilities to the Resolution Corporation. The Resolution Corporation would protect the stability and resilience of the financial system; protecting the consumers of covered obligations up to a reasonable limit; and protecting public funds, to the extent possible.
- European Union (EU) and India announced the establishment of an Investment Facilitation Mechanism (IFM) for EU Investments in India. The mechanism will allow for a close coordination between the European Union and the Government of India with an aim to promote and facilitate EU investment in India. This agreement builds on the Joint Statement of the 13th EU-India Summit held in Brussels in March 2016, where the EU had welcomed India's readiness to establish such a mechanism and leaders from both sides had reaffirmed their shared commitment to oppose protectionism and to work in favour of a fair, transparent and rule-based trade and investment environment.
- India, the world's third-largest oil importer, will import crude oil from the United States for the first time after Indian Oil Corp bought a cargo that will be delivered in October this year. The purchase comes after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US in June when President Donald Trump said his country looked forward to exporting more energy products to India. India is the latest Asian country to buy US crude after South Korea, Japan, China, Thailand, Australia and Taiwan as the countries seek to diversify oil imports from other regions after the OPEC cuts drove up prices of Middle East heavy-sour crude, or grades with a high sulphur content.
- Laying out norms for limiting customer liability in online banking frauds, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) directed banks to credit the amount involved in the unauthorised electronic transaction within 10 working days to the account holder.
- According to BMI Research, a Fitch group company, India is expected to register a growth of 6.9% in this financial year.
- India will be the base to the economic pole of global growth over the coming decade, remaining ahead of China, according to a Harvard University research. The study also warns of a continued slowdown in global growth over the coming decade. India and Uganda top the list of the fastest growing economies to 2025, at 7.7 per cent annually.
- India slipped to the 88th place in terms of money parked by its citizens with Swiss banks, while the U.K. remained on the top, as per an analysis of the latest figures compiled by the Swiss National Bank as on 2016-end. Also, the money officially held by Indians with banks in Switzerland accounted for a meagre 0.04 per cent of the total funds kept by all foreign clients in the Swiss banking system. India was placed at 75th position in 2015 and at 61st in the year before that, though it used to be among top-50 countries in terms of holdings in Swiss banks till 2007. The country was ranked highest at 37th place in 2004.

- The National Multi-Commodity Exchange (NMCE) decided to merge with the Indian Commodity Exchange (ICEX), creating the third-largest commodity exchange in the country. The merged entity will have a net worth of around Rs 200 crore, while its total capital base will be Rs 553 crore. It will offer a wide range of contracts, including bullion, oil and rubber, besides the world's first diamond futures contract, which has already received in-principle approval from the markets regulator. The country's largest exchange by volume is the Multi Commodity Exchange, or MCX, followed by the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX).
- The growth of eight core sectors slowed to 3.6 per cent in May due to fall in output of coal and fertilisers, as per data released by the government. The growth rate of eight infrastructure sectors — coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity — was 5.2 per cent in May last year. Slow growth in key sectors would also have implications on the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) number as these segments account for about 41 per cent to the total factory output.
- As per the official figures published by the UK's Department for International Trade, India has become the fourth largest foreign investor into the UK. The list is topped by the US.
- India ranked third in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Government at a Glance 2017 report, which presents an index of countries that trust their governments the most. Indonesia and Switzerland were ahead of India.
- India was ranked 116 out of 157 nations on the 2017 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Index and Dashboard report released by Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and Bertelsmann Stiftung. Sweden topped the list followed by Denmark and Finland.
- According to recently released OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2017-2026, India will be the world's largest milk producer by 2026 and will account for the biggest increase in wheat production globally.
- FM launched a new tax payer service module 'Aaykar Setu' that compiles various tax tools, live chat facility, dynamic updates, and important links to various processes within the Income Tax Department in a single module. It is aimed at providing better taxpayer services and reducing the direct physical interface between assesses and tax assessing authorities.

PEOPLE IN NEWS

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, leader of Islamic State, died, according to a Syrian war monitor.

The Centre named Election Commissioner **Achal Kumar Joti** the next Chief Election Commissioner of India. An IAS officer of 1975 batch from Gujarat cadre, he had served as chief secretary of Gujarat during Narendra Modi's tenure as chief minister.

Carrie Lam was sworn in as the first female Chief Executive (CE) of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), an autonomous territory of China on the Pearl River Delta.

Hayden Cross, a 21-year-old man became the first in Britain to give birth after he put his sex transition on hold to get pregnant by a sperm donor.

Senior advocate and constitutional expert **K K Venugopal** was appointed as the new Attorney General of India. He succeeds Mukul Rohatgi as the country's top law officer.

Liu Xiaobo, one of China's most famous pro-democracy advocates and political prisoners, died in Chinese custody at a hospital at the age of 61. Liu was moved from prison, where he was serving an 11-year sentence for calling for democracy in China, to a hospital. He is the first Nobel Peace Prize winner to die in state custody since the days of Nazi Germany.

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced a direct Delhi-Mumbai-Tel Aviv flight and simplified rules for getting Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards during his visit to Israel- the first time in 70 years that an Indian Prime Minister got the opportunity to visit Israel!

Renowned forensic expert and Padma Bhushan awardee Prof Dr **P Chandra Sekharan** died at the age of 83. Chandrasekaran served for over three decades as director of the Department of Forensic Sciences, Government of Tamil Nadu, and played a key role in numerous sensational cases including the assassination case of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991.

Senior IPS officer **R K Pachnanda** took charge as the new (29th) Director General of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

Saima Wazed Hossain (daughter of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina) was appointed as the Goodwill Ambassador for World Health Organisation (WHO) for Autism in South-East Asia region for a two-year period. As WHO Goodwill Ambassador, Saima will be promoting the Thimphu Declaration which also emphasises integrating the needs of autism-affected people into national health and socioeconomic development plans.

Himachal Pradesh director general of police (DGP) **Sanjay Kumar** was appointed as the new chief of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). NDRF is India's top disaster mitigation combat force headquartered in New Delhi. It functions under Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Supreme Court appointed a four-member panel to run the daily affairs of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Former Comptroller and Auditor General of India **Vinod Rai** will head the panel that also includes Ramachandra Guha, Vikram Limaye and Diana Edulji.

SPORTS

Germany won its maiden FIFA Confederation Cup Football title by defeating Chile in the final match.

India's **Harinder Pal Sandhu** defeated Rhys Dowling of Australia to win South Australian Open squash title.

India moved four places up to the 96th position in the FIFA World ranking released recently. This is the country's second best ranking — its previous best was the 94th position in February 1996.

Manpreet Kaur (shot-put) and Govindan Laxman (discus throw) lifted gold medals on the opening day of Asian Athletics Championships held.

Indian captain **Mithali Raj** became the highest run-scorer in Women's One-Day Internationals (ODIs) during her side's match against Australia in the ICC Women's World Cup 2017. The right-hander reached the milestone with single and then few balls later she notched her 6000th ODI run with a six, thus becoming the first batter in Women's cricket to reach the landmark.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) named former Indian all-rounder and captain **Ravi Shastri** as the new chief coach of the Indian cricket team till ICC World Cup 2019, succeeding Anil Kumble who had resigned from the post after the ICC Champions Trophy 2017.

India's **Sundar Singh Gurjar** won gold medal in the men's javelin throw event at World Para Athletics Championships held in London.

MISCELLANEOUS

World

- The World Youth Skills Day was observed globally on 15 July to raise awareness about the importance of investing in youth skills development.
- Okinoshima Island, Japan's men-only island was declared as a UNESCO world heritage site.
- The 12th G-20 summit concluded in Hamburg (Germany) with adaptation of Hamburg Action Plan, which sets out the group's strategy for achieving strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth.
- A global treaty banning nuclear weapons was adopted at the United Nations despite opposition from the United States, Britain, France and other nuclear powers that boycotted negotiations. The treaty was adopted by a vote of 122 in favour with one country — NATO member The Netherlands voting against — while Singapore abstained. None of the nine countries that possess nuclear weapons — the United States, Russia, Britain, China, France, India, Pakistan, North Korea and Israel — took part in the negotiations or the vote.
- India was ranked 23rd out of 165 nations in the second Global Cyber security Index (GCI) released by the UN telecommunications agency International Telecommunication Union. The index measures the commitment of nations across the world to cyber security and was topped by Singapore.
- The United States announced to present a draft resolution in the U.N. Security Council aimed at imposing new sanctions on North Korea after the latter successfully launched its first intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).
- The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the end of the most recent outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

India

- Indian Railways launched India's first solar powered diesel multiple unit (DEMU) broad gauge train – a 1600 Horse Power (HP) train with all solar powered coaches. The train will run from Sarai Rohilla in Delhi to Farukh Nagar in Haryana.
- The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) announced to establish India's first Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) at Patent Information Centre, Punjab.
- The Union Government merged the Ministries of Urban Development and Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation to form the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, thus reducing the number of ministries to 51.

AWARDS & HONOURS

Japan named former Union Minister **Ashwani Kumar** for its prestigious 'Order of the Rising Sun' award for his contribution to fostering Japan-India ties. Kumar was selected for the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, which is the highest category of decoration, in recognition of distinguished accomplishments of individuals.

UNICEF appointed Indian-origin Canadian YouTube star Lilly Singh as its newest **Global Goodwill Ambassador**.

Shahid Kapoor and Alia Bhatt were named Best Actors at the 18th edition of the **International Indian Film Academy Awards** for their brilliant performance in 2016 movie Udta Punjab. The list of winners is as under:-

- **Best Film** : Neerja
- **Best Director**: AnirudhRoy Chaudhary for Pink
- **Best Actor (Male)** : Shahid Kapoor for Udta Punjab
- **Best Actor (Female)** : Alia Bhatt for Udta Punjab
- **Best Actor in Supporting Role (Female)** : Shabana Azmi for Neerja
- **Best Actor in Supporting Role (Male)** : Anupam Kher for MS Dhoni: The Untold Story
- **IIFA Woman Of The Year** : Tapsee Pannu

Veteran BJP leader L.K. Advani received the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for his contributions as a parliamentarian in the Lok Sabha. JD-U leader Sharad Yadav also received the Lifetime Achievement Award as a Rajya Sabha representative.

BUSINESS & CORPORATE

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved sale of government's 51.11% stake along with management control in **HPCL** (Hindustan Petroleum) to ONGC. HPCL will continue as PSU after the acquisition.

Reliance Industries, the most valuable firm on the bourses, added another feather in its cap by crossing the Rs 5 lakh crore market-capitalisation for the first time in its trading history, thus becoming the second only firm to do so after Tata Consultancy Service (TCS), which is now the second most valuable company in terms of market-capitalisation.

BILLS / ACTS / COMMITTEES / SCHEMES / POLICIES

- The Union Cabinet gave its ex-post facto approval for amendment of the Constitution (Application to Jammu & Kashmir) Order. The approval paves the way for applicability of Goods and Services Tax regime in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.
- The Union Ministry of Minority Affairs launched Jiyo Parsi Publicity Phase-2 in Mumbai under the Jiyo Parsi scheme, which aims at containing the declining trend of population of the Parsi community and reverses it to bring their population above the threshold level.
- The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Development approved construction of 30,000 affordable houses in Maharashtra's Sholapur district for the urban poor on private land under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.
- The Ministry of Rural Development announced to launch a new sub-scheme under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) which will be named as "Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY)". The main objectives of AGEY will be to provide an alternative source of livelihoods to members of Self Help Groups (SHGs) under DAY-NRLM by facilitating them to operate public transport services in backward rural areas. This will provide safe, affordable and community monitored rural transport services like e-rickshaws, 3 and 4 wheeler motorised transport vehicles to connect remote villages with key services and amenities including access to markets, education and health for the overall economic development of the area. The sub-scheme will be implemented in 250 blocks in the country on a pilot basis for a period of 3 years from 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- The Union Finance Ministry launched Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY), a pension scheme exclusively for senior citizens aged 60 years and above. Under this scheme, senior citizens will get a guaranteed interest of 8% for 10 years depending upon the investment made by them.

ECONOMY & FINANCE

- The Union Cabinet gave its approval for revision of guidelines of Sovereign Gold Bonds (SGB) Scheme with a view to achieve its intended objectives. Two sets of changes have been made in the scheme:
 - ❖ Specific changes have been made in the attributes of the scheme to make it more attractive, mobilise finances as per the target and reduce the economic strains caused by imports of gold and reduce the Current Account Deficit (CAD).
 - ❖ Flexibility has been given to Ministry of Finance to design and introduce variants of SGBs with different interest rates and risk protection / pay-offs that would offer investment alternatives to different category of investors.

Sovereign Gold Bond (SGB) Scheme was notified by the Government of India on November 05, 2015. The main objective of the scheme was to develop a financial asset as an alternative to purchasing metal gold. The target was to shift part of the estimated 300 tons of physical bars and coins purchased every year for Investment into 'demat' gold bonds. The target mobilisation under the scheme at Rs. 15,000 crore in 2015-16 and at Rs.10,000 crore in 2016-17. The amount so far credited in Government account is Rs. 4,769 crore.

- The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) July World Economic Outlook Update retained India's projected GDP growth rate for 2017-18 at 7.2%, and at 7.7% for 2018-19. The IMF added that while activity slowed following demonetisation, growth for 2016-17 was higher than anticipated on the back of government spending and stronger momentum in the first part of that year.
- Markets regulator Sebi entered into a pact with the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) for exchange of information concerning Central Counterparties (CCPs). Central counterparties are entities that help facilitate clearing and settlement activities. It reduces counterparty, operational, settlement, market, legal and default risk for traders.
- In a move designed to reduce tax litigation, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) signed seven more unilateral Advance Pricing Agreements (APAs) with Indian taxpayers, taking the total number of APAs entered into by the CBDT to 77. APAs provide for signing an agreement between a taxpayer and the income tax department on an appropriate transfer pricing methodology for determining the value of assets and taxes on intra-group overseas transactions. The scheme attempts to provide certainty to taxpayers in the domain of transfer pricing by specifying the methods of pricing and setting the prices of international transactions in advance.
- India is the world's third-biggest exporter of beef and is projected to hold on to that position over the next decade, according to a report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation (OECD). Brazil is the top exporter followed by Australia.
- The Union Cabinet approved the new wage code bill which will ensure a minimum wage across all sectors by integrating four labour related laws. The proposed legislation is expected to benefit over 4 crore employees across the country. The Labour Code on Wages Bill will consolidate the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Payment of Wages Act, 1936; the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; and the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976.
- The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2017 was introduced in Lok Sabha by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Arun Jaitley. It seeks to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to insert provisions for handling cases related to stressed assets. Stressed assets are loans where the borrower has defaulted in repayment or where the loan has been restructured (such as by changing the repayment schedule). It will replace the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017.

PEOPLE IN NEWS

Freedom fighter **K.E. Mammen**, who had participated in the Quit India Movement and had always followed Gandhian principles, passed away at the age of 96.

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and National Conference chief **Farooq Abdullah**, who won the by-poll to the Srinagar parliamentary seat, took oath as member of Lok Sabha. Abdullah had defeated the ruling Peoples Democratic Party's Nazir Ahmad Khan.

Pakistan Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif** resigned from his post after the Supreme Court disqualified him in the Panama Papers case.

Bihar Governor invited caretaker Chief Minister **Nitish Kumar** to take oath as Chief Minister. Nitish Kumar had resigned, citing irreconcilable differences with ally RJD on the issue of corruption charges against his deputy Tejashwi Yadav.

Preet Kaur Gill, who won the Edgbaston seat for the Labour party in the June 2017 snap general election, was elected to the Home Affairs Select Committee in the UK Parliament.

Ram Nath Kovind was sworn in as India's 14th President replacing Pranab Mukherjee. Kovind, former Governor of Bihar and nominated by the BJP-led NDA, won the presidential election by defeating Opposition candidate Meira Kumar. Kovind, who practiced at both the Delhi High Court and Supreme Court for 16 years, is India's second Dalit president after KR Narayanan. The 71-year-old has also been a Rajya Sabha MP for two terms.

Actress-turned-politician, **Smriti Zubin Irani** was appointed as India's new Minister for Information & Broadcasting. Irani is already in the cabinet as Union Minister of Textiles; Information & Broadcasting is an additional portfolio. She is the fourth I&B minister in three years under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The cabinet reshuffle was necessitated by the decision of outgoing I&B minister Venkaiah Naidu to stand as a candidate for India's vice presidency.

Senior Naga People's Front (NPF) legislator **TR Zeliang** was sworn in as the 19th chief minister of Nagaland.

Globally renowned space scientist and former chairman of ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization), **Udupi Ramachandra Rao** passed away at the age of 85. He was awarded both the Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan for his contribution to space technology. He is the first Indian space scientist to be inducted into the prestigious 'Satellite Hall of Fame' in Washington DC.

Internationally renowned physicist, academic and higher education reformer Professor **Yash Pal** passed away at the age of 90. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan (1976) and Padma Vibhushan. He also received the Kalinga Prize awarded by UNESCO for the popularization of science.

SPORTS

India's **Ajay Singh** won bronze medal in the 2017 Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships held at Kathmandu, Nepal.

England's women's cricket team won 2017 ICC World Cup title by defeating India in the final match.

Garbiñe Muguruza of Spain defeated Venus Williams of United States to win her first Wimbledon title in the women's single category.

Ace Indian Shuttler **H S Prannoy** won the 2017 Yonex US Open Grand Prix Gold badminton tournament title.

India's **Harinder Pal Sandhu** won the Victorian Open squash tournament held in Australia.

India's **Karamjyoti Dalal** won bronze medal at the World Para Athletics Championships 2017 in the discus-throw.

Roger Federer of Switzerland won 2017 Wimbledon title in the men's single category when he defeated Marin Cilic of Croatia in the final match. It was Federer's record eighth Wimbledon title and overall 19th Grand Slam.

MISCELLANEOUS

World

- The World Hepatitis Day was observed on July 28 around the world by World Health Organisation (WHO) to spread awareness about the viral hepatitis; with the theme – “Eliminate Hepatitis”.
- Tax authorities of the BRICS- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa have signed BRICS Taxation Cooperation Memorandum to establish a mechanism for taxation cooperation.
- India witnessed the third highest number of terrorist attacks in 2016, more than Pakistan that slipped to fourth position, according to the latest data compiled by the US State Department. Iraq and Afghanistan were ranked first and second position respectively, followed by India and Pakistan in that order.
- The United Nations (UN) World Day against Trafficking in Persons was observed on July 30 to raise awareness of the plight of human trafficking victims, and promote and protect their rights.
- Sri Lanka has signed a US \$1.1 billion deal to sell a 70% stake of the strategic Hambantota deep-sea port to China.
- United States imposed new economic sanctions against Iran over its ballistic missile programme and for contributing to regional tensions.

India

- The 18th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated across India to commemorate the success of Operation Vijay during the 1999 India-Pakistan Kargil War.
- The President of India Pranab Mukharjee inaugurated the bicentenary celebration of the heroic Paika Rebellion of Odisha, a valiant uprising of Paikas against the British rule. It is believed that the Paika Rebellion of 1817 was India’s first organized armed rebellion against British Raj.
- The Telangana government put a cap on the weight of bags carried by schoolchildren in a bid to prevent adverse physical effect and anxiety disorders in students. The government issued an order prescribing the weight limit of school bags for students from primary to Class X. According to the order meant for the school managements, the maximum weight of a school bag with textbooks and notebooks should not exceed 1.5 kg for Class 1 and II and 2 to 3 kg for Classes III to V. For Classes VI and VII, the weight should not exceed 4 kg and for Classes VIII and IX, it should not be more than 4.50 kg. In the case of Class X, it should not be more than 5 kg.