

AWARDS & HONOURS

The Rajiv Gandhi International Airport bagged the **National Award for 'Excellence' in Energy Management** at a conference hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy and scientist Veena Sahajwalla were conferred the **PLuS Alliance Prize** – a prestigious honour that recognises Research Innovation, Education Innovation, Global Leadership and Global Innovation.

Dr Tahir Mahmood, a well-known jurist, won the prestigious **Prof N R Madhava Menon Best Law Teacher Award – 2017** in recognition of his distinguished services to legal education and legal profession.

BUSINESS & CORPORATE

Airtel launched 'Office-In-a-Box' for start-ups registered under the Karnataka government's Start-Up Cell initiative. The Office-in-a-Box suite will be available to the over 100 start-ups registered with the Start-Up Cell and will add to their business efficiency.

The Gujarat Government and **Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation** (GCMMF)-Amul, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to save the children of anganwadi from malnutrition.

The Maharashtra Government and **Mother Dairy Fruit and Vegetable Pvt. Ltd** signed a lease agreement to set up a state-of-the-art milk and milk products processing plant.

Abhay Firodia, the Chairman of Force Motors, was elected as the new president of the automobile industry body **Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers** (SIAM) for 2017-18.

Star India acquired digital as well as media rights for Indian Premier League for a term of five years 2018-2023 with a bid of Rs. 16,347.50 crore.



BILLS / ACTS / COMMITTEES / SCHEMES / POLICIES

- > The Assam government set up a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Cell for implementation of DBT across schemes in the Country and to coordinate efforts at the State Level in taking the DBT initiative forward with immediate effect.
- > The Union Government told the Supreme Court that an expert committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of former apex court judge Justice BN Srikrishna to identify key data protection issues in India and recommend methods to address them.
- NITI Aayog constituted an Expert Task Force to provide a major thrust to job creation by enhancing India's exports. It will be headed by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar.
- > The Union Cabinet gave its approval for release of additional 1% Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) to pensioners. It will be applicable from 01.07.2017.
- > The Union Cabinet gave its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Morocco on cooperation in the field of health.
- > The Union Cabinet gave its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Armenia on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Management.

ECONOMY & FINANCE

- The Union government set up an online service facility that can be used by importers and exporters to resolve all foreign trade-related issues. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), which comes under Ministry of Commerce, asked all exporters and importers to use the system Contact@DGFT for resolution of their matters.
- > The Punjab National Bank (PNB) and state-run owned BSNL signed an agreement to roll out open mobile wallet Speedpay across 10 states in the country.
- > According to a study conducted by the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India (ASSOCHAM), Karnataka ranks first among states in terms of manufacturing excellence. Kerala stood second despite poor industrial growth over a five-year period from 2009.
- > The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) launched a nationwide online platform 'FoSCoRIS' to bring in transparency in food safety inspection and sampling.
- > The Union Finance Ministry constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) headed by Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi to monitor and resolve the IT challenges faced in the implementation of GST.
- > The Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) and Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) signed a MoU for automatic and regular exchange of information to curb the menace of shell companies, money laundering and black money in the country.
- India was ranked 103 out of 130 nations in the 2017 Global Human Capital Index (GHCI) compiled by Geneva-based World Economic Forum (WEF). It takes into account 'the knowledge and skills people possess that enable them to create value in the global economic system" to measure the 'human capital' rank of a country. The list was topped by Norway, Finland, Switzerland and United States.



PEOPLE IN NEWS

Ajay Bhushan Pandey, the CEO of Unique Identification Authority of India's (UIDAI) was appointed as interim chairman of the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN).

Dharmendra Pradhan, the Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, was promoted as Cabinet Minister and got additional charge of Union Ministry of Skill Development after the latest Union cabinet reshuffle.

Gauri Lankesh, a noted journalist and activist, was shot dead at her residence in Bengaluru. She was the editor of popular Kannada tabloid Lankesh Patrike founded by her father and well-known writer P Lankesh. Lankesh was also part of a panel formed by State government to help surrender Naxals to reform.

Halimah binti Yacob was declared the President-elect of Singapore, becoming Singapore's first female President.

Dr **Inder Jit Singh,** a 1985 batch IAS officer, was given additional charge of the post of Chairperson of National Authority Chemical Weapons Convention (NACWC).

Arunachal Pradesh Health and Family Welfare Minister Jomde Kena passed away at the age of 52.

Kenneth I. Juster, the Deputy Director of the National Economic Council at the White House, was nominated as the next U.S ambassador to India.

N Baijendra Kumar, an IAS officer of 1985 batch of Chhattisgarh cadre, took charge as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the state-run National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC).

Nirmala Sitharaman, the former minister of state for the commerce and industry ministry, became the new Defence Minister of India after latest Union cabinet reshuffle. She succeeded Arun Jaitley.

Bollywood actress **Parineeti Chopra** became the first Indian woman ambassador for Tourism Australia to encourage Indians to visit the country. She was presented the Friend of Australia (FOA) recognition for her contribution to promote Australia.

Peter Thomson, the outgoing president of the General Assembly, was appointed as the first special envoy for the oceans by the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

Raj Kumar Singh took charge as new Union Minister of State in Ministries of Power & New & Renewable Energy after latest reshuffle in the Union Cabinet.

Lt. Col. (Retd.) **Rajyavardhan Rathore,** the Olympic silver medallist and a former professional shooter, was appointed as a Cabinet minister with independent charge for Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in the latest cabinet reshuffle.

Rattihalli Nagendra Sudarshan, the veteran Kannada actor, producer and singer, passed away at 78.

Shirish Pai, a renowned Marathi poet and activist, passed away at the age of 88. She was credited with introducing 'Haiku' to the Marathi speaking world.



The book "How India Sees the World: Kautilya to the 21st Century", authored by former Foreign Secretary **Shyam Saran**, was launched by former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh.

Sultan Ahmed, a Trinamool Congress MP and former Union Central Minister passed away at the age of 64.

Sushmita Dev was appointed as the new President of All India Mahila Congress.

Vikram Sakhuja, group CEO of Madison Media & OOH at Madison World, was elected as the new president of The Advertising Club. The club is a dynamic platform for professionals from the Advertising, Marketing, Media, Research and Communication fields to gain from each other's expertise.

Viveck Goenka, the CMD of Express Group, was elected as the new Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI).



SPORTS

Amritpal Singh, the captain of the Indian basketball team, created history by becoming the first Indian-born player to be picked up by an Australian National Basketball League (NBL) team.

Divya Deshmukh won gold in the girls' Under-12 category at the World Cadets Chess Championship in Brazil.

Harendra Singh, hockey coach and Dronacharya Awardee, was appointed as High Performance Specialist Coach for Indian Senior Women Hockey Team (ISWHT).

India will host the 2019 edition of the Commonwealth (Youth, Junior and Senior) Weightlifting Championships.

Konsam Ormila Devi from India bagged a gold medal in 44kg weight category at the Commonwealth Youth (boys & girls) weightlifting championships in Australia.

Lewis Hamilton, a British racing driver who races in Formula Onefor the Mercedes AMG Petronas team, won the 2017 Italian Formula One Grand Prix tournament.

Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the former India captain, became the first wicketkeeper in world cricket to effect 100 stumpings in One Day Internationals (ODI). He surpassed former Sri Lankan wicket-keeper Kumar Sangakkara. Dhoni achieved the feat in his 301st ODI in Colombo against Sri Lanka.

Prakash Padukone, the noted Indian Badminton legend, will be conferred with the first Lifetime Achievement Award instituted by the Badminton Association of India (BAI) for his rich contribution to the sport. He was bestowed with the Arjuna award in 1972 and the Padma Shri in 1982.

Rafael Nadal of Spain won the 2017 men's singles US Open tennis tournament after defeating first time Grand Slam finalist Kevin Anderson. It is Nadal's 16th Grand Slam title and 3rd US Open title of the career.

The Indian pair of **Rohan Kapoor** and Kuhoo Garg bagged the mixed doubles title at the Hellas Open International badminton series.

Saikhom Mirabai Chanu and K Sanjita Chanu qualified for 2018 Commonwealth Games after winning a gold each in their respective weight categories (48kg & 53kg) at the Commonwealth Senior (men & women) weightlifting championships in Australia.

Satish Kumar, the decorated West Bengal wrestler, was awarded Rs 25 lakh as compensation by the Delhi court for being wrongly restrained from taking part in the 14th Asian Games-2002 at Busan in South Korea under the mistaken impression that he had taken performance-enhancing drugs.

Indian weightlifters **Sivalingam Sathish Kumar** and Ragala Venkat Rahul qualified for 2018 Commonwealth Games after winning a gold medal each in their respective weight divisions at the 2017 Commonwealth Senior (men & women) Weightlifting Championships in Australia.

Waltherus Norbertus Maria Marijne was named as the new chief coach of the Indian Senior Men Hockey Team.



MISCELLANEOUS

World

- The 9th edition of BRICS summit-2017 started at Xiamen in China on September 3, 2017 with theme "BRICS: Stronger Partnership for a Brighter Future".
- Nepal signed a \$635 million United Nations (UN) assistance package for 2018-2022 to lay out the country's development strategy for the next five years.
- The Eastern Economic Forum (EEF) started at Russky Island, which is part of Russia's city of Vladivostok. The EEF is considered as the biggest international communication platform for cooperation between businesses leaders and senior government representatives from Russia, the Pacific Region and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).
- > The 13th edition of the joint military training exercise "Yudh Abhyas 2017" started in Washington, USA.

 The exercise is one of the largest joint running military training and defence corporation endeavors between India and USA.
- > The International Literacy Day (ILD) was observed on September 8 to emphasize the importance of literacy to individuals, society and communities. The 2017 theme was 'Literacy in a Digital World'.
- > The Across Barriers-International Business Women's Summit (ABIBWS) was organized by the South Asian Women Development Forum (SAWDF) at Kathmandu in Nepal.
- > The 2018 World University Rankings (WUR), released by Times Higher Education, ranked Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore as the top university in India, followed by IIT-Bombay, IIT-Delhi, IIT-Kanpur and IIT-Kharagpur. Globally, the University of Oxford has retained its first place in the rankings, followed by University of Cambridge, California Institute of Technology and Stanford University.
- > The World Suicide Prevention Day was observed on September 10 with the theme "Take a minute, change a life".
- > The joint bilateral air force exercise "Shaheen VI" started between air forces of China and Pakistan in China on September 7 till September 27, 2017.
- London retained its position as the world's top financial centre in the 2017 Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI). The index is compiled and published by Z/Yen Group. New York was ranked second followed by Hongkong, Singapore, Tokyo, Shanghai, etc. Meanwhile, Mumbai was the only city of India that was listed in the index and ranked 60th.
- > The International Day of Democracy was observed on September 15 to provide an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world. The 2017 theme was "Democracy and Conflict prevention".

India

- > The Karnataka government decided to provide free education for girls across the state from Class 1 up to graduation in all public and aided private schools and colleges, excluding professional institutions.
- > Ahmedabad, the commercial capital of Gujarat, was formally accorded the status of India's first World Heritage City by UNESCO.



- > The Union Environment Ministry launched an environment awareness initiative on September 5 on the occasion of Teachers' Day. Under the initiative, an online environmental quiz competition named "Prakriti Khoj" will be conducted at the national level.
- A 2-day event 'North East Calling' was organized by the Union government under its Destination North East series in New Delhi.
- > India's first Hyperloop project will come up in Andhra Pradesh, which will connect the city centres of Vijayawada and Amaravati.
- > The traditional Bonderam festival started in Divar Island of Goa on September 9, 2017.
- > India started 'Operation Insaniyat' to provided assistance to Bangladesh in response to the humanitarian crisis being faced on account of the large influx of Rohingya refugees into that country from Myanmar.
- The 12th edition of the India-Japan annual summit-2017 was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- > The National Hindi Day (NHD) was celebrated on September 14 across India.
- President Ram Nath Kovind launched a nationwide campaign 'Swacchata Hi Sewa' from Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh on September 15, 2017.
- > The Karnataka government approved 'Electric Vehicle and Energy Storage Policy 2017' to help the state become a hub for production of alternative fuel vehicles, reduce dependency on fossil fuels, bring down pollution levels and push the 'Make In Karnataka' initiative.
- > The Telangana government launched a comprehensive land survey for rectification of land records in the state.



AWARDS & HONOURS

Acclaimed director S.S. Rajamouli was selected for the **Akkineni Nageswara Rao (ANR) National Award-2017**, instituted by the Akkineni International Foundation. Mr. Rajamouli had, with his path-breaking films Bahubali - The Beginning and Bahubali - The Conclusion, made the Telugu film industry proud across the world.

On the occasion of World Tourism Day, Madhya Pradesh won the 'Best Tourism State' national award, besides the Most Innovative Tourist Product award for 'Hanuwantia Jal Mahotsav' and Best State for Adventure Tourism.

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan was honoured with **Global Diversity Award** at Britain's House of Commons for his outstanding contribution to Global Diversity.

Amit Masurkar's acclaimed political satire 'Newton' was selected as India's official submission for the Best Foreign Film language category at the Oscars 2018.

Zannah Mustapha, a champion for the rights of displaced children growing up amid violence in north-eastern Nigeria to get a quality education, was named the 2017 winner of **UNHCR's Nansen Refugee Award.**

Eminent scientist, Professor C.N.R Rao, became the first Asian to be chosen for the prestigious **Von Hippel Award** for his immense contribution in materials research. The award is the US-based Materials Research Society's (MRS) highest honour.

BUSINESS & CORPORATE

Airtel Payments Bank became the first payments bank in India to integrate the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) on its digital platform. This will add to customer choice and convenience for making secure digital payments to online/offline merchants and making instant money transfers to any bank account in India.

Domestic telecom equipment provider Vihaan Networks Limited (VNL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited** (BSNL) to launch "Relief 123" service to provide disaster management in India. The "Relief 123" service is an integrated disaster response solution for first responders and public safety agencies. The solution is designed and manufactured by VNL and the backhaul connectivity will be provided by BSNL.

Dabur India tied up with e-commerce major Amazon for an online ayurveda marketplace which will house all ayurvedic brands and products of the country.

Internet search giant **Google** launched its Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based digital payment service by the name 'Tez'. With this move, Google has become the latest international company to enter the fast-growing digital payments industry in India. Taking Google's commitment to the Indian market to the next level, the app is powered by UPI, a payments protocol built by the government-backed National Payments Corporation of India.

Qatar Airways became the world's first Airline to launch double beds in its brand new business class suite "Qsuite" from London to Doha in Qatar.

India's first lithium-ion battery facility will be set up by Japanese automobile giant **Suzuki Motor Corporation** (SMC) at Hansalpur in Gujarat.



BILLS / ACTS / COMMITTEES / SCHEMES / POLICIES

- BJP president Amit Shah launched the 'Shaheed Gram Vikas Yojana' during a programme in Khunti district of Jharkhand.
- > Tripura became the first state in the country to set up family welfare district committees to examine the complaints of women against their husbands and in-laws and find an amicable solution.
- > Odisha government launched a programme making provision of Rs 1,000 as transport cost for pregnant women to hospital from inaccessible areas. The government launched 'SAMPURNA' (Sishu Abond Matru Mrityuhara Purna Nirakaran Abhijan) programme under the state budget to increase institutional deliveries in order to reduce infant morality rate (IMR) as well as mother mortality rate (MMR).
- ➤ The Karnataka government launched 'Vision-2025' project aimed at evolving a draft policy for development of the state in next seven years by seeking the opinion of the public.
- > In an endeavour to combat the menace of child labour, trafficking and sexual abuse Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh launched portal namely 'PENCIL' (Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour).
- > Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot launched the Beta version of 'Divyang Sarathi' the accessible and comprehensive mobile application for easy dissemination of information to 'Divyangjans' (differently abled).
- > The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana, or Saubhagya, at New Delhi, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay.



ECONOMY & FINANCE

- > India signed a loan deal of \$76 million with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for a project to upgrade the environment management plan at Alang-Sosiya ship recycling yards. The total cost of the project will be \$111 million, out of which \$76 million will be provided as soft loan from JICA. The project will be executed by Gujarat Maritime Board and is likely to be completed by 2022.
- > The Union Finance Minister, Arun Jaitley constituted a Committee on Exports under the convenorship of the Revenue Secretary, Dr Hasmukh Adhiato, look at the issues of export sector and to recommend to the GST Council suitable strategy for helping the export sector in the post-GST scenario.
- > IDBI Bank launched 'Project Nishchay' in partnership with The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) to accelerate its turnaround programme and improve financial performance. Coordinating across multitude of initiatives, the Bank will focus on four key areas revenue enhancement, cost control and reduction, asset productivity and overall program management in consultation with BCG.
- India was ranked the 40th most competitive economy slipping one place from last year's ranking on the World Economic Forum's global competitiveness index, topped by Switzerland. On the list of 137 economies, Switzerland is followed by the US and Singapore in second and third places, respectively. Other countries in the top 10 are the Netherlands (4th rank), Germany (5), Hong Kong SAR (6), Sweden (7), United Kingdom (8), Japan (9) and Finland (10). The Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) is prepared on the basis of country-level data covering 12 categories or pillars of competitiveness Institutions, infrastructure, macroeconomic environment, health and primary education, higher education and training, goods market efficiency, labour market efficiency, financial market development, technological readiness, market size, business sophistication and innovation. According to WEF's Executive Opinion Survey 2017, corruption is the most problematic factor for doing business in India. The second biggest bottleneck is 'access to financing', followed by 'tax rates', 'inadequate supply of infrastructure', 'poor work ethics in national labour force' and 'inadequately educated work force', among others.
- > The Asian Development Bank announced to increase its annual lending to India to a maximum of \$4 billion between 2018 and 2022 to help fasten inclusive economic transformation towards upper middle income status. The new lending programme, which includes private sector operations, is much higher than the average \$2.65 billion a year in loans extended during 2012 and 2016.
- > The government set up a Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DPIDF) worth Rs 10,881 crore to boost the dairy sector, aimed to benefit 95 lakh farmers from about 50,000 villages.
- > The Asian Development Bank scaled down India's growth forecast from 7.4% to 7 per cent for the current financial year as demonetisation and implementation of the new goods and services tax regime have dented consumer spending and business investment.
- > Putting economic growth revival in the spotlight, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reconstituted the Economic Advisory Council under the chairmanship of NITI Aayog member Bibek Debroy.
- > The Asian Development Bank and the Government of India signed a \$300 million loan to continue a series of fiscal reforms in the State of West Bengal to improve the quality of public service delivery.



PEOPLE IN NEWS

Veteran Assamese film and theatre personality **Abdul Majid** died at the age of 86. Assam government had honoured him with the prestigious 'Bishnu Prasad Rabha' award, while several organisations have conferred him with lifetime achievement awards.

Ajay Bisaria was appointed as the new high commissioner to Pakistan. Presently, Bisaria is serving as the Indian ambassador to Poland.

Bollywood actor **Akshay Kumar** was appointed as brand ambassador of the Swachh Bharat Mission for Uttarakhand.

Arjan Singh, who led the Indian Air Force in the 1965 India-Pakistan War, passed at the age of 98. Throughout the 1965 war, Singh showed exemplary leadership, and was awarded the Padma Vibhushan for his leadership during the war and subsequently the rank of the CAS was upgraded to that of Air Chief Marshal.

Renowned Marathi author and senior journalist, **Arun Sadhu** passed away at the age of 75. Sadhu, who was bestowed the Sahitya Akademi Award, had left a lasting impression as an author through his in-depth writing on serious social and political subjects.

Harry Dean Stanton, the veteran American actor, musician, and singer, passed away at the age of 91.

Hugh Hefner (US), the founder of Playboy magazine and iconic frontman of the sexual revolution, died at 91.

Jake LaMotta, the Bronx boxer who captured the world middleweight championship in 1949 and whose turbulent life was later the subject of the 1980 film Raging Bull, died at 95.

Jayantilal Barot, a senior BJP leader and former Rajya Sabha member from Gujarat, passed away at 75.

The Minister of State for Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr **Jitendra Singh** inaugurated the first 'Pension Adalat' in New Delhi. The objective of this workshop is to create awareness about the post-retirement entitlements as well as an advance planning for life after retirement.

Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco, the leader of People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), was sworn-in as the new President of Angola.

Kirpal Chugh Chugh, who was fondly called the 'father of nephrology in India', passed away at the age of 85. Chugh was emeritus professor and former head of department of nephrology at the PGIMER. He was a recipient of several national and international awards, including the Padma Shri.

Lillian Ross, a Pioneer of Literary Journalism, died at 99. She was a staff writer at The New Yorker from 1945 until she retired.

Five-time world champion and Olympic bronze-medalist **M C Mary Kom** became the first Indian to be picked as the International Boxing Association's (AIBA) representative for the IOC Athletes' Forum scheduled in November.

BJP MP from Alwar Mahant Chand Nath, who was battling an "aggressive thyroid cancer", passed away at 61.



Makhan Lal Fotedar, a veteran Congress leader who was a close confidente of former Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, died at the age of 85. Fotedar was a member of the powerful Congress Working Committee (CW), the highest decision-making body of the party, for a long time. He was a two-time Rajya Sabha member and a former union minister.

Peruvian President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski appointed a former economy minister as his new prime minister, two days after a no-confidence vote by the opposition-led congress forced the entire Cabinet to resign. **Mercedes Araoz**, who is also a lawmaker and one of Peru's two vice presidents, is the new prime minister in a reconstituted Cabinet.

Rajiv Mehrishi, a 1978 batch IAS officer, took charge as the new Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.

Senior IPS officer **Rajni Kant Mishra** took charge as Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), succeeding Archana Ramasundaram.

Royana Singh, an assistant professor at the Institute of Medical Science, was appointed Chief Proctor of Banaras Hindu University (BHU), thus becoming the first woman in varsity's history to hold the post.

Yesteryear Bollywood actor Shakila, known for her work in films like 'Aar Paar' and 'CID', died at 82.

Shashi Shanker was appointed Chairman and Managing Director of India's biggest oil and gas producer, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

Sterling K Brown created history by becoming the first African American to win the best actor drama Emmy awards in 19 years for his performance as Randall Pearson on NBC's breakout hit "This Is Us". The last African American actor to win the award was Andre Braugher in 1998 for his role in "Homicide: Life on the Street".

Veteran Actor & Padma Shri Awardee **Tom Alter**, died at the age of 67. He worked with renowned directors such as V Shantaram, Hrishikesh Mukherjee, Subhash Ghai and Manmohan Desai. He was also famously known for playing the gangster Keshav Kalsi in the hit soap opera 'Junoon', which ran for a record five years during the 1990s. He also in several foreign films, notably Richard Attenborough's Gandhi and One Night with the King.

Senior IPS officer **Y C Modi**, who was part of the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team that probed the 2002 Gujarat riot cases, was named chief of the National Investigation Agency. The federal probe agency is tasked with probing terrorism and terror-financing related cases.



SPORTS

Indian wrestler **Bajrang** won gold in the men's freestyle 65kg in Turkmenistan.

Lewis Hamilton (British) won the 2017 Formula One Singapore Grand Prix tournament.

The 57th **National Open Athletics Championships 2017** started at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on September 25, 2017.

India's Olympic and World silver medallist shuttler **P.V. Sindhu** defeated Nozomi Okuhara of Japan in a thrilling summit clash to clinch the women's singles title at the Korea Open Super Series.

Purnima Hembram from Odisha, an Indian sprinter and heptathlete, won gold in women's pentathlon at the 5th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Turkmenistan.

India signed off with a rich haul of one gold, four silver, and three bronze medals at the Ahmet Comert Boxing Championships for youth women boxers in Istanbul, Turkey. **Soniya** (48kg) gave India the lone gold medal by defeating Kazakhstan's Zhazira Urakabeva in her summit clash. The rest of the four Indian finalists settled for silver medals after going down in their respective bouts.

Sumit Nagal won gold medal in the men's singles tennis event of Asian Indoor and Martial Arts in Turkmenistan.

Indian shuttler **Vaishnavi Reddy** clinched the women's singles Under-19 title at the Belgian Junior Open badminton tournament.



MISCELLANEOUS

World

- > The International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer was observed on September 16 to mark the commemoration of the date of signing of the Montreal Protocol in 1987 on substances that deplete the Ozone layer.
- > 'Iron Union 5'- the joint military exercise between the ground forces of the UAE and the United States concluded after two weeks.
- > The WHO released its first tranche of emergency funding of \$175,000 to provide lifesaving healthcare to the "vulnerable population" in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar. Though the World Health Organisation (WHO) did not specifically mention the Rohingya refugees, over 410,000 of them have arrived in Cox's Bazar since August 25 after escaping Myanmar's military crackdown.
- > The World Maritime Day was observed on September 29 with the theme 'Connecting Ships, Ports and People'.
- > The World Rabies Day was observed on September 28 with the theme 'Rabies: Zero by 30'.
- > The World Tourism Day was observed on September 27 with the theme "Sustainable tourism a tool for development".
- > The 7th ASEM Economic Ministers' Meeting (ASEM EMM7) was held in Seoul, South Korea on September 21-22, 2017, with the theme 'Innovative Partnership for Inclusive Prosperity'. The meeting was conducted under the Chairmanship of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea and 51 member countries signed a joint statement on supporting the multilateral trade system.
- > The two-week long joint military exercise "DRUZBA 2017" started between Special Forces of Pakistan and Russian Army in Russia on September 25, 2017.
- > The joint military training exercise "Panda-Kangaroo 2017" was held between Chinese and Australian ground forces in China.
- > The United Nations' International Day of Peace was observed on September 21 with the theme "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All".

India

- > India's first Centre for Animal Law has been established at the NALSAR University of Law in Hyderabad.
- > The National Engineers Day (NED) was celebrated on September 15 in India as a tribute to the greatest Indian Engineer Bharat Ratna Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, who was born on this day in 1861 in a village in Karnataka.
- > The Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPCI) presented the 5th edition of its international conference cum exhibition "Kaju India 2017- The Global Cashew Summit" at Hotel Grand Hyatt, Goa from 17- 19th September 2017.
- > The first ever National Conference on "Mission Mode to address Under-Nutrition" was held in New Delhi. The conference was inaugurated by the Minster of Women & Child Development, Maneka Sanjay Gandhi in the presence of Minister of State for Women & Child Development, Dr. Virendra Kumar.



- > Non-resident Indians (NRIs) who harass their wives or desert them could face impoundment or cancellation of their passport if the Centre accepts the recommendations of a high-level panel. To help abandoned women get justice, a nine-member panel headed by retired judge Arvind Kumar Goel (who is also the former chairman of Punjab's state commission for NRIs), recommended a special provision to impound or cancel the passport of offending NRIs based on the wife's complaint.
- > The First 'BIMSTEC ('Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation')Disaster Management Exercise- 2017' (BIMSTEC DMEx-2017) will be conducted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as the lead agency from October 10-13, 2017 in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR). This Exercise will be a platform for sharing Best Practices on all aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), strengthening regional response and coordination for Disaster Management among the BIMSTEC member countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- > NITI Aayog, in partnership with the US administration, hosted the eighth annual Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Hyderabad on November 28-30. The theme for this year's summit -- Women First, Prosperity for All celebrated entrepreneurship in all its strength, diversity and entirety.
- > Gujarat will be the second state after Goa to use the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system for the Assembly elections, as per an announcement by the State Chief Electoral Officer.
- > The Maharashtra government signed an MoU with South Korea for increased co-operation in infrastructure projects like development of smart cities, roads, airports and metros.
- > Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, N Chandrababu Naidu, declared 2017-18 as e-Pragati year. All the 32 departments of Andhra Pradesh government will start using the latest technology from October for administration, e-governance, brining in transparency, and make everything visible online.
- > Manoj Sinha, the Union Minister of Communication, launched the first-ever India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2017 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- > Bathukamma, one of the major festival of Telangana and some parts of Andhra Pradesh started on September 20.
- > The 6th edition of International Textile and Apparel Fair "VASTRA-2017" was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- > Himachal Pradesh became the first hill state in the country to ply electric buses. The electric bus service launched in Himachal Pradesh is poised to boost tourism in the state without disturbing the ecological balance in the state.
- Andhra Pradesh government launched People First, a mobile application that will "empower citizens with real-time governance".
- > Tripura became the India's first state to set up family welfare district committees to examine the complaints of women against their husbands, in-laws and relatives of the husband and to find an amicable solution through negotiation.