

OCTOBER 01 to 07, 2017

- The Union Minister of Women and Child Development, Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi inaugurated the 3rd annual 'Women of India Organic Festival' at Dilli Haat (INA). Women, Traveled to Delhi from remotest parts of the country to showcase their unique merchandise to the people of Delhi and surrounding areas. With the theme 'Good for Women; Good for India; Good for you', the Ministry intends to highlight the health and environmental advantages of organic goods, provide a platform for women engaged in it and boost the development of sustainable and easily accessible sales outlets for women producers from the remotest corners of India.

- Austria's law banning face veils such as burkhas or niqabs has come into effect. According to the government, acceptance and respect of Austrian values are basic conditions for successful cohabitation between the majority Austrian population and people from third countries living in Austria. Exemptions under certain conditions include items like clown disguises at cultural events, work wear such as medical masks, and scarves in cold weather. There are around 7 lakh Muslims in Austria.

- Iran has embargoed exports and imports of fuel products to Iraqi Kurdistan in response to its controversial independence referendum. Iran strongly opposes independence for the Iraqi Kurds, fearing it will provoke separatists among its own Kurdish population. Gas oil is one of Iran's main exports to the autonomous Kurdistan region, which imported 110 million liters of it from Iran last year. Iran is one of the main exporters of fuel products to Kurdistan.

- India has sharply increased its exposure to US government securities with holdings worth \$135.7 billion. Neighbouring China continued to top the charts withholding to the tune of \$1.166 trillion, followed by Japan with exposure worth \$1.113 trillion. India is the 12th largest holder of US government securities just behind Saudi Arabia.

-On 14th December 1990, the United Nations General Assembly (by resolution 45/106) designated 1 October the International Day of Older Persons. This was preceded by initiatives such as the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing – which was adopted by the 1982 World Assembly on Ageing – and endorsed later that year by the UN General Assembly. In 1991, the General Assembly (by resolution 46/91) adopted the United Nations Principles for Older Persons. The theme of the International Day of Older Persons 2017 is "Stepping into the Future: Tapping the Talents, Contributions and Participation of Older Persons in Society".

- World Vegetarian Day is observed annually on October 1. The day brings global attention to the health and environmental benefits of vegetarianism and focuses on the ethics of following a vegetarian lifestyle. World Vegetarian Day initiates the month of October as Vegetarian Awareness Month, which ends with November 1, World Vegan Day, as the end of that month of celebration.

- India has opened 2 immigration check posts along the borders with Myanmar & Bangladesh. Zorinpui check post of Mizoram has been authorised as immigration check post for entry into or exit from India for all passengers to or from Myanmar. Kawrpuichhuah post of Mizoram has been authorised as immigration check post for entry into or exit from India for all passengers to or from Bangladesh.

- Russia & China were among 9 countries suspended from weightlifting for a year in an attempt to combat an epidemic of doping. The decision by International Weightlifting Federation followed re-testing of anti-doping samples from 2008 & 2012 Olympics. Countries with at least 3 doping offenses from those Olympics were suspended. Russia was also banned from weightlifting event at 2016 Olympics in Rio

- Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated 'Pratham-Shyok' bridge in Leh that will connect Leh

to Karakoram in north eastern Ladakh. The Defence Minister on her two-day-visit to Jammu and Kashmir, also visited forward locations of Leh, Ladakh and Siachen, reviewed the security situation in the regions, and interacted with the soldiers.

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched 'Single Click Pension Delivery' scheme, wherein the money will go directly into the account of the beneficiaries. More than 35 lakh people of the state will be benefitted from this move. Chauhan also honoured the elderly who completed the age of 100 years with the "Shataayu" award.

- The United Arab Emirates has begun collecting new "sin" taxes on tobacco products, energy drinks and soft drinks. Beginning October 1, tobacco and energy drinks will be taxed at 100 per cent and soft drinks at 50 per cent. All six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council have agreed to begin collecting so-called VAT taxes, though others may begin later than January. The GCC includes Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

- A Ghana-based Indian entrepreneur has won a prestigious business award in the UK for his efforts to bring innovative IT solutions to Africa. Birendra Sasmal, CEO of Subah, bagged the International Business Person of the Year at the Asian Achievers Awards in London for turning the company into a thriving IT, telecoms and manufacturing success story with operations across West Africa.

-The United Nations' (UN) International Day of Non-Violence is observed every year on October 2 to mark the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. The day is an occasion to disseminate the message of non-violence, including through education and public awareness. This day is referred to in India as Gandhi Jayanti.

-Nitin Gadkari, the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, has launch the nationwide Free Eye Check-up Campaign and distributed spectacles for truck drivers, cleaners and helpers on October 2, 2017 at Panjari Toll Plaza, Nagpur Bypass in Maharashtra. The objective of this initiative is to ensure clearer vision and safe travel for truck drivers who are the most frequent users of national highways.

-The Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institute decided to award the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine jointly to the American trio of Jeffrey C. Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W. Young for their discoveries of molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm.

-Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City)'s International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) bagged the 10th spot in the latest edition of Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI), London.

-The Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple awarded as best 'Swachh Iconic Place' in India.

-Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu launched Swachh Andhra Mission on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. Shuttle Player PV Sindhu chosen as the brand ambassador of Swachh Andhra.

-Sumitra Mahajan to lead Indian delegation at eighth Conference of Association of SAARC Speakers and Parliamentarians to be held in Colombo

-Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the All India Medical Science (AIIMS) Bilaspur and IIIT Una from Luhnu Indoor stadium in Bilaspur town of Himachal Pradesh.

-Nepal and India will undertake a joint tiger census in their national parks, forests and protected areas adjoining the two countries using a globally-recognized method. The counting of tigers will begin from the second week of November. Tiger is an endangered animal listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare adjudged as the best department for its contribution during Swachhta Pakhwada, an inter-Ministry initiative of Swachh Bharat Mission of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

-The Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing and ratification of the Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) between the India and Belarus on Investments. The Treaty is supposed to increase investment flows between the two countries. It is expected to improve the confidence of the investors resulting in an increase in FDI and Overseas Director Investment (ODI) opportunities and this will have a positive impact on employment generation.

-World Habitat Day was observed all over the world on October 2nd. The theme for World Habitat Day 2017 is 'Housing Policies: Affordable Homes'. This day is celebrated to reflect on the state of our towns and cities, and to emphasize the basic right of all to receive adequate shelter.

-Anil Ambani-led Reliance Communications (RCom) has called off plans to merge its wireless business with rival Aircel.

-FIFA has selected 7 female support referees, for the first time for a men's tournament. They will work along with 70 male referees to officiate the 52 matches in the FIFA U-17 World Cup.

-The third edition of India International Science Festival will be held from October 13-16 at IIT-Chennai. The festival will have a thematic session on 'Deep Ocean Research'. An attempt to set up a Guinness World Record by holding a "largest biology class" of 1000 students will be made.

-Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri announced that five more States viz., Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand and Haryana have reached the milestone of making all cities and towns Open Defecation Free.

-A 38-year-old Sikh lawyer was elected the leader of Canada's New Democratic Party, becoming the first non-white politician to head a major political party in the country. Jagmeet Singh, the Ontario provincial lawmaker, was elected on the first ballot to lead the party into the 2019 election against Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberals.

- 'No helmet, no petrol' rule for two-wheeler riders to reduce road accident deaths has come into force in Andhra Pradesh, with chief minister Chandrababu Naidu urging all the petrol bunk dealers to cooperate. Chandrababu has sanctioned Rs 10 crore for equipment to implement this rule.

- Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah launched the "Mathru Purna" scheme, which aims to provide nutritious meals to about 12 lakh pregnant women and lactating mothers in the state. Besides nutritional supplements, counselling and other maternity benefits will also be provided at the Anganwadi centres under the scheme.

- Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the last Malaysian Grand Prix. The victory was the second of Verstappen's Grand Prix career, after a first in Spain last year.

-L&T Infotech, the infotech arm of engineering giant Larsen & Toubro has bagged \$ 100-mn Government contract for an initiative to use social media analytics to identify tax non-compliance.

-Turkey has opened its largest military base in Africa, in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia to train Somali Soldiers.

-The U.S. Federal Reserve fined HSBC Holdings PLC \$175 million for “unsafe and unsound practices” in its foreign exchange trading business.

-BJP’s national spokesperson Mr.Sambit Patra was appointed as the Non-Official Director on the board of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC).

-India received its first-ever shipment of US crude oil at Paradip port, in Odisha, as a part of purchases made by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).

-Birendra Prasad Baishya the President of Indian Weightlifting Federation has been elected as chairman of two sub-committees of International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)

-Qatar Airways, one of the Middle East’s biggest carriers has announced that it has completed the acquisition of a 49 per cent stake in Italy’s AQA Holding.

-In Libya, the Port of Benghazi has officially reopened for the first time in three years on September 30, 2017 after being forced to cease operations because of clashes in the cradle of the 2011 revolution.

-The Bihar government has launched a state-wide campaign against child marriage and dowry on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi’s birth anniversary. In it, people pledged not to get married a girl below 18 years or a boy below 21 or participate in a child marriage or a wedding with dowry.

- The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2017 was awarded to Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson for developing cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution. It’s a method of simplifying and improving the imaging of biomolecules.

-Dr Soumya Swaminathan has become the first Indian to hold deputy director general post for Programmes at the World Health Organisation (WHO). Currently, she is the Director General (DG) of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

-Rajnish Kumar, the Managing Director of SBI, has been appointed as the new chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI) for a period of three years. He will succeed Arundhati Bhattacharya, whose term is going to end on October 6, 2017.

-The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently released its 4th bi-monthly monetary policy statement for the year 2017-18. As per the monetary policy statement, the policy repo rate under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF) has remain unchanged at 6%. The reverse repo rate, at which RBI borrows from banks will continue to be at 5.75%.

-Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Golden Jubilee Year Celebrations of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) in New Delhi

-British writer Kazuo Ishiguro has won the 2017 Nobel Prize for Literature.

-In Rajasthan, Dungarpur has become the first Open Defecation Free (ODF) tribe district of the state.

-The World Animal Day (WAD) is observed every year on October 4 to raise the status of animals in order to improve welfare standards around the globe.

- The Union government has set up a high-level committee for proper management of water resources in the North-Eastern region. The Committee will be headed by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar.
- The World Teachers' Day (WTD) is observed every year on October 5 to 1994 to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the 1966 UNESCO/ILO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.
- The Union Ministry of Tourism has started a festival of Tourism 'Paryatan Parv' from Humayun's Tomb in Delhi.
- Pooja Kadian has created history by becoming the first Indian to clinch a gold medal at Wushu World Championships in the 75 kilogram women Sanda category after defeating Evgeniya Stepanova in the final at Kazan.
- Bangladesh has signed \$4.5 billion third line of credit (LoC) agreement with India for its infrastructure and social sector development
- India's first-ever Industrial Training Institute (ITI) for the Divyangans will come up in Assam. Recently, the foundation stone for the institute was laid at Dibrugarh ITI Complex at Borboruah in Assam.
- The HDFC Life Insurance Company has launched 'Neo', that uses artificial intelligence for customer service. This is the second bot put in operation by HDFC Life, after the launch of SPOK, which was an email bot to answer customer queries.
- Ukhnaa Khurelsukh has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Mongolia.
- Banwarilal Purohit, a veteran political leader from Vidarbha district of Maharashtra, has been sworn-in as the new Governor of Tamil Nadu.
- The World Space Week (WSW) is an international celebration of science and technology, and their contribution to the betterment of the human condition, which is held every year from October 4-10.
- The European Investment Bank (EIB) has signed the Finance Contract with India to € 300 million for Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II Line R6.
- The first ever ASEAN-India Music Festival has started at Purana Quila in New Delhi on October 6, 2017. The 3-day festival is organised by External Affairs Ministry in collaboration with Culture Ministry to celebrate the 25th year anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations.
- The 3-day international exhibition – 'World Dental Show 2017' has opened in Mumbai, Maharashtra on October 6, 2017 to showcase the evolving global technologies and techniques in dentistry.
- The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a mass marriage scheme 'Mukhyamantri Samoohik Vivaah Yojana'. In it, the state government will spend Rs 35,000 on each couple, besides gifting them mobile phones and household items, and the social welfare department will conduct the mass marriages.
- The first-ever conference of Partner NGOs will be inaugurated by the Union Minister of Women & Child Development .

-Kannada journalist Gauri Lankesh, who was shot dead in Bengaluru on September 5, 2017, has been awarded a prestigious global Anna Politkovskaya Award, which is given in the memory of a slain Russian reporter and political activist.

-The Union Government has set up a study group to examine the problems being faced by the people living near the International Border (IB) and the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) due to ever-present threat of cross-border firing from Pakistan.

-The 2017 Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons.

-The Supreme Court of India (SCI) has appointed senior advocate and former additional solicitor general Amrendra Sharan as amicus curiae on a petition seeking reprobe into the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi.

-President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the 5th edition of India Water Week (IWW) on October 10 with theme "Water and Energy for Inclusive Growth" in New Delhi.

-Pakistan appointed Vice-Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi as new Chief of Naval Staff. He replaces Admiral Muhammad Zakaullah. In Pakistan, all services chiefs are appointed by the President at the recommendation of the Prime minister who has final say in such appointments.

-Forbes Magazine released its India Rich List for 2017 with Reliance Industries Limited chairman Mukesh Ambani topping the charts for the 10th consecutive year with a net worth of \$38 billion. Mr. Ambani is followed by tech czar Azim Premji who jumped two places with the net worth of \$19 billion.

-The Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Myanmar on up gradation of the Women's Police Training Centre at Yamethin, Myanmar.

-Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh today flagged-off 'Cancer diagnosis Ambulance' at his official residence. The vehicle is fitted with ultra-advanced equipment to detect cancer. The patients will be treated free-of-cost.

-Reserve Bank of India (RBI) opened a branch in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The branch was inaugurated by Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat. Earlier, all the banking related works of the Uttarakhand State Government were carried out through the Reserve Bank of India branch at Kanpur.

-Bharti Airtel received Ghana's National Communications Authority's approval for the merger between Bharti Ghana (Airtel) and Millicom Ghana (Tigo), subject to certain conditions. This merger will result in an entity which will be the second largest mobile network operations in the country. Based on agreements which have been accepted by the merging entities and the payment of relevant fees a supplementary agreement to the licenses of the merging entities will be signed between the NCA and the merging entities.

-Saudi Arabia agreed to purchase S400 missile defence systems from Russia on the sidelines of a visit by Saudi King Salman to Moscow.

-Donald Trump is the world's most followed leader on Twitter, while Narendra Modi is the third, according to the latest report by Twiplomacy, a Burson Marsteller research project that tracks the use of Twitter by governments and international organizations. He overtook Pope Francis by a few thousand followers to occupy the first place in Diplomacy's October report. India's prime minister Narendra Modi has kept his third place consistently since 2016. Modi's own account.

-India and Ethiopia have signed agreements on trade, communication, and media to boost bilateral ties.

-Hyundai India has announced that it will be official transportation partner for the upcoming FIFA U17 World Cup Tournament which starts from October 6, 2017 in India.

-Russia has launched world's largest nuclear-powered icebreaker ship named Sibir (Siberia). It was launched into the water at the Baltic Shipyard in St Petersburg. Sibir has been developed by the Rosatom State Atomic Energy Corporation to open up crucial shipping lanes in the icy Northern Sea Route.

-Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister, Mr. Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated a community toilet for third gender, in the Mangalwara area, Bhopal. This is the first community toilet for exclusive third gender usage in India.

-Odisha State Government is creating a 1.2 lakh acre land bank across the state which will be allocated for industrial use and purposes.

-As per statistics released by the Union Home Ministry, Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of active gun licences among all states and union territories of India.

-Researchers developed a new test 'Oncotype DX', that predicts the return of cancer, thus sparing breast cancer patients from unnecessary chemotherapy.

-The Union Ministry of Water Resources approved a project to set up Turtle sanctuary in Allahabad along with River Biodiversity Park at Sangam in Allahabad.

-The Chairman of National Highways Authority of India Shri Deepak Kumar launched a world-class, new multilingual website of the organization. He also launched a Project Monitoring Information System (PMIS) Mobile App that will facilitate close, in-house monitoring of NHAI projects on a mobile phone.

-The Union Government waived service charges in November last year after demonetization to encourage digital modes of booking. The facility had been extended from June 30 and then to September 30. The Railway Board directed Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) that the benefits be extended till March next year.

-Mahaveer Raghunathan became the first Indian to win a European racing championship when he sped to victory in the last two races of the prestigious Boss GP Championship (Formula Class).

-Digital payments firm MobiKwik announced its partnership with IRCTC Rail connect app, which will allow customers book railway tickets using the former's payment gateway.

-Rajesh Nath, Managing Director of VDMA India, has been conferred Germany's Highest Civilian Honour, 'Cross of the Order of Merit'. VDMA is a German Engineering Federation. 'Cross of the Order of Merit' was instituted in year 1951 and is also called Bundesverdienstkreuz or Federal Cross of Merit.

- Vijaya Bank has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) for enabling all HPCL retail outlets with BHIM/UPI merchant solutions.
- Morgan Hurd from America won the women's all-around title in world gymnastics championships at Montreal's Olympic Stadium.
- Chhattisgarh Government has completely banned the usage of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) carry bags in their state
- Private insurer Tata AIA Life announced the launch of 'Eazy Connect', that will extend online customer service to social media platforms.
- The Finance Ministry announced that PAN (Permanent Account Number) card and Aadhaar card details will not be mandatory for jewellery purchases above Rs. 50,000. Any entity dealing in gems, jewellery that has a turnover of Rs. 2 crore or more in a financial year will not be covered under PMLA (Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002) This decision was taken at the 22nd GST Council meeting.
- Rangana Herath has become the 14th bowler overall to take 400 wickets in Test cricket. Herath also became the first left-arm spinner to bag 400 wickets in Tests.
- The Queen's Baton for the 2018 Commonwealth Games arrived in New Delhi, India. The 2018 Commonwealth Games will be held in Australia.
- The apex industry body, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) announced the appointment of Param Shah as the new Director for the United Kingdom (UK) operations. Shah will succeed Pratik Dattani whose tenure with FICCI ended recently.
- An honour bestowed on Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi by the city of Oxford has been withdrawn as a reaction to her perceived inadequate response to the plight of Rohingya muslims in the country. The "Freedom of Oxford" has been granted to the de facto leader of Myanmar in 1997 for her "long struggle for democracy" by the Oxford City Council.
- On 5th October 2017, a MoU was signed by Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya under the 'Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat' programme, to boost cultural ties
- India's High Commissioner to Singapore announced that, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj will lead a ministerial delegation to the ASEAN-India 'Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas' (PBD) to be held in 2018, in Singapore.
- The 25-member panel was set up by SEBI in June 2017. The panel was led by Uday Kotak, the Executive Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank.
- Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board (IBBI) announced that it has amended the rules for information utilities. Unique entities that are governed by Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code(IBC) and serve as repositories of information about lending and borrowing activities done by all financial institutions.
- World Bank Group member, International Finance Corporation (IFC) has announced that it has invested USD 76 million in 5-year unrated masala bond issuances of Fullerton India Credit Company.

- Adobe announced investment on integration of Aadhaar-based authentication in its e-signature solution “Adobe Sign”

- Flipkart announced the launch of MarQ, an in-house brand in the large appliances category. MarQ is an in-house brand of Flipkart, that sells large appliances. This has been done in a move expands Flipkart’s self-branded offerings on its marketplace.

- Magicbricks announced its launch of India’s first online bidding platform for residential and commercial properties. It tied-up with leading developer ‘Magnificence in the Trinity Of Men, Materials & Money’ (M3M) for their new inauguration of ‘My Bid, My Home’ .

- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) announced the setting up of a research centre for startups, academicians, environmentalists and entrepreneurs, in Guwahati, Assam. The decision of setting up ISRO research centre at Guwahati was taken at a meeting between Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and ISRO Chairman Dr.A.S.Kiran Kumar

- Governor for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh E S L Narasimhan launched the first regional language version of ‘GST Rate Finder’ App in Telugu, in Hyderabad.

- India ranks first in online harassment, in the Asia Pacific region. Norton by Symantec released a report on online harassment. This report surveyed 1,035 adults in India. India has faced highest levels of online harassment in the Asia Pacific Region. 8 out of 10 surveyed Indians said that, they had encountered some form of online harassment.

- Mobile wallet provider, MobiKwik renamed its payment gateway as ‘MobiKwik Payment Gateway’.

- TAKE Solutions would receive the Golden Peacock Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance, from the Institute of Directors, in London, on 25th October 2017. The Golden Peacock Award is given by the Institute of Directors, in London. It honours extra-ordinary organisational performances through a three-tier process.

- Delhi Dynamos FC announced that Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez will be the club’s brand ambassador for the upcoming Indian Super League season.

- International Cricket Council (ICC) announced New Zealand all-rounder, Corey Anderson as the event ambassador for the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup 2018.

- Ms.Pooja Kapur, presently the Ambassador of India to the Republic of Bulgaria, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Macedonia.

- ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), the overseas arm of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), announced that, it has acquired 30 % interest in the Namibian Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) 37, from UK’s Tullow Oil.

- European Securities & Markets Authority (ESMA) has certified the clearing arms of National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) as qualified central counterparty (CCP). A central counterparty (CCP) is a corporate entity which guarantees the terms of a trade even if a buyer or seller defaults on the agreement.

- Adidas launched its new campaign named #HereToCreate, to inspire young football talent in India and to kick start a football revolution for FIFA U-17 World Cup in India.

-A book titled 'The Singing Tree' was launched by an international NGO, Orbis India, to spread awareness on preventing child blindness. The book 'The Singing Tree' is about visual impairment due to refractive error in children.

-The Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry started a special training course for untrained teachers, designed by National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), called Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed).

-British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) announced the launch of news services in four more Indian languages — Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi and Telugu. With this announcement, BBC's Delhi bureau will become its largest bureau outside the United Kingdom. It is to be noted that BBC News already broadcasts to 28 million people in English, Bengali, Hindi, Tamil and Urdu.

-Manipal University's Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT) bagged the 1st place in 'Most Clean Campus in South Western Region' award and 3rd place in 'Most Clean Campus 2017' award, in Pune, Maharashtra.

-WWF-India, in partnership with Capgemini, launched One Planet Academy, the first environment education portal for students and teachers in India.

-Central Water Commission (CWC) has signed MoUs with IIT Roorkee and Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology (MNNIT) Allahabad to support dam rehabilitation efforts of various implementing agencies and CWC.

-A statue of Mahatma Gandhi was unveiled to mark his 148th birth anniversary, in Cardiff, Wales.

-Brenda Hale has been appointed as the first female president of the UK Supreme Court. Hale, 72, was born in Yorkshire who has been a consistent champion of judicial diversity.