

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING

MARCH MONTH – NATIONAL NEWS

- As per Government, 5 Indian Cities are included in Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage Sites - Ahmedabad, Delhi, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar and Mumbai.
- Bihar state government will provide subsidy on power bill to consumers instead of power companies from 2017-18.
- National Green Tribunal (NGT) directed public sector oil companies to immediately stop plying Bharat Stage-I (BS-I) and Bharat Stage-II (BS-II) vehicles for transporting petrol or petroleum products in Delhi.
- National Physical Laboratory (NPL) dedicated first Indian Pristine air-quality monitoring station at Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (Palampur (H.P.)), for generating base data for atmospheric trace species & properties to serve as reference for comparison of pollution in India.
- 11th North East Business Summit (NEBS) held in New Delhi.
- 18th edition of FICCI Frames organized in Mumbai, as one of Asia's largest convention on business of media and entertainment. 2017 Theme is Digital: Divide or dividend.
- 3rd International Conference on Alternate Fuels and Raw Materials in Cement Industry -Towards Realising Swachh Bharat Dream held in Delhi.
- 4 month-long economic blockade in Manipur was lifted after talks involving United Naga Council (UNC) and Central / State governments.
- 5th 'Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM) 2017' held in Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh.
- National Conference on Autism organized in New Delhi.
- ABB India honoured by India Smart Grid Foundation (ISGF) innovation award for restoring and modernizing 1,035 MW Sharavathi hydropower plant in Karnataka that accounts for 25% of Karnataka Power Corporation's generation.
- According to Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) 2017, 45% of Indian bird species are found in Himachal Pradesh. As per data, 564 bird species are found in Himachal Pradesh, out of 1,263 species found in India.
- According to Power Ministry, India for first time became net exporter of electricity during April-February period of 2016-17.
- During this period, India exported 5,798 million units of electricity to Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar, which is 213 million units more than import of around 5,585 million units from Bhutan.
- India exports around 190 MW power to Nepal while approx 600 MW to Bangladesh.
- According to Report, West Bengal has highest (1.04 of country's total 1.48 crore) arsenic-affected people, with State's 83 blocks in eight districts have ground water affected by arsenic contamination.
- Actor Amitabh Bachchan launched World's First Mobile App on Breast Health, developed by Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation.
- After Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand announced to impose ban on illegal slaughterhouses in state.

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- Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh laid foundation stone of Banana Research Center at Garole, Vaishali (Bihar).
- Andhra Pradesh CM N.Chandrababu Naidu inaugurated State's new Assembly building at capital Amaravati (Guntur District).
- Andhra Pradesh Government renamed Tirupati Airport as Sri Venkateswara Airport and Gannavaram Airport as NTR Amaravati Airport. Besides, 600 acre land was approved for Bhogapuram Airport and 75 acres for Savita University in capital Amaravati.
- Andhra Pradesh became state with highest percentage of its Jan-Dhan accounts seeded with Aadhaar numbers (87.73 %), followed by Tripura (87.08 %) and Telangana (83.56 %).
- Airports Authority of India (AAI), Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Jharkhand Government signed MoU for development of the Deoghar Airport in Deoghar district.
- Arunachal Pradesh government launched Adarsh Gram Yojana, aimed at reaching poor people in rural areas. Under this, 123 villages developed as 'Model Villages' during 2017-18.
- As per National Association of Software & Services Companies (NASSCOM), There will be over 73 Crore Internet Users in India by 2020, up from 40 crore currently.
- Assam Government signed MoU with State Bank of India (SBI) to provide Housing Loan (@3.50%) and Educational Loan (@4.00%) at subsidised interest rates to state government employees.
- Assam government made Sanskrit education compulsory in all state board schools till Class VIII. State Government will also appoint a specific teacher to monitor cleanliness in state's high schools.
- BHEL commenced operations of its first 800 MW unit supercritical thermal plant in Raichur Power Corporation Ltd (Karnataka).
- BHEL commissioned 250-MW eco-friendly unit at Bhavnagar Energy Company's (BECL) project in Bhavnagar district of Gujarat, using low-grade coal (lignite) as a primary fuel.
- Bhagoria Festival celebrated by tribal people in Madhya Pradesh's Jhabua district.
- Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL) signed MoU with Larsen & Toubro (L&T) for export of torpedoes.
- Biggest river festival of India, Namami Brahmaputra Inaugurated in Assam by President Pranab Mukherjee.
- CBSE made six subjects mandatory for students appearing for class 10 board exams from next academic year, instead of five Currently.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved Revised Cost Estimate of 400 MW Koteshwar Hydro Electric Project (HEP) in Uttarakhand at INR 2,717 crores., being implemented by Tehri Hydro Development Corporation. It has been commissioned in March 2012.

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- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved reviving of 50 under-served airports at cost of approx 4500 Crores.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) removed all ceilings on organic products and allowed unrestricted exports of all organic processed products. However, for organic pulses and lentils, ceiling on exports has been enhanced from 10,000 to 50,000 MTPA.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved North East Road Network Connectivity Project (NERNCP) Phase I for development of 403 kms of National Highways in Meghalaya and Mizoram, to be completed by 2021.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved closure of CREDA HPCL Biofuel Ltd (CHBL) and IndianOil - Chhattisgarh Renewable Energy Development Agency (CREDA) Biofuels Limited (ICBL).
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved opening 50 new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) under Civil / Defence Sector, at approx cost of INR 1160 crores.
- Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) launched mobile application Exam Locator to help students appearing for class 10th and 12th examinations to locate their exam centres.
- Central Railway unveiled India's first air-conditioned rail ambulance, to be stationed at Kalyan (Maharashtra).
- Chennai Port Trust and Puducherry Government signed MoU for handling EXIM cargo originating from Puducherry Port hinterland in New Delhi.
- Civil Aviation Ministry announced regional aviation routes and airlines after first round of bidding under UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) Scheme. In first round, 128 routes connecting 70 airports across country are selected and flights will become active within 4-6 months.
- Conference on Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision organized in Patna (Bihar) by Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI).
- Defence Ministry approved Rs 113 Crore Funding Over 5 Years for Strategic research projects (500 MHz NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance)) at University of Hyderabad (UoH) Centre-ARCHEM.
- Delhi Govt extended mid-day meal facility for girls up to class 12, up from class 8 (currently boys only). Changes will come into impact from April 1, 2017.
- Delhi High Court ruled that Sahitya Akademi awardees may not return their awards as they are granted after considerable deliberations.
- Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal directed chief secretary to recover INR 97 crore from AAP (Aam Aadmi Party), which it had allegedly splurged on advertisements.
- Delhi Lieutenant-Governor approved Delhi government's proposal to hike minimum wages of labourers by 37 %, highest hike ever in independent India. Now, unskilled workers in delhi will get monthly minimum wage of INR 13350. Semi-skilled and

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skilled workers will receive min monthly wages of INR 14698 and 16182 respectively.

- Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) entered Limca Book of World Records for erecting 200 U-shaped girders, maximum number of U-Shaped girders ever launched on any metro corridor in India with in a month (Noida Greater Noida Corridor).
- Destination North East 2017 conference held in Chandigarh, to showcase North East as a potential investment destination and highlight rich traditions of region. Minister of State (IC) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) Jitendra Singh was Chief Guest on this occasion.
- Election Commission froze AIADMK party's symbol of 'Two Leaves' amid 2 groups competing for using the same (VK Sasikala and O Panneerselvam).
- Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) launched Mobile Clinic Services for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- Essar's Nand Niketan at Hazira (Surat (Gujarat)) became India's first private sector township to become cashless.
- Faggan Singh Kulaste (Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare) launched National Dental and Oral Health Information IVR Portal and toll free number 1800-10-2032, to raise awareness on oral health.
- First Regional Conference of Eastern States on enhancing steel consumption in India was held in Gangtok (Sikkim) with theme Enhancing steel consumption in India.
- First fully India-made train Medha flagged off at Dadar station in Mumbai.
- First smart tribal model village 'Hubbi' inaugurated at Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Five Indians named in 2017 World Economic Forum's 100 Young Global Leaders (Under 40) list - Vijay Shekhar Sharma (Paytm Founder), Shruti Shibulal (Tamara Hospitality), Ambarish Mitra (Founder of Blippar), Hindol Sengupta and Rwitwika Bhattacharya-Agarwal.
- Focussing on women and new born welfare, Telangana CM K Chandrasekhar Rao launched KCR Kit scheme, at approx budget of 605 crores. It consists of 16 essentials for a new-born and will be useful for up to three months.
- Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) and Coca Cola India signed MoU to train 50,000 street food vendors over 3 years, as part of FSSAI's Clean Street Food initiative.
- Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI) Bill 2017 Introduced in Lok Sabha, aimed at declaring FDDI as an Institution of National Importance (INI).
- For the first time in India, four states - Odisha, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand will conduct a synchronised elephant census in May 2017.
- Number of elephants in these states In 2015 - Odisha - 1,954, Jharkhand - 700, Chhattisgarh - 275, West Bengal - 130.

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- GRAPES-3 experiment at TIFR's (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research) Cosmic Ray Laboratory in Ooty (Tamil Nadu) has been upgraded to detect solar storms.
- Global Food Fair World Food India 2017 will be held by Ministry of Food Processing Industries in November 2017 at New Delhi.
- Google and Telangana Government signed MoU to boost digitisation efforts of state government.
- Government approved Introduction of Indian Institutes of Information Technology Public Private Partnership (IIIT PPP) Bill 2017, To declare 15 Indian Institutes of Information Technology as Institutions of National Importance. It will enable IITs to grant degrees to their students.
- Government approved construction of 117,814 more affordable houses for urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) in six states (Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha) with investment of 5,773 crore. With this, total affordable homes sanctioned under PMAY came up to to 1,760,507 with investment of 96,018 crores.
- Government approved enhancing 4000 Post Graduate seats in medical colleges and hospitals across country, taking total number of PG seats available in country up to over 35000.
- Government approved sale of Steel Authority of India Limited's (SAIL) 3 special steel plants - Alloy Steels Plant located at Durgapur (West Bengal), Salem Steel Plant (Tamil Nadu) and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (Bhadravati, Karnataka). Approx 15,000 crore rupees are expect to be raised from this disinvestment.
- Government approved setting up National Commission for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (NSEBC) as a constitutional body, by insertion of Article 338B through a constitutional amendment.
- Government extended time period for elementary school teachers for acquiring essential qualification by March 2019, as against earlier March 2015. It has been done with an amendment in Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009, that envisages free and compulsory elementary education to every child in age group of 6-14 years.
- Government has set up target to increase nuclear power generation capacity to 15,000 MW by 2024, up from 5000 MW Currently.
- Government imposed 10% import duty on wheat and tur dal to protect farmers' interest amid projection of a record crop this year.
- Government launched Online Vigilance Clearance System and e-Service Book in New Delhi, aiming to fast track process of cases of vigilance clearance for senior-level appointments in central government.
- Government launched first across-the-river survey in River Ganga to determine population of aquatic life, including endangered Gangetic dolphin.
- Government of Andhra Pradesh proposed deploying a Smart Mosquito Density System. Under this, modern technologies will be deployed to detect mosquito

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breeding before malaria and other vector-borne diseases such as dengue, chikungunya and zika become an epidemic.

- Government released commemorative postage stamp on occasion of 100th anniversary of Yogoda Satsanga Society of India.
- Government stated Animal Welfare Board of India (under Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change) will now be permanently chaired by a senior MoEF official.
- Government will change 4 decade-old definition of blindness to bring it in line with World Health Organisation (WHO) criteria and ensure Indian data on blindness meets the global estimates. As per National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), in India person is blind if he is unable to count fingers from a distance of 6 metres, while WHO stipulates this distance as 3 metres.
- Government will launch India's first-of-its-kind Indian Sign Language (ISL) dictionary, aim to bring uniformity in sign languages used by hearing and speech impaired people. It is being developed by Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC).
- Government's biotech innovation BIRAC Regional Entrepreneurship Centre set up in Bengaluru, in Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms – C-CAMP. Center will encourage spirit of bio-entrepreneurship.
- Gujarat Assembly passed Gujarat Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill 2017 to amend Gujarat Animal Preservation Act 1954. This amendment has made parent act much more strict and provisions harsher punishment to prevent cow slaughter in state.
- Gujarat based Aashray Promotion of Social Enterprises Foundation signed MoU with Jharkhand government to establish an incubation center for start-ups in state.
- Gujarat government signed agreement with cloud-based solutions provider cloudBuy.com to develop B2B marketplace for small and large business units in state.
- Haryana Government announced Tirtha Darshan Scheme under which senior citizens above 60 years of age in the state will be able to go on a pilgrimage within country at government expense.
- Health Minister J P Nadda launched National Health Policy 2017 with an aim to provide healthcare in an assured manner to all, particularly to the undeserved and underprivileged.
- Policy proposes raising public health expenditure to 2.5 % of GDP.
- It seeks to increase life expectancy at birth from 67.5 to 70 by 2025 and reduce infant mortality rate to 28 by 2019.
- It also seeks to achieve and maintain elimination status of Leprosy by 2018.
- It seeks to establish tracking of disability adjusted life years (DALY) Index as a measure of burden of disease and its major categories trends by 2022.

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- Himachal Pradesh Government launched mobile App and website Mera Hunar HP for job-seekers, to enable skilled persons to apply for various jobs as per their convenience and eligibility.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited announced to deliver 123 Tejas aircrafts to Indian Air Force (IAF) by 2024.
- Human Resource Development Ministry made it mandatory for students to have Aadhaar card to get served cooked meal under Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme.
- India to host its first mobile world congress in delhi in September 2017, with special focus on reaching out to South East Asian markets.
- India will host its first mobile congress in September 2017 in New Delhi.
- India's contribution to United Nations rose 55% to Rs 244 crore in 2015-16 compared with previous year.
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) signed agreement to work together on crop improvement and agronomy programmes for grain legumes and dryland cereals.
- Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur becomes first academic institution to get a supercomputing facility under National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).
- Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM) and Indian Army signed MoU to identify critical technological areas that can be enhanced in the armed forces.
- India's first vertical garden set up at Hosur Road Electronics City Flyover in Bengaluru (Karnataka), by NGO SayTrees, to protect nature.
- India's longest surface tunnel in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district will be opened to soon. 9-km-long tunnel at Chenani passes through the lower Himalayan mountain range on Jammu- Srinagar National Highway and reduces travel distance between Jammu and Srinagar by 30 kilometres (time saving of 3 - 4 hours).
- Information and Broadcasting Ministry launched e-Cinepramaan as online film certification system of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), to automate film certification process and make it transparent and efficient.
- International conference on VISION ZERO and its relevance to Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), held in New Delhi.
- Kanha Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh became first tiger reserve in India to officially introduce a mascot named Bhoorsingh the Barasingha.
- Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah launched online platform Pratibimba to showcase government's achievements.
- Karnataka Government announced Idea2POC (Proof of Concept) fund of 10 crore for women entrepreneurs. Under this, Karnataka Government will fund up to 50 lakh for any woman innovator looking for funds for Proof of Concept validation, certification, and cover costs in manufacturing of pilot devices.
- Law Commission of India (LCI) in its 267th Report has laid out dangers of hate speech and called Union Government for action.

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- Lok Sabha approved winding up 8 tribunals -
- Competition Appellate Tribunal, Airports Economic Regulatory Authority Appellate Tribunal (AERAAT), Cyber Appellate Tribunal, EPF Appellate Tribunal, Cases under the Foreign Exchange Management Act of 1999, National Highways Tribunal, Railways Rates Tribunal and Copyright Board.
- Lok Sabhapassed Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill 2016, aimed at establishing uniform legal framework by consolidating existing laws relating to admiralty jurisdiction of courts, admiralty proceedings on maritime claims, arrest of vessels etc. Laws to be omitted are - Admiralty Court Acts of 1840 & 1861, Colonial Courts of Admiralty Acts of 1890 & 1891, Provisions of Letters Patent 1865.
- Maharashtra Institute of Technology (MIT) Pune and IBM developed robot Chintu to assist senior citizens in their everyday tasks.
- Maharashtra government will implement Maharashtra City Taxi Regulations 2017, to regulate web-based taxi services in state. Under new regulation, service provider will have to register in city to operate the taxi service and fares will be regulated by government.
- Manipur High Court declared 4 month long economic blockade called by United Naga Council (UNC) as illegal. UNC had blocked key national highways (number 2 and 37) connecting Manipur with rest of northeast region since November 2016, protesting against creation of seven new districts in state.
- Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated new Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in Tripura.
- Minister of Communications Manoj Sinha released Postage Stamp on cub scouts to commemorate Centenary year of Cub Scouts in India and abroad.
- Ministry of Agriculture launched Mission Fingerling, to enable development of fisheries sector in India with expenditure of 520 crores. It aims at achieving fisheries production from 10.79 mmt (2014-15) to 15 mmt by 2020-21 under Blue Revolution.
- Government will also launch program on ornamental fisheries in 8 potential States (cost of 61 crores) - Assam, West Bengal , Odisha, Maharashtra , Gujarat , Karnataka , Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- Ministry of Environment provided 6 months window to industrial projects functioning without environmental clearance (EC) to apply for a back-dated EC.
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched portal for obtaining Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearances, to Enhance efficiency, transparency and accountability in process.
- Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched Stage II of HCFCs Phase Out Management Plan (HPMP) for 2017-23 period. It aims to phase out use of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), harmful ozone-depleting substances

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(ODS) by switching over to non-ozone depleting and low global warming potential technologies.

- Ministry of Food Processing Industries (FPI) sanctioned 101 new integrated cold chain projects, at investment of 3,100 crores. Maharashtra has maximum (21) of projects, followed by Uttar Pradesh (14) and Gujarat (12).
- Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has announced new Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) for oil and gas exploration, aiming to attract greater foreign investment to boost output by allowing bidders to carve out areas where they want to drill.
- OALP provides operational flexibility to the investors by offering single license to explore conventional and unconventional oil and gas resources. Currently, government identifies oil and gas blocks and then puts them on auction.
- Government will now conduct auction of oil and gas blocks twice a year, with the first round being held in July 2017.
- Selection of oil blocks will be based on data by Directorate-General of Hydrocarbons in National Data Repository which offers total 160TB data of India's 26 sedimentary basins.
- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas launched MoPNG e-Seva grievance redressal platform regarding petroleum and gas sector.
- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched 2 e-challan and m-parivahan mobile applications to provide digital solution for enforcement of traffic rules. These applications will provide access to various services and will enable citizens to report any traffic violation or road accident.
- Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) will set up Women's Entrepreneurship Council for taking up with government the problems faced by business women.
- NETRA (NTPC Energy Technology Research Alliance) installed India's largest floating solar photovoltaic plant (100 kWp (kilowatt peak)) at Rajiv Gandhi Combined Cycle Power Plant (RGCCPP) at Kayamkulam in Kerala.
- NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation) commissioned 45 Megawatt (MW) capacity solar power plant at Bhadla in Rajasthan, taking company's total installed capacity up to 48188 MW.
- NTPC contributes 24% of India's total power generation and plans to set up 10,000 MW renewable projects by 2022.
- Its first wind power project Rojmal wind energy project 50 MW is being set up in Gujarat.
- NTPC commissioned 2nd unit of 660 MW of Mouda Super Thermal Power Station Stage-II (Maharashtra).
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) developed world's first next-generation atomic clock for deep space missions, to aid future manned deep space exploration missions by helping in navigation of space crafts.

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- National Commission for Schedule Tribes (NCST) approved five additional seats for tribals in Sikkim assembly (from 12 to 17 now).
- National Conference on Innovation in Educational Administration organized in New Delhi by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA).
- National Green Tribunal (NGT) prohibited all camping activity within 100 meters along River Ganga from Shivpuri to Rishikesh in Uttarakhand, owing to Environmental and Pollution issues.
- National Green Tribunal suspended environmental clearance for the Neutrino Observatory (INO) project to be set up in Tamil Nadu for research on high energy and nuclear physics, due to environmental concerns.
- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Rotary India signed MoU for success of Namami Gange Programme.
- National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) increased prices of stents (tube-shaped device placed in the arteries that supply blood to the heart) by 2%, keeping in view the wholesale price index.
- National Safety Week (NSW) to observed from March 4 - 10, 2017 by National Safety Council (NSC) of India with theme Keep Each Other Safe
- National Theatre Festival held at Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala).
- National conference on Jal Kranti Abhiyan and an International Yoga fest held in New Delhi. International yoga festival was also organized in Rishikesh (Uttarakhand).
- ONGC will invest over Rs 21,500 crore to develop India's deepest gas discovery by 2022-23, helping it more than double output from its prime KG basin block.
- Odisha Government and Invest India signed agreement to promote start-ups and MSME sector of state, to help start-ups and MSME sector to gain access to best practices.
- Odisha Government inaugurated a 24x7 toll free helpline number 181 for distressed women in Bhubaneswar.
- Odisha signed agreement with State Bank of India to become first state to adopt Self Help Groups (SHG) based model for financial exclusion model to extend banking services in unbanked areas through SGHs (formed under Odisha Livelihood Mission).
- On the occasion of 127th Foundation Day of National Archives of India (NAI), exhibition Revolutionary Patriots (1905-1947) been inaugurated.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India's longest cable-stayed bridge in Bharuch (Gujarat). It is 1.4-kilometer long four-lanes bridge over river Narmada and has been built by Larsen & Toubro.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Petro audits Limited (OPal) in industrial town of Dahej in Gujarat as largest petrochemicals plant in Asia with occupation over 1700 metres of land. It will annually produce 14 lakh metric tonnes of polymers.
- Parliament passed Employees Compensation (Amendment) Bill 2016, amending Employee's Compensation Act 1923.

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- It ensures compensation up to Rs 1 lakh to employee if an injured in an industrial accident.
- Employer will be penalised (50k - 100k) if he fails to inform his employee of his right to compensation.
- Parliament passed Maternity Benefits (Amendment) Bill 2016 (amending Maternity Benefit Act 1961) to raise maternity leave for working women from 12 weeks to 26 weeks for two surviving children. India will be in third position in terms of the number of weeks allowed for maternity leave in the world after Norway (44 weeks) and Canada (50).
- Parliament passed Mental Healthcare Bill 2016, that decriminalises suicide attempt by mentally ill people and guarantees right to better healthcare for people with mental illness.
- Parliamentary Committee under Bhagat Singh Koshyari suggested merger of telecom firms Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) for their long-term survival.
- Pawan Hans launched Delhi Darshan rides with a 10-minute sortie at Rs 2,499 per person.
- Punjab Cabinet provided 33% reservation for women in all govt jobs.
- Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir signed agreement for fast-track completion of much-delayed 206 megawatt (MW) Shahpur Kandi dam project on Ravi river.
- Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu inaugurated high speed rail wire Wi-Fi facility in National Rail museum, New Delhi. He also launched book Indian Railways- The Weaving of a National Tapestry authored by Bibek Debroy, Sanjay and Vidya Krishnamurthi.
- Railways has set up WiFi hotspot kiosks at about 500 stations in association with Google, Named Railwire Saathi.
- Railways introduced 33 % of quota for women in allotment of food stalls at rail premises as a special provision in the new catering policy 2017.
- Rajya Sabha passed HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Bill 2014, to safeguard rights of people affected by HIV. It aims to prevent social stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV (PLHIV).
- Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana", a 'Scheme for providing Physical Aids and Assisted-living Devices for Senior citizens belonging to BPL category' will be launched in Nellore (Andhra Pradesh).
- Sanjauli Police Station in Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) became first police post in country to be linked with Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS).
- Scientists from CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) in Visakhapatnam discovered 3 new canyons close to Kovvada in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh, with canyons together forming a major canyon system in depths of Bay of Bengal.

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- The new canyon system was probably formed by river Kandivalasa. It is very huge and its depth varies from about 90 - 2,500 metres.
- Last canyon systems off the Visakhapatnam coast were discovered in 1963 by American geologist E.C. LaFond of US Navy.
- Solar Energy Scheme for Small Powerloom Units launched by government to provide financial assistance as capital subsidy to small powerloom units for installation of Solar Photo Voltaic (SPV) plants, to alleviate problem of power cuts faced by decentralized powerloom units. Under this, plants have two options - On-Grid Solar Power Plant (where power cuts and shortages are negligible and power tariff is high), Off-Grid Solar Power Plant (in power shortage areas).
- State Assembly Election Results 2017 -
- Uttar Pradesh (403 Seats)
- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) became Largest Party with 312 Seats. It is a historic win for any political party in Uttar Pradesh. Samajwadi Party got 47 seats.
- BJP got 39.7 % votes, while Bahujan Samaj Party got 22.2 %.
- Uttrakhand (70 Seats)
- With 57 Seats, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) became Largest Party.
- BJP got 46.5 % votes, while Indian National Congress got 33.5 % votes.
- Goa (40 Seats)
- No clear Majority achieved by any party. Indian National Congress is leading party with 17 seats, BJP second with 13 seats. Although BJP got more percentage of votes than any other party.
- Manipur (60 Seats)
- No clear Majority achieved by any party. Indian National Congress is leading party with 28 seats, BJP second with 21 seats. Although BJP got more percentage of votes than any other party.
- Punjab (117 Seats)
- Indian National Congress won majority with 77 seats, Aam Aadmi Party second with 20 seats. INC got 38.5 % Votes.
- Supreme Court banned sale of Bharat Stage (BS)-III emission norm-compliant vehicles from April 1, 2017, when environmentally friendly BS-IV emission norms will come into force.
- Tamil Nadu Government launched Ammakalviyagam in portal, as hub of learning, interaction and opportunities. It is dedicated to late Chief Minister Jayalalithaa.
- Tamil Nadu Government launched women safety application called Ammavin Aran, meaning 'mother's fortress'. It will give details about nearest police station and hospital along with map and phone number.
- Tata - DAV School at Mithapur in Gujarat achieved Guinness World Record for the Largest Tree Hug programme, with participation of 1316 students and staff. Objective was to spread message of conservation of natural resources and need to nurture the environment.

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- Tata Motors signed MoU with Volkswagen Group and Skoda to explore strategic alliance opportunities for joint development of products.
- Taxi aggregator Ola signed MoU with Madhya Pradesh State Skill Development Mission (MPSSDM) and Directorate of Skill Development, aimed at nurturing micro-entrepreneurship and skilling 50 lakh drivers by 2020.
- To free India from cataract (Eye disease) by 2022, government approved Rs 756 crore scheme to treat over 70 Crore patients in 5 years.
- Turkey ended its military campaign inside northern Syria - Operation Euphrates Shield.
- Uttar Pradesh Government will provide free power connection to below poverty line households. Those above poverty line will get 100 % financing option with easy EMIs.
- Uttarakhand High Court ordered complete ban on all mining activities in state for 4 months.
- Uttarakhand High Court recognized Ganga and Yamuna Rivers as living entities, making it first time ever that any court in India has recognized a non-human as a living entity.
- West Bengal Government officially recognized language status to endangered tribal language Kurukh, mother tongue belonging to Dravidian family.
- West Bengal Government passed Clinical Establishments (Registration, Regulation and Transparency) Bill, 2017 to overhaul private healthcare in state and take stringent measures against health institutions accused of medical negligence and corrupt practices. It repeals West Bengal Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010.
- Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) launched Operation Thunder Bird in its fight to end poaching of wild animals. It also had convened Operation Save Kurma, a species specific operation on turtles.
- World's largest capstone discovered by Archaeology Department of Telangana, after excavating an ancient human burial site in Siddipet district.
- Capstone is a stone fixed on top of something, typically a wall.