

Current Affairs of July 2015

1. Grandmaster and former world junior champion Abhijeet Gupta won the 2015 Commonwealth Chess Championship after settling for a quick draw with Arghyadip Das in the ninth and final round of the event.
2. Greece became the first developed nation to default on International Monetary Fund (IMF) debt. It became a defaulter after it missed the deadline for payment of 1.7 billion dollar (1.5 billion euro) to IMF.
3. Matti Makkonen, the man responsible for conceiving the idea of short messaging service (SMS) technology, died following a brief illness. He was 63.
4. Anisa Rasouli, the head of the Afghan Women Judges Association and a former juvenile court judge, was nominated as the first ever female Supreme Court judge of Afghanistan.
5. Chandrasekaran Ramakrishnan was appointed as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of India's biggest auto maker Tata Motors' Group with immediate effect
6. U P Singh was appointed as the Interim Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state-run Oil India Limited. He succeeded S K Srivastava, who superannuated on 1 July 2015.
7. Darshan Jain, an Indian-American teacher from Illinois, US in July 2015 was named for prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching by President Barack Obama.
8. Sanjeev Galande was selected for G D Birla Award for Scientific Research for 2014. The name was announced by the K K Birla Foundation and he is the 24th recipient of the award.
9. Cuba has become the first country to eliminate the transmission of HIV and syphilis from mother to baby, the World Health Organisation has announced.
10. The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development adopted the 'Digital Guddi-Gudda Board' as a Best Practice under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme. It was named as the best practice on the occasion of Digital India Week that is being observed from 1 July to 7 July 2015.
11. The Haryana Government launched the Mhara Gaon- Jagmag Gaon scheme, aimed at providing 24 hour uninterrupted power supply to rural domestic consumers in a phased manner with their active participation. With this, Haryana became the first state in the country to launch such an innovative voluntary scheme.

12. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) gave its approval for a new scheme called Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). The Yojana was approved with an outlay of 50000 crore rupees over a period of five years, that is, from 2015-16 to 2019-20 and the allocation for the financial year 2015-16 has been kept at 5300 crore rupees.

Aim of PMKSY

Bringing concerned Ministries/Departments/Agencies/Research and Financial Institutions engaged in creation/use/recycling/potential recycling of water under a common platform so that a comprehensive and holistic view of the entire water cycle is taken into account and proper water budgeting is done for all sectors namely, household, agriculture and industries.

13. India announced a ban on trade with the Islamic State for Iraq and Syria (ISIS)-linked entities, the al-Nusra Front and other groups and individuals associated with the Al-Qaeda.

14. The board of Housing.com sacked the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and co-founder Rahul Yadav with immediate effect. The decision was taken during the regular board meeting held in New Delhi.

15. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) successfully flight tested Prandtl-d aircraft.

Prandtl stands for the Preliminary Research Aerodynamic Design to Land on Mars and it was developed by NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Centre.

It is a prototype of the Prandtl-m aircraft, touted as the first airplane to be launched on Mars between 2020 and 2024.

16. K P P Nambiar, founding Chairman of Kerala State Electronics Development Corporation Limited (Keltron) died due to age-related illnesses.

17. R Paul Singh, Indian-American professor has been selected for 2015 World Agriculture Prize laureate. The award was announced at the annual Global Confederation for Higher Education Associations for Agriculture and Life Sciences (GCHERA) conference held at the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Lebanon

18. Former Indian cricketers Hrishikesh Kantikar and Ajay Ratra retired from all forms of cricket.

19. India launched online registration system named eMigrate system (www.emigrate.gov.in) for foreign employers (FEs) who wants to recruit Indian workers, including nurses. Under the system, FEs will have to register in the eMigrate system.

20. Union Government has launched mobile App to know gram panchayats assets. It was launched by Union Rural Development and Minister Ch Birender Singh. It was launched on the occasion of Digital India Week in New Delhi.

21. Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal on Thursday launched the State Portal - ePMS (Electronic Projects Management System) - to fast track infrastructural development.

22. In a bid to become the first private manufacturer of helicopters in India and get ahead in line to win more contracts from the country's armed forces, Europe's Airbus Group and the Mahindra Group have decided to team up.

23. Kotak Mahindra Bank has got a go-ahead from the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) for its proposal to increase foreign direct investment (FDI) in the bank to 55 per cent.

24. Fazle Hasan Abed of Bangladesh has been named as the winner of the 2015 World Food Prize. He is founder and chairman of Bangladesh-based non-governmental organisation (NGO) BRAC (originally known as Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee) which is world's largest NGO.

25. Country's largest lender State Bank of India today launched an initiative to provide doorstep services and expedite home loans application process. The initiative known as 'Project Tatkal' will help get the loan within 10 days after receipt of application form and relevant supporting documents,

26. State run telecom giant Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) launched pre-paid card linked mobile wallet service 'Speed Pay'. BSNL has launched the service in partnership with IT company Pyro.

27. The Guinness Book of World Records has recognised a record created in Madhya Pradesh on 'World Hand washing Day' in 2014.

28. Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) Y K Sabharwal on 3 July 2015 passed away following a prolonged illness. He was 73.

29. To provide security to those devotees taking part in the 59-day-long annual Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, Indian Army in first week of July 2015 launched Operation Shiva. The operation was launched on the basis of intelligence report suggesting that a group of 15 terrorists are likely to attempt a strike.

30. The Adani Group, a global infrastructure player, will set up a ₹4,536 crore solar park in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu to generate 648-MW of solar power.

31. Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank planning to set up exclusive branches for self-help groups (SHGs) under its area of operation.

32. Australia's injury-plagued paceman Ryan Harris announced his immediate retirement from all forms of cricket

33. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley Attended Inaugural Meet of BRICS Bank at Moscow. The first head of the Bank is noted Indian banker KV Kamath.

34. BRICS Summit held at Ufa , Moscow attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

35. Chile beats Argentina 4-1 on penalties to win Copa America.

36. Four Indian-Americans honoured with 2015 Great Immigrants: The Pride of America award
Indian-American Winners

- Preet Bharara, United States Attorney, Southern District of New York
- Rakesh Khurana, Professor, Dean, Harvard College
- Madhulika Sikka, Vice President, Executive Editor, Mic
- Abraham Verghese, Physician and Writer

37. Commodore C D Balaji (Retd) on 3 July 2015 took charge as the Director of the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and Programme Director of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).

38. United States of America (USA) won the FIFA Women's World Cup. In the final played at Vancouver, Canada, US defeated Japan, 5-2. The player of the match was Carli Lloyd of US.

Awards

- adidas Golden Ball: Carli Lloyd (midfielder of USA)
- adidas Golden Boot: Celia Sasic (forward of Germany)
- adidas Golden Glove: Hope Solo (Goalkeeper of USA)
- Hyundai Young Player Award: Kadeisha Buchanan (Defender of Canada)
- Fair Play Award: France

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

40. India won the South Asian Basketball (SABA) Championship title. In the final played at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India defeated Sri Lanka 93-44.

41. The Champagne Hillsides, Houses and Cellars of France were granted with the World Heritage Status by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

42. President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated Nakshatra Vatika at his official Rashtrapati Nilayam Gardens in Bolarum, Secunderabad.

43. Former Finance Minister of China Jin Liqun was in news as he was nominated by China to be the first president of the Beijing-backed Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

44. Noted Indian conservation biologist Kamal Bawa will be formally admitted to the prestigious Royal Society as a fellow on for his “pioneering contributions to understanding the population biology of tropical forest trees”.

45. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) launched a mobile application named Pashu Poshan that will boost dairy farmers' income by raising milk yield and cutting feed cost. The app will recommend a balanced diet for cows and buffaloes.

46. HDFC Bank, the country's second largest private sector bank, launched Watch Banking application for Apple Watch.

47. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Kazakhstan Prime Minister Karim Massimov jointly launched the first exploratory drilling of the Satpayev oil block by ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) and KazMunaiGaz of Kazakhstan.

48. The Film Society of Jodhpur was conferred with the Pritiman Sarkar Award 2014-15 for the consequent fourth time for being the best film society in Northern Region in raising awareness and film appreciation.

49. Book titled India Central Asia Relations: The Economic Dimension authored by Amiya Chandra released.

50. Jerome Charles Weintraub, the legendary producer who produced Ocean's Eleven, died

51. Senior IAS officer Sanjeev Nandan (SN)Sahai was appointed as the Home Secretary of Delhi.

52. Rahul Bhatnagar was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Bharti Enterprises. He will report to Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman of Bharti Enterprises.

53. Sriram Kalyanaraman was appointed as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Housing Bank (NHB) for a period of Five Years.

54. The Operation Smile was launched by the Ghaziabad Police in 2014 with an aim to search and restoration of missing children with their families. Under the operation, the police was able to recover 227 missing children within 30 days of launch.

55. Professor Lord Kamlesh Patel of Bradford OBE was appointed as an independent member on the 14-member board of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).

56. Goa will host the fifth Youth Delphic Games in February 2016. The announcement was made in June 2015. The motto of the 2016 Games is Celebrating Arts and Cultures.

57. The Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports constituted an eight member committee to study status of Sports Authority of India (SAI) training centers across the country. The committee will be headed by former athlete Ashwini Nachappa and includes Pullela Gopi Chand as a member among others.

58. Indian Army 2015 dedicated the monument named Prerna Sthal at Hussainiwala to the nation. The commemorative monument was built to honour the sacrifice of soldiers of India.

59. Russian cosmonaut Gennady Padalka in the first week of July 2015 entered Guinness World Records for spending most number of days in the space. He achieved the feat by spending 804 days on the International Space Station (ISS).

60. Russian President Vladimir Putin said India and Pakistan will join the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, a group dominated by Russia and China and also including former Soviet republics in Central Asia.

61. Power generation equipment manufacturer Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has commissioned a second 500 MW unit at the Tuticorin Thermal Power Station (TPS) in Tamil Nadu. The first unit was commissioned on March 10.

62. Noted Urdu poet and critic Bashir Navaaz passed away following a brief illness in Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

63. India's second largest IT services firm Infosys on 8 July 2015 signed a multi-million euro deal with Deutsche Bank. As per this agreement, Infosys will provide services like application maintenance, package implementation and testing services across the Deutsche Bank Group.

64. Bandhan Bank Ltd on 9 July 2015 appointed its Chairman and Board of Directors. The bank will commence its operations in India from 23 August 2015. It will be the first bank to be established in Eastern India post Independence.

Ashok Kumar Lahiri, former Chief Economic Adviser to the Union Government, was appointed as the Chairman of the bank.

65. Uttarakhand became first Indian state to install a system to detect earthquakes and disseminate warnings. The first system has been installed in its capital Dehradun which will issue warnings 1-40 seconds before earthquakes of magnitude 5 or more occur.

66. Defence PSU Bharat Electronics made Akash inducted into Indian Air Force. BEL, the nodal agency and supplies major sub-systems, today at a ceremony held at Air Force Station, Gwalior, handed over the missile system.
67. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on 10 July 2015 successfully launched five British satellites into space from the first launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. These satellites are three identical DMC3 optical earth observation satellites and two auxiliary satellites, viz., CBNT-1 and De-OrbitSail.
68. World Population Day was observed on 11 July 2015 with theme Vulnerable Populations in Emergencies.
69. Prince Saud al-Faisal, World's longest serving Foreign Minister passes away. He was the Saudi kingdom's foreign minister for 4 decades (from 1975 to 2015).
70. The powerful Typhoon Linfa has hit the southern China after it made landfall on southern province of Guangdong.
71. Indian tennis star Sania Mirza scripted history by becoming the first from the country to win a women's doubles Grand Slam trophy as she lifted the Wimbledon title with Swiss partner Martina Hingis .
72. Serena Williams claimed a sixth Wimbledon title and fourth successive grand slam crown by suppressing the spirited attacking instincts of 20th-seeded Spaniard Garbine Muguruza to win final 6-4 6-4.
73. The government has appointed international lawyer Rodrigo Oreanuno to arbitrate on its behalf in the Rs. 20,000 crore tax case with the UK telecom major Vodafone.
74. United States has approved major Non-NATO Ally (MNNA) status to Tunisia. Decision in this regard was taken by US State Department. With this Tunisia became the 16th country to become a MNNA of US.
75. Satnam Singh Bhamara, the first Indian hoopster drafted in a National Basketball Association team, made his 2015 NBA Summer League debut for Dallas Mavericks against New Orleans.
76. 'Buddha In A Traffic Jam' film has won the best original screenplay in a Foreign Language award at the Madrid International Film Festival. The film is a political satire directed by filmmaker Vivek Agnihotri.

77. The Indo-Vietnamese pair Sumit Nagal-Nam Hoang Ly won the 2015 Wimbledon Boys' Doubles title by defeating Opelka and Akira Santillan in the final match held in London.

78. Tata Steel's West Bokaro Division was conferred with the Golden Peacock Environment Management Award (GPEMA) 2015 in New Delhi.

79. The Patnitop Tunnel or Chenani-Nashri Tunnel is touted as India's longest road tunnel set to open in 2016.

80. Seventh seed Indo-Swiss pair of Leander Paes and Martina Hingis won mixed doubles title at Wimbledon. In the final clash, the duo defeated the fifth seed Austrian-Hungarian team of Alexander Peya and Timea Babos 6-1, 6-1.

81. Country's fourth largest software services firm HCL Technologies has said it will buy certain assets of Trygstad Technical Services in an all-cash deal.

82. In fresh trials, India has test-fired its indigenously developed Nag anti-tank guided missile, which can hit a target upto seven km, from a helicopter at a firing range in Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.

83. Justice RM Lodha-headed panel on IPL Betting Scandal 2013 suspended Indian Premier League (IPL) franchise Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals (RR) for two years. Suspension of two times IPL champion CSK and inaugural winner RR comes with immediate effect.

84. Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)suspended Mumbai Ranji cricketer Hiken Shah with immediate effect. BCCI suspended him after he was found guilty of breaching BCCI's Anti-Corruption Code for participants.

85. Noted artist Sayed Haider Raza was conferred with highest French Civilian Award Commandeur de la Lgion dHonneur (the Legion of Honour).

86. Private sector lender YES Bank received approval from the Reserve Bank of India to set up IFSC Banking Units (IBUs) in Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT).

87. Union Government has launched GPS-Aided Geo Augmented Navigation (GAGAN) system, for aviation navigation.

88. India and Georgia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the field of election management and administration. The MoU was signed by Chief Election Commissioner of India Nasim Zaidi and Tamar Zhvania, Chairperson, Central Election Commission, Georgia.

89. Lt Gen Man Mohan Singh Rai has been appointed as new Vice-Chief of the Indian Army.
90. China has set up the world's largest cancer registry system in a bid to fight the cancer diseases with more-targeted and evidence-based intervention programmes. The cancer registry system is a systematic collection of data about cancer
91. NASA marked the closest approach by first spacecraft to explore Pluto. NASA's New Horizons spacecraft got up close and personal with Pluto to zoom within 12,500 km of the small icy world left unexplored until now.
92. Make in India initiative of DIPP(Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion) won Frost and Sullivan's 2015 Economic Development Innovation Award.
93. Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency (MUDRA) Bank has disbursed Rs 35 crore loan to Satin Creditcare Network Ltd (SCNL). Delhi-based SCNL has become the first microfinance institution (MFI) in the Indian microfinance sector to have received a loan from MUDRA Bank.
94. An India-based software products and technology services company Comparex India Pvt. Ltd won the prestigious Microsoft Country Partner of the Year Award for 2015. Comparex India Pvt. Ltd is headquartered in New Delhi.
95. Loan distributor Andromeda acquired apnapaisa.com, online loan solutions provider in a stock and cash deal.
96. Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhu inaugurated the broad-gauge railway-line between Gandhidham and Tuna-Tekra Port in Gujarat by flagging off a goods train.
97. Iconic Mexican musician Joan Sebastian passed away after battling bone cancer for more than 15 years in Juliantla, Mexico
98. Online marketplace Snapdeal on Wednesday announced the launch of Shopo as a zero-commission open mobile marketplace which is targeted at small businesses and individual sellers. The buyers and sellers can directly interact through chat.
99. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) constituted a committee to work out a five-year (medium-term) action plan for financial inclusion. The 14-member panel will be headed by RBI executive director Deepak Mohanty.
100. The World Youth Skills Day (WYSD) was on 15 July 2015 observed globally for the first ever time.

101. Supported by a healthy monsoon and new investments, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has retained its India economic growth forecast for 2015-16 at 7.8 percent.

102. Private sector lender IndusInd Bank launched customer responsive service called QuickPay, allowing the bank customers to send money instantly to their personal contacts and/or business parties through SMS, E-mail and social media platforms.

103. Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has given nod to Chinese Telecom manufacturer Huawei to set up a manufacturing unit in Tamil Nadu for its components.

104. Manipur Legislative Assembly unanimously resolved to withdraw the Manipur Regulation of Visitors, Tenants and Migrant Workers (MRVTMW) Bill, 2015.

105. Indian American woman Sunita Viswanath was honoured as Champions of Change by the White House of United States (US).

106. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval to set up an expert group to classify the Caste names returned in the Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011. The expert group will be chaired Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairperson of NITI Aayog and will be serviced by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Welfare.

107. INS Astravahini, indigenously built Torpedo launch and recovery vessel (TLRV), was decommissioned after its 31 years service to the nation.

108. White-Fi technology or TV White Space Technology was in news in the second week of July 2015 as Microsoft announced plans to introduce this technology in India to provide last mile connectivity and give a boost to the Digital India initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

109. India and World Bank signed Financing Agreement for assistance of 250 million US dollars for Andhra Pradesh Disaster Recovery Project.

110. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) permitted Cooperative Banks with Core Banking Solution (CBS) to issue ATM cards/ATM-cum-debit cards in tie with a sponsor banks.

111. Former Delhi Police Commissioner Neeraj Kumar was appointed as the Chief Advisor of Security and anti-corruption unit (ACSU) of BCCI for next year's T20 World Cup to be hosted by India.

112. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the creation of an intra state transmission system in seven states of the country. The seven states include Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

113. Prashant Pathrabe was appointed as Interim Director of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII).

114. The Reserve Bank of India signed a Special Currency Swap Agreement with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka.

Under the arrangement, the Central Bank of Sri Lanka can draw up to 1.1 billion US dollar for a maximum period of six months. This special arrangement is in addition to the existing Framework on Currency Swap Arrangement for the SAARC Member Countries.

115. India's first air freight station in the private sector has come up at Irungattukottai near Chennai. The first AFS in the country was set up in 2007 inside Central Warehousing Corporation in the city.

116. International Cricket Council (ICC) has banned Pakistan's all-rounder cricketer Mohammad Hafeez from bowling in international cricket for a period of one year

117. Uruguayan soccer legend Alcides Ghiggia has passed away due to heart attack in Montevideo, Uruguay.

118. India's first defence industrial park will be set up at Ottappalam in Palakkad district of Kerala.

119. A fired up Yuki Bhambri recorded his first ever victory in a live fifth rubber after Somdev Devvarman levelled the scores as India advanced to World Group Play-offs following a 3-2 win over New Zealand in the Asia/Oceania Group I Davis Cup tie, in Christchurch

120. Kerala Tourism has won 2015 Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) award in the 'Heritage & Culture' category for its Muziris Heritage Project.

121. Union Agriculture Ministry has launched 3 agricultural-portals namely Soil Health Card (SHC) portal, Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) and Fertiliser Quality Control System portal (FQCS).

122. Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Swati Maliwal took over as the new Chairperson of Delhi Commission for Women (DCW).

123. American actor best known for his role as Moe Greene in crime drama The Godfather, Alex Rocco died . He was 79.

124. Amelie Mauresmo, the two-time Grand Slam winner and former number one tennis player of France, was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

125. ML Sharma, former Special Director of the CBI, will head a panel to probe alleged misdemeanors by the agency's ex-director Ranjit Sinha.

126. White House economic adviser Maurice Obstfeld was appointed as Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) with effect from 8 September 2015. Obstfeld will succeed outgoing IMF economist Olivier Blanchard.

127. High Level Committee (HLC) on Status of Women headed by Pam Rajput, constituted by former UPA government, was in news in fourth week of July 2015.

128. Pamarthy Shankar, a cartoonist working with the prominent Telugu Daily newspaper Sakshi, won the Grand Prix World Press Cartoon 2014 Award for sketching Nelson Mandela.

129. Benoy Behl won the Best Documentary Producer award at Madrid International Film Festival

130. Bhanu Pratap Sharma was appointed as Chairperson of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

131. People travelling in trains can now enjoy KFC's meals on board as the fast food chain has tied up with IRCTC to start a delivery system for passengers.

132. Union Government extended Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS) to Public Sector Banks (PSBs), private sector commercial banks, rural regional banks (RRBs), cooperative banks and NABARD. It was extended to ensure availability of crop loans of up to 3 lakh rupees to farmers at 7 percent per annum.

133. Former McKinsey director Ananth Narayanan on 21 July 2015 was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Flipkart-owned fashion store Myntra. He will assume the charge on 1 October 2015.

134. Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Ram Vilas Paswan launched the Surakshit Khadya Abhiyan, a countrywide campaign, to create mass awareness and capacity building for safe and hygienic food.

135. Noted Canadian author Naomi Klein has won the 36th edition of American Book Award 2015.

136. The New Development Bank (NDB) created by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) nations formally started its operations from its headquarters in Shanghai, China.

137. ISRO has successfully test-fired Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mark III project's high-thrust cryogenic rocket engine. It is India's first indigenously designed and developed high-thrust cryogenic rocket engine capable of generating a nominal thrust of 19 tonnes.

138. Megastar Amitabh Bachchan, who spearheaded promotion campaign of Gujarat Tourism, will now be the brand ambassador of "Cycle Pure Agarbathies", manufactured by the Mysore-based NR Ranga Rao & Sons.

139. With the total power generation from nuclear reactors at 5308 MWe, India is ranked 12th in the world in terms of power generation from nuclear sources.

140. cartoonist Tom Moore, who gave life to the cartoon character Archie, died after battling with lung cancer in El Paso, Texas. He was 86.

141. National Broadcasting Day was observed on 23 July 2015 across the country.

142. Book titled Ghosts of Calcutta authored by Sebastian Ortiz released.

143. Conakry, the capital of the Republic of Guinea, was named as the World Book Capital for 2017 by United Nations organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO).

144. Puducherry city has emerged as the first nomination to be received by the Urban Development Ministry for a Smart City Mission.

145. Seven Indian companies have found their place in 2015 Fortune 500 Global Companies list compiled by Fortune Magazine. They are Indian Oil: ranked 119th with revenues of 74 billion dollars. Reliance Industries: ranked 158th with revenues of 62 billion dollars. Tata Motors: ranked 254th with revenues of 42 billion dollars. State Bank of India (SBI): ranked 260th with revenues of 42 billion dollars. Bharat Petroleum: ranked 280th with revenues of 40 billion dollars. Hindustan Petroleum: ranked 327th with revenues of 35 billion dollars. Oil and Natural Gas: ranked 449th with revenues of 26 billion dollars. Top 5: Walmart (1st) of US, Sinopec Group (2nd) of China, Royal Dutch Shell (3rd) of Netherlands, China National Petroleum (4th) and Exxon Mobil (5th) of US.

146. The world's first malaria vaccine called RTS,S or Mosquirix o got approval from European Medicines Agency (EMA).

147. 10-year old Shubham Jaglan won the IJGA World Stars of Junior Golf event in Las Vegas. Jaglan is the son of a milkman from rural Haryana, India.

148. Nobel Prize winner Professor Peter Higgs won the world's oldest scientific prize, the Royal Society's Copley Medal.

149. Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has bagged the Dun & Bradstreet's 'India's Top PSUs Awards 2015 in the electrical and electronic equipment sector.

150. IT companies CSC and HCL Technologies have signed an agreement to form a banking software and services company to provide technology services and solutions to the banking industry.

151. T K Chand has been appointed as the new chairman-cum-managing director (CMD) of National Aluminium Company(Nalco).

151. The Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi launched Deendayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) along with various other development projects in Patna.

The DeenDayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana for rural areas was launched to fulfil the following objectives:

To provide electrification to all villages

Feeder separation to ensure sufficient power to farmers and regular supply to other consumers

Improvement of Sub-transmission and distribution network to improve the quality and reliability of the supply

Metering to reduce the losses

The Scheme has an outlay of 76000 crore rupees for implementation of the projects under which Union Government shall provide Grant of 63000 crore rupees.

152. Helena Ndume of Namibia and Jorge Sampaio of Portugal were awarded with the first-ever Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize by the United Nations (UN) at the UN Headquarters in New York.

153. Historian Ramachandra Guha was chosen for the Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize 2015 in the Academic Category.

154. President Pranab Mukherjee has appointed 2 members of Anglo-Indian Community to Lok Sabha as per the provisions of Article 331 of Indian Constitution. Nominated Persons are

-Professor Richard Hay: He hails from Kerala. Presently, he teaches economics in various academic institutes in India as well as abroad.

-George Baker: He hails from West Bengal and is actor by profession. Since 1970s, he has acted in several Assamese and Bengali movies.

155. Maharashtra Cabinet has approved Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Jan Van Vikas Scheme for for development of villages around tiger reserves. The scheme will be launched on project basis from 2015-16 to 2019-2020 and has been proposed by State Forest Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar.

156. Ajay Mathur was appointed as the Director-General (DG) of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).

157. Ashok Kumar Balyan, former chief executive of Petronet LNG Ltd, has joined the Anil Ambani-led Reliance Group as CEO of its oil & gas business.

158. China has successfully tested the power system of Long March-5, a fifth generation of carrier rocket belonging to China's Long March family of rockets. This announcement was after Long March-5 rocket carrier, entered a runoff phase.

159. Former Governor of Kerala and Bihar, Ramkrishna Suryabhan Gavai passed away in Nagpur, Maharashtra after a prolonged illness.

160. Union Government has constituted All India Council of Sports (AICS), as an advisory body to deliberate on matters relating to the development and promotion of sports in the country

161. China launched two new navigational satellites into space as part of its domestic navigation system BeiDou (meaning Compass).

162. Union Government sanctioned 1000 crore rupees for the laying of 15.06 km long tracks to connect Indian Railways with Bangladesh through the North East. The Indo-Bangla Rail link would be completed by 2017 and the entire route will be constructed by IRCON.

163. World's largest flower Amorphophallus Titanum bloomed for the first time in 5 years in the fourth week of July 2015 at the Jindai botanical gardens in Tokyo, Japan.

164. The Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Monday introduced in the Lok Sabha a new bill that sought to replace the Negotiable Instruments ordinance promulgated in mid-June this year. This bill – Negotiable Instruments (amendment) Bill 2015 – seeks to provide a place of jurisdiction that is fair to both the complainant and the accused (in cases filed for dishonour of cheques). This was the 14th ordinance issued by the Modi government since it assumed office late last May

165. Axis Bank, India's third largest private sector bank, has signed a \$200 million 7-year bilateral loan deal with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), headquartered in Philippines.

166. Chris Froome, a cyclist from Team Sky of Britain, won 102nd Tour de France in a three-week slog of furious race around the Champs Elysees, Paris. With this, Froome became the first Briton to win the Tour de France for the second time.

167. Sebastian Vettel of Germany and the Ferrari driver won the Hungarian Formula One Grand Prix in Budapest. This was Vettel's second win of the season and it came only days after the funeral of the Mercedes French former test driver Jules Bianchi.

168. The 16th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas observed across the nation on 26 July 2015. On this day in 1999 Indian Army defeated Pakistan Army in the Kargil War.

169. Ram Sevak Sharma was appointed as the Chairman of telecom regulator Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). He succeeded Rahul Khullar who had retired in May 2015.

170. Dinanagar town in Gurdaspur district of Punjab was in news in July 2015 it witnessed a terrorist attack that killed seven people including 4 policemen.

171. Israel's largest drug maker Teva Pharmaceutical agreed to buy generic drugs business of Allergan Plc for USD 40.5 billion.

172. Mexico defeated Jamaica 3-1 in the final of CONCACAF Gold Cup football tournament to win the regional tournament for the record seventh time. The final was played at Philadelphia, US.

173. World Hepatitis Day is being observed every year on July 28 around the globe. Focus of the day: To spread awareness about viral hepatitis.

174. Eminent Indian physicist Dr Parameswaran Hariharan passed away in California, United States.

175. Bengaluru based gold Jewellery manufacturing company Rajesh Exports Ltd (REL) bought the world's largest gold refining company Valcambi from US-based mining company Newmont Mining Corporation.

176. The Board of Trustees of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation (RMAF) on 29 July 2015 announced the Ramon Magsaysay awardees for the year 2015.

List of Awardees

Sanjiv Chaturvedi, India: He was awarded for Emergent Leadership for his exemplary integrity, courage and tenacity in uncompromisingly exposing and painstakingly investigating corruption in public office. He is an Indian Forest Service officer and currently the deputy secretary of All

India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). He also served as a Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) at AIIMS during 2012-14.

Anshu Gupta, India: He was recognized for his creative vision in transforming the culture of giving in India and his enterprising leadership in treating cloth as a sustainable development resource for the poor. He founded Goonj in 1999, which is a non-governmental organisation based in Delhi and works in 21 states across India in disaster relief, humanitarian aid and community development.

Kommaly Chanthavong, Laos: She was recognized for her fearless, indomitable spirit to revive and develop the ancient Laotian art of silk weaving, creating livelihoods for thousands of poor, war-displaced Laotians, and thus preserving the dignity of women and her nation's priceless silken cultural treasure.

Ligaya Fernando-Amilbansa, the Philippines: She was recognized for her single-minded crusade in preserving the endangered artistic heritage of southern Philippines, and in creatively propagating a dance form that celebrates and deepens the sense of shared cultural identity among Asians.

Kyaw Thu, Myanmar: He was recognized for his generous compassion in addressing the fundamental needs of both the living and the dead in Myanmar -- regardless of their class or religion -- and his channeling personal fame and privilege to mobilize many others toward serving the greater social good.

177. Facebook, the social networking leader has unveiled a new compressed version of its application called 'Facebook Lite' in India to reach out its users who have slow data connections.

178. International Tiger Day was observed across the world on 29 July 2015. The day is observed every year since 2010 to promote the protection and expansion of the wild tiger habitats and to gain support through awareness for tiger conservation.

179. The pioneering Indian HIV/AIDS researcher Dr. Suniti Solomon died at her residence in Chennai on 28 July 2015.

180. Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports constituted a Working Group on re-drafting National Sports Development Code of India (NSDCI). The aim of constituting the working group is to make the NSDCI more relevant from both sports governance and legal angles. The nine-member Working Group will be headed by Justice CK Mahajan (retd.), Former Judge of Delhi High Court.

181. General Council of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) approved the membership terms of Kazakhstan, thus enabling it to join the world trade body as 162nd member.

182. Singapore Diamond Investment Exchange' (SDiX) the first ever diamond exchange is all set to function from September 2015.

183. The Kolkata-based private sector wagon manufacturer Titagarh Wagons Ltd (TWL) has acquired Italian coach manufacturing company Firema Trasporti for 25 million Euros.

184. IndusInd Bank has acquired the diamond and jewellery (bullion) financing business and related deposit portfolio of Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) for 4,100 crore rupees.

185. Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) launched a mobile banking app 'Kotak Bharat' aiming to provide mobile banking services to customers in the remotest regions of India.

186. Procter & Gamble (P&G) has appointed its company veteran David Taylor as the new CEO by replacing A G Lafley .

187. Cyclone Komen came into news 5 after the depression over the Northern Bay of Bengal turned into a cyclonic storm. The cyclone is expected to make landfall on the coast of Odisha and West Bengal.

188. Actor Dhanush produced 'Visaarnai' became first Tamil film to enter Venice film festival.

189. United Nations (UN) released the report title World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision at the UN Headquarters in New York.

190. e-Tourist Visa scheme was extended to China, Hong Kong and Macau with effect . The facility was extended as per the decision of the 29 July 2015 of Union Government.

191. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) cancelled the Certificate of Registration of Sahara Mutual Fund. Its licence would stand cancelled after 60 days from the date of the order.

192. US Software giant Microsoft launched its new operating system Windows-10 with a host of new features. It was launched by Microsoft's India-born CEO Satya Nadella at a global launch event held in Kenya.

193. Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) has decided to sell its private banking business in India to Sanctum Wealth Management, in line of its prior decision to exit the Indian market.

194. Debjani Ghosh took charge as new president of MAIT (the Manufacturers' Association for Information Technology), the apex body of India's Information technology hardware industry.

195. India's Kalyani Group and Israel's Rafael have partnered to produce Spike Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGM) in India.

196. Paytm bags BCCI sponsorship rights.

197. In an unusual move, the Finance Ministry has nominated Ajay Tyagi, Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs to the RBI board in place of Economic Affairs Secretary Rajiv Mehrishi.

198. The two leading financial news operations from Europe and Asia are now together, as Nikkei Japanese media group is going to buy the Financial Times from Britain's Pearson in a \$1.3 billion.

199. Talvar, an upcoming Bollywood mystery thriller film directed by Meghna Gulzar, will have its international premier at Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF).

200. Forbes Asia Fabulous 50 list released on the eve of its 10th Anniversary has listed 10 Indian companies which stands second after China in terms of number of companies listed. Among the fifty companies HDFC Bank was named as Asia Fab 50's "brightest star" as it has made to the list nine times that is more than any other company in the list.

201. A new 'India Handloom' brand will be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi next week in Chennai to help the handloom sector better position its items in the domestic and international markets.

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