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GK POTION FOR INSURANCE EXAMS 2014

Dear Readers,

We are happy to present you the GK and current affairs study material for INSURANCE Exams 2014. This material is prepared by experienced team of papertyari.com keeping in mind the latest pattern of questions asked in banking and insurance exams.

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BANKING, FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

1. Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs), a newly created class for overseas investors, will be able to invest up to \$81 billion (close to Rs 4 lakh crore) in government and corporate debt securities in India, as notified by market regulator SEBI.
 - a. This would include investments up to \$30 billion in government debt.
 - b. Up to \$51 billion investment in corporate debt securities will be allowed.
2. RBI allowed minor above 10 years of age to operate bank accounts.
 - a. As per guidelines, all minors can now open a savings/fixed/recurring bank deposit account through either his/her natural guardian or legally appointed guardian.
 - b. The minors who have attained 10 years of age, would be allowed to open and operate savings bank accounts independently.
 - c. If the account was operated by the natural/legal guardian, fresh operating instructions and specimen signature of the minor should be obtained and kept on record for all operational purposes.
 - d. On attaining majority, the minor would be required to confirm the balance in his/her account.



3. Various banks launched scheme for minor above 10 years of age to operate bank accounts
 - a. ICICI Bank launched '**Smart Star**' account, a savings account for minors above 10 years of age.
 - b. SBI launched two schemes: **Pehli Udaan** and **Pehla Padam** Scheme.
 - c. Federal bank announced **YoungChamp** savings account.
 - d. HDFC bank launched **Kids Advantage** Account.
4. RBI asked banks to not levy penalty if minimum balance is not maintained in any inoperative account as part of a consumer protection initiative.
5. RBI asked banks to not levy any penalty on individual borrowers for pre-payment of floating loans. Some banks charge pre-payment penalty of up to 2% of the outstanding loans.
6. President Pranab Mukherjee launched indigenous card payment network called RuPay
 - a. The RuPay platform is developed by National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) which is equivalent to Visa and MasterCard.
 - b. It is seventh such payment gateway in the world.
 - c. It works on three channels — ATMs, Point of Sales (POS) and online sales.
7. RBI restricted the use of External Commercial Borrowing (ECB) to repay the rupee loan.
8. RBI allowed foreign branches of banks to sell derivatives not permitted in India.
9. Bharti Airtel raised around \$2 billion in dual currency international bond sale.
10. An RBI committee headed by former Axis Bank chairman P J Nayak said government should bring down its stake in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to below 50%. Key suggestion made by panel included:
 - a. The government should reduce its stake in these banks to less than 50%, along with certain other executive measures for the removal of these constraints.
 - b. The government should repeal Bank Nationalization Act, SBI Act, SBI subsidiary Act etc. which appoints CMD and Board of Directors.
 - c. The government should set up Banking Investment Company under Companies Act, 2013.
11. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone acquired the strategic Dhamra port in Odisha on the east coast of India for an enterprise value of Rs 5, 500 crore
12. RBI will launch plastic notes in 2015
 - a. The field trial of plastic notes will be introduced in five cities which includes **Shima, Kochi, Mysore, Jaipur, and Bhubaneswar**.
 - b. One billion plastic notes of Rs 10 denomination will be introduced for trial.
 - c. Plastic notes were first introduced in Australia to safeguard against counterfeiting of currency.
13. RBI started managing the new formed state Telangana's public debt from June 2, 2014.
14. RBI directed all banks to install 'Talking ATMs' from July 1, 2014
 - a. All these ATMs must have Braille keypad.
 - b. Banks should provide magnifying glasses in all bank branches for the use of persons with low vision



15. E-commerce major Flipkart acquired fashion e-retailer Myntra for \$300 million.
16. RBI allowed banks to give loans with tenures of up to 10 years to exporters to help them ensure capital flows to fulfill long-term contracts.
 - a. As per current rules, banks are allowed to lend loans for up to 1 year only.
17. Bhartiya Mahila Bank (BMB) has been included in the second schedule to the RBI Act 1934.
18. TESCO acquired 50% stake in Tata's Trent Hypermarket
 - a. British retail giant TESCO acquired 50% stake in Tata Group firm Trent Hypermarket.
 - b. This is first FDI transaction made in multi-brand retail.
 - c. The acquisition was approved by Competition Commission of India.
19. Reliance India Ltd. acquired Network18.
20. The Loan Agreement for World Bank (IDA) assistance of US\$ 1006.20 million for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan III has been signed between the Government of India and the World Bank.
21. As per RBI, India's foreign exchange (Forex) reserves jumped by \$15.5 billion in the Financial Year (FY) ended March 2014. The reserves stood at \$303.67 billion.
22. India became the second largest textile exporter in 2013. China remained at top position.
23. RBI raised the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) for non-scheduled Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) by 100 basis points from 3% to 4%.
24. RBI made it mandatory for debit and credit card holders to key in the Personal Identification Number (PIN) while making transactions at retail outlets across the country.
25. ICICI bank launched 'Cardless Cash Withdrawal'
 - a. It would allow consumers to withdraw or transfer cash without debit cards.
 - b. To avail this facility, a sender has to register the recipient's name, mobile number and address. On receiving a six-digit reference code, the recipient can withdraw cash from the bank's ATMs within two days of the transaction.
26. Union government approved the sale of shares in Coal India, ONGC and NHPC to garner a combined Rs 43,000 crore.
27. RBI simplified KYC norms
 - a. There is now no requirement of submitting two separate documents for proof of identity and proof of address. If the officially valid document submitted for opening a bank account has both, identity and address of the person, there is no need for submitting any other documentary proof.
 - b. No separate proof of address is required for current address. If the current address is different from the address mentioned on the proof of address submitted by the customer, a simple declaration by her/him about her/his current address would be sufficient.
 - c. Once KYC is done by one branch of the bank, it is valid for transfer of the account to any other branch of the same bank.
28. RBI will soon come up payments bank.



- a. The setting up of payments bank was recommended by Nachiket Mor Panel.
 - b. The Payments bank will offer deposit and payment services but not provides loans.
29. DLF became India's first real estate firm to get ISO 9001:2008 quality certifications for development of housing and commercial projects.
30. RBI permitted NBFC to act as business correspondents of banks.
31. According to estimates of PricewaterhouseCoopers, India will become third largest economy by 2030 behind US and China.
32. From FY 2016,17, it will mandatory for Indian corporates to migrate to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) which is in consistency with global standards.
33. RBI eased reserve norms for banks issuing infra bonds
- a. In order to encourage infrastructure development and affordable housing, exempted long-term bonds from the mandatory regulatory norms such as the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR), the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) and Priority Sector Lending (PSL) if the money raised is used for funding of such projects.
 - b. Banks can issue long-term bonds with a minimum maturity of seven years to raise resources for lending to (i) long-term projects in infrastructure sub-sectors, and (ii) affordable housing.
34. RBI issued draft norms for small banks, Payment banks
- a. These banks will cater to marginalized sections of society, including migrant laborers, for collecting deposits and remitting funds.
 - b. Such banks can be set up with a minimum capital of Rs 100 crore
35. TCS became the first Indian company to achieve a market capitalization of Rs 5 lakh crore.
36. As per RBI, Banks will not be allowed to trade bonds issued by other lenders for infrastructure lending that would be exempted from mandatory reserve requirements under the guidelines issued.
37. RBI appointed S S Mundra as its fourth deputy-governor after resignation of K C Chakrabarty. Other three deputy governors are H R Khan, Urjit Patel and R Gandhi.
38. RBI rejected Andhra Pradesh's request for farm loan reschedule.
39. Domestic e-commerce giant raised \$1 billion in rounds of funding. It is the largest-ever by Indian e-commerce firm.
40. Securities Laws (Amendment) Bill 2014 passed in the Lok Sabha. The bill will empower Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and strengthen it to clamp down on fraudulent investment schemes and to seek information from any entity related to an investigation.
41. RBI issued draft guidelines for the implementation of **Bharat Bill Payment System** (BPPS). The 'anytime anywhere' centralized payment system is based on a report submitted by the GIRO (Government Internal Revenue Order) Advisory Group.
42. Tata-Singapore Airlines unveiled their airlines named 'Vistara'
- a. Vistara is derived from the Sanskrit word, which means '**limitless expanse**'.
 - b. The airlines started its operation in October, 2014.



43. Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Bimal Jalan has been named the chairman of the **Expenditure Management Commission**.
- Commission will look into various aspects of expenditure reforms to be undertaken by the government.
 - Expenditure Management Commission was announced by Arun Jaitley in the Budget.
44. RBI allowed banks to set limit on number of free ATM transactions
- The customers of a bank can make only three free transactions per month from the ATMs of other banks.
 - The banks are also allowed to set a limit on the number of free transactions at their own ATMs at five.
 - Banks are allowed to charge up to Rs 20 for every transaction beyond the limit.
 - New charges will apply for transactions at ATMs located in six metro centres — Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Hyderabad.
 - This will not apply to customers having no-frills, small or Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account (BSBDA) type of accounts.
45. Yamaha launched project **Indra** to manufacture world's low cost bike.
46. RBI approved Raghuram Rajan's proposal to overhaul RBI
- It includes the creation of new post of Chief Operating Officer (COO).
 - Nachiket Mor is regarded as the most likely candidate for the COO's job
47. T M Bhasin appointed as new Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA).
- IBA is the representative body of CMDs and CEOs of Public Sector, Private Sector and Foreign banks, which plays advisory role and presents the views of banking Industry to various Ministries of Government of India for policy framing and to RBI on regulatory matters.
48. RBI has shut the overseas payment gateway for credit card transactions within India.
49. Textile Ministry signed MoU with flipkart to provide online marketing platform to handloom weavers. The initiative named "**ABHIYAAN Flipkart – Kaarigar ke dwar**".
50. RBI increased the upper age limit of for MD & CEO and other WTDs (Whole-Time Directors) of banks in the private sector to 70 years.
- Minimum age to become manager: 21 years.
51. India inked a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in services and investments with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).
52. Government made changes to the norms on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- Certain classes of profitable companies are required to shell out at least two per cent of their three-year annual average net profit towards CSR works.
 - Companies are allowed to build CSR capacities for their own personnel through other institutions provided such expenses does not exceed five per cent of the total expenditure incurred on social welfare activities in one financial year.
53. The global rating agency S&P has raised India's sovereign rating outlook to stable from the earlier negative.
54. Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg visited India



- a. He launched the global internet project, Internet.org in Delhi.
 - b. Zuckerberg met PM Modi.
55. World Bank launched Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF).
56. IndiGo placed order for 250 latest Airbus A-320 neo planes.
57. The Central Government has passed an order to merge NSEL (National Spot Exchange Ltd.) with FTIL (Financial Technologies India Ltd).
58. Japanese telecom giant SoftBank has pledged to invest US \$10 bn in India's IT and communications sector.
59. Future Earth Engagement Committee will be chaired by Indian economist and politician Jairam Ramesh.
60. India and Russia signed agreement to set up a Smart City on the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC).
61. Government re-launched Kisan Vikas Patra Scheme
- a. It was discontinued in 2011.
 - b. The KVP will be available to the investors in the denomination of 1000, 5000, 10000 and 50000 rupees with no upper ceiling on investment.
 - c. The investment made in the certificate will double in 100 months.
62. Kotak Mahindra Bank will acquire ING Vysya Bank in an all-stock deal.
63. The World Trade Organization (WTO) approved the first world-wide trade deal- Trade Facilitation agreement (TFA).
64. The Reserve Bank of India outlined guidelines for the Anywhere, anytime bill payment for all
- a. BBPS envisages a central entity setting standards and rules, and a host of registered service providers who will aggregate biller information to facilitate anytime and anywhere bill payment.
 - b. An individual can collect all his bills — telephone, electricity, water supply, insurance, etc — and pay them through one window.

RBI MONETARY POLICY

RBI in its fifth Bi-Monthly monetary policy statement released on December 2, kept the key rates unchanged. Here are key rates:

Bank Rate	9.0%
Repo Rate	8.0%
Reverse Repo Rate	7.0%
MSF Rate	9.0%
CRR	4.0%



SLR	22%
Base Rate	10.00% - 10.25%

Let's understand these terms:

- **Bank Rate:** Bank rate is the interest rate at which a bank can borrow from the RBI. It is for short term loans only.
- **Repo Rate:** Repo rate is the rate at which the RBI lends money to commercial banks in the event of any shortfall of funds. Repo rate is used by RBI to control inflation.
- **Reverse Repo Rate:** Reverse repo rate is the rate at RBI borrows money from commercial banks within the country. It is a monetary policy instrument which can be used to control the money supply in the country.
- **MSF Rate:** Marginal Standing Facility rate is the rate at which banks borrow funds overnight from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) against approved government securities.
- **CRR:** Cash Reserve Ratio is a specified minimum fraction of the total deposits of customers, which commercial banks have to hold as reserves either in cash or as deposits with the RBI.
- **SLR:** Every bank has to maintain at the close of business every day, a minimum proportion of their net demand and time liabilities as liquid assets in the form of cash, gold and un-encumbered approved securities. The ratio of liquid assets to demand and time liabilities is known as Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR).
- **Base Rate:** It is the minimum rate of interest that a bank is allowed to charge from its customers. Unless mandated by the government, RBI rule stipulates that no bank can offer loans at a rate lower than Base Rate to any of its customers.

BHARAT BILL PAYMENT SYSTEM

RBI issued draft guidelines for Implementation of Bharat Bill Payment System, an 'anytime anywhere' bill payment. A committee chaired by G. Padmanabhan studied the feasibility of GIRO (Government Internal Revenue Order) based Payment Systems.

- The committee had estimated that over 30,800 million bills amounting to Rs.6223 billion are generated each year in the top 20 cities in the country.
- There is need for an integrated bill payment system in the country that offers interoperable and accessible bill payment services to customers through a network of agents, allows multiple payment modes, and provides instant confirmation of payment.

The centralized bill payments infrastructure will consist of two types of entities carrying out distinct functions

1. Entity operating the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) (henceforth called as the BBPS) which will be the standard setting body, which, inter-alia, will cover standards related to payment, clearing and settlement process.



2. Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOUs), which will be the authorized operational units, working in adherence to the standards set by the BBPS.

INDIA'S GDP ESTIMATIONS

- **World Bank:** India's GDP is likely to expand at 5.6% in the current fiscal year, 2014-15.
- **IMF:** India is set to grow by 6.4% in 2015-16 after a 5.6% expansion in 2014-15.
- **Asian Development Bank:** India's GDP to grow at 6.3% in 2015.
- **RBI:** India's GDP expected to grow at 5-6% in FY2015.
- **India Ratings and Research:** 5.6% in FY2015.
- **Morgan Stanley:** 5.7% in FY2015.
- **National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER):** 5% in 2014-15.
- **J P Morgan:** Cuts down to 5.1% in 2014-15.

BRICS SUMMIT

The 6th BRICS Summit held in Fortaleza, Brazil.

- **BRICS - Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa.**
- BRICS leaders decided to create the New Development Bank (NDB) based in Shanghai will contribute to the efforts to eliminate infrastructure gaps and meet sustainable development needs of the BRICS countries and other emerging markets.
- 7th BRICS summit will held at Russian city of Ufa in 2015.

NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK

Leaders of BRICS nation in 6th BRICS summit agreed to set up a New Development Bank (NDB) as an alternative to World Bank and IMF. Some the salient points of the bank are:

- The NDB has been given \$50 billion in initial capital.
- Five signatories contributing \$10 billion each.
- BRICS countries have also created a \$100 billion Contingency Reserve Arrangement (CRA), meant to provide additional liquidity protection to member countries during balance of payments problems.
- Year 2016 to be target for the bank to start operations.
- Headquarters of the bank will be based in Shanghai, China
- The first president of the bank will be from India for period of six years followed by Brazil for five years and then Russia.
- The first board chairman will hail from Brazil.
- A Regional Centre will be based in South Africa.



PRADHAN MANTRI JAN DHAN YOJNA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana', a financial inclusions scheme on his maiden Independence Day scheme from the ramparts of the Red fort.

- The scheme targets to provide '**universal access to banking facilities**'.
- The slogan for the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan mission is "**Mera Khata – Bhagya Vidhaata**".
- The bank account have an overdraft facility of Rs.5,000 for Aadhar linked accounts.
- Ru Pay Debit Card with inbuilt Rs.1 lakh accident insurance will be given.
- An additional Rs. 30,000 life insurance cover will be provided for those opening bank accounts before January 26, 2015
- Minimum monthly remuneration of Rs.5,000 to business correspondents who will provide the last link between the account holders and the bank.
- A record 1.5 Crore (15 million) bank accounts were opened under this scheme on very first day.
- The scheme aims to enroll over 7.5 crore (75 million) households and to open their accounts.

Some other facts related to 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana':

- 74% accounts in Jan Dhan Yojana are with zero balance.
- Goa and Kerala became the first states in the country to achieve 100 percent Financial Inclusion.
- Union territories of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Lakshadweep and three districts of Gujarat — Porbandar, Mehasana, Gandhinagar also achieved 100%.
- Rs. 30000 life insurance cover will be offered by Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).
- HDFC Ergo will provide a Rs 1-lakh personal accident cover to RuPay cardholders.

SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN

A five year campaign is an initiative launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 2, 2014 to achieve the goal of cleanliness and sanitation. Important facts of the scheme are:

- The target is to achieve the Clean India by October 2, 2019 on the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- PM urged every citizen to devote at least 100 hours every year towards cleanliness.
- L&T pledged to build 5000 toilets.
- Bharti Foundation has committed Rs.100 crore to build toilets in Ludhiana.
- India's biggest software export firm Tata Consultancy services has pledged 100 crore for building sanitation facilities for girls in 10,000 schools
- Vendata group to build 10,000 toilets in addition to the 30,000 it is already building in a partnership with Rajasthan government.



SANSAD ADARSH GRAM YOJANA

On India's Independence Day, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, made commitment to launch the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAANJHI).

- The goal is to develop three Adarsh Grams by March 2019, of which one would be achieved by 2016.
- Five such Adarsh Grams (one per year) will be selected and developed by 2024.
- The yojna aims at turning villages into model villages not only by infrastructure development but also by gender equality, dignity of women, social justice, community service, cleanliness, eco-friendliness, peace and harmony.
- Under the scheme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi adopted Jayapur village in Varanasi.
- Sachin Tendulkar adopted Puttamrajuvari Kandriga village in Andhra Pradesh's Nellore district.

MAKE IN INDIA

PM Modi launched initiative to urge companies, both local and foreign to invest in India to make India manufacturing hub.

- 'Make in India' programme was first mooted by the PM in his Independence Day speech
- He launched it during an event at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi that was attended by gatherings of industrialists across the world.
- The programme lays emphasis on 25 sectors with focus on job creation and skill enhancement.

INDIA'S RANKING

Index	Ranking	Organization who releases ranking
Global Competitiveness List 2014-15	71st	World Economic Forum (WEF)
Doing Business Report 2015	142nd	World Bank
Human Development Index	135th	United Nations Development Programme
Corruption Perception Index 2014	84 th	Transparency International



NATIONAL

1. India test fired its first indigenous all weather air-to-air Beyond Visual Range (BVR) missile 'Aastra'. It is developed by DRDO, has range of 44 km.
2. Indian Navy ship INS Vikramaditya was made operational. It was bought from Russia.
3. DGCA has made it mandatory for airlines and private operators to track their aircraft's flight on real-time basis and ensure that necessary devices are functional before take-off.
4. Aviation regulator DGCA (Directorate General of Civil Aviation) granted operating permit to AirAsia.
 - a. The Airlines is a joint venture between Tata Sons, AirAsia Berhad, and Telestra Tradeplace of Arun Bhatia.
 - b. Mittu Chandilya is the CEO of AirAsia, India
5. Supreme Court banned use of bulls in Jallikattu, a bull-taming sport played in Tamil Nadu during Pongal celebrations.
6. Supreme Court allowed Tamil Nadu to increase the level of Mullaperiyar Dam from 136 feet to 142 feet.
7. The Government of India appointed Lt Gen Dalbir Singh Suhag as the next Chief of the Indian Army. He succeeded Gen Bikram Singh who retired on July 3, 2014.
8. BJP won the 16th Lok Sabha elections. Narendra Modi became 15th Prime Minister of India.
9. Jitan Ram Manjhi sworn in as Chief Minister of Bihar after chief minister Nitish Kumar had resigned from the post taking the responsibility of his party's (JDU) dismal performance in the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls.
10. India's first **Coral Garden** will be set up at Mithapur coastal region of Devbhoomi-Dwarka district in Gujarat.
11. Naveen Patnaik sworn in as Chief Minister of Odisha consecutively for the fourth term.
12. Pawan Chamling sworn in as Chief Minister of Sikkim consecutively for the fifth term.
13. Anandiben Patel designated as Chief Minister of Gujarat after Narendra Modi designated for Prime Minister of India. She is the first woman CM of Gujarat.
14. T.R. Zeliang sworn in as Chief Minister of Nagaland. He was the leader of Naga People Front party.
15. Gujarat's archeological monument "Rani ki Vav (The Queen's Stepwell)" will be recreated digitally using latest technology in Scotland, UK.
16. India's Mobile Seva Project by Department of Electronics and Information Technology (**DeitY**) has won the 2014 United Nations Public Service Award.
17. PM Modi has created a Ministry for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. **Sarbananda Sonowal** has been appointed Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
18. Nripendra Mishra appointed as Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Modi.
 - a. To appoint him an ordinance was promulgated to amend the Telecom Regulatory Authority Act, 1997.



- b. Section 5(h) of the original TRAI Act said that the chairperson of the regulatory body, upon ceasing to hold such office, shall be ineligible for further employment under the Central or any state governments, and not accept any commercial employment for a period of two years.
- 19. 13-year-old Malavath Purna today became the youngest female climber to scale the Mount Everest.
 - a. Purna was accompanied by Sadhanapalli Anand Kumar (16), a Class IX student from the Khammam district of Andhra Pradesh.
- 20. Modi government constituted SIT to probe black money
 - a. PM Narendra Modi government formed an Special Investigating Team (SIT) to investigate the black money.
 - b. The SIT was headed by Justice MB Shah.
- 21. Telangana became the 29th state of India.
 - a. Andhra Pradesh have been divided into two states i.e. Telangana and residuary Andhra Pradesh.
 - b. Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) chief K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) took oath as Telangana's first Chief Minister.
 - c. Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Nara Chandrababu Naidu (64) sworn-in as the first Chief Minister of the residuary state of Andhra Pradesh
 - d. Telangana consists of the 10 north-western districts of Andhra Pradesh.
 - e. Hyderabad will remain the common capital for both states for next 10 years.
- 22. The Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched a "system for online submission of applications for environment clearance".
- 23. Uttar Pradesh government to launch helpline for women in each district to deal with women harassment complaints.
- 24. Jammu & Kashmir government increased the retirement age of employees from 58 to 60 years.
- 25. Union Ministry of Science & Technology announced "KIRAN" scheme for Women Scientists. The scheme aims at bring gender equality to the field of science and technology.
- 26. Bihar government acknowledged transgender as third gender.
- 27. Delhi Lt. Governor Najeeb Jung has set up a seven member Expenditure Finance Committee to sanction expenditure on projects amounting to Rs 100 crores.
- 28. Sikkim government announced 12% reservation for Below Poverty Line (BPL) people in all state government jobs and PSU's.
- 29. Former Indian Cricket team captain Saurav Ganguly has been inducted into Mudgal Panel to probe IPL spot fixing and betting scandal.
- 30. India test fired 290 km-range BrahMos supersonic anti-ship cruise missile from country's largest indigenous warship INS Kolkata off the coast of Karwar in Karnataka.
- 31. PM Modi released FIFA World Cup stamp.
- 32. The Government of Madhya Pradesh launched 'Gauravi'- India's first One-Stop Crisis Centre (OSCC) at J. P. Hospital in Bhopal.



33. Delhi became the first '**Kerosene-free city**' in the country.'
34. Government constituted a panel to formulate National Rubber Policy.
35. The government of India accepted the report of Mayaram Committee thereby accepting the definitions of FII and FDI.
 - a. Foreign investment of 10% or more in a listed company will now be treated as FDI.
 - b. An investor may be allowed to invest below 10% and this can be treated as FDI subject to the condition that the FDI stake is raised to 10% or beyond within one year from the date of the first purchase.
 - c. If the stake is not raised to 10% or above, then the investment can be treated as portfolio investment.
 - d. Foreign Portfolio Investors include Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) and Qualified Foreign Investors (QFIs).
 - e. Foreign investment in an unlisted company, irrespective of the threshold limit, may be treated as FDI.
36. Andhra Pradesh government raised the retirement age of state government employees to 60.
37. Gujarat's Rani-Ki-Vav got World Heritage site tag
 - a. Rani-ki-Vav is a large and complex step well with seven levels of stairs with ornamented panels of sculptures and relief representing the height of the Maru-Gurjara style.
 - b. It is located on the banks of the Saraswati River and was built as a memorial to King Bhimdev I of the Solanki dynasty
 - c. The ornamented panels that comprises of about 500 principle sculptures and over 1000 minor ones combines religious, mythological and secular imagery
 - d. It is a unique example of Indian subterranean architectural structure and marks zenith in the evolution of step wells in India and is the single most example of a step well as a testimony to traditional water systems of India
38. Gujarat government approved 33% quota for women in police force.
39. The Union Government conferred Navratna status upon two Central Public Sector (CPSEs)– **Engineers India Ltd (EIL)** and **National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC)**.
40. Nalanda University inaugurated in Bihar's Rajgir district. Nobel Laureate Dr. Amartya Sen is the Chancellor of the University.
41. Camel has been declared as state animal of Rajasthan.
42. The trial run of India's fastest train was successful. It took place between Delhi and Agra. The maximum speed reached was 160 km/h.
43. Katra-Udhampur link was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
44. Country's first indigenous warship INS Kamotra had been delivered to Indian Navy.
45. Government allowed self-attestation of documents. People do not have to rush to notary or gazetted officers to get their document attested.



46. The government has launched a new scheme 'Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojna' for holistic development of tribals with initial corpus of Rs. 100 crores.
47. The Central government has deregulated the price of diesel.
48. The Centre announced a nationwide scheme '**Rashtriya Gokul Mission**' to protect the "indigenous breed" of cows and placed aside Rs 150 crore for it during the current financial year.
49. Prime minister Narendra Modi launched a new online platform **mygov.nic.in** to crowd source governance ideas from citizens, especially the youth, and enable them to volunteer for specific tasks and projects at the grassroots level.
50. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated two Hydel power projects in J&K. The power project inaugurated were:
 - a. 45 MW Nimoo Bazgo project in Leh district.
 - b. 44 MW Chutak hydro-electric project in Kargil district.
51. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 44 KW Chutak Hydroelectric Plant at Kargil in Jammu and Kashmir.
52. Vijaywada will be ad-hoc capital of Andhra Pradesh.
53. Justice R Banumathi became the first woman judge from Tamil Nadu to be elevated to the Supreme Court.
54. Country's first Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIST) of the country opened at Shibpur in the city of Howrah, West Bengal.
55. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inducted INS Kolkata into Indian Navy.
56. Country's first ethanol-run bus named "Green Bus" project launched in Nagpur.
57. Union government launched dot bharat domain.
 - a. Government launched a new domain, Dot Bharat (.भारत) in Devanagari script .
 - b. Initially the domain will cover eight languages like **Hindi, Bodo, Dogri, Konkani, Maithili, Marathi, Nepali and Sindhi**.
58. Shahrukh became the brand ambassador of Interpol's 'Turn Back Crime'.
59. Jammu & Kashmir devastated by floods. PM Modi announced J&K floods as national disaster and declared additional aid of Rs. 1000 crore.
60. The Supreme Court ruled 3% quota for disabled persons in all government jobs including IAS.
61. Government declared September 25 as '**Antyodaya Diwas**' to mark the 98th birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, a noted philosopher, historian and political activist.
62. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa, sentenced to 4 years in jail along with a fine of Rs 100 crore for her role in the 18-year-old disproportionate assets case under the Prevention of Corruption Act.
63. O Panneerselvam took oath as the new Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu after the AIADMK chief J Jayalalithaa stepped down from office.
64. 107th anniversary of Bhagat Singh celebrated across nation on 28th September 2014.
65. The government will introduce a universal health insurance programme under UHAM (Universal Health Assurance Mission).



66. Three-day Global Investors Summit inaugurated in Madhya Pradesh.
67. India celebrated 82nd Air force day.
68. The government announced a national-level skill development institute for minorities namely Maulana Azad National Academy for Skills (MANAS) which will serve as a specialized vehicle to implement skill development and upgradation programme for minorities.
69. Information and Broadcasting ministry has issued a notification as per which the deadline for the areas which came Phase III of the Digitization drive has been extended from September 30, 2014 to December 31, 2015.
70. Cyclone Hudhud hit Andhra Pradesh. PM Modi announced interim relief of Rs. 1,000 cr for Andhra Pradesh.
71. India successfully launched its Third Navigation Satellite IRNSS-1C
 - a. ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C26, successfully launched IRNSS-1C, the third satellite in the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS)
72. India successfully tested Nirbhay, India's first indigenously designed and developed long range sub-sonic cruise missile.
73. Government launched national air quality index.
74. The Union Cabinet approved the relaunch of the Direct Benefits Transfer scheme
 - a. Under the scheme, the beneficiaries can receive the cash subsidies by linking their Aadhaar number with the LPG connection, and have their bank account as the primary option.
 - b. The modified version of Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL) scheme in 54 districts from 15th November 2014 and all over the country from 1st January 2014.
75. BJP won assembly election in Maharashtra and Haryana.
76. Manohar Lal Khattar sworn in as the new CM of Haryana.
77. "**Rashtriya Ekta Diwas**" was observed on October 31
 - a. The government had earlier decided to observe the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on October 31 as (National Unity Day) every year.
 - b. On 31st October 2014, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was observed nationwide to commemorate the 139th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
78. The Defence Acquisition Council has given the clearance to defence projects amounting to 80,000 cr. Multiple deals.
79. PM Modi inaugurated the H.N.Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre in South Mumbai.
80. Government announced TB-Mission 2020.
81. The Jamia Millia Islamia celebrated its 94th Foundation Day on October 29.
82. Government launched **FASTag** an electronic toll collection (ETC) programme.
83. Devendra Gangadharrao Fadnavis, leader of BJP sworn in as the new CM of Maharashtra.
84. Names of 12 cities in Karnataka changed
 - a. Bangalore- Bengaluru



- b. Mangalore- Mangaluru
 - c. Bellary- Ballari
 - d. Belgaum- Belagavi
 - e. Bijapur- Vijapura
 - f. Hospet- Hosapete
 - g. Hubli- Hubballi
 - h. Chikmagalur- Chikkamagaluru
 - i. Mysore- Mysuru
 - j. Tumkur- Tumakuru
 - k. Gulbarga- Kalaburagi
 - l. Shimoga- Shivamogga
85. Government launched Bal Swachhta Mission to mark 125th birth anniversary of Nehru
86. The Ministry of Culture will be setting up a National Cultural Audio-Visual Archives in Jodhpur in an effort to preserve India's cultural heritage.
87. National School of Drama (NSD) has announced its 'special' children's theatre festival called **Jashne Bachpan**.
88. Prime Minister Narendra Modi adopted Jayapur village in Varanasi under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY).
89. Torpedo Recovery Vessel, TRV-72 of Indian Navy sank within 10-15 kms off Vizag port, near Visakhapatnam coast during a naval exercise.
90. India and Bhutan have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the noble objectives of the establishment of Nalanda University in Bihar to develop the institution as an international centre of excellence.
91. Suzlon Energy put into operation the 120-metre hybrid turbine world's tallest hybrid wind generator turbine.
92. India test fired nuclear capable Agni-II ballistic missile.
93. Laxmikant Parsekar sworn in as the new CM of Goa.
94. Gujarat became the first state to make voting compulsory in local body polls.
95. Kerala became the first state in the country to have bank accounts for all families under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY).
96. Prime Minister Modi launched "**Jeevan Pramaan**" scheme, an Aadhar-based Digital Life Certificate for pensioners.
97. India, UK announced 'Newton-Bhabha Fund' to boost research and innovation.
98. State-owned Coal India Ltd will move its headquarters from heart of Kolkata to its outskirts, some 25 km away at Rajarhat, West Bengal
99. Union Minister of Women and Child Development Smt. Maneka Gandhi launched the National Bal Swachhta Mission in New Delhi.
100. Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has decided to replace German as a third language in schools of Kendriya Vidyalaya (KVs) with Sanskrit.
101. International Toilet Festival, a three-day event that begins here from November 18 is being organized by Sulabh International an social service organization founded by Brindeshwar Pathak.



102. U.S. President Barack Obama will attend India's Republic Day celebrations in January as chief guest.
103. Year 2015-16 to be observed as water conservation year.
104. India has named its powerful National Security Adviser as a special envoy on China, opening the way for resumption of talks on the disputed border.
105. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepalese counterpart Sushil Koirala flagged-off the Kathmandu-Delhi bus service called Pashupatinath Express.
106. The government today launched the 'Swachh Bharat Kosh', a fund that will be utilised to build toilets in schools, rural and urban areas to achieve the objective of cleanliness across the country.
107. India and Nepal inked an agreement to construct a USD one billion hydropower plant on Arun river to generate 900-megawatt of electricity in the power starved Himalayan nation.
108. Haryana government has reduced retirement age of government employees from 60 to 58 years.
109. National Milk Day was observed in Gujarat to mark 93rd birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien.
110. Punjab government banned the sale of flavoured tobacco and e-cigarettes with immediate effect throughout the state.
111. Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagging off the first train to the north-eastern state Meghalaya.
112. Government will observe national 'Good Governance Day' on the birthday of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
113. India's strategic missile, Agni-IV, was successfully test-fired from the Wheeler Island, off the Odisha coast.
114. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was named 'Asian of the Year' for being development-focused leader of India by The Straits Times.
115. India's communication satellite GSAT-16 launched successfully
116. Karnataka has become the first state in India to launch Unified Mobile Governance Platform for citizens named Karnataka MobileOne.
117. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has won the TIME Magazine's Readers' Poll.
118. US president Barack Obama will be chief guest at Republic Day on January 26, 2015.

PM BHUTAN VISIT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Bhutan on his foreign visit. Here are few updates from his visit:

- Both India-Bhutan reaffirmed their commitment to extensive development cooperation and discussed ways to further enhance economic ties.
- India will assist Bhutan set up a digital library which will provide access to Bhutanese youth to two million books and periodicals.



- Modi announced doubling of scholarships being provided to Bhutanese students in India which will now be worth Rs 2 crore.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi also mooted the idea of an annual hill sports festival with India's northeastern states along with Bhutan and Nepal.
- Two sides recalled the free trade arrangement between them and the expanding bilateral trade and its importance in further cementing their friendship.
- Modi inaugurated one of India's assistance projects - the building of the Supreme Court of Bhutan and laid foundation stone of the 600MW Kholongchu Hydro-electric project, a joint venture between India and Bhutan.

PM NEPAL VISIT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Nepal in August. Some of the highlights of the visit are:

- Modi is the first Indian PM to Nepal in 17 years. He was welcomed by the guard of honour.
- Modi gave a 'HIT' formula for Nepal expressing India's willingness to help Nepal build Highways (H), Information highways (I) and Transways- transmission lines (T).
- He promised to grant Nepal 10,000 crore Nepali rupee concessional line of credit, for its development.
- He announced India's keenness to double power supply to Nepal.
- India would help Nepal in building pipelines to help transport oil to Nepal.
- The scholarships to students from Nepal would be increased.
- India extended help to Nepal to enable it to emerge as a major exporter of herbal medicines.
- India would also help develop the tourism potential of Nepal, both as a spiritual, and adventure tourism destination.
- Modi extended assistance to Nepal in the fields of organic farming, and soil health.

PM US VISIT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi went for 4-day trip to US to enhance relationship with world power. Key highlights of the trip were:

- The two sides agreed to set up Water and Sanitation Alliance (WASH).
- The countries will also cooperate in the Mars Mission.
- The US will be the lead partner in developing Allahabad, Ajmer and Vishakapatnam as 'Smart Cities'.
- US reaffirmed support for India's membership of the expanded UN Security Council and backed it for "voice and vote" in international financial institutions like IMF and World Bank.
- Commitment to facilitate the actions necessary to increase bilateral trade five-fold from the current \$100 billion.



PM AUSTRALIA VISIT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi went for Australia visit on the sidelines of G-20 summit. Some of the agreement that went through were:

- Agreement on Social Security
- Agreement concerning Transfer of Sentenced Persons
- MOU on Combating Narcotics Trafficking and Developing Police Cooperation
- MOU on Cooperation in the Field of Arts and Culture
- MOU in the Field of Tourism

INTERNATIONAL

1. Thailand's Constitutional court directed the Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra and several Cabinet members to step down.
2. Five Nuclear weapon states signed the protocol to the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone (CANWFZ) Treaty in New York to make Central Asia Nuke-Free zone. These five states are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States.
3. India will replace Japan to become world's third largest oil consumer behind the US and China by 2025, said US Energy Information Administration (EIA).
 - a. Currently India is the fourth largest oil consumer in the world behind the US, China and Japan.
4. 9800 US troops will remain in Afghanistan through much of 2015.
5. Ahmed Maitiq elected as Libya's new Prime Minister.
6. Singapore replaced Mauritius as the top source of FDI in India.
7. Mauritius decided to provide automatic exchange of tax related information with India.
8. ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) had signed a deal with Russia's largest oil and gas producer Rosneft to jointly explore hydrocarbons in the offshore Arctic.
9. Dalia Grybauskaitė elected as Lithuania President for second consecutive term.
10. Peter Mutharika elected as Malawi President.
11. Salvador Sanchez Ceren elected as El Salvador President.
12. India elected for the UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage for four year from 2014-2018.
13. Bashar al-Assad re-elected as President of Syria for his third term.
14. Petro Poroshenko elected as President of Ukraine.
15. Reuven Rivlin elected as President of Israel.
16. Uganda's foreign minister Sam Kahamba Kutesa had been elected as the President of the 193-membered United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).
17. India became permanent member of Washington Accord. Washington Accord is an international accreditation treaty for professional engineering academic degrees, between the bodies responsible for accreditation in its signatory nations.
18. Juan Manuel Santos re-elected as President of Colombia for another term.



19. India ranked 143 on Global Peace Index 2014. Iceland topped the list.
20. India's Union Ministry of Culture launched "**Project Mausam**" at the 38th summit of the World Heritage Committee in Doha, Qatar.
21. Chung Hung Won re-elected as Prime Minister of South Korea.
22. Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 (MH17), a commercial aircraft on its scheduled flight from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, crashed in east Ukraine.
23. India voted in support of a UN Human Rights Council resolution to begin an investigation of Israel's offensive on Gaza.
24. Muhammad Fuad Masum elected as new President of Iraq.
25. Joko Widodo elected as new President of Indonesia.
26. Ukraine's Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk resigned from the office.
27. China unveiled Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) Dongfeng-41 (DF-41) , which has a range of 12,000 kms. This is one of the world's longest range missile.
28. NASA will launch **Mars 2020 Rover mission** in 2020 to find out the potential habitability of the Mars environment.
29. General Prayuth Chan-ocha (60) named as the new Prime Minister of the Thailand.
30. Ahmet Davutoglu named as new Prime Minister of Turkey.
31. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan named as new President of Turkey.
32. Bamiyan in Afghanistan selected as SAARC Cultural Capital for the year 2015-16 and Dhaka as the cultural capital for the year 2016-17.
33. India contributed \$12 million to UN to fight Ebola.
34. India's Prime Minister Modi called for celebration of International Yoga Day on 21 June every year.
35. India pledged USD four million in aid to rebuild Gaza Strip, devastated by its 50-day conflict with Israel.
36. Olympian Oscar Pistorius sentenced for the murder of his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkam.
37. Nigeria has been declared officially free of Ebola by the WHO.
38. Dilma Rousseff has been re-elected the President of Brazil.
39. Forbes released list of Powerful people list 2014
 - a. Russian President Vladimir Putin has been named the world's most powerful person in the list for second year in a row.
 - b. US President Barack Obama took the second spot on Forbes' list for the second consecutive year.
 - c. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is new comer in this list, ranked 15th.
40. China Pledged \$40 Billion for Silk Road Infrastructure.
41. China launched new Yaogan-23 remote sensing satellite.
42. United Arab Emirates — Dubai plan for the city's second airport that aims to make it the world's biggest airport.



APPOINTMENTS

1. **K V Chowdary** appointed as Chairman of CBDT.
2. **Lt. Gen Dalbir Singh Suhag** appointed as Chief of Indian Army.
3. **Nabam Tuki** elected as the 8th Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh.
4. **Naveen Patnaik** re-elected as Chief Minister of Odisha. He is 14th CM of Odisha and belongs to Biju Janta Dal (BJD) Party.
5. **Pawan Kumar Chamling** re-elected for fifth consecutive time as Chief Minister of Sikkim. He belongs to Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF) party.
6. **T.R. Zelaing** became Chief Minister of Nagaland.
7. **Jitan Ram Manji** sworn in as new Chief Minister of Bihar.
8. **Hiroshi Naka** appointed as vice-president and auditor general of World Bank.
9. **Rajiv Mathur** appointed as Chief Information Commissioner.
10. **Vineet Taneja** appointed Micromax CEO.
11. **Nripendra Mishra** appointed as Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Modi.
12. **P K Mishra** appointed as Additional Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Modi.
13. **Rajeev Topno** appointed as Private Secretary to Prime Minister Modi.
14. **Ajit Doval** appointed as National Security Advisor.
15. **Shaktikanta Das** appointed as Revenue Secretary.
16. **Mukul Rohtagi** appointed as Attorney General of India. He is 14th Attorney General of India.
17. Senior Supreme Court advocate **Ranjit Kumar** appointed as Solicitor General of India.
18. **Sanjay Kapoor** former CEO of Bharti Airtel appointed as chairman of Micromax.
19. **Retired Lt. Gen. Abhijit Guha** appointed as member of UN panel on peace keeping.
20. **Vice Admiral Anil Chopra** took over as Western Naval Commander.
21. **Vishal Sikka** appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Infosys.
22. **Lt Gen Amit Sharma** appointed as the new Commander-in-Chief of Strategic Forces Command (SFC).
23. **Prince Zeid al Hussein** of Jordan elected as new High Commissioner for Human Rights.
24. **N Srinivasan** elected as first chairman of ICC.
25. **V K Rajah**, an Indian-origin judge appointed as Attorney-General of Singapore.
26. **Emma Watson** appointed as Goodwill ambassador of US Women.
27. **S S Mundra** appointed as fourth deputy-governor of RBI.
28. **Amitabh Bachchan** appointed as the horticulture ambassador of the state of Maharashtra.
29. **Rajni Razdan** elected as chairman of UPSC.
30. **K V Thomas** appointed as new Chairman of Public Accounts Committee.
31. **T M Bhasin** appointed as Chairman of Indian Bank's Association.
32. **Subhash Chandra Garg** selected as the ED (Executive Director) of the World Bank.
33. **Hardeep Singh Puri** appointed as Secretary General of Independent Commission on Multilateralism (ICM).



34. **Kaushik Basu** appointed as president-elect of the association by the International Economic Association (IEA).
35. **G.K.Pillai** has been named the Chairman of Tata International Ltd.
36. **Justice HL Dattu** was sworn in as the **42nd CJI (Chief Justice of India)**.
37. **Hemant Contractor**, has been chosen to head the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
38. Former Supreme Court Judge, **G.S.Singhvi**, has been appointed the Chairman of the Competition Appellate Tribunal.
39. **Arvind Subramanian** has been appointed the Chief Economic Advisor (CEA).
40. **Rajiv Mehrishi** appointed as Secretary in Department of Economic Affairs.
41. **N.Gopalaswami** selected as the Chairman of the governing board of the Kalakshetra Foundation.
42. **Surya Prakash**, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Board of Prasar Bharti for a period of three years.
43. Jawhar Sircar, was elected unopposed as the Vice-President of the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU).
44. **Rajani Sankaran** has been appointed the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd. (BHAVINI).
45. Indian Police Service (IPS) Officer **K C Reddy** appointed member of United Nations (UN) probe panel on Gaza.
46. **Ratan Tata** has been appointed to the board of Interpol Foundation.
47. **Farhan Akhtar** named UN Women's Goodwill Ambassador for South Asia.
48. **Deepak Gupta** appointed as new chairman of UPSC.
49. **Anoop Mishra** appointed as new Secretary General of the Lok Sabha.
50. **Anil Kumar Sinha** was appointed as the new CBI Director.

NEW GOVERNORS

Governor	State
Keshari Nath Tripathi	West Bengal
Balramji Dass Tandon	Chhattisgarh
Padmanabha Balakrishna Acharya	Both Nagaland and Tripura
Ram Naik	Uttar Pradesh
Om Prakash Kohli	Gujarat
Kalyan Singh	Rajasthan
Mridula Sinha	Goa



Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala	Karnataka
Chennamaneni Vidyasagar Rao	Maharashtra

FDI IN VARIOUS SECTORS

Sector	FDI
Single Brand Retail	100%
Multi Brand Retail	51%
Public Sector Banks	20%
Private Sector Banks	74%
Pension	49%
Insurance	49%
Defence	49%
Print Media	26%
Telecommunication	100%
Tourism	100%
Pharmaceuticals	100%
FM Radio	49%
Gas Refineries	49%
Commodity Exchanges	49%
Power Trading	49%
Stock Exchanges	49%
Credit Information Firms	74%
Courier Services	100%
Tea Plantation	100%
Asset Reconstruction Company	100%

COMMITTEES

1. **Justice MB Shah Committee:** To Probe black money



2. **Mudgal Committee:** To Probe IPL spot fixing and betting scandal
3. **Nachiket Mor Panel:** To set up payment banks
4. **Parthasarathi Shome Panel** - Tax Administration Reform Commission (TARC)
5. **Mayaram Committee** - On clear definition of FII and FDI
6. **C Rangarajan Committee** - On Poverty estimation
7. **Suresh Prabhu Committee** - To review the gas pricing formula
8. **Deepak Parekh Committee** - Infrastructure
9. **G. Padmanabhan Committee** - To study feasibility of Bharat Bill Payment System
10. **P J Nayak Committee** - To review the governance of bank boards in India
11. **M. Damodaran Committee** - Customer Services in Banks
12. **Vishwanathan committee** - To provide Bankruptcy code for small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
13. **H Devaraj Committee** - Reported most deemed universities unfit for the status
14. **H R Khan Panel** - To assess the amount of unclaimed deposits in the PPF accounts and Post Office saving schemes
15. **V V Daga Committee** - To conduct forensic audit of NSEL and liquidate the assets of its defaulting borrowers in the over 5500 crore rupees payments scam
16. **Sivaramakrishnan committee** - To suggest the place to build the capital city of Andhra Pradesh
17. **Ramanujam committee** - To identify obsolete laws.
18. **Hari Gautam** - To review the present status of Universities Grants Commission's (UGC)
19. **Suresh Prabhu Committee** - To review the gas pricing formula
20. **G K Pillai Committee** - To study and examine the demand of a separate Bodoland state.
21. **D K Mittal Committee** - To examine the existing revenue structure and suggest ways and means for raising earnings of Indian Railways.

VARIOUS SUMMITS

- **IBSA Summit:** 7th summit will take place in New Delhi in 2015
- **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas**
 - The 12th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas held during 7–9 January 2014 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
 - The 13th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in Gujarat (Gandhinagar).
- **World Economic Forum (WEF)**
 - The 2014 meeting was held from 22 January to 25 January, with the theme "The Reshaping of the World: Consequences for Society, Politics and Business".
- **BRICS Summit**
 - 6th Summit: Fortaleza, Brazil in 2014
 - 7th Summit: Ufa, Russia in 2015
- **G-8 Summit**

G-8 reduced to G-7 as Russia was expelled due to Russian intervention in Crimea.



- **40th G-7 Summit:** Belgium (European Union)
- **41st G-7 Summit:** Schloss Elmau, Bavaria, Germany
- **G-20 Summit**
 - G-20 2014 Summit held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
 - G-20 2015 Summit will be held in Turkey

DEMISES

1. Economics Nobel Prize holder Gary Becker (83) passed away. He was awarded Nobel Prize for his path-breaking approach to **economics as the study of human behavior**.
2. Former TISCO Chief Russy Mody died at age of 96. He was regarded as India's 'Steel Man' for his roles in elevating Tata Steels.
 - a. Mody received Padma Bhushan (nation's third highest civilian award) in 1989 for his exemplary contribution to the Indian industry.
3. Indologist and Sanskrit scholar Sukumari Bhattacharji died at the age of 92.
4. Father of Malaysian Hockey Sultan Azlan Shah died at the age of 86. He started hockey tournament Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in 1983.
5. Union Rural Development Minister Gopinath Munde died in a road accident on his way to Delhi airport. He was 64 years of age.
6. Granville Austin, a noted scholar of Indian Constitution passed away at the age of 87.
7. Veteran Actress Zohra Sehgal died at the age of 102. She was called as "**the grand old lady of Bollywood**".
8. Nobel Prize winning South African author Nadine Gordimer passed away.
9. World renowned Yoga guru B.K.S. Iyengar passed away at the age of 95. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan and the Padma Vibhushan.
10. Pakistan's squash legend Hashim Khan passed away at age of 100.
11. U.R. Ananthamurthy, a contemporary writer and critic in the Kannada language died at the age of 82. He was conferred Jnanpith Award for the Kannada language. He was one of the path-breakers of the Navya movement.
12. Eminent Oscar-winning British director and actor Richard Attenborough passed away at the age of 90.
13. World's oldest test cricketer **Norman Gordon** passed away. He was a South African fast bowler.
14. Fashion designer, Entrepreneur, Philanthropist and fashion icon Oscar de la Renta passed away at age 82.
15. Former Chairman of Union Carbide Corporation, Warren M Anderson died at age of 92.
16. Veteran actor Sadashiv Amrapurkar died at age of 64.
17. The iconic TV series 'Mahabharata' director Ravi Chopra passed away.
18. Senior Congress leader of Odisha Mohan Nag passed away.
19. Former Union Minister and Senior Congress leader Murli Deora passed away after prolonged illness. He was 77.
20. Kathak queen Sitara Devi died at age of 94.



21. Australian cricketer Phillip Hughes died at age of 25 after he had suffered a severe head injury due to a bouncer during a match.
22. Crime novelist P.D. James dies at 94.
23. Veteran comedian Deven Verma died at age of 77 in Pune.
24. Eminent jurist and former Supreme Court judge, Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, passed away
25. Veteran carnatic vocalist Sangita Kalanidhi Nedanuri Krishnamurthy passed away at the age of 87.

SPORTS

1. China defeated Japan to win 25th Uber cup.
2. Japan defeated China to win 28th Thomas cup.
3. Mercedes driver Nico Rosberg of Germany defeated main rival Lewis Hemilton of Britain to win 2014 Monaco F1 Grand Prix.
4. Japan won its maiden women's Asian Football Cup (AFC) defeating defending champion Australia in the final match held in Vietnam.
5. Sachin Tendulkar selected as Goodwill Ambassador for the 35th edition of National Games.
6. Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) won seventh edition of Indian Premier League (IPL). Shahrukh Khan is the owner of KKR team. KKR beaten Kings XI Punjab in the final match of the tournament to clinch the title.
7. Rafael Nadal defeated Serbian Novak Djokovic in the final match to clinch French Open Men's title. This is Nadal's 14th grand slam title.
8. Russian Maria Sharapova defeated Romanian Simona Halep in the final match to clinch French Open Women's title.
9. Netherland defeated Australia to win the Women's hockey World Cup 2014.
10. Australia defeated Netherland to win the Men's hockey World Cup 2014.
11. **FIFA World Cup 2014**

The 2014 FIFA World Cup was the 20th FIFA World Cup, the tournament for the association football world championship.

Host Country: Brazil

Final match Venue: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Slogan: ALL IN ONE RHYTHM

Number of Participating Nations: 32

Mascot: Fuleco the Armadillo, represented a Brazilian three-banded armadillo, a species of armadillo which is native to Brazil and categorized as a vulnerable species on the IUCN Red List.

Winner: Germany

Runner up: Argentina

Best Player: Lionel Messi (Argentina)

Best Goalkeeper: Manuel Neuer (Germany)



Fair Play award: Colombia

Top Scorer: James Rodríguez (Colombia)

12. Commonwealth Games 2014

The 2014 Commonwealth Games (officially the XX Commonwealth Games) were held in Glasgow, Scotland, from 23 July to 3 August 2014.

Host City: Glasgow, Scotland

Motto: People, Place, Passion

Number of Participating Nations: 71

Number of Athletes participated: 4,947

Number of Events: 261 events in 18 sports

Mascot: Clyde, an anthropomorphic thistle named after the river which flows through the centre of Glasgow

In the final medal tally, England stood first followed by Australia at second place and Canada at third.

Important highlights for India:

- India ended the campaign in fifth position with total of 64 medals (15 gold, 30 silver and 19-bronze).
- Vikas Gowda won a gold in the Men's Discus throw event, thus winning the first gold medal for India in men's athletics in 56 years.
- Joshana Chinappa and Dipika Pallikal scripted history by winning the first gold for India in Squash at Commonwealth Games.
- Kashyap Parupalli won a gold in Badminton Men's Singles, becoming the first Indian male shuttler in 32 years to win a gold medal in the singles event at the Commonwealth Games.

13. Saina Nehwal defeated Spain's Carolina Marin to win Star Australian Super Series title.

14. Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova beaten Canada's Eugenie Bouchard to win her second Women's Wimbledon title 2014.

15. Serbian tennis star Novak Djokovic beaten Switzerland's Roger Federer to win the Wimbledon men's title 2014.

16. Kapil Dev headed the Arjuna Award selection committee. Former hockey captain Ajitpal Singh chaired the Dronacharya Awards selection committee.

17. Himachal Pradesh has been selected as a venue to host Paragliding World Cup 2015.

- The tournament will be organised in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh.
- The tournament will held first time in India.
- The tournament will be organised under the aegis of Para-gliding World Cup Association, France.

18. National Sports Awards 2014 announced; no Khel Ratan this year

○ Arjuna Award winners

Fifteen persons were awarded Arjuna Award.

Abhishek Verma (archery), Tintu Luka (athletics), H.N. Girisha (para-athletics), V. Diju (badminton), Geethu Anna Jose (basketball), Jai Bhagwan (boxing), R. Ashwin (cricket), Anirban Lahiri (golf), Mamta Pujari (kabaddi), Saji Thomas



(rowing), Heena Sidhu (shooting), Anaka Alankamony (squash), Tom Joseph (volleyball), Renubala Chanu (weightlifting), Sunil Kumar Rana (wrestling).

- **Dronacharya award**

It is presented for excellence in sports coaching. Awardees were:

Mahabir Prasad (wrestling); Lifetime achievement: N. Lingappa (athletics), G. Manoharan (boxing), Gurcharan Singh Gogi (judo), Jose Jacob (rowing).

- **Dhyan Chand award**

It is India's highest award for lifetime achievement in sports and games.

Awardees were:

Gurmail Singh (hockey), K.P. Thakkar (swimming-diving), Zeeshan Ali (tennis).

- **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy:** Punjabi University, Patiala.

- **Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar:**

- i. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (employment of sports persons and sports welfare measures)
- ii. Jindal Steel Works (community sports—identification and nurturing of budding/young talent)
- iii. Guru Hanuman akhara (establishment and management of sports academies of excellence)
- iv. Child Link Foundation of India—Magic Bus (other forms of sports activities not covered in the categories mentioned in the schemes).

- **Tenzing Norgay Awards**

- i. **Land adventure:** Subedar Jagat Singh, Passang Tenzing Sherpa
- ii. **Air adventure:** MWO Surrender Singh
- iii. **Lifetime achievement:** Wg. Cdr. (retd) Amit Chowdhury.

19. Hockey India inducted Hockey Madhya Pradesh as its new Associate member. It is 23rd associate member of Hockey India.
20. Sania Mirza won US Open Mixed doubles title 2014 along with her partner Bruno Soares of Brazil.
21. Tennis star Serena Williams won her third consecutive US open title.
22. Indian Tennis Player Leander Paes and Polish Marcin Matkowski won the doubles title at the Malaysian Open held in Kuala Lumpur.
23. Nagaland won inter-school football tournament Subroto cup.
24. Chennai Super Kings Champions League Twenty-20 by defeating Kolkata Knight Riders in the final match.
25. Roger Federer won his first Shanghai Masters title.
26. Lewis Hamilton, driving for Mercedes, won the Russian Formula One Grand Prix held at Sochi.
27. Marin Cilic of Croatia won the Kremlin Cup ATP title in Moscow.
28. India beaten Great Britain at the Taman Daya Hockey stadium in Johor Bahru in Malaysia to win Sultan of Johor under 21 hockey Cup.
29. Indian boxer L.Sarita Devi has been provisionally suspended by the AIBA (International Boxing Association) for refusing to accept the bronze medal in ASIAN games.



30. Pankaj Advani clinched World Billiards title.
31. USA's Serena Williams defeated Romania's Simona Halep to clinch the BNP Paribas WTA Finals Singapore Singles title.
32. Zimbabwean national Cara Black and Indian Sania Mirza won the BNP Paribas WTA Finals Singapore Doubles title.
33. Anirban Lahiri won the Venetian Macau Open.
34. India stood at sixth place in ICC test ranking.
35. Cricketers Sachin Tendulkar and Steve Waugh have been inducted into the Bradman Hall of Fame.
36. The Central Zone team defeated the South Zone team to win the 2014 edition of the Duleep Trophy.
37. Virat Kohli became the fastest cricketer in the history to reach 6000 one-day international run mark.
38. Badminton World Federation (BWF) has provisionally suspended Malaysian badminton player and World No. 1 Lee Chong Wei due to an apparent anti-doping regulation violation.
39. Saina Nehwal and Kidambi Srikanth have won women's and men's singles title of China Open Super Series Premier of Badminton in Fuzhou, China.
40. Rohit Sharma made history by smashing an incredible 264 for India against Sri Lanka to break the record for the highest individual score in one-day international history.
41. India clinched the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Women's Championship, outclassing Nepal 6-0 at the Jinnah Stadium.
42. Magnus Carlsen beaten Viswanathan Anand to defend his World Champion title.
43. Indian Women Boxers Sarjubala Devi and Saweety won Silver medals at the 8th World Women's Boxing Championships, in Jeju, South Korea.
44. Boxing player Manoj Kumar received the prestigious Arjuna Award.
45. Badminton player P V Sindhu lifted Macau Grand Prix Gold trophy.
46. East Zone beaten West Zone to clinch Deodhar Trophy of cricket

ASIAN GAMES 2014

The ASIAN games 2014 also called 17th ASIAD happened in Incheon, a city of South Korea between September 19 to October 4, 2014.

Host City: Incheon, South Korea

Motto: Diversity Shines Here

Number of Participating Nations: 45

Number of Athletes participated: 9,501 (5,823 men, 3,678 women)

Number of Events: 439 events in 36 sports

Torch lighter: Lee Young-ae

Mascot: Three Harbour Seal siblings Baram, Chumuro and Vichuan



In the final medal tally, China stood first followed by South Korea at second place and Japan at third.

Important highlights for India:

- Sardar Singh, the captain of India's hockey team was flag bearer of India in the games.
- After 16 years India won gold in men's hockey tournament.
- India ended the campaign in eighth position with total of 57 medals (11 gold, 10 silver and 36-bronze).

WORLD CUP HOSTS

- **ICC Cricket World Cup:**
2015 - Australia and New Zealand
2019 - England
2023 - India
- **ICC T20 World Cup:**
2016 - India
2020 - Australia
- **ICC Test Championship:**
It will be held first time in 2017 in England.
2021 - India
- **Hockey World Cup:**
2014 - Netherlands
2018 - India
- **FIFA World Cup:**
2014 - Brazil
2018 - Russia

BOOKS

1. **India Junction - A windows to the Nation** - Released by Indian Railways. The book has been edited by Ms Seema Sharma.
2. **Getting India Back on Track: An Action Agenda For Reform** - launched by PM Modi has been edited by Bibek Debroy, Ashley J. Tellis and Reece Trevor.
3. **The Substance and the Shadow** - is Indian cinema's legendary actor Dilip Kumar's autobiography. The author of book is former journalist **Udaya Tara Naya**.
4. **Warrior State: Pakistan in the Contemporary World**: written by **T V Paul**.
5. **One Life is Not Enough**: autobiography of Congress leader Kunwar Natwar Singh.
6. **Strictly Personal, Manmohan and Gursharan**: Author - Daman Singh.
7. **Gods of Antarctica**: Authored by a 13-year old school boy, Yashwardhan Shukla.
8. **The Narrow Road to the Deep North**: Author - Richard Flanagan.
9. **The Lives of Others**: Author - Neel Mukherjee



LOK SABHA ELECTIONS 2014

1. The 16th Lok Sabha elections seen record average turnout of 66.4%.
2. The Dhubri of Assam witnessed the highest turnout at 88.22%.
3. Srinagar witnessed lowest turnout at 25.90%.
4. Sumitra Mahajan elected as Speaker of Lok Sabha.
5. AIADMK leader M Thambidurai elected as deputy speaker of Lok Sabha.
6. **Narendra Modi became 15th Prime Minister of India.**

MARS ORBITER MISSION

Mars Orbiter Mission (MOM) is India's first interplanetary mission to planet Mars with an orbiter craft designed to orbit Mars in an elliptical orbit. The Mission is primarily technological mission considering the critical mission operations and stringent requirements on propulsion and other bus systems of spacecraft. Here are some of the important updates of the MOM:

- India is the first country to succeed at Mars Mission in very first attempt.
- With \$ 74 million i.e. Rs 450 crore, it is the cheapest mission undertaken by any space organization.
- India is the first Asian country to achieve the feat and ISRO is the fourth space agency to send a satellite to red planet.
- Prior to India, Three space agencies have sent orbiters to Mars successfully. These are the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa), European Space Agency, and Russian Federal Space Agency.
- It took nearly ten months to achieve the Maneuver of the Mars Orbiter Mission 'Mangalyaan'.
- **Important dates**
 - **November 5, 2013:** Isro launched MOM on the trusted PSLV platform, in its 25th flight, from Sriharikota.
 - **February 11, 2014:** MOM completed 100 days in space.
 - **April 9, 2014:** MOM completes half the journey of the 299 days.
 - **September 22, 2014:** The main liquid engine was re-fired after the December 1, 2013 operation for the first time in 10 months, overcoming a great technological challenge.
 - **September 24, 2014:** Entered into Martian orbit.



BUDGET - 2014

Union Budget was announced by new Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. Here are the highlights of the budget:

- **Personal Tax and Exemption limit**
 - Housing loan interest rate deduction limit has been increased to Rs. 2,00,000.
 - Tax exemption limit has been increased to Rs. 2,50,000 from earlier limit of Rs. 2,00,000. Exemption limit for senior citizens has been raised to Rs. 3,00,000 from Rs. 2,50,000.
 - Investment limit under 4/S 80 C Public Provident Fund (PPF) has been raised to Rs. 1,50,000 from Rs. 1,00,000.
- **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)**
 - FDI cap in defence and insurance sector has been increased to 49% from 26%.
 - FDI in real estate introduced for low cost housing.
- **Allocations**
 - Rs. 7,060 crore allocated for the development of smart cities.
 - Rs. 10 billion provided for irrigation under 'Pradhan Mantri Sinchayee Yojana'.
 - Rs. 34,000 crore allotted for MNREGA.
 - Rs. 100 crore allocated for 'Beti Padhao Beti Bachao Yojana'.
 - Rs. 100 crore allocated for metro projects in Lucknow and Ahmedabad.
 - Rs. 1000 crore provided for rail connectivity in North Eastern region.
- **Other announcements**
 - Five new IIT, IIMs and four new AIIMS to be opened in India.
 - New airport scheme in tier-1 and tier-2 cities.
 - Achievement of Fiscal deficit of 4.1% this year, 3.4% in FY15-16 and 3% in FY16-17.
 - Objective of 8% annual growth rate in 3-4 years.
 - 15% investment allowance for manufacturing firms than invests more than Rs. 25 crore.
 - Convergence with International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) by adoption of new Indian Accounting Standard (2nd AS) by Indian companies.
 - Setting up of Expenditure Management Commission to look into expenditure reforms.
 - Modified Real Estate Investment Trust (REITS) type structure for infrastructure projects.
 - Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana (VPBJ) to be revived for limited period for benefits of citizens aged 60 years or above.
 - Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to cover every household with sanitation facility by the year 2019.
 - Projection of Ganges called 'Jal Marg Vikas' to be developed between Allahabad and Haldia.
 - RBI to create framework for licensing small banks and other differentiated banks.



- Minimum pension increased to Rs. 1,000 per month.
- Kisan Vikas Patra to be introduced again.
- Excise duty increased on cigarettes in the range of 11% to 72%.
- Excise duty increased on pan masala, tobacco, gutka, coke and decreased on footwear.

NEW CABINET MINISTRY

- **Home Affairs:** Rajnath Singh
- **Finance, Corporate Affairs, Information & Broadcasting:** Arun Jaitley
- **Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Parliamentary Affairs:** M. Venkaiah Naidu
- **Road Transport and Highways, Shipping:** Nitin Jairam Gadkari
- **Defence:** Manohar Parrikar
- **External affairs:** Sushma Swaraj
- **Railways:** Suresh Prabhu
- **Law & Justice:** D.V. Sadananda Gowda
- **Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation:** Uma Bharati
- **Minority Affairs:** Dr. Najma A. Heptulla
- **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution:** Ramvilas Paswan
- **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises:** Kalraj Mishra
- **Women and Child Development:** Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi
- **Chemicals and Fertilizers:** Ananth kumar
- **Communications and Information Technology:** Ravi Shankar Prasad
- **Health & Family Welfare:** Jagat Prakash Nadda
- **Civil Aviation:** Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati
- **Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises:** Anant Geete
- **Food Processing Industries:** Harsimrat Kaur Badal
- **Mines, Steel:** Narendra Singh Tomar
- **Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Sanitation:** Chaudhary Birender Singh
- **Tribal Affairs:** Jual Oram
- **Agriculture:** Radha Mohan Singh
- **Social Justice and Empowerment:** Thaawar Chand Gehlot
- **Human Resource Development:** Smriti Zubin Irani
- **Science and Technology, Earth Sciences:** Dr. Harsh Vardhan

MINISTERS AND CONSTITUENCIES

- **Rajnath Singh:** Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
- **Arun Jaitley:** Gujarat (Rajya Sabha)
- **Sushma Swaraj:** Vidisha (Madhya Pradesh)



- **M. Venkaiah Naidu:** Karnataka (Rajya Sabha)
- **Nitin Jairam Gadkari:** Nagpur (Maharashtra)
- **Manohar Parrikar:** Panaji (Goa)
- **Suresh Prabhu:** Haryana (Rajya Sabha)
- **D.V. Sadananda Gowda:** Bangalore (North)
- **Uma Bharati:** Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh)
- **Dr. Najma A. Heptulla:** Madhya Pradesh (Rajya Sabha)
- **Ramvilas Paswan:** Hajipur (Bihar)
- **Kalraj Mishra:** Deoria (Uttar Pradesh)
- **Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi:** Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh)
- **Ananth kumar:** Bangalore (South)
- **Ravi Shankar Prasad:** Bihar (Rajya Sabha)
- **Jagat Prakash Nadda:** Himachal Pradesh (Rajya Sabha)
- **Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapati:** Vizianagaram (Andhra Pradesh)
- **Anant Geete:** Raigad (Maharashtra)
- **Harsimrat Kaur Badal:** Bathinda (Punjab)
- **Narendra Singh Tomar:** Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh)
- **Jual Oram:** Sundargarh (Odisha)
- **Radha Mohan Singh:** Purvi Champaran (Bihar)
- **Thaawar Chand Gehlot:** Madhya Pradesh (Rajya Sabha)
- **Smriti Zubin Irani:** Gujarat (Rajya Sabha)
- **Dr. Harsh Vardhan:** Chandni Chowk (Delhi)

IMPORTANT DATES

1. **May 21** - Anti-Terrorism day
2. **May 30** - Goa Day
3. **June 5** - World Environment Day 2014
4. **June 12** - World Day Against Child Labour
5. **June 17** - World Day to Combat Desertification
6. **June 20** - World Refugee Day
7. **June 23** - International Widows Day.
8. **June 23** - United Nations Public Service Day.
9. **June 25** - International Seafarer's Day
10. **June 25** - International Vitiligo Day
11. **June 26** - International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.
12. **July 11** - World Population Day
13. **August 29** - National Sports Day
14. **September 8** - World Literacy Day
15. **October 2** - Gandhi Jayanti
16. **October 2** - International Day of Non-violence
17. **October 10** - World Mental Day



18. **October 11** - International Day of the Girl Child
19. **October 14** - World Standards Day
20. **October 15** - Global Handwashing Day
21. **October 21** - Police Commemoration Day
22. **October 24** - United Nations Day
23. **October 31** - Rashtriya Ekta Diwas
24. **November 11** – National Education Day
25. **November 24** - Martyrdom Day of 9th Sikh guru, Guru Teg Bahadur
26. **November 26** – National Milk Day
27. **December 1** – World AIDS Day
28. **December 4** – 43rd Navy Day
29. **December 6** - Mahaparinirvan Din of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

AWARDS AND HONOURS

1. Noted Hindi author **Vishwanath Tripathi** awarded the prestigious Vyas Samman for the year 2013. He was awarded for this memoir '**Vyomkesh Darvesh**'.
2. Mahindra Group chairman **Anand G Mahindra** became the first Indian to receive the prestigious **Harvard Medal** for his 'dedication, generosity and service' to the university.
3. Irish author **Eimear McBride** has won the **Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction** with her debut novel, **A Girl is a Half-Formed Thing**.
4. Member of Air Navigation Services of Airports Authority of India (AAI), **Somasundaram**, has been awarded esteemed **Bharat Ratna JRD Tata Award 2013** instituted by Aeronautical Society of India (ASI)
5. Professor **Tejinder Virdee**, a noted Indian-origin physicist was conferred an **honorary knighthood** by Queen Elizabeth II in recognition to his contribution to the field of science.
6. An India-born plant scientist, Sanjaya Rajaram,, has been chosen for the **World Food Prize 2014** for scientific research that led to a stupendous increase in world wheat production.
7. Renowned Hindi poet **Kedarnath Singh** named the recipient of the prestigious **Jnanpith Award** for 2013.
8. Author **Salman Rushdie** named the winner of **Pen Pinter prize** for 2014.
9. Ratan Tata conferred with an honorary doctor of laws degree from Canada's prestigious York University.
10. France conferred honor '**Officer of the Legion of Honour**' actor Shahrukh Khan for his contribution to Cinema.
11. Environmentalist and Chipko movement pioneer Chandi Prasad Bhatt awarded Gandhi Peace Prize for 2013 for his contribution towards spreading Gandhian philosophy.
12. Famous film director **Muzaffar Ali** chosen for **Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award** for his contribution towards the promotion of communal harmony, peace and goodwill. The award carries a citation and cash award of Rs 5 lakh.



13. Ramon Magsaysay Award

The Ramon Magsaysay Award is an annual award established to perpetuate former Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay's example of integrity in government, courageous service to the people, and pragmatic idealism within a democratic society.

Winners for the year 2014 were:

- Saur Marlina Manurung (Indonesia)
- Randy Halasan (The Philippines)
- Hu Shuli (China)
- The Citizen Foundation (Pakistan)
- Wang Canfa (China)

14. Fields Medal 2014

The Fields Medal, officially known as International Medal for Outstanding Discoveries in Mathematics, is a prize awarded to two, three, or four mathematicians under 40 years of age at the International Congress of the International Mathematical Union (IMU), a meeting that takes place every four years. Winners for the year 2014 were:

- **Artur Avila, Brazil**
- **Manjul Bhargava, America**
- **Martin Hairer, Australia**
- **Maryam Mirzakhani, Iran**

15. Midori Prize 2014

The winners of Midori Prize for Biodiversity for year 2014 were:

- **Dr. Kamal Bawa**
President, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), India
Distinguished Professor, University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA
- **Dr. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah**
Chair, Ghana National Biodiversity Committee , Ghana
- **Dr. Bibiana Vilá**
Principal Researcher, National Research Council (CONICET)
Director, Vicuñas, Camelids and Environment (VICAM), Argentina

16. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award Winners 2014

The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology (SSB) is a science award in India given annually by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) for notable and outstanding research, applied or fundamental, in biology, chemistry, environmental science, engineering, mathematics, medicine and Physics.

Winners for 2014 prize were:

- **Biological Sciences:** Dr. Roop Mallik Tata Institute of Fundamental Research Mumbai.
- **Chemical Sciences:**
 - i. Dr. Kavirayani Ramakrishna Prasad Indian Institute of Science Bengaluru.



- ii. Dr. Souvik Maiti Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) New Delhi.
 - **Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences:** Dr. Sachchida Nand Tripathi Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur.
 - **Engineering Sciences:**
 - i. Dr. S Venkata Mohan Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT) Hyderabad.
 - ii. Dr. Soumen Chakrabarti Indian Institute of Technology Mumbai.
 - **Mathematical Sciences:** Dr. Kaushal Kumar Verma Indian Institute of Science Bengaluru.
 - **Medical Sciences:** Dr. Anurag Agrawal Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) New Delhi.
 - **Physical Sciences:**
 - i. Dr. Pratap Raychaudhuri Tata Institute of Fundamental Research Mumbai.
 - ii. Dr. Sadiqali Abbas Rangwala Raman Research Institute Bengaluru.
17. JNU professor Priyadarsi Mukherji awarded China Book Award by China for his support to interpretation and publication of Chinese works.
18. Renowned Hindi author Govind Mishra was conferred the 'Saraswati Samman' for his novel "Dhool Paudhon Par".
- Mr. Harivansh Rai Bachchan became the first Hindi author to receive the Saraswati Samman.
 - Saraswati Samman is an annual award for outstanding prose or poetry literary works in any Indian language listed in Schedule VIII of the Constitution of India
19. Shahrukh Khan awarded **Global Diversity Award 2014** for his outstanding achievements in the field of cinema and his involvement in philanthropic endeavors in UK.
20. Australian author Richard Flanagan won Man Booker prize for his book '**The Narrow Road to the Deep North**'
- Kolkata based author Neel Mukherjee was among the six short listed authors for his novel 'The Lives of Others'.
21. Indian American Neha Gupta, 18 has been awarded with the prestigious International Children's Peace Prize 2014.
22. Former India captain Dilip Vengsarkar has been selected for Col. CK Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award.
- The award comprises a citation, trophy and cheque for Rs 25 lakhs.
 - Vengsarkar is the 19th recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.
23. Pakistani author Bilal Tanweer has won the 2014 Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize for his novel The Scatter Here Is Too Great.
24. Russian film 'Leviathan' bagged the Golden Peacock at the 45th International Film Festival of India (Iffi).



25. Azim Premji gets Swiss Ambassador's Award for inspirational & socially responsible leadership

NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS 2014

- **Physics:**
The Nobel Prize in Physics 2014 was awarded jointly to Isamu Akasaki, Hiroshi Amano and Shuji Nakamura "for the invention of efficient blue light-emitting diodes which has enabled bright and energy-saving white light sources".
- **Chemistry:**
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014 was awarded jointly to Eric Betzig, Stefan W. Hell and William E. Moerner "for the development of super-resolved fluorescence microscopy".
- **Physiology/Medicine:**
The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2014 was divided, one half awarded to John O'Keefe, the other half jointly to May-Britt Moser and Edvard I. Moser "for their discoveries of cells that constitute a positioning system in the brain".
- **Literature:**
The Nobel Prize in Literature 2014 was awarded to Patrick Modiano "for the art of memory with which he has evoked the most ungraspable human destinies and uncovered the life-world of the occupation".
- **Peace:**
The Nobel Peace Prize 2014 was awarded jointly to Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai "for their struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education".
- **Economic Sciences:**
The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2014 was awarded to Jean Tirole "for his analysis of market power and regulation".

61st NATIONAL FILM AWARDS

- **Best Feature Film:** Ship of Theseus
- **Dadasaheb Phalke Award:** Gulzar
- **Best Debut Film of A Director:** Nagraj Manjule for movie Fandry
- **Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment:** Bhaag Milkha Bhaag
- **Best Children's Film:** Kaphal
- **Best Direction:** Hansal Mehta for movie Shahid
- **Best Actor:** Rajkumar Rao for Shahid and Suraj Venjaramoodu for Perariyathavar
- **Best Actress:** Geetanjali Thapa for movie Liar's Dice
- **Best Supporting Actor:** Saurabh Shukla for movie Jolly LLB
- **Best Supporting Actress:** Amruta Subhash for movie Astu and Aida El-Kashef for movie Ship of Theseus



OSCAR 2014

Oscar 2014 also called 86th Academy awards.

- Best Movie: 12 Years a Slave
- Best Director: Alfonso Cuarón for movie Gravity
- Best Actor: Matthew McConaughey for movie Dallas Buyers Club
- Best Actress: Cate Blanchett for movie Blue Jasmine
- Best Supporting Actor: Jared Leto for movie Dallas Buyers Club
- Best Supporting Actress: Lupita Nyong'o for movie 12 Years a Slave
- Best Original Screenplay: Spike Jonze for movie Her
- Best Adapted Screenplay: 12 Years a Slave – John Ridley from Twelve Years a Slave by Solomon Northup
- Best Animated Feature Film: Frozen
- Best Foreign Language Film: The Great Beauty (Italy) in Italian

India's official entry to Oscar 2014 was with movie Liar's Dice for the awards' foreign language category.

IIFA AWARDS 2014

15th International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) ceremony presented in Raymond James Stadium, Tampa.

- Best Picture: Bhaag Milkha Bhaag
- Best Director: Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra for Bhaag Milkha Bhaag
- Best Actor: Farhan Akhtar for Bhaag Milkha Bhaag
- Best Actress: Deepika Padukone for Chennai Express
- Best Actor In A Supporting Role: Aditya Roy Kapur for Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani
- Best Actress In A Supporting Role: Divya Dutta for Bhaag Milkha Bhaag
- Male Debutant Star: Dhanush for Raanjhanaa
- Female Debutant Star: Vaani Kapoor for Shuddh Desi Romance
- Best Performance In A Comic Role: Arshad Warsi for Jolly LLB
- Best Story: Prasoon Joshi for Bhaag Milkha Bhaag
- IIFA Award for Outstanding Achievement in International Cinema: John Travolta
- IIFA Award for Entertainer of the Year: Deepika Padukone

IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONS, HEADQUARTERS AND THEIR CHIEFS

Organization	Headquarters	Chief
International Atomic Energy	Vienna, Austria	Director-General: Yukiya



Agency		Amano
International Labour Organization	Geneva, Switzerland	Director-General: Guy Ryder
United Nations	New York	Secretary-General: Ban Ki-moon
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	New York	Executive Director: Anthony Lake
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Paris, France	Director-General: Irina Bokova
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	Vienna, Austria	Director-General: Li Yong
World Health Organization (WHO)	Geneva, Switzerland	Director-General: Margaret Chan
United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)	Madrid, Spain	Secretary-General: Taleb Rifai
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)	Singapore	Not Applicable
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	Jakarta, Indonesia	Secretary-General: Lê Lương Minh
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation	Brussels, Belgium	Secretary-General: Jens Stoltenberg
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	Paris, France	Secretary-General: José Ángel Gurría
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)	Kathmandu, Nepal	Secretary-General: Arjun Bahadur Thapa
World Trade Organization (WTO)	Geneva, Switzerland	Director-General: Roberto Azevêdo
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, Philippines	President: Takehiko Nakao
International Monetary Fund	Washington, DC	Managing Director:



(IMF)		Christine Lagarde
World Bank	Washington, DC	President: Jim Yong Kim
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)	The Hague, Netherlands	Director-General: Ahmet Üzümcü

BANKS, HEADQUARTERS AND TAGLINES

Bank	Tagline	Head Office
Canara Bank	Together We Can	Bangalore
Vijaya Bank	A friend you can bank upon	Bangalore
Indian Bank	Your Tech-Friendly bank	Chennai
Indian Overseas Bank	Good people to grow with	Chennai
Andhra Bank	Where India Banks	Hyderabad
Corporation Bank	Prosperity for all	Mangalore
Allahabad Bank	A tradition of trust	Kolkata
UCO Bank	Honors your trust	Kolkata
United Bank of India	The Bank that begins with U	Kolkata
Syndicate Bank	Your Faithful And Friendly Financial Partner	Manipal
Union Bank of India	Good people to bank with	Mumbai
Bank of India	Relationship beyond banking	Mumbai
Central Bank of India	"CENTRAL" to you since 1911	Mumbai
Dena Bank	Trusted Family Bank	Mumbai
State Bank of India	"PURE BANKING, NOTHING	Mumbai



	ELSE”, “WITH YOU – ALL THE WAY”, “A BANK OF THE COMMON MAN”, “THE BANKER TO EVERY INDIAN”, “THE NATION BANKS ON US”	
Bhartiya Mahila Bank	Empowering Women, Empowering India	New Delhi
Oriental Bank of Commerce	Where every individual is committed	New Delhi
Punjab and Sind Bank	Where service is way of life	New Delhi
Punjab National Bank	A leading PAN India bank with global footprints	New Delhi
Bank of Maharashtra	Ek Parivaar Ek Bank	Pune
Bank of Baroda	India's International Bank	Vadodara
HDFC Bank	We understand your world	Mumbai
ICICI Bank	Khayal aapka	Mumbai
IndusInd Bank	We Make You Feel Richer	Mumbai
Yes Bank	Experience our expertise	Mumbai
Citi Bank	The Citi never sleeps	Mumbai
HSBC	The world's local bank	Mumbai
Standard Chartered Bank	Your Right Partner	New Delhi

ACRONYMS

RBI - Reserve Bank of India	DGCA - Directorate General of Civil Aviation
POS - Point of Sale	ECB - External Commercial Borrowing
IIP - Index of Industrial Production	CSO - Central Statistics Office



BIC - Bank Investment Company	ALM - Asset Liability Management
CA - Chartered Accountant	CASA - Current Account and Savings Account
NOFHC - Non-Operative Financial Holding Company	NPA - Non Performing Asset
SARFAESI - Securities and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act	IDBI - Industrial Development Bank of India
SEBI - Securities and Exchange Board of India	SIMBEX - Singapore Indian Maritime Bilateral Exercise
BCSBI - Banking Codes Standards Board of India	TRAI - Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
CRR - Cash Reserve Ratio	NBFC - Non Banking Finance Company
IFRS - International Financial Reporting Standards	IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature
WWF - World Wide Fund	JAC - Judicial Appointments Commission
BPPS - Bharat Bill Payment System	GIRO - Government Internal Revenue Order
MPLADS - Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	ASEAN - Association of South East Asian Nations
IEA - International Economic Association	NDMA - National Disaster Management Authority
UNGA - United Nations General Assembly	BAWMCC - Border Affairs Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination
FICCI - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry	DBTS - Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme
UNHRC - United Nations Human Rights Committee	AIBA - International Boxing Association
AIIB - Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank	OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
CBDT - Central Board of Direct Taxes	GDP – Gross Domestic Product
NEFT - National Electronic Funds Transfer	RTGS - Real Time Gross Settlement
FCCB – Foreign Currency Convertible Bond	

