

- ❖ World Number One tennis player Novak D Jokovic from Serbia has won the 2016 Australian Open Title in the men's singles category for. In the final match played at Melbourne, Australia he defeated Andy Murray of Britain in 7 straight sets by 6-1, 7-5, 7-6 score
- ❖ Japan's ShinMaywa Industries is planning to set up manufacturing plant of US-2 amphibious aircraft in India under 'Make in India' initiative to cater to international demands.
- ❖ Senior IPS officer Archana Ramasundram (58) was appointed as the Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)
- ❖ The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 completes ten years of implementation. On this occasion, Union Ministry of Rural Development had organised MGNREGA SAMMELAN in New Delhi to highlight achievements MGNREGA. Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley was Chief Guest in the Sammelan. About Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005

- ❖ Every year World Cancer Day (WCD) is being observed on 4 February across the world to raise awareness of cancer and to encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment. The theme (tagline) for year 2016 WCD is “We can. I can”. It reflects on what everyone can do to raise awareness of cancer and asks to take pledge and action in fight against cancer.
- ❖ All 12 Pacific Rim countries have signed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement in Auckland, New Zealand making it one of the biggest trade deals in history. These 12 countries are: Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Brunei Darussalam, Japan, Canada, United States, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Australia and New Zealand. TPP is Free Trade Area and these member countries across the Pacific Rim are home to 800 million people and account for 40% of global trade. About Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement Objectives of TPP: (i) Lower trade barriers such as tariffs. (ii) Establish a common framework for intellectual property (iii) Enforce standards for labour law and environmental law (iv) Establish an investor-state dispute settlement mechanism.
- ❖ The 12th edition of South Asian Games (SAG) has begun in Guwahati, Assam after it was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Indira Gandhi Athletics Stadium. The 11-day event is being jointly hosted by Guwahati and Meghalaya capital, Shillong. Over 2,500 athletes from 8 SAARC nations viz. India, Pakistan, Sri

Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives are participating in it. Total of 228 events in 23 sports disciplines will be played during the games, which India is hosting for the third time. Slogan of games: ‘Play for Peace, Progress and Prosperity’.

- ❖ The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has decided to set up the National Organic Farming Research Institute (NOFRI) in Sikkim.
- ❖ The International Fleet Review (IFR) 2016, an international military exercise hosted and conducted by Indian Navy was inaugurated in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare J P Nadda has launched Project Sunrise on for prevention of AIDS specially among people injecting drugs in the 8 North-Eastern states. The AIDS prevention special project aims to diagnose 90 per cent of such drug addicts with HIV and put them under treatment by 2020.
- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated Indian Oil Corporation’s (IOC’s) new state of the art refinery at Paradip in Odisha to the nation. It is overall IOC’s 11th refinery to be set up and has installed capacity of 15 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA).

- ❖ The 9th edition of India-Nepal Combined Military Exercise Surya Kiran IX has commenced at Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand. It will culminate on February 21, 2015.
- ❖ The first phase of the world's largest concentrated solar power (CSP) plant was launched in the Souss-Massa-Drâa area in Morocco.
- ❖ World Radio Day (WRD) is observed globally on 13th February to remember the unique power of radio that touches lives and bring people together across every corner of the globe.
- ❖ Banaras Hindu University (BHU) founded by Freedom fighter Pt Madan Mohan Malviya has turned 100 years on 13th February 2016. BHU was founded as important seat of higher education in 1916. During time of its establishment it was first university in India that was the result of a private individual's efforts.
- ❖ The 7th edition of India, Seychelles joint military exercise LAMITYE 2016 has begun in Victoria, Seychelles. The fourteen day exercise has been conducted at Seychelles Defence Academy (SDA), Victoria till February 28, 2016.

- ❖ Mysuru city from Karnataka has been ranked first in terms of cleanliness for second time in row among the 73 surveyed cities in Swachh Sarvekshan 2016. It was announced by Urban Development Minister Venkaiah Naidu during the Swachh Survekshan 2016 award function held in New Delhi.
- ❖ Indigenously developed Prithvi-II missile was successfully test fired from the Chandipur, off Odisha coast. Test- It was conducted by the Strategic Force Command (SFC) and was monitored by the scientists from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ❖ West Bengal government has launched the Utkarsh Bangla Scheme with an aim of providing vocational training to school dropouts. The scheme was launched by the Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in Kolkata. On this occasion, she also released a book on Utkarsh Bangla.
- ❖ West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra has been appointed as the Chairman of the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers on Goods and Services Tax (GST).

- ❖ New Zealand Captain and Skipper Brendon McCullum has smashed the fastest ever Test century off only 54 balls. He achieved this feat on in his final international match on day one of the Second Test Match between Australia and New Zealand at Christchurch.
- ❖ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully conducted hotbed test of the indigenously developed high-thrust cryogenic engine (CE20) of the GSLV Mark 3 (LVM3) rocket for the upper stage. The long-duration test was conducted at ISRO Propulsion Research Centre at Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu and lasted for 640 seconds. It was conducted with Mixture Ratio Controller (MRC) in a closed loop mode. Key facts Key facts The CE20 uses Liquid Hydrogen at -253 degrees C and Liquid Oxygen at -193 degrees C as propellants and generates power of approximately 2 MW. It has been developed indigenously by Mahendragiri based Liquid Propulsion System centre (LPSC).
- ❖ Christine Lagarde (60) from France has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of the International Monetary Fund for a second five-year term. She was sole candidate nominated for the post and was re-nominated by IMF's Executive Board decision taken by consensus. Her new term will start on 5th July 2016 till 2021.

- ❖ International Mother Language Day (Bhasha Divas) is being observed across the world on 21 February. Importance of Day: Seeks to promote awareness of linguistic, multilingualism and cultural diversity. It also signifies importance of mother language as the greatest weapon to express one's feeling. Mother Language of one country is the sign of independence of that country
- ❖ India continues to remain the world's largest arms importer, accounting for 14% of the global arms imports in the 2011-2015 timeframe. It was revealed by report on international arms transfers released by a global think-tank, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).
- ❖ Pakistan's Parliament building located in national capital Islamabad became the first in the world to completely run on solar power. It achieved this feat after Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif switched on solar-powered building of the parliament in a simple ceremony.
- ❖ Union Government has selected former Chief Justice of India (CJI) H L Dattu as new Chairman of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).