

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018



THE HINDU DIARY OF EVENTS 2017

A Special Issue



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NATIONAL**JANUARY**

Jan. 1: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav is named Samajwadi Party "national president" at a special "emergency national convention" in Lucknow.

Jan. 3: The CBI arrests Trinamool Congress MP Sudip Bandyopadhyay in the Rose Valley Group chit fund scam case.

Jan. 4: Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar is sworn in as the 44th CJI.

The DMK general council elects Stalin as the working president.

Jan. 15: Kiran Doshi, a retired diplomat and educationist from Gujarat, is presented *The Hindu* Prize 2016 for his book, *Jinnah Often Came to Our House* by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Geraldine Brooks at *The Hindu* Lit for Life fest in Chennai.

Jan. 16: The Supreme Court revives hearing on a bunch of petitions challenging the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh in 2014.

Ritu Khoda and Vanita Pai are presented with *The Hindu* Young World-Goodbooks Best Author Awards for the book *Eye Spy Indian Art*.

Jan. 17: India becomes an associate member of the Geneva-based CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

Jan. 20: The Centre clears the Tamil Nadu government's proposal to promulgate an ordinance to hold *jallikattu*.

Bhaiyalal Bhotmange, the lone survivor of the September 29, 2006 massacre of four members of his family in Khairlanji village in Maharashtra's Bhandra district dies of a heart attack in Nagpur.

Jan. 21: Over 39 passengers are killed and 50 injured following the derailment of the engine and nine coaches of Hirakhand Express bound for Bhubaneswar from Jagdalpur near Kunderu railway station in Vizianagaram district, Andhra Pradesh.

Jan. 23: As police move in to remove protesters, the week-long *jallikattu* protests turn violent in many cities in Tamil Nadu.

The Tamil Nadu Assembly at a special sitting passes the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Bill, 2017.

Jan. 25: NCP leader Shard Pawar,



The carcass of a turtle that was washed ashore on Thiruvannamiyur beach in Chennai after an oil spill.

BJP leader Murli Manohar Joshi, legendary singer K.J. Yesudas, spiritual guru Jaggi Vasudev, Prof. Udipti Ramachandra Rao, former Lok Sabha Speaker P.A. Sangma and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Sunderlal Patwa (both posthumous) are conferred with Padma Vibhushan awards by President Pranab Mukherjee.

Thailand's Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Cho S. Ramaswamy (posthumous), Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, D.P. Dwivedi, Ratna Sundar Maharaj, Swami Niranjana Nanda Saraswati and Tehemton Udwadia are awarded Padma Bhushan.

Singers Kailash Kher, Anuradha Paudwal, mridangam maestro T.K. Murthy, cricketer Virat Kohli, paralympic athlete Mariappan Thangavelu, Olympian Sakshi Malik, gymnast Deepa Karmakar, pioneering AIDS researcher Dr. Suniti Solomon (posthumous), journalist Bhawana Somaaya, chef Sanjeev Kapoor prominent among 75 Padma Shri awardees.

The initial public offer of the Bombay Stock Exchange is subscribed 51.15 times.

Jan. 26: India celebrates its 68th Republic Day with a display of military might.

Jan. 28: Two cargo ships – MT Maple and MT Dawn Kanchipuram – collide at the outer anchorage of Kamarajar Port in Ennore, Chennai leading to a massive spill of hazardous oil and LPG.

Former Karnataka Chief Minister S.M. Krishna quits the Congress.

Jan. 29: Jats launch a stir for reservation in government jobs in Haryana.

Jan. 31: The Supreme Court declines plea to stay the operation of the new *jallikattu* law enacted by the Tamil Nadu government.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1: The Union Budget for 2017-18 is presented in the Lok Sabha by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. He cuts the minimum personal income tax rate to 5% from 10%.

A corpus of ₹1 lakh crore for safety and zero service charge on digital bookings major highlights of the Railway Budget presented in 12 points in the main budget.

The Tamil Nadu Assembly passes unanimously the two NEET Bills.

Feb. 2: A special court in New Delhi acquits former Union Telecom Minister Dayanidhi Maran, his brother Kalanithi Maran and the latter's wife Kaveri Kalanithi of bribery and money laundering charges in the Aircel-Maxis deal case.

Feb. 3: The Supreme Court refuses to stay the Rajasthan High Court's December 9, 2016 judgment which struck down a bill providing 5% quota for the Special Backward Classes.

BSE Ltd., Asia's oldest stock exchange and the first in India to get listed makes a strong debut on the bourses.

Feb. 4: Punjab registers 78.62% voter turnout in Assembly polls.

Eightythree per cent polling is recorded in Goa Assembly elections.

Feb. 5: V.K. Sasikala is "unanimously" elected AIADMK Legislature Party leader. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam faxes resignation to the Governor.

Feb. 6: Tata Sons EGM in Mumbai removes former chairman Cyrus Mistry as director from its board.

Feb. 8: The Supreme Court, in an unprecedented move, issues a contempt of court notice against Justice C.S. Karnan of the Calcutta High Court for his "scurrilous" letters against sitting and retired judges.

Feb. 9: India formally requests the U.K. to extradite absconding tycoon Vijay Mallya.

The Supreme Court sends back to jail real estate baron Gopal Ansal for the death in 1997 of 59 persons in a fire at Uphaar Cinema in New Delhi's Green Park area. His elder brother Sushil is spared.

Feb. 11: The first phase of Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls records a 64.22% turnout.

Feb. 13: The Karnataka Assembly passes the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2017 to allow kambala and bullock cart racing.

Feb. 14: The Supreme Court sets

aside the Karnataka High Court's acquittal of V.K. Sasikala, Ilavarasi and V.N. Sudhakaran in the disproportionate assets case. Indicts former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa for conspiring to launder wealth. Appeals stand abated following her death. Restores 'in toto' trial court's conviction of the three on September 27, 2014.

Edappadi K. Palaniswami is elected the AIADMK Legislature Party leader. Twenty leaders, including O. Panneerselvam are expelled from the primary membership of the party.

Feb. 15: AIADMK interim general secretary V.K. Sasikala surrenders at a special court in Bengaluru and is jailed at the Central Prison at Parappana Agrahara.

ISRO's workhorse PSLV places a record 104 spacecraft in their desired orbits, in a single mission from Sriharikota.

The second phase of the U.P. Assembly polls registers 65.5% voting.

Uttarakhand registers 68% turnout in Assembly polls.

Feb. 16: Edappadi K. Palaniswami is sworn in as Tamil Nadu's 13th Chief Minister.

The probe panel headed by Justice S. Rajeswaran begins inquiry into the pro-*jallikattu* protests in Coimbatore and Salem.

Feb. 18: The AIADMK government wins a trust vote in the Tamil Nadu Assembly after violence in the House by DMK MLAs leading to their eviction.

Feb. 19: The third phase of UP Assembly polls records 61% turnout.

Nagaland Chief Minister T.R. Zeliang resigns.

Feb. 21: Natarajan Chandrasekaran takes office as Tata Sons Chairman.

Feb. 22: Shurhozelie Liezietsu takes oath as the 11th Chief Minister of Nagaland.

Feb. 23: The fourth phase of U.P.



Crew members of Air India flight AI 173, on arrival at IGI Airport, New Delhi.

Assembly polls records 61% turnout.

Feb. 27: Lowest turnout of 57.36% recorded in the fifth phase of the U.P. Assembly polls.

MARCH

March 1: The Government notifies the Specified Bank Notes (Cessation of Liabilities) Act, 2017, which makes it a criminal offence to possess more than a certain number of the old ₹ 500 and ₹ 1,000 notes.

March 3: Noted Ambedkarite thinker Dr. Krishna Kirwale is found murdered at his bungalow in Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

An Air India Boeing 777-200LR completes an around-the-world flight with an all-women crew and lands at the IGI airport in New Delhi.

March 4: Manipur records 84% turnout in the first phase of Assembly polls.

Uttar Pradesh registers 57% voting in the sixth phase of Assembly polls.

March 6: Navy decommissions INS Viraat, the world's oldest aircraft carrier in service, at a ceremony in Mumbai.

March 7: Former Delhi University professor G.N. Saibaba is sentenced to life imprisonment for his Maoist links by a sessions court in Gadchiroli district, Maharashtra.

March 8: Over 60% voting is recorded in the seventh and last phase of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls. Manipur registers 86% polling in the second and final phase.

March 9: Eminent Konkani writer Mahabaleshwar Sail is selected for the Saraswati Samman 2016 for his novel *Hawthan*.

The Lok Sabha passes the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2016, extending paid maternity leave to 26 weeks, up from 12 weeks, to women working in the organised sector.

March 10: The Rajya Sabha passes The Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2016.

March 11: The BJP gets three-fourths majority in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

In Punjab, the Congress returns to power after 10 years, winning 77 seats out of 117. Goa and Manipur deliver fractured mandates.

March 13: Manohar Parikkar resigns as Defence Minister.

Jeevanantham Muthukrishnan, a student of Jawaharlal Nehru University commits suicide in New Delhi.

March 14: Manohar Parrikar is

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Candidates
in IAS 2016**



Ishan Pratap Singh
Rank 29



Gautam Jain
Rank 59



Sheikh Abdul Rahaman
Rank 62



Anju Arun Kumar
Rank 90



Anshu Singla
Rank 157



Vakul Jindal
Rank 195



Deepak Saini
Rank 286



Hriday Kant
Rank 295



Mrinal Prakash
Rank 380



Prerna Singh
Rank 471



Kapinjal Kishore Sharma
Rank 509



Ishan Duggal
Rank 944



Garima Mali
Rank 966

75+ Selections
within 2 years

THE HINDU DELHI

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018

DIARY OF EVENTS 2017 3

sworn in Goa Chief Minister.

Lok Sabha passes the Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2016.

March 15: N. Biren Singh is sworn in as the first BJP Chief Minister of Manipur.

March 16: Congress leader Capt. Amarinder Singh is sworn in as Punjab Chief Minister.

March 18: Trivendra Singh Rawat is sworn in as the ninth Chief Minister of Uttarakhand.

March 19: BJP leader Yogi Adityanath is sworn in as the 21st Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.

Jat stir for quota in Haryana is called off following a marathon meeting in New Delhi.

March 20: The Southern Bench of the NGT suspends its nod for neutrino project in Theni, Tamil Nadu.

March 21: Rajya Sabha passes the long-awaited HIV Bill.

March 22: The Election Commission freezes the AIADMK's "Two Leaves" symbol for the R.K. Nagar bypoll. Recognises split and bars use of 'AIADMK' name.

Former Karnataka Chief Minister S.M. Krishna joins the BJP.

March 23: The National Company Law Tribunal, Mumbai bench, approves the Vedanta Limited-Cairn India merger.

March 25: Tanushree Pareek becomes the first woman combat officer to be commissioned in the BSF.

March 27: The Mental Healthcare Bill which decriminalises suicide is unanimously passed in the Lok Sabha.

The Supreme Court observes that Aadhaar cannot be made mandatory for availing of welfare schemes.

March 29: The Supreme Court orders a freeze on the registration and sale of BS-III fuel compliant vehicles by "any manufacturer or dealer" on and from April 1.

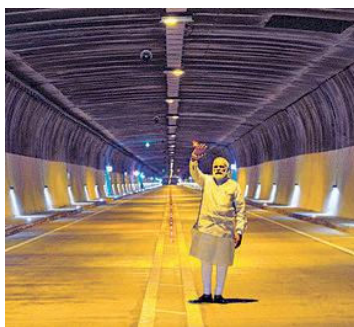
The Lok Sabha Passes four GST Bills: the Central GST Bill, the Integrated GST Bill, the GST Compensation Bill and the Union Territory GST Bill.

March 30: The Lok Sabha clears the Finance Bill.

March 31: The Gujarat Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill awarding maximum imprisonment up to life but not less than 10 years for cow slaughter is passed in the State Assembly.

APRIL

April 1: The Enforcement Direc-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi after inaugurating the Chenani-Nashri Tunnel, in Jammu and Kashmir.

torate conducts searches on 300 shell companies across 16 states.

The Supreme Court ban on sale of liquor on national highways comes into force.

April 2: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates the country's longest tunnel covering 9.28 km – the Chenani-Nashri Tunnel on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway connecting Udhampur with Ramban.

April 5: The Supreme Court dismisses Karnataka's review plea challenging the abatement of its appeal against the acquittal of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalitha in the disproportionate assets case and seeking payment of ₹ 100 crore as fine.

April 8: India and Bangladesh sign 22 deals. Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Sheikh Hasina flag off the trial run of the Khulna-Kolkata train service. Kolkata-Khulna-Dhaka bus service trial run begins.

April 9: Eight civilians are killed and 170 injured as widespread violence mars the Srinagar Lok Sabha byelection which records the lowest ever turnout of 7.14%

The Election Commission cancels the April 12 byelection to the Dr. Radhakrishnan Nagar Assembly constituency in Chennai.

April 11: Parliament passes the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Prevention and Control Bill, 2017.

April 12: Parliament gives nod for four GST bills.

April 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi launches the BHIM-Aadhaar (a digital payment platform that uses the Aadhaar number) in Nagpur.

April 18: The AIADMK (Ammu), led by Chief Minister Edappadi K.

Palaniswami, revolts against jailed party general secretary Sasikala and decides to keep her family "completely away" from party affairs and the government.

April 19: The Union Cabinet scraps rule that allowed VIPs to have flashing red beacon lights on top of vehicles.

The Supreme Court orders a joint trial of the dual Babri Masjid demolition cases and revives conspiracy charges against BJP leaders, including L.K. Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi and Union Minister Uma Bharti.

April 23: Tamil Nadu farmers call off their protest demanding farm loan waiver and setting up of the Cauvery Management Board, at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi, after more than a month.

April 24: At least 25 CRPF personnel of the 74th battalion are killed and seven injured after a Maoist attack near Burkapal in Sukma district, Chhattisgarh.

Activist Prafulla Samantara is named one of the six winners of the Goldman Environmental Prize for 2017 for his 12-year battle to stall Vedanta's bauxite mining in Odisha's Niyamgiri Hills.

April 25: The bandh called by the Opposition parties in Tamil Nadu led by the DMK in support of farmers is near total.

The Bombay High Court grants bail to Sadhvi Pragya Thakur, a key accused in the September 29, 2008 Malegaon blasts.

The NSE index Nifty ends above the 9,300 level for the first time.

April 26: The BSE's benchmark 30-stock Sensex soars past the 30,000 closing mark for the first time ever on the back of positive global cues.

April 27: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates the first flight under the UDAN – Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik – scheme for regional connectivity on the Shimla-Delhi routes.

Kalpiti Veerwal, a student of MDS Senior Secondary School of Udaipur, Rajasthan, tops the IIT-JEE main examination of 2017 with a perfect 100% or 360 marks.

April 28: The Delhi High Court declares as "enforceable in India" the arbitral award of \$ 1.8 billion dated June 22, 2016, passed by a Tribunal in London to be paid by Tata Sons Ltd. to its erstwhile Japanese

telecom partner NTT Docomo Inc.

MAY

May 1: Pakistan troops kill two jawans and mutilate their bodies near the Line of Control in the Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district, Jammu and Kashmir.

May 3: President Pranab Mukherjee presents the Dadasaheb Phalke Award to filmmaker and actor K. Viswanath at the 64th National Film Awards function in New Delhi. Best Actor award is bagged by Akshay Kumar (*Rustom*). C.M. Surabhi gets the Best Actress award for her role in Malayalam film *Minnaminungu: The Firefly*.

May 4: The Bombay High Court upholds the conviction of 11 accused and sets aside the acquittal of seven others in the March 3, 2002, gangrape of Bilkis Bano during the post-Godhra riots at Randhikpur village, near Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

May 5: The Supreme Court confirms the death penalty to the four convicts in the Nirbhaya gangrape and murder case of 2012.

ISRO launches the 2,230 kg communication spacecraft South Asia Satellite or GSAT-9 on board a GSLV-F09 rocket from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

May 8: The Supreme Court sets aside the 2014 Jharkhand High Court decision in a fodder scam case against RJD leader Lalu Prasad Yadav and orders separate trials against him, former Bihar Chief Minister Jagannath Mishra and others in fodder scam-related cases.

May 9: A seven-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court sentences Calcutta High Court sitting judge C.S. Karnan to six months in jail.

May 11: The Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee gives nod for

GM mustard.

May 14: The Chennai Metro's first underground stretch between Thirumangalam and Nehru Park, covering a distance of 7.6 km, becomes operational.

May 16: Bengali is made compulsory in all schools in West Bengal.

May 18: The ISRO is presented with the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for the year 2014.

May 19: The Odisha High Court grants conditional bail to Trinamool Congress MP Sudip Bandyopadhyay in the Rose Valley Group chit fund scam.

May 21: Climber Anshu Jamsenpa of Arunachal Pradesh scripts history by scaling Mount Everest twice within five days.

May 22: Major Leetul Gogoi of the 53 Rashtriya Rifles Battalion, who is facing an inquiry for using Kashmiri man Farooq Ahmed Dar as a human shield in Budgam district on April 9, is given the Army Chief's Commendation Card.

May 23: The Centre issues a notification titled the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Regulation of Livestock Markets) Rules, 2017 banning the sale of cattle for slaughter at animal markets across the country.

May 24: The Union Cabinet gives nod for the phasing out of the 25-year-old FIPB.

May 25: Uzma Ahmed, an Indian national who had accused Tahir Ali of Buner, Pakistan of forcibly marrying her returns to New Delhi following a favourable verdict from the Islamabad High Court.

May 26: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates the Dhola-Sadiya bridge, the country's longest bridge stretching 9.15 km over the Lohit river in Assam named after lyricist-singer Bhupen Hazarika.

May 30: A special CBI court in Lucknow charges senior BJP leaders L.K. Advani, Murali Manohar Joshi and Union Minister Uma Bharti with conspiracy in the December 6, 1992 Babri Masjid demolition case.

May 31: The Strategic Partnership policy, intended to promote Indian private sector participation in defence manufacturing comes into effect.

JUNE

June 5: ISRO launches its heaviest launch vehicle, the 640-tonne GSLV Mk III-D1 using indigenous



Bilkis Bano

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cryogenic engine technology and places in orbit the 3,136 kg GSAT-19, a communication satellite, after liftoff from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

June 6: Five farmers are killed and two critically injured in police firing during a violent protest in Mandsaur district, Madhya Pradesh.

June 8: The Army is called out in Darjeeling as Gorkha Janmukti Morcha supporters clash with the police and indulge in arson to protest against Bengali being made compulsory in all schools in the state.

June 9: The Supreme Court upholds validity of an IT law amendment linking PAN with Aadhaar for filing tax returns and making Aadhaar a must to apply for a PAN card.

June 10: Reviving the demand for Gorkhaland, the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha calls for an indefinite shutdown.

June 11: Maharashtra agrees to grant a conditional farm loan waiver estimated at ₹25,000 crore. Ryots call off stir after 10 days.

Sarvesh Mehtani from Panchkula, Haryana secures the first rank in JEE-Advanced 2017.

Justice C.S. Karnan of the Calcutta High Court retires.

June 13: India ratifies two core conventions of ILO on child labour.

June 16: The government gazettes a notification dated June 1 making Aadhaar mandatory to open bank accounts and to conduct a transaction of ₹50,000 or more.

June 17: Violence escalates in Darjeeling hills with three persons killed and 35 security personnel injured in widespread clashes.

The ₹5,182-crore Kochi Metro Rail project is dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

June 19: BJP president Amit Shah declares Bihar Governor Ram Nath Kovind as the NDA's candidate for the presidential poll.

June 20: Justice C.S. Karnan is arrested by police from a resort at Malumichampatti, near Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation completes the construction of India's first set of the 520 metre-long underwater transportation tunnels that will link the two banks of the Hooghly river – Howrah Maidan and Sealdah on the one side with Kolkata on the other.

June 21: C.S. Karnan, former Cal-



Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti meeting injured Amarnath pilgrims in Anantnag.

cutta High Court judge is lodged in the Presidency Jail in south Kolkata.

The Karnataka Assembly orders one-year jail term and a fine of ₹10,000 each for two Kannada tabloid editors, Ravi Belagere of *Hai Bengaluru* and Anil Raj of *Yelahanka Voice* for breach of privilege.

June 23: Punjab Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2017 to make way for liquor sale near highways is passed by the State Assembly.

The ISRO launches 31 satellites, including 29 nano satellites from 14 foreign nations on board the PSLV-C 38 rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

Punjab's Navdeep Singh tops the NEET held on May 7 scoring a percentile of 99.99 with 697 marks out of total 720.

GJM president Bimal Gurung and all other elected members of the Gorkhaland Territorial Council resign.

June 24: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis announces a ₹34,000 crore farm loan waiver.

June 28: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs gives in principle nod for Air India disinvestment.

June 29: ISRO's 3,477 kg spacecraft GSAT 17, the heaviest built by it, is launched from the South American space port of Kourou aboard an Ariane-5 ECA rocket VA-238.

June 30: President Pranab Mukherjee launches the landmark unified tax GST, the new indirect tax regime at the stroke of midnight in the Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi.

JULY

July 1: The registration of one lakh companies that had suspicious operations cancelled by the government (on June 30), says Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing chartered accountants in New Delhi.

July 3: The China-India standoff over Beijing's attempt to lay a road in the Bhutanese territory at Doko La over the Zom Cheri ridge on June 16 continues for the 18th day.

As many as 22 States, including Delhi and West Bengal, abolish checkpoints.

The Supreme Court stays the April 4, 2017 order of the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court directing the Tamil Nadu Government to extend crop loan waiver to all farmers, including those with landholdings above 5 acres.

President gives assent to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka) Amendment Bill, 2017

July 6: Achal Kumar Joti takes charge as the 21st Chief Election Commissioner.

July 7: The Supreme Court freezes the status of "legal persons" accorded to rivers Ganga and Yamuna by the Uttarakhand High Court on March 20, 2017.

July 8: Ahmedabad is declared India's first World Heritage City by the UNESCO.

July 9: The probe into the Adarsh housing society scam in Mumbai indicts several senior military officers, including two former Army chiefs, General Deepak Kapoor and General N.C. Vij.

July 10: On a day when the Sensex gained 355 points to close at a new high of 31,715.64, trading at NSE, the country's largest stock exchange is stalled for three hours due to a technical glitch.

Seven Amarnath pilgrims are killed and 19 injured after a Gujarat-registered bus carrying them is attacked by militants on the Srinagar-Jammu Highway in Anantnag.

The flood situation turns critical in Assam with 12.55 lakh people across 20 districts affected.

July 11: The Supreme Court stays the Centre's notification, banning cattle sale in livestock markets for slaughter and religious sacrifice.

Malayalam actor Dileep, arrested for the kidnap and molestation of a woman actor, is remanded to judicial custody. He is expelled from film bodies.

July 14: The Supreme Court refuses to nullify the NEET 2017.

July 17: The presidential election records the highest ever voter turnout of over 99%.

The BJP's parliamentary board picks Union I & B Minister M. Ven-

kaiah Naidu as candidate for the Vice-President poll. He resigns from the Cabinet.

July 18: BSP chief Mayawati resigns from the Rajya Sabha.

Sensex sinks about 364 points to post its biggest single-day plunge in eight months and closes at 31,775.54.

July 19: T.R. Zeliang is sworn in as the Nagaland Chief Minister in place of Shurhozelie Liezietsu sacked by Governor B.P. Acharya.

The Lok Sabha passes a Bill to declare the IITs set up under the PPP route as Institutes of National Importance.

July 20: Ram Nath Kovind is declared elected as India's 14th President.

The Landmark India-Japan Agreement for Cooperation in the peaceful uses of civil nuclear energy enters into force.

July 21: Leader of the Opposition in Gujarat Shantersinh Vaghela resigns from the Congress.

July 23: Shantersinh Vaghela resigns as the Leader of the Opposition in Gujarat.

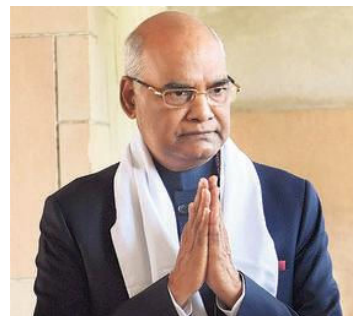
July 24: Compassion and empathy the "true foundation" of India's civilisation, says President Pranab Mukherjee in his last address to the nation as the head of state.

July 25: Ram Nath Kovind is sworn in the 14th President of India by CJI J.S. Khehar at a ceremony in the Central Hall of Parliament.

July 26: The ruling coalition in Bihar collapses with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar submitting his resignation to Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi.

The Nifty closes above the 10,000 mark for the first time ever. Sensex gains 154.19 points to close at a new high of 32,382.46.

July 27: Nitish Kumar is sworn in Bihar Chief Minister and BJP's Sushil Kumar Modi as Deputy Chief Minister.



Ram Nath Kovind

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates a memorial for former President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and unveils his statue at Pei Karumbu near Rameswaram in Ramanathapuram district, Tamil Nadu.

July 28: The Lok Sabha passes the IIM Bill, 2017.

July 31: The Madras High Court dismisses an appeal against NEET and upholds the order of a single judge quashing the government notification providing 85% quota for State board students.

The Max group and HDFC Life call off merger, announced in June 2016 following reservations by The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India.

AUGUST

Aug. 1: Arvind Panagariya quits as NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman.

Aug. 5: M. Venkaiah Naidu is elected the 15th Vice-President of India.

Economist Dr. Rajiv Kumar is appointed NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman.

The marathon 78-hour IT search against Karnataka Energy Minister D.K. Shivakumar and firms allegedly linked to him leads to the unearthing of undisclosed income of nearly ₹300 crore.

Aug. 9: The Lok Sabha holds a special setting to mark the 75th anniversary of the Quit India movement.

Aug. 10: The Hindu Playwright Award 2017 is presented to Gerish Khemani and Akshat Nigam for their play *In Search of Dariya Sagar* during the launch of the 13th edition of The Hindu Theatre Fest in Chennai.

Aug. 11: The Supreme Court dismisses Tamil Nadu's appeal on NEET quota.

Venkaiah Naidu is sworn in India's 15th Vice-President in a brief ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Aug. 12: The U.P. government initiates probe into the death of 60 children since August 7 in the neonatal ICU and the encephalitis ward at the BRD Medical College Hospital in Gorakhpur.

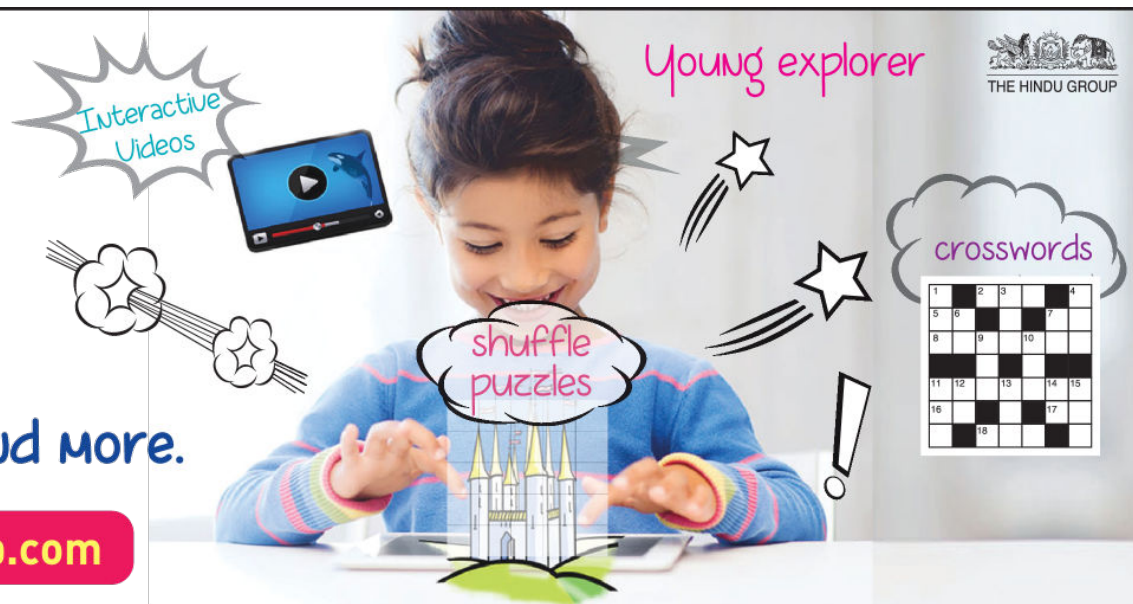
Aug. 15: Show collective will to build a new India, says Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address to the nation.

Rohith Vemula committed suicide in January 2016 for personal reasons and not over eviction from the Hyderabad Central University hostel, says Justice A.K. Roopanwal

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THE HINDU DELHI

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018

DIARY OF EVENTS 2017 5

Commission report which is made public.

Aug. 16: NIA to probe Kerala 'love jihad' case and Supreme Court sets up a panel under former judge R.V. Raveendran to monitor progress.

The Centre gives nod for Tamil Nadu's NEET ordinance.

Aug. 17: The Rajasthan government grants reservation for Gujjars.

Aug. 18: Vishal Sikka, CEO and MD of Infosys resigns.

Aug. 19: At least 24 persons are killed and over 156 injured following the derailment of 14 coaches of the Puri-Haridwar Utkal Express at Jagat Colony in Khatauli near Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh.

The Infosys board approves a ₹ 13,000 crore share buyback plan.

Aug. 21: The AIADMK factions merge and O. Panneerselvam is sworn in as Tamil Nadu Deputy Chief Minister.

The Supreme Court grants bail to the September 29, 2008, Malegaon blasts case accused Lt. Col. Shrikant Prasad Purohit.

Gujarat sets up a network to monitor the swine flu epidemic, even as the toll touches 280.

Aug. 22: Instant triple talaq is "manifestly arbitrary", declares a historic 3:2 majority judgment by a multi-faith Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court.

The Edappadi Palaniswami government falls short of a simple majority in the Tamil Nadu Assembly by two MLAs. Nineteen Dhinakaran loyalists withdraw support to the Chief Minister.

Aug. 23: The Kerala High Court rejects the CBI's revision petition against discharging Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan from the SNC Lavalin graft case.

Aug. 24: Privacy is an inherent part of fundamental rights enshrined in the statute, declares a nine-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in a unanimous verdict. However, it is not an absolute right. Overrules Emergency-era *habeas corpus* verdict.

The Supreme Court rips apart its own 2014 judgment upholding Section 377 of the IPC, which criminalises consensual sexual acts of adults in private.

The Infosys board approves the appointment of Nandan Nilekani as non-executive chairman.

Aug. 25: At least 38 persons are



Relatives mourning the death of a child at the BRD Medical College Hospital in Gorakhpur, UP.

killed and more than 250 injured in protests in Panchkula and other parts of Haryana after Dera Sacha Sauda supporters go on a rampage following the conviction of their chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh by a CBI special court for the rape in 2002 of two sadhvis.

Aug. 27: India and China agree to disengage from the 73-day standoff on the Doklam plateau, disputed between China and Bhutan.

Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh is awarded 20 years RI in two rape cases registered in 2002 and a fine of ₹15 lakh in each case, by a Special CBI Court at the Sunaria Jail complex in Rohtak, Haryana.

Justice Dipak Misra takes oath as the 45th Chief Justice of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Aug. 29: Life comes to a standstill in Mumbai as the city records 320 mm rain, highest in a single day since 1997.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee holds talks with Gorkhaland parties. Rejects statehood demand.

Aug. 31: ISRO's PSLV-C39 mission carrying the replacement navigation satellite IRNSS-1H fails, after launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota.

Rajiv Mehreshi is appointed the CAG and Rajiv Gauba is made Home Secretary in his place. Former I&B Secretary Sunil Arora is appointed Election Commissioner.

Six Union Ministers resign to facilitate Cabinet reshuffle.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1: The CBI files a chargesheet against retired Air Chief Marshal S.P. Tyagi, former Air Marshal J.S. Gujral and 10 others in the ₹ 3,700-crore AugustaWestland VVIP helicopter case.

Anitha, a Scheduled Castes stu-

dent who had challenged the NEET in the Supreme Court commits suicide at her home in Kuzhumur village in Ariyalur district, Tamil Nadu.

The Punjab and Haryana High Court keeps in abeyance till March 2018 the implementation of a Haryana law providing quota to Jats and five other communities.

Sept. 3: Nirmala Sitharaman becomes the first woman in India to hold charge of the Defence portfolio full time in a massive reshuffle of the Union Cabinet.

Sept. 5: Senior Kannada journalist and activist Gauri Lankesh is shot dead outside her residence at Raja Rajeshwari Nagar in West Bengaluru.

Sept. 7: A TADA court awards death sentence to Firoz Khan and Taher Merchant. It jails for life two, including gangster Abu Salem, and one to 10 years' RI in the March 12, 1993, Mumbai serial blasts.

Nirmala Sitharaman assumes charge as the nation's first full-time woman Defence Minister.

Sept. 8: West Bengal to be Bangla hereafter.

Pradyuman Thakur, a Class II student, is found dead in a washroom of Ryan International School, Gurugram.

Sept. 10: Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman flags off 'Navika Sagar Parikrama', an attempt by an all-women Navy crew to circumnavigate the globe, at INS Mandovi Naval training base near Panaji, Goa.

Sept. 12: AIADMK general council held in Chennai removes V.K. Sasikala as interim general secretary. All her decisions between December 30, 2016, and February 15, 2017, are declared invalid. The general secretary post is abolished.

Sept. 13: *The Hindu* wins the best news website award at the South Asian Digital Media Awards at the WAN-IFRA India 2017 conference in Chennai.

Sept. 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe lay the foundation stone in Ahmedabad for the country's first ₹1,10,000 crore, 508 km high-speed rail project between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

Sept. 17: Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicates to the nation the Sardar Sarovar Dam at Kevadiya in Narmada district, Gujarat, at a function at Dabhoi, 55 km from the dam site, in Vadodara.

Sept. 18: Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker P. Dhanapal disqualifies 18 rebel AIADMK MLAs owing allegiance to T.T.V. Dhinakaran. Defection rules invoked and they cease to be legislators.

Sept. 20: The West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee reconstitutes Gorkhaland Territorial Administration and appoints rebel GJM leader Binoy Tamang its chairperson.

Sept. 21: Narayan Rane quits the Congress and resigns as Maharashtra MLC.

Sept. 25: The government decides to reconstitute the Economic Advisory Council and picks Bibek Debroy as its Chairman.

Mukul Roy, one of the founding members of the Trinamool Congress quits the party.

Sept. 26: The GJM calls off its stir in Darjeeling after almost 100 days.

Sept. 28: A trial court in Mapusa in north Goa frames rape charges against Tarun Tejpal, former editor-in-chief of *Tehelka*, for the November 2013 sexual abuse of a junior colleague.

Sept. 29: A stampede on the foot overbridge at the Elphinstone Road suburban train station in Mumbai claims 23 lives and leaves 30 injured.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1: The Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple in Madurai, Tamil Nadu is adjudged best Swachh Iconic Place in India.

Oct. 3: The Supreme Court questions the May 24 annulment by the Kerala High Court of an inter-religious marriage that took place in December 2016 and the legality of the woman's father keeping her in his custody.

Oct. 5: Akilesh Yadav is elected Samajwadi Party chief.

Oct. 6: Banwarilal Purohit is sworn in Tamil Nadu Governor at

the Raj Bhavan in Chennai.

Oct. 9: The Gujarat High Court commutes the death term awarded to 11 persons in the 2002 Godhra train arson case to life imprisonment. Upholds life term for 20 others, while endorsing the acquittal of 63 other accused.

The Supreme Court suspends the sale of fire crackers in Delhi and NCR till November 1.

Oct. 11: The Supreme Court holds that sexual intercourse by a man with his wife, who is below 18 years of age, with or without her consent is rape.

The Kerala Cabinet orders a vigilance probe against former Chief Minister Oommen Chandy and two of his Cabinet colleagues in the multi-crore solar scam of 2013.

Trinamool Congress MP Mukul Roy quits the Rajya Sabha and resigns from the primary membership of the party.

Oct. 12: The Allahabad High Court acquits dentist couple Rajesh and Nupur Talwar and quashes their conviction in the May 16, 2008 murder of their teenage daughter Aarushi and domestic help Hemraj in Noida.

Oct. 13: The Supreme Court does a U-turn on its July 27 dowry harassment ruling, saying it blunts the very purpose of Section 498A.

Oct. 16: Rajesh and Nupur Talwar leave Dasna Jail in Ghaziabad, U.P.

Oct. 22: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, inaugurates the first phase of the 'roll-on-roll-off' (Ro-Ro) ferry service between Ghogha in Bhavnagar district, Saurashtra, and Dahej, near Bharuch in south Gujarat, at a rally in Ghogha.

Oct. 23: The Centre appoints former IB chief Dineshwar Sharma as a "special representative" to hold talks on J&K.

Oct. 26: Abdul Karim Telgi 56, convicted for masterminding the multi-crore fake stamp paper racket dies at the Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru.

Oct. 27: The Justice Arumughaswamy Commission begins probe into the circumstances that led to the death of former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Jayalalithaa.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1: Poet critic Satchidanandan is selected by the Kerala government for the 2017 Ezhuthachan Puraskaram.



Journalist Gauri Lankesh.



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Sensex gains 387.14 points to close at a new high of 33,600.27.

Nov. 2: Torrential rain batters Chennai city.

Nov. 3: Former Union Minister Mukul Roy joins the BJP at a function in New Delhi.

Hindi litterateur Krishna Sobti is chosen for the 2017 Jnanpith Award.

Nov. 7: Air pollution in New Delhi reaches severe levels, turning it into a 'gas chamber' and forcing closure of primary schools.

The CBI arrests a 16-year-old Class XI student for the murder of Pradyuman Thakur.

Nov. 9: Nationwide IT raids are carried out on firms and private properties linked to V.K. Sasikala, jailed former aide of late AIADMK leader Jayalalithaa.

Himachal Pradesh records its highest-ever turnout of 74% in Assembly polls.

The Kolkata-Khulna Bandhan Express is flagged off at the Kolkata station by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee through video-conferencing.

Nov. 10: The GST Council at its 23rd meeting in Guwahati, slashes rate on 178 of 228 items from 28% to 18% with effect from November 15.

The Centre grants infrastructure status to the logistics sector.

Nov. 13: The Supreme Court observes that its July 11 order exempting the December 2016 ban on sale of liquor along National and State Highways applies to all municipal areas across the nation.

Nov. 15: Kerala Transport Minister Thomas Chandy resigns in the wake of the High Court passing strictures against him for filing a petition against his own government.

Nov. 16: The Karnataka Prevention and Eradication of Inhuman Evil Practices and Black Magic Bill, 2017 is passed by the Assembly.

Nov. 17: Global credit rating agency Moody's Investors Services raises India's sovereign rating to 'Baa 2' for the first time in 13 years.

IT officials search the residence of late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Jayalalithaa in Chennai.

Nov. 18: Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is chosen for the 2017 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development.

Nov. 22: In a first, India successfully test-fires the air-launched ver-



A candlelight vigil being held in Chennai for Cyclone Ockhi victims.

sion of the Brahmos supersonic air-to-surface cruise missile from an IAF SU-30MKI aircraft.

The Union Cabinet gives nod for the setting up of the 15th Finance Commission.

Nov.23: The Election Commission allots the 'Two Leaves' symbol to the faction led by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami and recognises it as the AIADMK.

Nov. 27: The Supreme Court frees Hadiya, who converted to Islam before marrying Shefin Jehan, from the 11-month custody of her parents and allows her to return to Salem, Tamil Nadu, to finish her internship.

The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court orders the release of all 35 persons on board the U.S. anti-piracy vessel *MV Seaman Guard Ohio* arrested by the 'Q' Branch police in October 2013 for illegal entry.

Nov. 28: Prime Minister Narendra Modi calls upon entrepreneurs from across the globe to "come, make in India, invest in India, for India and for the world", inaugurating the Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Hyderabad.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates the Hyderabad Metro.

Morocco-born French director Robin Campillo's drama *120 BPM* wins the Golden Peacock Award at the 48th IFFI in Panaji, Goa.

Nov. 29: A special court in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, sentences to death three persons for the 2016 rape and murder of a minor girl in Ahmednagar's Kopardi village.

Nov. 30: Cyclone Ockhi wreaks havoc in Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: Heavy rain continues to batter Kerala and south Tamil Nadu, even as Cyclone Ockhi lies centered

off the Lakshadweep islands. Life hit in Kanniyakumari district.

Dec. 2: The Andhra Pradesh Assembly passes the A.P. Kapu (Reservation of seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments or Posts in Services under the State) Bill.

Infosys names Capgemini veteran Salil Parekh as CEO and MD.

Dec. 4: The Madhya Pradesh Assembly passes a Bill awarding death to those found guilty of raping girls aged 12 and below.

The Criminal Laws (Rajasthan Amendment) Ordinance, 2017, lapses.

Rebel JD (U) MPs Sharad Yadav and Ali Anwar are disqualified from the Rajya Sabha.

Gauri Memorial Trust launched.

Dec. 6: India's global initiative, the International Solar Alliance, comes into existence.

Karnataka High Court restrains the State government from taking action against Ravi Belagere, editor of *Hi Bangalore*, and Anil Raj, editor and publisher of *Yelahanka Voice*.

Dec. 7: Mohammad Afrazul Khan, a labourer is burnt alive by Shambhu Lal Raigar, a resident of Rajnagar in Rajasthan's Rajsamand district.

Dec. 11: Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi is elected unopposed as INC president.

Dec. 12: A trial court in Tirupur, Coimbatore, awards death penalty to six persons for the March 13, 2016 murder of Dalit youth Shankar in Udumalpet for marrying a caste Hindu girl Kausalya.

The Ernakulam principal sessions court awards the death penalty to Muhammed Ameerul Islam of Assam for the April 28, 2016 rape and murder of a law student at her house in Vattolipadi near Perumbavoor, near Kochi, Kerala.

Dec. 13: The Supreme Court stays the NCLT order allowing the Centre to take over realty firm Unitech Ltd.

The Supreme Court gives its nod for the Centre's scheme to set up 12 fast track courts to try cases against tainted politicians.

Dec. 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi commissions INS Kalvari, the first of six Scorpene submarines into the Navy in Mumbai.

Dec. 15: The Karnataka High Court declares as unconstitutional the Cigarette and other Tobacco



Rahul Gandhi

Products (Packaging and Labelling) Amendment Rules, 2014 on enhanced pictorial warning.

Dec. 16: Rahul Gandhi takes charge as Congress president.

A special court in Delhi awards three years' RI to former Jharkhand Chief Minister Madhu Koda and three others in a coal block allocation scam case.

Dec. 17: IAF's Mi-8 helicopter takes the bow after 45 years, at the Air Force Station in Yelahanka, Bengaluru.

Dec. 18: The BJP wins in Gujarat Assembly elections (held on December 9 and 14), with 99 seats. It wrests Himachal Pradesh from the Congress.

Dec. 19: The Rajya Sabha passes the IIM Bill, 2017. Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2017, is passed by voice vote.

The Lok Sabha passes two bills to repeal 245 obsolete laws.

Dec. 20: Former Calcutta High Court judge C.S. Karnan is released from Kolkata's Presidency Correctional Home.

The CBI moves the Supreme Court against the discharge of Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan by the High Court in the SNC Lavalin corruption case.

Dec. 21: A Delhi court acquits former Telecom Minister A. Raja, DMK Rajya Sabha MP Kanimozhi and 15 others in the 2G spectrum allocation scam case.

Tamil poet and dramatist Inquilab is selected posthumously for the Sahitya Akademi Award for 2017. But his family declines it.

Dec. 22: The Bombay High Court quashes the Governor's sanction to prosecute former Maharashtra Chief Minister Ashok Chavan in the 2010 Adarsh housing society scam.

The SEBI raids 34 entities in Mumbai and Delhi, as part of a

probe into alleged leak of sensitive financial information.

Dec. 23: The former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad and 15 others are convicted in a fodder scam case by a special CBI court in Ranchi.

Dec. 24: T.T.V. Dhinakaran, AIADMK dissident leader, scores a massive victory in the December 21 bypolls to the R.K. Nagar Assembly seat in Chennai.

Dec. 26: Vijay Rupani is sworn in as Gujarat's 16th Chief Minister.

Dec. 27: Jairam Thakur is sworn in Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister.

Eight accused in the 2008 Malegaon blasts case to stand trial on terror charges, rules a special NIA court in Mumbai.

Dec. 28: The Lok Sabha passes The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2017 that makes instant talaq a criminal offence, with a jail term up to three years.

Dec. 29: At least 14 persons are killed and 54 injured after a fire at 1 Above and Mojo restaurants in the Kamala Mills Compound, Mumbai.

The Lok Sabha passes the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2017.

The National Medical Commission Bill, 2017 which seeks to replace the MCI with a new body is tabled in Lok Sabha.

Dec. 30: Work begins on turning the residence of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa in Chennai into a public memorial.

Dec. 31: Tamil actor Rajinikanth announces entry into politics.

Assam publishes the first draft of an updated National Register of Citizens listing 1.9 crore names.

Five CRPF jawans are killed after ultras target a training centre at Lethpora in Pulwama, J&K. Telangana rolls out 24-hour free power supply to farmers.



Rajinikanth

INTERNATIONAL

JANUARY

Jan. 1: Thirtynine persons, including many foreigners are killed, as a gunman goes on a rampage at the Reina nightclub in Turkey's capital Istanbul.

A landmark deal is reached to end a political crisis in DR Congo.

Jan. 4: The Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) detectors in the U.S. detect yet another merger of two black holes.

Jan. 8: Damien Chazelle's whimsical modern-day musical *La La Land* bags seven statuettes at the Golden Globes ceremony in Los Angeles.

Jan. 10: White supremacist Dylann Roof gets the death sentence for the 2015 killing of nine black persons at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, U.S.

"Let's be vigilant, but not afraid", says U.S. President Barack Obama at his farewell speech in Chicago.

Jan. 17: The deep-sea search for the Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 that vanished in 2014 with 239 persons on board ends.

Jan. 19: Mexico extradites drug kingpin Joaquin 'El Chapo' Guzman to the U.S. to stand trial.

Jan. 20: Donald J. Trump takes oath as the 45th President of the U.S. in Washington D.C. Signs an executive order to roll back parts of Obamacare.

Jan. 23: U.S. President Donald Trump signs a memo to pull America out of the vast Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact, signed by 12 countries in 2015.

Jan. 25: U.S. President Donald Trump issues an executive order for an "impassable physical barrier" along the border with Mexico.

Indian-American Nikki Haley is sworn in as the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

Jan. 27: U.S. President Donald Trump issues an executive order barring refugees from seven Muslim-majority countries entering the nation.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1: British MPs vote by 498 to 114 to support the European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill.

Feb. 4: The U.S. suspends its ban on travellers from seven Muslim-majority nations.



Donald Trump during his swearing-in at the US Capitol in Washington, DC.

Feb. 8: The House of Commons passes the Brexit bill without any amendments.

Feb. 9: The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco upholds a nationwide stay on the 90-day travel ban imposed by the Trump administration.

Feb. 12: British star Adele creates history by winning the album, song and record of the year for her comeback album 25 at the 59th Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, U.S.

Feb. 13: AP photographer Burhan Ozbilici wins the 2017 World Press Photo Competition for his image of a gun-wielding off-duty policeman, who killed Russia's Ambassador Andrei Karlov on December 19, 2016.

Kim Jong-nam, the half-brother of North Korean President, Kim Jong-un is assassinated by two women spy agents of Pyongyang at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Malaysia.

Michael Flynn, National Security Adviser to U.S. President, Donald Trump, resigns over his Russia contacts.

Feb. 16: At least 88 persons are killed and 200 injured after an IS suicide bomber strikes at the Sufi shrine of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar in Sehwan city of Sindh, Pakistan.

Samsung Group chief Jay Y. Lee is arrested for his alleged role in a corruption scandal that led to the impeachment of South Korean President Park Geun-hye.

Feb. 18: Hungarian filmmaker Imre Gyöngy's love story *On Body and Soul* wins the Golden Bear at the Berlin Film Festival.

Feb. 22: Srinivas Kuchibhotla, an Indian engineer, is killed and his friend Alok Madasani injured by Navy veteran Adam Purinton at a bar

Mubarak is freed after six years in custody.

March 25: U.S. President Donald Trump's bid to repeal Obamacare fails amid rebellion among GOP lawmakers.

EU leaders sign a formal declaration of unity in Rome, marking the bloc's 60th anniversary.

March 26: Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, a Beijing backed civil servant, is chosen the first woman Chief Executive of Hong Kong by a 1,200 person "election committee".

March 28: U.S. President Donald Trump signs an executive order to undo a slew of Obama-era climate change regulations, mainly the Clean Power Plan.

British Prime Minister Theresa May triggers Article 50.

March 31: At least 314 people are killed and 332 injured in a mudslide following heavy rains that caused three rivers to flood Mocoa town in Colombia's Amazon basin.

APRIL

April 1: Venezuela's Supreme Court abandons measures to seize power from the Opposition-controlled Parliament.

April 3: Fourteen persons are killed and 50 injured after a blast rocks a train carriage in the St. Petersburg metro in Russia.

Socialist Lenin Moreno wins Ecuador presidential polls.

April 4: At least 83 civilians are killed and 300 injured after a warplane carries out strikes releasing toxic gas in the Syrian town of Khan Sheikhun in Idlib province.

April 7: Leading Venezuela Opposition leader Henrique Capriles is banned from running for office for 15 years.

April 9: France publishes a decree for closing its oldest nuclear



A member of the public being treated near Westminster Bridge in London after a terror attack.

plant at Fessenheim near the border with Germany.

April 10: A Pakistani military court sentences to death a former Indian Navy officer Kulbhushan Jadhav, accusing him of espionage.

The Pulitzer Prize for national reporting is bagged by David Fahrenthold of *The Washington Post*. The Pulitzer for commentary goes to Peggy Noonan of *The Wall Street Journal*. The coveted Public Service medal is picked up by *New York Daily News*.

April 11: Dr. Mark Arnold Wainberg 71, Canadian microbiologist dies after a drowning incident while on vacation in Florida, U.S.

April 13: The U.S. drops GBU-43/B, a Massive Ordnance Air Bomb, a 9,797 kg GPS-guided bomb, on an IS base in the Achin district of Nangarhar province in Afghanistan, leaving 92 dead.

April 15: At least 126 persons, including 80 children are killed as a blast rips through an area west of Aleppo in Syria.

April 18: British Prime Minister Theresa May announces plans to hold snap polls on June 8.

Industrialist Vijay Mallya is arrested in London based on an extradition warrant.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull announces scrapping of the "457" visa programme that allowed local firms to hire Indians in a number of skilled jobs.

APRIL 20:

A police officer Xavier Jugele is killed and two other officers and a tourist are injured in Paris when a gunman opens fire on a police van parked on the Avenue des Champs Elysees. The attacker is later killed.

April 21: At least 140 soldiers are killed and 60 wounded after Taliban militants attack the headquarters of the Afghan army's 209th corps in Balkh near Mazar-e-Sharif.

April 23: Prominent Maldivian blogger Yameen Rasheed is stabbed to death in Male.

April 24: Man Kaur 101, wins the 100 metres sprint at the World Masters Game in Auckland, New Zealand, the 17th gold medal for the Indian athlete, dubbed the "miracle from Chandigarh".

April 29: The first freight train to run from Britain to China arrives in Yiwu in eastern China.

April 31: Nepal's first woman Chief Justice Sushila Karki is sus-

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8 **DIARY OF EVENTS 2017**

DELHI THE HINDU

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2018

pending on the registration of an impeachment motion in Parliament.

MAY

May 1: SpaceX launches first U.S. military satellite known only as NROL-76 from Cape Canaveral.

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro issues a decree for writing a new Constitution, hours after a big march demanding his ouster ends in clashes between police and protestors.

May 4: The U.S. House of Representatives passes the Obamacare repeal Bill.

May 8: Emmanuel Macron scores a resounding victory over his National Front rival Marine Le Pen in the French presidential runoff.

May 9: The International Court of Justice at The Hague stays the death sentence imposed by Pakistan on former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav till further orders.

U.S. President Donald Trump dismisses James Comey as FBI Director.

May 10: Moon Jae-in is sworn in South Korea's new President, just a day after a landslide election victory, at Seoul's National Assembly building.

May 13: Pope Francis canonises two shepherd siblings believed to have seen the Madonna 100 years ago as Catholic Church's youngest saints at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Portugal.

May 14: North Korea fires a ballistic missile 'Hwasong-12' that lands in the sea near Russia.

Emmanuel Macron officially takes over as President of France.

May 15: Life is disrupted and universities, hospitals and businesses are badly hit across 150 countries as a malware hits about 2,00,000 terminals, demanding money in return for unfreezing computers.

May 17: Pvt. Chelsea Manning, the soldier sentenced to 35 years in a military prison for giving classified materials to WikiLeaks walks free from the Fort Leavenworth lockup in Kansas.

The U.S. Justice Department appoints former FBI Director Robert Mueller as special counsel to oversee the agency's investigation into alleged meddling by Russia in the 2016 presidential polls.

May 18: The ICJ at The Hague stays the execution of former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav, pending its final judgment.



People being escorted from the Manchester Arena in Manchester, England after a suicide attack.

May 19: The Japanese government approves a one-off bill allowing Emperor Akihito to abdicate.

May 20: Iran's President Hasan Rouhani is re-elected for a second four-year term by a wide margin.

May 22: At least 22 persons are killed and 100 injured in a suicide attack at the close of a pop concert featuring American singer Ariana Grande at the Manchester Arena in England.

May 24: Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' resigns.

May 28: Swedish film *The Square* directed by Ruben Ostlund, bags the Palme d'Or at the 70th Cannes Film Festival.

May 31: Ninety persons are killed and 400 injured in a massive suicide truck bombing in the Wazi Akbar Khan diplomatic area of Kabul, Afghanistan.

JUNE

June 1: India and Russia sign the much-awaited agreement on setting up two more units of the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant in Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu after talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin in St. Petersburg.

Indian-American Ananya Vinay, a 12-year-old from Fresno, California is crowned champion at the 90th Scripps National Spelling Bee contest in Washington.

The U.S. stops implementation of its commitments under the Paris climate agreement signed by 195 countries on December 12, 2015.

June 2: Leo Varadkar, an Indian-origin doctor and Ireland's first openly gay Minister wins leadership role for the Fine Gael party to become PM-in-waiting.

June 3: Seven persons are killed and 48 injured following an attack

by three assailants who drive a van at high speed on London Bridge before assaulting people around Borough Market. They are shot dead by police.

June 5: Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the UAE and Bahrain sever diplomatic ties with Qatar over its alleged support for Islamists and Iran.

June 6: Sher Bahadur Deuba is elected Nepal Prime Minister for the fourth time.

June 7: At least 17 persons are killed and more than 50 wounded as gunmen and suicide bombers attack Iran's Parliament in Tehran and the shrine of Ayatollah Khomeini outside the capital.

June 8: Britons cast votes in snap general election.

June 9: Conservatives fall short of majority winning 318 seats well short of the 326 mark. Labour Party bags 261 seats. DUP, the largest unionist party in Northern Ireland agrees to support May government.

India and Pakistan are admitted to the Shanghai Cooperation Corporation as full members at a ceremony in Kazakhstan capital Astana.

June 11: *Dear Evan Hansen*, an edgy new tale of millennial angst wins six awards at the 71st annual Tony Awards hosted by the CBS at the Radio City Music Hall in New York city.

June 14: At least 79 persons are killed and many injured following a devastating fire at Grenfell Tower, a 24-storey residential block in Kensington, West London, home to 120 apartments, close to Notting Hill.

Israeli author David Grossman is presented the Man Booker International Prize for his book, *A Horse Walks Into a Bar*, at a ceremony in London. He shares the £50,000 award with translator Jessica Cohen.

June 15: The U.S. Senate passes a sanctions bill targeting Iran and Russia.

Neeru Chadha becomes the first Indian Woman to be elected a judge of the Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS).

June 16: Pop superstar Katy Perry makes history by becoming the first user to garner 100 million followers on Twitter.

June 17: Philippine troops pound Islamists holding parts of southern Marawi city with air strikes and artillery. Toll crosses 300 in about a month of fighting.

Seven U.S. sailors on board a Na-

vy guided missile destroyer USS *Fitzgerald* are killed after a collision with ACX Crystal, a Philippines container ship south of Tokyo Bay off the coast of Japan.

June 19: French President Emmanuel Macron's Republic on the Move and its centrist ally MoDem win 350 seats in the 577-seat National Assembly, which will have a record 224 women lawmakers.

Otto F. Warmbier, a student of Virginia University and Ohio native, dies comatose at a Cincinnati hospital just days after release from North Korea, which held him prisoner for 17 months since January 2016.

June 21: Saudi Arabia's King Salman ousts his nephew Mohammed bin Nayef as Crown Prince and installs his son Mohammad bin Salman.

Uber CEO Travis Kalanick quits the ride-sharing company.

The 850-year-old Grand al-Nuri Mosque, along with its famous minaret known as "the hunchback" that towered over Mosul, are destroyed by retreating IS militants.

June 22: Former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav files a mercy petition with Qamar Javed Bajwa, Pakistan Army chief.

June 23: Seventythree persons are killed and 140 injured in a suicide car bomb attack in Quetta and two blasts in Parichanar, Pakistan.

June 26: The U.S. Supreme Court revives parts of President Donald Trump's travel ban on people from six Muslim-majority countries.

China releases Nobel Peace Laureate Liu Xiaobo on medical parole for treatment of late-stage liver cancer.

June 27: The European Commission slaps a record €2.4 billion (\$2.7 billion) anti-trust fine on Google.

Colombia's leftist FARC rebel



Israeli author David Grossman and his U.S. translator Jessica Cohen after winning the Man Booker International Prize.

force declares its disarmament complete, bringing Latin America's oldest civil conflict close to an end.

Venezuela's army is put on alert after four grenades are hurled from a chopper at the Supreme Court and the Interior Ministry is strafed in the capital Caracas.

June 29: The 'caliphate' crumbles in Iraq as troops capture the historic al Nuri Mosque's ground in Mosul in a "lightning operation".

The Trump travel ban on six Muslim majority nations of Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen comes into effect in the U.S.

June 30: Germany's Parliament in a historic vote legalises same-sex marriage.

JULY

July 1: China's President Xi Jinping warns critics against crossing the "red line" in Hong Kong in a televised address after swearing in Carrie Lam as the region's new Chief Executive.

July 2: Israel's former President Ehud Olmert leaves prison after a parole board grants him early release.

The world's oldest emergency helpline 999 completes 80 years of its existence in the U.K.

July 3: China opens itself to foreign investors through its Bond Connect scheme.

July 4: North Korea claims to have test-launched Hwasong-14, its first ICBM.

July 5: India and Israel announce a strategic partnership after a meeting between Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem.

Pro-Government activists storm the grounds of Venezuela's National Assembly and attack lawmakers.

July 7: Over 122 nations adopt a global treaty banning nuclear weapons, at the U.N.

July 8: The G20 summit in Hamburg strikes a deal on trade.

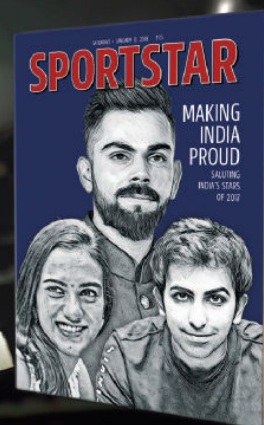
July 9: Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi declares victory in the liberated city of Mosul after a nearly nine-month battle with the IS.

July 11: The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights 'confirms' the death of IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, in a Russian airstrike in June on the outskirts of Raqqa.

July 12: Brazil's former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva is convicted on corruption charges in the first of the five graft trials he faces and sen-

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tenced to nine-and-a-half years in prison.

July 13: Liu Xiaobo, 61, Nobel Peace laureate dies in custody at a hospital in Shenyang.

July 17: U.S. President Donald Trump recertifies Iran nuclear deal.

July 18: Republican efforts to overhaul or repeal Obamacare collapses in the U.S. Senate.

July 19: Puerto Rican singer Luis Fonsi's *Despacito* is named the most streamed song of all time.

July 20: Chester Charles Bennington 41, American singer and songwriter best known as the frontman for the rock band Linkin Park is found dead in his home in Palos Verdes Estates, California, U.S.

July 26: The U.S. imposes sanctions on Venezuela.

July 27: Getsie Shanmugam, a Sri Lankan teacher and Yoshiaki Ishizawa, a Japanese historian, among the six named winners of the Ramon Magsaysay Awards for 2017.

July 28: Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif resigns after the Supreme Court disqualifies him from office over undeclared assets.

The U.S. Senate passes a Bill imposing sanctions against Russia, Iran and North Korea.

The U.S. Senate votes 51 to 49, rejecting the Obamacare repeal bill.

July 30: Venezuelans begin voting for a Constituent Assembly.

AUGUST

Aug 1: Shahid Khaqan Abbasi is sworn in as Pakistan's Prime Minister.

Aug. 2: U.S. President Donald Trump signs into law new sanctions against Russia over interference in the 2016 presidential polls.

Prince Philip of England retires from public life.

Scientists for the first time have successfully edited genes in human embryos to repair a common and serious disease causing mutation, according to a study published in journal *Nature*.

Aug. 3: Iranian President Hassan Rouhani is sworn into office for the second term by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Aug. 5: The U.N. Security Council unanimously imposes new sanctions on North Korea in response to five nuclear tests and four long-range missile launches.

Rwandan President Paul Kagame wins a third term, polling 98% of the vote.



An evacuee holding two dogs reacts after his rescue by the Texas National Guardsmen.

Aug. 6: Venezuela crushes a military rebellion.

Aug. 8: ASEAN turns 50.

Aug. 11: President Uhuru Kenyatta is declared winner of the Kenyan presidential polls.

Aug. 12: A paralegal Heather Heyer, and two police officers are killed and 19 injured as 'Unite the Right', a White nationalist rally against the statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee from a park in Charlottesville, Virginia, U.S., turns violent.

Aug. 14: At least 450 persons, 105 of them children are killed and more than 20,000 left homeless after heavy flooding hits Sierra Leone's capital Freetown.

Aug. 17: Thirteen persons are killed and 100 injured as a van ploughs into crowds at the Las Ramblas avenue, a tourist hub in Barcelona, Spain.

Aug. 18: Five suspects are shot dead by the Spanish police after they try to drive into tourists in the Catalan seaside town of Cambrils, near Barcelona, leaving a woman dead and seven wounded.

Venezuela's Constituent Assembly assumes power to pass laws superseding the Opposition-led Congress.

Aug. 21: Ten U.S. sailors go missing and five are injured after the guided-missile destroyer *USS John McCain* and a Liberian-flagged oil tanker *Alnic Mc* collide in Singaporean territorial waters.

The iconic 13.7-tonne Big Ben in London falls silent for a four-year repair.

Aug. 25: At least 92 persons, including 59 militants are killed in Myanmar's Rakhine state after the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army launches a coordinated attack on 30 police posts and an Army base.

Jay Y. Lee, the head of South Korea's Samsung Group, is sentenced to five years in jail for bribery by the Seoul Central District Court.

Aug. 27: Hurricane Harvey wreaks havoc in Texas. National Weather Services calls it an 'unprecedented event'.

Aug. 28: More than 1 million people are displaced and 44 killed, including six of a family as Hurricane Harvey swamps Houston.

Aug. 30: The U.S. approves the first gene therapy in the nation to fight childhood leukemia.

Aug. 31: Nearly 400 Rohingya insurgents are killed in clashes and Myanmar Army crackdown, reveal new official data. Around 73,000 have crossed into Bangladesh, says the UNHCR.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1: Kenya's Supreme Court annuls President Uhuru Kenyatta's election.

Sept. 3: North Korea tests a hydrogen bomb at its Punggye-ri Nuclear Weapons Institute generating a 6.8 magnitude tremor felt in South Korea and China.

NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson returns to Earth aboard a Soyuz capsule and lands in Kazakhstan after spending 665 days in space, setting a record for the longest time in orbit by any woman.

Sept. 4: The ninth BRICS summit in Xiamen, China, declares Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad and LeT as terror organisations.

Sept. 5: The U.S. ends the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, an Obama-era reform measure that protected from deportation people who had entered the nation illegally as children.

Sept. 7: At least 21 persons are killed as Hurricane Irma, the longest-lasting superstorm on record, roars through the Caribbean.

At least 61 persons are killed after an 8.2 magnitude earthquake rocks Mexico.

Sept. 9: *The Shape of Water*, a dazzling sci-fi romance by Mexican director Guillermo Del Toro wins the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival.

Sept. 12: British MPs vote in favour of the EU Withdrawal Bill.

Father Thomas Uzhunnalil, a Silesian priest from Kottayam, Kerala is freed by his Yemeni abductors after being in captivity since March 4, 2016.

Sept. 15: At least 30 persons are injured as an IED triggers an explosion on a rush-hour tube train at Parsons Green in southwest London.

After 20 years in space, NASA's Cassini spacecraft makes its final death plunge into Saturn.

Sept. 17: *Veep* and *The Handmaid's Tale* win top series honours at the 69th Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles, U.S.

Sept. 19: At least 233 persons are killed as a 7.1 magnitude earthquake, with its epicentre in the state of Puebla, rocks Mexico.

Sept. 21: U.S. President Donald Trump signs new sanctions targeting the textiles, fishing and IT industries of North Korea.

Sept. 22: French President Emmanuel Macron signs sweeping changes to the country's complex labour code into law.

Sept. 24: German Chancellor Angela Merkel wins a fourth term in office. Her conservative bloc's support slumps to its lowest since 1949.

U.S. President Donald Trump issues a new open-ended travel ban involving North Korea, Venezuela and Chad and extends it to five countries – Iran, Libya, Somalia, Syria, Yemen.

Sept. 25: The Republicans' bid to "repeal and replace" the 'Obamacare' legislation fails for the second time in the U.S. Senate.

Sept. 26: Saudi Arabia decides to allow women to drive. King Salman's decree will take effect in June 2018.

Sept. 27: Thailand's top court sentences ousted Premier Yingluck Shinawatra in absentia to five years in prison for criminal negligence.

Sept. 28: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe dissolves the Lower House of Parliament and calls for snap elections.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1: At least 59 persons are



Belongings lying scattered at the site of a mass shooting in Las Vegas.

killed and 527 injured after a gunman Stephen Paddock opens fire on concert goers during the outdoor Route 91 Harvest country music festival from the 32nd floor of an adjacent hotel in the Las Vegas strip, Nevada, U.S. He is later found dead.

Catalans cast votes in independence referendum.

Oct. 2: Americans Jeffrey C. Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michael W. Young are awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Oct. 3: U.S. astrophysicists Rainer Weiss, Barry Barish and Kip Thorne are awarded the Nobel Physics Prize.

Oct. 4: A trio of Swiss, American and British scientists – Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson – is awarded the Nobel Chemistry Prize.

Oct. 5: British author Kazuo Ishiguro is named winner of the Nobel Literature Prize.

Oct. 6: Nuclear disarmament campaign group, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), wins the Nobel Peace Prize.

Oct. 9: U.S. economist Richard H. Thaler wins the Nobel Prize for Economics.

Oct. 12: The U.S. and Israel announce withdrawal from the UNESCO.

Rival Palestinian factions Hamas and Fatah sign a reconciliation deal following talks mediated by Egypt.

Oct. 13: U.S. President Donald Trump announces his decision to disavow the Iran nuclear deal.

Oct. 14: At least 512 persons are killed and 312 injured in a massive truck bombing in the Somalia capital Mogadishu.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences expels Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein over allegations of sexual harassment and assault dating back decades.

Oct. 15: Sebastian Kurz, Austrian Foreign Minister, propels his People's Party to first place in parliamentary polls.

Oct. 17: U.S. author George Saunders wins Britain's Man Booker Prize for 2017 for his first full-length novel *Lincoln in the Bardo*.

Oct. 18: The FDA gives nod for a second gene therapy for blood cancer using the CAR-T technology, in which T cells from patient's blood are reprogrammed to fight lymphoma.

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Oct. 22: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe sweeps to a resounding victory in snap elections.

The body of an American toddler Sherin Mathews, reported missing by her adoptive father Wesley Mathews, is found in Richardson, Texas.

Oct. 23: Wesley Mathews is arrested by Richardson police.

Oct. 24: The Communist Party of China enshrines the "Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era" in its Constitution at the closing session of the 19th Party Congress in Beijing.

U.S. President Donald Trump's 120-day travel ban on refugees ends.

Oct. 27: Spain sacks Catalonia's government, dissolves Parliament and calls a snap election.

A federal grand jury in Washington approves the filing of first charges in the probe into alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

Oct. 30: Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta is declared winner of the protest-hit election.

Oct. 31: Eight persons, including five Argentinians and a Belgian are killed and 12, including two children are injured after a terror suspect drives a truck along a bicycle path in Lower Manhattan, New York City.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 4: Al-Waleed bin Talal, prominent billionaire and grandson of Saudi Arabia's founder Abdulaziz ibn Saud, among "Princes, four current Ministers and dozens of ex-Ministers arrested in a sweeping purge in the desert kingdom.

Nov. 5: At least 26 persons are killed and 20 wounded as Devin Patrick Kelley, a former member of the U.S. Air Force opens fire at a gathering at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs in south Texas.

The U.S.-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists releases 'Paradise Papers', data from a leak of 13.4 million files that reveals the names of the world's rich and elite, who parked their wealth in secretive tax havens.

Nov. 6: Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe sacks Vice-President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

Nov. 7: In a blow to U.S. President Donald Trump, Democrats sweep state and international polls in Virginia, New Jersey and New York.

Nov. 8: Spain's Constitutional Court officially annuls the Catalan Parliament's October 27 unilateral



A scene of devastation in the Iranian town of Sarpol-e Zahab in the western Kermanshah province.

declaration of independence.

Nov. 11: Chief Justice of Bangladesh Surendra Kumar Sinha resigns.

Ministers from 11 Asia-Pacific nations "agree on the core elements" of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership on the sidelines of the APEC summit in Danang, Vietnam.

Nov. 12: At least 530 persons are killed and 7,460 injured as a 7.3-magnitude earthquake hits Kermanshah along the Iran-Iraq border.

Nov. 15: Zimbabwe's military seizes power and confines President Robert Mugabe to his home in the capital Harare.

Nov. 16: Puerto Rican singer Luis Fonsi's viral dance hit *Despacito* bags four major awards at the Latin Grammys at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, U.S.

Nov. 18: India's Manushi Chhillar is crowned Miss World 2017 in Sanya on the Chinese island of Hainan.

Sri Lankan writer Anuk Arudpragasam wins the 2017 DSC Prize for South Asian Literature for his debut novel, *The Story of a Brief Marriage* at the Dhaka Lit Fest.

Nov. 19: The Central Committee of ZANU-PF sacks President Robert Mugabe as the party leader and replaces him with former Vice-President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

Charles Manson 83, convicted for the brutal August 1969 killings of nine individuals in California, dies at a hospital.

High stakes coalition talks collapse in Germany.

Nov. 20: U.S. President Donald Trump declares North Korea a state sponsor of terrorism at the start of a White House Cabinet meeting.

India's Dalveer Bhandari is re-elected a judge of the ICJ at The Hague.

Nov. 21: Zimbabwe President Robert Gabriel Mugabe resigns.

Nov. 22: 'Butcher of Bosnia' Ratko Mladic is found guilty of genocide and war crimes in the 1992-1995 Balkan conflicts and sentenced to life imprisonment by U.N. judges at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia at The Hague.

The Lahore High Court orders the release of Hafiz Saeed, the chief of Jamaat-ud-Dawa.

Saad Hariri shelves his decision to resign as Lebanon Prime Minister, a day after his return from Saudi Arabia.

Nov. 23: Bangladesh and Myanmar sign an MoU on the repatriation of Rohingyas in Naypyidaw.

Nov. 24: At least 305 people are killed and 128 wounded after gunmen target worshippers at a Sufi Mosque in Al Rawdah in Bir al-Abed in Egypt's North Sinai province.

Emmerson Mnangagwa is sworn in Zimbabwe President at a ceremony in the capital Harare.

A South African appeals court increases Paralympic champion Oscar Pistorius' jail term to 13 years and five months for the 2013 murder of his girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp.

Nov. 26: Demi-Leigh Nel-Peters is crowned Miss Universe 2017 at the 66th Miss Universe competition in Las Vegas, U.S.

Nov. 28: Uhuru Kenyatta is sworn in Kenyan President for a second term.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: U.S. President Donald Trump's former NSA, Michael Flynn, pleads guilty to the FBI about conversations with Russian Ambassador Sergey I. Kislyak in December 2106, in a federal court in Washington.

Dec. 4: Yemen's veteran former President Ali Abdullah Saleh is shot dead by former Houthis allies in a roadside attack on his convoy outside the capital Sana'a.

The U.S. Supreme Court authorises full enforcement of President Donald Trump's revised travel ban.

Dec. 6: U.S. President Donald Trump recognises Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

"The Silence Breakers," the vanguard of #Me Too, a global movement by millions of women to share their stories of sexual harassment and abuse named Time magazine's Person of the Year.

Dec. 7: Clashes erupt in West

Bank, Gaza Strip following U.S. decision on Jerusalem.

Australia legalises same-sex marriage.

Dec. 8: Britain and the EU reach a historic deal on Brexit divorce terms after talks in Brussels.

The plenary meeting of the Wassenaar Arrangement in Vienna, Austria decides to admit India as the 42nd member of the elite club.

Dec. 9: Sri Lanka formally hands over Hambantota port to China on a 99-year lease.

Dec. 10: Beatrice Fihn, leader of the ICAN is presented the Nobel Peace Prize won by the coalition at a function in Oslo.

Dec. 11: Saudi Arabia lifts a decades-long ban on cinemas.

Dec. 12: Russia begins withdrawal of troops from Syria.

Doug Jones becomes the first Democrat to win an Alabama Senate seat in 25 years.

Dec. 13: The British government suffers a major Brexit Bill defeat in Parliament.

Nepal's Left alliance wins majority in provincial and parliamentary polls.

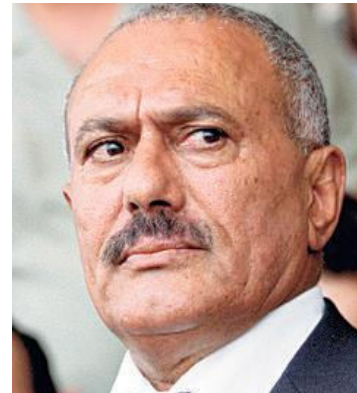
The 11th ministerial meeting of the WTO in Argentina ends in discord.

Dec. 17: Sebastian Pinera wins Chile's presidency in the runoff vote.

French sailor Francois Gabart completes the fastest non-stop solo navigation of the world in 42 days and 16 hours.

Dec. 18: U.S. President Donald Trump announces a new national security strategy in Washington.

The U.S. vetoes the UN Security Council call for the Trump declaration



Former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

tion on Jerusalem to be withdrawn, even as 14 members vote in favour of the Egypt-drafted resolution.

Austria's far-Right is sworn in part of the new government under Chancellor Sebastian Kurz.

Dec. 20: The U.S. Senate approves a sweeping tax bill, which the House had passed a day earlier.

Dec. 21: The U.N. General Assembly adopts a motion rejecting U.S. President Donald Trump's declaration of Jerusalem as Israel capital.

Dec. 22: Separatists win 70 of the 135 seats in Catalonia polls.

U.S. President Donald Trump signs into law a sweeping overhaul of the nation's tax code.

The U.N. slaps new sanctions on North Korea for its November 28 ICBM test.

At least 300 persons are killed and 70,000 displaced as tropical storm Tembin lashes Mindanao island, Philippines.

Dec. 23: A federal judge in Seattle partially blocks President Donald Trump's newest curbs on refugee admissions.

Dec. 24: Former Peruvian leader Alberto Fujimori is granted pardon.

Dec. 25: Former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav meets his mother and wife in Islamabad.

Dec. 26: China jails for eight years Wu Gan, a prominent rights activist, for subversion.

At least 68 people are killed in two Saudi-led air raids in Yemen.

Egypt hangs 15 persons convicted of attacking security forces in Sinai Peninsula in 2013.

Dec. 28: More than 40 persons are killed and 84 wounded after suicide bombers storm a Shia cultural centre in Kabul.

Former football star George Weah wins Liberian presidential runoff vote.

Dec. 29: At least nine persons are killed as a gunman opens fire outside a Coptic church in Egypt.

Dec. 31: Iran cuts access to social media following unrest that leaves 10 dead.

At least 18 persons are killed after a suicide attack on a funeral in Jalalabad, Afghanistan.

Ten Americans among 12 killed in a plane crash in Costa Rica.

Richard Cousins, chief executive of British catering giant Compass, among six killed in a plane crash near Sydney, Australia.

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OBITUARY

JANUARY

Jan. 2: John Berger, 90, British art critic, in the Paris suburb of Antony.

Jan. 6: Om Puri, 66, veteran actor, at his residence in Andheri, Mumbai.

Jan. 8: Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, 82, former Iranian President, of a heart attack at a hospital in Tehran.

Jan. 10: Clare Hollingworth, 105, British journalist who broke the news of the outbreak of World War II, in Hong Kong.

Jan. 12: William Peter Blatty, 89, American writer of the 1971 horror novel and Oscar-winning movie *The Exorcist* at a hospital in Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.

Jan. 14: Surjit Singh Barnala, 91, former Punjab Chief Minister, at the PGIMER, Chandigarh.

Jan. 16: Eugene Andrew Cernan, 82, U.S. astronaut, at a hospital in Houston, Texas.

Professor C.V. Vishveshwara, 77, who did pioneering work on black holes, in Bengaluru.

Jan. 26: Alexander Mikhailovich Kadakin, 67, Russian Ambassador to India, in New Delhi.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1: E.Ahmed, 78, former Union Minister and Malappuram MP, in New Delhi.

Nirmal Shekar (60), former Sports Editor of *The Hindu* and former Editor of *Sportstar*, in Chennai.

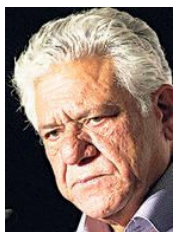
Feb. 5: Srilata Swaminathan, 74, veteran CPI (ML) leader, in Udaipur, Rajasthan.

Feb. 18: Norma McCorvey, 69, whose legal challenge under the pseudonym "Jane Roe" led to the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 ruling that legalised abortion, in Texas.

Feb. 19: Altamas Kabir, 68, former CJI, in Kolkata.

MARCH

March 4: Syed Shahabuddin, 82,



Om Puri



Hashemi Rafsanjani



Nirmal Shekar



Altamas Kabir



Ashokamitran



Vinod Khanna



Gregg Allman



Roger Moore

former MP, at Noida, UP.

Dr. Thomas Starzl, 90, liver transplant pioneer, in Pittsburgh, U.S.

March 6: Rabi Ray, 91, former Speaker of the Lok Sabha, in Cuttack, Odisha.

March 18: Chuck Berry, 90, U.S. Rock n' Roll pioneer, in Missouri.

March 20: David Rockefeller, 101, U.S. philanthropist, at his home in Pocantico Hills, New York.

March 21: James Martin Pacelli McGuinness, 66, IRA chief of staff and a key architect of Northern Ireland's 1998 Good Friday peace deal, at the Altnagelvin Area Hospital, Derry.

March 23: Ashokamitran, 86, Tamil writer and Sahitya Akademi award winner, in Chennai.

APRIL

April 3: Kishori Amonkar, 84, Hindustani classical vocalist, at her home in central Mumbai.

April 13: Robert William Taylor, 85, American innovator, at his home in Woodside, California, U.S.

April 27: Vinod Khanna, 70, Hindi actor and Gurdaspur MP, in Mumbai of cancer.

MAY

May 5: Leila Seth, 86, the first woman judge of the Delhi High Court and first woman chief justice of a state high court (Himachal Pradesh), at her residence in Noida.

May 11: P.R. Ramasubrahmaneya Rajha, 81, Chairman, Ramco Group, in Rajapalayam, Tamil Nadu.

May 18: Anil Madhav Dave, 60, Union Environment Minister, of a cardiac arrest at AIIMS, New Delhi.

Reema Lagoo, 59, actor and theatre artist at the Kokilaben

Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital, in Mumbai.

May 23: Roger Moore, 89, British actor who earned international acclaim playing secret agent James Bond, in Switzerland of cancer.

May 26: K.P.S. Gill, 82, former Punjab DGP, who put down Sikh militancy, in New Delhi.

May 27: Gregg Allman, 69, U.S. rockstar and music legend, at his home near Savannah, Georgia.

May 30: Dasari Narayana Rao, 75, film director and former Union Minister, in Hyderabad.

JUNE

June 2: S.Abdul Rahman, 79, Tamil poet, in Chennai.

June 6: Era Sezhiyan, 95, veteran parliamentarian, in Vellore, Tamil Nadu.

June 9: S.S. Khaplang, 77, chief of the NSCN (Khaplang), in Taga, Myanmar.

June 12: C. Narayana Reddy, 85, Telugu poet, in Hyderabad.

June 15: P.N. Bhagwati, 95, former CJI, in New Delhi.

June 16: Helmut Kohl, 87, former German Chancellor and architect of the nation's reunification, at his home in Ludwigshafen.

JULY

July 15: Maryam Mirzakhani, 40, Iranian-born mathematician and first woman to win the Fields Medal (on August 13, 2014) of breast cancer, in a U.S. hospital.

Martin Landau, 89, veteran U.S. actor, in Los Angeles.

July 16: Nar Bahadur Bhandari, 77, former Sikkim Chief Minister, in Delhi.

July 24: U.R. Rao, 85, former

ISRO chairman, in Bengaluru.

Yash Pal, 90, scientist and educationist, at a hospital in Noida.

July 27: Dharam Singh, 80, former Karnataka Chief Minister, in Bengaluru.

July 30: Ustad Hussain Sayeeduddin Dagar, 78, Dhrupad maestro, in Pune after a brief illness.

July 31: Jeanne Moreau, 89, French actor, in Paris, Ile-de-France, France.

AUGUST

Aug. 1: P.M. Bhargava, 89, veteran molecular biologist, in Hyderabad.

Aug. 3: Timothy Sydney Robert Hardy, 91, English stage and screen actor, in Northwood, London.

Aug. 7: Haruo Nakajima, 88, the actor who first played Japan's movie monster Godzilla, of pneumonia.

Aug. 8: Glen Travis Campbell, 81, American country music legend, in Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.

Aug. 10: Vijay Nambisan, 54, poet, and journalist, in Chennai.

Ruth Katherina Martha Pfau (87), German-born nun known as 'Pakistan's Mother Teresa,' in Karachi.

Aug. 20: Jerry Lewis, 91, U.S. comedian, in Las Vegas.

Aug. 22: Rishang Keishing, 96, former Manipur Chief Minister, in Imphal.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 16: Arjan Singh, 98, Marshal of IAF, in New Delhi.

Sept. 17: Mohammad Taslimuddin, 74, RJD leader and MP from Araria, in Chennai.

Sept. 27: Hugh Hefner, 91, founder of *Playboy* magazine at his home, near Beverly Hills, U.S.

Sept. 29: Tom Alter, 67, theatre and film actor, in Mumbai.

OCTOBER

Oct. 2: Tom Petty, 66, American songwriter, in Los Angeles, U.S.

Oct. 24: Girija Devi, 88, classical singer, in Kolkata.

I.V. Sasi, 69, Malayalam film director, in Chennai.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1: Krishnamoorthy Srinivas, 84, neurologist, in Chennai.

Nov. 2: Dina Wadia, 98, daughter of Pakistan founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah in New York.

Nov. 20: Priya Ranjan Dasmuni, 72, Congress leader and former Union Minister, in Delhi.

Nov. 21: David Cassidy, 67, American singer-actor, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, U.S.

Nov. 29: E. Chandrasekharan Nair, 89, CPI leader, in Thiruvananthapuram.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: A.S. Anand, 81, former CJI, in New Delhi.

Dec. 4: Shashi Kapoor, 79, veteran actor, at the Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital in Mumbai.

Dec. 10: Lalji Singh, 70, 'father of Indian DNA fingerprinting,' in Varanasi.

Dec. 13: C.V. Karthik Narayanan, 79, industrialist, in Chennai.

Dec. 24: Heather Miezies-Urich, 68, *The Sound of Music* actor, of brain cancer, in Canada.

Dec. 28: Sue Taylor Grafton, 77, U.S. author of the alphabet mystery series, in Santa Barbara, California.

Dec. 30: Erica Garner, 27, Black Lives Matter activist, in New York.



Maryam Mirzakhani



U. R. Rao



Yash Pal



Girija Devi



Arjan Singh



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SPORT**JANUARY**

8: Roberto Bautista Agut wins Chennai Open ATP-250 event.

15: Gujarat beats Mumbai in Indore to clinch its first Ranji Trophy title.

22: Saina Nehwal wins the Malaysia Masters Grand Prix Gold in Sarawak.

28: Serena Williams defeats sister Venus Williams to clinch the Australian Open, her 23rd Grand Slam.

29: Roger Federer wins an epic final against Rafael Nadal to win the Australian Open, his 18th Grand Slam title.

FEBRUARY

5: India beats New Zealand 4-1 in the Davis Cup in Pune.

26: Kalinga Lancers wins the Hockey India League beating Dabang Mumbai 4-1.

27: The duo of Heena Sidhu and Jitu Rai bags gold in the mixed air pistol event in the Shooting World Cup.

MARCH

20: Tamil Nadu beats Bengal by 37 runs to clinch its fifth Vijay Hazare Trophy domestic one-day title.

28: India beats Australia by eight wickets in the fourth and final Test in Dharamshala to clinch the Border-Gavaskar series 2-1.

28: R. Ashwin voted ICC Cricketer and Test Cricketer of the year for 2016.

APRIL

2: P.V. Sindhu wins the Indian Open in New Delhi, defeating Carolina Marin.

10: The Indian women bag the Hockey World League Round-2.

13: T. Mariyappan, Sakshi Malik and Dipa Karmakar win the Padma Shri.

14: Pankaj Advani wins the sixth Asian billiards title, beating Sourav Kothari.

16: Sai Praneeth wins the Singapore Open, outlasting K. Srikanth.

30: Joshna Chinappa wins the women's title in the Asian squash championship in Chennai.

MAY

12: Chelsea wins the Premier League title.

13: Bajrang Punia bags the 65kg gold in the Asian wrestling championship in New Delhi.

JUNE

4: Sai Praneeth wins the Thailand



Pankaj Advani.

Open Grand Prix Gold badminton in Bangkok.

8: Rohan Bopanna wins his first Grand Slam title, claiming the French Open mixed doubles crown with Canadian partner Gabriela Dabrowski.

10: Jelena Ostapenko of Latvia bags maiden Grand Slam title at Roland Garros.

11: Rafael Nadal of Spain wins the French Open.

18: K. Srikanth emerges champion in the Indonesian Open Super Series.

18: The Pakistan cricket team lifts the Champions Trophy.

25: K. Srikanth wins the Australian Open Super Series title.

JULY

6: The Indian men's football team reaches its best-ever FIFA ranking of 96 in two decades.

7: India clinches the series 3-1 against host West Indies.

9: G. Lakshmanan becomes the first Indian to bag the 5000m and 10,000m titles in the Asian athletics championship, in Bhubaneswar.

11: Ravi Shastri takes over as the chief coach of the Indian team.

15: Spain's Garbine Muguruza clinches the Wimbledon crown.

16: Switzerland's Roger Federer wins a record eighth title at Wimbledon.

23: The Indian women's team loses to England in the World Cup final at Lord's.

AUGUST

6: Justin Gatlin pips Usain Bolt in the World athletics championship in London.

26: Saurav Ghosal and Joshna Chinappa bag the men's and women's National squash titles.

SEPTEMBER

3: India beats Sri Lanka in the fifth ODI at Colombo to win the ODI series 5-0.

9: American Sloane Stephens



Viswanathan Anand.

beats Venus Williams in the U.S. Open final to win her first Grand Slam.

10: Rafael Nadal beats Kevin Anderson in straight sets to win his third U.S. Open title, and 16th Grand Slam.

16: P.V. Sindhu defeats Nozomi Okuhara of Japan to win the Korea Open Super Series.

OCTOBER

1: Host India wins the ODI series 4-1 versus Australia.

13: With the last match called off, the three-match T20 series between India and Australia ends 1-1.

22: India beats Malaysia 2-1 in the final in Dhaka to clinch its third Asia Cup hockey title.

22: K. Srikanth beats Korean Lee Hyun Il to win the Denmark Open Super Series title.

27: Lewis Hamilton joins select club of five drivers with four or more Formula 1 World titles.

28: England beats Spain 5-2 in the final to win the FIFA U-17 World Cup in Kolkata.

29: K. Srikanth bags the French Open Super Series.

Caroline Wozniacki beats Venus Williams to win her maiden WTA Finals crown in Singapore.

NOVEMBER

5: The Indian women's hockey team regains the Asia Cup after 13 years.

8: Mary Kom clinches gold in the Asian women's boxing championship.

30: Mirabai Chanu wins the women's 48kg gold at the World weightlifting championships in Anaheim, USA.

DECEMBER

3: Virat Kohli hits his sixth double hundred, surpasses Brian Lara for most double tons by a Test captain.

Kohli also becomes the second Indian player after Vinoo Mankad (vs. New Zealand in 1955-56) and the



P.V. Sindhu.

13th overall to post two innings of 200 in the same Test series. Don Bradman had achieved the feat four times, including three innings of 200-plus versus England in 1930.

He becomes the first Indian captain to complete 1000 runs in a calendar year twice.

7: Cristiano Ronaldo wins fifth Ballon d'Or, pulling level with Lionel Messi.

8: The visually-impaired swimmer, Kanchanmala Pande, wins gold in the 200m medley event in the S-11 category at the World para championship, the first Indian to achieve the feat.

13: Rohit Sharma scores his third ODI double century in the second match against Sri Lanka in Mohali, becomes the first batsman to do so.

17: P.V. Sindhu wins silver in the BWF World Super Series final, losing to Japan's Akane Yamaguchi in the title clash in Dubai.

Host India wins the ODI series 2-1 versus Sri Lanka.

23: Vijender Singh beats Ghana's Ernest Amuzu for his 10th consecutive win in pro boxing, retaining his WBO Oriental & Asia Pacific super middleweight pro boxing titles.

24: Host India blanks Sri Lanka 3-0 in the T20 series.

28: Viswanathan Anand wins the World rapid chess championship title in Riyadh.



Serena Williams.



Roger Federer.



Usain Bolt.



Lewis Hamilton.



Rafael Nadal.



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