

CURRENT AFFAIRS OF SEPTEMBER 2016

Awards

The veteran music director and violinist who has been chosen for the 2016 Lata Mangeshkar Award for Lifetime Achievement of the Maharashtra government – **Uttam Singh**

The British human rights campaigner, best known for his work with LGBT social movements who has been chosen to be awarded The Gandhi Foundation International Peace Award for 2016 – **Peter Tatchell**

The Chairperson and Managing Director of Biocon Limited, who has been awarded the 'Chevalier de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur' (Knight of the National Order of the French Legion of Honour) for her contribution to biosciences and research by the French Government – **Ms Kiran Mazumdar Shaw**

Sports

The Indian table tennis player who has won the Belgium Open Men's Singles title defeating Belgium's Cedric Nuytinck in the finals – **Sathiyam Gnanasekaran**

The cricketer who has become the fastest Indian and the second fastest overall to take 200 test wickets (in 36 matches) – **R Ashwin**

The city of Japan which has been chosen to host the 2026 Asian Games making it the third time for the games to be hosted in Japan (1958 and 1994) – **Nagoya**

The Indian cricketer who has been appointed the brand ambassador of Punjab National Bank – **Virat Kohli**

The team which has won the 2016-17 Duleep Trophy cricket tournament defeating India Red in the finals – **India Blue**

The team which has won the 2016 Durand Cup Football tournament defeating NEROCA Football Club in the finals at Ambedkar Stadium in New Delhi – **Army Green**

The woman cricketer who has become the first Indian woman to be awarded honorary life membership of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)[Note: Zaheer Khan and Virendra Sehwag have also been awarded the membership this month.] – **Anjum Chopra**

The team which has won the MCC Murugappa Gold Cup Hockey Tournament 2016 for the first time defeating Indian Oil Corporation in the finals at Chennai – **Indian Railways**

The Indian wrestler who bronze medal at London Olympics has been upgraded to silver medal due to dope-test positivity of the original silver winner, Besik Kudukhov – **Yogeshwar Dutt**

Defence

The first Russia-Pakistan joint military exercise which commenced on 24 September 2016 in Cherat, Pakistan is named – **Druzhba-2016**

The aircraft from which the Indian Air Force recently test fired BVR (Beyond Visual Range) air-to-air MICA missile acquired from European company MBDA – **Mirage 2000**

The India-Russia joint military exercise being held in Ussiriysk dist in Vladivostok, Russia with focus on Counter-Terrorism Operations in semi mountainous and jungle terrain under United Nations Mandate – **Indra 2016**

The Visakhapatnam class Guided Missile Destroyer built by Mazgaon Shipyard under Project 15B which was launched in Mumbai is named – **Mormugao**

The joint naval exercise carried out by China and the United States of America in the South China Sea is named – **Joint Sea 2016**

The Indo-US joint military exercise being held at Chaubattia in Uttarakhand from 15 September is named – **Yudh Abhyas 2016**

The joint military exercise by the armies of India and Kazakhstan being conducted in Karaganda region of Kazakhstan is named – **Prabal Dostyk-16**

The Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (WJFAC) built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), Kolkata which was handed over to the Indian Navy recently is named – **Tihayu**

Health

The World Health Organisation has declared the region of Americas (North and South America) free from this disease – **Measles**

The zoonotic infection from which India has declared itself free (from 05 Sep 2016) – **Avian Influenza (H5N1)**

The Asian country which has been declared malaria free by the World Health Organization. (It is the third and most populous country in Asia after Maldives and Singapore to be declared malaria-free) – **Sri Lanka**

Persons

The former President of Israel (Nobel Peace prize winner of 1994) who passed away on 28 Sep 2016 – **Shimon Peres**

The veteran industrialist who has been conferred the 10th Annual Clinton Global Citizen Award for leadership in private sector by the Clinton Foundation – **Adi Godrej**

The Secretary of the Lucknow-based Akhila Bharatiya Sanskrit Parishad who has translated the UN Charter, the seminal treaty of the United Nations into Sanskrit – **Dr. Jitendra Kumar Tripathi**

The Indian conservationist well-known for his work in removing the danger tag of Manas National Park who has been voted IUCN's Heritage Hero – **Bibhuti Lahkar**

The first President of Uzbekistan since its independence from USSR in 1991 who passed away on 02 Sep 2016 – **Islam Karimov**

The Governor of Maharashtra who has been given additional charge as the Governor of Tamil Nadu – **C. Vidyasagar Rao**

The new (37th) President of Brazil who has been appointed after the impeachment and removal of Ms Dilma Rousseff (the first woman President of Brazil) – **Michel Temer**

Venues of Meets etc.

The venue of 17th NAM (Non-Aligned Movement) Summit held from 17 to 18 Sep 2016, (India was represented by the Vice-President Shri Hamid Ansari) – **Margarita Island (Venezuela)**

The venue of 14th ASEAN-India Summit and the 11th East Asia Summit to be held on 08 Sep 2016 and to be attended by the Indian Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi – **Vientiane, Lao PDR**

The venue of G-20 summit held from 04 to 05 September, India being represented by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi – **Hangzhou, China**

The venue of first ever BRICS Film Festival held from 02 to 06 September 2016 – **New Delhi**

The venue of 2-day long BRICS Convention on Tourism being held from 01 to 02 September 2016 – **Khajuraho (M.P.)**

Miscellaneous

The place in Tamil Nadu where the world's largest solar power plant with a capacity of 648 MW has been dedicated to the nation by Adani Green Energy Ltd. – **Kamuthi in Ramanathapuram dist.**

The country which has launched the production line of home-grown ballistic missile named "Zolfagar" – **Iran**

The Tamil docu-drama crime thriller directed by Vetrimaran and produced by Wunderbar Films which has been chosen to be India's official entry to Best Foreign Language Film category at the 89th Academy Awards to be held in 2017 – **Visaranai**

The rank of India in the Economic Freedom of the World 2016 released by Fraser Institute with Hong Kong ranked at No. 1 – **112**

The Indian Institute of Technology at which supercomputing facility PARAM-ISHAN was launched by the Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Praksh Javadekar – **IIT, Guwahati**

The two telecom companies which have decided to merge their businesses to form the fourth largest telecom operator in India – **Reliance Communications and Aircel**

The book by Stuart Blackburn on life of Apatani tribe of Arunachal Pradesh which has been awarded the MM Bennetts Award for Historical Fiction 2016 in the UK – **Into the Hidden Valley**

The island in River Brahmaputra which has been declared the world's largest river island by the Guinness Book of World Records (the island has been formally declared a district on 08 Sep 2016) – **Majuli Island**

Important Days of September

<p>International Day of Charity: 05 September 2016 Established by : United Nations General Assembly First Observed in: 2013</p>	<p>International Literacy Day: 08 September 2016 Established by : UNESCO Theme: Reading the Past, Writing the Future First Observed in: 1966</p>
<p>International Day of Democracy: 15 September Established by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: Democracy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development First Observed in: 2008</p>	<p>International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer: 16 September Established by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: Ozone and climate: Restored by a world united First Observed in: 1995</p>
<p>International Day of Peace: 21 September Established by : United Nations General Assembly Theme: The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace First Observed in: 1982</p>	<p>World Tourism Day: 27 September Established by : UNWTO General Assembly Theme: Tourism for all: promoting universal accessibility First Observed in: 1980</p>
<p>World Rabies Day: 28 September Established by : Global Alliance for Rabies Control Theme: Rabies: Educate. Vaccinate. Eliminate First Observed in: 2007</p>	<p>World Maritime Day: 29 September Established by : International Maritime Organisation Theme: Shipping: indispensable to the world First Observed in: 1978</p>

2016 Man Booker Prize Shortlist

Author	Book
Paul Beatty (US)	The Sellout
Deborah Levy (UK)	Hot Milk
Graeme Macrae Burnet (UK)	His Bloody Project
Otessa Moshfegh (US)	Eileen
David Szalay (Canada-UK)	All That Man Is
Madeleine Thien (Canada)	Do Not Say We Have Nothing

Updates to IUCN Red List

Eastern Gorilla moved from Endangered to Critically Endangered list. (4 of the 6 great apes namely, Eastern Gorilla, Western Gorilla, Bornean Orangutan and Sumatran Orangutan are now listed as Critically Endangered. Only the Chimpanzee and Bonobo are listed as Endangered)

Plains Zebra (Equus quagga) has moved from Least Concern to Near Threatened.

Three species of antelope found in Africa – **Bay Duiker** (*Cephalophus dorsalis*), **White-bellied Duiker** (*Cephalophus leucogaster*) and **Yellow-backed Duiker** (*Cephalophus silvicultor*) – have moved from Least Concern to Near Threatened.

Giant Panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*) has moved from Endangered to Vulnerable.

Tibetan Antelope (*Pantholops hodgsonii*) has moved from Endangered to Near Threatened.

IUCN classification (for reference): Extinct → Extinct in the wild → Critically endangered → Endangered → Vulnerable → Near threatened → Least concern.

Global Competitiveness Index 2016

Rank	Country	Rank	Country
1	Switzerland	28	China
2	Singapore	39	India
3	United States of America	71	Sri Lanka
4	Netherlands	97	Bhutan
5	Germany	98	Nepal

Launch of PSLV-C35

Launch date: 26 Sep 2016

Launched from: Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota

Satellites launched: SCATSAT-1 (India); ALSAT-1B, ALSAT-2B and ALSAT-1N (Algeria); NLS-19 (Canada); Pathfinder-1 (USA); PRATHAM (IIT Bombay); PISAT (PES University, Bangalore)

SCATSAT-1 (Scatterometer Satellite-1): It is a miniature satellite to provide weather forecasting, cyclone prediction, and tracking services to India. It is being developed by ISRO Satellite Centre, Bangalore whereas its payload is being developed by Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad. The satellite will take place of Oceansat-2 which has become dysfunctional after its life span of four-and-a-half years.

World's Largest Telescope

Installed by: China in its Pingtang county in Guizhou province

Named: Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope, or FAST

Purpose: To search for gravitational waves, detect radio emissions from stars and galaxies and listen for signs of intelligent extraterrestrial life.

It surpasses the 300-meter Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico.

2016 Right Livelihood Awards

Syria Civil Defence (The White Helmets): 'for their outstanding bravery, compassion and humanitarian engagement in rescuing civilians from the destruction of the Syrian civil war'. It is the first time that a Right Livelihood Award goes to a Laureate from Syria.

Mozn Hassan and her organisation Nazra: for Feminist Studies (for asserting the equality and rights of women in circumstances where they are subject to ongoing violence, abuse and discrimination.)

Russia's Svetlana Gannushkina: 'for her decades-long commitment to promoting human rights and justice for refugees and forced migrants, and tolerance among different ethnic groups'.

Cumhuriyet, a leading independent newspaper in Turkey: 'for their fearless investigative journalism and commitment to freedom of expression in the face of oppression, censorship, imprisonment and death threats.'

Wisden Text XI

Leading cricket magazine has announced all time India Test XI on the occasion of India's 500th test.

MS Dhoni (captain, wicketkeeper), Sunil Gavaskar, Virender Sehwag, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, VVS Laxman, Kapil Dev, , Anil Kumble, Javagal Srinath, Zaheer Khan, Bishan Singh Bedi, Mohammad Azharuddin (12th man).

2016 Paralympic Games

Venue: **Rio de Janeiro**

Held from **07 to 18 Sep 2016**

Final Medals Tally

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1. China	107	81	51	239
2. Great Britain	64	39	44	147
3. Ukraine	41	37	39	117
4. United States	40	44	31	115
5. Australia	22	30	29	81
43. India	2	1	1	4

Indian Winners at the Games

Thangavelu Mariyappan - Gold in Men's High Jump

Devendra Jhajharia - Gold in Men's Javelin Throw

Deepa Malik - Silver in Women's Shot Put

Varun Singh Bhati - Bronze in Men's High Jump

US Open 2016

Title	Winner	Runner-up
Men's Singles	Stan Wawrinka (Switzerland)	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
Women's Singles	Angelique Kerber (Germany)	Karolina Pliskova (Czech Republic)
Mens's Doubles	Jamie Murray (U.K.) and Bruno Soares (Brazil)	Pablo Carreno Busto and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez (Spain)
Women's Doubles	Bethanie Mattek-Sands (U.S.A.) and Lucie Safarova (Czech Republic)	Caroline Garcia and Kristina Mladenovic (France)
Mixed Doubles	Laura Siegemund (Germany) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)	Coco Vandeweghe and Rajeev Ram (U.S.A.)

Creation of GST Council

The Union Cabinet recently approved the creation of GST Council as per amended Article 279A of Indian Constitution. The council will have its Secretariat office at New Delhi.

The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-second Amendment) Bill, 2016, for introduction of Goods and Services tax in the country was accorded assent by the President on 8th September, 2016, and the same has been notified as the Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016.

As per Article 279A of the amended Constitution, the GST Council which will be a joint forum of the Centre and the States, shall consist of the following members: -

- Union Finance Minister - Chairperson
- The Union Minister of State in-charge of Revenue of finance - Member
- The Minister In-charge of finance or taxation or any other Minister nominated by each State Government - Members

Indian Council of Food and Agriculture Awards 2016

List of important awardees of the ICFA Awards 2016 presented at the 9th Global Agriculture Leadership Summit in New Delhi from 8 to 9 Sept 2016.

Best Agriculture District Award	Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh.
Best Fisheries State Award	Chhattisgarh.
Best Animal Husbandry State Award	Punjab.
Best Horticulture State Award	Haryana.
Best Agriculture State Award	Odisha.
Lifetime Achievement Award	Shri Ratan Tata.
Policy Leadership Award	Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, CM of Madhya Pradesh.

Launch of INSAT-3DR

Launch date: 08 Sep 2016

Launch vehicle: GSLV F05

Launched from: Satish Dhawan Space Center, Sriharikota (A.P.)

INSAT-3DR similar to INSAT-3D, is an advanced meteorological satellite of India configured with an imaging System and an Atmospheric Sounder. INSAT-3DR will provide service continuity to earlier meteorological missions of ISRO and further augment the capability to provide various meteorological as well as search and rescue services.

India certified free from Yaws and Maternal & Neonatal Tetanus

India officially received certificates from World Health Organisation (WHO), declaring the country free from yaws and maternal and neonatal tetanus . India is the first country to be officially acknowledged as being yaws-free. India has become yaws-free much before the WHO global target year of 2020.

India was validated for maternal and neonatal tetanus elimination in April 2015, much ahead of the global target date of December 2015.

The elimination of tetanus as a public health problem means that in India, the annual rate of maternal and neonatal tetanus is now less than 1 per 1000 live births.

Insurance Scheme by Indian Railways

The Indian Railways have launched a scheme allowing a person to get an insurance cover of upto Rs 10 lakh on booking a train ticket online by paying less than one rupee. A person booking a train ticket through the IRCTC website will be able to opt for travel insurance cover for a premium of 92 paise only.

The new facility will be available to all passengers, excluding those travelling by suburban trains while booking online irrespective of the class.

The cover will not be applicable for children upto 5 years of age and foreign citizens. It will be for passengers holding tickets such as confirmed, RAC and wait-listed ones.

The scheme offers travellers/nominees/legal heirs a compensation of Rs 10 lakh in the event of death or total disability, Rs 7.5 lakh for partial disability, upto Rs 2 lakh for hospitalisation expenses and Rs 10,000 for transportation of mortal remains from the place of a train accident or where an untoward incident, including terrorist attack, dacoity, rioting, shootout or arson, occurs. However, no refund of the premium will be given in case of cancellation of the ticket.

The scheme is being implemented by IRCTC in partnership with ICICI Lombard General Insurance, Royal Sundaram General Insurance and Shriram General Insurance selected through a bidding process. The three selected insurance companies will get to issue the insurance policy on a rotational basis through an automated system.

Abbreviations in News

CLMV: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam

FAST: Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope

Books in News

Citizen and Society written by **Vice-President Hamid Ansari**

Democrats and Dissenters written by **Ramachandra Guha**

Current Affairs Questions

1. In which of the following states is the festival Nuakhai Juhar mainly celebrated?
a. Odisha b. Haryana c. Rajasthan d. Kerala
2. Where are the 2026 Asian Games scheduled to be held?
a. Tokyo b. Nagoya c. Seoul d. Hiroshima
3. International Day of Charity observed every year on 05 September commemorates which of the following events?
a. Birthday of Mother Teresa b. Passing away of Mother Teresa
c. Birth of Gautam Buddha d. Passing away of Mahavira
4. In which of the following events did T. Mariyappan of India win a gold medal at 2016 Paralympic Games?
a. Discus throw b. Shot put c. High jump d. Javelin throw
5. Where is the Defence Services Staff College located?
a. Puducherry b. Pune c. Wellington d. Dehradun
6. Who is the Chairperson of the newly constituted GST Council?
a. Prime Minister b. RBI Governor c. Chairperson of CBDT d. Finance Minister
7. Rajeev Ram is a tennis player who plays for
a. Australia b. Indonesia c. U.S.A. d. Singapore
8. Which of the following countries was recently declared Malaria free by the WHO?
a. Sri Lanka b. India c. Bhutan d. Bangladesh

9. With which of the following sports is Sushmita Rai associated?

- a. Boxing b. Archery c. Badminton d. Martial Arts

10. Prabal Dostyk-16 was a joint military exercise conducted by India and –

- a. Russia b. Uzbekistan c. Kazakhstan d. Ukraine

11. Which State does not share the waters of River Cauvery?

- a. Kerala b. Karnataka c. Andhra Pradesh d. Puducherry

12. Who of the following won the US Open 2016 Women's singles title?

- a. Serena Williams b. Angelique Kerber c. Karolina Pliskova d. Garbine Muguruza

13. Which of the following from the family of the great apes has been moved from Endangered to Critically Endangered category by the IUCN?

- a. Western Gorilla b. Eastern Gorilla c. Bornean Orangutan d. Sumatran Orangutan

14. Which state was awarded the ICFA Best Agriculture State award for 2016 at the 9th Global Agriculture Leadership Summit in New Delhi?

- a. Punjab b. Haryana c. Odisha d. Chhattisgarh

15. Charkhi Dadri has been announced to be the 22nd district of Haryana. The district has been created out of

- a. Karnal b. Bhiwani c. Mahendragarh d. Faridabad

16. Which of the following films has been chosen to be India's official entry at the 89th Academy Awards in 2017?

- a. Uda Punjab b. Sarbjit c. Baahubali d. Visaranai

17. Long range surface to air missile Barak-8 which was recently test fired has been jointly developed by India and

- a. Israel b. Russia c. Sweden d. U.S.A.

18. Under the new insurance scheme launched by the Indian Railways, what is the compensation payable in the event of death of an insured traveler?

- a. Rs. 5 lakhs b. Rs. 7.5 lakhs c. Rs. 10 lakhs d. 12 lakhs

19. On the occasion of the centenary celebrations of which of the following colleges was a commemorative stamp issued by the Department of Posts?

