

## **CURRENT AFFAIRS OF SEPTEMBER 2015**

### **Awards**

The music group which has won the Dhun music contest organised by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and Citizen Alliance to find the "Dhun of Skill" – **61X MHZ**

The award instituted by the Government of India in 1995 which was conferred on the Indian Space Research Organisation by the President Dr. Pranab Mukherjee – **Gandhi Peace Prize, 2014**

### **Persons**

The Governor of Manipur who passed away on 27 Sep 2015 – **Syed Ahmed**

The CEO of German automotive multinational, Volkswagen AG who resigned taking responsibility for an emissions cheating scandal related to the company's diesel cars – **Martin Winterkorn**

The Chairpersons of PepsiCo and Hindustan Times Group who have been awarded the 2015 Global Leadership Award by the US India Business Council – **Indra Nooyi and Shobana Bhartia**

The President of Board Of Control for Cricket in India and Cricket Association of Bengal who passed away on 20 Sep 2015 – **Jagmohan Dalmiya**

The British-American romance novelist, well-known author of The World Is Full of Married Men, who passed away on 19 Sep 2015 – **Jackie Collins**

The leader of the Liberal Party who has assumed office as the 29th Prime Minister of Australia after defeating the former PM Tony Abbott in a leadership ballot – **Malcolm Turnbull**

The Mohiniyattam exponent and Padma Shri recipient dancer and choreographer who passed away on 13 September – **Kalamandalam Satyabhama**

### **Places**

The venue of United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015 held from 25 to 27 Sep 2015 for adoption of post-2015 development agenda – **New York**

The venue of 6th edition of AbilityFest2015 India — an international disability film festival to be held from Sep 28 to Oct 1 – **Chennai**

The venue of 9th Regional Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas to be organized on 14 and 15 November 15 with the theme The Indian Diaspora: Defining a New Paradigm in India-US Relationship – **Los Angeles**

The venue of 10th World Hindi Conference being held from 10 to 12 Sep with Madhya Pradesh as partner state – **Bhopal**

The place in Karnataka which has been chosen to be the seat of state's first Indian Institute of Technology – **Dharwad**

The island off the coast of Odisha (Integrated Test Range maintaining a missile testing facility is located in the island) which has been named after the former President APJ Abdul Kalam – **Wheeler Island**

The place in Bihar where three-day International Buddhist conclave was held with delegates from 47 countries attending it – **Gaya**

### Sports

The tennis player who has won the TVS-ITF Futures Tennis Tournament Mens' Single title defeating Vishnu Vardhan in the finals – **Sumit Nagal**

The venue of 55th National Athletics Open Championships held from 16 to 19 Sep 2015 – **Kolkata**

The Indian golf player who has become the first from the country to qualify for the prestigious President's Cup team (President's Cup is a golf tournament in which the United States team competes against an international team) – **Anirban Lahiri**

The American professional boxer who has matched Rocky Marciano's record of 49-0 (wins and losses) by defeating Andre Berto in professional boxing fight, contested for the welterweight and super welterweight championships – **Flyod Mayweather**

The South African city which has been chosen to host the 2022 Commonwealth Games becoming the first African city to host the games – **Durban**

### Technology

The new name of Facebook owned mobile app internet.org – **Free Basics**

The latest version of Microsoft Office productivity suite which was released for OS X and Windows on 22 Sep 15 (it was released for Office 365 users in July 2015) – **Microsoft Office 2016**

The Indian subsidiary of Norway-based Telewings Communications which has rebranded itself as Telenor – **Uninor**

As per a report released by Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) the number of internet users in India is – **350 million**

### Defence

The six-day exhibition being held at the India Gate lawns in New Delhi celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Indo-Pak War of 1965 is named – **Shauryanjali**

The bilateral maritime exercise being conducted off the coast of Visakhapatnam by the navies of India and Australia for the first time is named (Indian ships - INS Shivalik, INS Ranvijay and INS Shakti and Australian ships - HMAS Sirius, HMAS Arunta and submarine HMAS Sheean – **AUSINDEX - 15**)

The latest establishment of the Indian Navy at Karwar, Karnataka commissioned by the Defence Minister Shri Manohar Parrikar is named – **INS Vajrakosh**

### **Days and Themes**

The theme of World Tourism Day observed on 27 Sep 2015 – **One billion tourists, one billion opportunities**

The theme of International Literacy Day 2015 observed on 08 September – **Literacy and Sustainable Societies**

### **Miscellaneous**

The organisation which has been presented a certificate by Limca Book of Records for the Largest Yoga performance simultaneously by a single uniformed youth organisation at multiple venues on International Day of Yoga on 21 Jun 2015 – **NCC**

The film directed by Chaitanya Tamhane which has been chosen to be India's official entry to the Academy Awards (Oscars) in the Best Foreign Film Category – **Court**

The country which has passed bills allowing its military to engage in overseas combat in limited circumstances for the first time after World War II – **Japan**

The premiere design school which has designed the symbol for None of the above (NOTA) option for voters on EVMs and ballot papers – **National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad**

The two rivers which have been linked in India's first river-linking project, popularly known as Pattiseema project – **Godavari and Krishna**

The Indian institutes which have figured in the QS World University Rankings of 2015-16 at rank 147 and 179 respectively – **Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru and IIT, Delhi**

The severe tropical storm which caused widespread flooding in Japan forcing evacuation of over 100,000 people was named – **Typhoon Etou**

The new species of ancient human relative whose remains have been found in Johannesburg, South Africa has been named – **Homo naledi**

The chemical whose import in loose form has been prohibited by the Govt of India on the grounds that it is a threat to national security (It has be imported in bagged form with the consignment packed at the point of origin) – **Ammonium Nitrate**

The pain-killer drug the multi-dose vials of which have been banned by the Govt to save the vultures from extinction (the vultures feeding on carcasses of cattle administered with the drug die soon after. The drug will now be available only in 3 ml vials to prevent misuse) – **Diclofenac**

The denomination in which the Reserve Bank of India has decided to issue coins to commemorate golden jubilee of Indo-Pak war 1965 – **Rs. 5**

### **Railways**

The Indian Railways zone which has become the first in the country to eliminate all unmanned level crossings from its system by August 31, 2015 – **West Central**

The mobile app launched by Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu for monitoring freight operation is named – **Parichalan**

### **US Open 2015**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
Men's Singles	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Roger Federer (Switzerland)
Women's Singles	Flavia Pennetta (Italy)	Roberta Vinci (Italy)
Men's Doubles	Pierre-Hugues Herbert (France) & Nicolas Mahut (France)	Jamie Murray (Great Britain) & John Peers (Australia)
Women's Doubles	Martina Hingis (Switzerland) & Sania Mirza (India)	Casey Dellacqua (Australia) & Yaroslava Shvedova (Kazakhstan)
Mixed Doubles	Leander Paes (India) & Martina Hingis (Switzerland)	Bethanie Mattek-Sands (USA) & Sam Querrey (USA)

### **Leander Paes – Grand Slam titles Won**

<b>Men's Doubles</b>	<b>Years Won</b>	<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	<b>Years Won</b>
French Open	1999, 2001, 2009	French Open	-
Wimbledon	1999	Wimbledon	1999, 2003, 2010, 2015
US Open	2006, 2009, 2013	US Open	2008, 2015
Australian Open	2012	Australian Open	2003, 2010, 2015

### **Sania Mirza – Grand Slam titles Won**

<b>Womens Doubles</b>	<b>Years Won</b>	<b>Mixed Doubles</b>	<b>Years Won</b>	<b>Girls Doubles</b>	<b>Years Won</b>
Wimbledon	2015	Australian Open	2009	Wimbledon	2003
US Open	2015	French Open	2012		
		US Open	2014		

### Constitution of 21st Law Commission of India

The Union Cabinet approved the Constitution of the 21st Law Commission of India, for a period of three years w.e.f. 1st September, 2015 to 31st August, 2018.

The 21st Law Commission will consist of :

- a full-time Chairperson;
- four full-time Members (including a Member-Secretary);
- Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs as ex off do Member;
- Secretary, Legislative Department as ex officio Member; and
- not more than five part-time Members.

The Law Commission shall, on a reference made to it by the Central Government or suo-motu, undertake research in law and review of existing laws in India for making reforms therein and enacting new legislations. It shall also undertake studies and research for bringing reforms in the justice delivery systems for elimination of delay in procedures, speedy disposal of cases, reduction in cost of litigation etc.

The other functions of the Law Commission shall, inter-alia, include:-

- (i) identification of laws which are no longer relevant and recommending for the repeal of obsolete and unnecessary enactments;
- (ii) suggesting enactment of new legislations as may be necessary to implement the Directive Principles and to attain the objectives set out in the Preamble of the Constitution;
- (iii) considering and conveying to the Government its views on any subject relating to law and judicial administration that may be specifically referred to it by the Government through Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs);
- (iv) considering the requests for providing research to any foreign countries as may be referred to it by the Government through Ministry of Law & Justice (Department of Legal Affairs);
- (v) preparing and submitting to the Central Government, from time to time, reports on all issues, matters, studies and research undertaken by it and recommending in such reports for effective measures to be taken by the Union or any State; and
- (vi) performing such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Central Government from time to time.

### Launch of W-20

**What is it?** : An engagement grouping of women leaders from G-20 countries, to push for gender inclusive global economic growth.

**The beginning** : The W-20 was launched at the G-20 meeting of Finance Ministers and central bank governors in Turkish capital Ankara.

**The President of W-20** : Ms. Gulden Turkhan has been appointed the first President of the group.

**The first summit** : 07-08 Oct 2015

**Venue of first summit** : Istanbul, Turkey.

### **Sovereign Gold Bonds Scheme - Salient Features**

The scheme will help in reducing the demand for physical gold by shifting a part of the estimated 300 tons of physical bars and coins purchased every year for Investment into gold bonds. Since most of the demand for gold in India is met through imports, this scheme will, ultimately help in maintaining the country's Current Account Deficit within sustainable limits.

Sovereign Gold Bonds will be issued on behalf of the Govt of India by the RBI, on payment of rupees and denominated in grams of gold.

The bond would be restricted for sale to resident Indian entities. The cap on bonds that may be bought by an entity would be at a suitable level, not more than 500 grams per person per year.

The Government will issue bonds with a rate of interest, either floating or fixed, to be decided by the Government.

The bonds will be available both in demat and paper form and in denominations of 5,10,50,100 grams of gold or other denominations.

Banks/NBFCs/Post Offices/ National Saving Certificate (NSC) agents and others, as specified, may collect money / redeem bonds on behalf of the government (for a fee, the amount would be as decided).

The tenure of the bond could be for a minimum of 5 to 7 years, so that it would protect investors from medium term volatility in gold prices. Since the bond, will be a part of the sovereign borrowing, these would need to be within the fiscal deficit target for 2015-16 and onwards.

Bonds can be used as collateral for loans. Bonds to be easily sold and traded on exchanges to allow early exits for investors who may so desire.

The amount received from the bonds will be used by Gol in lieu of government borrowing and the notional interest saved on this amount would be credited in an account "Gold Reserve Fund" which will be created.

On maturity, the redemption will be in rupee amount only. The rate of interest on the bonds will be calculated on the value of the gold at the time of investment. The principal amount of investment, which is denominated in grams of gold, will be redeemed at the price of gold at that time. If the price of gold has fallen from the time that the investment was made, or for any other reason, the depositor will be given an option to roll over the bond for three or more years.

### World Bank's ranking of Indian States - Ease of doing business

Rank	State	Overall Implementation
1.	Gujarat	71.14%
2.	Andhra Pradesh	70.12%
3.	Jharkhand	63.09%
4.	Chhattisgarh	62.45%
5.	Madhya Pradesh	62.00%

### Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY)

This is a new programme meant to provide for the welfare of areas and people affected by mining related operations, using the funds generated by District Mineral Foundations (DMFs).

The objectives of PMKKKY

1. to implement various developmental and welfare projects/programs in mining affected areas that complement the existing ongoing schemes/projects of State and Central Government;
2. to minimize/mitigate the adverse impacts, during and after mining, on the environment, health and socio-economics of people in mining districts; and
3. to ensure long-term sustainable livelihoods for the affected people in mining areas. Care has been taken to include all aspects of living, to ensure substantial improvement in the quality of life.

Rates of contribution payable by miners to the DMFs: 1. In case of all mining leases executed before 12th January, 2015 (the date of coming into force of the Amendment Act) miners will have to contribute an amount equal to 30% of the royalty payable by them to the DMFs. 2. Where mining leases are granted after 12.01.2015, the rate of contribution would be 10% of the royalty payable. Using the funds generated by this contribution, the DMFs are expected to implement the PMKKKY. High priority areas like drinking water supply, health care, sanitation, education, skill development, women and child care, welfare of aged and disabled people, skill development and environment conservation will get at least 60 % share of the funds. For creating a supportive and conducive living environment, balance funds will be spent on making roads, bridges, railways, waterways projects, irrigation and alternative energy sources.

The District Mineral Foundations set up under the provisions of The Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015 will receive contributions from miners at rates specified by the Govt.

### National Tourism Awards 2013-14

The National Tourism Awards 2013-14 were given away by the President of India on 18 Sep 2015

**Best State/UT - Comprehensive Development of Tourism** - 1. Gujarat, 2. Madhya Pradesh, 3. Rajasthan

**Tourist Friendly Railway Station** - Habibganj (M.P.)

**Airport in Class X cities** - Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi

**Airport in other cities** - Swami Vivekananda Airport, Raipur (Chhattisgarh)

**Best Heritage City** - Gwalior

### **55th National Athletics Open Championships**

**Venue** : Sai East Centre Stadium, Kolkata

**Best Athlete** - Men - Aroky Rajiv (Services) 400 m

**Best Athlete** - Women - Lalita Babar (Railways) 3000 m Steeple Chase

### **Championships**

**Overall Championships** 1. Railways 2. ONGC 3. Services

**Mens' Championships** 1. Services 2. ONGC 3. Railways

**Womens' Championships** 1. Railways 2. ONGC 3. Police

### **PM Narendra Modi's gifts to Mr Enda Kenny, PM of Ireland**

Reproductions of a selection of manuscripts and papers available in the National Archives of India pertaining to two Irish officials, Thomas Oldham (1816-1878) and Sir George Abraham Grierson (1851-1941), in recognition of their contributions in India.

**Thomas Oldham** was appointed as geological surveyor in 1850 to conduct a geological survey in India. He conducted the first systematic coal mapping of India. His joining day is celebrated as the foundation day of the Geological Survey of India.

**Sir George A Grierson** was an Irish civil servant and philologist who, starting 1898, conducted the first Linguistic Survey of India.

### **Sustainable Development Goals adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in Sep 2015**

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

6. Ensure access to water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities inclusive safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainable use the oceans, seas and marine resources
15. Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies
17. Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

### Abbreviations in News

MAT : Minimum Alternate Tax

PRASAD : Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive

PMKKKY : Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana

SISMA : South Indian Sugar Mills Association

LIMBS : Legal Information Management & Briefing System

### Current Affairs Questions

1. After how many years did India recently win a test series in Sri Lanka?  
(a) 18 years                      (b) 20 years                      (c) 22 years                      (d) 25 years
2. Who represented India at China's military parade in Beijing to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II?  
(a) Shri Narendra Modi   (b) Gen V.K. Singh (Retd.)                      (c) Smt Sushma Swaraj   (d) Shri Nitin Gadkari
3. Name of which of the following mountains has been changed to its original name Denali?

(a) Elbrus                      (b) Aconcagua                      (c) McKinley                      (d) Etna

4. Who was the longest serving British monarch before Queen Elizabeth II, the present monarch?

(a) King George III              (b) King Edward VII              (c) King George V              (d) Queen Victoria

5. Jeremy Corbyn who is news is -

(a) the new Australian Prime Minister                      (b) the new US ambassador to India  
(c) the new Chairman of the World Bank                      (d) the leader of Labour Party of U.K.

6. Which university has been ranked No. 1 by the QS World ranking of Universities released recently?

(a) Harvard University                      (b) Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
(c) University of Cambridge                      (d) Stanford University

7. Which of the following cities is not connected by the Nanning-Singapore Economic Corridor?  
Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Phnom Penh, Ho Chi Minh City, Vientiane, Jakarta, Hanoi and Nanning

(a) Jakarta                      (b) Hanoi                      (c) Phnom Penh                      (d) Bangkok

8. Sumit Nagal is associated with which of the following sports?

(a) Tennis                      (b) Billiards                      (c) Golf                      (d) Squash

9. Which of the following films has been chosen to be India's official entry to the Academy Awards 2016?

(a) Bajrangi Bhaijaan              (b) Manjhi                      (c) Court                      (d) Lunchbox

10. What is the correct order of World Bank's ranking of Indian states in ease of doing business?

(a) Gujarat, M.P., Tamil Nadu                      (b) A.P., Gujarat, Maharashtra  
(c) M.P., A.P., Bihar                      (d) Gujarat, A.P., Jharkhand

11. Who of the following won the US Open Women's Singles title?

(a) Roberta Vinci              (b) Flavia Pennetta              (c) Serena Williams              (d) Maria Sharapova

12. Which railway zone of the Indian Railways has become the first in the country to eliminate all unmanned level crossings?

(a) West Central              (b) South Central              (c) Central                      (d) East Central

13. Who of the following was awarded the best athlete at the 55<sup>th</sup> National Athletics Open Championship held in Kolkata?
- (a) Vikas Gowda      (b) Arokya Rajiv      (c) Inderjeet Singh      (d) Neeraj chopra
14. Who of the following conducted the first Linguistic Survey of India?
- (a) Sir George a Grierson (b) Thomas Oldham      (c) David H Williams      (d) Charles Wood
15. Which city has been chosen as the Best Heritage City for the National Tourism Awards 2013-14?
- (a) Jodhpur      (b) Hampi      (c) Hyderabad      (d) Gwalior
16. Who is the first President of the newly formed W-20 group?
- (a) Ms Christine Lagarde (b) Ms Belinda Gates      (c) Ms Gulden Turkkan      (d) Sheryl Sandberg
17. Which city has been chosen to host the 2022 Commonwealth Games?
- (a) Pretoria      (b) Durban      (c) Johannesburg      (d) Harare
18. Multi-dose vials of painkiller drug Diclofenac have been banned by the Govt of India to save which animal/bird from extinction?
- (a) Vulture      (b) Tiger      (b) Elephant      (d) Peacock
19. Which organisation has been conferred the Gandhi Peace Prize 2014?
- (a) DRDO      (b) ISRO      (c) HAL      (d) RSS
20. Which Indian golfer has become the first Indian to qualify for the President's Cup?
- (a) Anirban Lahiri      (b) Arjun Atwal      (c) Shiv Kapur      (d) Gaganjeet Bhullar
21. Recently remains of an ancient human species Homo naledi were found in which country?
- (a) Argentina      (b) England      (c) China      (d) South Africa
22. The exhibition celebrating Golden Jubilee of India's war of 1965 held in New Delhi was named –
- (a) Shradhanjali      (b) Shouryanjali      (c) Pushpanjali      (d) Vijayanjali
23. Which country has recently allowed its military to engage in overseas combat for the first time after World War II?
- (a) Japan      (b) South Korea      (c) North Korea      (d) Canada
24. Shobana Bhartia who was awarded 2015 USIBC Global Leadership Award is associated with –
- (a) Times of India      (b) The Hindu      (c) Hindustan Times      (d) Indian Express

25. Which automobile company was in news recently for being involved in emission cheating scandal?

- (a) Toyota                      (b) Honda                      (c) Peugeot                      (d) Volkswagen

26. Malcolm Turnbull is the new Prime Minister of

- (a) Australia                      (b) New Zealand                      (c) United Kingdom                      (d) Canada

27. Which two rivers have been recently linked by the Pattiseema project?

- (a) Krishna and Tungabhadra                      (b) Tungabhadra and Kaveri  
(c) Godavari and Krishna                      (d) Godavari and Tungabhadra

28. Which of the following was the theme of the International Literacy Day 2015?

- (a) Literacy for all                      (b) Literacy and Sustainable Societies  
(c) Literacies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century                      (d) Literacy and Peace

29. Which of the following was the venue of 10<sup>th</sup> World Hindi Conference held in September 2015?

- (a) Lucknow                      (b) Gwalior                      (c) Chandigarh                      (d) Bhopal

30. At which of the following places has the first IIT of Karnataka been set up?

- (a) Dharwad                      (b) Raichur                      (c) Mysore                      (d) Kalaburagi

**Answers**

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (d) 5. (d) 6. (b) 7. (a) 8. (a) 9. (c) 10. (d) 11. (b) 12. (a) 13. (b)  
14. (a) 15. (d) 16. (c) 17. (b) 18. (a) 19. (b) 20. (a) 21. (d) 22. (b) 23. (a) 24. (c) 25. (d) 26. (a)  
27. (c) 28. (b) 29. (d) 30. (a)