

Appointments

The new Chief Minister of Maharashtra who was sworn in by the Governor Shri C Vidyasagar Rao at a ceremony held in Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai – **Shri Devendra Fadnavis**

The first woman President of Brazil who won a second term of presidency defeating her rival Aécio Neves – **Dilma Rousseff**

The new Chief Minister of Haryana who was sworn in by the Governor Kaptan Singh Solanki at a ceremony in Panchkula – **Manohar Lal Khattar**

US-based economist and a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, who was appointed as the Chief Economic Advisor to the Govt of India (a post which was vacant since Dr. Raghuram Rajan became the Governor of RBI) – **Arvind Subramanian**

The former two-term Norwegian Prime Minister who took over as the new Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) – **Jens Stoltenberg**

The Governor of West Bengal who was sworn in as the new Governor of Bihar following the expiry of the term of former Governor D.Y. Patil – **Keshari Nath Tripathi**

The former Uttar Pradesh Chief Secretary who was appointed the new Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha with the rank and status of Cabinet Secretary with effect from December 01 – **Anoop Mishra**

The former health minister of Goa who was sworn in as the 11th Chief Minister of Goa following the resignation of Shri Manohar Parrikar – **Laxmikant Parsekar**

The new Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation who has taken over the charge from outgoing chief Dr. K Radhakrishnan – **Shailesh Nayak**

The BJP MLA from Jamshedpur East constituency who took over as the new Chief Minister of Jharkhand – **Raghubar Das**

The new Director General of Central Bureau of Investigation who was appointed following retirement of former chief Ranjit Sinha – **Anil Sinha**

The new Prime Minister of Mauritius who was once again appointed after his party won the recent elections in country – **Aneroodh Jugnauth**

The person chosen to be appointed the next United States ambassador to India filling the vacant post since the resignation of Nancy Powell in March 2014 (He is the first Indian-American chosen for the post) – **Richard Rahul Verma**

Awards

The Indian-born plant scientist who was awarded the USD 250,000 2014 World Food Prize at the 2014 Borlaug Dialogue, currently being held in Des Moines, United States, for his contribution in increasing global wheat production – **Dr Sanjaya Rajaram**

The Indian police inspector from Jammu and Kashmir police currently deployed in the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), who was awarded the International Female Police Peacekeeper Award 2014 – **Shakti Devi**

The Australian author who was awarded the Man Booker Prize 2014 for his book The Narrow Road to the Deep North – **Richard Flanagan**

Malayalam poet, social activist and recipient of Padma Shri (2006) and Saraswati Samman (2012) who was chosen for Mathrubhumi Literary Award (Mathrubhumi Sahitya Puraskaram) for 2014. (She has also been awarded the Kerala Gandhi Award by K.Kelappan Smaraka Samithi) – **Sugatha Kumari**

Lahore based author who was chosen for the 2014 Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize for his novel The Scatter Here Is Too Great – **Bilal Tanweer**

The social entrepreneur and founder of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences in Odisha who was chosen for the Gusi Peace Prize for the year 2014 (The award was instituted by Gusi Peace Prize International, a Philippines-based awards body and named after World War II guerrilla leader Gemeniano Javier Gusi) – **Achyut Samanta**

The organisation which was chosen for the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for the year 2014 – **Indian Space Research Organisation**

The eminent jurist who was chosen for the 2014 K.R. Narayanan Award instituted by K.R. Narayanan Foundation – **Justice VR Krishna Iyer**

The Hindi poet and author of works like “Abhi bilkul abhi” and “Yahan se dekho” who was conferred 2013 Jnanpith Award by the President Dr. Pranab Mukherji – **Kedarnath Singh**

The civilian award with which the former Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh was honoured by Japan – **Order of the Paulownia Flowers**

The renowned sarod maestro who was chosen for the Virasat award for 2015 instituted by Alva’s Education Foundation – **Amjad Ali Khan**

The music director duo who were chosen for this year's Swaralaya Devarajan National Award for their contribution to the field of classical music – **Pt. Shiv Kumar Sharma and Hariprasad Chaurasia**

The public sector company which was conferred the PSE Excellence Award 2014 for R & D and Technology Development in the Maharatna & Navratna CPSEs Category by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) – **BHEL**

The public sector company which was awarded the PSE Excellence Award 2014 for 'Corporate Governance & Innovation in Business' by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) at the 5th Summit on "India: Public Sector Agenda" organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce with the support of Department of Public Enterprises and Ministry of Heavy Industries – **Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd**

Cricket

The former Indian cricketer who alongwith former Australian cricketer Steve Waugh was inducted into the Bradman Hall of fame – **Sachin Tendulkar**

The Indian cricketer who has become the fastest cricketer in the world to score 20 centuries in ODIs by doing it in 133 innings, breaking Sachin Tendulkar's earlier record (against West Indies at Dharamshala) – **Virat Kohli**

The Indian cricket star who has figured at No. 5 position in Forbes list of Most Valuable Athlete Brands for the year 2014 – **Mahender Singh Dhoni**

The Australian cricketer who died on 27 Nov following a head injury sustained while facing a short-pitched delivery from New South Wales paceman Sean Abbott – **Phillip Hughes**

The team which won the Vijay Hazare Trophy defeating Punjab in the finals at Ahmedabad – **Karnataka**

The former Indian cricket skipper who was chosen for the BCCI's Col. C.K. Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Award for 2013-14 – **Dilip Vengsarkar**

The Indian cricketer who set a new record of scoring the highest individual score in One-day Internationals by making 264 runs against Sri Lanka at Eden Gardens, Kolkata – **Rohit Sharma**

The Indian cricket bowler who won the LG ICC People's Choice Award for the year 2014 – **Bhuvaneshwar Kumar**

The Pakistani cricket player who has equalled West Indian cricketer Vivian Richards' record for the fastest century by scoring it against Australia in 56 deliveries – **Misbah-ul-Haq**

The Sri Lankan batsman who has become the fourth batsman in the history of one-day internationals to surpass the 13,000-run mark (the other three being Sachin Tendulkar, Ricky Ponting and S Jayasuriya) – **Kumar Sangakkara**

The team captained by Manoj Tiwary which has won the Deodhar Trophy defeating defending champions West

Zone in the finals – East Zone

The Indian wicket-keeper who has set a new world record for most number of stumpings in international cricket after he effected his 134th dismissal surpassing Kumar Sangakkara's record of 133 dismissals(He has 38 stumpings in tests, 85 stumpings in ODIs and 11 in T20s) – **MS Dhoni**

Other Sports

The Indian billiards player who became the first player ever to win World Billiards title in both formats thrice by defeating England's Robert Hall in the IBSF World Billiards championship (timed format) – **Pankaj Advani**

The Indian golf player who won the Macau Open overtaking Australian player Scott Hend – **Anirban Lahiri**

The Zimbabwean tennis player pairing with whom Sania Mirza won the doubles title at the WTA Finals defeating Peng Shuai and Hsieh Su-Wei – **Cara Black**

The boxing gold medal winner at the Asian Games 2014 who was chosen as the Most Valuable Player of the India's Incheon Asian Games campaign by contingent sponsors Samsung India – **Mary Kom**

The tennis player who won the 20th Fennesta National Tennis championship men's singles title defeating Siddarth Rawat in the final – **Vishnu Vardhan**

The tennis player who won the 20th Fennesta National Tennis championship women's singles title beating Kamran Kaur in the finals – **Prerna Bhambri**

The Russian tennis player who won the China Open women's singles title defeating Czech player Petra Kvitova in the finals – **Maria Sharapova**

Serbian tennis player who won the China Open men's singles title defeating Czech player Tomas Berdych in the finals – **Novak Djokovic**

The Indian badminton player who won the \$120,000 Macau Grand Prix Gold trophy defeating Kim Hyo Min of Korea in the women's singles finals – **P.V. Sindhu**

The Indian tennis player who was named United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for the South Asian Region by UN Women – **Sania Mirza**

The country which won the 2014 Davis Cup title for the first time defeating France in the finals at Lille, France – **Switzerland**

The city in which Fide World Chess Championship Match 2014 between Magnus Carlsen and Viswanathan Anand was held with Carlsen winning 3 games, drawing 7 games and losing 1 – **Sochi, Russia**

The Indian badminton player who won the women's singles title of the USD 700,000 China Open Super Series defeating Akane Yamaguchi of Japan in the finals – **Saina Nehwal**

The Indian badminton player who won the men's singles title of the USD 700,000 China Open Super Series defeating two-time Olympic champion Lin Dan of China in the finals – **K Shrikanth**

The country against which Indian hockey team has recently won a four-match test series 3-1 – **Australia**

The Indian woman boxer who was handed a one-year ban by the International Boxing Association (AIBA) for refusing to accept her bronze medal at the Asian Games 2014 – **L. Sarita**

Defence

The four-day trilateral Coast Guard exercise among India, Maldives and Sri Lanka which was conducted off the Maldives coast was codenamed – **Dosti-XII**

The pollution response exercise organised by the Indian Coast Guard off the coast of Kovalam in Kerala for fine-tuning the Standard Operating Procedure of various departments so that they could effectively prevent pollutions at sea from reaching the shore was code named – **Pradushan - 01/14**

The joint exercise conducted by Indian Coastguard and Andhra Pradesh police on coastal security at ground level in Krishna district of A.P. was named – **Operation Amla**

Indian Navy's torpedo recovery vessel of Astravahini class which sank off the coast of Visakhapatnam killing one sailor – **TRV-72**

The offshore patrol vessel built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) in Kolkata, which has become the first warship to be exported by India (Country to which exported: Mauritius) – **CGS Barracuda**

The US aircraft manufacturing company which was awarded the contract for supplying multi-role helicopters S-70B to Indian Navy – **Sikorsky**

The first prototype (NP1) of indigenously designed and developed 4th plus generation Naval Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) was successfully tested from shore-based ski-jump facility at – **INS Hansa, Goa**

Space

The winged spaceship of Virgin Galactic designed to take tourists on excursions beyond Earth's atmosphere which exploded during a test flight immediately after being released from a carrier aircraft – **VSS Enterprise**

The Orbital Sciences Corporation's rocket which was to launch Cyngus cargo spacecraft carrying supplies to International Space Station and which blew up over the launch complex at Wallops Island Facility in Virginia, just six seconds after lift-off – **Antares**

The US military's robotic space plane that landed back at Vandenberg Air Force base in California ending a 22-month mission is named (The plane was launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on December 11, 2012) – **X-37B (Orbital Test Vehicle)**

The Japanese space explorer launched on a six-year roundtrip journey to blow a crater in a remote asteroid and collect samples from inside in hopes of gathering clues to the origin of earth is named (The explorer is expected to reach the asteroid in 2018 and spend about 18 months studying it before returning in 2020.) – **Hayabusa 2**

Places – World

The European country which gave recognition to the country of Palestine In October 2014 as promised by its new Prime Minister Stefan Lofven – **Sweden**

The west African country which was declared free of viral disease Ebola in October 2014 by the World Health Organisation, 42 days after the last case in the country – **Nigeria**

The Chinese city from which an 82-wagon cargo train was flagged off on its 21-day silk-route journey to Madrid in Spain travelling through Kazakhstan, Russia, Belarus, Poland, Germany and France – **Yiwu**

The country with which Russia signed a landmark agreement to increase military cooperation during the visit of its Defence Minister to the country – **Pakistan**

The city of Australia which was the venue of 9th G-20 summit from 15 to 16 November 2014, with Mr Tony Abbott (PM of Australia) being the host leader – **Brisbane**

The venue of the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties and the 10th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (Climate Change conference) which was held from 1 to 14 December – **Lima, Peru**

The country which was the first to recognise Bangladesh as an independent nation on 06 Dec 1971 as clarified by Bangladesh's Foreign Office putting an end to decades old speculation on the issue – **Bhutan**

The island nation in the Indian Ocean to which India has despatched 1000 tonnes of water using Indian Navy ships and Indian Air Force aircraft following failure of the country's desalination plant – **Maldives**

The Asian country which faced an internet outage of more than 9 hours on 22 December – **North Korea**

The east European country whose parliament has renounced non-aligned status with an aim of joining the NATO – **Ukraine**

The country with which Indian borders were sealed in a counter-insurgency action against National Democratic Front of Boroland (Songbijit) in Assam – **Bhutan**

The country which launched Yaogan 26 satellite from Taiyuan space center aboard a Long March 4B rocket – **China**

The country with which Pakistan has signed a \$1.7 billion deal to lay a gas pipeline from Karachi to Lahore – **Russia**

Places – India

The place in Uttar Pradesh where a head-on collision between Krishak Express and Lucknow Barauni Express in October 2014 killed over 13 persons – **Gorakhpur**

The state in which the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has signed a memorandum of understanding to form a joint venture (JV) company for setting up India's first offshore wind power project – **Gujarat**

The state which in November 2014 became the first in the country to make voting in local bodies elections compulsory, empowering the election commission to declare a non-voter as defaulter and liable to punishment – **Gujarat**

The state which in November 2014 became the first in the country to provide full banking coverage to all households under the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojna – **Kerala**

The village in Varanasi which was adopted by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as a part of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana – **Jayapur**

The venue of the first International Puppet Festival being organised by Dhaatu Puppet Theatre to be held from 01 January 2015 – **Bengaluru**

The State in which the 13th edition of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is scheduled to be held from January 07 to January 09 (Note: The youth segment of the occasion will have the theme Bharat ko Jano and Bharat ko Mano) – **Gujarat**

Persons

The Google executive, who created a new record in highest-altitude free fall jump by taking a jump from an altitude of 1,35,889.108 ft to which he was carried by a balloon manufactured by Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Hyderabad (He hit a top velocity of 1,322 km/hr during a free fall that lasted four-and-a-half minutes.) – **Alan Eustace**

The Sri Lankan Buddhist revivalist and founding contributor of non-violent Sinhalese Buddhist Nationalism and Buddhism on whom a commemorative postage stamp was released by the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee – **Anagarika Dharmapala**

The secretary-general of Hockey India who was elected as its President for a four-year term replacing Ms Mariamma Koshy – **Narinder Batra**

The veteran journalist and author of book - The Man of the Moment : Narendra Modi, who passed away at the age of 93 on 09.10.14 – **M.V. Kamath**

The chairperson of Sangeet Natak Akademi and Central Board of Film Censors who resigned from her post as the chairperson of Sangeet Natak Akademi – **Ms. Leela Samson**

The discoverer of sub-atomic particle tau lepton and recipient of Nobel Physics prize, 1995, who died at the age of 87 on 30.09.2014 – **Martin Lewis Perl**

The longest surviving fighter pilot from a group of 24 Indians who had served in the British Royal Air Force during the Second World War whose statue was unveiled in Kent in England – **Mahinder Singh Puji**

The film star who was awarded the Indian Film Personality of the Year 2014 at the 45th International Film Festival of India held at Goa from 20 Nov to 30 Nov – **Rajinikanth**

The renowned Kathak dancer often described as Kathak queen, winner of Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, Padma Shri and Kalidas Samman who died at the age of 94 on 25 Nov 14 – **Sitara Devi**

The Indian film director, screenwriter, producer, actor and founder of -MARD Initiative who was chosen to be the first male goodwill ambassador of UN Women – **Farhan Akhtar**

The committee set up by the Union Government to examine the possibility of constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) for reinvestigation of the 1984 anti-Sikh riot cases will be headed by – **Justice GP Mathur**

Indian space scientist and head of Indian Space Research Organisation who is one of the 2014 top ten scientists chosen by the prestigious journal Nature – **Dr. K. Radhakrishnan**

The first and only Muslim Chief Minister of Maharashtra who passed away on 02 Dec 2014 – **A.R. Antulay**

The Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Hotels that runs the luxury hotels chain THE LALIT under The Lalit Suri Hospitality Group who was elected as the new President of FICCI – **Ms Jyotsna Suri**

Cyclones

The cyclone which arose in the Arabian Sea and threatened to hit the coast of Gujarat severely but finally weakened out causing no damage was named – **Cyclone Nilofar**

The typhoon which hit the coasts of Japanese islands on 13 Oct forcing cancellation of hundreds of flights and evacuation of lakhs of people is named – **Vongfong**

The operation launched by the Indian Navy to carry out relief and rescue operations in areas affected by cyclone Hudhud was code-named – **Operation Lehar**

The cyclone from Bay of Bengal which made landfall at Pudimadaka in Visakhapatnam on 12.10.14 killing 5 people in A.P. and Odisha is named (the name was given by Oman) – **Hudhud**

The typhoon which hit the coast of Japan in October 2014 and in which 3 US airmen were swept away was named – **Phanfone**

Railways

The Android application launched by IRCTC to enable mobile users to search, book and cancel tickets at a click of button is named – **IRCTC Connect**

The semi-high speed train which is proposed to be launched between Agra and Delhi and expected to cover the distance in 105 minutes by running at 160 kmph is named – **Gatimaan Express**

Darohar Gyanodaya Express which was flagged off from Safdarjung terminal on a study tour to the north eastern states of India was launched by – **Delhi University**

Science & Technology

The place at which world's largest telescope is being developed by India alongwith Japan, USA, Canada and China will be installed by 2022 – **Mt Mauna Kea, Hawaii**

Earth's most abundant mineral which makes up about 70 percent of the earth's lower mantle (670 km under the crust) and 38 percent of total volume of the earth was named (the mineral had not been named because a large enough sample of the mineral had not been recovered) – **Bridgmanite**

The e-mail application launched by IBM for businesses that integrates social media and analytics is named – **Verse**

The agricultural research organisation which has launched low-cost combination phone and tablet computer called 'GreenPHABLET powered by the GreenSIM' to benefit smallholder farmers by helping them purchase inputs at lower price, get a better price for their produce and link them to markets – **ICRISAT**

The wheeled version of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) Nishant, capable of taking off from and landing on small airstrips, which made its maiden flight on December 24 from an airfield at Kolar in Karnataka (Nishant has an underbelly airbag and is launched by a catapult. It lands with the help of an onboard parachute.) – **Panchi**

The Chinese smartphone vendor which along with its e-commerce partner Flipkart was asked by the Delhi Court to stop importing and selling devices in India in response to Swedish company Ericsson's patent-infringement petition – **Xiaomi**

Miscellaneous

The campaign launched by UN Women to ensure greater participation of men in promoting women's rights and gender equality and to end gender inequality by 2030 is named – **HeForShe**

The war led by United States against Islamic State jihadists, which began more than two months ago was named – **Operation Inherent Resolve**

The savings instrument intended to tap household savings for funding infrastructure development in the country and to lure them away from ponzi schemes, which was re-launched by the finance minister Shri Arun Jaitley (Minimum deposit: Rs. 1000/-. No upper limit. Amount to double in 8 years 4 months. Lock-in period: 2 years 6 months) – **Kisan Vikas Patra**

The original petition of Australian lawyer John Lang, gifted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Australian PM Tony Abbott during the former's visit to Australia, was filed in 1854 against East India Company on behalf of (The Indian PM also presented the Man Singh Trophy, a prized possession of Sikh regiment battalions to the Australian PM) – **Rani of Jhansi, Lakshmibai**

The language which was removed from the third language slot of regular curriculum of Kendriya Vidyalayas by HRD Ministry – **German**

The scheme launched by the PM of India enabling retired employees of government and PSUs, to digitally provide proof of their existence to authorities for continuity of pension every year instead of requiring them to be physically present is named – **Jeevan Pramaan**

The company which has set up world's tallest hybrid wind generator turbine at Kutch inaugurated by Gujarat Chief Minister Anandiben Patel – **Suzlon Energy**

The 104-storey building (tallest in the western hemisphere) which has opened at the site of twin towers destroyed in terrorist attacks on 11 Sep 2001 is named – **One World Trade Center**

The rank of Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in the world's most powerful list released by Forbes recently with Russian President Vladimir Putin at No. 1 for the second consecutive year – **15**

The reserve in Uttarakhand in which the State has decided to hold its second bird watching festival from 05 Feb 2015 – **Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve**

The Italian-flagged ship carrying more than 400 passengers sailing from Greek port of Patras to Ancona, Italy, on which a fire broke out and passengers were evacuated using helicopters – **Norman Atlantic**

The AirAsia Airbus A320-200 (Flight QZ8501) which went missing over Java Sea with 162 passengers aboard was on its flight from – **Surabaya to Singapore**

The monuments for which the Archaeological Survey of India has started online ticket booking facility in collaboration with IRCTC – **Taj Mahal and Humayun's Tomb**

The mission launched by the Union Health Ministry aimed at cover all those children by 2020 who are either unvaccinated, or are partially vaccinated against seven vaccine preventable diseases (diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles and hepatitis B) in 201 districts of the country is named – **Mission Indradhanush**

The year by which India is expected to reach replacement level fertility of 2.1 according to Sample Registration Survey (SRS), conducted by the Registrar General of India – **2020**

The highest peak in Antarctica by conquering which Indian mountaineering twins Tashi and Nungshi Malik have become the first twins in the world to have all climbed all the seven highest peaks in seven continents – **Mt Vinson Massif**

The theme of Indian government's calendar for 2015 which was released by the Information and Broadcasting Minister Shri Arun Jaitley – **Clean India Green India**

The river in which an oil tanker sank after colliding with a cargo vessel and caused an oil spillage threatening wildlife in the Sundarbans forest – **Shela**

The limit on Pre-paid Payment Instruments (PPI) issued by banks, was raised by RBI from Rs. 50000 to – **Rs. 1 lakh**

The per cent of stake in Steel Authority of India which Government of India has decided to disinvest in a public offering – **5 per cent**

Revised MSP rates for Rabi crop 2014-15

Commodity	MSP 2013-14	MSP 2014-15
Wheat	Rs. 1400/-	Rs. 1450/-
Barley	Rs. 1100/-	Rs. 1150/-
Gram	Rs. 3100/-	Rs. 3175/-
Masur	Rs. 2950/-	Rs. 3075/-
Rapeseed	Rs. 3050/-	Rs. 3100/-
Safflower	Rs. 3000/-	Rs. 3050/-

Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank

Points to remember

- ❖ The bank was launched on 24 October with 21 countries signing in.
- ❖ The bank was launched by China to provide finance to infrastructure projects in the Asia Pacific region.
- ❖ The bank is likely to be operational by 2015.
- ❖ The initial registered capital of the bank is proposed at \$50 billion.
- ❖ China will be the largest shareholder in the bank with a stake upto 50 per cent.
- ❖ Three countries of the Asia Pacific region viz. Australia, Japan and Indonesia were not present at the launch of the bank.
- ❖ The 21 founding member countries are China, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Myanmar, Mongolia, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.

National Air Quality Index

Points to remember

- ❖ Launched by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt of India
- ❖ A tool for measuring air quality with the concept of "one number, one colour, one description"
- ❖ The index is classified into six categories — good, satisfactory, moderately polluted, poor, very poor, and severe — with colour coding ranging from green to dark red.
- ❖ The AQI will map eight pollutants viz. PM10, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, CO, O3, NH3 and Pb.

IRNSS-1C

Launch date: 16 Oct 2014

Launch Station: Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota

Launch vehicle: PSLV-C26

It carried two types of payloads, one for transmitting navigation service signals to the users and another consisting of a C-band transponder to facilitate Cube Retro Reflectors for laser ranging.

Note: IRNSS-1A launched in July 2013 and IRNSS-1B launched in April 2014.

Asian Games 2014 - Medals Tally

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	China	151	108	83	342
2.	South Korea	79	71	84	234
3.	Japan	47	76	77	200
4.	Kazakhstan	28	23	33	84
5.	Iran	21	18	18	57

6.	Thailand	12	7	28	47
7.	North Korea	11	11	14	36
8.	India	11	10	36	57
9.	Chinese Taipei	10	18	23	51
10.	Qatar	10	0	4	14

Nobel Prizes 2014

#	Field	Winners	Contribution
1.	Medicine	John O'Keefe (U.S.A.) May-Britt Moser (Norway) Edvard Moser (Norway)	for discovering the brain's positioning system.
2.	Chemistry	Erit Betzig (U.S.A.) William Moerner (U.S.A.) Stefan Hell (Germany)	for developing new methods that let microscopes see finer details than they could before.
3.	Physics	Isamu Akasaki – Japan Hiroshi Amano – Japan Shuji Nakamura – U.S.A.	for the invention of blue light-emitting diodes a new energy efficient and environment-friendly light source.
4.	Literature	Patrick Modiano (France)	for the art of memory with which he has evoked the most ungraspable human destinies and unlocked the life-world of the occupation.
5.	Peace	Kailash Satyarthi (India) Malala Yousafzai	for their struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education.
6.	Economic Sciences	Jean Tirole (France)	For his analysis of market power and regulation.

Forbes Most Valuable Athlete Brands - 2014

#	Name	Brand Value	#	Name	Brand Value
1.	Lebron James	\$ 37 million	6.	Usain Bolt	\$ 19 million
2.	Tiger Woods	\$ 36 million	7.	Christiano Ronaldo	\$ 17 million
3.	Roger Federer	\$ 32 million	8.	Kobe Bryant	\$ 15 million
4.	Phil Mickelson	\$ 29 million	9.	Lionel Messi	\$ 12 million
5.	Mahender Singh Dhoni	\$ 20 million	10.	Rafael Nadal	\$ 10 million

Man Booker Prize - 2014 shortlist

#	Book	Author
1.	How to be both	Ali Smith
2.	J Howard	Jacobson
3.	The Lives of Others	Neel Mukherjee
4.	To Rise Again at a Decent Hour	Joshua Ferris
5.	We are all completely beside ourselves	Karen Joy Fowler
6.	The Narrow Road to the Deep North	Richard Flanagan

Awards at International Film Festival of India 2014

Best Film (Golden Peacock)	Leviathan (Directed by Andrey Zvyagintsev)
Best Director (Silver Peacock)	Nadav Lapid (The Kindergarten Teacher)
Best Actor Male (Silver Peacock)	Alexel Serbriakov (Leviathan) and Dulal Sarkar(Chotoder Chobi)
Best Actor Female (Silver Peacock)	Alina Rodriguez (Behaviour) and Sarit Larry (The Kindergarten Teacher)
Special Jury Award (Silver Peacock)	Ek Hazarachi Note (Directed by Shrihari Sathe)
Centenary Award (Silver Peacock)	Ek Hazarachi Note (Directed by Shrihari Sathe)
Lifetime Achievement Award	Wong Kar wai (Hong Kong)

Jamnalal Bajaj Awards 2014

Outstanding Contribution in Constructive Work : Shri Surendra Koulagi (Founder, Janapada Seva Trust, Karnataka)

Outstanding Contribution in Application of Science & Technology for Rural Development : Shri. Ram Kumar Singh (Managing Trustee & Director, Suruchi Shikshan Vasahat Trust, Gujarat)

Outstanding Contribution in Development and Welfare of Women and Children and-or Gandhian Constructive Work by Women Workers : Smt. Chennupati Vidya (Founder President, Vasavya Mahila Mandali, Andhra Pradesh)

Outstanding Contribution in Promotion of Gandhian Values Outside India by Individuals other than Indian Citizens : Mr. Sulak Sivaraksa (Founder, International Network of Engaged Buddhists, Thailand)

LG ICC Awards 2014

ICC Cricketer of the Year (Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy)	Mitchell Johnson (Australia)
ICC Test Cricketer of the Year	Mitchell Johnson (Australia)
ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year	Sarah Taylor (England)
ICC ODI Cricketer of the Year	AB de Villiers (South Africa)
ICC Emerging Cricketer of the Year	Gary Ballance (England)
ICC Associate and Affiliate Cricketer of the Year	Preston Mommsen (Scotland)
ICC Twenty20 International Performance of the Year	Aaron Finch (Australia)
ICC T20I Women's Cricketer of the Year	Meg Lanning (Australia)
ICC Spirit of Cricket Award	Katherine Brunt (England)
ICC Umpire of the Year (winning the David Shepherd Trophy)	Richard Kettleborough
People's Choice	Bhuvaneshwar Kumar.

BCCI Awards 2014

Polly Umrigar Award (Best International Cricketer)	Bhuvneshwar Kumar
Lala Amarnath Award (Best All rounder in Ranji Trophy)	Parveez Rasool

Lala Amarnath Award (Best all rounder in domestic limited over tournaments)	R. Vinay Kumar
Madhavrao Scindia Award (Highest scorer in Ranji Trophy)	Kedar Jadhav
Madhavrao Scindia Award (Highest wicket taker in Ranji Trophy)	Rishi Dhawan
M.A. Chidambaram Trophy (Best u 25 cricketer)	Rahul Tripathi
M.A. Chidambaram Trophy (Best u 19 cricketer)	B. Anirudh
M.A. Chidambaram Trophy (Best u 16 cricketer)	Shubham Gill
M.A. Chidambaram Trophy (Best woman cricketer)	Smriti Mandhana
Best umpire in domestic cricket	Anil Chaudhary

PETA (People for Ethical Treatment of Animals)

Man of the Year : KS Radhakrishnan (Former Supreme Court Judge)

Woman of the Year : Jacqueline Fernandez (Actress)

Hottest Vegans of the Year : Narendra Modi and Rekha

AIFF (All India Football Federation)

AIFF Player of the Year : Sunil Chhetri (4th time - earlier wins - 2007, 2011, 2013)

Emerging Footballer of the Year : Sandesh Jhingan

AIFF Woman Footballer of the Year : Bala Devi

List of 12 Cities to be focussed upon by Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) to be launched by the Ministry of Urban Development in January 2015.

1. Amritsar (Punjab), 2. Ajmer (Rajasthan), 3. Mathura (U.P.), 4. Gaya (Bihar), 5. Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), 6. Vellankanni (Tamil Nadu), 7. Varanasi (U.P.), 8. Puri (Odisha), 9. Dwaraka (Gujarat), 10. Badami (Karnataka), 11. Warangal (Telangana), 12. Amrawati (Andhra Pradesh)

Indian Super League 2014

Teams : 1. Chennaiyin FC, 2. FC Goa, 3. Atletico de Kolkata, 4. Kerala Blasters FC, 5. Delhi Dynamos FC, 6. FC Pune City, 7. Mumbai City FC, 8. Northeast United FC

Winners : Atletico de Kolkata

Runners-up : Kerala Blasters

Golden Boot Award : Elano Blumer (Chennaiyin FC)

Golden Glove Award : Jan Seda (FC Goa)

Muthoot Group Fair Play Award : Delhi Dynamos FC

5th Kabaddi World Cup 2014 - 06 to 20 Dec 2014

Venue for finals : Guru Gobindsingh Stadium, Badal, Punjab

Men's title : India beat Pakistan

Women's title : India beat New Zealand

Hero Men's Hockey Champions Trophy 2014

Venue : Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar

Teams : India, Australia, Netherlands, Pakistan, Belgium, Argentina, England and Germany

Final Rankings : 1. Germany, 2. Pakistan, 3. Australia, 4. India

Time Person of the Year 2014

Ebola fighters (refers to health care workers who helped fight the spread of EVD.)

Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer

Born - 15 November 1914

Died - 04 December 2014

Judge of Supreme Court - 17 July 1973 to 14 November 1980

Awarded Padma Vibhushan in - 1999

Autobiography - Wandering in Many Worlds

Other books - Law and the People, Life after Death, Social Mission of Law, Of Law and Life

K. Balachander

Born - 09 July 1930

Died - 23 December 2014

Indian director, producer, writer, actor, playwright, stage conductor, and comedian

Awarded Padma Shri in - 1987

Awarded Dada Saheb Phalke Award in - 2011

Awarded National Film Award for Best Tamil Film - Iru Kodagal (1969), Apoorva Raagangal (1975), Thaneer Thaneer (1981), Achamillai Achamillai (1984)

Nargis Datt Award for Best Film on National Integration - Rudraveen (1988), Roja (1992)

Launch of communication satellite GSAT-16

Launch date - 07 December 2014

Launched from - Kourou space port - French Guiana

Launch vehicle - Ariane 5 VA221

The satellite replaces INSAT 3E which expired in April 2014. GSAT-16's 48 transponders - 12 in the C band, 12 in the extended C and 24 in the Ku band - cover the entire country and the Andaman & Nicobar islands. GSAT-16 will be used by television, telephone, Internet, public and private operators.

Launch of GSLV Mark-III

Launch date - 18 December 2014

Launched from - Shriharikota

Payload - Crew Module Atmospheric Re-entry Experiment (CARE)

CARE retrieved from Bay of Bengal by Indian Coast Guard vessel, **ICGS Samudra Paheredar**

Web Index 2014 released by World Wide Web Foundation

(A measure of World Wide Web's contribution to social, economic and political progress in countries)

Top Five

1. Denmark
2. Finland
3. Norway
4. United Kingdom
5. Sweden

BRICS Countries

Brazil – Rank 33

Russia – Rank 35

China – Rank 44

South Africa – Rank 45

India – Rank 48

Sahitya Akademi Awards 2014

#	Language	Title and Genre	Author
1.	Assamese	Mariam Astin Athaba Hira Barua (Short Stories)	Arupa Patangia Kalita
2.	Bengali	Piya Mana Bhaba (Poetry)	Utpal Kumar Basu
3.	Bodo	Udangnifrai Gidingfinnane (Poetry)	Urkhao Gwra Brahma
4.	Dogri	Hashiye Par (Novel)	Shailender Singh
5.	Gujarati	Chhabi Bhitani (Essays)	Late Ashvin Mehta
6.	English	Trying to Say Goodbye (Poetry)	Adil Jussawalla
7.	Hindi	Vinayak (Novel)	Ramesh Chandra Shah
8.	Kannada	Uttaraardha (Essays)	G.H. Nayak
9.	Kashmiri	Kore Kakud Pushrith Gome (Poetry)	Shad Ramzan
10.	Konkani	Manthan (Essays)	Madhavi Sardesai
11.	Maithili	Uchat (Novel)	Asha Mishra
12.	Malayalam	Manushyanu Oru Aamukham (Novel)	Subhash Chandran
13.	Marathi	Chaar Nagarantale Maaze Viswa (Autobiography)	Jayant Vishnu Naralikar
14.	Nepali	Satta Grahan (Short Stories)	Nanda Hankhim
15.	Odia	Bipula Diganta (Poetry)	Gopalkrushna Rath
16.	Punjabi	Agarbatti (Poetry)	Jaswinder
17.	Rajasthani	Sundar Nain Sudha (Short Stories)	Rampal Singh Rajpurohit
18.	Santali	Mala Mudam (Play)	Jamadar Kisku
19.	Sindhi	Sija Agyaan Buku (Poetry)	Gope Kamal
20.	Tamil	Agngnaadi (Novel)	Poomani
21.	Telugu	Mana Navalalu Mana Kathanikalu (Literary Criticism)	Rachapalem Chandrashekara Reddy
22.	Urdu	Shahdaba (Poetry)	Munawwar Rana

The awards for Manipuri and Sanskrit languages to be declared later.

Abbreviations in news

MICE – Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, Exhibitions

HRIDAY – Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana

CARE – Crew Module Atmospheric Re-entry Experiment