

## SUNIL CHHETRI WINS HERO OF I-LEAGUE 2016-17 AWARD



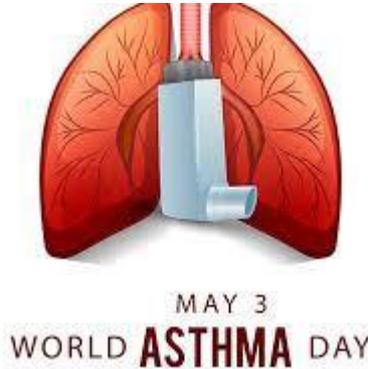
Bengaluru FC striker Sunil Chhetri on 2 May 2017 won the coveted Hero of the League 2016-17 Award. Chhetri won the most number of votes cast by coaches and captains of the 10 teams, which took part in the I-League. The striker had scored seven goals for fourth-place finishers Bengaluru FC. On the other hand, Khalid Jamil, who guided Aizawl FC to a historic title win, was chosen as the Coach of the Year. He was honoured with the Syed Abdul Rahim Best Coach Award.

## INDIA SLIPS TO 4TH POSITION IN ICC T20 RANKINGS, PAK AND ENGLAND MOVE UP



India slipped to the fourth position in the ICC Twenty20 International team rankings in the annual update of the rankings by the International Cricket Council (ICC) on 1 May 2017. India dropped two places by having lost six points, giving Pakistan and England an edge to slide higher in the rankings list. In the updated list, New Zealand retained its top position with 125 points despite dropping two points. England with 121 points climbed up three places to the second position after gaining seven points.

## WORLD ASTHMA DAY 2017 OBSERVED GLOBALLY ON 2 MAY 2017



The World Asthma Day 2017 was observed across the world on 2 May 2017 with the theme 'Asthma: Better Air, Better Breathing'. This year theme highlights the resurging environmental pollution and its hazardous impacts on health. World Asthma Day is an annual event organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) to improve asthma awareness and care around the world. The Day was established in the year 1998. As per latest reports by World Health Organization, over 235 million people suffer from asthma across the globe. Asthma is a common lung condition that causes breathing problems.

## RDEL GETS APPROVAL TO EXIT DEBT RESTRUCTURING SCHEME



Reliance Defence and Engineering Limited (RDEL), controlled by Reliance Infrastructure (RInfra), on 2 May 2017 said it has received approval for exiting the corporate debt restructuring (CDR) scheme. The approval for exit plan of RDEL was granted by the consortium of lenders led by IDBI. According to RDEL, it has received the approval from the CDR Empowered Group (CDR-EG) for exiting the scheme. The company in a statement said, "As part of the refinancing scheme approved by the lenders, the door-to-door tenure of RDEL's term loans stands extended to 18 years".

## INDIANS HAVING US VISA CAN NOW ATTAIN VISA ON ARRIVAL IN DUBAI



Dubai has activated its visa-on-arrival facility for Indian nationals holding a valid US visa or a green card. The first Indian national to avail the new facility arrived in the city on 1 May 2017. The Indian national's arrival was announced by Dubai's General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs through a post that had the picture of the passenger on the department's official Instagram handle. The decision to grant Indian passport holders having either a valid US visa or green card a visa-on-arrival facility was approved by the UAE Cabinet in March 2017.

## PRIYANKA CHOPRA TO ATTEND UNICEF GALA TO SUPPORT VIOLENCE-AFFECTED CHILDREN



Indian actress Priyanka Chopra will be attending a UNICEF gala event in South Africa on 6 May 2017 to highlight the challenges faced by children affected by violence there. Besides the Indian International icon, the event would also bring together some of the world's biggest names in order to leverage their support to enhance the care and protection of children subjected to abuse, violence, neglect and exploitation.

## SC ALLOWS SALMAN KHURSHID TO ASSIST AS AMICUS CURIAE IN HEARING OF 'TRIPLE TALAQ'



The Supreme Court on 3 May 2017 allowed former union minister Salman Khurshid to assist it as an amicus curiae in hearing of pleas challenging the constitutional validity of 'triple talaq', 'nikah halala' and polygamy among Muslims. The permission was granted by a Supreme Court bench comprised of Chief Justice J S Khehar, Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice S K Kaul. Khurshid, who is a senior advocate, was also allowed to file his written submissions in the case.

## INDUSTRIES FOUND ILLEGALLY DUMPING E-WASTE NEAR RAMGANGA RIVER TO PAY RS 1 LAKH



The National Green Tribunal announced on 3 May 2017 that anyone found dumping electronic waste (e-waste) on the banks of Ramganga River in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh would be fined a sum of Rs one lakh as environment compensation. The decision was taken by a bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar. Explaining the move, the bench stated that it had been brought to their notice that huge quantity of hazardous e-waste generated from various industries in powder form was being disposed on the bank of the Ramganga River and the same was duly verified by a joint inspection conducted by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

## PM NARENDRA MODI INAUGURATES PATANJALI RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN HARIDWAR



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 3 May 2017 inaugurated Patanjali Research Institute at Haridwar, Uttarakhand. Patanjali Research Institute was established with an aim to globally establish the Vedic knowledge of Ayurveda of ancient India's saints and sages. The Patanjali Research Foundation, a part of Patanjali Yogpeeth, was founded in August 2010. The institute is named after the great Indian sage Patanjali who first compiled the numerous writings on yoga in a way which can be understood by people.

## PRESIDENT PRANAB MUKHERJEE PRESENTED 64TH NATIONAL FILM AWARDS



President Pranab Mukherjee, on the 104th anniversary of Indian cinema here on Wednesday, presented the 64th National Film Awards to winners including eminent film director and actor K. Viswanath who received the coveted Dadasaheb Phalke Award. Accompanied by his wife Jaya Lakshmi, Viswanath, 87, received the award with immense pride, and offered "pranaam" to his late parents. He thanked the Almighty, government officials on the 64th National Film Awards, jury members and his fans for their love, as the audience gave him a standing ovation here at the Vigyan Bhavan.

## RAILWAY BRIDGE TALLER THAN EIFFEL TOWER TO BE BUILT OVER CHENAB RIVER



Railways Ministry on 3 may 2017 announced to build the world's highest railway bridge over the Chenab river in Jammu and Kashmir in around two years from now. This railway bridge is expected to be 35 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower of Paris. The massive arch-shaped structure of bridge is already under constructed at a cost of around Rs 1100 crore in hostile terrain. Designed to withstand wind speeds of up to 260 km per hour, the bridge will connect Bakkaal (Katra) and Kauri (Srinagar). The bridge forms a crucial link in the 111-km stretch between Katra and Banihal, which is part of the Udhampur- Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project.

## UNION CABINET APPROVES ISSUING ORDINANCE TO RESOLVE NPAS OF BANKS



To eliminate the problem of bad loans, the Union Cabinet on 3 May 2017 approved an ordinance to amend the Banking Regulation Act for dealing with the non-performing assets (NPAs) in the banking system. Details of the ordinance will be revealed after President Pranab Mukherjee gives his assent to an ordinance to amend the Banking Regulation Act to resolve the Non-Performing Assets crisis. The promulgation of the ordinance was given a green signal during the cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The set of measures includes the promulgation of an Ordinance to amend the Banking Regulation Act to give more powers to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and its committees to act on behalf of banks while deciding on NPAs.

## **CABINET APPROVES VIJAYAWADA AIRPORT AS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**



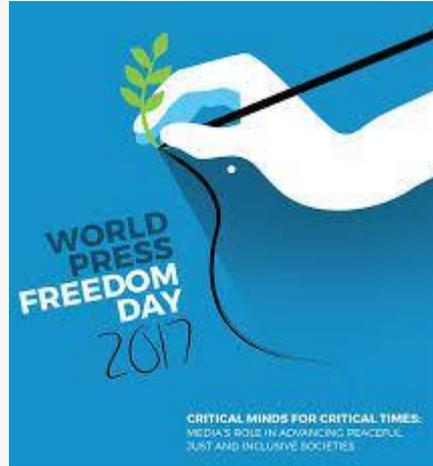
The Union Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 3 May 2017 approved the declaration of Vijayawada Airport as International Airport, as per the provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The move will help enhance connectivity to the State capital. It will also expand the choice of services for the air travellers and that too at competitive costs. This will encourage more international passengers to visit the city thereby, boosting domestic and international tourism and the socio-economic development of Andhra Pradesh. An airport is declared as an International airport depending upon its traffic potential and demand from airline operators for the operation of international flights.

## **UNION CABINET APPROVES TRANSFER OF DEPARTMENT OF POSTS' LAND TO THRISSUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**



The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 3 May 2017 approved the transfer of 16.5 cents of land and building belonging to Department of Posts at Thrissur (Trichur) in Kerala to Thrissur Municipal Corporation. The land transfer is aimed at widening of Pattalam Road of Kochi in public interest on the principle of land in exchange of land. The transfer of land from Trichur's Department of Posts to Thrissur Municipal Corporation will be beneficial not only for both the institutions but also for the people of the area nearby Pattalam road.

## WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY OBSERVED ON 3RD MAY 2017



World Press Freedom Day is being observed today (May 3) to highlight the importance of freedom of the press and fundamental principles of press. Theme of this year is Critical Minds for Critical Times: Media's role in advancing peaceful, just and inclusive societies. Last year Pakistan was ranked the fourth most dangerous country in the world for journalists, with a total of 115 killings since 1990 in a report issued by International Federation of Journalists (IFJ).

## MADHYA PRADESH BECOMES 1ST STATE TO SHIFT TO JANUARY TO DECEMBER FINANCIAL YEAR



Madhya Pradesh has become the first state to switch to the January-December financial year from the existing April-March cycle, with the state cabinet endorsing the move on Tuesday. The move breaks a 150-year tradition as India started adopting the April-March financial year from 1867. "The state cabinet in its meeting chaired by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan (pictured) today decided to shift the financial year to January-December. So, now the Budget session of the next financial year will be held either in December 2017 or January 2018," state Public Relations Minister Narottam Mishra told reporters in Bhopal.

## 4TH NATIONAL STANDARDS CONCLAVE HELD IN NEW DELHI



Department of Commerce, Government of India in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB) and other knowledge partners is organizing the 4<sup>th</sup> National Standards Conclave on 1-2 May 2017 at New Delhi. The objective of the two day Conclave is to bring awareness and prepare Industries, Central Government Ministries, State Governments, regulatory/standards setting and conformity assessment bodies on the growing importance of “Standards” in the changing scenario of global trade.

## RAJIVE KAUL GETS DIPLOMATIC SERVICE AWARD FROM SOUTH KOREA



Chairman of Nicco group and past president of CII Rajive Kaul was conferred with the Order of Diplomatic Service Merit Sungnye Medal of the Republic of Korea for his services rendered as honorary consul general of South Korea in Kolkata. The award was conferred by the acting President and Prime Minister of South Korea Hwang Kyo-ahn at a programme in New Delhi recently. Kaul, who was appointed as honorary consul general in November 1998, said “I am honoured to receive the award”.

## MALLIKARJUN KHARGE APPOINTED AS NEW CHAIRMAN OF PAC



Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge is the new chairman of the 21-member Public Accounts Committee of Parliament. Mallikarjun Kharge replaces Congress leader K V Thomas whose term ended on April 30. The Parliamentary panel, which is headed by an opposition leader, has a majority of its members from the ruling NDA. The new committee has only two new faces while the remaining members have been renominated.

## SHABANA AZMI STARRER THE BLACK PRINCE AWARDED AT FILM FEST IN HOUSTON



Hollywood film The Black Prince, featuring singer-poet Satinder Sartaj and veteran actress Shabana Azmi, was awarded the Special Jury Remi Award at the 50th annual Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival. The event's Gold Remi was also awarded to the film's Natalie O'Connor for achievement in Art Direction, said a statement.