

GENERAL AWARENESS UPDATES : - (25th April, 2017 to 29th April, 2017)

- World Malaria Day was observed globally on 25th of April.
- Every April 26, World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated to learn about the role that intellectual property rights (patents, trademarks, industrial designs, copyright) play in encouraging innovation and creativity.
- Belgium has become the first country to open an honorary consulate office in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- Private sector lender Yes Bank announced the alliance with Paisabazaar.com under which the bank will offer conditionally approved loans to the latter's existing customers.
- The youngest chancellor of any university in the nation, Dileep K Nair has bagged Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Foundation award for excellent performance in the field of education in Trivendurum, Kerala. The 38-year-old academician is currently the Chancellor of the North East Frontier Technical University (NEFTU) in Arunachal Pradesh.
- India is set to host the 18th World Road Meeting (WRM 2017) on November 13, 2017 according to the International Road Federation (IRF). The WRM is the biggest global platform for road engineers, safety and transport experts and companies engaged in road safety products. The theme of this year's edition is 'Safe Roads and Smart Mobility: The Engines of Economic Growth'. The WRM is held every four years.
- India's first woman International Olympic Committee member Nita Ambani has made it to two important commissions of the global sports governing body, including the prestigious Olympic channel. Besides the Olympic Channel, Ms. Ambani has also been made a member of Olympic education Commission.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) successfully launched its football-stadium-sized, heavy-lift Super Pressure Balloon (SPB) from Wanaka, New Zealand.
- Srishti Kaur was crowned Miss Teen Universe 2017 after beating 25 contestants from around the world at the annual beauty pageant. The event was held in Managua, the capital of Central American country Nicaragua. The pageant is organized by the Miss Universe organization for teens aged 15 to 19.
- India's fifth largest private sector Bank, the Yes bank has won the prestigious 'Golden Peacock Innovative Product/ Service Award 2017' (in Financial sector Banking). It received the prize for its innovative mobile technology product, SIMsePAY at the Dubai Global Convention 2017.
- Veteran actor Vinod Khanna passed away in Mumbai. He was an active politician, and Member of Parliament from Gurdaspur, Punjab. The actor debuted in 1968 with 'Man Ka Meet'. He received the Filmfare award in the best supporting actor category for Haath Ki Safai (1974), and in 1999 he received the Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Odisha's capital city, Bhubaneswar has become the first Indian city that has won Pierre L'enfant Planning Excellence and Achievement Awards-2017.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar announced the renaming of Ballabgarh town in Faridabad as Balramgarh.

- From May 4, Bhilar, a village in Maharashtra famous for its strawberries, will become India's first 'book village' where tourists and locals can come and read books, magazines, newspapers stacked at 25 premises.
- Kerala has organized the country's first transgender one-day athletic meet at Thiruvananthapuram in which 132 participants from 12 districts participated.
- Internationally renowned sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik from Odisha won the jury prize gold medal at the 10th Moscow Sand art Championship. The theme for the competition was "The world around us".
- India's military expenditure grew around 8.5 percent in 2016, making it the world's fifth largest spender . The US remains the world's largest military spender. China is second and Russia is on the third position in the list.
- India's first and longest sea ropeway to connect Mumbai with the famous Elephanta Island in the Arabian Sea is planned to be constructed by the Mumbai Port Trust. The 8-km ropeway will begin from Sewri in Mumbai's east coast and end at Raigad district's Elephanta Island, globally renowned for Elephanta Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- The Indian Navy began a joint maritime exercise 'Varuna' with the French Navy at the Mediterranean Sea to further deepen combat coordination between the two navies.
- Renowned Director and actor Kasinathuni Viswanath has won the Dadasaheb Phalke award for the year 2016 for his outstanding contribution to the film industry. He will be the 48th recipient of the award, the highest recognition in Indian cinema.
- Top environmental activist Prafulla Samantara of Odisha has been selected for Goldman Environmental Prize 2017 (also called as Green Nobel) from Asia region for championing the cause of State's Dongria Kondh tribals and safeguarding their land and culture.
- Indian shot putter Manpreet Kaur has clinched a gold in the first leg of the Asian Grand Prix Athletics Meet in Jinhua, China.