

GENERAL AWARENESS UPDATES:- (25th October, 2017 to 30th October, 2017)

- The Union Ministries of Power and Textiles have jointly launched an initiative 'SAATHI' (Sustainable and Accelerated Adoption of efficient Textile technologies to Help small Industries). Under this initiative, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a public sector entity under the Union Ministry of Power, will acquire energy efficient Powerlooms, motors and Rapier kits in bulk and provide them to the small and medium powerloom units.
- The Asian Development Bank and the Government of India signed a \$300 million loan to continue a series of fiscal reforms in the State of West Bengal to improve the quality of public service delivery. ADB Headquarters are in Manila, Philippines. Takehiko Nakao is the President of ADB.
- After making Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) mandatory for transactions in interest rate, forex and credit derivative market, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is set to make LEI compulsory for companies having aggregate fund-based and non-fund based exposure over Rs 5 crore. Firms can obtain their LEI code from Legal Entity Identifier India Ltd. (LEIL). About LEI- The LEI is a global reference number that uniquely identifies every legal entity or structure that is party to a financial transaction, in any jurisdiction. It is a unique 20 digit alphanumeric code that is assigned to a legal entity.
- The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs.2 crore on IDFC Bank for contravention of regulatory restrictions pertaining to loans and advances. The penalty has been imposed in the exercise of powers vested in RBI under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, taking into account failure of the bank to adhere to certain directions issued by RBI.
- 30th edition of CORPAT ([Coordinated Patrol](#)) began between Indian-Indonesian Navy.
- Singapore's passport has become the most powerful in the world with a Visa-Free Score of 159, according to the Passport Index developed by advisory firm Arton Capital. This is the first time an Asian country has been announced as having the most powerful passport. India secured the 75th rank in the index with a Visa-Free Score of 51.
- Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the top state in terms of digital initiatives undertaken, with a maximum score of 100.1 on the performance index according to a report by Coeus Age Consulting.
- Eminent classical singer and Padma Vibhushan awardee Girija Devi died in Kolkata. She was considered as the "Queen of Thumri" and fondly called Appa Ji. She was from the "Benaras Gharana".
- Seven shortlisted companies were given 'Letters of Intent' for fourteen monuments under 'Adopt a Heritage Scheme' of Ministry of Tourism. These companies will be the future 'Monument Mitras' who would associate pride with their CSR activities. SBI Foundation has been shortlisted for the adoption of - Jantar Mantar, Delhi.
- Gujarat will go to polls in two phases on December 9th and 14th for 182 assembly seats. The Chief Election Commissioner of India Mr. A K Joti made this announcement. Vijaybhai R. Rupani is the present CM of Gujarat. Om Prakash Kohli is the present Governor of Gujarat.

- L&T Technology Services Ltd (LTTS), a leading global pure-play Engineering Services Company was conferred with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Industrial Innovation Award, 2017.
- According to the list released by Forbes, Virat Kohli ranks seven in the list of top 10 athletes with highest brand value. The captain of the Indian cricket has a brand value of \$14.5 million. Roger Federer (\$37.2m) has the highest brand value.
- India has 3rd highest number of family-owned businesses, according to the Credit Suisse report. China tops the list in terms of number of family-owned companies.
- Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje launched an e-book titled 'India 2017 Yearbook', compiled by the present Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Rajiv Mehrishi. The e-book includes a plethora of information on important dignitaries, state policy, public schemes and important data about demographics, trade, economy and many other topics.
- World Day for Audiovisual Heritage was observed globally on 27 October. "Discover, remember and share" is the theme of this year's celebration of the WDAH.
- Saudi Arabia has become the first country to give citizenship to a robot. The move is an attempt to promote Saudi Arabia as a place to develop artificial intelligence and, presumably, allow it to become a full citizen. The Robot is named as 'Sophia'.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$65.5 million loan agreement to continue interventions to check coastal erosion on the Western Coast in Karnataka.
- Renowned Malayalam writer Punathil Kunjabdulla passed away.
- To strengthen maritime security, India and the United States have agreed to implement the program for Helicopter Operations from Ships Other Than Aircraft Carriers (HOSTAC).
- Jacinda Ardern was officially sworn in as the Prime Minister of New Zealand. At the age of 37, Ardern is the youngest New Zealand PM in 150 years.
- Burundi became the first nation ever to leave the International Criminal Court (ICC), set up 15 years ago to prosecute those behind the world's worst atrocities. The ICC was established in 2002. It is based in the Hague, the Netherlands.
- Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) became the first Indian company to cross Rs 6 trillion market capitalization.
- According to Forbes magazine, Jeff Bezos surpassed Bill Gates as the richest person in the world.
- India overtakes the US to become the world's second-largest smartphone market, trailing only China, according to a new report by analyst firm Canalys.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu has received the Golden Peacock Award under the category 'Global Leadership in Public Service and Economic Transformation' at a convention in London at 17th London Global Convention.
- India's Kidambi Srikanth created history as he became the first Indian player to win four Superseries titles in a year after he won the men's singles title at the French Open. Other three sports Championship won this year (2017) by Kidambi Srikanth are - Denmark Open Superseries Trophy; Australia Open Super Series and Indonesia Open Super Series.

- An illustrative book containing inspiring words of Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was released online by Indian women cricket team captain Mithali. Titled "Dreamnation: Uniting a Country with Handwritten Dreams", the book includes a collection of 200-plus handcrafted and handwritten postcards from across India. The book is Co-authored by Saji Mathew and Jubie John and published by Bloomsbury.
- England won the 2017 FIFA U17 World Cup for the very first time after a 5-2 win over European U17 champions Spain.
- Pardeep Narwal scored incredible 24 points to steer Patna Pirates to third consecutive Pro Kabaddi title.
- Virat Kohli became the sixth Indian to complete 9000 ODI runs during the third game against New Zealand. Overall, Kohli, who played his 202nd match and 194th innings has become the 19th batsman to breach the 9000-run mark, making him the fastest to get there.
- The Uttar Pradesh government issued an order notifying Vrindavan and Barsana towns in Mathura district as "pavitra teerth sthals (sacred pilgrimage sites)". No meat and liquor shops will be allowed in these towns anymore. Vrindavan and Barsana are the first two places to be notified as teerth sthal in government records.
- The Karnataka Government announced the signing of an MoU with Microsoft Corporation India Private Limited with an intention to empower smallholder farmers with technology-oriented solutions that will help them increase income.
- The world's first hybrid electric tram powered by hydrogen fuel cells has started running in China, marking a big step in the application of green energy in public transport.