

## CLATGyan February 2016 Compendium – 1<sup>st</sup> February to 7<sup>th</sup> February

### 1<sup>st</sup> February

- Syed Modi International Grand prix Gold 2016 was held from 26 January to 31 January 2016 in Lucknow. In the Men's singles category- Srikanth Kidambi of India won the Men's singles category beating Huang Yuxiang of China. Women's Singles- Sung Ji-Hyun of South Korea defeated Sayaka Sata of Japan. Mixed Doubles Category- Malaysian pair Gosh v Shem and Tan Wee Kiong defeated Indian pair Pranav Jerry Chopra and Akshay Dewalkar.
- Novak Djokovic of Serbia has won the men's singles title of 2016 Australian Open by defeating Andy Murray of Britain. This was Djokovic's 11th grand Slam Title and 6th Australian Open singles Title. With this win Djokovic has also equalled the record of Roy Emerson. Australian open- The Australian Open is a major tennis tournament held in January every year. It was first held in 1905 in Melbourne, Australia. The Australian Open is chronologically first of the 4 grand slam Tennis events of the year.
- The National Arogya Fair is being organised in Dehradun, Uttarakhand by ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy (AYUSH). The fair is being organised in collaboration with the state government of Uttarakhand and the Confederation of Indian Industries.
- Senior IPS officer Archana Ramasundram will take over as the Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). Also she became the first women police officer to lead a central police force that guards the country's international border. She will replace Director General B.D. Sharma. SSB is formerly known as Special service Bureau established in 1963.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> February

- Pune based two and three wheeler maker Bajaj auto launched a 150cc bike christened 'V' which signifies that it has been built from metal used in the country's most celebrated aircraft carrier-INS Vikrant. INS Vikrant- It was commissioned in January 1997 after years of distinguished service. Later it was served in museum till 2012 until dismantled and sold as scrap to Bajaj auto in 2014.
- Google's parent company Alphabet Inc. has over taken Apple as the most valuable company in the world with the value of 548 Billion dollars after making profits of 5.9 billion dollars. In 2012 Apple overtook Exxon mobile to become the most valuable company to reach a market value of 700 billion dollars.

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- Shinmaywa Industries, a Japan Manufacturing company of US-2 amphibious aircraft, is planning to set up a manufacturing plant in India under 'Make in India' which comes as Indian navy plans to procure 6 aircrafts between 2017 to 2022 by signing a government deal. US-2 amphibious aircraft is known for its long range civilian and military application.
- An ex-army official, Major General Jai Shankar Menon has been appointed as the Head of Mission and force Commander of the United Nations Disengagement observer force (UNDOF). He was appointed by the secretary general of UNSC Ban-ki-Moon. He has succeeded Lt. General Purna Chandra Thapa of Nepal. UNDOF- It was established on 31st May 1974 by UNSC resolution; agreed disengagement of the Israeli and Syrian forces in the Golan.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. has indigenously built a new basic trainer aircraft named Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40(HTT-40). It is an indigenous replacement of Indian Air Force's HPT-32 'Deepak' as used as a basic trainer aircraft.
- In Bangladesh, the cabinet has approved the draft of a proposed Citizenship law, 2016. The new citizenship law was proposed by amending the existing citizenship Act of 1951 and centralise it with Bangladesh citizenship temporary provision order of 1972. This law has expanded the scope of dual citizenship for expatriate Bangladeshi nationals.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> February

- Council for Industrial Research has launched the India's first anti-diabetic Ayurvedic drug named BGR-4. It is India's first indigenous anti-diabetic Ayurvedic drug. BGR stands for Blood Glucose Regulator. The drug has been jointly developed by National Botanical Research institute (NBRI), Central for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CMAP) and CSIR.
- Indian drug manufactures Bharat Biotech, became world's first drug company to develop a vaccine for Zika virus. Bharat Biotech is a Hyderabad based Indian Drug Company. The company has also claimed to file for global patent for the two vaccines. First vaccine is Recombinant vaccine and other is an inactivated vaccine. Zika Virus is an emerging mosquito borne virus which was first identified in Uganda in 1947 in rhesus monkey through a monitoring network of sylvatic yellow fever. It is caused by a virus transmitted by Aedes Mosquito. Aedes mosquito also transmits Dengue and yellow fever. The disease caused by Zika virus is Microcephaly.
- The USA and European Commission assented on a new framework for transatlantic data flows. This framework is known as EU-US Privacy Shield. This agreement will enable the

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government agencies to transfer data relied on Facebook and Google across Atlantic. EU-US privacy shield will replace 16 years old Safe Harbour arrangement that was ruled illegal by European court of Justice.

- France has passed a law to ban large food stores from throwing away food that had approached its expiration date. France has become the first country in the world to ban supermarkets for throwing away or destroying unsold food. The law will bound them to donate it to charities or food banks.
- An Indian cricketer Rahul Dravid, has been appointed as a member of newly Anti- Corruption unit oversight group. He has been appointed by the International Cricket Council (ICC) at Dubai, UAE. The Chairman of Anti-Corruption unit, Sir Ronnie Flanagan. ICC Anti-corruption unit consist of a chairman, two ex-officio members and 2 Members. David is currently coaching the Indian team in the ongoing U-19 World Cup, Which is being held in Bangladesh.
- Babasaheb Ambedkar Special Group Incentives Scheme is announced by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra government, Devendra Fadnavis. It is an incentive scheme for the economically backward Dalit entrepreneurs. Under this scheme 20% plots for small and medium scale industries will be reserved by Dalits within Maharashtra industrial development Corporation. It will be limited for those industries where people from SC and ST have 100% investment.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Feburary

- D.J Pandian has been appointed as the Vice President and Chief Investment Officer of newly formed USD 100 Billion multi-lateral development bank known as Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). He is a retired IAS officer of Gujarat. He had also served on deputation with World Bank. AIIB- It is an international financial institution with an objective to support the building of infrastructure in the Asia Pacific region. AIIB is headquartered at Beijing, China. Mr.Jin Liqun is the current president of this Institution.
- Every year 4<sup>th</sup> February is being observed as "World Cancer Day". World cancer day was founded by Union of International Cancer Control (UICC) to raise awareness of cancer and encourage its prevention, detection and treatment. It is a Geneva based NGO founded in 1933. The primary aim of observing world cancer day is to reduce illness and death caused by 2020. Theme for the 2016 is- "we can, I can".
- India has ratified an International convention on Nuclear Energy Accident liability. This ratification makes India part of a global legal regime that has established a standard for

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compensation of victims in the event of Nuclear Accident. In 2015, India launched an insurance pool with liability cap of Rs.1500 Crore to cover the suppliers' risk of potential liability. This marks a conclusive step by India to ratify the convention.

- 12 Pacific Rim Countries signed the US- led Trans-pacific partnership agreement in New Zealand after 7 years of negotiation. This deal is considered as one of the biggest trade deals in the history. The agreement was signed at Auckland sky city convention centre by Prime Minister John Key and US trade Representative Mike Froman. TPP- It is an agreement to facilitate investment between 12 countries across the Pacific Rim. The agreement contains measure to lower trade barriers such as tariffs and also to establish an investor state dispute settlement mechanism. Earlier in 2005, it had 4 members, i.e. Brunei, Chile, New Zealand and Singapore. In 2008, 8 countries joined, Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, US and Vietnam.
- Britain hosted conference on supporting Syria & region 2016. The goal of the conference was to discuss issues related and over 5 year old civil war in Syria. Also to introduce measures to mitigate the humanitarian conflict faced by the country. The conference announced 10.7 billion dollars to undertake the activities in Syria between 2016 and 2020.

### 5<sup>th</sup> February

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited (BCPL) at Lepetkata, Dibrugarh, Assam. It is the first ever petro chemical plant situated in the entire north Eastern region of India.
- On 5th February, the 12th South Asian Games 2016 was inaugurated in Guwahati by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This event is jointly hosted by Guwahati and Shillong. In this 11 days biggest Multi sport event, 8 SAARC nations have participated. Tikhor, is the official Mascot of 12th South Asian Games. It is one horned Rhino found in Kaziranga National park, Assam. "Play for Peace, progress and Prosperity" is the slogan of the Game. South Asian Games- It a biennial Multinational multi-sport event organised in the format of Olympics, and Asian games. In 2016, India is hosting this event for the third time. India first hosted south Asian games in the year 1987 in Calcutta. Also the first South Asian Game was hosted in 1984, in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Renowned Pandit Ram Narayan, sarangi maestro, has been chosen for the Pandit Bhimsen Joshi classical music award for the year 2015. Pandit Ram Narayan is the first internationally sarangi player. He had also been conferred with India's second highest civilian award i.e; Padma Vibhushan in 2005. Pandit Bhimsen Joshi classical award is given annually by the

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Maharashtra government to the individuals who have excelled in classical vocal and instrumental music. It comprises cash prize of 5 lakh rupees, a trophy and a citation.

- US astronaut, Edgar Mitchell, passed away at the age of 85 on 5 February 2016. He was part of NASA's Apollo 14 Mission of 1971 and became the sixth man to walk on the Moon. He spent more than nine Hours on the moon conducting experiments. The first person to walk on the Moon was Neil Armstrong in the year 1969.
- John Nicholson, US general has been appointed NATO Commander in Afghanistan by US senate armed service committee. He will be succeeding US General John Campbell. Presently, there are 10000 US troops in Afghanistan who advise local security forces and conduct counter-terrorism mission. The NATO training and support mission has replaced US NATO international security assistance Force combat mission after NATO had formally ended its war in Afghanistan in 2014.

### 6<sup>th</sup> February

- All Rounder, Pawan Negi has been emerged as the costliest Indian player in IPL player auction held on 6th February. He was bought for Rs. 8.5 Crores by Delhi daredevils. Though Australian all-rounder Shane Watson emerged as the costliest player of the IPL Player auction. He was acquired for Rs. 9.5 crore by Royal challengers Bangalore.
- The Union Minister of Agricultural Radhamohan Singh decided to set up a National Organic Farming research Institute in Sikkim. The Institute will be significant for Sikkim as Sikkim was declared as the first organic farming state in the country by the Prime Minister of India.
- The Union Government has launched project sunrise in 8 North Eastern states for people who injects drug (PWID) for the prevention of AIDS. This programme aims to diagnose 90% of the drug addicts with HIV and keep them under treatment by 2020. The project is implemented by the Ministry of health and family welfare and is sponsored by US based Centre for Disease control. It is a five year programme complementing the ongoing National AIDS Control Programme (NCAP).
- Renowned personality associated with political cartooning, Sudhir Tailang passes away at the age of 56, in Gurgaon. He was suffering from brain cancer. He worked as a cartoonist in a number of leading Indian newspaper including Hindustan Times and Times of India. He was received with India's fourth highest civilian award, Padma Shri in 2004 for contribution to the art of cartooning.

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- An Ahmadabad-based social worker, Renana Jhabvala was invited to serve as a panellist in United Nations on women's Economic Empowerment. She serves as a nation coordinator of the self - employed women's association of India (SEWA). She is also the daughter Booker-prize winner novelist Ruth Pawar Jhabvala.
- The United Nations has established the panel to provide recommendations on improving economic outcomes for women and promoting women's leadership.

### 7<sup>th</sup> February

- Indian oil Corporation, a state owned oil refining entity, has over taken reliance Industries Limited to become country's top refiner by establishing its 11th new refinery i.e. Paradip Refinery. Also Indian Oil Corporation's Paradip refinery was dedicated to the country by Prime Minister of India on 7 February. Paradip refinery has the capacity to refine 15 million tons of crude oil. Prior to Paradip, IOC's had eight refineries.
- Pakistan leg spinner, Yasir Shah was suspended for three months by international cricket council after he was found positive in a test of banned substance, Chlortalidone. It is on WADA's prohibitive list of diuretics and masking agents and is prohibited both out- of competition and in the competition.
- India is hosting, the Second international Fleet review 2016 in Vishakhapatnam. The Indian navy assets were on full display on the coast of Vishakhapatnam. President Pranab Mukherjee were also present at the show. The objective of International review is to signal the Indian Navy emergence as a pre-eminent power that sets the agenda in Northern Indian Ocean. The First IFR was held at East Coast (US). The motto of IFR 2016:"United through Oceans".
- Senior IPS officer K Durga Prasad has been appointed as the director general (DG) of central Reserve Police of force by the appointment committee of cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He served as special director general of CRPF before his appointment. He will take over charge from D.G. Prakash. CRPF is currently world's largest paramilitary force with 228 battalions with over 3 Lakh personnel. It is also the largest central armed police force in India which operates under the ministry of home affairs.