

CLATGyan Compendium – 1st February 2015 to 28th February 2015

1st February

- The flight-trial of the country's Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM), Agni-V, from a canister was a grand success on Saturday, marking another technological milestone in the strategic missile programme. At 8.09 a.m., the missile smoothly shot out of the confines of a canister mounted on a TATRA truck on the Wheeler Island, off the Odisha coast, and traversed its full range of more than 5,000 km before plunging into the Indian Ocean. The missile was launched in its final, deliverable configuration. It can carry a nuclear warhead weighing 1.1 tonnes. This is the third success in a row for Agni-V but it is the first time that it is being launched from a canister. A canister launch means it can lift off from a truck on roads or open spaces anywhere. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) developed the 50-tonne, 17-metre-long, three-stage missile.
- When Islamic State group militants invaded the Central Library of Mosul earlier this month, they were on a mission to destroy a familiar enemy — other people's ideas. Residents say the extremists smashed the locks that had protected the biggest repository of learning in the northern Iraq town, and loaded around 2,000 books including children's stories, poetry, philosophy and tomes on sports, health, culture and science into six pickup trucks. They left only Islamic texts.
- Sergio Mattarella, a constitutional court judge from Sicily is seen as a symbol of Italy's battle against organised crime, was elected Italy's new President. The 73-year-old Sicilian, who was backed by Prime Minister Matteo Renzi's centre-left Democratic Party (PD), succeeds the hugely popular Giorgio Napolitano. Mr. Mattarella is little known to the public but is widely respected after a 25-year parliamentary career and several stints as Minister in governments of the left and right.
- Former World and Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra shot gold with a spectacular finish in air rifle in the IWK Hockbrueck shooting championship in Munich on Saturday.
- Bajrang bagged a gold medal in the men's 61kg freestyle event at the Dave Schultz Memorial International Wrestling Championship at Colorado Springs, USA, even as Olympic bronze medallist Yogeshwar Dutt failed to take part in the competition due to ill health.

- Signalling its seriousness on governance, the Aam Aadmi Party promised full statehood for Delhi and said it would turn the Capital into a world class city that enjoyed free Wi-Fi. Laying down a 70-point action plan to make “the Capital a city that takes pride in itself”, the Aam Aadmi Party announced its manifesto for the Delhi Assembly elections on Saturday. In the document, the party has compiled all the promises it has been making over the last two months through the Delhi Dialogue, an initiative of drawing up the party manifesto by combining the inputs from party members, domain experts and citizens. While issues such as Jan Lokpal, Swaraj Bill and full statehood find mention at the top of the action plan, the manifesto also talks about reducing electricity bills by half, installation of 15 lakh CCTV cameras and deployment of homeguards for safety of women, making water as a right, opening 500 new schools and 20 new colleges and setting up 30,000 new beds in city hospitals. Furthermore, it assured a pro-business regime in the form of simplification of Value Added Tax.
- DMK leader K. Anbazhagan moved the Division Bench of the Karnataka High Court questioning the Tamil Nadu government’s jurisdiction to appoint Special Public Prosecutor for representing prosecution in the appeals filed by AIADMK general secretary Jayalalithaa and others against their conviction in the disproportionate assets case. In his petition Mr. Anbazhagan questioned the correctness of the January 19 verdict of a single judge Bench, which had asked him to approach the Supreme Court to seek clarification on the procedure to be followed to appoint SPP to represent the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC), Chennai, which has prosecuted Ms. Jayalalithaa and three others.
- Two balloonists completed a world record-breaking trans-Pacific flight after splashing down safely off the coast of Mexico, organisers of the epic voyage said. Troy Bradley and Leonid Tiukhtyaev made a controlled descent four miles off the coast of Baja California near La Poza Grande after a change in winds made a landing at sea a “more prudent” option than landing onshore.

2nd February

- Mithileshwar awarded Shrilal Shukla Sahitya IFFCO Award. He is a Hindi Novelist who wrote books such as Prem Na Badi Oopjai, Yah Ant Nahi.
- Novak Djokovic and Serena Williams win Australian Open.
- Japan launches Information Gathering Satellite. This is its fifth spy satellite. The first satellite was launched in the year 2003.

3rd February

- The base year for calculation of GDP is 2011-12 and the real GDP is GDP evaluated at the market prices of some base year. For example, if 1990 were chosen as the base year, then real GDP for 1995 is calculated by taking the quantities of all goods and services purchased in 1995 and multiplying them by their 1990 prices.
- NASA launched a Soil Moisture Active Passive Satellite. A Delta 2 rocket carrying the SMAP satellite was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base on California's central coast. The satellite is on a three-year mission to track the amount of water locked in soil, which may help residents in low-lying regions brace for floods or farmers get ready for drought conditions. NASA launch manager Tim Dunn said there were zero launch problems with the rocket, calling the Delta 2 a "workhorse." Once the satellite reaches the desired orbit 430 miles or 692 kilometers high, engineers will spend two weeks checking out the two instruments, which will measure moisture in the soil every several days to produce high-resolution global maps.
- Madhya Pradesh wins 10th National Award for work in MGNREGA.
- Photo Journalist Krishna Murari Kishan dies. He was awarded the Padma Shri. Has worked for the UNICEF, Time, Life, Deccan Herald and Illustrated Weekly. He hailed from Mysore.

4th February

- U.K. Lower House passes bill allowing three adults to have a baby. This is done through genetic processes. This was done through an amendment of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008.
- Outlook app for iOS and Android launched.
- ICJ rules in favour of Croatia and Serbia. It ruled that neither committed genocide in Balkan Wars. The case has been referred to as the Application of the Convention on Prevention and Punishment of the crime of Genocide (Croatia v. Serbia).
- Saloni Dalal (12) from Karnataka became the youngest medal winner ever (bronze) in national games. The national games were held in Kerala this year. She won it the 200m breaststroke event.
- Sergio Mattarella was elected as the President of Italy replacing Giorgio Napolitano, who was the longest serving president in the history of the Italian Republic.

5th February

- World Cancer Day was observed on 5th February worldwide.
- Micromax has become India's biggest smartphone vendor. Samsung was the leader earlier. The Indian Smart phone market is the third largest in the world.
- Justice MM Das has been appointed as Chairman of Inquiry Commission probing Chit Fund scam in Odisha, after the death of the earlier chairman Justice R.K. Patra. The scam involves many companies, which vanished, taking the money of investors.
- Chairman of JK group Gaur Hari Singhania dies. He was running J.K. Cements and J.K. Technosoft.
- LC Goyal was appointed as Union Home Secretary. His predecessor was Anil Goswami.

6th February

- The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is to supply 14 Do-228. These planes have been produced by HAL, in collaboration with German company Dornier Flugzeugwerke. Their role will largely be associated with navigation.
- Indian Sculptor Mrinalini Mukherjee passes away.
- Madras HC directs TN government to ban beauty contests in colleges.
- MO Garg appointed as Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. His predecessor was P.S. Ahuja.
- Tweets are now searchable in google
- Amy Pascal, co chairman of Sony resigns. This was after a hacking scandal revealed content in her emails. Kazuo Hirai is the CEO.
- Zakir Naik wins King Faisal International Prize for his service to Islam. He is the president of the Islamic Research Foundation in India. The prize is awarded by the King Faisal Foundation of Riyadh.
- Ajaypal Singh Banga is a part of the US advisory committee for trade policy and negotiations.

7th February

- The Kerala Lok Ayukta said that the Special Investigation Team's (SIT) second "clarification report" in the Pattoor public land grab inquiry did not implicate any "additional or fresh" persons as suggested in certain sections of the media. The court

was “very much disturbed” that the report, submitted by SIT chief ADGP Jacob Thomas, was published in the media before it could consider it. Most of what was reported was “incorrect information”.

- In its centenary year in 2013, the Rockefeller Foundation announced the 100 Resilient Cities project with a \$100 million commitment to build urban resilience worldwide. It has already selected 67 cities and from India, Chennai, Bengaluru and Surat figure in that list.
- An important project, conceived by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his parliamentary constituency, Varanasi, will be implemented when Communications and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad inaugurates Wi-Fi zones in two ‘ghats’ – Dashashwamedh and Sheetla. It took Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) officials over two months to convert the two most frequented ‘ghats’ into Wi-Fi zones following instructions from the Prime Minister’s Office, which monitored the progress constantly. Sources say Mr. Prasad was personally involved in the project and kept the Prime Minister informed about its progress.
- Bhalchandra Nemade, whose *Kosala (Cocoon)* published in 1963 transformed the Marathi novel, has been selected for the 50th Jnanpith Award for 2014. The award likely to be presented in April. The 10-member selection board, chaired by Namwar Singh, scholar, writer, and critic, selected the 76-year-old litterateur for the award at a meeting in New Delhi. Nemade is the fourth Marathi writer to win the honour after V.S. Khandekar in 1974; V.V. Shirwadkar, aka Kusumagraj, in 1988; and Govind Karandikar, aka Vinda Karandikar, in 2003.

8th February

- Senior Congress leader and leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad was re-elected to the Upper House on Saturday along with two members from the People's Democratic Party and one from the Bharatiya Janata Party from Jammu and Kashmir.
- Actor Abhishek Bachchan’s will be the first Indian to participate in the Sprint NBA All-Star Celebrity game on February 13 at Madison Square Gardens, New York, as one of the league’s Goodwill Ambassador.
- LCA-NP2, the second prototype of the Navy version of the Light Combat Aircraft, flew for the first time. It took off from the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd runway at 12.27 p.m.

and flew for about 35 minutes, said HAL, the production partner in the indigenous fighter programme.

- YouTube will remain blocked in Pakistan ‘indefinitely’, an official said on Saturday, as experts have failed to find a way to filter content deemed offensive and blasphemous in the Muslim majority country. The video-sharing website has been blocked in Pakistan since September 2012 over its hosting of the “Innocence of Muslims” movie that sparked furious protests around the world. The Supreme Court ruled at the time that the site should be banned until a way was found to block all so-called blasphemous content.
- Motorists and pedestrians have been pretty vocal about the dusty roads of Chennai giving them a hard time in the past few months, and finally the civic body has risen to the task. Faced with the upcoming mega event — the Global Investors Meet — the Chennai Corporation has planned to resume mechanised sweeping of bus route roads in many areas.
- The first meeting of the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog was held in New Delhi. The NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog, is the institution that replaces the erstwhile Planning Commission and is headed by the Prime Minister as chairperson, and Mr. Arvind Panagariya as vice-chairperson.
- Two weeks after U.S. President Obama announced that India and the U.S. have reached a “breakthrough understanding” on the civil nuclear deal, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) put out a press release to explain the agreement that India and the U.S. have reached. The Ministry made it clear that the government is not making changes to the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages Act (CLND) 2010, but will read the Act to mean that supplier’s liability is not a mandatory part of the contracts to be signed.
- The telecom subscriber base of the country reached all-time high of 97 crore at the end of December 2014, as per the latest report by regulator TRAI. In this record breaking journey, Bharti Airtel has maintained its leadership with 21.72 crore mobile customers. It is followed by Vodafone, Idea Cellular, Reliance Communications, BSNL , Aircel , Tata and Uninor.
- Anirban Lahiri won the Malaysian Open after firing a final round 4-under 68 to beat Austria’s Bernd Wiesberger by one shot at the Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club.
- Prime Minister of Nepal, Sushil Koirala, formally invited the Opposition to participate in the nation’s debates over the new Constitution. The PM’s formal call comes amidst

a deadlock over the new statute. While the ruling parties —the Nepali Congress and the CPN-UML — have initiated the process of deciding the disputes through voting in the Constituent Assembly, the Opposition alliance comprising of the UCPN (Maoist), Madhesi Morcha and fringe parties has announced a series of nationwide protest programmes against it.

9th February

- Centre puts in Rs. 6990 crores into 9 Public Sector Banks. These include State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank, Canara Bank, Syndicate Bank, Allahabad Bank, Indian Bank, Dena Bank and Andhra Bank.
- The First World Ocean Science Congress was held in Kochi
- Uttarakhand Government launches Himalaya Darshan to boost tourism.
- Marathi Theatre Artist Atmaram Govind Bhende dies. He was fondly called Bapu and though he has acted in a few movies, TV series and numerous ads, he is known for bringing the concept of revolving theatre in Marathi theatre. He has directed a serial called “Ratrani”.
- Marathi writer Bhalchandra Nemade chosen for Jnanpith Award. One of his famous works is "Hindu jagnyachi samrudhha adgal". He is also well known for “Hindu” and “Kosala” books.

10th February

- 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit was held with its theme being Sustainable Development Goals and Dealing with Climate Change. This Summit is organized annually by TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute).
- Amartya Sen wins Charleston Inaugural Eston EFG John Maynard Keynes Prize. Sen is a noted economist, whose most famous contribution is the Human Development Theory.
- 10th February was announced to be observed as National Deworming Day. Deworming tablets will be administered to children. STH or Soil Transmitted Helminthes have been considered to be a major threat to public health.
- Naveen Chopra was appointed as COO of Vodafone India. The Vodafone CEO is Vittorio Colao. The CEO of Vodafone India is Sunil Sood.
- A comic book on Kiran Bedi named Kaisi Bani Top Cop was launched.
- M Ravindran was appointed as Chairman of Indrapastha Gas Limited.

- Vinod Mehta awarded Yash Bharti Samman by the Uttar Pradesh Government. Vinod Mehta has initiated many publications such as the Sunday Observer, Outlook, the Independent, Indian Post and the Pioneer. He is the author of the acclaimed book Lucknow Boy and Mr. Editor.

11th February

- Star India Pvt Ltd acquired Maa Television Network.
- US closes embassy in Yemen. This is because of political turmoil, led by the rebel group, the Houthis. The rebels had taken over Sanaa, the capital.
- India's first digital bank pockets were released by ICICI. Pockets is a mobile interface, which can be used as a digital wallet. Customers can make transactions through a app on their mobile.
- Japanese Industrial designer Kenji Ekuan dies. He was known for his inventions that ranged from a bullet train to the red-capped Kikkoman soy sauce dispenser.

12th February

- Aditya Birla Chemicals merge with Grasim Industries. The Aditya Birla group chairman is Kumar Mangalam Birla.
- Himachal Pradesh launches Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System Project
- Microsoft acquires Sunrise, a Japanese Animation Studio.
- The Brigade of Guards and Sikh Regiment was awarded Best Marching Contingents on Republic Day.

13th February

- World Radio Day was observed on 13th February. The theme for this year was "Youth and Radio".
- Pfizer acquires Hospira.
- BT acquires U.K. Wireless Carrier EE
- India ranked at 136th in World Press Freedom Index. Published by Reporters Without Borders. RWB is a France based NGO.
- Telugu Novelist Kesava Reddy dies. His work, "He won a Forest" has won acclaim.
- Pan Malaysian Islamic Party leader Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat dies
- SpaceX launches Falcon 9 from Florida. Falcon 9 is a launch vehicle produced by SpaceX. SpaceX is a manufacturing company based in California. It is also the only

privately funded organization that has achieved some repute in the field of Space Exploration Vehicles.

14th February

- World Bank provides aid for Sustainable Livelihoods and Adaptation to climate change project.
- One rupee notes are to be back in circulation.
- BrahMos fired from INS Kolkata.
- UAE closes embassy in Yemen.
- Parle launches nationwide Litter Free Campaign.
- David Carr, a New York Times media critic who was known for sharp wit and blunt style and overcame drug addiction to become one of America's most respected journalists, died at age 58.

15th February

- The latest report of the Forest Survey of India has revealed that there has been a 5781 sq. km increase in forest cover, 64% of which, is accounted by West Bengal.
- In its fight against black money menace, India will have to wait till 2018 for Switzerland to provide bank account details of Indians under the 'automatic information exchange' framework. Under a global framework, more than 40 jurisdictions including India had agreed to become 'early adopters' of an 'automatic exchange of information' mechanism prepared by global body OECD to help each other in fighting the tax evasion and frauds. The details that would be shared include account number, name, address and date of birth, tax identification number, interest and dividends, receipts from certain insurance policies, credit balances on accounts, as also proceeds from the sale of financial assets.
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) issued a statement saying that a key milestone towards a new, universal agreement on climate change was reached in Geneva following seven days of negotiations by over 190 nations. The agreement is set to be reached in Paris at the end of 2015 and will come into effect in 2020. Formal work and negotiations on the text will continue at the Climate Change Conference in Bonn in June with two further formal sessions planned for later in the year including in October.

- Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland beat defending champion Tomas Berdych for the sixth straight time, winning 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 to clinch the World Tennis Tournament for his ninth career title.

16th February

- Balasubramaniam Venakataramani appointed as MD and CEO of Multi Commodity Exchange. He has replaced Manoj Vaish, who resigned. MCX is the world's sixth largest commodity exchange and is based in Mumbai.
- Scientist Srikanth Jagabathula received Career Award , or also called the Faculty Early Career Award for by the National Science Foundation of USA for his work on data driven modelling and learning techniques.
- Nagesh Kukunoor's film Dhanak wins two awards at Berlin International Film Festival. It is directed by Nagesh Kukunoor and it is about the story of siblings who traverse across Rajasthan.
- Dr. Tessy Thomas and Geeta Varadan win Nayudamma Award.
- Singaporean president Tony Tan Keng Yam visits India.
- 35th National Games concluded in Thiruvanthapuram.
- Kohli becomes first Indian to score century against Pakistan in WC
- Ashton B Carter was appointed as Defense Secretary of the United States.
- With a promise for a "new beginning" in India-Sri Lanka ties, Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena arrived in New Delhi to hold a joint press conference with Narendra Modi. Investment will be a key theme of the meet. The following agreement have been signed in by the two countries- Agreement between Sri Lanka and India on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, programme of Cultural Cooperation between Sri Lanka and India for the years 2015 – 18, MoU on the Establishment of Nalanda University. The MoU would enable Sri Lanka to participate in the Nalanda University Project, work-Plan 2014-2015 under the MoU on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture between India and Sri Lanka.
- Inflation dropped to a five and a half year low of - 0.39 per cent in January on falling prices of manufactured and fuel items. Inflation is measured on wholesale price index (WPI) and was at 0.11 per cent in December. RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan, in the monetary policy review earlier this month, kept key interest rate unchanged saying the

apex bank wanted more comfort on inflation front as it awaited cues from Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's first full year Budget.

- The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has slapped a Rs 425 crore show cause notice against BCCI, IPL, their officials and private multimedia firms for alleged contravention of forex laws in awarding a media rights contract in 2009. The notices have been issued to close to ten individuals and entities, which include former Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) chief N. Srinivasan, the then-IPL chairman Lalit Modi, Chief Operating Officer (COO) Sunder Raman.
- As many as 293 companies have committed to generate 266 GW of renewable energy in the next five years under the government's ambitious RE-Invest programme unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Renewable energy companies including Suzlon and Gamesa have committed to manufacture equipment to help generate 11,000 mw and 7,500 mw of power respectively to be used in the non-conventional energy side. Country's biggest lender SBI has said it will finance 15,000 mw renewable energy over the next five years.
- Players were auctioned for the 8th edition of the cricket extravaganza. Yuvraj Singh, Angelo Matthews and Dinesh Karthik remained the highlight of the show whopping huge amounts of money. The Chandigarh cricketer, whopping huge amounts of money. The Chandigarh cricketer, Yuvraj Singh who was denied a place in the world cup squad was sold for the maximum amount of 16 crores by the Delhi Daredevils.

17th February

- Ministry of Urban Development and Bloomberg Philanthropies team up for Smart cities initiative
- Sauravan Ganguly honoured with Life Membership of Marylebone Cricket Club
- Actor Louis Jordan dies. He was a pioneering American musician, songwriter and bandleader who enjoyed his greatest popularity from the late 1930s to the early 1950
- Punit Renjen appointed as CEO Deloitte Global Operations.
- Senior Aam Aadmi Party leader Yogendra Yadav declared that a "Jai Kisan Abhiyan" would be launched across the State from February 21. The AAP national spokesperson said the four things which have impacted the farmers of Haryana are shortage of urea, their not getting the promised minimum support price for their produce, changes brought about in the Land Acquisition Bill through an ordinance and the Haryana

Government's lowering of the acquisition rates through a notification issued on November 4.

- The government has added 38 more products to the list of commodities exempt from commodity transaction tax (CTT). Twenty three commodities like oilseeds, raw cotton, spices, etc, were exempt from CTT, introduced in July 2013. The government has exempted 38 more commodities from the levy. Many of these, onion, seedlac, ginger, gram dal, gram husk, masur, methi, safflower, rice, paddy, sesamum, moth, small millets, etc.
- Construction of toilets under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream project, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, has gained momentum with 7.1 lakh individual household toilets being built in January. According to data, a total of 31.83 lakh toilets have been built between April 2014 and January 2015, which is 25.4% of the target for 2014-15.
- Reliance Jio announced its participation in the auction together with four other operators, whose licences are up for renewal are Bharti Airtel, Vodafone India, Idea Cellular and Reliance Communications. Crisil estimates that operators will shell out over Rs 90,000 crore to win spectrum, pointing out that nearly half the Rs 1,20,000 crore of annual revenues is at stake for the large operators.
- Finance Ministry has imposed an anti-dumping duty on imports of graphite electrodes used in steel plants for five years. The imposed duty ranges between \$278.19 and \$922.03 per tonne. What is an Anti-Dumping Duty? It is duty imposed by government on imported products which have prices less than their normal values or domestic price. Usually countries initiate anti-dumping probes to check if domestic industry has been hurt because of a surge in below-cost imports. Anti-Dumping Duty is imposed under the multilateral WTO regime and vary from product to product and from country to country.

18th February

- Ashraful Haque passes away. He was known for his role in Delhi Belly, Company and Dewar.
- Kolinda Grabar Kitarovic was elected as the President of Croatia.
- Cartoonist Rajinder Puri dies.
- Michele Ferrero dies. Hewas an Italian entrepreneur. He owned the chocolate manufacturer Ferrero SpA, Europe's second largest confectionery company. His first

big success was adding vegetable oil to the traditional gianduja paste to make the popular spread, Nutella

- The Air Force Station at Yelahanka in the IT city hosts the 10th edition of the biennial five-day international edition of the aerospace and aviation exhibition Aero India 2015. The exhibition saw participation of over 600 companies, including 295 Indian and 328 foreign companies.
- Geneva's public prosecutor searched the premises of HSBC Holdings PLC in Geneva and opened a criminal inquiry into allegations of aggravated money laundering. The disclosures have sparked a political row in Britain over practices at HSBC and whether tax authorities had done enough to pursue possible wrongdoers.
- Beijing has proposed a triangular partnership with India and Sri Lanka, ahead of a month-end visit to Beijing of the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Mangala Samaraweera. China's new strategic construct of inclusive ties with India and Sri Lanka follows its advocacy of the 21st century Maritime Silk Road (MSR), where India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan are visualized as partner countries in South Asia.
- Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic sworn in as the President of Croatia. She is Croatia's first female President and overall fourth President since Croatia gained independence from Yugoslavia in 1991.

19th February

- "Mridaparikshak": A soil testing instrument that will help farmers increase productivity has been developed.
- India successfully test-fired nuclear weapons capable, surface-to-surface Prithvi-II missile for a shortened range of 250 km as against its full range of 350 km from Chandipur in Balasore district, Odisha. The indigenously-developed missile was launched by personnel of Strategic Forces Command (SFC) from a road mobile launcher at around 9.15 am. Prithvi-II is the first missile to have been developed by the DRDO under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) and has been inducted into the SFC in 2003. First National Tribal Festival Vanaj 2015 completed
- Project 17A to build stealth ships approved by Union Government.
- Aditya Birla group firm Hindalco Industries has won the Gare Palma IV/5 mine in Chhattisgarh by outbidding companies like BALCO, Sesa Sterlite, Ambuja Cements,

which were also vying for the same block. Gare Palma IV/5 mine was won by Hindaco Industries at Rs 3,502 per tonne. The government is auctioning the coal blocks after the Supreme Court cancelled allocation of 204 mines in September last year. It has put 19 mines on block in the first tranche.

- Indian-American Rashad Hussain has been appointed as the Special Envoy and Coordinator for Strategic Counter-terrorism Communications. According to the state department of US, the appointment will expand the global engagement and partnerships of the US in order to counter violent extremism. Hussain is currently the US special envoy to Organization for Islamic Countries (OIC).
- Indian telecom major Bharti Airtel Limited on 18 February 2015 tied-up with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to provide health, education and youth-focused content to its customers in 17 African countries. In this regard, Bharti Airtel limited and UNICEF signed a partnership agreement. Their partnership is aimed at improving African population's access to health and education-related information from various innovative projects supported by UNICEF.
- Bihar government has announced 35% reservation for women in non-gazetted government jobs in group C and D grade. The decision was taken at state cabinet meeting presided by Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi.

20th February

- Tropical cyclones Lam and Marcia hit Australia.
- Samsung acquires LoopPay. It is a mobile-payment system that could power Samsung's smartphone transactions in the future.
- Bihar Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi resigned ahead of a trust vote in the State Assembly. Nitish Kumar apologized to the people of Bihar on his previous decision to leave the post of the choef minister of Bihar. He will sworn in as the CM of Bihar on 22nd February in Patna. Urdu Poet Dr. Kalim Ahmed Ajiz dies.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday launched a Soil Health Card scheme, under which the Centre plans to target over 14 crore farmers in the next three years to check the excess use of fertilisers. The card, to be issued after testing soil, would help farmers save up to Rs 50,000 in 3 acres of land.
- The Cabinet Committee on Security sanctioned the country's biggest naval project, the construction of seven stealth frigates for Rs 45,381 crore. Mazagon Dock Ltd (MDL),

Mumbai, will build four of these, while Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata (GRSE),. The Project 17A frigates, while superficially similar to those build under Project 17, will pack significantly more punch with more advanced weaponry. The new vessels will be fitted with BrahMos cruise missile for land attack, and the new Indo-Israeli Long Range Surface-to-Air Missile (LR-SAM) that can shoot down incoming anti-ship missiles.

- 59-year old Gujarat born Shanghvi, by virtue of his over 63% holding in three group companies — Sun Pharma, Sun Pharma Advanced Research and Ranbaxy Labs — is worth about Rs 1.46 lakh crore (\$23.42 billion at an exchange rate of 62.34 to the dollar). In comparison Mukesh Ambani holds only 45% holdings in his two companies – RIL and Reliance industries Infrastructure which is worth only Rs 1.32 lakh crore (\$21.2 billion).

21st February

- International Mother Language Day was observed on 21st February.
- Eminent scientist Tapan Misra has been appointed the Chief of ISRO's Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad Gujarat. He will succeed A S Kiran Kumar, who was appointed as the Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in January 2015. He has 2 granted patents, 6 pending patents, 5 copyrights and many research papers to his credit.
- Veteran CPI leader Govind Pansare dies.
- Maheshwar Sahu Independent Director on board of RIL.
- Filmmaker Nirad Mahapatra dies.
- BJP and PDP agreed on forming the government in Jammu and Kashmir, both the parties confirmed that the two have finalized the deal. Sources said the status quo is likely to continue on Article 370 and there will be no re-looking on the controversial Armed Forces Special Powers Act as of now. PDP will have chief minister's post for full term and BJP deputy chief minister's post which is expected to be given to state BJP leader Nirmal Singh. PDP, has 28 MLAs and BJP has 25 MLAs after results for the state Assembly were declared on December 23.
- For the first time, two women are part of the Sarang team of the Indian Air Force, a show-stopping helicopter-formation team that is performing at the Aero India show. In a major policy shift in 2010, the IAF allowed women pilots to fly twin-engine medium

to heavy-lift helicopters. Deepika Misra is the Squadron Leader and Sandeep Singh an engineering officer, is the Flight Lieutenant.

- State Bank of India(SBI) will provide finance totaling Rs 100 crore benefiting 3,000 small tea growers in the North East. Finance will be provided to tea growers who have proper basic documents of their existing garden as per Tea Board of India norms.

22nd February

- Budget session of Parliament started. The budget session of Parliament began today with President Pranab Mukherjee's addressing joint session of both houses. Here are the highlights of what the President said: My government has been of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas. Within a span of 9 months my government has embarked on a comprehensive strategy for unleashing the economy. My government has worked for the welfare of the poor, the marginalized & the vulnerable sections of the society. Swachhta Abhiyan launched for a clean & open defecation free India by 2019. My government has attached highest importance to sustainable socio-economic growth of rural India.
- Himachal Pradesh is set to become the country's first state to present a 'paperless' budget on March 11. Since the state already has the country's first green assembly, all documents related to budget estimates would be made available online and only around 10 budget copies would be printed for record. Running the proceedings on e-Vidhan would save the state exchequer Rs 15 crore annually.
- The two-day session of the newly-formed Delhi assembly began on Monday. The newly-elected MLAs will be administered oath and the election of the Speaker of the assembly will take place. Lieutenant Governor Najeeb Jung will address the house on the second day of the session to provide a glimpse of the policies of the new government.

23rd February

- Somdev Devvarman wins Delhi Open Title.
- Purnendu Dasgupta wins J. Calvin Giddings Award of American Chemical Society.
- 10th Aero India Show was held in Bengaluru.
- Portal MADAD from Ministry of External Affairs to redress consular grievances.
- Nitish Kumar takes oath as Bihar CM.
- Anirban Lahiri wins Indian Open Title of Golf.

- Anil Kumble and Betty Wilson in ICC Hall of Fame.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday flagged off Hazaribagh-Koderma DMU train after inaugurating Hazaribagh town railway station. The project, which started 16 years ago, is the first stage of the Hazaribagh-Koderma-Barkakana-Ranchi railway line of the East-Central Railway. The decision to set up the line was taken by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.
- As per World Bank's recently released report Building Resilience for Sustainable Development of the Sundarbans, environmental damage in the climate change-hit islands of Sundarbans is costing India Rs. 1,290 crore each year. This report was jointly prepared by World Bank in collaboration with the West Bengal government. Sundarbans is an archipelago of 54 islands and is home to about 44 lakh people. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Former President of Maldives Mohamed Nasheed was arrested under anti-terrorism laws after a court said that he might flee the country to avoid hearings on terrorism charges. He is facing criminal charges over his order to arrest a Criminal Court judge Abdulla Mohamed in January 2012.

24th February

- Ranchi Rays were crowned as the Champions of Hero Hockey India League .
- National Green Tribunal bans vintage cars in Delhi.
- Hitachi acquires Finmeccanica Rail Businesses.
- Takahiro Hachigo was appointed as the President and CEO of Honda Motor Co Limited.
- Ram Niwas Goel was nominated as the Speaker of the Delhi Legislative Assembly.
- Rana Bhagwandas, who was the first Hindu Chief Justice of Pakistan dies.
- Indo-Nepal exercise Surya Kiran VIII initiated.
- A class action suit has been filed against Lenovo by angry customers charging Lenovo with fraudulent business practices and of making Lenovo PCs vulnerable to malware and malicious attacks by pre-loading the adware which customers referred to as spyware, after Lenovo admitted to pre-loading Superfish on some consumer PCs. Superfish Adware is advertising-supported software developed by California-based advertising company Superfish. The company was founded in Israel in 2006. The adware has been described as malware or adware by several sources.

- DK Pandey was on 24 February 2015 appointed as the Director General of Police (DGP) of Jharkhand. He is a 1984 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer.
- Additional DGP (Railways) Ashok Kumar Sinha was promoted to the rank of DGP and appointed as the DGP (Railways). Sinha is an IPS officer of 1983 batch.
- The much delayed Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2014, which lapsed after the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha was finally passed after its reintroduction by the NDA government by a voice vote on 24th February 2015. The bill seeks to modify the list of Scheduled Castes in three states- Haryana, Karnataka, Odisha and one Union Territory- Dadra and Nagar Haveli by amending Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Dadra and Nagar Haveli) Scheduled Castes Order, 1962.
- Dr Rajendra Kumar Pachauri on 24 February 2015 stepped down as Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Pachauri in a letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said that he was unable to provide strong leadership to the organization, and his resignation is said to be because of the heat he has been facing over charges of sexual harassment by a female colleague. His tenure at the organization saw IPCC winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.
The organisation will now be led by acting chair Ismail El Gizouli until the election for a new chairperson is conducted. Pachauri had chaired the IPCC since April 2002 and his second term was due to end in October 2015. Pachauri is serving as the Director General of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and is also a member of the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change.
- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India on 24 February 2015 issued the regulation on Telecommunication interconnection usage charges. The regulation prescribed a revised domestic carriage charges. The regulation will particularly benefit users of fixed-line phones. The move aimed to promote investment in wireline networks, so that they may become an effective vehicle for the delivery of high-speed Internet in the country.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav on 24 February 2015 presented the State Budget 2015-16 of 302687 crore rupees. The budget size of 2015-16 is 10.2 percent more than the budget of 2014-15.

25th February

- Abdul Jabbar goes to jail for war crimes in Bangladesh
- Ravi Chaudhary appointed as Executive Director of Regions and Centre Operations at Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- Delhi Government launched mLiquorSaleCheck Mobile App to control illicit sale of liquor
- Toro, a startup that helps developers promote their apps on Facebook, just announced that it's been acquired by Google.
- Kristen Stewart wins France's Cesar Award for Best supporting Actress.
- RK Pachauri resigns as chairperson of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
- The Aam Aadmi Party government in Delhi has jump-started its plan to slash electricity bills and provide free water. AAP Government announced a 50 per cent subsidy on power consumption up to 400 units on the existing Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) rates in Delhi. As per the Cabinet decision, no subsidy would be given to domestic consumers on power consumption above 400 units. The three-day-old government has also asked the Delhi Jal Board to work on distributing up to 20,000 litres free water a month to every home.
- The Madhya Pradesh governor Ram Naresh Yadav tendered his resignation to the Centre. This comes immediately after the Centre asked him step down following a registration of a first information report (FIR) against him in a recruitment scam. Yadav was named in an FIR registered by a special task force (STF) probing the multi-crore Madhya Pradesh professional examination board (MPPEB) or Vyapam scam under various sections of IPC, including 420 for cheating.
- Ranchi Rays won the third edition of Champions of Hero Hockey India League (HHIL) 2015. In the final match they defeated Jaypee Punjab Warriors by score of 3-2 in the penalty shootout after 2-2 tie in regular time match. With this Jaypee Punjab Warriors took second position followed by Delhi Waveriders in third position.
Awards from the Hero Hockey India League (HHIL) 2015:
Hero Goal of the Day- Barry Middleton of Ranchi Rays.
Man-of-the-Match- Tyler Lovell of Ranchi Rays.
Hero Most Valuable Player of the Tournament- Ashley Jackson of Ranchi Rays

26th February

- Ratan Tata awarded Doctorate of Automotive Engineering by Clemson University.
- Zoomcar ties up with Tata Motors.
- TRAI issues 6th Amendment.
- Government will roll out a pilot project to give a digital boost to the flagship rural job scheme MNREGA in gram panchayats to ensure its better implementation through mobile monitoring system. A total of 35,000 gram panchayats will be covered which would be given a mobile/tablet. If the the pilot project turns out to be a success, the scheme will be extended to all 2.65 lakh gram panchayats in the country, which will cost the Centre about Rs 265 crore.
- Dreaded terror group ISIS and all its affiliate organisations, responsible for series of savage attacks and killings in Iraq and Syria, have been banned in India under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The Islamic State/Islamic State of Iraq and Levant/ Islamic State of Iraq and Syria/Daish and all its manifestations have been declared as outlawed in India under UAPA.
- US Tech giant Apple Inc has been fined \$553 million for three patent infringements owned by patent licensing firm Smartflash LLC. This verdict was given by federal Jury in US District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. Jury in its verdict found out that Apple Inc's iTunes software has infringed three patents owned by Smartflash LLC.
- The Supreme Court allowed the 2G spectrum auction scheduled to start from March 4, on the condition that the results will not be finalised without the court's permission. The order covers the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Authority (TDSAT) as well. The Supreme Court will hear all the transferred petitions on March 26.
- In a breakthrough, researchers in Australia have developed the world's first 3D-printed jet engine that could pave the way for cheaper, lighter and more fuel-efficient aircraft. Researchers from Monash University, aided by staff from the CSIRO and Deakin University, have printed two engines and put one of them on display at the International Air Show in Avalon, Victoria.

27th February

- Aloysius Vincent cinematographer passed away.
- Parliament of Jamaica decriminalizes the personal use of Marijuana.

- Wipro won seven awards at the CIO Choice Honour and Recognition 2015.
- Former Haryana Chief Minister Hukam Singh died.
- Justice Amitava Roy was sworn in as a judge of the Supreme Court (SC) on 27 February 2015. Prior to this, he served as the Chief Justice of Odisha High Court. With his elevation, the strength of the SC judges has gone up to 29. SC has a sectioned strength of 31 judges.
- Indian-origin lawyer Kannan Ramesh was on 27 February 2015 appointed as Judicial Commissioner to Singapore's Supreme Court bench with effect from 22 May 2015. He will serve the office for two years. With this appointment, Singapore's Supreme Court will have a total of 10 Judicial Commissioners, 13 Judges and 5 senior judges.
- Words Ride-share and unboxing were added to Oxford dictionary on 27 February 2015. These words were added along with other words like bioprinting and vishing.
- Ride-share has been defined as to participate in an arrangement in which a passenger travels in a private vehicle driven by its owner, for free or for a fee, especially as arranged by means of a website or app.
- Unboxing has been defined as an act or instance of removing a newly purchased product from its packaging and examining its features, typically when filmed and shared on a social media site.
- Bioprinting is defined as the use of 3D printing technology with materials that incorporate viable living cells, e.g. to produce tissue for reconstructive surgery.
- Vishing, which is like phishing, but using phone calls or voice messages instead of emails to trick people in revealing sensitive information.
- Renowned US actor Leonard Nimoy best known for his half-human, half-Vulcan character of Mr Spock in the cult scientific-fiction series Star Trek passed away on 27 February 2015 in Los Angeles following chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. He was 83.
- Boris Nemtsov, the former Deputy Prime Minister of Russia and present leading Russian opposition politician was shot dead on 27 February 2015, a day before he was supposed to lead a demonstration against Putin's support for the pro-Russian separatists in Ukraine and his economic policies.
- State Government of Haryana on 27 February 2015 announced its decision to increase the cash reward under the Inter-Caste Marriage Scheme from 50000 rupees to 1 lakh

rupees for the reward which was constituted under Rule 16 of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

- Kshatrapati Shivaji was on 27 February 2015 appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (MD) of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). Shivaji was appointed on deputation basis for a period of three years. Shivaji is 1986 Batch IAS officer.

28th February

- National Science Day was celebrated on 28th February.
- International Rare Disease Day
- Kannan Ramesh appointed as Judicial Commissioner in Supreme Court in Singapore
- Mufti Mohammed Sayeed was appointed as CM of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Bharat Puri was appointed as MD of Pidlite Industries.
- Ericsson sues Apple over telecom patent infringement.
- AB de Villiers scores fastest 150 in ODI.
- Martin DAVID Crowe was instated in the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.
- Indian Navy concludes TROPEX exercise.
- US Actor Leonard Nimoy dies. He was known for his role in the Star Trek series.
- Sociologist Meera Kosambi died. She was famous for her books Bombay in transition, Crossing Thresholds: Feminist Essays in Social History.
- Kshatrapati Shivaji appointed as CMD of Small Industries Development Bank of India.
- Union Budget 2015 highlights
 1. No merit in going ahead with Direct tax Code as it exists today. Net impact of tax proposals Rs.15, 068 crore.
 2. Yoga to be included under charitable activities.
 3. Individual taxpayer can get benefits up to Rs. 4, 44,200.
 4. Transport allowance exemption to be increased to Rs. 1,600 per month.
 5. Rs. 50,000 contribution to new pension scheme. "To make India a pensioned society."
 6. Additional deduction of Rs. 25,000 for differently abled persons.

7. Increase in limit of deduction of health insurance premium of Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 25,000. For senior citizens, limit will be Rs. 30,000. Very senior citizens - Rs. 30,000 deduction on expenses incurred.
 8. 2 per cent cess on services for Swachh Bharat.
 9. 100 per cent deduction for contribution to Swachh Bharat and Clean Ganga schemes.
 10. Service Tax rate increased to 14 per cent.
- Justice Amitava Roy was sworn in as a judge of the Supreme Court (SC). Prior to this, he served as the Chief Justice of Odisha High Court. With his elevation, the strength of the SC judges has gone up to 29. SC has a sectioned strength of 31 judges. He will have tenure of three years. It should be noted that Amitava Roy was appointed as judge of SC through traditional collegium system rather than newly created National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC).
 - Every year February 28 is celebrated as the National Science Day i.e. Rashtriya Vigyan Diwas. 2015, the theme of the day is “Science for Nation Building”. This year’s theme has been chosen for the purpose of raising public appreciation on scientific issues for the development of nation. This day marks the epoch-making discovery of Raman Effect by Indian physicist Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (CV Raman) on February 28, 1928. In 1930, for this discovery he was awarded with the Nobel Prize in Physics.