

CLATGyan September 2015 Compendium – 8th September to 15th September

8th September

- The Indian Government has decided that minority refugees from Bangladesh and Pakistan can stay in India even after the expiry of their visas. It has been decided on humanitarian grounds that Bangladesh and Pakistani nationals who have entered India on or before December 31, 2014 will be exempt in respect of their entry and stay in India without proper documents or after the expiry of the relevant documents. The decision has been taken under Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 and Foreigners Act, 1946.
- 50th Anniversary of 1965 War between India and Pakistan.
- The Government has decided to impose a service tax of 12.5% on pilgrims making an air- trip to Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Auckland author Ted Dawe's book 'Into the river', which had won the New Zealand Post Children's book of the year in 2013, has become the first book to be removed from shelves in over two decades.
- GMR Hyderabad International Airport (GHIAL) has bagged the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) Energy Management Awards 2015 in the "Buildings" category. Hyderabad Airport has won this award twice in a row. Also, the GHIAL is the first airport in Asia to achieve the Leadership Energy and Environment Design (LEED) silver rating for eco- friendly design.
- Novak Djokovic has reached 26 consecutive Grand Slam Quarterfinals, the third longest in the open era (since 1968).

9th September

- Ahmed Javed, who headed Home Guards and Civil Defense, has replaced Rakesh Maria as the new Mumbai Police Commissioner. Rakesh Maria has now been allotted the office of Head of Home Guards and Civil Defense.
- In the biggest fatwa (religious edict) against Islamic State (IS) by Indian Islamic Scholars, 1,050 muftis and imams from all over the country have condemned the killing of innocent people by IS and posting of images and videos of the crimes online as 'un- Islamic' and contrary to the tenets of the Shariat.
- The Congress party has decided to increase the reservation for SCs/ STs, OBCs, women and minorities in the party from the present 20% to 50%.

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- ‘Cry for love’, a 22- year old song mocking the neo- Nazis has reached the top of Germany’s singles charts. The song by German punk band Die Aerzte, was first released in 1993.
- Lithuania has recently assumed the Presidency of Council of the European Union.
- Allah Nazar, chief of the banned Baluch Liberation Front (BLF) is believed to have been killed in a raid in Balochistan last month.
- Jordan Spieth will regain his No. 1 spot in the next world golf rankings, when they are released.

10th September

- According to data on property prices and rents compiled by the Global Property Guide, among 85 major property markets in the world, India was ranked 83rd in rental yields. Rental yield is the annual rental income as a percentage of the property’s purchase price. The annual rental yield for upmarket properties in India was 2.2%, higher only than Austria and Taiwan. Among 20 major markets in the list, rental yields were the highest in Mexico and Argentina.
- According to the Global Age Watch Index released by Britain’s University of Southampton and Help Age International, India has emerged one of the worst places in the world to grow old; ranking as low as 71 among 96 countries. It also scores the lowest on the elderly health front, where an average 60- year old is expected to live only 12.6 years in good health. The Index found Switzerland the best place for older people to live, followed by Norway and Sweden.
- The Election Commission has announced a five- phase poll schedule for Bihar, beginning October 12 and ending November 5, with results on November 8. In a first, in the Bihar elections, the inedible mark on a voter’s finger will extend from the nail tip to the bottom of the first joint of index finger. Also, for the first time, photographs of candidates will be displayed on ballot unit of EVMs.
- With 45.6 million followers, Taylor Swift has overtaken Kim Kadarshian to become the most followed person on Instagram.
- Research has found UK as having the least family- friendly family reunification policies out of 38 developed countries.
- Australian wicketkeeper and batsman Brad Haddin, who played 66 Tests, has announced his retirement from International cricket. He will however, continue to play Twenty20 cricket for Sydney Sixers.
- Wayne Rooney became England’s all- time highest scorer by smashing 50 International goals, eclipsing Bobby Charlton’s 45- year old England record.

11th September

- Scientists have discovered a new species in the human family tree- a small creature with a tiny brain, found in a South African cave. The find was Africa's largest single collection of hominin (human and human-related fossils) and was made of 15 individuals, pieced together from 1,550 fragments. The species has been named as Homo Naledi; Naledi is a word for "star" in the local South African language, Sesotho. The discovery was made in the Rising Star Cave in the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site, near Johannesburg. The team of 35- 40 scientists was led by Lee Berger, research professor in Evolutionary Studies Institute at the University of Witwatersrand.
- The European Commission has voted to ban cloning of all farm animals as well as sale of cloned livestock, their offspring and products derived from them. This means that the ban won't just be limited on cloning of just five species: cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and horses.
- Mumbai's State owned energy firm Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is set to bag the 'Maharatna' status by the end of this fiscal, joining the select league of seven Central Public Sector Enterprises- BHEL, Coal India, GAIL India, IOC, NTPC, ONGC and SAIL.
- Jagdeep Grewal, a 57- year old Indian American has been made the Postmaster in Sacramento in the US State of California, becoming the first woman to occupy the post in 166 years. Following in the footsteps of Sacramento's first postmaster, Henry E Robinson, Esq in 1849, Jagdeep will be the 29th Postmaster to serve the city.
- Bertie, the Usain Bolt of the tortoise world, has raced into the Guinness Book of Records as the fastest ever. The tortoise covered 5.48 m in 19.59 seconds- smashing the previous best of 43.7 seconds, which stood since 1977. Bertie won with a speed of 0.6 mph.
- Indian Test Captain Virat Kohli has joined Neelesh Bhatnagar and Sachin Gadoya, as the co-owner of UAE Royals Team in the International Premier Tennis League (IPTL). The owners have also brought on Ravi Shastri as a mentor- cum- advisor of the team. The UAE leg of the League will be held from December 14- 16 at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Stadium.
- The United States has remained undefeated at the Men's volleyball World Cup by beating Canada.

12th September

- According to the Hurun India Rich List, the wealthiest Indian is Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani with a net worth of Rs 1.6 lakh crore, followed by Dilip Sanghvi of Sun Pharma, S P H Hinduja and family of the Hinduja Group, Shiv Nadar of HCL and Pallonji Mistry of the Shapoorji Pallonji Group. The youngest on the list are Ola founders Ankit Bhati, 28 and Bhavish Aggarwal, 29, with their personal fortunes estimated at Rs. 2,385 crore each and jointly listed at 238th spot on the list. Researcher Rupert Hoogewerf started the Hurun Report. The first report, in 1999, was on the rich in China. The India initiative began two years ago.
- On a vote on the ‘right to die’ at the UK’s House of Commons, for the first time in 18 years, 118 MPs were in favor and 330 against plans to allow terminally ill adults to end their lives with medical supervision. The last time the Bill was debated was in 1997, when it was defeated 234 to 89.
- 119 nations, including India voted in support of a UN General Assembly Resolution, which granted the right to non- member observer states of Palestine and Vatican City to raise their flags at the world body’s headquarters alongside the flags of UN member nations. The resolution ‘Raising the flags of non- member observer states at the United Nations’ was adopted with a vote of 119 in favor to 8 against, with 45 delegations abstaining. Palestine became an observer state in 2012, while the Vatican has been a non- member observer state since 1964. The Assembly’s 70th session begins on September 15.
- Qatar’s emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al- Thani has appointed Zayed al- Khayareen as an ambassador to Iraq, the first since the embassy was closed 25 years ago.
- The European Court of Justice (ECJ) has given a landmark judgment stating that the time a person takes to travel to work and return home will have to be counted as working time under the law. The ruling revolves around a legal case in Spain involving Tyco, a security systems company that involves installing and maintaining antitheft security systems.
- Shiv Prakash Misra, 73 was awarded the Dhyanchand Award for Lifetime Achievement. He had qualified for the Wimbledon in the very first attempt in 1964. He also played the longest match of the US National Championships in 1964.

13th September

- G Satheesh Reddy, scientific advisor to defence minister and distinguished scientist at DRDO, has been selected for the silver medal of Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS), London, becoming the first defence scientist working in India to be honored with the medal. The medal will be presented to him during the Wilbur and Orville Wright Lecture on December 9, 2015 in London. The RAeS has been honoring outstanding achievers in the field of global aerospace industry since 1909, when Wilbur and Orville Wright came to London to receive the society's first gold medal. Reddy will be honored as one of the leading navigation and avionics experts of India.
- Egypt's Prime Minister Ibrahim Mahleb and his cabinet have resigned from office.
- US President Barack Obama will break tradition during this year's UN General Assembly by not staying at Waldorf Astoria, which was bought over by Chinese investors with deep ties to Beijing's ruling elite last year. He and the other officials will instead take residence at the Lotte New York Palace, owned by South Koreans; this is being done amid security concerns after attacks on various US Government databases by the Chinese came to light.
- Singapore's People's Action Party will return to power after winning 83 of the 89 seats in Parliament, while the opposition Worker's Party captured six.
- Queen Elizabeth's representative and lord- lieutenant of West Midlands, Chennai- born Paul Sabapathy was forced to resign after making derogatory remarks about Pakistanis.
- Former NBA- all star Dikembe Mutombo, women's basketball great Lisa Leslie and Lindsay Gaze of Australia were enshrined into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, with a ceremony held at the Naismith Museum in Springfield, Massachusetts.
- Peter Brook, 90, who shot to fame with his nine- hour production on Mahabharata, is all set to unveil his second theatrical rendition- the Battlefield. The play which will open at the Theatre du Bouffes du Nord, Paris, captures the anguish of victory after the bloody battle at Kurukshetra that left nearly 2 billion dead in nearly 18 days.
- China is all set to open its first express highway made with construction waste, to the traffic at Shaanxi Province. With a designed speed of 120 mph, the 122- km highway links Lintong district with Huxian County under the provincial capital of Xi'an. A total of 5.7 million tonne of construction waste was used to build the expressway, with an average of 46,700 tonnes in each kilometer.
- The Gujarat Government is going to build a 108- meter tall Buddha Statue at Dev ni Mori near Shamlaji, 150 kilometers north of Ahmedabad. It will be the second tallest Buddha statue in the

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world after the Spring Temple in China (153 meters) and the tallest of a sitting Buddha, beating a 92- meter statue in Thailand. The statue will have Buddha covered by a seven- hooded Mucalinda, the mythological serpent who provided shelter when Buddha was in meditation. Dev ni Mori was excavated by the State Archaeology Department in 1953. Dating back to 3rd century AD, the most important discovery from the site was a 1,700 year old casket, which had bodily relics of Buddha.

14th September

- Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis won the Women’s doubles title at the US Open, defeating Yaroslava Shvedova and Casey Dellacqua 6-3, 6-3 in New York. It was Sania’s second Grand Slam success this year, after the Wimbledon Title that she had also won with Hingis.
- Martina Hingis and Leander Paes won the Mixed doubles title at the US Open this year, defeating Americans Bethanie Mattek- Sands and Sam Querrey 6-4, 3-6, 10-7. Theirs has become the first team to win three major mixed doubles titles in the same year, since Maragret Court and Marty Riessen in 1969. With this US Open title, Paes has now won more Grand Slam titles than any other man in the Open Era (9), surpassing fellow Indian Mahesh Bhupathi (8). Only Martina Navratilova with 10 titles has won more.
- Flavia Pennetta, the 26th seed, beat Roberta Vinci, to become the oldest first time winner of a Major Tournament, the Women’s singles title at the US Open. At 33- years and 6 months, Pennetta is three years older than Francesca Schiavone was in 2010 when she won the French Open to become the first Italian woman to win a Grand Slam title.
- Nadia Ahmad, the only female driver in all of Palestine, is planning to start her own fleet of taxis in the occupied West Bank- driven by women, for women. Meanwhile in Egypt, a fleet of girls- only “Pink Taxis” has been launched.
- Whitney Houston will become the fourth celebrity to be posthumously honored with a hologram- where her digital likeness will perform at a “live” concert and will be streamed and shown on cable.
- Super Mario, the famous game, turned 30 on 13th September 2015.
- The government has removed K V Rama Moorthy from the post of executive Director of Bank of Baroda and shifted him to a smaller state- run lender United Bank of India (UBI).
- Yuki Bhambri, the highest ranked Indian at 145- in World Rankings, won the \$ 50,000 Shanghai ATP Challenger series title, defeating home favourite Di Wu in the hardcourt Event.

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- Cristiano Ronaldo has become Real Madrid's record scorer in La Liga with a five- goal haul at Espanyol. He has netted 230 goals in only 203 appearances for Real Madrid. It is two more than the club's former striker Raul, who needed 550 games to amass 228 goals. He is fourth on the list of all- time top scorers in La Liga behind Hugo Sanchez (Real, 234 goals), Telmo Zarra (Athletic Bilbao, 253) and Lionel Messi (Barcelona, 285).
- Defending world champion Marc Marquez of Spain on his Honda, won the San Marino MotoGP, defeating British riders Bradley Smith (Yamaha) and Scott Redding (Honda). Italy's Enea Bastianini on Honda won the Moto3 race at the San Marino Grand Prix. He came home ahead of Portugal's Miguel Oliveira (KTM) and other Italian, Niccolo Antonelli (Honda).

15th September

- In the State- wise report on 'Ease of doing Business Index' released by the World Bank and the Union Government's Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Gujarat has ranked first with a score of 71.14% out of 98 point reform measures, followed by Andhra Pradesh with 70.12% score. While Jharkhand was ranked third with 63.09%, Chhattisgarh came fourth with 62.54% and Madhya Pradesh fifth with 62% score. The States with the lowest scores were- Arunachal Pradesh (1.2%), Nagaland (3.4%), Meghalaya (4.4%), Jammu and Kashmir (5.9%) and Mizoram (6.4%).
- The first ever-bilateral maritime exercise between Australia and India, named AUSINDEX-2015 kicked off on 12 September 2015, in Visakhapatnam.
- Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott has been ousted from power by Malcolm Turnbull, who will now become the country's fifth premier in eight years, after the Liberal Party's decision to replace the unpopular incumbent. Turnbull, a multi- millionaire, former tech entrepreneur won a secret part vote 54 to 44.
- Novak Djokovic beat Roger Federer 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 to claim the US Open. The win gave the Serb, three of the four major titles this year- he lost the French Open final to Stan Wawrinka. This is Djokovic's 10th Slam Title (2008, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015 Australian Open; 2011, 2014, 2015 Wimbledon; 2011, 2015 US Open). This is also Djokovic's 9th major title in the last five years. The record for the most Grand Slam titles is held by Roger Federer (17), followed by Rafael Nadal and Pete Sampras (14), Roy Emerson (12), Bjorn Borg and Rod Laver (11), Bill Tilden and Novak Djokovic (10).
- Jeremy Corbyn is the UK Labor Party's new leader. He won with 59.5% of first- preference votes, besting Andy Burnham (19%), Yvette Cooper who won 17% and Liz Kendall (4.5%).

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- Swetha Prabakaran, a 15- year old Indian- American teen has been selected by the White House for the prestigious ‘Champions of Change’ Award, for empowering the community by imparting internet coding through her non- profit organization. She is a junior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.
- Georgia Betty Cantrell was crowned Miss America 2016 at a ceremony held in Atlantic City, New Jersey.
- Ashok Sridharan, of the Angela Merkel led- Christian Democratic Union (CDU) has won the mayoral election in Bonn, becoming the first person of Indian- origin to occupy the mayor’s office in a major German city. Sridharan, 49, secured the absolute majority by polling 50.06% of the votes in the elections held in the former German capital. His victory has marked the end of more than 21- years of rule of the city by the Social Democratic Party (SDP). Sridharan, will take over the reins of the city administration from the outgoing mayor Juergen Nymptsch on October 21. Until now, Sridharan had served as the treasurer and assistant mayor in the municipal administration of neighbouring town, Koenigswinter.
- Five ‘Pakistan- China Friendship Tunnels’ built at the cost of \$ 275 million to restore a strategic road link to China via Gilgit- Baltistan, were inaugurated by Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. The tunnels are part of a 24 km realignment project that has been completed in collaboration with China in over three years The tunnels are a network of seven- kilometer- long, five tunnels which restored Karakorum Highway (KKH) near Attabad Lake in Hunza Valley of Gilgit- Baltistan region. The restoration of KKH is said to be linked to the historic \$ 46 billion China- Pakistan Economic Corridor Project. Also, the repaired road is part of 24- kms long portion of KKH, which also includes 2 big and 78 small tunnels. The National Highway Authority (NHA) in collaboration with the China Road and Bridge Corporation has constructed the tunnels.
- Indian Para Badminton Team won 11 medals, including four gold, three silver and four bronze at the recent BWF Para Badminton World Championship held at Buckinghamshire, United Kingdom.
- Yuki Bhambri achieved his career- best singles rank of 125, following his title win at the ATP Shanghai Challenger. Yuki is the country’s number one singles player as he jumped 20 places after earning 20 points from his win.
- Former Yorkshire and England captain Brian Close has died at the age of 84. He was the youngest player ever to win a Test cap for England when he made his debut against New Zealand in 1949 as an 18- year old. Also, he led his country seven times in 22 Tests and scored

almost 35,000 runs as a batsman, including 52 centuries with a highest innings score of 198. He took 1,168 dismissals as a bowler and over 800 catches as a fielder.

