

CURRENT AFFAIRS WEEKLY ONE LINERS: OCTOBER 16 – OCTOBER 22, 2018

NATIONAL

- The Minister of state for culture, **Mahesh Sharma** and Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, **Hardeep Singh Puri** jointly laid the foundation stone for proposed Museum on Prime Ministers of India at **Teen Murti Estate, New Delhi**.
- The **Union Minister of Textiles, Smriti Zubin Irani** inaugurated the **6th edition of India International Silk Fair (IISF) in New Delhi**.
- India installed **4.9 GW of solar power, consolidating its position as the second largest solar market in the world**, during the first half of calendar year 2018. The country was ranked second, **following China** during the January-June period, according to a report by Mercom Communications India.
- The **first Indo-US tri-services exercise** would take place next year and talks are on to include the Special Forces of two countries in the drill
- The **West Bengal government** has ensured food security to more than 85 million people of the state under the **'Khadya Sathi' scheme**.
- The Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has dedicated a **DRDO website - 'The Kalam Vision - Dare to Dream'** - to former president and 'Missile Man' Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- **India and Tanzania** has signed **two Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs)** in presence of External Affairs Minister **Sushma Swaraj** and Tanzanian Foreign Minister **Dr. Augustine Mahiga** in New Delhi.
- Government has announced **100 crore rupee award for states** that would complete the household electrification early **under the Saubhagaya scheme**.
- The Uttar Pradesh cabinet has approved a proposal to rename **Allahabad as 'Prayagraj'** amid protests by the opposition parties. The city of Allahabad was originally known as **Prayag in ancient times**.
- **Bihar's Shahi Litchi** — mostly grown in Muzaffarpur and adjoining areas of **East Champaran, Vaishali, Samastipur and Begusarai districts** — now enjoys the geographical indication (GI) tag.
- The **virtual currency exchange Unocoin** has installed a currency deposit and dispensing ATM at **Kemp Fort Mall in Bengaluru**.
- **The Armies of India and Japan** will hold their first ever joint exercise from November 1 at a jungle warfare school in **Mizoram's Vairengte** with a focus on strengthening counter-terror cooperation.

- Assam's **third Bihu festival, known as Kati Bihu or Kongali Bihu**, was being celebrated across the state.
- The government has launched a national campaign '**Swasth Bharat Yatra**' on the **World Food Day** in New Delhi.
- The **North Central Railways (NCR)** launched two mobile apps, '**NCR RASTA**' and '**Yatri RASTA**', for its employees and passengers, respectively, for locating assets and stations.
- The Prime Minister announced an annual award in the name of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose for police and paramilitary forces for commendable contributions in disaster relief operations.
- Even though India slipped by one spot, it was still ranked one of the 10 most valuable nation brands in the world, according to a report titled 'Nation Brands 2018' released by Brand Finance, a leading brand valuation and strategy consultancy.
- Angriya, India's first luxury cruise ship, is all set for its inauguration on October 20 at Mumbai

INTERNATIONAL

- According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the first India-China Joint Training Programme for Afghan Diplomats will be held in October. Such cooperation is the first by the two nations.
- China successfully **launched twin BeiDou-3 navigation satellites** into space to strengthen its satellite navigation network being built to rival the US' Global Positioning System (GPS).
- The **sixth meeting of the UAE – India High Level Joint Task Force on Investments** ('the Joint Task Force') was held in Mumbai to review the progress being made in addressing the agreed actions of the previous meeting held in Abu Dhabi in January 2018 and to elaborate a number of new key issues of mutual importance.
- The **12th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) summit** begins in **Brussels, Belgium**. The theme this year is, '**Global Partners for Global Challenges**'.
- **Canada** has become the **second country after Uruguay** to legalise possession and use of recreational **cannabis**. Medical marijuana has been legal in the country since 2001.
- **Yemen's newly appointed Prime Minister Maeen Abdulmalik** was sworn in to lead the internationally-backed government.
- The **Druk Nyamrup Tshogpa (DNT)** will form new government in **Bhutan**. This is the first time in Bhutan's decade old parliamentary democracy that a new party has been chosen to form the government.

- The world's longest sea bridge **Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge** has been opened. The 55-kilometer-long bridge, situated in the **Lingdingyang waters of the Pearl River Estuary**, will be the world's longest sea bridge.
- The **European Space Agency and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency** as successfully lifted a spacecraft through **Ariane 5 rocket** carrying two probes into orbit for a joint mission to **Mercury, the closest planet to the sun.**
- The **Union Minister for Railways, Coal and Corporate Affairs Piyush Goyal** has received the prestigious **Carnot prize** for his contribution towards sustainable energy solutions.
- **India, Japan and the U.S.** are set to elevate the bilateral '**Cope India**' air exercise to a trilateral format. The three countries already conduct naval war games under the expanded Malabar naval exercise.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi chaired the sixth meeting of **National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) at New Delhi.**
- The Vice President of India, Shri **M. Venkaiah Naidu** left for Belgium to attend the two-day 12th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in **Brussels.** The theme of the ASEM Summit is '**Global Partners for Global Challenges**'.
- A U.N.-backed fund has approved more than **\$1 billion** for 19 new projects to help **developing countries tackle climate change.**

BANKING AND ECONOMY

- **Kreditech** has been **licensed by the RBI to operate as an NBFC** with the first-of-its-kind licence in the Indian financial history for **digital lending business and app-based financing.**
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has released guidelines to facilitate payments among different mobile wallets, a move aimed at **promoting digital transactions.**
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has allowed banks to lend more to **non-banking finance companies (NBFC)**, by increasing the single borrower exposure limit from **10 per cent to 15 per cent.**
- **Marsel van Oosten from Netherlands** has won the **Wildlife Photographer Of The Year 2018 title.** It is the portrait of two endangered golden snub-nosed monkeys in China's Qinling mountains.
- **An Indian-American woman** has been honoured with a Presidential award by **U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo** for her extraordinary contribution towards **combating human trafficking in Houston.**

APPOINTMENTS

NAME OF THE PERSON	APPOINTED AS	BY REPLACING	RESIGNS
Nimesh Shah , MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company,	was elected the chairperson of the fund industry trade body AMFI .	_____	_____
The HMD Global, which designs and sells phones under the Nokia brand,	has appointed Bollywood actress Alia Bhatt as the ' face of Nokia phones ' in India.	_____	_____
MJ Akbar, Minister of State For External Affairs	_____	_____	has resigned from his post in the wake of allegations of sexual harassment made by several women against him.

AWARDS AND HONOURS

- The National Award winning music director Mohammed Zahur Khayyam Hashmi, famous as '**Khayyam**', has been named for this year's Hridaynath Award for Lifetime Achievement
- The **India Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2018** is **Prema Gopalan of Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP)**.
- 'Beeg Ani Beegath', a collection of short stories in Konkani by well-known writer, journalist and critic **H M Pernal** has bagged the prestigious '**Vimala V Pai Vishwa**' Konkani best book award for the year 2018.
- **Anna Burns** has become the **first Northern Irish author** to win the Man Booker prize, taking the £50,000 award for Milkma.
- **Social Entrepreneur Suheil F. Tandon** has won the International Olympic Committee's Sport and Active Society Commission's Grant Award for his contribution to sports for development.

SPORTS

- **Novak Djokovic** beat **Croatia's Borna Coric** in the final of the **Shanghai Masters to clinch the title**. According to a **World Health Organization report**, India is the world's most depressed country, closely followed by China and the US.
- **Suraj Panwar** won India's first medal in athletics at the **third Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, Argentina**.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

- **Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu** released a biography of late **Anumolu Ramakrishna**, a pioneer in the application of innovative systems and construction techniques in the Indian construction sector.
- The "**Brief Answers to the Big Questions**", the final book by **Stephen Hawking** was launched at the **Science Museum in London, Britain**. The final writings of world-famous physicist Stephen Hawking have been compiled in a book.
- A new book on **Maharana Pratap** named "**Maharana Pratap: The Invincible Warrior**" authored by **historian Rima Hooja** has been released.

RANKING

- **India** is the world's most depressed country, closely followed by China and the US
- **India** has been ranked as the **58th most competitive economy on the World Economic Forum's global competitiveness index for 2018**, which was topped by the US.
- Engineering and construction major **Larsen & Toubro**, which is majority owned by its employees, is the only domestic firm to be featured among the top 25 companies in the Forbes' global 2000 best employers list that is led by Google parent Alphabet.

IMPORTANT DAYS

OCTOBER	IMPORTANT DAY	THEME
16	World Food Day	Our Actions are Our Future
15	World Students' Day	
17	The International Day For The Eradication Of Poverty	"Coming together with those furthest behind to build an inclusive world of universal respect for human rights and dignity."
20	World Osteoporosis Day	

OBITUARY

- Paul G. Allen, who co-founded Microsoft with his childhood friend Bill Gates before becoming a billionaire philanthropist who invested in conservation, space travel, arts and culture and professional sports has passed away.
- Former **Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand** , N D Tiwari, passed away .Mr. Tiwari who began his career with the erstwhile Praja Socialist Party (PSP) to then serve his entire career in the Congress.

- **Japanese-born** Marine biologist **Osamu Shimomura**, who won the Nobel Prize in **chemistry**, has died. He was 90.