

Detailed Solution Smart Test 1 General Studies Paper I

1. Swacchata Hi Seva campaign has fostered collaborations, across the country, to fight against the evils of open defecation. In a major milestone, the rural sanitation coverage has increased with 4 districts being declared ODF today taking the total tally to 201.

After a week of the Swacchata Hi Seva campaign, the movement received support from Bollywood. Superstar Rajinikanth responded to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's call by committing to extend full support to Swachhata. Filmmaker S.S. Rajamouli also extended full support to the Swachhata Hi Seva Campaign.

In Balasore, Odisha scientists and staff members of Interim Test Range (ITR) Chandipur, picked up brooms and cleaned roads.

The Centre will launch a nation-wide, fortnight-long sanitation campaign from Friday to highlight the Modi government's flagship cleanliness initiative Swachh Bharat Mission. The campaign, named 'Swachhata Hi Seva' (cleanliness is service) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will be launched by President Ram Nath Kovind from Ishworiganj village in Kanpur.

The initiative, which is being coordinated by the ministry of drinking water and sanitation, will include 'sharamdaan' or voluntary work and will focus on mass mobilisation and reinforce 'jan andolan' for sanitation to contribute to Mahatma Gandhi's dream of a clean India.

2. Centre to launch Neighborhood Action Plan in cities for better Solid Waste Management.

3. Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi inaugurates "Hunar Haat" in Puducherry

"Hunar Haat", being organised by Ministry of Minority Affairs from 24th to 30th September, 2017.

Ministry of Minority Affairs working to establish "Hunar Hub" across the country to provide a platform to master artisans and craftsmen to display as well sell their products: Shri Naqvi.

4. **Deepa Malik - First woman to win a medal at the Paralympics**

An eminent sports personality, Padma Shri and Arjuna Awardee, Smt. Deepa Malik is India's first female para-athlete to win a medal at the Paralympics (Rio, 2016). She has to her credit Asian record in the Javelin throw for five consecutive

years. She is also the first Indian paraplegic open-water swimmer, having swum across the Yamuna; a biker and a celebrated car rallyist who became the first Indian with paraplegia to hold an FMSCI (Federation Motor Sports Club of India) rally license & participate in the Raid de Himalaya, the highest rally raid in the world.

PriyaJhingan - First Lady Cadet to join Indian Army

Major PriyaJhingan is the first woman to join the Indian Army in 1992. She hails from Shimla and she had the courage to write to the Chief of Army Staff to induct women into the Indian Army back in 1988. She joined Officers Training Academy, Chennai in September 1992. A silver medallist she was commissioned into the Judge Advocates General Department on 06 March 1993.

P.V Sindhu - First Indian woman to win an Olympic silver medal

PusarlaVenkata Sindhu took her game to the global league, when she became the first Indian sportswoman to win silver in badminton and reached the finals in the Olympics 2016.

Ayesha Aziz - The youngest pilot in India and the first female pilot from Kashmir

Ayesha Aziz, at a tender age of 16 received her student license to fly in 2011. She flew a MIG-29 fighter jet at Russia's Sokul airbase and Cessna 172R in January 2012.

5. Vipassana is an effective way to cleanse our mind and body, says President .

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated a Vipassana Meditation Centre at the Dragon Palace Temple complex in Kamptee, Nagpur today (September 22, 2017).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that Vipassana is a meditation technique propounded by Lord Buddha which helps us connect with our inner selves. It is an

effective way to cleanse our mind and body and equips us to face the stresses of modern life.

6. On Tuesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark upon a historic visit to Israel aimed at strengthening diplomatic ties with the Jewish nation.

Every year on September 23, the Indian Army celebrates 'Haifa Day' to commemorate the war dead during the Battle of Haifa, considered as one of the bravely-contested battles of World War I. The Teen Murti memorial was constructed in 1922 in the memory of the Indian soldiers from three princely states namely Jodhpur, Hyderabad and Mysore who served present day Gaza strip, Israel and Palestine during the World War I under British India Army.

7. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today launched the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana, or Saubhagya, at New Delhi. The aim of this scheme is to provide power to all homes.

8. "PENCIL": an electronic platform for effective enforcement for no child labour developed by Ministry of Labour and Employment is going to be launched by Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singhji on 26th September 2017.

9. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the revamped Khelo India programme at a cost of Rs.1,756 crore for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20.

Some of the salient features of the Programme include:

- an unprecedented Pan Indian Sports Scholarship scheme, which would cover 1,000 most talented young athletes each year across select sports disciplines.
- Each athlete selected under the scheme shall receive an annual scholarship worth Rs. 5.00 lakh for 8 consecutive years.

10. Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh operationalised the New Intelligence Set-up of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) at a function here today. This marked the culmination of a long pending aspiration of the Force following approval of the Union Home Minister.

SSB has been declared as the Lead Intelligence Agency (LIA) for both the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders.

The SSB has been mandated the responsibility of guarding the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders where there are no restrictions on the movement of people on either side.

11. PM dedicates Sardar Sarovar Dam to the nation; attends closing ceremony of Narmada Mahotsav at Dabhoi.

On occasion of his 67th birthday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Sardar Sarovar Dam on the Narmada river. The project which has been the subject of much controversy for decades now is reported to be one of the largest dams in the world. Having a length of 1.2 kms and a depth of 163 metres, the dam is expected to be shared among the three states of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

12. The year 2017 marks the 30th Anniversary of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

During the Kigali negotiations, India piloted the concept of two base lines and a differentiated phased down time schedule to factor in the needs of developing countries. This was the first time in the Montreal Protocol that the concept of two baseline has been adopted both for developed and developing countries. On India's initiative, energy efficiency was included for the first time in the Montreal Protocol as an agreed finance solution while phasing down HFCs.

13. As a follow up to the new policy called Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala (Coal) Transparently in India (SHAKTI), Coal India Limited (CIL) conducts the auction for Independent Power Producers (IPPs)

14. Indo-Japan Collaboration expands to scale up research to translations.

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, announced the expansion of its first joint International laboratory with National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science & Technology (AIST) Japan named as DBT-AIST International Laboratory for Advanced Biomedicine (DAILAB) to DAICENTER by signing a contract on September 13, 2017 in Delhi.

DAILAB TO DAICENTER

In last three years, DAILAB has become a role model of India-Japan S&T co-operation and has helped thousands of students in several ways. DBT in cooperation with AIST is scheduled to expand DAILAB to DAICENTER from September/October 2017.

DAICENTER involves (i) new research projects on Translational and Environmental Research including Big Data in Biomedicine, (ii) new programs for educating and inspiring youth for science careers and (iii) new connectivity/bridge between universities-research institutes-industries at both ends to inspire innovation, application and industrialization of research for the benefit of society.

15. Government celebrates 'Bharat ke Kaushalzaade' on the eve of Antyodaya Diwas

An event honouring beneficiaries of its key skilling programmes

Rural Skills Division, Ministry of Rural Development has organized 'Bharat ke Kaushalzaade', an event honouring beneficiaries of its key skilling programmes, on the eve of Antyodaya Diwas 2017. Staying true to the spirit of Antyodaya Mission, which lies in 'reaching out to the last person, the event, was graced by almost 800 plus candidates and alumni to celebrate and honour beneficiaries from both of MoRD's flagship skill development programmes i.e. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETI).

16. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi will address the students' convention on the theme of 'Young India, New India', on occasion of 125th anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's Chicago address and Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya's centenary celebrations, on September 11, 2017.

In a series of tweets from his account, the Prime Minister said:

"Tomorrow I look forward to addressing a gathering of students on the theme of 'Young India, New India.'

The convention of students is being held on 11th September, the day Swami Vivekananda delivered his historic address at Chicago in 1893.

This year, we are marking 125th anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's Chicago address and Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya centenary celebrations

17. Kandla Port renamed as Deendayal Port .

The Ministry of Shipping has issued a notification renaming Kandla Port Trust as Deendayal Port Trust with effect from 25th of September, 2017. Kandla Port, located on the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat, is one of the twelve major ports in the country.

18. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to be signed between India and Nepal for laying down implementation arrangement on Cost sharing, Schedules and Safeguard issues for starting construction of a new Bridge over Mechi River at Indo-Nepal border.

19. NITI Aayog will launch the Mentor India Campaign, a strategic nation building initiative to engage leaders who can guide and mentor students at more than 900 Atal Tinkering Labs, established across the country as a part of the Atal Innovation Mission.

20. The 2017 China India border standoff or Doklam standoff refers to the military border standoff between the Indian armed forces and the People's Liberation Army of

China over construction of a road in Doklam, known as Donglang, or Donglang Caochang (meaning Donglang pasture or grazing field), in Chinese. On 16 June 2017 Chinese troops with construction vehicles and road-building equipment began extending an existing road southward in Doklam, a territory which is claimed by both China as well as India's ally Bhutan. On 18 June 2017, around 270 Indian troops, with weapons and two bulldozers, entered Doklam to stop the Chinese troops from constructing the road. On 28 August, both India and China announced that they had withdrawn all their troops from the face-off site in Doklam.

21. BRICS Leaders Xiamen Declaration

Xiamen, China, 4 September 2017

22. As the country's national R&D body — Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) — will enter 75th year of its foundation next week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on September 26 kick off its platinum jubilee celebration with an aim to push the institution to work more vigorously for bringing the result of its research, new technology and discoveries from lab to people and industries.

Modi is expected to use the occasion to exhort the scientific community to work on the goal to identify 100 odd everyday problems of the country and bring out solutions so that the people can directly get benefited from those research.

23. Indian Navy commissions Water Jet Fast Attack Craft at Mumbai - 26 Sep 17.

INS Tarasa, a Water Jet Fast Attack Craft was commissioned into the Indian Navy by Vice Admiral Girish Luthra, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai today.

INS Tarasa is the fourth and last of the follow-on Water Jet FAC's built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata. The first two ships of the class i.e. IN ships Tarmugli and Tihayu were commissioned in 2016 and are based at Visakhapatnam; while the third ship INS Tillanchang was commissioned earlier this year at Karwar on 09 March 2017. These ships are an upgrade of the Car Nicobar class Fast Attack Crafts with the Indian Navy, which were also indigenously designed and built by GRSE, Kolkata.

24. Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, Shri Radha Mohan Singh addressed a gathering at “100 years of Excellence In Sugarcane Research: variety 205 to variety 0238” (sugarcane variety) and “New India Manthan – Sankalp Se Siddhi” events, organised by ICAR- Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Regional Centre, Karnal here. Shri Singh informed the gathering that with the help of Sir Dr Venkatraman, for the first time, hybrid clone variety 205 (*Saccharum officinarum* and *Saccharum*

spontaneum) was developed for sub-tropical climate, which was launched in 1918 for commercial farming. The hybrid clone led to 50% increase in sugarcane production in North India and popular species like Saccharum Barberi and Saccharum Sinensis were left far behind.

25. JAM (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile) is nothing short of a social revolution because it has brought together financial inclusion (PMJDY), biometric identification (Aadhaar) and mobile telecommunications, finance minister said. About 52.4 crore unique Aadhaar numbers are linked to 73.62 crore accounts in India.

Within reach of the country is what might be called the 1 billion-1 billion-1 billion vision. That is 1 billion unique Aadhaar numbers linked to 1 billion bank accounts and 1 billion mobile phones. Once that is done, all of India can become part of the financial and digital mainstream.

26. In September 2015, 193 countries including India committed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as detailed in the United Nations resolution, 'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'. There are 17 SDGs, which have 169 targets to be achieved by 2030. The SDG 1 is to "End poverty in all its forms everywhere"; SDG 2 is to "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture"; and SDG 5 is to "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." The SDGs facilitate the development action for greater human wellbeing.

27. Bharatmala is a name given to ambitious road and highways project of Modi Government. The total investment for the Bharatmala plan is estimated at Rs10 trillion—the largest ever outlay for a government road construction scheme.

The ambitious 10-lakh-crore umbrella programme for roads, Bharatmala, will subsume all existing highway projects including the flagship National Highways Development Project (NHDP), launched by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government in 1998.

The project will start from Gujarat and Rajasthan, move to Punjab and then cover the entire string of Himalayan states - Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand - and then portions of borders of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar alongside Terai, and move to West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, and right up to the Indo-Myanmar border in Manipur and Mizoram. Special emphasis will be given on providing connectivity to far-flung rural areas including the tribal and backward areas.

28. Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY)

The Government of India has decided to launch a new sub-scheme named "Aajeevika Grameen Express Yojana (AGEY)" as part of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana –

National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). The Self Help Groups under DAY-NRLM will operate road transport service in backward areas. This will help to provide safe, affordable and community monitored rural transport services to connect remote villages with key services and amenities (such as access to markets, education and health) for the overall economic development of backward rural areas. This will also provide an additional avenue of livelihood for SHGs. The basic outline of AGEY was discussed in a meeting of State Transport Ministers of 13 States held in June 2016 at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh and all the Transport Ministers had expressed their appreciation of this initiative.

The Community Investment Fund (CIF) provided to Community Based Organization (CBOs) under DAY-NRLM will be utilized to support the SHG members in this new livelihoods initiative.

29. "Biosphere Reserve (BR) is an international designation by UNESCO for representative parts of natural and cultural landscapes extending over large area of terrestrial or coastal/ marine ecosystems or a combination thereof. BRs are designated to deal with one of the most important questions of reconciling the conservation of biodiversity, the quest for economic and social development and maintenance of associated cultural values. BRs are thus special environments for both people and the nature and are living examples of how human beings and nature can co-exist while respecting each other's needs.

There are 18 Biosphere Reserves in the country. List of Biosphere Reserves is given in the Annexure.

The Biosphere Reserve Programme is guided by UNESCO Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme as India is a signatory to the landscape approach supported by MAB programme.

LIST OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES:

- 1) Cold Desert, Himachal Pradesh
- 2) Nanda Devi, Uttrakhand
- 3) Khangchendzonga, Sikkim
- 4) Dehang-Debang, Arunachal Pradesh
- 5) Manas, Assam

- 6) Dibru-Saikhowa, Assam
- 7) Nokrek, Meghalaya
- 8) Panna, Madhya Pradesh
- 9) Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh
- 10) Achanakmar-Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh-Chhattisgarh
- 11) Kachchh, Gujarat
- 12) Similipal, Odisha
- 13) Sundarban, West Bengal
- 14) Seshachalam, Andhra Pradesh
- 15) Agasthyamala, Karnataka-Tamil Nadu-Kerala
- 16) Nilgiri, Tamil Nadu-Kerala
- 17) Gulf of Mannar, Tamil Nadu
- 18) Great Nicobar, Andaman & Nicobar Island

30. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana under the Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency (MUDRA) Bank is a new institution being set up by Government of India for development and refinancing activities relating to micro units. It was announced by the Finance Minister while presenting the Union Budget for FY 2016. The purpose of MUDRA is to provide funding to the non corporate small business sector.

Under the scheme, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana three categories of interventions have been named which include

Shishu :- Loan up to Rs. 50,000 (US\$ 780)

Kishore :- Loan ranging from Rs. 50,000 (US\$780) to Rs. 5 lakh (US\$ 7,800)

Tarun :- Loan above Rs. 5 lakh (US\$7,800) and below Rs. 10 lakh (US\$ 16,000)

These three categories will signify the growth, development and funding needs of the beneficiaries as well as it will assure the loan amount to be allotted by Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Bank.

31. The Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley announced here today a new Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) by the name BHARAT 22. Bharat 22 consists of 22

stocks of CPSE's, PSB's & strategic holding of SUUTI (Specified Undertaking of Unit Trust of India).

32. 150 universities and 230 colleges have initiated implementation of Gender Champions Scheme

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme was launched in January, 2015 to address the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of women empowerment over a life-cycle continuum. It is a tri-ministerial effort of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development. There is a strong emphasis on mindset change through training, sensitization, awareness raising and community mobilization on ground.

In order to move towards a gender just society that treats women equally, the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Resource Development, have envisaged Gender Champions as responsible leaders who will facilitate an enabling environment within their schools/colleges/academic institutions where girls are treated with dignity and respect.

33. Under the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities (PM's new 15-PP), an earmarking of 15% of the PSL is targeted for the minority communities. All scheduled commercial banks are required to ensure that within the overall target for PSL and the sub-target of 10% for the weaker sections, sufficient care is taken to ensure that minority communities also receive an equitable portion of the credit. The RBI has advised the lead banks to keep this requirement in view while preparing district credit plans.

34. The National Biopharma Mission aimed at accelerating biopharmaceutical development in the country was launched by Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan here on Friday.

The programme named Innovate in India (i3) will witness an investment of USD 250 million with USD 125 million as a loan from World Bank. It aspires to create an enabling ecosystem to promote entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing in the sector.

The mission, to be implemented by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), is expected to bring together expertise from national and international corridors to provide strategic guidance and direction to move promising solutions through the product development value chain.

35. The Stand Up India Scheme is designed to facilitate at least 2 bank loans (one loan to SC or ST and one to Woman entrepreneur) per bank branch of Scheduled Commercial Banks for setting up greenfield enterprises.

36. Mission XI Million is a joint programme, of this Ministry, All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) to popularise football across the country. The programme targets to reach 11 Million boys and girls across the country for promotion of football by 30th September 2017.

37. Centenary Anniversary of Champaran Satyagrah

The Government has decided to commemorate centenary of Champaran Satyagraha during April 2017 to April 2018.

A National Implementation Committee (NIC) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Home Minister.

Inaugural function for the commemoration was organised in Delhi on 10th April, 2017.

38. GM Crops Cultivation

The only GM crop permitted for cultivation in the country by the Central Government is Bt cotton.

39. Codex Alimentarius Commission meeting in Geneva adopts three Codex standards for spices.

Member-countries unanimously approve Codex standards for pepper, cumin and thyme

In a major recognition of India's efforts to benchmark global spices trade, the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) has adopted three Codex standards for black, white and green pepper, cumin and thyme, paving the way for universal agreement on identifying quality spices in various countries.

40. Learn & Earn Scheme

The scheme "Seekho aur Kamao (Learn and Earn)" is a placement linked skill development scheme, implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs through selected Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) all over the country. The Government is encouraging the youth from the minority communities to take up employment based skills training and the Ministry has extended the scheme across the country.

41. The Ministry of Minority Affairs formulated "Hamari Dharohar" scheme for preservation of rich heritage and culture of minority communities of India in 2014-15. The scheme aims to support curation of iconic exhibitions, calligraphy, research and development, etc.

42. Nai Roshni is a scheme for leadership development of minority women.

Objectives:

- Empower and install confidence in women of minority communities by equipping them with knowledge, tools and techniques to interact with government systems, banks and intermediaries
- Encouraging minority community women to move out of the home and assume leadership roles within the Community

43. Project 'Mausam' is the initiative of Ministry of Culture to be implemented by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as the nodal agency with research support of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and National Museum as associate bodies. This project aims to explore the multi-faceted Indian Ocean 'world'—collating archaeological and historical research in order to document the diversity of cultural, commercial and religious interactions in the Indian Ocean. It also aims to promote research on themes related to the study of Maritime Routes. Main objective of the project is to inscribe places and sites identified under Project Mausam as trans-national nomination for inscription on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

44. ILO Fundamental Conventions

India has ratified six out of the eight core/fundamental International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions.

These are the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105),

Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100), Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

India has not ratified the core/fundamental Conventions, namely Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98).

The main reason for non-ratification of ILO Conventions No.87 & 98 is due to certain restrictions imposed on the Government servants. As communicated by Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT), the ratification of these conventions would involve granting of certain rights that are prohibited under the statutory rules, for the Government employees, namely, to strike work, to openly criticize Government policies, to freely accept financial contribution, to freely join foreign organizations etc.

45. Atal Pension Yojana (APY) - launched by the Government of India in May, 2015, primarily targeted at the unorganised sector and informal workers.

The Atal Pension Yojana (APY) has been launched by the Government of India in May, 2015, which is primarily targeted at the unorganised sector and informal workers. The registration of subscribers under APY started from June 1, 2015. The salient features of the Atal Pension Yojana are as under:

Indian Citizens between the age group of 18 to 40 years eligible to join APY through their savings bank account or post office savings bank account.

APY is based on defined benefit for providing guaranteed minimum monthly pension of Rs. 1000 or Rs. 2000 or Rs. 3000 or Rs. 4000 or Rs. 5000 at the age of 60 years based on pension amount chosen.

The Central Government would also co-contribute 50% of the total contribution or Rs. 1000 per annum, whichever is lower, to each eligible subscriber, for a period of 5 years, i.e., from Financial Year 2015-16 to 2019-20, who have joined the APY before 31st March, 2016, and who are not members of any statutory social security scheme and who are not income tax payers.

46. The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the 200th anniversary celebrations of the Paika Rebellion of Odisha today (July 20, 2017) in New Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that it was indeed a privilege for him to be present on the occasion of inauguration of year-long celebration of Bi-Centenary of the Paika Bidroha of Odisha. He congratulated the people of the country and especially those of Odisha on the occasion. He stated that 40 years before the revolt of 1857, which was later termed as 1st War of Indian Independence against British Colonialism, a battle was fought under the leadership of Baxi Jagabandhu of Odisha. Many scholars, researchers and historians have opined that the Paika Rebellion of 1817 was India's first organized armed rebellion against British Raj. He said that completion of two hundred years of this popular uprising was a special event. The legend of the heroics of Buxi Jagabandhu continues to inspire the people of Odisha. It is time, this struggle and sacrifice by a generation of Odia people got its due place in the annals of history.

47. Declaration of Historic City of Ahmadabad as a UNESCO's World Heritage Property

India now has overall 36 World Heritage Inscriptions with 28 Cultural, 07 Natural and 01 Mixed site

It is under the dynamic and visionary leadership of the Prime Minister of India that India has been successful in securing the nomination of the "Historic City of Ahmadabad" on UNESCO's World Heritage list on 8th July, 2017 during the 41st Session of World Heritage Committee. This makes the walled city of Ahmedabad the first city in India and

the third in Asia to be inscribed to the World Heritage List. In the past 3 years alone, India has managed to put five built heritage sites on the world heritage list of UNESCO.

48. SWAYAM is a programme initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy viz., access, equity and quality. The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged. SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy.

This is done through an indigenous developed IT platform that facilitates hosting of all the courses, taught in classrooms from 9th class till post-graduation to be accessed by anyone, anywhere at any time. All the courses are interactive, prepared by the best teachers in the country and are available, free of cost to the residents in India. More than 1,000 specially chosen faculty and teachers from across the Country have participated in preparing these courses.

49. The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee has extended his greetings and felicitations to the Government and people of Canada on the eve of the 150th anniversary of the formation of Canada (July 01, 2017).

50. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today dedicated to the nation, the Deendayal Hastkala Sankul – a trade facilitation centre for handicrafts – at Varanasi.

51. The groundbreaking agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, provides a foundation for implementing the global sustainable development agenda that world leaders are expected to adopt this September. The agreement was reached by the 193 UN Member States attending the Conference, following negotiations under the leadership of Ethiopian Foreign Minister Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

52. A commemorative postage stamp released on completion of 50 years of Passport Act.

The Minister for Communications Shri Manoj Sinha said that the Passport Seva Project (PSP) has been a watershed in the history of passport issuance in India with its successful implementation in the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The entire process of citizen service delivery has been re-engineered, standardized and automated.

Speaking after releasing a commemorative postage stamp on completion of 50 years of “The Passports Act, 1967”, he said that services are delivered through a country-wide networked environment - integrating all Passport Issuing Authorities, around 91 Passport Seva Kendras, as well as providing access to a number of external

stakeholders viz. Immigration, Police, India Post, India Security Press and Embassies/ Consulates abroad.

53. India to be Co-Partner Country in ANUGA 2017

“Food Diplomacy to bridge all Barriers”, Says Smt Badal Minister of Food Processing Industries Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal today addressed a Joint Press Conference with the organizers of ANUGA - an international business platform for Food Industry to be held in Cologne, Germany

54. The Vice President of India, Shri M. Hamid Ansari has said that the differently abled children can be the best ambassadors for this innovative and ambitious campaign 'Anuyatra' or walking together campaign - for the persons with special needs.

The Vice President said that the programme is a creative way to convey to the world that these children are not disabled or differently abled but are specially abled. The allocation and utilization of funds for persons with special needs, and the social awareness for their integration and care, remains inadequate, he added.

55. Furthering the agenda for cooperative federalism, NITI Aayog has launched SATH, a program providing ‘Sustainable Action for Transforming Human capital’ with the State Governments. The vision of the program is to initiate transformation in the education and health sectors. The program addresses the need expressed by many states for technical support from NITI.

56. SCO Summit in Astana, Kazakhstan : India on Friday became a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), ending an administrative process that began two years ago. India’s membership at the SCO was announced by the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, who also welcomed Pakistan as a new member into the organisation.

“India and Pakistan are now members of the SCO. It is a very important moment for us,” President Nazarbayev said, concluding the two-year accession process. New Delhi has acceded to a set of 38 documents covering a range of activities of India in the organisation.

India and Pakistan were admitted as observers in 2005 and began the administrative process of joining the organisation, in 2015.

57. The Agriculture Department has recently launched a new project to use geo-spatial applications for the assessment and management of horticultural crops such as onion, potato and mango.

The project called CHAMAN (Coordinated programme on Horticulture Assessment and Management using geo informatics) will be implemented at a cost of Rs 13.38 crore for duration of three years starting 2014 till 2017, an official statement said.

58. "Exercise INDRA - 2017: Indo-Russia Joint Exercise"

First Ever International Tri Service Exercise

Giving the Indo-Russian defence cooperation a major boost, Exercise INDRA-2017, the first ever Tri Services Joint Exercise between Indian and Russian Armed Forces will be conducted in the Eastern Military District of Russia from 19 to 29 Oct 2017. Exercise INDRA in its previous nine avatars has been conducted as a single service exercise alternately between the two countries. The year 2017 marks a major milestone as this Exercise has been upgraded to involve all the three Services of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy & Air Force), which further accentuates the importance of Joint Services in the present world environment.

59. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India introduced its new initiative 'Indian Food Recovery Alliance (IFRA)' – A coalition of food recovery partners in country to fight the issue of hunger and also prevent food loss and food wastage in India.

At the National Conclave on Nutrition Security - Convergence and Partnerships, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), the country's apex food regulator, introduced its new initiative, the Indian Food Recovery Alliance (IFRA), a coalition of food recovery partners to fight the issue of hunger and prevent food loss and food waste.

The food recovery partners showcased their existing models of food recovery and showcased the integrated Web-based platform that is being developed. Released on a pilot level, the platform allows interested donors, individuals and volunteers to register themselves to be a part of this initiative.

Following the pilot study, the main platform and mobile applications will be accessible for the registered people to donate food through online communication with food recovery agencies that will ensure proper distribution after reasonable due diligence.

The donors will be able to track all the data, information and the status of the food they will donate through their personal logins. This platform will also provide guidance to citizens, food businesses and various food recovery agencies on prevention of food loss and food waste and safe recovery of surplus food.

In India, multiple food recovery agencies are already functional in various cities. Together, 12 such organisations, including No Food Waste, Feeding India, Indian Food Banking Network, Roti Bank, Annakshetra, Giveaway India, Robin Hood Army etc.,

feed, on an average, over a lakh people per day in over 70 cities. The alliance of these food recovery models with uniform implementation process will enable smoother pan-India coverage.

Delivering the keynote address, Pawan Kumar Agarwal, chief executive officer, FSSAI, highlighted that wastage and loss of food were recognised as global challenges and there was significant food loss and food waste in India.

He addressed the need of an integrated approach to food recovery networks across India to combat food waste issues. He said, "This initiative is an effort to recover surplus food that is lost and wasted at various stages in India every year."

60. The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee received the first copies of book 'Lalan Shah Fakir Ke Geet' written by Prof. Muchkund Dubey and DVD of selected songs of Lalan Shah Fakir today (June 3, 2017) at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Lalon, also known as Lalon Sain, Lalon Shah, Lalon Fakir or Mahatma Lalon (c. 1772 – 17 October 1890; was a prominent Bengali philosopher, Baul saint, mystic, songwriter, social reformer and thinker. Considered an icon of Bengali culture, Lalon inspired and influenced many poets, social and religious thinkers including Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam, and Allen Ginsberg albeit he "rejected all distinctions of caste and creed".

61. The centre today launched an aggressive new campaign titled 'Darwaza Band' to promote toilet use and freedom from open defecation across the country's villages.

The 'Darwaza Band' campaign has been supported by the World Bank and is being rolled out countrywide immediately after the launch. It is designed to encourage behaviour change in men who have toilets but are not using them.

Introducing the campaign, he said that it focuses on the need to shift people's paradigm from 'open' to 'closed' especially for men.

The Amitabh Bachchan series of ads encourages behaviour change in men who have toilets but are not using them. The Anushka Sharma series of ads is a clarion call for women who are more affected by this problem to stand up for this issue in their village and influence a positive change. These have been developed by Lowe Lintas, Mumbai under a World Bank Project.

62. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today inaugurated India's longest bridge - the 9.15 km long Dhola-Sadiya bridge, over the River Brahmaputra, in Assam.

The Bhupen Hazarika Setu, also referred to as the Dhola-Sadiya Bridge, is a beam bridge in India, connecting the northeast states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The

bridge spans the Lohit River, a major tributary of the Brahmaputra River, from the village of Dhola (Tinsukia District) in the south to Sadiya to the north. The bridge is the first permanent road connection between the northern Assam and eastern Arunachal Pradesh.

63. In order to promote entrepreneurship in the country, the Government of India has amended the definition of a Startup. The following significant changes have been made to the definition of Startups –

a) Age of Startup increased: Taking into account the long gestation period by Startups to establish, an entity shall be considered as a Startup up to seven years from the date of its incorporation/ registration (from earlier 5 years). However, in the case of Startups in the Biotechnology sector, the period shall be up to ten years from the date of incorporation/ registration.

b) No Letter of Recommendation required: No letter of recommendation from an incubator/industry association shall be required for either recognition or tax benefits

c) Potential of Job and Wealth Creation: The scope of definition has been broadened to include scalability of business model with potential of employment generation or wealth creation.

64. The Sendai Framework is a 15-year, voluntary, non-binding agreement which recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders. It aims for the following outcome:

The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

The Sendai Framework is the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters. It is the outcome of stakeholder consultations initiated in March 2012 and inter-governmental negotiations held from July 2014 to March 2015, which were supported by the UNISDR upon the request of the UN General Assembly.

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, Mexico

The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is a biennial forum for information exchange, discussion of latest developments, knowledge and partnership-building across sectors, with the goal of improving implementation of disaster risk reduction through better communication and coordination amongst stakeholders. Its core function is to enable governments, NGOs, scientists, practitioners, and UN organizations to

share experience and formulate strategic guidance for the implementation of global disaster risk reduction agreements: the 2005 Hyogo Framework for Action and its post-2015 successor the Sendai Framework.

65. SEVA would increase Consumer Connect as well as Transparency and Accountability in Coal dispatch: Shri Piyush Goyal

Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines, Shri Piyush Goyal launched the Saral Eindhyan Vitaran Application (SEVA), developed in-house by Coal India Limited (CIL) for power sector consumers, here today. SEVA is a part of 'Digital India' initiative, which is aimed at increasing the Consumer Connect as well as the Transparency and Accountability in Coal dispatch.

66. The Army on Thursday took delivery of two M777 Ultra-Light Howitzers (ULH), which will be put through trails to prepare them for induction.

"Two guns arrived in New Delhi today from the United States," officials confirmed.

These are the first new pieces of artillery to join the Army after a gap of three decades. India last inducted the Swedish Bofors guns in the 1980s, the deal of which kicked up a major controversy and stalled the Army's artillery modernisation programme. However, the Bofors guns won the Kargil conflict for India and continues to be the Army's mainstay.

The M777 is a 155mm, 39 caliber towed artillery gun made of titanium and aluminium alloys and weighs four tonnes, enabling it to be transported under slung by helicopters.

In November 2016, India signed the Letter of Acceptance (LoA) with the U.S. government under the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) programme for 145 BAE Systems-built M777A2 artillery guns in a deal worth \$737 million.

67. USTTAD stands for Upgrading the Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development. It was launched by the Union Ministry of Minority Affairs.

68. The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee has condoled the passing away of Smt. Justice Leila Seth, the first woman Judge of Delhi High Court and first woman Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court.

69. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh has hailed the exemption granted to "bamboo" from the Indian Forest Act and said the entire North Eastern Region (NER) of India will benefit from this decision which had been a public demand for the last nearly 90 years.

Following the approval by the Union Cabinet in a meeting chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the President of India yesterday promulgated the Indian Forest (Amendment) Ordinance, 2017 to exempt bamboo grown in non-forest areas from the definition "Tree", thereby dispensing with the requirement of obtaining a permit for felling of bamboo for economic use. The decision has been hailed as historic because the bamboo was legally defined as a "Tree" under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 which proved to be a major impediment for bamboo cultivation by non-farmers on non-forest land.

70. BHARAT NET: From High ways to I-ways and village broadband

Under Bharat Net program, around 7.5 lakh kms OFC would be laid to connect 2.5 lakh villages. The program implementation speed has been significantly ramped up by involving willing States to undertake its execution.

71. GARV: Grameen Vidyutikaran Android app – launched for real-time and transparent tracking of the progress in rural electrification

UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All)

72. 100% FDI under automatic route for Single Brand Retail Trading

100% FDI under automatic route in Construction Development

Foreign airlines allowed to invest up to 49% under approval route in Air India

FII/FPs allowed to invest in Power Exchanges through primary market

Definition of 'medical devices' amended in the FDI Policy

73. Matunga Railway Station in Mumbai Division of Central Railway enters Limca Book of Records 2018 for posting all women staff on the station.

Mamta Kulkarni, first women ASM to be recruited on Mumbai Division of Central Railway in 1992, is Incharge of Matunga Railway Station.

A total of 41 women staff is handling the operations of the station round the clock.

74. The Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGYA) was launched in Manipur today, by Union Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Shri R.K. Singh and Shri N. Biren Singh, Chief Minister of Manipur.

Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC), a Navaratna CPSE under the Ministry of Power has been appointed as the nodal agency for coordinating the implementation of the scheme.

75. "United States of America (USA) is the second largest Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emitter presently. However, if cumulative historical emission is considered, USA would be largest GHG emitter. So, its withdrawal will affect control of cumulative global GHG emissions. It will also affect the availability of international funds for climate change, as USA was a contributor to climate finance.

There is no proposal to rework the modalities of Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement was adopted under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2015. It has been ratified by 172 Parties and only USA has submitted a written communication to UN Secretary-General stating its intent to withdraw from the Paris Agreement. All other countries have indicated their continued support for it through the decision, 'Fiji Momentum for Implementation' adopted during 23rd Conference of Parties (COP-23) held in November 2017, which underscored the importance of keeping the momentum and continuing to uphold the spirit and vision of the Paris Agreement.

76. Government announced Indradhanush plan for revamping Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in August 2015. The plan envisaged, inter alia, infusion of capital in PSBs by the Government to the tune of Rs. 70,000 crore over a period of four financial years. Government has recently announced decision to further recapitalise PSBs to the tune of Rs. 2,11,000 crore, through recapitalisation bonds of Rs. 1,35,000 crore and budgetary provision of Rs. 18,139 crore (the residual amount under Indradhanush plan) over two financial years, and the balance through capital raising by banks from the market. Government has so far infused capital of Rs. 59,435 crore in PSBs under Indradhanush.

77. 'Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) was launched on 9th May, 2015 by the Government to provide accidental insurance cover. PMSBY provides accidental death/disability insurance cover of Rs. 2 Lakhs for an annual premium of Rs.12/-. Any person within the age group of 18-70 years having a bank account can enroll for PMSBY.

78. Government has launched the 'Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)' to provide social security during old age and to protect elderly persons aged 60 and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions. The scheme enables old age income security for senior citizens through provision of assured pension/return linked to the subscription amount based on government guarantee to Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

The scheme provides an assured return of 8% per annum for 10 years. The differential return, i.e. the difference between return generated by LIC and the assured return of 8% per annum would be borne by Government of India as subsidy on an annual basis. Pension is payable at the end of each period during the policy tenure of 10 years as per

the frequency of monthly/quarterly/ half-yearly/yearly as chosen by the subscriber at the time of purchase. Minimum purchase price under the scheme is Rs.1,50,000/- for a minimum pension of Rs. 1,000/- per month and the maximum purchase price is Rs.7,50,000/- for a maximum pension of Rs.5,000/- per month. The scheme is exempted from Goods and Services Tax (GST). The scheme is open for subscription till 3rd May 2018.

79. Saksham (Sanrakshan Kshamta Mahotsav) is an annual flagship event of Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Govt. of India , with active involvement of the Oil & Gas PSUs along with other stakeholders like State Governments, for creating focused attention on fuel conservation through people centric activities and to sensitize the masses about the conservation and efficient use of petroleum products leading to better health and environment.

80. The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), a multi-State Cooperative Society under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, is promoting and marketing tribal products, tribal art and crafts within the country and abroad by providing marketing support to tribal products through its network of 31 retail outlets "TRIBES INDIA", 37 consignment outlets of various State Emporia and 16 franchisee outlets.

81. The National Perspective Plan (NPP) was prepared by the then Ministry of Irrigation, now Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD & GR) in August 1980 for water resources development through inter basin transfer of water, for transferring water from water surplus basins to water-deficit basins.

Under the NPP, the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). The Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) of the all 30 links have been prepared and circulated to the concerned State Governments by the NWDA. After survey and investigations, Feasibility Reports of 14 links under Peninsular Component and Feasibility Reports of 2 links and draft Feasibility Reports of 7 links (Indian portion) under Himalayan Component have been completed.

Funds are being released to Indirasagar Polavaram Project through Long Term Irrigation Fund, which has been created through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development for funding Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana projects. Polavaram Project has provision of diversion of 80 TMC of water from Godavari Basin to Krishna Basin. The Right Main Canal of Polavaram Irrigation Project is proposed as lined canal, runs for a length of 174 km for diverting 80 TMC Godavari water to Krishna river

upstream of Prakasam Barrage through the existing Budameru Diversion Channel. The canal is also contemplated to irrigate 1.29 lakh ha of ayacut (3.2 lack acre) in West Godavari and Krishna districts. Polavaram Poject has been declared as National Project by the Central Government.

82. Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his un-daunting support to the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA), as the programme crossed one crore mark in antenatal check-ups. The Union Health Minister stated that Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had envisioned that 9th of every month, symbolizing the 9 months of pregnancy, should be dedicated to pregnant women. The PMSMA programme was launched in 2016 to fulfil his vision and ensure comprehensive and quality antenatal checkups to pregnant women across India. "More than one crore antenatal check-ups have been conducted under the ambitious Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA), which has provided quality antenatal checkups to pregnant women on the 9th of every month. Now safe pregnancy has become a social movement in our country," Shri Nadda added.

83. With the objective to achieve Prime Minister's vision for Energy Security and Sufficiency, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) has steered a plethora of reforms in the recent past years. Aligned with the objective, the Government launched the Bid Round I under Open Acreage Licensing (OAL) Programme for international competitive bidding on 18 January, 2018.

84. As a major boost to 'Make in India' in Defence, the Defence Acquisition Council, chaired by Raksha Mantri Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, in its meeting on 16 January 2018, has cleared a simplified 'Make-II' procedure which will enable greater participation of industry in acquisition of defence equipment. This process will greatly help import substitution and promote innovative solutions. This simplified 'Make-II' procedure will amend the existing 'Make Procedure' in Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP)-2016.

85. Providing details of the Swachh Survekshan 2018, the Minister informed that this is the largest survey impacting more than 40 crore urban population and to ensure level playing field in similar smaller cities, Swachh Survekshan 2018 will have two categories of ranking-

- 1) 500 cities with more than 1 lakh population will have National Ranking
- 2) 3541 cities with less than 1 lakh population will have State and Regional ranking.

86. Union Minister for Earth Science, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan has urged scientists and researchers to strengthen fundamental science and move towards solution science. Dedicating to the nation, the High Performance

Computer (HPC) System named 'Mihir' (meaning 'Sun') at the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) at Noida today, Dr. Harsh Vardhan said that with this facility, India's capacity in weather forecasting will improve. The Minister said that the HPC facility will be India's largest HPC facility in terms of peak capacity and performance and will propel India's ranking from the 368th position to around the top 30 in the Top 500 list of HPC facilities in the world. He also pointed out that India will now also be ranked 4th, after Japan, UK and USA for dedicated HPC resources for weather/climate community.

87. Dr Vinod Paul, Member, NITI Aayog has been awarded the prestigious IhsanDogramaci Family Health Foundation Prize by the World Health Organisation (WHO). He is the first Indian to receive this global honour, which is conferred in recognition to his services in the field of family health.

88. The new umbrella program like 'Bharatmala Pariyojana' aims to achieve optimal resource allocation for a holistic highway development.

89. The National Sports Programme, Khelo India, figured prominently as the float of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports returned today to the Republic Day parade on Raj Path after four years. It drew applause not only from those present along Raj Path but also from everyone on the entire route to Red Fort.

"Khelo India, Jo Khelega Woh Khilega (Play India! The one who plays sport is the one who blossoms)," the legend on a side of the float said. A collage of photographs of India's sporting heroes including Olympic medallists celebrated their success, inspiring millions of youngsters to take to sport.

90. Swadhar Greh to provide relief and rehabilitation to destitute women and women in distress.

Ujjawala, a Comprehensive Scheme for prevention of trafficking and for rescue, rehabilitation, re-integration and repatriation of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.

91. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe today jointly laid the foundation stone for India's first high speed rail project between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

92. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between India and the USA for co-hosting the Global Entrepreneurship (GES) 2017 in India. The MoU delineated the responsibilities, areas of co-operation including logistics and venue related requirements between the parties for smooth conduct of the Summit.

The GES-2017 provided excellent opportunity to entrepreneurs and investors to have meetings with global industry leaders, networking sessions, pitching competitions, strategic workshops and sector-specific programs for forging new collaborations. The Summit provided a forum to enhance economic opportunities to young entrepreneurs, especially women entrepreneurs and marginalized groups in the long run.

93. Ayushman Bharat for a new India -2022, announced

Two major initiatives in health sector announced

Rs. 1200 Crore allocated for 1.5 Lakh health and wellness Centres

National health protection Scheme to provide Hospitalisation cover to over 10 Crore poor and vulnerable families

94. What is Operation Greens?

The idea behind Operation Greens is to double the income of farmers by end of 2022. Operation is essentially a price fixation scheme that aims to ensure farmers are given the right price for their produce.

Operation Greens aims to promote farmer producers organisations, agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management. The operation aims to aid farmers and help control and limit the erratic fluctuations in the prices of onions, potatoes and tomatoes.

95. On Thursday, 1st February 2018, during his 5th Union Budget presentation, Finance Minister Shree Arun Jaitley has launched the scheme namely Gobar Dhan Scheme. This year the budget has focussed on livelihood of rural India. This scheme is one of the major steps towards the betterment of the villagers in India.

Key Features of the scheme

Gobar Dhan Scheme: The full form of Gobar Dhan Scheme is Galvanised Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan Scheme. Under this scheme the solid waste and cattle dung will be composed into useful elements such as Bio-CNG and Bio-Gas.

Open Defecation Free Villages: The main objective of the scheme is to make open defecation free villages across the nation. More than 4400 villages located at river side areas have been declared as open defecation free villages. With the implementation of the scheme, more villages will become open defecation free.

Dung process and convert: Under this scheme cattle dung will be processed and turning into useful elements that are needed in agricultural sector. Also further process will be

done for the residual or solid waste that will be created after cattle dung processing will be used as fertilisers in lands as well.

Bio CNG / Bio Gas: These residuals and cattle dung will be converted into Bio-CNG and Bio-Gas for many uses in agricultural sector.

Village Development Programs: According to the Finance Ministry, nearly 187 projects for the village improvement have been introduced, among which 47 projects have completed successfully. Rest of the projects are in progress.

Budget Allocation: Rs. 16, 713 Cr has been allocated for village improvement programs. As per the records 115 districts have successfully implemented various village improvement programs and open defecation free livelihood. These districts will be considered as the indication of development of the villages.

96. Calling Bamboo as 'Green Gold', Shri Jaitley announced the launch of the Rs.1290-crore Re-structured National Bamboo Mission, which is based on a cluster based approach to address the complete bamboo value chain and promote bamboo sector in a holistic manner.

97. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been launched in 2015-16. Main component are as under: Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) & Command Area Development & Water Management (CADWM): To focus on faster completion of ongoing Major and Medium Irrigation, including National Projects.

PMKSY (Har Khet ko Pani): Source augmentation, distribution, ground water development, lift irrigation, diversion of water from water plenty to water scarce areas, supplementing rain water harvesting beyond IWMP & MGNREGA, repair, restoration, renovation of traditional water bodies

PMKSY(Per Drop More Crop): Micro level storage structures, efficient water conveyance & application, precision irrigation systems, topping up of input cost beyond MGNREGA permissible limits, secondary storage , water lifting devices, extension activities, coordination & management.

PMKSY (Watershed): Ridge area treatment, drainage line treatment, soil and moisture conservation, water harvesting structure, livelihood support activities and other watershed works.

98. Prime Minister Modi and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu today dedicated to the nation, the iCREATE facility located on the outskirts of Ahmedabad. iCreate is an independent Centre created with the objective of facilitating entrepreneurship through a blend of creativity, innovation, engineering, product design and leveraging emerging technologies to deal with major issues such as food security, water, connectivity,

cybersecurity, IT and electronics, energy, bio-medical equipment and devices etc. iCreate aims to develop an ecosystem in India to generate quality entrepreneurs.

99. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, the Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has sent a proposal to United Nations for declaring the year 2018 as 'International Year of Millets'. The proposal, if agreed, will raise awareness about millets among consumers, policy makers, industry and R&D sector. Promotion of production and consumption of millets through conscious efforts at global level is likely to contribute substantially in the fight against targeted hunger and mitigate the effect of climate change in long run.

100. THE TWO-BIN waste segregation system was launched in the city on Monday, but residents complained that the bins distributed by the Municipal Corporation were neither adequate nor durable, and without covers, they would raise a stink. The corporation distributed as many as 10,000 green and blue dustbins of 12 litre capacity on Monday. Area councillors are to go from door to door to create awareness about waste segregation as more of these bins are distributed.

In the first phase, as many as 1 lakh coloured dustbins will be distributed to residents of each of the 26 wards. Green dustbins are for disposing of wet waste while the blue ones are for dry waste. In the second phase, the corporation intends to buy and distribute about 1.5 lakh more dustbins by June 25.