

National News

Document for Lalit Modi's Extradition submitted

- **Enforcement Directorate** (ED) officers submitted documents for the extradition of **former cricket administrator Lalit Modi**
 - The documents were **required by Interpol** to extradite Lalit Modi
 - Lalit Modi has been accused of **money laundering** by the **Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) Court**
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Supreme Court Questions validity of All India Bar Exam

- Supreme Court questioned if the **conduct of the All India Bar Examination (AIBE) was a violation** of the fundamental right to practice the profession.
 - Law graduates must clear the **AIBE with 2 years of enrolment** to practice.
 - The rules were notified in **2010** to improve the **quality of the profession**.
 - The apex court has asked reports from the Law Commission on the issues of holding such an examination.
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First Raisna Dialogue in New Delhi

- The **Raisna Dialogue** conference has started in **Delhi**.
 - It is intended to rival conferences such as **Munich Conference, Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore** that attract global players.
 - It is attended by speakers from **40 countries**.
 - **Tension between India and Pakistan** have **slowed South Asian integration**.
 - There is a call for **greater south Asian cooperation and economic integration**
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Chennai gets smart self-cleaning toilets in India

- They are **free to use**.
 - Each toilet cleans itself with **5 liters of water** after **3 minutes** of usage and **4.5 liters** if usage is longer.
 - **43 toilets** are specially for **women**
 - Each toilet costs **Rs 4.5 lakh**.
 - **1600** such toilets have been provided in **16 Indian states** to various private organizations.
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Food Security Scheme implemented in 47 districts in UP

- All of UP districts are now covered under the food scheme.
 - Beneficiaries get subsidized food grains. Wheat at Rs 2, rice at Rs 3 per kg. Each beneficiary will get 5kg per month.
 - The scheme will benefit 1.64 crore people in 40 lakh households.
 - 75% of population of the state will benefit from the scheme.
 - 50 districts were declared as drought hit in 2015.
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Military Exercise FORCE 18 started in Pune

- It involves participants from 18 countries.
- 10 members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) –
 - Brunei
 - Cambodia
 - Laos
 - Indonesia
 - Malaysia
 - Myanmar
 - Philippines
 - Singapore
 - Thailand
 - Vietnam

It will conclude on March 8 2016.

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Rural Electrification Scheme

- Every house to be electrified by 2018.
 - Aims to augment power supply to rural areas and strengthen sub transmission and distribution lines
 - Separate agricultural and non-agricultural feeders.
 - Increase number of hours of power supply in rural areas
 - Reduction in peak load
 - Improvement in billed energy by metered consumption.
 - Center has provided a grant of 63000 crore
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Unified Agricultural market to be launched soon

- Can remove inter-state barriers in moving farm produce and can be a game changer.
 - **Amendment of APMC act** is required. **12 states** have amended the act.
 - Logistics have to be provided for transportation of produce
 - Will benefit farmers and consumers by **ensuring fair prices**
 - Opens up agriculture market to **foreign capital** and **marketing** and **creates employment opportunities**.
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Vice Admiral Atul Kumar Jain becomes Chief of Staff, Eastern Naval Command

- **Vice Admiral Atul Kumar** took over command from **Admiral Bimal Verma**.
 - He was **commissioned in Navy in 1982**.
 - He specialized in **Gunnery Missile and Warfare**
 - He was **gunnery officer** of missile destroyers, ships **Ranvijay** and **Ranvir**
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Micromax CEO resigns

- **Micromax CEO Vineet Taneja** has **resigned**.
 - A replacement has not been announced
 - He was **business head of Samsung India** and had **skimps at Bharati Airtel and Nokia earlier**.
 - Micromax faces **competition from Chinese and Indian handset makers**
 - Micromax has become the **third largest Russian market recently**.
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International News

India stood 90th rank in energy security

- **India** has been ranked **90th place** in list of **126 countries**
- Report is compiled in accordance with **Global Energy Architecture Performance Index** compiled by **WEF**
- Report is prepared in **collaboration with Accenture**
- Ranking is done on basis of ability to provide energy access across the '**energy triangle**'
 - **Affordability**
 - **Environment sustainability**

- Security and access

Iraq to fight Sunni militancy

- The battle to **retake Mosul** has gained an upper hands in recent months.
 - US backed forces have begun laying the groundwork to **isolate Mosul** from IS HQ in Raqqa, Syria.
 - **Kurdish and Arab forces** retook the town of **Shaddadi** in Eastern Syria.
 - It took **5 months** to gain control of the city center of **Ramadi**, the capital of Anbar province.
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Myanmar to vote for President on March 10

- The announcement leaves little time for **Aung San Suu Kyi** to get the top spot.
- The current democracy figurehead is currently **banned** from becoming President according to **junta-era constitution**.
- Negotiations have failed to reach a deal to clear her path to power.
- Her **National League for Democracy (NLD)** party won victory at the elections.

Business and Economy

Indo-WB Financing Agreement inked

- **World Bank, Govt of India and Govt of Madhya Pradesh** have signed a credit agreement worth **\$300 million**.
 - It is for **Madhya Pradesh Higher Education Quality Improvement Project**
 - Credit has been given by **International Development Association (IDA)**
 - Sanctioned for **25 year** period with a **5 year grace period**.
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RBI unlocks 40000 crores to capitalize banks

- Relaxation of norms in balance sheet to **unlock 40000 crores**.
- Will **support capital requirements** of Indian banks
- Indian banks are **facing huge losses** due to **Non-performing assets** what have eroded capital.

- The revised RBI norms give **public sector banks (PSB)** access to additional capital of **Rs 35000 crore**.
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India's GDP growth to hike by 7.8% in 2016-17

- Nomura predicts India's GDP growth will go from **7.6% to 7.8%** in 2016-17
 - GDP growth will be based on discretionary demand driven by **7th pay commission**.
 - Also decided by various other factors
 - Wage hike
 - Low inflation
 - High corporate probability
 - Ongoing implementation of public capital expenditure
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Infosys to collaborate with Microsoft on Analytics solution

- Infosys will offer **healthcare analytic solutions** on Microsoft Intelligent Cloud Technology
 - It is now possible to **store and analyze large volumes of structured and unstructured datasets at low cost**
 - Will provide **managed care organizations** with tools to improve clinical and operational effectiveness at reasonable costs.
 - Will provide **health-care call centers** with **customer support** and **self-service options** to both health care workers and consumers.
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Science and Technology

Delhi Government to launch HPV vaccine

- The **HPV vaccine** will help to prevent **cervical cancers** in women caused by **sexual transmission**.
- Recent research shows that **122844 women** are diagnosed with cervical cancer.
- **67477 die** from the disease every year in India.
- Vaccination will be given for **6th standard in 2 phases**. It will be later given to girls between **9-13 years of age**.
- **80%** of cervical cancers can be prevented.

Environment and Ecology

People in News

Places in News

Awards

Forbes 2016 World Billionaires List

- **Forbes magazine** has released its **30th annual list** of the world's richest people
 - It features **1810 billionaires**. Their net worth in **\$6.48 trillion**
 - **Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates** is at the **top position** for the **3rd consecutive** year with net worth of **\$75 billion**.
 - The **US** has **540 billionaires**. **China** has **251** and **Germany** with **120**.
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Three Britan professors win the Grete Lundbeck European Brain Research Prize

- The prize has been won for **discovery of how memories are formed in the brain**.
- Three brain professors **Tim Bliss, Graham Collingridge and Richard Morris**.
- The first prize **1 million euros**.

Windham-Campbell Prizes announced

- **Nine writers** have been awarded with the prize from **Yale University**.
 - **Jerry Pinto** from **India** has been included in the list.
 - Other writers are from **USA, UK, Australia, India and Ireland**
 - Three categories were chosen – **fiction, non-fiction and drama**
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Science Journalist Pallava Bagla Bags National Award

Pallava Bagla has won the national award for “Outstanding Efforts in the Field of Science and Technology Communication on Electronic Medium”

Sports

Rana wins gold in 50km race walk in National Championships

- **Basant Bahadur Singh Rana** got the **gold** in **50km race walk** at the national championship held at **Jaipur in Rajasthan**
 - The winning time was **4:07:24**
 - He did not meet the **Olympics Qualification time** of **4:06:00**.
 - He will **not be eligible** for to walk in **Rio Olympics** this time.
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Art and Culture
