

National News

India's first semi-high speed train flagged off

- Train runs at a speed of **160 km per hour**, covering the **184 kilometer distance between Delhi and Agra in 105-110 minutes**.
 - Train coaches have been made at **Kapurthala Railway Coach Factory** in the Punjab
 - **Bio-toilets** developed by the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**.
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"Stand Up India" scheme Launched

- **To promote entrepreneurship.**
 - A Web portal for the scheme launched in **Noida, Uttar Pradesh**.
 - Initiative is taken to **elevate entrepreneurship among Scheduled Caste/Schedule Tribe and Women** by **providing loans between Rs. 10 Lakhs to Rs. 100 Lakhs**.
 - **5100 E-Rickshaws** also distributed at the launch event by **Bhartiya Micro Credit (BMC)** under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna scheme.
 - **Kaushal Vikas Kendra** also inaugurated in Noida.
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UIDAI produced 100 crore Aadhaars

- **First Aadhaar was issued in 2010.**
 - Achieved just after the government notification of **Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, benefits and services) Act, 2016**
 - Will give **statutory support to exchange of subsidies and advantages to qualified individuals having Aadhaar (UID) number**.
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Panama Papers: Investigation of 500 Indians

- Panama Papers say **500 Indians being named** for illegal fund holdings in abroad.
 - **World's most prominent people and hundreds of Indians have been named**.
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Coastal security exercise in Andamans

- exercise will be **13th in the series**
 - local populace will also be sensitized about coastal security mechanism of the islands
 - Usage of **toll-free telephone number 1093** dedicated for reporting coastal security issues.
 - **Police, marine police force, India Reserve Battalion (IRBn), CISF, customs, fisheries department and other agencies** will be involved in the southern and northern groups of islands.
 - **Validation of standard operating procedures for coastal security** of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, various drills and contingencies.
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India's first SPV on smart city, started operations

- SPV was set up as per the **Smart City Mission Guidelines** to **enable faster execution of projects** by **delegating to them powers of various concerned departments and agencies**.
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Telangana unveils new ICT Policy 2016

- Policy is proposed to transform Telangana into the **most preferred destination for any IT company**.
 - Policy seeks to attract **\$3 billion investment** to the State and **create about 6 lakh jobs**.
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Denial of AMU minority status verdict upheld

- Government has made it clear in the Supreme Court that the government is convinced that the **1967 Constitution Bench judgment, which had held that AMU was not "established" by Muslims, still held sway**.
 - **Azeez Basha versus Union of India** verdict of the Supreme Court had **denied AMU protection under Article 30 of the Constitution**.
 - **In 1981, Parliament restored the minority status to the university**. But the **Allahabad High Court in January 2006 struck down the provision of the AMU**
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India at 6th position in top-10 manufacturers list

- United Nations Industrial Development Organization has placed **India at 6th among the world's top 10 largest manufacturing countries.**
 - **China tops the list of 10-top industrial producers**
 - Other countries include **US, Japan, Germany and Korea. Indonesia is at number 10 position.**
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International

"Global Report on Urban Health" publicized

- Compared **data on health from urban areas of 100 countries.**
 - Report was led and written by the **WHO Centre for Health Development in Kobe, Japan.**
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Business and Economy

India signs USD 100m draft export pact with ICD

- Agreement was signed by **Khaled Al-Aboodi, CEO of the ICD, and Tarun Sharma, regional head on behalf the EXIM Bank.**
 - MoU will also be achieved through the **exchange of information on trade-related matters**
 - **identification of business opportunities for Indian companies to pursue in ICD's member countries**
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RBI cuts repo rate by 25 basis points

○ Repo Rate	: 6.50%
○ Reverse Repo Rate	: 6.00%
○ Marginal Standing Facility Rate	: 7.00%
○ Bank Rate	: 7.00%
○ CRR	: 4%
○ SLR	: 21.25%

Xiaomi invests \$25 million funding in Hungama

- **First investment made by Xiaomi in the country.**
- Hungama has **65 million monthly active consumers.**

- Has partnerships with over **700 content creators**, and offers **over 8,000 movies in Hindi, Tamil, and other regional languages**.
 - Will start integrating **Hungama's content services, including themes and ringtones into its platforms**
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Science and Technology

ISRO, NASA to jointly launch satellite to study earthquakes and their patterns

- Satellite is called **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar, or NISAR**
 - Designed to make **observations and measurements of ecosystem disturbance, ice-sheet collapse, and natural hazards such as tsunami, volcanoes and landslides**.
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World's maiden Public Immunization for Dengue

- Has **been launched by Philippines**.
 - Philippines had the **highest dengue incidence recording 200,415 cases in 2015**.
 - Philippine government is spending **5 billion pesos (\$98 million) to regulate the free vaccines**.
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Ola introduce e-rickshaws on its platform

- Total of **5,100 Ola e-rickshaws** will be launched **in partnership with Bhartiya Micro Credit (BMC)**
 - Will be deployed across **Delhi, Gurgaon, Noida, Faridabad and Ghaziabad**.
 - Can be **booked on the Ola mobile application**
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Environment and Ecology

World's First White Tiger Safari Opened in Madhya Pradesh

- Sanctuary is spread over an area of **25 acre** and is built at a **cost of Rs 50 crore**.
- There are **three white tigers and two Royal Bengal tigers**.
- **Nine more white tigers** will arrive in the coming months.
- **World's first white tiger** was **discovered in the Vindhya region around 100 years ago**.

- Safari will be named after **Rewa princely state's ruler Maharaja Martand Singh** who had a **'pet' white tiger** named Mohan in 1951.
 - It **became the progenitor of all known white tigers** in the world after the ruler arranged for its breeding.
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People in News

Indian Manish Sharma appointed to Panasonic's Global Executive Council

- He was earlier **MD of Indian operations**
 - Global executive council of Panasonic is a **key decision-making body**
 - **Gives shape to the company's business plans across the world**
 - **An Indian** has been inducted onto the decision-making body for the **first time ever**.
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Jazz saxophonist 'Gato' Barbieri dies at 83"

- recorded **35 albums between 1967 and 1982**,
 - He toured regularly and went on to record four more albums,
 - His recording of **smooth jazz "Que Pasa,"** reached **No. 2 on Billboard's contemporary jazz charts**.
 - won a **Grammy for best instrumental composition in 1973** for his music for **"Last Tango In Paris"**
 - Barbieri received a **Latin Grammy lifetime achievement award** for a career that covered **"virtually the entire jazz landscape."**
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Awards

Pranab Mukherjee presents National Geoscience Awards 2014

- **33 geoscientists** received the National Geoscience Awards (NGA 2014)
 - Includes **one Award for Excellence, one Young Scientist Award** and **19 individual and / or team awards in 16 fields of geosciences**.
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Viswanathan Anand to get Hridaynath Award

- Honor will be presented with a cash award of **Rs 2 lakh and a memento**.
- Will receive the prize from the Maharashtra governor C Vidyasagar Rao.

- Hridaynath Award **felicitates and recognizes successful individuals across the country from various walks of life.**
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Sports

Waqar Younis Resigns as Pakistan Cricket Coach

- Pakistan's **head coach Waqar Younis** resigned from his position after **his team exit from the World Twenty20 tournament.**
 - **Shahid Afridi stepped down as Pakistan's T20 captain.** He was appointed to his post in 2014. He will be **replaced by Sarfraz Ahmed**
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