NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

High-speed Tejas Express between Mumbai-Goa

- The luxurious train, **Tejas Express** set to be **running between Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus and Karmali in North Goa** has been inaugurated.
- Tejas Express has ultra-modern facilities like LED TV, wi-fi, CCTV etc. The Tejas Express would **operate between Mumbai and Karmali (Goa)** five days a week during non-monsoon period and during monsoon, just three days a week.
- It has 20 coaches – one executive AC chair car with 56 seating capacity and 12 AC chair cars with 78 seat capacity of each coach. It is a **super-fast train**, which will **run at a speed of 130 kmph**

Madhya Pradesh govt announces indefinite ban on sand mining in Narmada river

- The river flows through **18 districts** in Madhya Pradesh and the ban will be effective in all 18 districts.
- The state government has also imposed a complete ban on use of all kinds of machines for mining from the remaining rivers in the state.

WiFi facility at 28 Railway Stations

- Indian Railways has tied by with SYSCON/JOISTER for providing 2 Mbps peer-to-peer.
- Free Wi-Fi bandwidth is available for **24 hrs** at 28 railway stations of Konkan Railway
- The free Wi-Fi facility would help the travelers, commuters and tourists access essential information while waiting for trains on railway stations.
- The company has now undertaken as a part of their **CSR** (Corporate Social Responsibility) activity of providing free Wi-Fi to rural area on the Konkan Route.

INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS

Jordan's Azraq becomes world first clean energy refugee camp

- To serve 20,000 Syrian refugees in the remote Azraq camp in Jordan's desert the United Nations refugee agency switched on a newly built solar power plant.
- The $9.7 million plant was funded by the Ikea the global home furnishings retailer.
- With the solar plant, the refugee agency is going to save $1.5 million a year in electricity costs.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

Karnataka Bank and LIC ink pact

- **Karnataka Bank** Ltd has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Life Insurance Corporation** (LIC) of India for selling life insurance products of LIC.
- With this MoU the bank will provide the abundance choices of life insurance products to its customers across all its 769 branches.

HDFC Life launches AI-based insurance email bot 'SPOK'

- It can automatically read, understand, categorize, prioritize and respond to customer emails sent to the private insurer.
- **SPOK** is an insurance email bot that can read customer queries within **milliseconds** and respond to them
- It will enable the company to respond to user queries faster, more efficiently and effectively.
- HDFC Life has collaborated with **Senseforth**. It is a startup that offers a wide range of enterprise bots built on its artificial intelligence (AI) platform

PEOPLE IN NEWS

First Indian-born woman Rehana Ameer elected to City of London Corporation

- AUK entrepreneur **Rehana Ameer** has become the **first India-born woman** to be elected as **a councillor to a ward in the UK.**
- She was elected as a counselor to the Court of Common Council.

Matthunny Mathews who inspired 'Airlift' dies in Kuwait

- Prominent Indian businessman **Matthunny Mathews has passed away in Kuwait**.
- Mathews had done yeoman service to bring his countrymen, who had lost everything in the war.

AWARDS

Jacqueline Fernandez wins humanitarian award for her philanthropic work in India

- Bollywood actress Jacqueline Fernandez has received the **International Humanitarian Award** at the second annual **Asian Voice Charity Awards**.
- Jacqueline has been given this award for her **humanitarian work in India and abroad**.
- Since past five years, she has been closely working with a non-profit organization called **'Habitat for Humanity'** which builds affordable houses for poor.

Cochin Port Trust bags two awards

- Cochin Port has received the award for the highest growth in operating surplus.
- It also achieved the third highest growth in cargo traffic among the major ports in the year 2016-17.

SPORTS CURRENT AFFAIRS

Italian Open 2017 – Overview

Category	Winner	RunnersUp
Men's Singles	Alexander Zverev (Germany)	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
Women's Singles	Elina Svitolina (Ukraine)	Simona Halep (Romania)
Men's Doubles	Pierre-Hugues Herbert (France) Nicolas Mahut (France)	Ivan Dodig (Croatia) Marcel Granollers (Spain)
Women's Doubles	Martina Hingis (Switzerland) Y Chan (Taiwan)	E Makarva (Russia) E Vesnina (Russia)

India win all 10 gold medals in South Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships

- The South Asian Junior Table Tennis championship was held in Mount Lavinia, near Colombia in Sri Lanka.
- Apart from 10 gold medals, the Indian participants have also won 14 medals that total makes to 14.
- Manav Thakkar won Junior Boys final.
- Archana Girish Kamath won Junior Girls final.
- In Cadet Boys final H. Jeho won the Gold Medal.
- India led the championship with eight points, followed by Sri Lanka (six points).

Bengaluru FC beat Mohun Bagan to lift Federation Cup

- **Bengaluru FC** beat **Mohun Bagan** 2-0 to be crowned the **Federation Cup** champions at the **Barabati Stadium in Cuttack, Odisha**.
- This was **Mohun Bagan's 20th Final in the Federation Cup**. Earlier, Mohun Bagan had finished second to Aizawl in the I-League

Mumbai Indians win IPL title for third time

- **Mumbai Indians (MI)** defeated **Rising Pune Supergiant (RPS)** in the Grand Finale by a margin of 1 run to win the **Indian Premier League (IPL) 2017 title**.
- With this win **Mumbai Indians** became the **only IPL team to have won three titles.** Moreover, Mumbai Indians captain **Rohit Sharma** became the only player to be on the winning side for four times.

India's Vaishali wins gold in Asian Blitz Chess Championship

- Vaishali won seven games and posted two draws in the nine-round event. She scored 8 points from 9 rounds.
- She drew her final round game against **Uurtsaikh Uuriintuya of Mongolia** to finish half-a-point ahead of **Iran's Sarasdat Khademalsharieh** and clinch the **gold medal**.
- Vaishali secured the third spot (bronze medal) in the women's event of **Asian Chess Championship.**
- Another Indian chess player, **Padmini Rout** finished third with seven points after a last round win over **Yuxin Song of China.**